



Holy Trinity  

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Coxheath

**ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH  
MEETING**

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

**following the 11am service**

**Report and Associated Information**

**“Growing as Disciples of Christ to Build the  
Kingdom of God”**

# Annual Business Meetings

## Election of Churchwardens Meeting

### Agenda

1. Election of Churchwarden(s) for the Parish of Coxheath

## Annual Parochial Church Meeting

### Agenda

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the last APCM 23rd April 2023 for approval
3. Election of PCC members (3 x 3-year vacancies, 1 x 2-year casual vacancy, 1 x 1-year casual vacancy)
4. Report on Changes to the Electoral Roll since the last APCM
5. Annual Report on the proceedings of the PCC and parish activities
6. Presentation of Financial Statement and Accounts for year ending 31st December 2023
7. Appointment of Independent Examiner for 2024
8. Report on fabric, goods and ornaments
9. Report on the Deanery Synod
10. Chairman's Address
11. Open Discussion

**HOLY TRINITY COXHEATH ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING  
HOLY TRINITY COXHEATH ELECTION OF CHURCHWARDENS AND ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH  
MEETING**

Minutes of the meeting held on Sunday 23rd April 2023

|                 |                                    |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Present:</b> | There were 22 parishioners present |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|

|                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| <b>CHURCHWARDEN<br/>ELECTION</b> | <b>Welcome</b><br>Rev. Lorna Faulkner welcomed everyone to her first APCM  |
| <b>Item 1</b>                    | <b>Election of Churchwardens</b><br>Sandra Baker (SB) was proposed and seconded in accordance with Church of England requirements and was duly elected.<br>Sandra was thanked for her faithful and continued service for over 25years. Parishioners were encouraged to prayerfully consider coming forward to assist Sandra and learn about the Churchwardens role with a view to standing as Churchwarden in the future.  |
| <b>APCM<br/>Item 1</b>           | <b>Apologies for Absence</b><br>Apologies were received from Mike and Lesley Marsh, Sue Elliott and Barry Doyle  |
| <b>Item 2</b>                    | <b>Minutes of the APCM held on Sunday 22nd April 2022</b><br>The minutes were received and approved unanimously as an accurate record.   |
| <b>Item 3</b>                    | <b>Election of Deanery Synod Representatives</b><br>Marian Simpson and Sue Elliott were proposed and seconded in accordance with Church of England rules and were duly elected as our Deanery Synod Representatives for the next 3 years.  |
| <b>Item 4</b>                    | <b>Election of PCC Members</b><br>Under previously agreed rules 3 PCC members stood down leaving 3 vacancies. There were also 2 casual vacancies on the PCC for 1 year terms and 1 casual vacancy for a 2 year term.<br>Helen Gregson and Marilyn Hansford were proposed and seconded in accordance with Church of England rules and were duly elected to take up 3 year terms of office.<br>Judy Weeks and Amanada Bird were proposed and seconded in accordance with Church of England rules and duly elected with terms of office to be decided at the PCC meeting to be held on 15 <sup>th</sup> May 2023.<br>There were no further nominations. |
| <b>Item 5</b>                    | <b>Report on Changes to the Electoral Roll</b><br>Marian Simpson, our Electoral Roll Officer, reported in the Annual report that there are now 65 people on the Electoral Roll with 23 people not resident in the Parish. The electoral roll is now open again for any members of the congregation that wish to join.  |

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| <b>Item 6</b> | <p><b>Annual Report on Proceedings of the PCC and Parish Activities</b></p> <p>Rev. Lorna Faulkner encouraged everyone to take home the Annual Report and be encouraged by the work that is being done in the Parish and the Benefice.</p> <p>Rev. Lorna Faulkner thanked Mags Poole and Rev. David Jones for their work in ensuring that all the DBS checks are in place and Safeguarding guidance is followed.</p> <p>All PCC secretaries were thanked for pulling together and producing the annual reports as well as for their work throughout the year.</p>  |
| <b>Item 7</b> | <p><b>Presentation of Financial Statements and Accounts for the year ending December 2020</b></p> <p>Treasurer, Tim Gregson (TG), reported that the Accounts had been externally examined and approved by the PCC at their last meeting.</p> <p>TG thanked all those that raise money towards Church funds. He drew attention to the fact that our income had increased this year due to additional grants from Rochester but that our expenditure had also increased. This was due to the increase in utility costs and the expenses relating to investigations into the collapsed chancel floor. We have exited the year with a deficit and the work to floor will be a further challenge to our finances next year with grants being essential to any work we undertake. The congregation were invited to ask questions:</p> <p><b>Q</b> Marilyn Hansford asked how we decide how much Church money we can afford to put towards the floor repairs.</p> <p><b>A</b> TG referred to our reserves policy shown on page 20 of the Annual Report.</p> <p><b>Q</b> Steve Poole asked whether our anticipated flooring costs were for the whole Church floor or just the chancel.</p> <p><b>A</b> TG deferred this question to the item on fabric which would give a better reflection of the work anticipated.</p> <p><b>Q</b> BP asked why the Youth and Childrens Work finances included hall hire when no hiring had taking place this year.</p> <p><b>A</b> TG explained that this was a heading brought forward from last year to enable a year-on-year comparison.</p> |
| <b>Item 8</b> | <p><b>Appointment of Independent Examiner for 2023</b></p> <p>Clare O'Farrell is happy to continue in her role as our Independent Examiner for 2023 and was elected unanimously by the attending parishioners.</p> <p>Rev. Lorna Faulkner thanked all the Benefice Treasurers for their work throughout the year.</p>  |
| <b>Item 9</b> | <p><b>Report on Fabric, Goods and Ornaments</b></p> <p>Helen Gregson (HG) drew attention to the masonry stone that has now been removed from above the Northwest door for safety. Quotes for its replacement will be considered at the next PCC meeting.</p> <p>HG confirmed that the faculty (planning permission) request was for work in the chancel only with drainage for the whole building. The faculty has been agreed in principle and tender documents will be going out shortly. She referred to the building update at the rear of the Church which shows plans for the drainage system.</p> <p>Rev. Lorna Faulkner thanked the Fabric Committee for all the work they do to keep the building safe.</p>   |

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| <b>Item 10</b> | <b>Report on the Deanery Synod</b><br>The report is included in the Annual Report.   |
| <b>Item 11</b> | <b>Chairman's address</b><br>Rev. Lorna Faulkner spoke about her journey from Curate to Rector and the extraordinary and historic times that we are currently living in from the pandemic to the coronation of King Charles III. She thanked all those that keep our building looking beautiful, Sandra as Churchwarden, the team that clean and those that do the flowers. She thanked Becky and Mike for their work with the community groups and enabling Coxheath Village to come together and meet in our Church. Jen Tobin was thanked for her hard work in getting the Brew and Bite initiative off the ground and coordinating the wider team who were also thanked. The PCC were thanked for all their work throughout the year especially around the chancel floor work.<br>We have seen some new people in Church and Rev. Lorna thanked all those that make our Church a friendly and safe place.<br>There will be a Benefice celebration service at Linton Church next Sunday and all our welcome as we grow as disciples to grow Coxheath. |
| <b>Item 11</b> | <b>Open discussion</b><br>There were no items raised.  |
|                | The meeting closed at 12.40 pm with a prayer from Rev. Lorna Faulkner.   |

Signed.....

Dated.....

# Annual Report on Proceedings of the Parochial Church Council and Church/Benefice Activities 2023/24

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## Introduction

Holy Trinity Church is a friendly, welcoming church at the heart of the ecclesiastical parish of Coxheath and is part of the United Benefice of Coxheath, East Farleigh, Hunton, Linton and West Farleigh. The Church was built in 1884 as the chapel to the Workhouse and then became the chapel to the former Linton Hospital at Coxheath. It became the Parish church for the village in 1996. The village has a population of 4,931 (Census 2021) and continues to grow.

Rev. Lorna Faulkner has been the Incumbent of our Benefice since October 2022. She is supported by two retired ministers with Permission to Officiate, a Lay Reader who is also the Children and Families Worker and a Pastoral Assistant with permission to take services.

Services are held every Sunday morning apart from in a five Sunday month when the fifth Sunday is a joint service for all our Churches held at one of the Churches in the Benefice. There is a mid-week celebration of Holy Communion every Thursday morning and the Church offers a range of Sunday services which includes an all age service on the fourth Sunday of the month. There are children's groups covering a variety of ages and opportunities for bible study, prayer and social activities.

## Report on Changes to the Electoral Roll

There are currently 65 members on the Church Electoral Roll, 24 of whom are not resident within the parish. 3 names have been added during the year and 3 have been removed.

## Parochial Church Council (PCC) Report

Holy Trinity's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of supporting those in the Ministry Team and our Churchwarden, in promoting within the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church; pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also responsible for the maintenance of Holy Trinity Church, Heath Road, Coxheath, which is owned by the Rochester Diocese.

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our Church and to become part of our parish community. The PCC relies upon the voluntary contributions of its members and the Church community to support worship, prayer, pastoral care and outreach.

## Proceedings of the PCC

The full PCC met six times during the year with an average level of attendance of 75%.

The only statutory committee of the PCC is the Standing Committee which currently consists of our Curate, our Churchwarden, Treasurer, Secretary and one lay member of the PCC. The Standing Committee is responsible to the PCC and makes decisions on items that need immediate attention between PCC meetings.

The Standing Committee communicated over email to approve costs for the renovation of the porch bricks.

It is the PCC's policy to support Charities throughout the year by way of Giving Sundays. On these Sundays, the loose collection is passed to the Charities together with a donation from the PCC.

The Giving Sundays for 2023/24 were:

- May 2023 – Crossroads Care Maidstone
- July 2023 – Young Lives Foundation
- Harvest Sunday 2023 – Homeless Care/Making a Difference to Maidstone
- November 2023 – Making Miracles
- Christmas Services 2023 – Heart of Kent Hospice and Demelza House
- January 2024 – Maidstone Street Pastors
- March 2024 – Young Lives Foundation

Charitable status: Holy Trinity PCC is treated as a charity.

PCC membership currently consists of the Rector Rev. Lorna Faulkner, a Churchwarden and our Lay Reader together with up to 9 lay members elected by those who are on the Church electoral roll. Additionally, there is provision for 2 Deanery Synod Representatives. Anyone on the Electoral Roll who meets the criteria under the Charities Act 2011, can stand for election to the PCC. Each elected member stands for a term of 3 years. The Secretary and Treasurer are elected by the PCC on an annual basis at the first meeting after the APCM.

### Current PCC Membership

| Name                | Role                         | Name             | Role      |
|---------------------|------------------------------|------------------|-----------|
| Rev. Lorna Faulkner | Rector/Chairperson           | Helen Gregson    | Secretary |
| Becky Parnham       | Lay Reader/Children's Worker | Amanda Bird      | Member    |
| Sandra Baker        | Churchwarden                 | Marilyn Hansford | Member    |
| Marian Simpson      | Deanery Synod Rep.           | Mike Marsh       | Member    |
| Sue Elliott         | Deanery Synod Rep.           | Jen Tobin        | Member    |
| Tim Gregson         | Treasurer                    | Judy Weeks       | Member    |

Tim Gregson, Amanda Bird and Judy Weeks have completed their term of office on the PCC. The PCC would like to thank them for their service during this time.

There are five PCC vacancies to be filled at this year's APCM. The PCC vacancies are for a variety of terms with three 3 year term vacancies, one 2 Year term vacancy and one 1 year term vacancy.

### Safeguarding

The Parish of Coxheath is committed to implementing the House of Bishops' Safeguarding policies and good practice guidelines.

#### Benefice Safeguarding Officer Report

Parochial Church Councils and the incumbent have a duty of care to ensure the protection of the vulnerable in their church community. In terms of safeguarding, Holy Trinity PCC and the incumbent have adopted and implemented The House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy 'Promoting a Safer Church.'

All those responsible for working with children, young people and vulnerable adults on behalf of the church are safely recruited using the Safer Recruitment criteria. Two new members have joined the



Children and Families Worker's team in the last year, using this criteria, and have completed all required safeguarding training.

Thank you to Reverend David Jones for all his hard work in renewing the DBS checks in the Parish of Holy Trinity and across the whole Benefice.

All officers within this Parish have updated or are booked on courses to attend an update of the required training they need to do. A large number are due updates next year and I will remind them nearer the date.

Thank you to Tim Gregson for updating the safeguarding guidance and policies on the Benefice website as and when they are updated.

*Mags Poole*

Benefice Safeguarding Officer

### Lead Recruiters Report

I can confirm that everyone who is required to hold a valid and appropriate Barring and Vetting Certificate from the Disclosure Service (known as a DBS Certificate) is in receipt of one.

Certificates now have to be renewed every three years. Recent renewals and applications are being turned round in less than 24 hours. If the person applying is a volunteer there is no charge for the Certificate.

*Rev. David Jones*

Lead Recruiter

## Ministry Team Reports

### Rectors Report

What a wonderful (if challenging) year it has been.

It's lovely to have got to the APCM and be able to comment on our lovely new floor. The PCC and I are working on the future plans for the whole chancel space - we want to make the most of the opportunities it affords for a bit of re-imagining and re-organising all round.

I would like to say an enormous thank you to all who donated towards the cost of this work. With your generosity and Helen Gregson's skill and commitment to filling in grant applications, we are well on the way to covering the cost of that; maybe not in full, but the burden has been lightened for certain. I for one am incredibly grateful for God's provision for us.

Thank you too, for the way in which you as a congregation, just worked around the inconvenience and the dust: such a gracious and easy attitude made it possible for us to worship together in less than delightful surroundings, clinging to the hope of days to come without plastic sheeting or dusty bottoms. I am most grateful to Tim and Helen who liaised with the architect, the builder, and the diocese, to get this work done and done well.

Outside of the new floor, the true highlights of this year have been the wonderful ways in which we have worked to provide opportunities to welcome our community through the doors and share God's love and hope with them outside too.

Brew and Bite continues to bless the community and, alongside more mature attendees, we have a lovely core of families from Coxheath Primary and young people from the Secondary Schools nearby

who pop in weekly now. The Coffee Mornings continue to be a successful outreach and opportunity for growing friendships among the local community. The MU's lovely Soup on Sunday occasions have encouraged the sense of welcome and family that eating together offers. The church has continued to host the community group meetings and, out of that, the community crafting group who have created all the beautiful seasonal decorations around the village. It's great to be able to offer a space for that to come together.

Real times of blessing this year have been those seasonal occasions where folk have come along to see what we're about - Harvest, Remembrance, Christmas events, and Easter have all been occasions where we have been able to join with, and welcome, the wider community and share God's love. These times are becoming increasingly vital to our mission in this changing culture where Sundays are not church days for most people - we are being called to see where and when God is drawing people to encounter him, and to join in with the work he is doing in those moments. Let's keep our eyes open for them in the coming year...

Across the Benefice, we have enjoyed some wonderful joint events: The Travelling Advent was a real blessing - both for the churches (as it's wonderful to see them full of people!) and for the Ministry Team, as we rarely get to sit back and enjoy one another's ministry and preaching!

We observed Holy Week together through a series of evening reflections, and those who were able to join together for the Maundy Thursday Meal found it to be a special time of fellowship. The Good Friday service was very poignant - taking time to sit with the events that shape our lives as Christians. Easter Sunday was celebrated across the benefice by 5 congregations in 4 of the churches, welcoming visitors as well as our regular members. Just wonderful.

I feel excited to explore more opportunities for collaboration in the coming months and years - what a resource we have when communities and parishes come together to share the transforming love and presence of God with those among us, and around us.

Now, it is, of course, important to recognise an important fact: Nothing that happens in each of our churches happens by accident. Flower arrangements and tea and coffee do not materialise out of thin air; the communion table doesn't set itself; concerts and cream teas don't happen at the wave of a magic wand; cobwebs do not dissolve by chance; we don't have self-cleaning toilets; grass isn't mown by fairies... all the different aspects of our community life and worship are made possible because someone chooses to join in and help, and I am extraordinarily grateful to all those who are part of making life happen in our Benefice: those who are seen, and those who quietly beaver away unseen, working to make our churches places of blessing for those who pass our way.

Thank you to you all. May God bless us, encourage, and inspire us, as we seek to follow him, and join in with all he wants to do among us in this beautiful corner of Kent.

*Rev. Lorna Faulkner*

Rector

#### Minister with Permission to Officiate (PTO)

I continue to hold a PTO Certificate from the Bishop which is renewable every three years in both Rochester and Canterbury Diocese. In Rochester Diocese my main focus of ministry is in the Coxheath Benefice where I am available to take services three Sundays a month plus mid-week and occasional services. I also take-home communion to three parishioners. In addition, I led worship at Teston on one Sunday. In the Canterbury Diocese I support the local incumbent at Staplehurst with mid-week communions and the very occasional 8am Communion Service on a Sunday. With

Boughton Monchelsea parish being in interregnum I have conducted several 8am Sunday communion services and am taking two wedding services later this year.

I continue to be the Chaplain to the East Emergency Operational Control of the South East Coast NHS Trust based in Gillingham and also offer one 'on call' night a week at the Tunbridge Wells and Maidstone NHS Hospitals Trust based at Maidstone Hospital.

At present I am Secretary and Treasurer to St Mary's Hunton PCC.

I am grateful to all who allowed me to exercise ministry in 2023 and am continuing to do so in 2024. My PTO comes up for renewal in 2025/2026

*Rev. David Jones*

### Minister with Permission to Officiate (PTO)

It is a joy to have begun helping in the benefice, and to have been in the ministry team, officially, from 1st June 2023. The Bishop of Rochester has granted me permission to officiate until 31st May, one year, as is customary when clergy are new to the diocese. The whole of my ministry had been in the diocese of Canterbury until last year. I still retain PtO in Canterbury, and hope to be granted the usual period of three years' permission on renewal in Rochester.

My wife, Nancy, and I will remain living in the centre of Maidstone, and my honorary role in the benefice is to assist in maintaining public worship, ministering by Lorna's invitation and under her direction.

Since receiving PtO, in the nine months up to the end of March, I will have taken seven Sunday services at Coxheath and fourteen midweek Communions, but the total across the Benefice will come to forty. In addition, most months, I am officiating for one early service at Boughton Monchelsea, as that Canterbury parish is in vacancy.

I am very grateful to Lorna for her enthusiastic welcome and to my colleagues on the ministry team, as well as to the many people who have mirrored that welcome. Thank you for your support and encouragement in these first months.

This report cannot conclude without expressing my deep gratitude to Nancy for her ministry of music, which has been so helpful in worship on many occasions.

God bless you all

*Rev. Clinton Davis*

### Licensed Lay Minister Report

2023 saw my licence renewed which has enabled me to continue to exercise this ministry, supporting Lorna and the other members of the ministry team, by leading and preaching as required and taking funerals too.

Lorna and I reviewed my Lay Ministry working agreement which has resulted in clearer definition of the boundaries between my roles in the Benefice. Although there are still some overlaps it has become easier to see which hours are paid for (CFW) and which are voluntary (LLM).

I continue in my role of governor at Hunton Primary school attending regular meetings and have been able to attend a variety of functions for informal monitoring purposes as well as the more formal, pre-arranged monitoring visits that allow governors to see how the school is functioning and where it can be supported to grow and improve to allow the pupils and staff to flourish.

I regularly see my spiritual director who helps me keep God in the centre of all I do as well as providing guidance and a supportive ear when I am facing the challenges of the role. As they are outside of the benefice, they can provide an objective, often thought provoking, view of my role here and how I am exercising God's call upon my life.

My LLM still has a strong focus on building community links and often sees me attending a variety of functions simply to allow me to build connections with others in the area. It is always encouraging to be welcomed with a smile and find people to chat to though it can also lead to me feeling a little like a social butterfly, never stopping anywhere long and trying to hold an awful lot of information about others personal circumstances which they have felt comfortable to share with me.

This role continues to be demanding, challenging and a great privilege which I hope I fulfil to the best of my ability.

With Blessings,

*Becky Parrham*

Licensed Lay Minister

### Pastoral Assistant Report

For the past year, once again, my focus has mainly been on the leadership of the Benefice Pastoral Support Team. The last year was very difficult as my husband, John, was taken ill in April and struggled for several months before finally having an operation in November. I was not able to take as many services and had to drop out of some things, but I am pleased to say that he is now well, and I am back on the service rota. I regularly help with Seekers after school club at Holy Trinity and have stepped in on occasion at Little Angels at West Farleigh and Brew and a Bite at Holy Trinity. Once a month I am on the rota as a Maidstone Street Pastor, going into town on Saturday evening and looking out for vulnerable people, a practical way of working out my Christian faith. Do ask me if you'd like to find out more about the Pastoral Support Team or Street Pastoring. New volunteers for both of these groups are always welcome.

*Sue Elliott*

Pastoral Assistant

### Worship, Bible Study and Prayer

The Church is open for Sunday services and any additional services required throughout the year including the main Church festivals of Christmas and Easter. Our Harvest celebration included breakfast before the service.

We held 6 Funerals and 6 Baptisms in the period January – December 2023

### Thursday Communion

Thursday Communion takes place weekly at 10am and includes the Mothers Union Corporate Holy Communion on the first Thursday of the month.

## Bible Study Groups

Our Tuesday bible study group continues at the home of a parishioner with Lent Groups following the Church of England lent course *Watch and Pray: Wisdom and hope for Lent and life*.

## Benefice Prayer Chain

The prayer chain comprises of a group of people who respond to prayer requests, usually praying for each situation for a month or longer, depending on circumstances. People can ask for prayers for themselves, for others or a specific situation. The prayer requests are kept confidentially within the group and if prayers are for other people their permission must first be given. Sometimes prayer requests are updated when circumstances change particularly in cases of illness. Prayer requests are circulated by email to members so that there can be an immediate response.

*Marian Simpson*

Prayer Chain Co-Ordinator

## Benefice Ladies Prayer Group

The Ladies Prayer group has met weekly on Saturday mornings over the past year.

We have prayed for people we know, people we don't know and those caught up in conflict, famine or disease over the world. All personal requests are treated with strict confidentiality.

We have also used donations to send funds to charity and given wooden comfort crosses to those locally in need.

Prayers have been answered and those prayed for (whom we know) have been thankful for the inclusion.

We will always welcome those who feel they would like to join us.. Members of the group often find prayers to be uplifting and a source of peace.

We hope to continue this work in God's name.

Anyone interested please contact Dawn 01622 435882

*Dawn Burnell*

## Benefice Men's Prayer Group

Throughout 2023 and into 2024 the group has continued to meet regularly each week except for the August period for the summer break.

Our numbers have increased, and we now have 6 to 7 men at the sessions on Tuesday mornings, from 9am to 10 am as before.

Our two regular Zoom attendees from outside the Benefice have left the group for reasons associated with now having their own church groups. Joining the meeting via Zoom is still very much an option for those who maybe cannot make it in person.

We continue to meet in different houses with the location decided each week on the host's availability,

As always, we start with some informal discussion on topical matters and items for prayer followed by a short bible passage study. These are always a joy as we look into God's word and seek

encouragement from the passages chosen for the week by individuals. We are not afraid to tackle the challenging parts of the bible like Leviticus and often enjoy dipping into the Psalms.

We close with a time of open prayer during which it is fine just to remain silent if people wish. Newcomers are always afforded a warm welcome and the group is open to all Men within the Benefice. Details can be found at:

<https://unitedbenefice.church/benefice-groups/mens-prayer-group/>

*Mike Marsh*

Contacts: Mike 07595 428639 or Steve 07904 212245

## Church in the Community

### Benefice Children and Families Work

2023 has seen the team develop greater cohesion through a regular pattern of whole team meetings supported by meetings for the individual activities as required.

We have welcomed new members who have all gone through the safer recruiting process and have become more intentional in our aims and ambitions for the different groups we run.

Members of the team have accessed training in a variety of areas including Mental Health First Aid and Additional Needs, and, as a team we derive inspiration for our groups and activities from a number of sources. These include the Family Trust a local Christian Schools charity that have been running for over 35 years, Messy Church, Muddy Church and Scripture Union. As well as receiving support from the Diocesan Children's work team.

In the summer we ran 3 different pop-up activities loosely based around the story of Noah. Although each event was attended by a small number of children the sessions were well received and enabled us to build links with the families, as well as encouraging us to run something similar this summer.

We have also continued to run additional 'crafternoon' activities throughout the year which have all been well received and have allowed us to build community links.

Coxheath Primary School were kind enough to allow us to hold Seekers in the school whilst the floor in Holy Trinity was being repaired which enabled us to build stronger links with the staff in the school.

Links with East Farleigh School have continued through our running Kingsquad on a weekly basis under the new Head Teacher. This has allowed us to continue building links with staff members and looking at ways we can work together to support children with additional needs who attend the group.

I have continued to attend Hunton School on a bi-weekly basis to deliver collective worship and have even accompanied one class on a trip to the British Library for an RE focussed visit.

The relationships we are building through all the groups and activities continue to develop and are leading to members of the team having some really meaningful conversations outside of the church setting, as well as receiving some great feedback from parents. One mum credits Little Angels with being the reason her little one is now so confident, and another mum said she appreciates the welcome she receives at Tiny Tots even when she hasn't been able to attend for a few weeks.

As ever, the relationships we build with the children are the key to this ministry and I am constantly amazed by the depths of these and how they can last, even years later. We may not see the children and young people coming to faith, but we can be truly confident that we have sown the seeds and given them foundations and examples to build upon as well as some skills to negotiate the mine field that is growing up in today's society.

As ever I thank God for the dedication and diligence of the team and of those who support this ministry through prayer and cake baking (and numerous other ways) throughout the year.

*Becky Parham*

Children and Families Worker

### [Benefice Pastoral Support Team \(PST\)](#)

The Pastoral Support Team (PST) meets monthly, when possible, for worship followed by discussion. There are seven members.

When appropriate we have visited or sent 'Thinking of You' cards to those members of our congregations who are sick, bereaved or in difficulty. We continue to be present at Baptisms within the Benefice, when possible, and to send Baptism Anniversary and Wedding Anniversary cards.

We are working with the Social Prescriber, Lyndsey Cooper, from Greensands Health Centre, who has referred around a dozen folks to us.

These are people who are usually housebound, for a variety of reasons, and have given Lyndsey their permission for her to pass their details on to us. One person in West Farleigh has been referred to us via the Anna Chaplaincy Lead, Julia Burton-Jones. There are plans for the PST to do some Anna Friends training in the near future.

When time allows, we are continuing posting cards and calling back to offer friendly visits and/or prayers. Many good conversations have been had with folks, some have requested prayers and there has been a request from one resident to visit them regularly.

As our workload has increased we really would welcome others to join the team. The time needed is not onerous especially if we had more members. All our members at the moment are worshippers at Coxheath and it would be good to have people from the other parishes because we are a Benefice Group.

If you would like to join the Team or find out more about us please contact us via the Benefice website Pastoral Support Team page under the Groups tab or speak to one of the team.

Finally, I would like to give my thanks to each member of the team; Lesley, Margaret, Marian, Marilyn, Barry and Steve, for all that you have done and continue to do for those in need in our Benefice.

*Sue Elliott*

Pastoral Assistant and Ministry Team Member

### [Brew and Bite \(Warm Space initiative\)](#)

Brew and a Bite continues to take place at the agreed times of 2:30-5pm on Tuesdays and 11-1pm on Thursdays (term time only). It continues to draw the regular families and young people as well as other members of the community. We have been benefitting from donations which allowed for the food to be purchased since reopening after the completion of the church floor. Remaining money

from previous Community Resilience Fund from MBC and the Eileen Doyle Fund, was ringfenced and used to fund the heating bill for the time we open on a Tuesday.

We regularly have 15-20 people attend our Tuesday sessions, with the majority usually being made up of young families, primary aged children, and secondary aged young people. Thursdays sessions have between 5-10 attendees and the majority is usually made up of aged 50+ members of the community.

We have also been successful in receiving a £4000 grant from the National Lottery Community Fund. As a result, we are undertaking some research to determine how best to allot the money. A breakdown of the proposed spending will then be shared at the late Spring PCC meeting. Key areas which will be focused on is branding and the advertising of Brew and A Bite.

Overall, we have been pleased with the community engagement up until this stage, but it is evident that we have reached a point where we need to develop the provision, so the National Lottery Community Funding has come at an opportune time.

The volunteer base continues to be healthy, with a level of commitment which is hugely appreciated.

*Jen Tobin*

## Beacon Men

We started off our year with a gathering of 10 Beacon Men at The Bull Inn in Linton which took place on the evening of Monday the 30th of January. We decided to be much less formal this year and the event served as a watered down AGM and planning meeting. The accounts were presented by our Treasurer, Mike Marsh, and I sent my Chairman's report to the members via email. A number of events were suggested for the coming year and some dates set. It was good to see everyone again and to have a drink and a chat.

On Friday evening, the 24th of February, Holy Trinity Church was briefly transformed into the Coxheath Odeon with a showing of Top Gun Maverick starring Tom Cruise. This event was open to ladies and children as well and twenty-two people attended to enjoy a high-speed, high G-force caper with amazing flying sequences. An enjoyable evening with plenty of drinks and nibbles.

Saturday morning, the 18th of March, was an early start. The Beacon Men held a very successful breakfast meeting at the Scout Hut. There were 19 attendees and Beacon Man James Small performed wonders by providing the most amazing full English breakfast. It was massive and the food just kept coming. Not only was it delicious but I, for one, literally didn't eat again until the evening. James was ably assisted in the kitchen by Matt Edwards and Andy Godward. Well done, chaps, it was much appreciated. Our old friend Michael Cooper was the guest speaker who gave us a very interesting talk about his work with the Church Army and Christian Vision for Men. All in all, a really enjoyable and tasty morning.

The Beacon Men organised a boat trip on the Medway on Saturday the 20th of May. The trip was open to ladies as well and 16 people travelled to Tonbridge for embarkation. The weather was glorious and the stretch of river beautiful. I won't repeat, yet again, what Ratty said to Mole but it's true. If all that weren't enough, that same evening some Beacon Men met at The Walnut Tree in East Farleigh for beer and pizza.

On the evening of the 12th of July, ten Beacon People (this event was also open to ladies) met at The Hollywood Bowl at Lockmeadow for a game of Ten Pin Bowling. This, as in previous years, proved



tremendous fun and this year was won by Barry Doyle. After the game we all went to the nearby Thai Orchid restaurant for a delicious meal and fellowship.

What a great evening we had on Saturday the 18th of September. The weather was amazing thanks to the hottest September on record for the gathering of eight Beacon Men in the idyllically rustic setting of James Small's garden in Hunton. James, as usual, provided a sumptuous spread. We were intending to do a series of blokey things like axe throwing but in the event we simply drank beer and ate James' exceptional culinary creations. This has become something of an annual event.

Many thanks to James for his hospitality.

Saturday the 14th of October saw the Beacon Men involved in two events. First, six Beacon Men met in the morning to go to Hawkhurst Fish Farm in Cranbrook for a fishing experience led by our own fishing expert, Steve Bull. A number of fish were caught and there are stories of some bigger ones getting away. Barbless hooks were used to minimise injuries to the fish which were all thrown back to swim another day. Spam, sweetcorn, and maggots were used as bait and the weather was kind so the only ones who didn't have a great morning were the maggots.

Then that evening, the Beacon Men organised a quiz night to raise money for the church floor. The chief organiser of this was Barry Doyle and the quiz master was Terry Moyles. More than 50 people attended to answer 10 rounds of questions and the evening raised more than £400. Modesty prevents me from revealing which team won.

Friday the 17th of November was the night of our annual meal in church with a guest speaker. It is normally a curry night but this year we decided a Mexican food night would be in order. As usual our Beacon Men chef, James Small, came up with a magnificent Mexican feast which was thoroughly enjoyed by the 32 attendees. We have often received comments from ladies that they would like to attend some of our events so this year we invited ladies as well and four joined us. We were also delighted to welcome six men from a Christian men's group at St Margarets Church, Barming who asked to come after seeing the event advertised on the CVM events page. They certainly entered into the spirit of the night's theme by all arriving dressed as bandidos. Our speaker was again the aviation historian, Guy Bartlett, who delivered a brilliantly illustrated white-knuckle presentation on the elite RAF Red Arrows display team. All in all, it was a terrific night.

*Steve Poole*

Beacon Men Chairman

### [Mothers' Union \(Coxheath Area Branch\)](#)

Since last year we have enrolled two new members to our branch making a total of 11 members.

We continue to meet monthly on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at a member's house. The meeting starts with worship, then an update on MU news, a fun game or activity followed by a bring and share tea.

We celebrate communion at Holy Trinity Church on the first Thursday of the month, followed by refreshments in the church or village cafe.

We host Soup on Sunday bi-monthly on the 2nd Sunday of the month and members of the congregation and the local community help us by making soup, laying up and clearing away afterwards. We average 28 people who enjoy the soup, fellowship, friendship, and freely contribute to our branch donations towards Mothers' Union projects which can be local, national or global.

In the last year members have been involved in several community projects such as decorating the village to celebrate King Charles's Coronation, Harvest Festival and Remembrance day. We displayed 2 Christmas trees at the Christmas Tree festival. We had an outreach stall at both the Coronation Fete and the Custard Pie Championship. Earlier this year we got involved with the Community Tea Boxes by baking, supplying little heart gifts, and delivering the boxes. We continue to provide 'Bags of Love' with help from the Coxheath Connect members and Holy Trinity church, to all our local primary schools, which is a welcome pack for parents/carers of children entering reception class. Our latest project with this group is to decorate the village for Easter.

Mothers' Union's latest campaign is RISE UP. The aim is to make sure that activism against domestic abuse and gender-based violence happens 365 days per year, not just during the 16 days of the Activism campaign in November and December. Our branch aims to make more people aware of domestic abuse and to help local support groups however we can.

A full list of all the projects we have supported is displayed on the Mothers' Union noticeboard at the back of the church.

### *Margaret Poole*

Branch Contact

### Coffee Morning

Coffee mornings continue to be a success on 2nd Saturday in each month in the Scout Hut.

During the last twelve months different people have attended and enjoyed the company of others and continue to return each month. These coffee mornings continue to outreach to the community and provide good funds for the church. The cakes and cards do well and Margaret Poole's stall is often bursting with articles for sale.

Clive Parker, Chairman of the Parish Council attends and is available for the public to ask him questions about the village.

The Easter and Christmas raffles are very popular and well supported. Thank you to everyone who donates the prizes.

Thanks must go to Kate and Christine in the kitchen for providing us with tea and coffees etc.

Different people have been baking over the past year and thanks must go to them as without their generosity we would have nothing to sell.

Let's hope the coffee mornings continue and provide the community with somewhere to go, relax and chat.

### *Sandra Baker*

Coffee Morning Team Co-Ordinator

### Church Fabric, Goods and Ornaments

The Fabric Committee consists of small number of PCC members plus some members of the congregation. It follows the Terms of Reference set out by the PCC and provides update reports at the bimonthly PCC meetings. No decisions are taken without PCC approval.

Following the upheaval of the last two years I am pleased to report that the internal Chancel floor works are now completed and signed off by our architect. This work also included a new drainage

system to help protect the building from further water damage. The new soakaways and underground pipework is now completed and I am hoping that by the time you read this report new downpipe parts and existing downpipe repairs will have been finished, the system flushed through and signed off.

We are very grateful to everyone who has contributed to this work either by donating funds or arranging fundraising events.

This work would not have been possible without grants from the following organisations:

The Benefact Trust <https://benefacttrust.co.uk/>

The Cobtree Charity Trust <https://www.cobtreecharitytrust.org/>

The Garfield Weston Foundation <https://garfieldweston.org/>

Friends of Kent Churches <https://friendsofkentchurches.co.uk/>

National Churches Trust <https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/>

Congregational & General Charitable Trust <https://www.candgtrust.org.uk/>

I encourage you all to look up these organisations and learn about the amazing work they do to support and protect Churches like ours.

You may have noticed that the renovation of the porch brickwork and the masonry crosses at the south and north porches has been completed.

Some additional work is going to be undertaken to the external Chancel alcove wall to address an existing issue of damp penetration. This will involve some repointing to the wall and repairs to the cement flashing. Lime mortar needs to be used and so this work can be undertaken once we have some dry weather.

There is also further work required to the finial & apex stones above the Vestry and the boiler room steps. This area is out of bounds unless you are wearing a hard hat due to previous masonry falls. This work will need a faculty which will be applied for once tender documents for the work have been received.

During the first half of last year the outside woodwork was painted and any rotten wood replaced. The cost of this was covered by an anonymous donation for which we are extremely grateful.

The Fabric Committee continues to undertake checks of the building both internally and externally on a regular basis and as part of the criteria for our grant from the National Churches Trust we will be working on a new ongoing maintenance plan.

*Helen Gregson*

Fabric Committee Lead

### Churchwarden

This has been another busy year but rewarding.

The "hole" in the recess has been repaired and the majority of the outside work is nearly finished. My thanks to Helen and Tim Gregson for organising the builder.

People have been generous with their donations to this fund and Helen has been in touch with charities that can support the building work. We have also had three fund raising events for this, a quiz, Hartlip Singers and a group, which have been well supported. I am sure this will be explained in the Treasurers and Fabric Committee Reports.

Without the various rotas, all that goes on behind the scenes would not take place, so thanks to everyone helping the church to run efficiently.

The Terrier, Inventory and Logbook was presented at the next PCC held on Monday March 18th.

Please keep praying for someone who is able to commit of the responsible role of Churchwarden as I retire after over 27 years as Warden next year.

Many blessing to you all,

*Sandra Baker*

Churchwarden

## Deanery Synod

There have been 3 Deanery Synod meetings since the last APCM. After each meeting a report is given to PCC members. The meetings are interesting and informative giving an overview of parishes within the Malling Deanery as well as issues associated with the Deanery and Diocese.

[The first meeting was held on Tuesday 20th June 2023 at All Saints Church, Wouldham](#)

The Rev Will North chaired the meeting which opened in prayer and with a reading from Ephesians. The Rev Chris Winter introduced Wouldham Parish which comprises Burham, Wouldham and Peters Village. The communities were originally both agricultural and industrial but now have a large number of residents who commute. Julia Burton-Jones and Anne Bourne talked about Anna Chaplaincy. Anna Chaplains and Anna Friends provide spiritual care for older people and those with dementia and are named after Anna in the bible who was a wise and faithful older person. Echo churches – churches are to be encouraged to use the eco church dashboard. Will North encouraged attendees to consider how we can be more eco-friendly in day-to-day matters within our churches.

[The second meeting was held on Wednesday 11th October 2023 at St Peter and St Paul, Leybourne](#)

Rev Canon Helen Burn, Team Rector for Kent Downs and Malling welcomed Deanery Synod members. She provided an overview of Leybourne which has undergone a huge change from being a single parish to now being one of seven. Mark Montgomery gave a presentation on his recent sabbatical which involved visiting churches across the UK and finding out how newcomers were welcomed and included. His key question was ‘do we say welcome or you’re welcome?’ Pastoral Reorganisation – there is the potential of joining Snodland with Burham and Wouldham with both PCCs having met and voted in favour. Regarding safeguarding, Greg Barry has contacted Deanery Synod to remind parishes of keeping policies and posters updated with correct contact details. The date for the Deanery Confirmation service is the 19th November 2023 at Wateringbury.

[The third meeting was held on Wednesday 7th February 2024 at Holy Trinity, Coxheath](#)

Rev Will North welcomed attendees and opened the meeting with a reading from Psalm 44 followed by a time of prayer. Rev. Lorna Faulkner informed members that Coxheath was the biggest village of the five in the Benefice. She explained how the church had originally been built as the chapel to the workhouse and when the workhouse closed, the buildings became Linton Hospital

with the chapel then becoming the hospital chapel. Sarah Anderson gave a presentation on her role as DAC Secretary (Diocesan Advisory Committee) for the care of churches. She explained about guidance that can be given, faculty requests and the national template for the statement of need. There are 21 members of the committee and 20 specialist consultants. All members and specialists are volunteers. The role of the chancellor is as a judge as he has the final decision – the DAC advise, they do not decide. There are 252 consecrated churches in the diocese. Pastoral reorganisation – At Kings Hill Mark Montgomery has been running services, building up the congregation and fundraising for the building of a church. To help with the pressures of this ministry Keith Barry is now the Chair of the Fundraising Committee. Sharon, Archdeacon asked Will North to remind parishes that all PCC members DBS checks and safeguarding training needs completing.

*Marian Simpson*

Deanery Synod Representative

## Financial Statement and Accounts

### Reserve Policy

It is the policy of the PCC to hold reserves of £12,500 of unrestricted money together with £600 ringfenced money for Children's work contributions. These are equivalent to 6 months of running expenses. There will also be £10,000 restricted money held in reserve for repairs and future works.

### Bank

National Westminster Bank, 3 High Street, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1HJ.

### Financial Summary of the year 2023 January – December.

There is both good news and some challenging news regarding the financial status for the Parish.

Firstly, the major challenge that faced us for 2023 regarding the collapsed floor and external drainage work has on the whole been met via external grants and an amazing response from the congregation for donations.

Unfortunately, our 2023 running costs for Holy Trinity have increased by 5.4% since 2022 whilst our regular income to cover this only increased by 2%. This means that we will start to show an increasing deficit going forward if this situation doesn't improve.

### Charity Commission Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)

The total amount of donations received, without conditions, from our trustees (the PCC) for 2023 was £14,905

## Coxheath Parochial Church Council Accounts - Year Ending 31st December 2023

| <b>RECEIPTS</b>  |  | <b>Unrestricted</b> | <b>Restricted</b> | <b>TOTAL</b> |   |
|------------------|--|---------------------|-------------------|--------------|---|
| <b>2022</b>      | <b>COLLECTIONS AND DONATIONS</b>               |                     |                   |              |   |
| 5,087.03         | Collections at Services                        | 5,588.94            | -                 | 5,588.94     |   |
| 2,182.50         | Charitable Giving Sunday Collections/Donations | -                   | 2,388.24          | 2,388.24     |   |
| 10,683.00        | Gift Aid Donations                             | 11,009.00           | -                 | 11,009.00    |   |
| 4,439.48         | Income tax recovered                           | 4,637.15            | -                 | 4,637.15     |   |
| -                | Building Repair/Maintenance Donations          | -                   | 11,047.50         | 11,047.50    | <b>34,670.83</b>                                |
|                  | <b>FEES FOR WEDDINGS/FUNERALS</b>              |                     |                   |              |   |
| 768.00           | DBF Fees                                       | -                   | 593.60            | 593.60       |   |
| 799.60           | PCC Fees                                       | 576.00              | -                 | 576.00       | <b>1,169.60</b>                                 |
|                  | <b>EVENTS AND FUND RAISING</b>                 |                     |                   |              |   |
| 2,991.33         | Fundraising events (Coffee Mornings + Fete)    | 2,534.33            | -                 | 2,534.33     |   |
| -                | Fundraising events for Floor/Drainage repairs  | -                   | 1,801.37          | 1,801.37     | <b>4,335.70</b>                                 |
|                  | <b>YOUTH AND CHILDRENS WORK</b>                |                     |                   |              |   |
| 3,278.83         | Income from other Parishes and donations       | -                   | 7,230.76          | 7,230.76     | <b>7,230.76</b>                                 |
|                  | <b>GRANTS AND LEGACIES</b>                     |                     |                   |              |   |
| 1,657.00         | Rochester Energy Support Grant                 | -                   | -                 | -            |   |
| 600.00           | Rochester Warm Space Grant                     | -                   | -                 | -            |   |
| -                | Floor and Drainage Repairs Grants              | -                   | 11,293.88         | 11,293.88    |   |
| -                | Brew and a Bite Grants                         | -                   | 1,095.95          | 1,095.95     | <b>12,389.83</b>                                |
|                  | <b>OTHER INCOME</b>                            |                     |                   |              |   |
| -                | Funeral Heating                                | 40.00               | -                 | 40.00        | <b>40.00</b>                                    |
| <b>32,486.77</b> |  |                     |                   |              | <b>Current Account TOTAL RECEIPTS 59,836.72</b> |
|                  | <b>INTEREST ON INVESTMENTS</b>                 |                     |                   |              |   |
| 8.00             | Business Reserve Account                       | 44.60               | -                 | 44.60        |   |
| 66.05            | Church Repair Fund                             | 350.00              | -                 | 350.00       | <b>394.60</b>                                   |
| <b>32,560.82</b> |  |                     |                   |              | <b>TOTAL RECEIPTS 60,231.32</b>                 |

## Coxheath Parochial Church Council Accounts - Year Ending 31st December 2023

| <b>2022</b>      | <b>PAYMENTS</b>   | <b>Unrestricted</b> | <b>Restricted</b> | <b>TOTAL</b> |                                 |
|------------------|---|---------------------|-------------------|--------------|---------------------------------|
| 2,519.86         | <b>UTILITIES</b>  | 3,217.79            | -                 | 3,217.79     | <b>3,217.79</b>                 |
|                  | <b>RUNNING EXPENSES (INSURANCE, UPKEEP OF SERVICES)</b> |                     |                   |              |                                 |
| 1,842.96         | Insurance   | 1,940.28            | -                 | 1,940.28     |                                 |
| 2,340.39         | Boiler, Piano Tuner, Wafers, Envelopes, CCLI etc.       | 1,907.59            | -                 | 1,907.59     | <b>3,847.87</b>                 |
|                  | <b>MAJOR WORKS/REPAIRS</b>                              |                     |                   |              |                                 |
| 5,160.24         | Major Repairs   | 10,343.04           | 2,690.00          | 13,033.04    | <b>13,033.04</b>                |
|                  | <b>OTHER PARISH COSTS</b>                               |                     |                   |              |                                 |
| -                | Brew and a Bite Expenses                                | -                   | 141.17            | 141.17       |                                 |
| 10.00            | Deanery Synod annual donation                           | -                   | 10.00             | 10.00        |                                 |
| 739.60           | Sequestration Fees to Benefice Account                  | -                   | -                 | -            |                                 |
| 136.35           | Jubilee Event   | -                   | -                 | -            | <b>151.17</b>                   |
|                  | <b>COST OF FUNDRAISING</b>                              |                     |                   |              |                                 |
| 283.55           | Fete & Hall hire  | 220.00              | -                 | 220.00       | <b>220.00</b>                   |
|                  | <b>ROCHESTER DIOCESE/COXHEATH BENEFICE</b>              |                     |                   |              |                                 |
| 1,500.00         | United Benefice account                                 | 1,500.00            | -                 | 1,500.00     |                                 |
| -                | Rochester Diocese DBF Fees                              | -                   | 490.00            | 490.00       |                                 |
| -                | Clergy Funeral Expenses                                 | -                   | -                 | -            |                                 |
| 30.00            | Readers in the Parish Fee                               | 30.00               | -                 | 30.00        |                                 |
| 13,266.00        | Diocesan Pledge/Offer                                   | -                   | 13,826.00         | 13,826.00    | <b>15,846.00</b>                |
|                  | <b>YOUTH &amp; CHILDRENS WORK</b>                       |                     |                   |              |                                 |
| 4,196.24         | Salary and Expenses                                     | -                   | 7,250.86          | 7,250.86     | <b>7,250.86</b>                 |
|                  | <b>MISSIONARY AND CHARITABLE GIVING</b>                 |                     |                   |              |                                 |
| 2,182.50         | Nominated Giving Sundays, Christmas etc.                | -                   | 2,388.24          | 2,388.24     | <b>2,388.24</b>                 |
| <b>34,207.69</b> |   |                     |                   |              | <b>TOTAL PAYMENTS 45,954.97</b> |

## Coxheath Parochial Church Council Accounts - Year Ending 31st December 2023

### SUMMARY

|  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| Receipts 2023                              | 60,231.32        |
| Payments 2023                              | 45,954.97        |
| Surplus of Receipts over Payments for 2023 | 14,276.35        |
| Surplus balance for 2022 b/f               | <u>36,646.31</u> |
| Surplus balance for 2023                   | <u>50,922.66</u> |

### STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

|                          | Unrestricted | Restricted | Designated | Total            |
|--------------------------|--------------|------------|------------|------------------|
| Current Bank Account     | 27,293.39    | 2,297.50   | 10158.87   | 39,749.76        |
| Church Repair Fund       | 7,439.28     |            |            | 7,439.28         |
| Business Reserve Account | 3,733.62     |            |            | 3,733.62         |
|                          |              |            |            | <u>50,922.66</u> |

### Independent Financial Examiner

Clare O'Farrell, Hylands, 91 Heath Road, Coxheath, Kent ME17 4EH

The financial statement and accounts were approved at the PCC meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

**Church: Holy Trinity Church, Coxheath**

**Address: Heath Road, Maidstone, Kent.**

**Correspondence Address: The Rectory, 144 Heath Road, Coxheath, Maidstone, Kent. ME17 4PL**