



# alive!



## Merry Christmas

From all the members of St. Helen's and St. Barnabas Churches



## Christmas Services

**St. Barnabas Carol Service.** 5.30pm on Sunday 12th December

**Carols door to door** near St. Helen's Church. Starting at the Robert de Mortain pub at 7.30pm Monday 13th December

**Carols by Candlelight,** St. Helen's Church, 6.30pm 19th December

**Kidz Karolz** 4.30pm Christmas Eve, St. Helen's

**Midnight Communion** 11.30pm Christmas Eve, St. Helen's

**St Barnabas Communion 9.00am**

Christmas morning and a traditional Communion with Carols

**All Age Celebration** Communion 10.30am at St. Helen's

## Strength from the Lord

One minute standing in St. Helen's Church singing, the next blind and blacked out! I was terrified, but there was peace somehow, with God's arms around me.



Even in shock, I knew God's strength. You can feel the prayers of others, so Thank you all. Though I couldn't speak properly, the Lord said "patient", so I was calm again, knowing

the Jesus born for us at Christmas.

It took me a year to return to normal, and it really changed me; I was always in a rush, but now I take time with Jesus.

Harold and others have prayed with me and I'm not frightened now. I'm so glad I have the Lord in my life; How about you?

*Joy Jones (Member at St. Helen's)*

## Fatbusters

We meet at St Barnabas every Monday between 6pm to 7pm where we weigh-in, have a drink and share recipes and advice. The atmosphere is one of friendly encouragement, no fads, no fuss and no fees! Some of us have a little to lose and some of us a bit more, we celebrate our successes and spur each other on. Some people just pop in for a short time, others stay and enjoy the company, it is very relaxed and easy going. There is no charge (unlike some very expensive slimming clubs) however if people are able and wish to make small donations we use the money to help those who are hungry or at risk of being hungry.

Everyone is welcome, just turn up any Monday

## EARLY CHRISTMAS PRESENT TO US ALL



A new Adventure Playground for our community was opened last month by the Mayor, Kim Forward, as a safe place of play and discovery for all ages. It can be found on Broomgrove Road in Ore Valley, near the railway, and is planned to be open weekdays from 3 to 6 pm.. Our Rector, Rev. Chris Key, was present

and comments, "A crowd, including children, were there really enjoying this amazing facility which will be brilliant for us all. My thanks to the whole team who have created it and will be opening it now to local people".



## Make a Gift ... For Free!

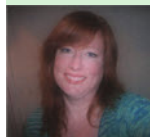
Our Christmas Craft Day is open to all, without a charge, and includes refreshments, fun and making decorations and gifts.

Come with the family and join us on Saturday 4th Dec, 12-3pm in the Broomgrove Centre, Chiltern Drive.



## Welcome to Cherry: Our thanks to Pete

Mrs Cherry Phillips becomes our Parish Administrator this month, so it is her voice you'll hear when you phone our church office (754 290; open 9.30 - 12.30 each weekday).



And our gratitude goes to Pete Acton as he retires from that role after 14 years.





### On the Streets & in the Pub!

Carols around local streets will be sung and Christmas wishes offered (but no money taken) on December 13th. Leaving the Robert de Mortaine pub car park on the Ridge at 7.30pm (with mince pies afterwards).

And in the same pub we have the first of our "Pints of View" events (which will be held every other month) on Tuesday, December 14th at 8pm. A panel will answer, or at least try to, any questions you have, focusing this time on "Christmas: love it or hate it?" Everyone is very welcome, as are all your questions.

### Next event March 1st

**Hastings Healing Rooms**

Free, confidential prayer for healing in the name of Jesus Christ

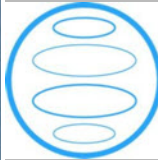
"I am the LORD, who heals you." Exodus 15 v 26

Saturday Afternoons between 3 - 4pm  
(except school summer holidays & Christmas & Easter weekend)

at Hastings Citadel, St Andrews Square, Hastings, TN34 1SR

Everybody is welcome  
No appointments  
Just walk in!

### Parker Road College



Sussex Coast College Hastings

Congratulations to the newly opened unit for Sussex Coast College on Parker Road,

which is a resource for all the local area. And by the time you read this we expect to have appointed a full-time chaplain to the college and our University Centre to offer care and the good news of Jesus there.

### Carols old and new

St. Barnabas' Church, Hoads Wood Road, offers a carol service with many old favourites plus new words to "God rest ye merry gentlemen" written for a competition by our own rector! Join us on Sunday, 12th December at 5.30pm.



# Kidz Karolz Rokz

Loads of people pack into St. Helen's Church on Christmas Eve at 4pm, with all ages enjoying an interactive drama, traditional and new carols, and this year even a touch of 'Strictly Come Dancing' too.

Come along and bring the family.

## The Big Day

We gather to worship the Jesus who was born for our salvation (and lives still today) and invite you to join us on Christmas Day.

St. Barnabas' Church has a quieter Communion at 9am, whilst St. Helen's begins at 10.30am with a service for all ages which is more lively (and where we invite children to show us some of their quieter gifts.)

## CANDLES, CAROLS, CHOIR... CHRISTMAS!

St. Helen's Church, The Ridge, invites you to their carols by candlelight Service on Sunday 19th December, 6.30pm, with the theme of "Keeping Promises".

Well known carols, readings and refreshments, alongside a few new items and surprises.

## Walk it off

New Year's Day is a great moment for a walk after all that food, so come and join us at 2pm in the Barley Lane car park.

We'll be stopping briefly at a viewpoint across the town to pray for Hastings at the start of 2011.

## Can we help?

St. Helen's parish is always happy to hear comments from you or to offer help in any way.

You can contact:

Rector Rev. Chris Key 425172

Curate Rev. Andrea Williams 433335

Curate Rev. Annette Hawkins 754501

Parish Office Cherry Phillips 754290

Or through our website: [www.sthelens-ore.org.uk](http://www.sthelens-ore.org.uk)

## Entering Christmas

Our midnight communion at St. Helen's Church actually starts at 11.30pm on Christmas Eve, being timed so that we enter Christmas Day together in worship.

## St. Barnabas

**Christmas fayre** on the Saturday 4th dec. from 10am - 2pm. Free entry. Stalls include books, cakes, tombola, bric-a-brac and more. There will also be teas and coffees and a ploughmans lunch.

**Cameo Club** - Wednesday's from 1.45pm - 3.15pm for over 50's. Speakers, quizzes, trips and "extend" exercises. £1 entry to include tea / coffee and biscuits. All welcome.

