

May 2013

As you may now have heard, I am moving on at the end of July to take up my post in Sutton Bridge & Tydd St Mary. It is with mixed emotions I leave, since I have found a wonderful, open, caring community here at Christ Church, that I will be very sad to leave behind. But I also look forward to the next adventure God is taking Christina and I on, very much looking forward to having our own Church's and Communities to care for and explore together where God is taking us, so that we can make our Lord Jesus Christ known and bring glory to Him.

Our lectionary readings after Easter always traditionally retell the account of the early Church's growth, and the spread of the Gospel message. Paul and Peter, our two main evangelists and apostles must have had the same mixed emotions as myself in some ways, they were excited about the good news of Jesus Christ and were always keen to go where God was leading them to share this amazing message, yet they no doubt were always tinged with sadness to leave behind new friends and church families, but trusting that God would love, nurture and care for the new churches after they had gone.

Dear friends, I am still with you for another three months, and our Lord is with you always. We have an amazing God who we serve and love, and we have an amazing message to share with others, let us be those who are always willing to move beyond our comfort zones to take this Gospel message to those people who don't yet know our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Love and blessings

Rev. David

June Magazine

Could all entries for the above magazine be given to me by Sunday, May 26th. Magazine publication will be the following Sunday, June 2nd.

Collections

	Open Plate	Gift Aid	Env. (Non Gift Aid)
March:	£437.31	£1557.50	£172.60

Thank you

I would like to say a very heartfelt 'thank you' to everyone for the lovely card and book token to recognise my term as Treasurer. Nigel Harvey is taking over as the Treasurer and will be in Church from time to time so do make yourself known to him. Please continue to pray for the financial success of Christ Church now and for the future.

Gail.

100 Club

Draw result for April,

1st: No.55, 2nd: No.12

The next draw will take place on May 22nd during the Day Centre.

Electoral Roll 2013

The new Electoral Roll for Christ Church dated 10th March 2013 is as follows:

101 members (down from 125 members last year.)

4 people have died, 35 people did not re-register and 12 new members were added.

I have been the Electoral Roll Officer for 20 years and have decided to retire from this duty, which I did at the Church AGM.

Peter Wise.

Bishop of Lincoln's Letter.....

At the start of this month, those of us who live in the Lincolnshire county council area will be casting our vote in the local elections. Those of us in the other parts of the diocese will be doing so in 2014.

We are fortunate to live in a democracy - something we should never take for granted. Yet in recent years we have seen a decline in the number of people who exercise their right and responsibility to vote. Turnout in the election of our first Independent Police Commissioner in November was only 15%.

Whether we are due to vote this month or not, this is a good time to remind ourselves of the words of St Paul's in his letter to the Ephesians:

“You are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone.”

As disciples of Jesus we are called continually to assess and reorder our lives according to the values of his kingdom. We do so not only as citizens of earth, but also of heaven. So then, when we have the opportunity to vote, we have an obligation to take seriously our responsibility to engage with the urgent issues of our time; to recognise that each of us has the capacity to make a difference; to do all we can to bring about the coming of God's kingdom for all the people of our diocese.

Christopher Lincoln.

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## *Magazine Subscriptions*

Hopefully, by now subscriptions have been paid as they were due last month, April.

If you have not paid yet the cost remains at £5 per year, 50p per copy. For those who have their magazines delivered please give monies due to your 'delivery person' asap.

# *Church Spring Clean*

*Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> June at 9am*

We need your help to spring clean the Church. This has not been done since the Church was redecorated in 2011.

There are a variety of jobs to do so please talk to Brian or Dawn if you need any other information.

Please sign up on the list in the foyer if you are able to help. Come along for as long as you can. We look forward to seeing you there and remember "many hands make light work"!

Thank you in advance,

*Dawn and Brian.*



## *The New Minibus has Arrived!*

On April 18<sup>th</sup> a brand new Ford Transit accessible minibus was delivered to Christ Church. Since then a striking new livery has been added and the minibus has gone in to regular use. It is a great asset to the Community Transport Scheme and the Church as a whole.

Users, particularly the drivers, have spoken enthusiastically about it and it will benefit the Scheme and Church for many years to come. It is available for hire on 01780 482380 so why not enquire about it for your group or family outings!

There is a celebration and dedication for the new minibus on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May at 11am for 11.30am and anyone is welcome to attend.

*Ian Collis.*





# *Fundraising*

We have now put together a (small) programme of social events to help raise funds for church. Our first event is:

**'Strawberry Tea Afternoon', Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> from 2 pm.**

Fresh, homemade scones with jam, fresh cream and lots of strawberries and as much tea (or cold drink) as you can drink will be available for the cost of £2.50. There will be a raffle and lots of time to sit and enjoy a good 'chat' with friends.

We hope you'll come along and join us, bringing friends, relatives and neighbours with you. We look forward to seeing you there! (Another reminder will be given next month!!)

Next up will be a **Stamford Market Stall, Friday, September 27<sup>th</sup>** when we will have a 'Tombola' along with cakes for sale. So, if you're given a gift that isn't 'quite to your liking' pass it our way and we'll put it to good use as a tombola prize!

Come September we'll have the **Grand Draw** tickets for sale which will be drawn at our **Annual Bazaar on Saturday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>**. More details will be given nearer the time for these later events.

Sadly, we have had to cancel next Saturday's (May 11<sup>th</sup>) 'Afternoon Social' with Bingo due to unforeseen circumstances. Hopefully we will be able to rearrange this later in year.

## *Fundraising Committee.*

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StartAfresh/Befrienders

We had a lovely trip to Rutland Water on April 25th, to do some bird watching, as part of the R.A.E. course. The weather was lovely and the day was enjoyed by all who attended. We have a trip to Ferry Meadows on May 13th and another to Tickencote Church, with Chris, on May 16th to look forward to and hope the weather stays nice!

We welcome Titiana and Martin as new members.

The blanket for Africa continues to grow and the baby jumpers are well on the way to being completed. Any wool would be much appreciated for these projects.

We will greatly miss our friend Joy who has recently passed away but will always remember her lovely smile.

Love and regards,

Befrienders.



Day Centre

We hope you are enjoying the warmer weather, it certainly is lovely to see the sun if only briefly.

On May 8th we are looking forward to Margaret Fox and six of her artistes performing a Concert for Members and we hope to welcome Alex Naylor, who will be playing his organ, on May 22nd. Everyone is welcome to join our afternoon entertainments for £2 which includes a cup of tea and cake.

The Day Centre will be closed on May 29th for one week at half-term.

The Foot Health Professional will not be with us during May.

This month's Day Centre Communion took place on May 1st and our next two services will be on Wednesdays June 5th and July 3rd.

Amy and Carolyn.



Mothers Union

The next M.U. Holy Communion Service, followed by the meeting, will be held at St. George's Church on Thursday, June 6th at the usual time of 10.00am.

All are welcome.

Toddlers

Our group is going well with lots of new babies joining our group. Plans are afoot for our trip to Wickstead Park in August.

We will all miss 'Auntie' Joy who passed away recently. But we will continue with fun and laughter which she would have loved. We send our love and blessings to her devoted family.

We have some lovely ladies who have joined to help us; Alice, Emma and Eunice, along with the 'old gang' of Ruthie, Rachel, Tina and Rob.

Toddler Gang.

Thank you!

A very big 'THANK YOU' to all my friends at Christ Church for all the cards, good wishes, love and prayers whilst I have been ill.

I am a lot better now and look forward to seeing you all again soon.

With much love,

Daphne Wise.

Love in a Box

I thought those of you who have supported 'L in a B' (or Operation Christmas Child to give its true title) for many years would be interested in the item below. It was printed in a free weekly newspaper which we read whilst in Portugal. I found it very interesting and hope you enjoy reading it!

'Operation Christmas Child (OCC) has reached the milestone of delivering 100 million shoeboxes, filled with simple gifts, to needy children around the world, thanks to your support.

Since 1990 through OCC, Samaritan's Purse (the distribution arm of the charity) has been providing these gifts to children in over 100 countries.

Regional manager for OCC in the UK, Roger Fenton, says: "I would like to thank the volunteers at our local collection sites and all those who have packed an OCC shoe box gift. For many of the children who receive these gifts, this shoe box will be the first gift they have ever received. Thank you again to everyone who takes part in this project. A simple gift, packed with love, can communicate hope to children worldwide. We're so grateful that despite the recession and hardship everyone is feeling, people have really gone the extra mile this year to pack shoeboxes with love and because of that, we've been able to reach our 100 millionth shoebox."

Samaritan's Purse UK Executive Director Simon Barrington also praised the work of OCC volunteers. "It's absolutely amazing that over 6000 volunteers have got engaged in helping us deliver these shoeboxes around the world. It took us 23 years to reach our first 100 million, but the programme is still growing and each year more children around the world are receiving gift-filled shoeboxes. I am confident that we can achieve the next 100 million boxes in 10 years!"

One of the volunteers who delivered boxes this year said on his return, "I wish every donor of a shoebox could experience just something of the gratitude we have experienced from these who receive your gifts."

Jane Richardson.

Just a reminder that shoeboxes will, once more, be needed come the autumn! So remember to keep the shoebox when you buy your summer shoes or sandals now that the sun has at last made an appearance! Enjoy the sunshine!

Gail.

Cats Tails!

Hi Family!

I've seen some sun – have you? Or did you blink and miss it. I had a guest and showed them around my 'des. res', with Mummy Ruthie's permission.

The strange men who came to do the painting did a good job – but played with the dolls and teddies! Each to their own!!

I hope 'Mummy Jane' is enjoying her holiday and I look forward to having her back mid May.

Love to all my family,

M.D.



Calendar

May

Sunday	5	10.00 4.00 6.30	Holy Communion CC@4 Evensong
Monday	6	1-3 8.00	Befrienders Bible Study Home Group
Wednesday	8	9-3 7.00 7.30	Day Centre Informal Prayer Meeting Gospel Choir
Thursday	9	9.30 1-3 7.30	Toddlers Twinklets Prayer Meeting
Friday	10	1-3	Befrienders
Sunday	12	10.00 4.00 6.30	Holy Communion CC@4 Evensong
Monday	13	1-3 8.00	Befrienders Bible Study Home Group

Wednesday	15	9-3 7.00 7.30 7.30	Day Centre Informal Prayer Meeting Gospel Choir PCC Meeting
Thursday	16	9.30 1-3 7.30	Toddlers Twinklets Prayer Meeting
Friday	17	1-3	Befrienders
Sunday	19	10.00 4.00 6.30	Morning Prayer CC@4 Holy Communion
Monday	20	1-3 8.00	Befrienders Bible Study Home Group
Wednesday	22	9-3 7.00 7.30	Day Centre Informal Prayer Meeting Gospel Choir
Thursday	23	9.30 1-3 7.30	Toddlers Twinklets Prayer Meeting
Friday	24	1-3	Befrienders
Sunday	26	10.00 4.00 6.30	Holy Communion CC@4 Evensong
Monday	27	1-3 8.00	Befrienders Bible Study Home Group
Wednesday	29	7.00 7.30	Informal Prayer Meeting Gospel Choir
Thursday	30	7.30	Prayer Meeting
Friday	31	1-3	Befrienders

June

Sunday	2	10.00 4.00 6.30	Holy Communion CC@4 Evensong
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See weekly notice sheets for details of all events.

Girl Guiding UK have units meeting each week here at Christ Church throughout term-time.

For more information contact 01780 784091.

Basement

Regular term time Programme for the Basement

Monday	3-7	Teenzone
	7-9.30	Teenzone sports @ QE
Wednesday	3-7	Teenzone
	7-8.30	Teenzone
Thursday	1-3	Befrienders
	3-4	Teenzone (Careers Session)
	4-7	Teenzone

Holy Humour!

Did Noah Fish?

A Sunday school teacher asked, "Johnny, do you think Noah did a lot of fishing when he was on the Ark?" "No," replied Johnny. "How could he, with just two worms."

The Lord is My Shepherd

A Sunday school teacher decided to have her young class memorize one of the most quoted passages in the Bible - Psalm 23. She gave the youngsters a month to learn the chapter. One child was excited about the task but he just couldn't remember the Psalm. After much practice he could barely get past the first line. On the day that the children were scheduled to recite Psalm 23 in front of the congregation, Ricky was so nervous. When it was his turn, he stepped up to the microphone and said proudly,

"The Lord is my Shepherd, and that's all I need to know."