



St Nicholas Linton May 2025



Tuesdays 29th April & 27th May
10am -12 noon **Community coffee**
mornings in St Nicholas Linton.

Saturday 3rd May

3 – 6.30pm Community Picnic VE Day celebration at Coxheath Village Hall and on the field behind the hall. Bring a picnic and enjoy the variety of charity stalls, 40's swing jazz band, ice-cream, hot dogs as well as tea and cake. The church will be having a stall.

Wednesday 14th May

12 noon - Holy Communion in Linton Church. A short, informal service, followed by some refreshments. All are welcome.

Thursday 15th May

3pm The Annual Parochial Church meeting of St Nicholas Church will take in Church.

Monday 19th May

12 noon Funeral of Jim Walder in St Nicholas Church.

Thursday 29th May

2pm A memorial service for the late Nick Figgins (son of the late Tim and Vera) will be held in St Nicholas Church.

We are sad to report the death of Wendy Sendles, a dear friend of this church family, after a long illness. Please pray for David and their family.

Diary Dates

Saturday 14th June

A return of the very popular Teddy Zip Wire event.

Sunday 7th September

3pm Concert by the Kent Police Male Voice Choir.

Pastoral Letter from the Rector

I have found this month's letter almost impossible to write. I sat down a couple of weeks ago to make a start and stared at a blank page for an hour. And I have done the same today, a day before the printer's deadline arrives.

Today, I feel like I have done nothing. I am frustrated and a little disappointed. But as I sit here writing this evening, I look back over my day and see that's not true. I answered my emails, caught up on my phone messages and updated my schedule on the whiteboard in my office. I spoke to a lovely lady about laying her mother to rest. I tidied a couple of rooms then did some filing. I did a little outstanding paperwork. I decorated my son's 18th birthday cake, wrapped some presents, and hosted a small family gathering. I emptied and re-loaded the dishwasher. I printed out some orders of service. I walked the dog and did a couple of loads of washing.

I feel like I did nothing because I was struggling to write the pastoral letter. But, in reality, I had quite a busy day! As I sit and reflect on my day, I realise that, so often, we judge ourselves harshly. We see only what we did not do, rather than acknowledge the entirety of the life we have lived that day. I felt I was a failure today because I didn't do one of the things on my list. But, when I look at all the things I *did* do, is it fair to call my day a waste?

There is a practise in contemplative prayer called the 'Examen'. The general idea is that, before the day ends, you take a gentle walk in your mind back through the day just passed; noticing where God felt present, the moments you are grateful for; where you feel things went awry, the moments of regret perhaps; ask God to be in the day to come...

Life is not always as we plan or expect it to be. But we continue to live it. Jonathan Swift's words are an encouragement to us: 'May you live every day of your life'. No part of our life is a waste. It is all there to be lived. May we be a little more willing to allow ourselves to be glad for that which we have done as well as mindful of that which, as yet, has gone undone. May we notice all the moments of our day and not just the ones we count as successful. May we all be a little kinder to ourselves. May God bless you in whatever you do, or don't do, today. **Lorna**

Sunday 27th April

9.30am Holy Communion at Linton

9.30am Morning Worship & APCM at West Farleigh

11am All age worship at Coxheath

Sunday 4th May 2nd Sunday after Easter

9.30am Morning Worship for VE Day at Hunton

9.30am Holy Communion at East Farleigh

11am Holy Communion at Coxheath (and APCM)

Sunday 11th May 3rd Sunday after Easter

9.30am Morning Worship at Linton

9.30am Holy Communion at West Farleigh

11am Morning Worship & Baptism at Coxheath

Sunday 18th May

9.30am Family Service (and APCM) at Hunton

9.30am Morning Worship at East Farleigh

11am Holy Communion at Coxheath

Sunday 25th May 4th Sunday after Easter

9.30am Holy Communion at Linton

9.30am Morning Worship West Farleigh

11am All age worship at Coxheath

Every Thursday

10am Midweek Holy Communion, Coxheath Church

St Nicholas Church Electoral Roll

Every six years a completely new church electoral roll is prepared. This will take place between the 2nd and 30th April. If you are on the current electoral roll you will need to apply again so forms are now available in church. New applicants are welcome and this entitles you to vote and take part at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. Applications will close on 30th April and no further applications accepted until after the APCM.

Second-hand book library in St Nicholas

If you love it, keep it. £1

If it's a good read, swap it for another. 50p

Donations welcome

Brew and a Bite on Tuesdays at Holy Trinity,

Coxheath. We are open during school term times every Tuesday 12 noon-7.00pm.

From 5.30 – 7.00pm this is a time specifically for a youth group in school years 7 -13

There is no charge but you are invited to give a donation if you so wish.



Coxheath Area Branch

Check out our Face Book page for latest news from

our local branch and national and international items, too! Meetings are held in member's homes, usually at 2pm. Contact Lesley on 07814 817204 or Margaret on 07729 176762 for venue, or email

mu.coxheath@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/mothersunioncoxheath>

BENEFACTORS

Revd. Lorna Faulkner, Rector 01622 747570

Revd. David Jones, 01622 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