

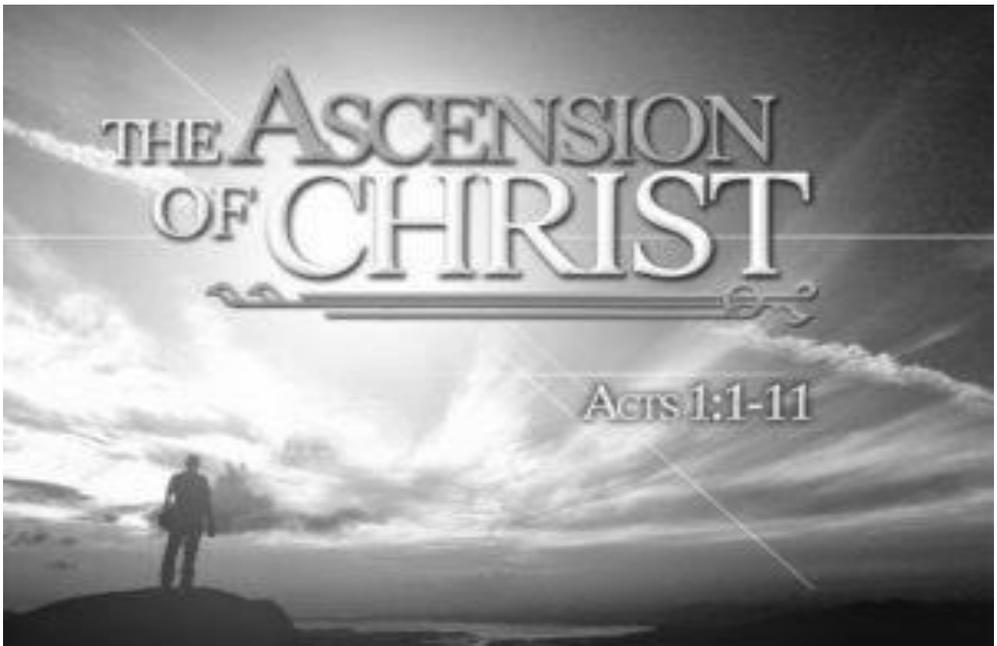


Grapevine

The Parish Magazine of St. Nicholas
Allington, Maldstone
stnicholasallington.org.uk



May 2019



Medway Big Band Concert -
Friday 17th May

Messy Church - Builders
Saturday 18th May

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Parish General Information

For enquiries about Baptisms, Funerals or Weddings,
please contact Rev Chris on 01622 297307

Or rev.chris@hotmail.co.uk

Also for Banns of Marriage

(the form can be downloaded from the website).

www.stnicholasallington.org.uk

Jenny Stone - Parish Administrator

Tuesdays 9.00am - 12 noon

Fridays 9.00am - 12 noon

Church Office ~ 01622 299715 (answerphone)

stnicholas1@outlook.com

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Sunday Services

- 8.00 am Holy Communion – 1st & 3rd Sundays
9.30 am OASIS All-age worship – 2nd & 4th Sundays
10.00 am Morning Worship - 1st Sunday
10.00 am OASIS Joint Communion – 3rd Sunday
10.00 am Joint Service - 5th Sunday at
St Nicholas or St Andrew's
11.00 am Holy Communion - 2nd & 4th Sundays
5.00 pm OASIS in the Afternoon - 1st Sunday
6.00 pm JAHFA for senior school pupils - 1st Sunday

Mondays 8.30 am Morning Prayer

Wednesdays 8.30 am Morning Prayer
10.00 am Holy Communion
7.30 pm Evening Prayer

Thursdays 9.00 am Prayer Space

St. Nicholas Explorers

After school club for 7-11s – **term time only**

Allington Primary School – Wednesday 3.15 - 4.30 pm

Palace Wood Primary School – Tuesday 3.20 - 4.30 pm

Saturday Club / Messy Church

Normally held on the 3rd Saturday morning of the month
and advertised in **Grapevine**.

Home Groups

Group 1 - meets on alternate Monday mornings at
23 Buckland Lane. Contact tel: 752181 Rachel Norman

Group 2 – meets on alternate Thursday evenings at various venues
around the parish. Contact tel: 764913 Mary Garrett

Group 3 - meets on Thursday afternoons 2.00pm - 3.00pm
Contact Angela on 758641

Pastoral Group

This is available to bring Home Communion, or just pay a visit to anyone
who needs it. Please phone Mary Garrett on 01622 764913

Rev Barry Writes.....



While the cat's away! Many have joked with me about being in charge while Rev Chris is away. What mischief can I get up to? This is all in jest of course, but raises two serious thoughts that effect all of us.

Firstly, God's mission, of which we are all part, must go on. It is clear that God is moving in our parish and we cannot afford to lose the momentum, or worse still, lose direction. Our purpose as a church, and in fellowship together, is to serve God and His plans for our community. Each of us has to remain focussed on our role as individuals and as a church in unity together.

Secondly, none of us should be indispensable. In all our planning and activity we cannot afford to rely on a few people. The whole model of church is intended to be a shared activity which draws together the various skills and talents God has given each of us. This is the only way to achieve success.

Yes, we need a leader, but if the plans are clear, the absence of that leader for just a few weeks should make no negative difference. When Rev Chris comes back he should find things have changed. Not a regression because of his absence, but development as a result of what is in place before he goes. He may be the leader of our church, but we all share the responsibility placed upon us through God's calling on our lives to follow Him at all times.

I trust, therefore, it will be business as usual and know I can rely upon every one of you to support me and promote the values of our faith by bringing our neighbourhood together in a united view that God is the answer.

So in the coming months I am not holding the fort, because we will press on together. This is exciting, as we meet formally for worship, socially at our many planned events, or in passing, let us encourage each other and maximise the opportunity to glorify God in our community.

Rev Barry

30th May is Ascension Day....

Hail the day that sees him rise
To his throne above the skies;
Christ, a while to mortals given,
Re-ascends his native heaven.

Charles Wesley



ST ANDREW'S CHURCH
BARMING HEATH
ME16 9LW



SUMMER FAIR

Saturday 1st June 2019
1.00 – 4.00pm

Plant Stall

Tombola

Cakes

Books, CDs, DVDs

Prize draw

Live entertainment

Refreshments

and much more



Proceeds to Church Funds

St Nicholas LOOs and LIGHTs CAMPAIGN

Have you ever used the toilet in our church?

You will appreciate that, after 40 years, it needs updating.

Your Church Council has decided that **the toilet facilities must now be improved and plan to create 3 separate toilets (including an accessible one) and a new tea-bar in the church** - all to 21st century standards. These new facilities will be constructed within the existing office and vestry area; it will cost around £35,000.

At the same time, we intend **to improve the standard of lighting in the church** to make it less harsh and a more flexible source for services and other events; this will cost around £10,000.

So, in total we need to raise £45,000.

We shall be running a variety of fund-raising events in 2019 but the majority of the funds need to be raised by us in the form of donations.

If you would like to see improved toilet facilities and better lighting in the church please consider making a donation.

Please pick up a donation form from the back of church or from the website www.stnicholasallington.org.uk so you can contribute towards this major improvement to our facilities.

Thank you for your support,

Sarah, David, Nigel & Jill (Fundraising Team)

01622 299715 – Parish Office

justgiving.com/crowdfunding/stnicholas-church



THE MEDWAY BIG BAND

You may have seen that the Medway Big Band is again coming to St. Nicholas Church – on 17th. May. The Band was established in the late 1940's and continues to the present day, still including a few arrangements by the band's founder. I have played with this Band for about eight years during which time our varied programme has included concerts and dances at Churches, public houses, birthday parties, seaside bandstands and the Rochester Mayor's Ball.

Next month the Band has been commissioned to play (mainly Glenn Miller music) at the unveiling of an outdoor memorial in north Kent to commemorate the lives of several American airmen who perished when their B.17 Flying Fortress crashed in the Thames Estuary in 1944.

The Band includes several semi-professional musicians and will be playing mainly swing numbers from the past seventy years or so. Entry to the concert which starts at 7.30 pm is free and there will be a retiring collection in aid of the Church's Loo's and Lights Campaign. We hope therefore you will join us and enjoy the evening.

Mike Garrett

St Nicholas Church presents....

Medway Big Band



Jazz & Swing Concert

Friday 17th May

7.30pm

At St Nicholas Church, Allington
ME16 0DE

Live Music

FREE ENTRY,
retiring collection

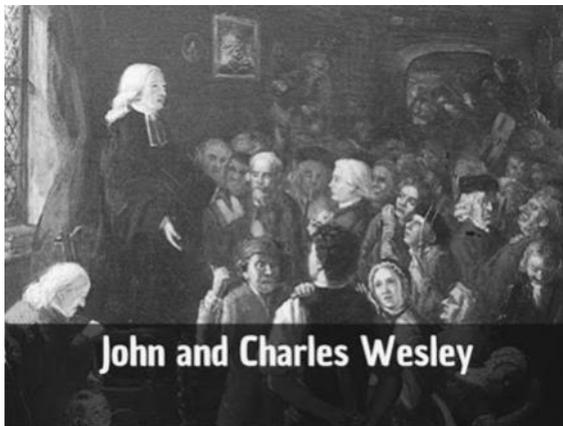
WHO ARE THEY?

Where did all the Christian denominations come from? We continue the series on Christian Churches in the UK

Who Are They? - Methodist Churches

All the various branches of the Methodist Church date back to the 18th century 'Methodists' in Britain. The description 'Methodist' was given to the group that began in Oxford University in about 1728 under the leadership of Charles Wesley. Later John Wesley became the leader and while other epithets like 'Bible Moths,' 'Bible Bigots,' 'Sacramentarians' and 'Holy Club' were heaped on them, it was 'Methodist' that stuck and became permanent.

These first Oxford 'Methodists' were all Anglicans. Their desire was to pursue a holy life and be active in good works. At Easter 1735 one of their number, George Whitefield, experienced an evangelical conversion, and this was followed at Pentecost 1738 with the conversions of Charles and John Wesley.



Soon afterwards both Whitefield and the Wesleys, all three ordained ministers in the Church of England, were forced to preach out-of-doors. This was because the Anglican Church, in general, did not favour the evangelical fervour of this 'Methodist' preaching. Whitefield and the Wesleys not only emphasised that all people need to be born again but declared that we can know our sins will be forgiven. The Holy Spirit will give us the certainty of salvation in our hearts. This is in line with Paul's words in Romans 8:16 that the Holy Spirit witnesses with our spirits that 'we are children of God.' The Established Church rejected these doctrines as gross 'enthusiasm' and when the church doors closed against them, these 'Methodists' took the gospel to the streets.

When John Wesley died in 1791, there were about 70,000 people enrolled in the Methodist Societies in Britain and about 30,000 in America. Himself a very loyal Anglican, John Wesley had always hoped that the Church of England would embrace the Methodist Revival but this didn't happen. Early in the 19th century these Methodist Societies became more independent of the Anglican Church and finally became totally independent.

The largest group were the Wesleyan Methodists, the immediate followers of John and Charles Wesley. The followers of George Whitefield and the

Countess of Huntingdon were known as Calvinistic Methodists. Later the Countess organised her own followers into the Countess of Huntingdon Connexion. The Calvinistic Methodists, mostly in Wales, later became the Welsh Presbyterians. The Wesleyan Methodists grew rapidly in the first half of the 19th century and other Methodist groups also appeared. The first was the Methodist New Connexion, organised in Leeds in 1797. Then came the Primitive Methodists whose beginnings were in Staffordshire in 1807. Later the Bible Christians emerged in Shebbear in Devon in 1815.

These various groups were not the result of any doctrinal divisions; rather they resulted from disputes over the role of lay people in the church and differing attitudes to revivalism. In 1932 the various Methodist groups in Britain joined together to form The Methodist Church of Great Britain.



Maidstone Methodist Church

the British Methodist Church. This reflects John Wesley's outlook that although he did ordain some of his preachers, he adamantly refused to be called a bishop. He famously said, 'Men may call me a knave, a rascal, a scoundrel, and I am content. But they shall never, by my consent, call me Bishop!'

Although it is an independent Church, Methodism has always leaned towards Anglicanism, a reminder of John Wesley's love for the Church in which he lived and died. In Britain there have been 'Conversations' between Methodists and Anglicans about a union of the two Churches but so far this has not happened. In its worship Methodism often reflects its Anglican origins by having some elements of liturgy in its services, combined with its Nonconformist practices.

The most distinctive feature of Methodist worship has always been its congregational singing. Charles Wesley gave the 18th century 'Methodists' more than six thousand hymns to sing and this is the origin of the saying, 'Methodism was born in song.' John Wesley encouraged the 'Methodists' to

sing, gave them 'Directions' for congregational singing and published A Collection of Hymns for the Use of the People called Methodists in 1779. Methodists worldwide still sing some of Charles Wesley's most famous hymns, including 'And can it be?' 'O for a thousand tongues,' 'Love divine, all loves excelling,' 'Jesus, lover of my soul,' 'Rejoice, the Lord is King,' 'Christ the Lord is risen today.'

Doctrinally Methodists are classic Trinitarian and evangelical Christians. What developed as 'The Four Alls of Methodism' gives a good summary of Methodist (i.e. Wesleyan) doctrine. First, all people need salvation. John Wesley stressed the biblical doctrine of the Fall. We are all sinners and salvation is not by our works, or our religious persuasion or even by our orthodox doctrine but only by faith through grace. Second, all people can have salvation. Methodism has always stressed the universal love of God and that Christ died for the sins of the world. John Wesley was strongly opposed to any doctrines that limited the scope of salvation. This is not universalism; meaning that all people will be saved; rather it means that all can be saved.

Third, all the saved can know they are saved. This is often referred to as the doctrine of assurance or the witness of the Spirit. In line with Romans 8:16 it proclaims that the Spirit witnesses with our spirit that 'we are children of God.' Fourthly, historic Methodism preached that all who are saved can be saved completely. This was John Wesley's insistence on what he called scriptural holiness. By God's grace and the indwelling Spirit, Christians are enabled to have victory over all sin and to 'love God with all their heart ... and their neighbour as themselves' (Matt. 22:37-39).

Dr H B McGonigle is Senior Lecturer in Historical Theology, Church History and Wesley Studies in Nazarene Theological College, Manchester, England.

Originally published in 2007 - Parish Pump

ALLINGTON COMMUNITY MARKET

Friday 3rd May

12 noon to 3.00pm

St Nicholas Church Hall - Poplar Grove Allington

Refreshments available - provided by Little Fant Farm

Come and support your local independent traders

Sunday 5 May 2019
Starting and finishing at
Harrietsham Village Hall ME17 1AP



**EARLY
BIRD
DISCOUNT**

Book before
8th April 2019

Bluebell Walk 2019

Walk amongst the bluebells on the North Downs and through the beautiful Kent countryside in support of Heart of Kent Hospice.

Dogs welcome

Register now

Visit: www.hokh.org/events

Tel: 01622 790195

Email: events@hokh.co.uk

Heart of Kent Hospice @Heartofkenthosp @heartofkenthospice

Sponsored by:



Charity Service Insurance Society



www.hokh.org

Millennium Green News

I would like to make a formal announcement about a grant of £8,000 that the trust has received from The National Lottery Community Fund. This is for a specific purpose: 'the maintenance and development of trees', and will pay mainly for work by our tree surgeon. The exact scope of what he will do is to be discussed when he visits the Green on 8 April, and I think that most of the tasks will be done later in the year, in order to avoid the growing season and nesting birds.



This grant will make a huge difference to us, as we will be able to make some radical improvements to our many trees and hedgerows. One of the latter comprises more than 80% native species and therefore qualifies as a 'S41 Habitat of Principal Importance in England'. It is likely to provide pollen and nectar for insects, nuts and berries for birds and small mammals such as shrews, voles and wood mice, and nesting opportunities for common bird species. It may also be used by commuting and foraging bats. Our tree surgeon may decide that 'laying' the hedges will be a good management strategy, but we shall have to wait and see what he says.

Of course, our other fund-raising activities will have to continue as normal, as there are many other things to pay for, ranging from insurance, fuel for our equipment, maintenance of fences, and so on. So, we cannot afford to be complacent!

Our thanks go to the many players of the National Lottery, whose investment has not only provided our most recent award, but led to the creation of the Green in the first place, as the original national Millennium Green project was funded by lottery money. Thanks are also due to you, for your continuing help with our work.



Brian White

A prayer at Ascension

To complete your seamless robe, and so to complete our faith, you ascended through the air into the heavens, before the very eyes of the apostles. In this way you showed that you are Lord of all, and are the fulfilment of all Creation. Thus, from that moment every human and every living creature should bow at your name. And, in the eyes of faith, we can see that all creation proclaims your greatness.

News of the Church in the UK

Edith Cavell – faith before the firing squad

Nurse Edith Cavell gave her life to others – and was executed as a result. This year is the centenary of her state funeral at Westminster Abbey.

The daughter of a Norfolk vicar, Edith trained as a nurse, and because she could speak French fluently, she was invited to start a nurses' training school in Belgium.

When war was declared in 1914 she was in England on holiday but went straight back to Brussels where she cared for Belgians and invading German troops alike.

When English soldiers were trying to escape back to England, she gave them shelter – and when she was betrayed, her only defense was that if she had not helped them to escape, they would have been shot.

She had confessed to the crime of 'conducting soldiers to the enemy' – helping soldiers escape who could potentially return to the battlefield. Guilty, she was sentenced to death in a German military court in occupied Belgium.

But Edith's last words were not of revenge or recrimination. On the night before she was executed, she met with her local priest Revd H. Stirling Gahan.

She told him, *"I thank God for this ten weeks' quiet before the end...Life has always been hurried and full of difficulty...This time of rest has been a great mercy..."*

She then said words that have become her memorial around the world: *"But this I would say, standing as I do in view of God and eternity, I realise that patriotism is not enough. I must have no hatred or bitterness towards anyone."*

Edith knew that people who had been close to her had played a part in her betrayal. She knew patriotism was not enough for these final hours. She knew that to enter into God's presence she needed to be forgiven for her own shortcomings. And just as Jesus' death had bought her forgiveness, she needed to forgive any and all who had wronged her.

After celebrating Holy Communion, the Rev Stirling Gahan began to say the words of the hymn

'Abide with me' and Edith joined him in repeating *'...When other helpers fail and comforts flee, Help of the helpless, O abide with me...'*

She then gave the priest the letters she had written to friends and family and when they came to say 'Goodbye' she smiled at him and said, "We shall meet again." She was confident that death was not the end and they would meet again in God's presence. She was 49 years old.

Edith was executed in Brussels on 12th October 1915 and at the end of World War 1 her body was repatriated. After a state funeral at Westminster Abbey, her body was reburied outside Norwich Cathedral on 19th May 1919. Her body was returned to England on the same ship that carried the body of the Unknown Soldier in 1919.

Editorial from Parish Pump

DARKNESS AND LIGHT

Last time I wrote about a scene from 1603 of young artists painting pictures of Jesus carrying his cross. If any young artist of that or later generation were sincere and totally honest, what they put on their canvass would be their own view of what life had taught them, what they, deep down, really thought. That might be very different from the image of Jesus carrying his cross. But there might be other ways in which young artists might begin to relate to that image, some of which would be a traditional route.



As a start I want to go back to the Psalms in the Old Testament. There are a hundred and fifty Psalms and they contain the whole range of emotions from revenge and complaint to wonderful words of praise. There is black, white and, in between, many shades of grey – occasionally in the same Psalm.

The Psalm most associated with Jesus and the Cross is the opening words of Psalm 22: My God, My God, why have you forsaken me? They were some of Jesus' last words as his already whipped body hung on the hard sections of wood that formed the cross. On closer look the words speak not just of physical agony but of even being abandoned. In one sentence we have the repeated phrase "My God", emphasising the closeness of Son and Father. Then we have the cry of feeling totally abandoned. The old fashioned word "Forsaken" implies not just abandonment but a deliberate act of abandonment.

This Psalm does eventually go on to some lighter wording. Some other Psalms also have this mixture of darkness and light. But the little used and known Psalm 88 is just dark. Typical is "You have taken from me my closest friends and have made me repulsive to them. I am confined and cannot escape, my eyes are dim with grief." (verse eight NIV).

Yet a Benedictine retreat centre in West Sussex uses this Psalm quite a lot. Abbot Christopher Jamison commented that when people in grief or despair say they cannot pray, they are encouraged to read this Psalm. Through it they can express to God the full extent of their sadness. Simply knowing that this experience can be offered to God can be the beginning of something more. (see note).

Another trend that comes from a similar very old and slow moving world is

praying quite long and deeply repeating one or two phrases or verses. At first the words might not mean very much but in time they might take root. A more modern and well-known example are the two-line repeated refrains from the Taize Monastic Community in France which attracts thousands of young and older people. Here again, within a setting of other people saying good and holy prayers, young people, this time in their minds and imagination, can paint their own picture, which might contain different degrees of darkness and light.

Modern technology might offer its own range of approach. The first steps might still be similar to the image from 1603. There was the image of Jesus carrying his cross and there was the invitation to the young artists to paint on the blank canvas before them, both within the same overall framework.

Note: Finding Happiness by Abbot Christopher Jamison p 177.

Robin Hiam



‘Music for a Summer Afternoon’

A Concert by Bel Canto

Kathryn Norman (soprano) Brian White (bass-baritone)
Richard Kemp (piano)

Sunday 16 June

3 p.m. in St Nicholas Parish Church, Allington

Strawberry cream teas will be provided

**Retiring collection in aid of the church
‘LOOs and LIGHTs’ campaign**

Enquiries: 01622 756660

Cooking

Worship



Crafts

Builders!

Games



Saturday

18th May

From 11.00am - 1.30pm

In the Church

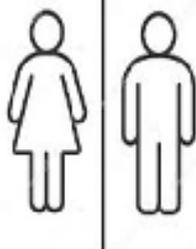
Poplar Grove ME16 0DE

ALL WELCOME!

£3.00 per person or £10 per family
to include lunch

More details or to book
Contact Fiona on 07951 777854
Latest booking date
Wednesday 15th May





LOOs & LIGHTs CAMPAIGN

Sunday 19th May

A GRAND AUCTION OF PROMISES

Sunday 19th May after the 10o'clock service in aid of the LOOs and LIGHTs Campaign – put this date in your diaries now!

How will it work?

Do you have a skill, a service or an event you can offer or run which can be auctioned off to the highest bidder?

Examples of offers to set you thinking:
Car washing, gardening, cream-tea, trip to a National Trust property, cleaning.

Put your offer onto the board at the back of church.

All proceeds go to the LOOs and LIGHTs campaign.

Get thinking!

Any queries see
David Salvage



Youth & Organisations News

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

At our meeting in April we heard from Sharon Lynn of the amazing work that is being undertaken by 'Medical Detection Dogs'.

A number of our members attended the Festival Service at Canterbury Cathedral where Marianna was commissioned for the the next Triennial along with our Trustees.

Cathedral Prayer Time is on 30th May at 12 noon.

Chris Cook (01622 670240)
Branch Leader



ALLINGTON CASTLE

Our meeting on 15th May is our Annual Meeting when we elect a new committee for the coming year and we also vote on the Resolution to be presented at the National AGM so we look forward to welcoming all members to this important meeting. The competition is a Decorative Plate.

Joyce Foster

ALLINGTON GARDEN CLUB

'Thank you' to Kevin Tooher for giving a superb talk on pruning at our March Meeting. He showed and talked about the different types of tools and their makes that can be used, He then went on to describe how and when to prune various types of shrubs and trees. Kevin also attempted to cover everything

the members and visitors asked him about specific plants.

We will NOT be having a May meeting in the Church Hall and for any late enquiries or bookings for our coach trip to Leonardslee Gardens please contact me on 01622-757319

Pam Blake



WESTBOROUGH BOWLS CLUB

The hard work that the members have put in to preparing the green for the new season has certainly paid off. I have just visited the club and the bowling surface is looking wonderful. It almost seems a shame to start playing on it! By the time you read this, though, the season will be in full swing.

Traditionally, May is the month that we concentrate on encouraging people to take up the game of bowls. I am pleased to report I have already been contacted by a couple of Grapevine readers who are keen to give it a go. If you are also looking for a sociable activity that involves some gentle exercise, lawn bowls could be just what you want. To give you an opportunity to try it out,

Westborough Bowls Club will be holding an **Open Day** on **Saturday 25th May**. The event will run from **2pm to 5pm** and there will be friendly and willing helpers on hand to provide all the help and advice you need. Refreshments will be available! All bowling equipment will be provided **except for shoes**. We

ask that you wear flat soled shoes that will not damage the green. For example, trainers with minimal ridges on the soles are perfectly acceptable. The club is accessible from **Cloudberry Close** off Buckland Lane or via the far end of the **Pippin** pub car park. We hope to see you on the 25th but if you cannot make it on the day, we would be very pleased to see you at one of our informal sessions (roll-ups). These are held on **Mondays at 3pm** and **Thursdays at 5pm** throughout the season. Just contact me for further information on the Open Day or roll-ups.

Steve Cordery 725650
steve@westboroughbowls.co.uk
www.westboroughbowls.co.uk

OPEN CIRCLE

Despite all my reservations, I did manage to finish the futuristic novel, *The Power* by Naomi Alderman, the story of women's ascendancy and control over men. The novel improved as it went on, but overall it lacked conviction, and although some parts were interesting and quite well written, this is not one I would really recommend.

In contrast, I've just finished *Sarah's Key* by Tatiana de Rosnay, translated from the French. This is a moving story, sensitively written, based on historical evidence of French collaboration with Nazi Germany in the infamous Velodrome d'Hiver round up of Jewish families in July 1942 when so many young children died.

The story centres on ten year-old Sarah Starzynski and her guilt over leav-

ing her young brother locked in a cupboard in the family apartment in order to escape the round-up, and Julia Jarmond who, 60 years later, is investigating that dark time in French history. The two stories are sensitively handled with graphic descriptions which never become mawkish or exaggerated.

I've also read *The Tattooist of Auschwitz* by Heather Morris, the true account of Lale Sokolov's survival through the atrocities of the concentration camp. It has been hailed as The International No 1 Best Seller, but I was disappointed. The essence of the story is harrowing, but the writing is very poor, dull and repetitive. The 'blame' lies with Heather Morris, the ghost writer who never succeeds in bringing people and event to life. At least, that's my judgement, though it seems that other reviewers feel very differently about the book.

Waiting in line on my shelf I've got *New Boy* by Tracy Chevalier and *Vinegar Girl* by Anne Tyler, both, coincidentally, re-tellings of Shakespeare's plays *The Taming of the Shrew* and *Othello*. I love both these writers so I'm hoping for great reads.

Our meetings in May are on Wednesday 8th and Wednesday 22nd at 10.30. Please ring Margaret Salvage or Anne Sargent for details of venues.

Dianne White
756660

ST NICHOLAS
FELLOWSHIP

At our 'Lent Refection' meeting in March Rev Barry gave an informative



presentation on why and how the Christian Police Association was formed, it's development to the present day and how it functions within the Police Force and community today, including the distributing to serving Officers' copies of the New Testament & Psalms Bibles with the Constabulary Crest on the front cover. Our sincere thanks to Rev Barry.

Our next meeting is on Friday 10th May with the Fellowship still on the road, taking an afternoon country drive to Staplehurst Nurseries and Frankie's Farm Shop for tea and scones with jam and cream, cost £3.75. Please let me know if you will be coming as numbers have to be confirmed and also if you require a lift.

You are all welcome to come along to our meetings

Michael Froude
01622 759098

ALLINGTON TREFOIL GUILD



This month one of our members received her 50 years service to guiding award! We are very proud of her. Allington Trefoil's first walk for 2019 was at Lullingstone Country Park near Eynsford; we met with members from North Bromley Trefoil. Some members walked the Lullingstone Loop Path (6.4kms) which gave spectacular views over the Darent Valley, whilst the other group took the Woodland Walk (3.2kms) which was full of woodland wonder. Afterwards we met and enjoyed lunch together in the wonderful sunshine. If you are interested in joining our active group

please contact us at
allingtontg@btinternet.com

Nicola
allingtontg@btinternet.com

MENS BREAKFAST



This month we were missing our esteemed leader away visiting a transport museum, research for a future presentation, The eggs were boiled with the timer however the majority were hard boiled and a few slightly runny. There was the usual chat putting the world to rights and although the word Brexit was banned it did somehow creep into the conversation. We also had a unexpected talk from Geoff Garrett on St Martin's Church, Fenny Stratford, The Fenny Poppers, six small ceremonial cannons which are fired annually on St Martin's Day (11th November) and appropriate occasions. Tradition was initiated by Browne Willis in order to perpetrate his memory. Following his death in 1760 the traditions were carried on and later documented. All six poppers were re-cast in 1859, after one of them burst, these are still used today. The poppers each weigh about 19 pounds, the bore is 6 inches by 1.75 inches, and they are charged with Pyrodex (modern alternative to black powder) which is then plugged with well-rammed newspaper. They are ignited by means of a long poker, the tip of which has been heated red hot in a brazier. There is no 'Men's Breakfast' in May

Michael 759098

NEW ALLINGTON PLAYERS



Our last productions of the Murder Mystery *Death in Darjeeling*, and the more recent *For Better or for Worse* resulted in a healthy surplus for the drama group.

At our AGM last month, it was decided to donate £200 to Help for Heroes, in thanks for the help given to us by the army surplus store, Semma4, in providing excellent army outfits at very low cost for the production of *Death in Darjeeling*.

It was also decided to donate £200 each to Relate, the relationship charity, and to the Loos and Lights campaign at St. Nicholas' Church. Such donations are only possible because of the loyal support we receive from members of St. Nicholas', and their friends, so, thank you, everyone!

We are currently beginning a series of play readings, partly for the fun of doing so, and also partly in order to find suitable one-act plays for our next production.

Anyone who wishes is invited to come along to these informal evenings, with no compulsion to end up on the stage!

For information about dates and venues, please contact me. We generally meet on occasional Friday evenings in members' homes

Dianne White 756660

ALLINGTON DISTRICT GIRL GUIDING



In February Girlguiding hold their annual Census, when all units up and down the country have to submit their numbers to Headquarters and pay the annual subscription for each member. This year the numbers in Allington are 120 girls and 23 volunteers.

2nd Allington Guides have recently held a sponsored dance evening raising money for McMillian Cancer Support.

Paula Savage
District Commissioner
paula.savage22@sky.com

Charity of the Month Christian Aid

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Christian Aid Week

12th - 18th May 2019



St Nicholas Church Presents.....



Virtual Games

A fund-raising event for the Loos and Lights Campaign!

During the month of May 2019, all you have to do is walk or run the equivalent of 1km per day, log this using one of your Apps on your smartphone and then post your progress as and when you complete it on the church Facebook Page.

At the end of the month if you have completed 31Km, equivalent of 1km for each day you will get an official, celebration medal.

In addition to this, there is a trophy for whoever raises the most sponsorship money so you can get sponsored by friends and family per Km! (You can do loads more than just 31km if you feel like it! Get sponsored per km)

Registration is £10 per person and can be made by going to the Church Just Giving Page and put in the comments box your name and what your £10 is for i.e. John Brown "Virtual Games 2019" Don't forget your email address so we can contact you to send you your medal!

Justgiving/crowdfunding/stnicholas-church

Each day that you've done something, post your evidence as a screen shot on the St Nicholas Facebook Page and it will be collated and added up for you. At the end of the month, we'll give you your medal if you've made it!

If you're not very good with technology but still fancy joining in, you can pay by cash and record your progress on a paper form and submit this at the end of the month!
(Email Jackiewilkinson7@btinternet.com for more details)

This is for young and old, alike! We all move a lot more than we realise, lets record it and get sponsored and raise some money!

(Initially there will be forty places available depending on demand)

Registration opens on 1st April 2019 Event starts 1st May 2019 until 31st May 2019.

Board

7 2019

page 15 for more details!

BIBLE
PROJECT

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Next meeting

Friday 10th May

Do join us for coffee & cake!



No Saturday Club this month!

Deadline for

June Grapevine

Friday 3rd May

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Rotas for May

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Sidespeople

	8.00am	9.30am	10.00am	11.00am
May w/e				
5	A Waddams J Sargent		E Harrington D & M Derry	
12		A Redford C McInnes		R Froude J Harlock
19	D & B Davison		M Salvage D Salvage C Colyer	
26		I Redford S Lavender D Hayles		M Gentry G Garrett

Sanctuary Cleaning

May w/e

5	
12	M Gentry
19	
26	R Froude

Coffee

June Bagshaw & Liz Walker
Barbara Stratford & Ann Williams
Caroline McInnes & Bob Butcher
Sarah Knott & TBC

We welcome into the family of the church

Millie Smith

We commend to the loving care of our Lord

Derek Hunter



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- ◆ Licensed Bar with Sky Sports & BT Sports
- ◆ Family bar and Function Hall available for hire
- ◆ Lounge Bar over 18's only - also available for wakes (Catering available upon request)

Monday - Friday

ACA Playgroup (Term time only)

Call Katie

07545 556290

Mondays & Wednesdays

ZUMBA 7.30pm

Call Claire

07812 564460

Tuesday's

Orchard Club for the over 60's 1.30pm

Call Pat

01622 673633

Slimming World 5.30pm & 7.30pm

Call Vanessa

07712 647797

Wednesday's

Whist Drive 1.00pm

Call Joy

01622 761346

Thursday's

Bingo 7.15pm

Call Joy

01622 761346

Eucher Cards (Lounge Bar) 7.00pm

Call Julie

07813 956187

Saturday's

Kungfoo (6-11yrs 9.30am)

Call Neil

07980 945378

(11-15yrs 10.30am)

Sunday's

Bingo 8.00pm

Call Joy

01622 761346

Adult £34

Adult & Spouse £46 (inc admin fee)

Family - Adult & spouse plus 1 child (second child free) £58

(all to reside at same address)

Juniors £22

Senior (Over 60) £22

Senior & Spouse £34

Keep up to date with what's going on !

Email secretary@aca-club.co.uk Telephone 01622 673633

WHERE AND WHEN — ORGANISATIONS IN THE PARISH

Mondays:

Tel.enquiries

Quilting Web	9.00am - 12.00pm ~ <i>Small Hall 2nd, 4th, 5th</i>	01622 710829
Zumba	9.15am - 10.30am	07999 444045
ALLARA Tai Chi	11.30am - 12.30pm	01622 756475
ALLARA Painting	2.00pm - 4.00pm ~ <i>Small Hall</i>	01622 662707
ALLARA Kurling	2.00pm - 5.00pm <i>2nd & 4th</i>	01622 686305
Flair School of Dance	4.00pm - 6.00pm ~ <i>Small Hall</i>	07713 260452
2nd Allington Rainbows	4.30pm - 5.30pm @ <i>Allington School</i>	01622 685264
Weight Watchers	6.15pm - 8.15pm	07888 740221
4th Allington Brownies	6.00pm - 7.30pm @ <i>Allington School</i>	01622 686527
1st Allington Guides	7.15pm - 8.45pm ~ <i>Small Hall</i>	01622 672985
Allington Castle Beavers	6.00pm - 7.00pm ~ <i>Small Hall</i>	07846 600953

Tuesdays:-

Slimming World	9.45am - 11.45am ~ <i>Small Hall</i>	07770 700688
Parent & Toddler Group	9.30am - 11.30am	07951 777854
1st Allington Brownies	5.45pm - 7.30pm	01622 685007
Kettlebridge Clog Dancing	8.00pm - 10.30pm	01622 727147
Allington Scouts	7.30pm - 9.00pm ~ <i>Small Hall</i>	07846 600953
ALLARA	1.00pm - 4.30pm ~ <i>3rd</i>	01622 756475
Simply Pilates	6.00pm - 7.00pm ~ <i>Small Hall</i>	07845 442885
Trefoil Guild	7.00pm onwards - <i>1st Tuesday</i>	allington@btinternet.com

Wednesdays:-

Zumba	9.15am - 10.15am	07999 444045
Quilting Web	9.30am - 12.30pm ~ <i>Small Hall 2nd, 4th, 5th</i>	01622 710829
Quilting Friends	9.30am - 12.30pm ~ <i>Small Hall 1st & 3rd</i>	01622 744170
ALLARA Keep Fit	10.30am - 11.30am	01622 756475
2nd Allington Brownies	6.15pm - 7.45pm	01622 753563
Maidstone Dance Academy	3.15pm - 6.15 Hall & 4.00 - 6.00 ~ <i>Small Hall</i>	01622 746835
Allington Castle WI	7.00pm - 9.30pm ~ <i>Small Hall 3rd</i>	01622 721170
Maidstone Circle Dance Club	8.00pm - 10.00pm ~ <i>1st</i>	01622 753090

Thursdays:-

NHS Retirement Fellowship	10.30am - 12.45pm ~ <i>1st</i>	01622 670240
ALLARA	10.00am - 12.00 ~ <i>Small Hall 1st</i>	01622 756475
Creative Art & Textiles	10.00am—3.00pm	01622 695769
Allington Knights Beavers	5.45pm - 6.45pm	07846 600953
Allington Cub Scouts	6.30pm - 8.00pm @ <i>Allington School</i>	07846 600953
2nd Allington Guides	7.00pm - 8.45pm ~ <i>Small Hall</i>	01622 685264
Allington Garden Club	7.30pm - 9.30pm ~ <i>1st</i>	01622 754855
Mid Kent Fuchsia Group	7.15pm - 10.15pm ~ <i>2nd</i>	01795 539722
Mothers' Union	2.30pm - 4.30pm ~ <i>Church ~3rd</i>	01622 678312

Fridays:-

Zumba	9.15am - 11.15am ~ <i>Small Hall</i>	07999 444045
Simply Pilates	12.30pm - 2.30pm ~ <i>Small Hall</i>	07845 442885
Musical Playtime	10.00am - 11.00am	01622 669400
St Nicholas Fellowship	2.30pm - 4.30pm ~ <i>2nd</i>	764913/762548
OASIS Café / Mums & Babes	9.30am—12noon ~ <i>2nd in Church</i>	07951 777854

Saturdays:-

Children's Saturday Club	10.00am—12 noon ~ <i>3rd</i>	07951 777854
1st Allington Rainbows	9.00am - 10.00am ~ <i>Small Hall</i>	07742 846625
Hearly Quilters	9.00am - 1.00pm ~ <i>1st</i>	01732 823383
Clouds Youth Group	1.30pm - 4.30pm ~ <i>Small Hall</i>	07886 566984
Mid Kent Metal Detecting Club	6.30pm-10pm ~ <i>2nd</i>	01233 612312
Men's Breakfast	8.30am - 9.30am <i>Last Saturday</i>	01622 759278

Sundays

Light Life Christian Fellowship	11.00am—1.30pm ~ <i>Small Hall</i>	josephanderson111@icloud.com
Light Life Christian Fellowship	5.30pm—8.30pm ~ <i>Small Hall</i>	josephanderson111@icloud.com

All information is for reference only and may be subject to change - please check for further information regarding hall availability with the Church Office on 01622 299715

May 2019

1	Wed	8.30am 10.00am 7.30pm	Morning Prayer Holy Communion with Mothers' Union Evening Prayer
2	Thur	9.00am	Prayer Space
5	Sun	8.00am 10.00am 5.00pm	Holy Communion Morning Worship OASIS in the Afternoon
6	Mon	8.30am	Morning Prayer
7	Tue	7.30pm	Bible Project
8	Wed	8.30am 10.00am 7.30pm	Morning Prayer Holy Communion Evening Prayer
9	Thur	9.00am	Prayer Space
10	Fri	10.00am 2.15pm	OASIS Café with Mums and Babes St Nicholas Fellowship - Country Ride
12	Sun	9.30am 11.00am	OASIS Holy Communion
13	Mon	8.30am	Morning Prayer
15	Wed	8.30am 10.00am 7.30pm	Morning Prayer Holy Communion Evening Prayer
16	Thur	9.00am 2.30pm	Prayer Space Mothers' Union Meeting
17	Fri	7.30pm	Medway Big Band Concert
18	Sat	11.00am	Messy Builders!
19	Sun	8.00am 10.00am	Holy Communion OASIS Communion followed by Auction of Promises
20	Mon	8.30am	Morning Prayer
21	Tue	7.30pm	Bible Project
22	Wed	8.30am 10.00am 7.30pm	Morning Prayer Holy Communion Evening Prayer
23	Thur	9.00am	Prayer space
26	Sun	9.30am 11.00am	OASIS Holy Communion
27	Mon	8.30am	Morning Prayer
29	Wed	10.00am	Holy Communion
30	Thur	9.00am	Prayer space