

Parish and Community

The Link

St Mildreds Road



Westgate Bay Avenue

Westgate Bay Avenue



St Mildreds Road

**August
2019**

**The Magazine of
St Saviour's Parish Church**

**THE PARISH CHURCH OF
ST SAVIOUR WESTGATE ON SEA**

www.stsaviourswestgate.org.uk



Priest in Charge Mother Karen Gooding

Honorary Assistant Priests

The Revd Susan Wing

The Revd Lesley Valiant

The Revd David Chance



Churchwardens

Mrs Christine Attwood Tel 833314 email cattwood2002@yahoo.co.uk

Mrs Christine Joiner email chrissyjoiner@hotmail.co.uk

Churchwarden Emeritus

Dr D Crouch

**WELCOME TO
THE SEAMARSH GROUP**

PCC Secretary Mrs Jean Glover jean.thanet@gmail.com

St Saviour's Church of England Junior School

Elm Grove, Westgate

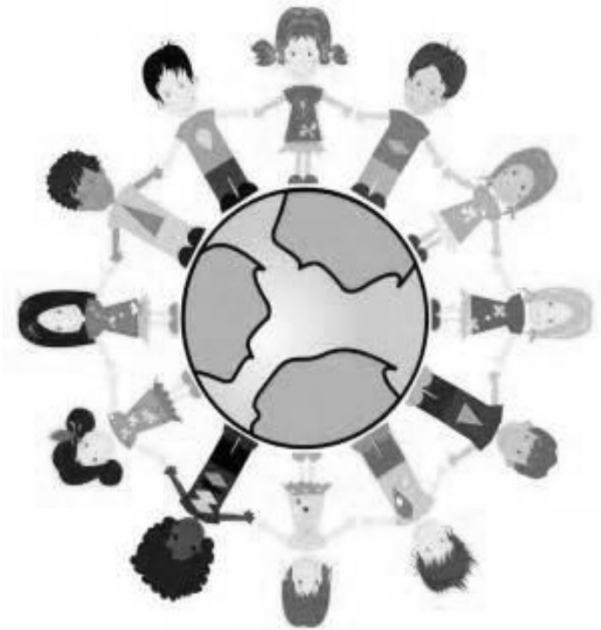
Telephone 01843 831707

Headteacher Mr N Bonell

Editor "The Link" valdaneve@hotmail.co.uk

St Saviour's Church, Westgate

FAMILY SERVICE



SUNDAY 4TH AUGUST

10.30 AM



Dear friends,

I have been asked to write the August letter and would like to share with you my feelings about the date of the 15th. August. I was just 8 years old on this date in 1952. I lived in a small village on the banks of the East Lyn river in Devonshire Ex-moor. It was a wet school summer holiday and it rained heavily on the 15th, so much so that the sky was a dark brown and it was impossible for us children to play in our river Lyn because it was very full and red. Our cottage was on the end of a row that was connected to the Stag Hunters hotel and pub. That evening my mother told me to go and fetch my father out of the bar because his supper was going out. Well, the river water had crossed the road and was coming into the kitchen where the little wood fired stove was being doused. I well remember Dad talking his supper of kidneys and runner beans to eat them upstairs. What had been a day of adventure now became a really panic filled nightmare. Neighbours opposite, whose homes were built on the river bank, banged on the window for us to take in their valuables as they evacuated. My Dad remembered me, upstairs, in the dark, bursting into tears and crying, 'God said it would never happen again!' He reminded me of what I had said on my ordination day in Canterbury Cathedral 18 years later. The flood water filled our living room up to the ceiling and was climbing the stairs. Suddenly, with a sudden roar and it retreated. By morning light we were confronted with a scene of devastation. Huge holes had been carved in the road. Cottages and bungalows had been severely damaged or had been washed away altogether. All the bridges that connected us with the outside world had gone and we were cut off for months. The fields were full of potatoes, turnips and dead fish. Mum and I would collect the vegetables but not the fish. We must have lived on these for days. News of what had happened further down stream was deeply shocking. At Lynmouth the West Lyn river had blocked our East Lyn with boulders and trees creating a dam which is why we were flooded 5 miles up the valley. This dam broke in the middle of the night and washed much of Lynmouth away. There were dozens of victims, many of whom were holiday makers asleep in their B&B's. The Lynmouth Flood Disaster was a massive shock to the nation and many who survived, having lost everything, decided to leave the area. I returned to Brendon village years later. It had lost its community and was a series of empty holiday homes now with electricity and piped water!

As a priest I was to discover a better story attached to the date August 15th. This is a feast day of the Christian Church that, remarkably (unlike Christmas and Easter) is celebrated by all parts of the Church, yes, even the C of E. Our new services and lectionary call us to join Roman Catholics, Orthodox and many others in keeping this date as a celebration of The Blessed Virgin Mary and especially the end of her earthly life. The Greek and Russian churches call it her Dormition (Falling Asleep) while the Roman churches call it her Assumption (her rising to heaven. Our college organist got into frightful trouble for playing 'hurray and up she rises' at the beginning of the service!). I prefer to call it her Heavenly Birthday. So you see, for me this feast day is a day of resurrection hope which helps to heal the trauma of my Exmoor childhood.

God Bless you in every part of your life,

Father David Chance

The Friends of Kent Churches Sponsored Bike Ride and Walk (part of the national Ride+Stride) takes place on the second Saturday in September each year. This year it will take place on **Saturday 14th September 2019. See Valda for details.**



FROM THE REGISTERS

For those Baptised

“Shine as a light in the world, to the Glory of God the Father”

Sunday 14th July Cara Bethany and Charlotte Vikki

For those joined in Holy Matrimony

“God our Father, pour out your blessing on all joined in Holy Matrimony; that they may be joined in mutual love and companionship, in holiness and commitment to each other”

The Sick

“Lord, grant your healing presence to all who suffer in body, mind or spirit”

Phyll, Doreen , Beryl , Joyce, Maureen, Stephen, Marie, Bailey, Joan, Ken, Vanessa

The Departed

“Lord now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word”

We give thanks for the life of those who now rest in eternal peace, and pray for their families and friends

For those whose anniversary of death falls at this time.

“Dear God, we thank you for the rest in Christ they now enjoy, and thank you for giving them to us”

Esther Candace Turberfield



Missal stand given to St Saviour's Church in memory of the late Esther Candace Turberfield (Thelma Frank's daughter).

Churchwardens' Report

We continue to meet informally most weeks with Mother Karen. Our discussions in July were mainly to do with the 10.30am Parish Communion, the birthday weekend and the Songs of Praise. There was also an informal meeting of the Standing Committee to consider arrangements for the afternoon of 21st July, matters affecting other members of the Seamarsh Group (Minster, Monkton, St Nicholas-at-Wade, Chislet and Birchington) and having our own service order for baptisms. The service booklets from St Nicholas-at-Wade were used for the baptism of Cara and her twin sister Charlotte on 14th July and will also be used for the baptism of Hendrix on 11th August. At the time of writing, no baptisms are planned for September and so, hopefully, we will have our own booklets in readiness for baptisms booked for 13th October. Please let us have your comments on what you like or dislike about the booklets we have been using. We know that changes are necessary to the Gloria and wording of the Lord's Prayer and more instructions are needed about whether we should be standing or sitting. It is not just the baptism parties that are confused!

23rd July 2019 was the 135th anniversary of the dedication of St Saviour's Church and we decided to make changes to how the birthday weekend has been celebrated in recent years.

On the Saturday, Dr Dawn Crouch arranged for church and Heritage Centre members to tell stories of people connected with the building and life of St Saviour's between 1880 and 1940. Over 50 people came and we all learned so much and found much of it very moving. How many of us really knew why some of the memorials had been given or that the church building was closed for worship in 1940 for the duration of the war?

Morning services were as usual on the Sunday with refreshments after the 10.30am including the special birthday cakes made by Brenda. The afternoon was definitely a departure from the norm as we celebrated with outreach rather than simply inviting gifts of money from the congregation. The church grounds were a hive of activity with Mother Karen and Chrissy being splattered in the stocks, hook the duck, badminton and other games. It was busy inside the church too with many locals taking advantage of the opportunity to look round the church and enjoy the free refreshments served by Lesley and Pam, who hardly had time to pause for breath between filling the many cups. Party bags were given to the children and many adults enjoyed looking at the Heritage Centre's display about the church and maps showing the development of Westgate from 1872. A big thank you to everyone who helped on the day by providing cake, washing up or looking after the various attractions. Thank you too to the United Services Club for allowing us to borrow their stocks; the Revd Andrew Way for loaning his PA equipment and trusting Graham and Aidan to keep it safe; the Birchington Handbell Ringers; and to those who took part in ringing the special quarter peal on our church bells.

The day ended with a popular Songs of Praise at 5pm to celebrate our birthday and the Town Council's first Westgate Day. The congregation included representatives of the Cubs and Scouts, members of St Saviour's School Choir led by Mrs Anderson and friends from other local churches. The Council kindly included our Songs of Praise in their programme for Westgate Day and promoted the service in their announcements from the stage.

With love and blessings

Chris and Christine

WESTGATE ART & CRAFT GROUP

Owing to the scaffolding and work being done in St. Saviours Church last year, we were unable to hold our annual exhibition. Happily, there are no such difficulties this year and we are delighted to be back.

The exhibition will be open at the following times over two weeks in August.

Monday, 12th August to Saturday, 24th August

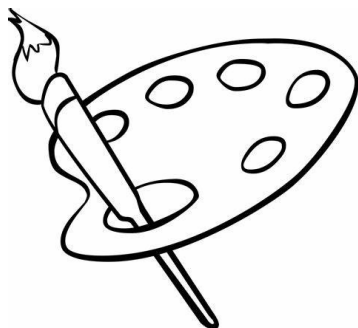
Monday, to Thursday 10. 00am to 4. 00pm

Friday afternoon, 12. 00pm to 4. 00pm

Saturday morning, 10. 00am to 1. 00pm

We will be exhibiting our paintings, a large variety of craft work and many hand made cards for all occasions. Most of the exhibits are for sale. There is no charge to see the exhibition though there will be a raffle to help with expenses.

We look forward to welcoming our visitors, old and new, to what we hope will be an enjoyable experience for everyone.





Scripture
Union

minnisbay 2019

29th July - 9th August 2019

For the latest information,
please visit:

www.suminnisbay.org.uk



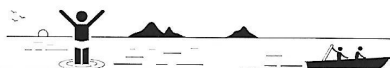
#minnis2019



125

The Lord is the everlasting God

ISAIAH 40:28



Service for NHS Hearing Aid users There will be a weekly Hi Kent Clinic held at Westgate Surgery -every Monday 2-3pm - for hearing aid batteries, tubes and free advice.

Donations of food needed for the Storehouse Foodbank, based at Birchington Baptist Church. Please support our local foodbank.

Thank you, Ann Lawrence



Whilst you are welcome to take and enjoy a copy of “The Link”, donations towards the cost of printing would be appreciated.

The deadline for SEPTEMBER 2019 “The Link” is
THURSDAY 29th AUGUST 2019

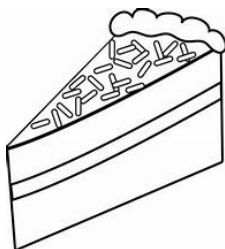
To all cake and other goodie makers

We love a piece of cake with our afternoon cup of tea, but as both of us are diabetic, we are not supposed to have any – so – we don’t make or buy cake – because we would eat it all – wouldn’t we!

It is an enormous pleasure to be allowed to take a piece of cake each home on Sundays after church. After all, one piece can’t hurt, can it, and we often cut it in half if it is a big piece.

So thank you all you cake makers – you make two elderly ladies very happy.

Gill and Jean



N U I E M E X H I B I T I O N
 Q C N F C T B O V G S M M I P
 T O R I T I R U A K E Z I A A
 N A V E O O P Y A D I L O H N
 M A R Y A N F O O L I S H U M
 V K J T T M D S T E P P U P S
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 F H J I S C R I P T U R E Z P

Art
 August
 Bartholomew
 Beach
 Blessed
 Cream
 Exhibition
 Foolish

Holiday
 Hymns
 Ice
 Man
 Mary
 Pimms
 Puppets
 Sand

Scripture
 Sunshine
 Swimming
 Transfiguration
 Union
 Virgin

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		1				2	9	
7		3	5	6			8	
4			2				6	5
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	3	5				6		
	4			2	6	1		

Treasurer's Report

Statements for the month of June 2019

June

Income £4788

Expenses £4104 Included within the income, Summer Fayre £780

Surplus £684

Total assets at 1 January 2019 £73895

Total assets at 30 June 2019 £78036

G R Neve

Hon Treasurer

News from St Saviour's Church of England School

After a busy end to Term 6 at St. Saviour's Church of England Junior School, our thoughts now turn to September. I have appointed two teachers from local schools, both are experienced and come with sterling reputations.

I am encouraged that both the new teachers said they had been told by other St. Saviour's staff that our school is a fun and rewarding place to work. My number one priority is always the children, their care and learning is paramount. However, my next priority is staff, particularly frontline teachers, as they are the stars of the show. In our public discourse, teachers (like social workers or civil servants) are often complained about or belittled. In reality, the success of a school lies with having outstanding teachers.

The teachers in a school are like the first team at a football club, the efforts of all support staff should be focussed on giving them the tools to get the job done. Instead of drowning them in paperwork, school leaders (like me) and those that set the education agenda (ministers, OFSTED, local authorities) need to support and challenge teachers to help children. There should always be a robust system for dealing with poor teachers – I have dealt with a few – but they are a tiny minority. Great teachers should be supported and celebrated.

I am so proud of the teachers and wider staff team at St. Saviour's. Everyone, from office and premises staff, our Family Liaison Officer, librarian, meals staff, sports coach and teaching assistants do their best for our children. The results of this commitment can be seen and felt when you walk around our school. Our children are polite and treat all with respect.

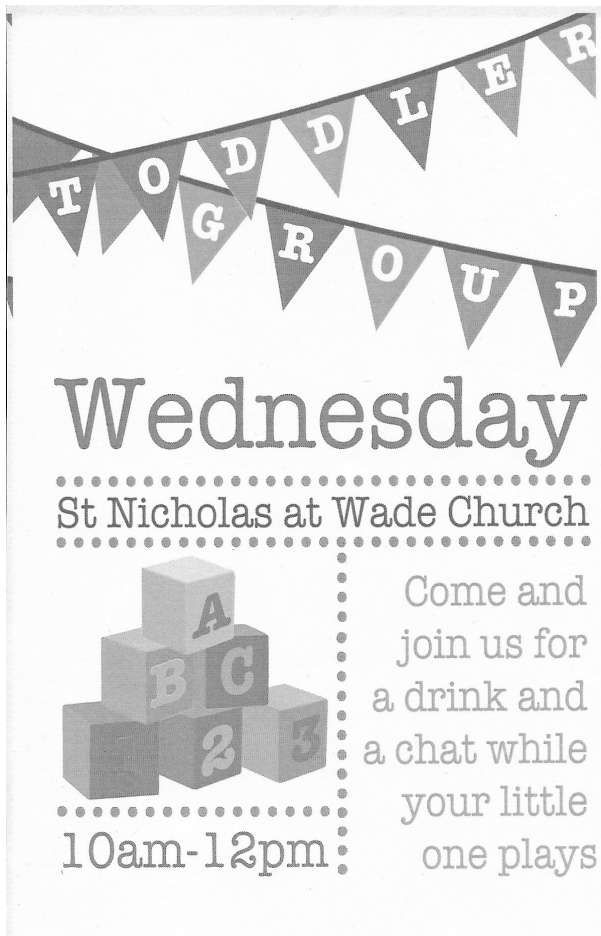
Respect is the Christian Value which is key to our positive ethos. Staff respect children and each other. We respect our families. Westgate is a tremendously diverse town; we have pockets of wealth as well as intense socio-economic deprivation. Some parents arrive in Porsches, other are dependent on foodbanks – all deserve our respect, all expect their children to have the best possible start in life. Parents are our partners in their children's education and we value them as such.

Over the summer holiday, our staff will take a well-earned break. After a little time away from school (teachers work a 50-60 hr week so need it!) staff will be in their classrooms over the holiday. Lots of work goes into preparing classrooms and curriculum planning for the next cohort of children.

The public might assume that lessons plans get recycled year after but each cohort is unique and the expectations that society has of school leavers change. Planning is adapted to the needs of each teaching group – this takes hard work on the part of the teacher.

The investment we make in schools, in supporting our teachers, in helping parents is worth it. Today's students are the future citizens of Westgate; they will be our police officers, nurses and business owners. Investing our resources in our children benefits us all in the long run.

Nick Bonell, Headteacher



BELLRINGERS WANTED—NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED

Want to try a new hobby? If you are aged between 9 and 90 you are welcome to come and join us on a Thursday evening at 7.30pm in the Bell Tower—NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED—tuition given.

Hello to everyone hope you are all well I am doing well up in Ireland but I miss you all very much and hope all the priests who take your services are all well too I have a Question for you all to think about is and the Question is Do you know where the time is going? And keep and be safe and have a pleasant week

From David your friend from st saviour church before

If anyone has an email address please give it Brenda so she can post it to because I would like to keep it touch



“thank everyone who supported Christian Aid Week in May. Cheques and cash donations in the envelopes came to £174.20”.

St Saviour’s Church has large print Hymn books, Order of Service books and Pew Sheets (readings only) for use. Please do not hesitate to ask if you require one.



A new Food Bank for St Saviour's

Mother Karen and I recently visited the food bank operating out of Birchington Baptist Church in Station Road known as Storehouse. We were very impressed with what we saw and learned about how it operates. We reported back to the PCC and all agreed, with effect from 1st August 2019, to give the food donations left in church to Storehouse rather than the Thanet Food Link.

St Saviour's School has supported Storehouse for many years and other churches and schools across Thanet also support it, particularly those in Birchington.

Storehouse began a few years ago, to see if there was a need to support individuals and families at a time of difficulty. After a slow start, it is not now unusual to give out over thirty bags of food and provisions every week to those who are referred via school, social services, local community group etc.

By switching our support, we hope to be providing more help to those in need in our own parish. So please continue with your generous donations of non-perishable food items.

Christine Attwood

Scripture Union Beach Mission

This year will be the 125th Beach Mission at Minnis Bay and we were delighted to welcome 6 members from the team of over 80 to our service at 10.30am on 28th July.

The Mission runs from 29th July to 9th August with morning and evening activities for the under 5's and school-age children hosted in the various churches in Birchington. There are also a number of events in the afternoon and for families in the evening. For full details, please pick up a leaflet at the back of the church.

Every weekday morning from 10am to 12noon there is a café for adults and young children in 'The Marquee' at the Bay Church in Ethelbert Road, Birchington. The café is 'staffed' by volunteers from local churches and, together with St James', it is our turn to (wo)man it on Friday 9th August. However, there is a great need for cakes every morning. If you can help meet this need, please give Tessa a ring on 842416. Thank you



CHURCH OPEN THURSDAY

MORNINGS 10am to 12noon

Except on the 2nd Thursday of the
month when there is a Mothers Union
Holy Communion Service at 10.15am

ALL WELCOME

CALLING ALL KNITTERS

WOOLLY HATS FOR SEAMEN

WOOLLY HATS: Mike Piper, one of Dover's team of seafarers' chaplains, is seeking the support of knitters. He wants some woolly hats for overseas seafarers when their ships call at the Port of Dover. Fingerless gloves would also be welcome. Many of the seafarers arriving at Dover are from India or the Philippines and, in the colder months, they appreciate the kindness of the knitters. Mike can be contacted on 07976 528449.

Chunky or Double Knit Wool, any pattern, any colour. Finished hats can be left in Church for Barbara Yates. Telephone Number 835645, who will collect and take to Dover – No time limit.
Many thanks.



The Friends of St Saviour's Church

Thank you to everyone who supported our strawberry tea on Saturday 13th July. 46 people enjoyed the delicious tea provided by the Committee and some of our members with fruit from Monty's of Birchington. We were delighted that Peter and Liz Rowe and Andrew and Barbara Way were able to come as our guests and to welcome some new faces. Unfortunately, Mother Karen was unable to be with us because she was hosting St Nicholas-at-Wade's Messy Church Picnic in her garden. It was a very happy afternoon resulting in just under £330 for our funds.

We have no further fundraising events planned for 2019 but plan to run two stalls at the Church Autumn Fair in November.

If you have not already joined The Friends for 2019, please consider doing so. It only costs £2 per person but optional donations are always welcome and the money we receive is used to help maintain our beautiful church and the church grounds.

Christine Attwood

Secretary

St Saviour's Church, Westgate

Welcome

**TO OUR
FRIENDLY
FRIDAY
MORNINGS**

10am TO 12noon



**REFRESHMENTS
AVAILABLE,
ACTIVITIES**

OR MEET FOR A CHAT



Join Us!

**ALL
ARE
WELCOME**

From the Parochial Church Council Minutes (PCC).....

Meeting 26/06/19.

Minutes approved 24/07/19 without amendment

Matters arising. Food bank. Fact finding visit to be made to The Storehouse run by Birchington Baptist Church. PCC generally in favour of change from Thanet Foodlink to The Storehouse subject to outcome of visit. To be discussed at next PCC meeting together with re-siting/improving our collection area.

Seammarsh Group. At the meeting held on 21 May 2019, ways of working together were considered. A week of accompanied prayer, setting up a group office, a monthly group newsletter and a possible joint choir concert. Forthcoming songs of praise at St Nicholas-at-Wade on 23 June 2019. It was reported that a good number from St Saviour's attended the songs of praise.

Worship and Mission. Choir robes. A sample robe had been obtained. It was agreed that robes in Royal Blue should be ordered and paid for by the PCC. Donations towards the cost would be welcomed. Crèche area. Display screens had been moved to make the area more accessible and visible. Children to make bunting for area as activity after the Family Service in July. Children's Holy Communion Service Books. Examples used in St Nicholas-at-Wade during baptism services viewed to consider purchasing some for use in St Saviour's. Prayers for the sick. Names printed on the pew sheet to be reviewed at PCC meetings.

Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) update. Information requested at previous PCC meetings had not been provided. PCC advised that a final payment of £2150 received from the HLF for the Development stage. PCC were informed of an exchange of emails between the HLF and the PCC representative regarding the Delivery stage resulting in a further payment of about £6000 from the HLF. There was a query raised about whether the VAT successfully reclaimed under the Listed Places of Worship Grant scheme had also been covered by the HLF grant. The HLF were to be contacted to establish the correct position and the outcome reported to the PCC.

Treasurer's report. Accounts for April and May had been previously circulated and were accepted. It was agreed that only items in excess of £100 would be shown separately under Miscellaneous expenditure. It was reported that arrears of payment of Gas charges had occurred and immediate payment of £600 and an increase in the direct debit to £270 per month was agreed. It was also agreed that settlement of an outstanding invoice relating to the educational display should be met from the HLF account.

The Parish return for 2018 was submitted late due to the change in PCC treasurer and difficulties in accessing the online portal.

Churchwarden's report. PCC were informed that reports of warden's meeting with Mother Karen would be circulated before PCC meetings. Ingress of rain/hail. The roof had been inspected at ground level by Mullaney Roofing Ltd and costs for scaffolding to allow roof level inspection were discussed. In view of no problems following recent heavy downpours it was decided to take no further action.

Correspondence. A card for community distribution produced by St James Church advertising their services during Easter week was considered and suggestion that the PCC produce a similar card next year was adopted. Westgate-on-Sea Town Council had asked the PCC to support their application to English Heritage for funding the restoration of the shop canopies. Further advice to be sought before signing the proposed letter of support.

Social activities. Plans for commemorating the 135th birthday of St Saviour's in conjunction with the first Westgate Day on 21 July were discussed. A party event in the church and grounds with stalls inviting donations to replace the traditional Gift Day. Birchington Handbell Ringers had been invited to be followed by the ringing of a quarter peal on the church bells. Members of the community and St Saviour's School to be invited to a Songs of Praise at 5pm in church.

Any Other Business. Possibility of forming a choir to sing Evensong in the churches of the Seamarsh Group. Confirmed policy of holding Baptisms once a month during the 10.30 am Eucharist. Mugs had been purchased for the sole use of Friendly Friday refreshments. A report from the Hon Electoral Roll Officer was presented to approve the enrolment of three parishioners bringing the total number to 68 (49 resident within the parish). The applications were approved.



CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Bellringers Practice every Thursday 7.30 to 9pm.

Bible Study Group meet Thursday at 7pm, details & inquiries ring

Susan 836430 . **BIBLE STUDY MEETS AGAIN ON 5TH SEPTEMBER.**

The Westgate Heritage Centre

Saturdays 10am to 12 noon .On the First Saturday of the month at 10.30am

TALK Wednesdays 11am to 1pm from May to August inclusive

Refreshments available.

Saturday 3rd August Illustrated talk by Dr Dawn Crouch “The End of an era—the break-up of the Westgate-On –Sea Estate”

Church Cleaning 8.15am to 10am on the 1st Friday of the month.

The Friends of St Saviour’s Church - Annual Membership Fee only £2

New members welcome. Join the Friends of St Saviour’s church Subscription only £2 per year . All monies raised go towards the upkeep of the church and grounds. Membership forms at the back of the church or ring

Christine Attwood Tel 833314 email cattwood2002@yahoo.co.uk

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

FRIENDLY FRIDAYS 10am to 12 noon every Friday ALL WELCOME.

FRIENDLY FRIDAYS CANCELLED ON THE 2ND AND 9TH AUGUST

SUNDAY 11TH AUGUST Hymns & Pimms in the garden of St Nicholas at Wade Vicarage at 3pm.

Monday 12th to Saturday 24th August Art & Craft & Heritage Centre Exhibitions in Church.

St Saviour’s Church has a Hearing Loop System



CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday Services

8am Said Eucharist Book of Common Prayer

10.30am Sung Eucharist

10.30am First Sunday of the month FAMILY SERVICE

10.15am Mothers Union Holy Communion on the 2nd Thursday of the month - contact The Revd Lesley Valiant ALL WELCOME

12.15pm Friday Holy Communion monthly on the last Friday. Service

CANCELLED IN AUGUST.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

1st Westgate Rainbows

Fridays 4.15 to 5.15pm

8th Westgate Brownies

Fridays 5.30 to 7pm

Both held at the Community Centre, Westgate.

JOIN THE **ADVENTURE....**

Come along and try 1st Westgate-On-Sea
Scout Group for Boys and Girls

Where: The Billabong,
St. Crispins Road
Westgate-On-Sea CT8 8EB

When: Beavers: Tuesday 5:15pm—6:30pm
Cubs: Tuesday 6:45pm—8:15pm
Scouts: Thursday 7:00pm—9:00pm

Ages: Beavers: 5 3/4—8 years
Cubs: 8—10 1/2 years
Scouts: 10 1/2—14 years

Contact: 1st Westgate-On-Sea Scout Group
Email: 1stwestgatescoutgroup@gmail.com

Westgate-on-Sea Heritage Centre

Well - what an exciting weekend we had last week! St Saviour's celebrated its birthday - the 135th anniversary of the Dedication and Consecration of the church and Westgate-on-Sea Town Council put on its first Westgate Days. July 18th was "Schools Day" at King Ethelbert School, which unfortunately could not be open to the general public. Those of us privileged to have been asked to help had a real treat. Two Heritage Centre members, Sally Whitworth and Valda Neve, were among the six judges and I was honoured to be invited, as Hon. Freeman of Westgate-on-Sea, to say a few words and present a special prize to the group which had submitted the best project in the Heritage category. We were amazed at the high standard of the projects and the creativity and imagination shown by the competitors. We were loaned a few of the entries from St Saviour's School to put on display on Saturday 20th July and, as we still have the care of them (it being the school holidays), we may be able to show them again, when we hold our exhibition in August.

The weekend was one of superb weather and the organisers must be congratulated on what they achieved. There was so much going on and it was good to see so many groups and organisations taking part. **On Saturday 20th July the Heritage Centre put on its "St Saviour's Tour"**. This was very hastily arranged and I must thank every one of the dozen readers who made it a success. Some of them only received their scripts two days before. Members of the audience found it incredible that they had not had a rehearsal! In fact they only found out where they were to stand to read their part (parts of the church appropriate to their story were used) on Saturday morning, when they arrived. As I was busy putting the final touches to the displays which were linked with the characters, I left them to get on with it, having perfect trust in their capabilities. They did not disappoint. Some had dressed up, all read with real passion for the stories that they had to tell and so the history of our beautiful building slowly unfolded. We heard the first and fourth vicars, the architect, the first churchwarden, the guest organist for the day the organ was unveiled (as a bonus it was played for us on Saturday), Lady Clementine Mitford, Mrs Cecily Best and Mrs Agnes Hawtrey, donors of some of our stained glass windows, Mrs Stunt, the widow who paid for the stencilling on the chancel walls and organ pipes, Elizabeth Lyne and Caroline Mylne, the wives of the first two vicars who spoke of the parts they had played in parish life and Ella Rogers who spoke for all those whose loved ones are now remembered in the War Memorial Chapel. Fr David revived the Rev Augustus Lyne for us at the beginning with wit and eloquence and brought the morning to an end with a more sober story, as he recounted how the Revd Norman Lycett-Lycett had the sad task of officially closing St Saviour's at the end of July 1940 after the town had been bombed and most of the civilian population evacuated.

All these characters were real in the history of the church and the words that they spoke were taken from various archival sources. Only one character - Stephen the mason - was "made up". Unfortunately we know nothing of the masons who so skilfully built our church, but I wanted to include information about the stone work and the story of the laying of the Foundation Stone, so I based my character on Terry, the foreman mason who worked on the tower restoration in 2004, when I was churchwarden and with whom I had many illuminating conversations, whereby I learnt a lot about masons and masonry. Graham Neve was excellent in the part and raised many a laugh. I am hoping that the scripts will be able to be used in subsequent years and maybe a few more characters added.

I had warned the "cast" that there might not be any audience, as we had not had time to give it much publicity, so we were delighted when more than 50 people turned up. It was an opportunity for Heritage Centre and church to work together, which is why I was so pleased with the outcome. On Sunday 21st the church was buzzing, as it celebrated in party mood with tea and cake, with balloons and hand bell ringing, with a special "method" quarter-peal and finishing with a most enjoyable and happy Songs of Praise". This was history in the making and we look forward with confidence to next year.

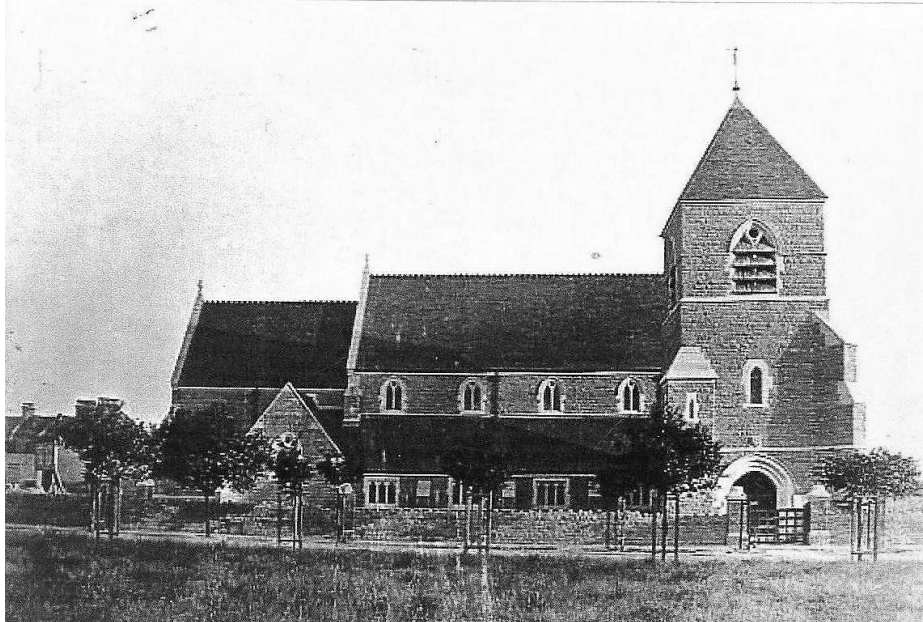
We hope to take advantage of the church being open for the Annual Exhibition of the Art Group by having our own exhibition at the same time - visitors get two for the price of one (except that both are free) and we all get the opportunity to show off what we do. It is usually a very happy time.

On 7th September we shall start our commemorations of the 80th anniversary of the Second World War, as we remember "**The Day War Broke Out**" by re-telling some of the stories collected from Thanet residents in 2009 for the 70th anniversary of that day in 1939. It will be in a similar vein to what we did last week and there are some poignant stories to hear in the most suitable place possible, as one of them is of a young choir boy who was in St Saviour's church on **Sunday 3rd September 1939**, who heard the fateful words of Neville Chamberlain from the radio brought in by the vicar and who had to race for shelter as the air raid warning sounded shortly afterwards. Come along and listen! *Dawn Crouch*



A Master Mason at work
preparing stone.

St Saviour's Church in 1939 before the town houses were built.



Sunday 21st July

St Saviour's Church
135th Birthday Celebrations and The First
Westgate Day Celebrations.

Mother Karen dressed as the clown and Chrissy, Churchwarden taking turns in the stocks with wet sponges being thrown at them.





WESTGATE-ON-SEA HERITAGE CENTRE



- Calendar 2020 -

Westgate on Sea Heritage Centre Calendars NOW AVAILABLE Cost £5 each.

Plus Postage £1.50 First Class £1.35 Second Class if required.

Makes a wonderful gift. Available at Heritage Centre opening times and via website .

St Saviour's Church, Westgate

FAMILY SERVICE

**SUNDAY 1st
SEPTEMBER**

10.30am

ALL WELCOME





Girlguiding



1st Westgate Rainbows

For Girls aged 5 to 7 years

Meet Fridays in term time

4.15 to 5.15pm

Westgate Community Centre

**STARTING A NEW PROGRAMME THIS YEAR WITH LOTS OF
EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES**

**APPLY HERE : [https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-
for-parents/register-your-daughter/](https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter/)**

Any queries: westgaterainbows@outlook.com





Caring for an elderly relative or neighbour?

Do you need a break... or do they?

Respite care for the elderly available at...

Yoakley House

Drapers Close, Margate

Kent CT9 4AH

For details or to arrange a visit:

Tel: **01843 223652**

Email: **admin@yoakleycare.co.uk**

www.yoakleycare.co.uk

Scripture Union Minnis Bay
29th July to 9th August 2019
Intercessions

You may have your own programme but for those who don't may I suggest the following:-

Everyday. Thank God for his blessings on last year's mission and the missions that went before it. Pray for good weather throughout the fortnight, for the safety and health of the team, the children and all who will attend, that there will be adequate, suitable accommodation for the team members and pray for their hosts. Remember especially Avtar and the organisers that God will bless their labours. Pray for the preparations for the 125th anniversary and for the next planning meeting on 1st June. Pray for Hannah the [Youth and Communities Worker](#) at *Birchington Baptist Church* and Sam Youth and Communities Worker at *Christ Church, Westgate* as they work together in local schools. Please pray for *the Loft, Messy Church, Yo Yos, Hangout, and the local Junior Churches / Sunday Schools in the area.*

Sunday Pray for the team members in their day to day lives, the churches they attend, their families and the work they are called to do in their home communities. Pray for the churches in Thanet and their witness to Christ.

Monday Pray for the families of the very young children who will attend *TIDDLERS*. For all who will attend *the Café* and those who will be serving coffee, tea, providing cakes and talking to those who have little connection with the church. Pray for the team members who feel God may not be calling them to return in 2019, that they may receive guidance in whatever they are called to do. Locally pray for the Anglican Churches.

Tuesday Pray for the children and their families who will attend *TWIGS*. For the leaders who will be responsible for the young children. Pray for those who are considering joining the team for the first time, for guidance in the selection process. Locally pray for the Roman Catholic Churches

Wednesday Pray for the children who will be attending *TRAMPS* for the leaders responsible for making the Gospel come alive to them. Pray for the team members who will be returning and thank God for their dedication. Pray they may especially guide and assist the new team members. Locally pray for the Baptist Churches.

Thursday Pray for those who will attend and lead the *TROGS* for wisdom, understanding and the means to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. Pray for the team members travelling great distances as they spend a whole year raising the funds for their trip. Thank God for their dedication. Locally pray for the Methodist Churches.

Friday Pray for those who will attend *SUPER TROGS*, those who lead them and for the various ventures and outings planned.

That there will be a rich harvest of new leaders coming through. Pray for all local team members in their witness within the churches of Thanet throughout the year. Locally pray for the URC Churches.

Saturday Pray for the various groups and ventures that will seek to continue the work started by the Mission. Pray for other Missions throughout the country planned this year in Abersoch, Aberystwyth, Byker, Criccieth, Cromer, Felpham, Hexham, Kidlington, Marske, Nefyn, Perranporth, Polzeath, Port St Mary, Southwold, Sutton on Sea and others. Thank God for the legacy of the team members of bygone years and pray for them in their work for the Gospel wherever they are now.

A Prayer

Almighty God, we ask you to bless the Scripture Union Missions throughout the land planned for 2019. Especially we pray for the mission in Minnis Bay. Go before the local churches and the team in all the preparations calling out faithful leaders and helpers and supplying all the needs. Help us all to make sense of the Gospel and to relate to the needs of all who will attend so that many will be drawn to our Saviour's love. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



22nd July to 5th August

**Minnis Bay
Holiday Club**

BEDS WANTED!

Once again about 60 mainly young SU volunteers will arrive to work for two weeks with our children, joining the many local SU team members sharing God's love using church halls in Birchington for this holiday club. Last year some 600 children attended over the fortnight.

This year I am making an early plea for home accommodation for them. Just beds are needed—they have all their meals, including breakfast, at the halls.

If you might be able to help (even for one of the two weeks) please let me know. Ring or email me for more information

Tessa Hinge

842416

tessa.hinge@zen.co.uk

OXMARKET GALLERY
CHICHESTER
SEPTEMBER 10-16th 2019

IMAGINE THAT!

David and Andrea Chance and friends
Icons.....paintings.....prints.....sculpture

Informal demonstrations in the media used for Iconography throughout.

Tuesday lunchtime talk by renowned Iconographer Peter Murphy.

Weekend lunchtime music.....we
hope!

Please check details with the gal-
lery.

Would love to see you there!

