

Parish and Community

The Link

St Mildreds Road



Westgate Bay Avenue

Westgate Bay Avenue



St Mildreds Road

**April
2021**

**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 Tel 216357

Honorary Assistant Priests

The Revd Susan Wing



Churchwardens

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

Mrs Christine Joiner email chrissyjoiner@hotmail.co.uk

WELCOME TO THE SEAMARSH GROUP

PCC Secretary Mrs Christine Attwood

St Saviour's Church of England Junior School

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St Saviour's Church, Westgate

PANTRY IN THE PORCH

HELP YOURSELF

Available from the PORCH entrance in
WESTGATE BAY AVENUE

10.30am to 3pm

MONDAY TO SATURDAY



ONE PERSON AT A TIME IN THE
PORCH.

REMEMBER SOCIAL DISTANCING.

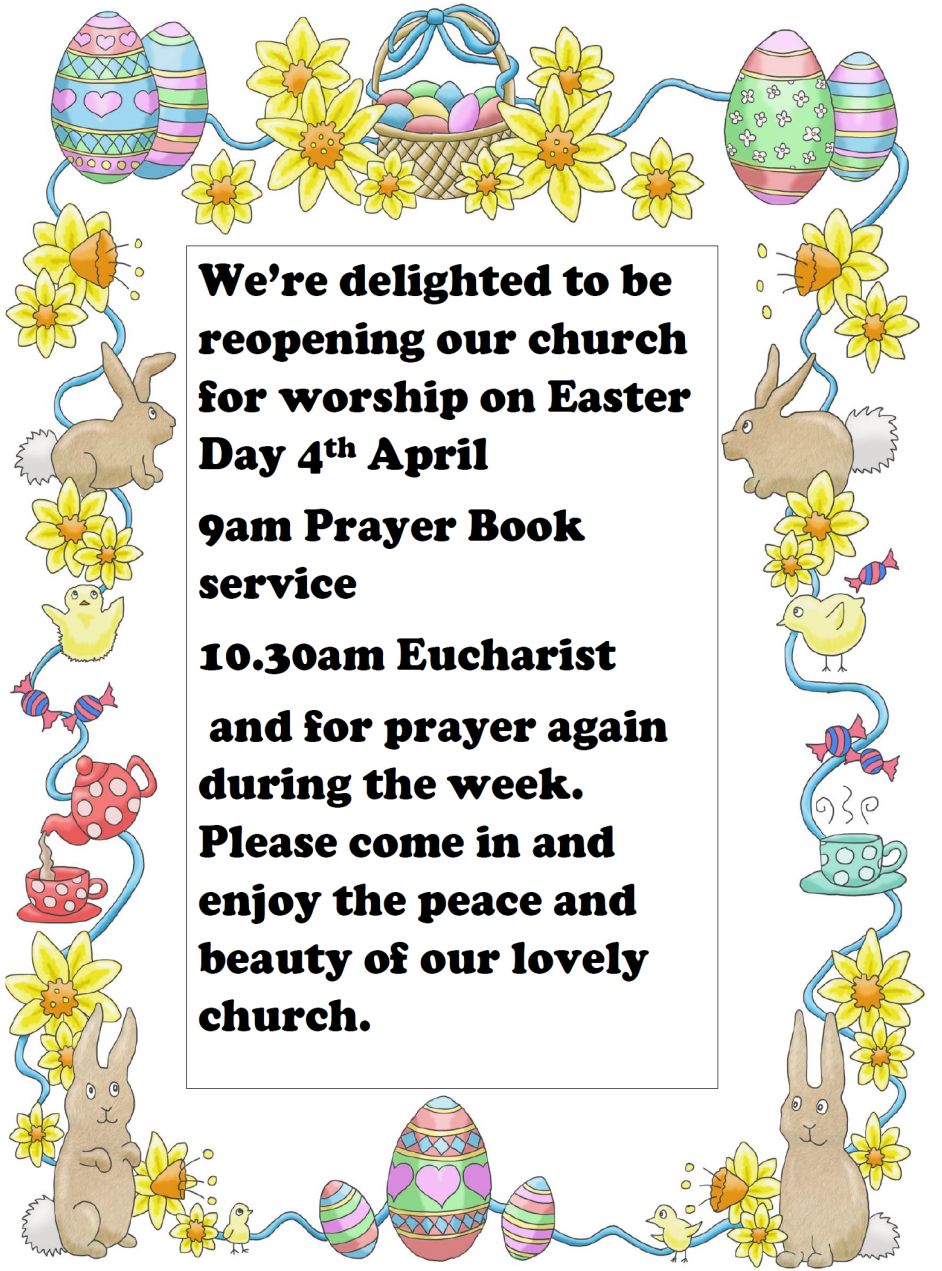
St Saviour's Church, Westgate



**CHURCH IS OPEN FOR SERVICES ON A
SUNDAY AT 9am (Holy Communion Prayer Book)
and 10.30am.**

**SUNDAY SERVICES at 9am & 10.30am are
live – streamed from church.**

**You can join us online by accessing the church
website (www.stsaviourswestgate.org.uk) &
obtaining the link on the Visiting Page shown
below the service information.**

A decorative border surrounds the central text. It features a blue wavy line connecting various Easter-themed illustrations: colorful Easter eggs with heart and geometric patterns, yellow daffodils, a woven basket filled with eggs, a brown rabbit, a yellow chick, a red teapot pouring into a red cup, and a green teacup with steam. The border is symmetrical on both sides.

**We're delighted to be
reopening our church
for worship on Easter
Day 4th April**

**9am Prayer Book
service**

**10.30am Eucharist
and for prayer again
during the week.**

**Please come in and
enjoy the peace and
beauty of our lovely
church.**

Known by name

Dear friends,

Last Easter we were dazed, pitched into a strange new world of 'lockdown' and the unfolding horror of the havoc wreaked by the pandemic. We held our Easter services in the garden, surrounded by apple blossom, experimenting with a new phenomenon called 'livestreaming'. This Easter, we shall go back into a church filled with music, flowers, candles and hope. The vaccine isn't quite a 'miracle cure' but it has allowed us to start functioning again without the desperate fear which has lurked around every corner for so long. Things may not be 'back to normal' but we can breathe more easily now.

And as we greet this Easter Day and the life-transforming message of life beyond death, we may recognise that, over the past year at certain times, we have been like Mary in the garden, confused, grieving and weeping. There has been no obvious way ahead.

Our experiences of grief, death, confusion and loss this year point us to the possibility of something beyond- the Great Hope- because we've ceased to expect that life will just carry on in its old familiar patterns. The experience of disruption on so many levels has caused us to stop- to wonder- and to think again. What is important? What doesn't really matter? What can wait and what can't wait?

For Mary, in this in-between world of grief, there was one thing that seemed to make sense – and that was to be as close as she could to the tortured and lifeless body of the man who had held out so much hope to her- and taken away. The pain of loss held her in that place- standing next to his tomb.

When he spoke, she didn't recognise him- because she couldn't. Her agony blinded and deafened her to the presence of the One she loved. But when he spoke her name- she saw him and her grief evaporated into lasting joy.

He still speaks our names. We may not be able to hear but that will not stop him calling us by name. We aren't a statistic, a problem or even a life-line to him- we are simply and significantly the child of God whom he loves. Our future with him will depend on our capacity to hear his voice. This year's confusion and roller-coaster of emotion will eventually subside but it doesn't need to before we hear him speaking our name. We are precious beyond words and known by name and that is the Great Easter Hope in this world and beyond.

Mother Karen

2021 PASCHAL CANDLE



Easter Reflections

In the NE corner of the church grounds stands a wooden cross complete with shroud and crown of thorns. How did it come to be there? Well the cross was found in the church cellar, where it had been stored for some time. It would be interesting to know when it was made for the church and when it was last used.

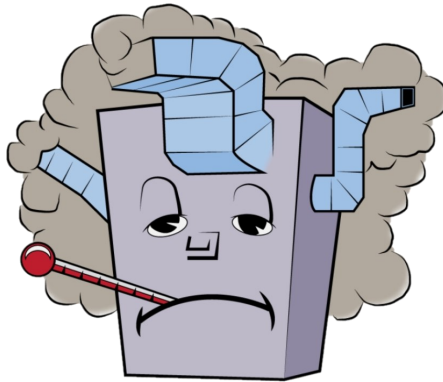
The cross is of course a revered symbol of the Christian faith, never more so than during Eastertide. It is also a particularly relevant source of comfort as it reminds us that following His suffering, and subsequent resurrection, we are assured of eternal life in His Kingdom.

The display of flowers is intended to represent the shadow or reflection of the cross and show that there is life after the crucifixion. At the same time the reflection is an opportunity to remember all those who have lost their lives during the pandemic.

Easter is also a time of joy and it is right that we should celebrate with what has become the traditional fayre, hot cross buns, simnel cake and of course Easter eggs! Maybe you will feel it is time to come into church to one of our services on Easter Day. You will be very welcome.



MAUNDY
Thursday



WHEN THE CHURCH IS OPEN

PLEASE COME TO CHURCH WRAPPED UP WARM AS THE CHURCH
BOILER HAS FAILED SO HEATING IS LIMITED. A WARM WELCOME
AWAITS.





" in the absence of anyone else to do the readings . "

Photo and caption sent in by Aidan.

FROM THE REGISTERS

For those Baptised

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

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”

Chrissy and Phil, Anne and John, Phyll, Doreen, Beryl, Joyce, Vanessa, Maureen, Janice, Shirley

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”

Revd Roy Stagg

World War 2 Roll of Honour Ernest Turner 10th April 1941

Patrick Johnstone 11th April 1945 Eric Baldwin 13th April 1945

John Johnstone 29th April 1944

Crew of US Air Force B24 Liberator “Knucklehead”

John Ross, Clayton Aughinbaugh, Bernard Fink, Nicholas Rich,
Ben Munford

Glance back over March

St David, St Patrick, St Joseph and Our Lady have helped us through this Lenten springtime. Warm sunshine and hailstorms, lengthening days and strengthening light have landed us again in Summer Time. The church building has been quiet this month but the life of the church has been stirring underneath the apparent calm. The Pantry in the Porch is making a difference to people's lives as day by day, folk arrive unobtrusively to unlock and replenish, while those who need to, take what they find there.

We have marked the twelve months from the beginning of lockdown with a simple ceremony involving daffodils in a vase, a candle-lit wooden cross and a bell chiming at midday on the 23rd. Our Marie Curie scarecrow, donated as part of last year's Westgate Scarecrow Festival, sat in the porch to help us remember those whose lives have been tragically cut short by the pandemic.

March has been an in-between month- a 'getting ready' time for our church re-opening at Easter. Times of quiet can prepare us for meeting again.

Mother Karen



The Stations of the Cross in St Saviour's Church

One of the ways the Church observes Holy Week is by 'following' as it were, in the footsteps of Jesus in the Way of the Cross, usually by meeting in church to contemplate these mysteries together. We are blessed to have beautiful carved Stations of the Cross around our church. In her short history and guide to St Saviour's Church (written in 2009 and updated in June 2013) Dawn wrote: "The Stations of the Cross start at the eastern end of the south aisle and continue from the west end of the church eastwards. Given in 1986 in memory of Arthur and Gertrude Easton by their daughter, they are unique in that they were hand carved by a retired priest, the Revd Michael Sims-Williams. He charged only for the materials used, donating the full cost of his labour to Christian Aid. He also carved the Paschal Candle holder with its beautiful figures of the good Shepherd and a lamb."











Photos
courtesy of
Aidan

News from St Saviour's Church of England School

Children have been back to school for two weeks now and have settled in very well. Children have been delighted to see their friends again and parents seem very happy to have some routine restored.

Teachers are relieved to have all children back to school. During lockdown, St. Saviour's was operating three parallel systems of learning. Around one hundred Key Worker or vulnerable children were attending each day and were taught by one or two teachers (out of four) per year group. These children received their normal diet of maths, English and topic lessons each day. Another group of children (roughly two hundred) were accessing online lessons each day via their computer or tablet. These resources included a filmed lesson by the teacher and written activities which children submitted and had marked online. The remaining eighty or so children, who were not in school but could not access the online materials, were provided with a paper pack of work each week. These packs included maths, English and topic lessons, they were collected each week by families and returned to teachers for marking.

If school staff are relieved to have all their class in the same place for every lesson, parents are even more relieved to no longer have to get their children to complete hours of school work at home each day. Many parents struggled to motivate their children to work for an amount of time equivalent to a school day. Children do not associate home with working, there are lots of distractions. Even as a teacher, I struggled to get my secondary school age children to work in the same way as they would do at school. Most children are more compliant for other adults than they are for their own parents! The issue was even more pressing for parents trying to juggle home learning with their own jobs – whether they were going out to work or working from home. Having a sufficient number of devices and wi-fi bandwidth was another challenge.

The political pressure, to get children back to school must have been immense. I was very keen for schools to close from mid-November as the number of infections in Thanet was terrifying. The number of bubble closures and seriously ill parents and staff members throughout December were truly frightening. When the government announced that schools would close in early January, though the announcement was ridiculously short-notice, I was extremely relieved.

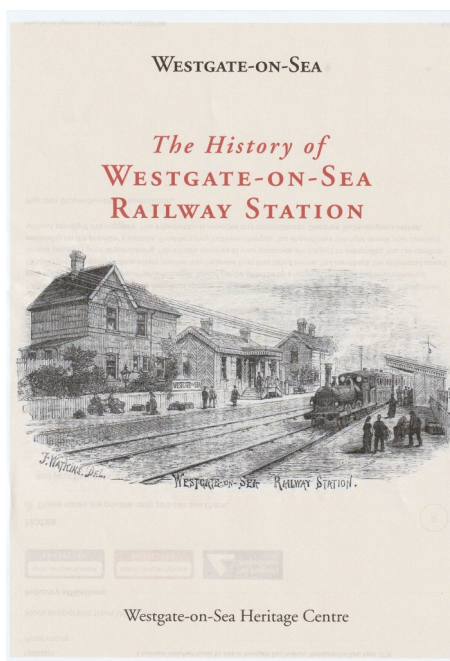
Now that cases in the community are lower, and the more vulnerable members of society are being vaccinated, I feel getting children back to school is worth the risk of a slightly raised infection rates. The members of St. Saviour's staff aged below fifty (which just about includes me) are keenly looking forward to receiving their vaccinations. The light at the end of the tunnel seems to be drawing nearer. We have had our first warm, sunny lunchtime on the school field today. These are all encouraging signs that the summer is coming and bringing some happier times with it. I look forward to the time when we can once again visit St. Saviour's Church with our children.

Nick Bonell, Headteacher

STOP PRESS

A new book from the Westgate on Sea Heritage Centre on the History of Westgate on Sea Railway Station is to be released at the ceremony at the Station on April 12th at 10am. Later it will be available at the Town Council Office and the Westgate Heritage Centre Office in the Town Hall Building, for collection or posted out. Availability may be from other venues at a later date - watch the noticeboard!

COST £ 7.50 per book . POSTAGE & PACKAGING £ 1. 50 per book if required.



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. **SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

Donations of food needed for the Storehouse Foodbank, based at Birchington Baptist Church. Please support our local foodbank by sending donations of money to the PCC Treasurer who will forward the money directly to the Storehouse. Donations also accepted for Oasis and Porchlight. Please contact the Treasurer at neve389@btinternet.com for details

Thank you.

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 the MAY 2021 “The Link” is
SUNDAY 25th APRIL 2021



'If you would like a flower arrangement in church in memory of a loved one, we can supply this at any time..Donations from £10.'



Photos taken by Lesley and
Graham on one of their
recent walks.



The Friends of St Saviour's Church

Unfortunately, due to the various lockdowns since last March, The Friends have not been able to hold any events, including our annual general meeting for 2020 and annual January coffee morning. However, the Committee was able to meet last October to adopt the trustees annual report and accounts, enabling the annual return to be sent to the Charity Commission by the deadline of the end of October. Subscriptions for 2021 are now due and remain at £2 per person but we hope those renewing will include a generous donation in their cheque. Please get in touch with our Secretary (Christine Attwood) by email to renew your membership:

cattwood2002@yahoo.co.uk

Members from 2020 without an email address will be contacted individually.

Thank you.



Photo of
Mimosa
Sent in by
Jean Glover

🐾🐾🐾 BEAUTY, THE RESCUE DOG, HEROINE OF THE BLITZ 🐾🐾🐾

Last month, in my article about Faith, the Church Cat, I spoke about another brave animal of the Blitz : Beauty, the rescue dog. I have much pleasure in telling you her story!

Born on the 4th. January. 1939, Beauty was a little Wirehaired Terrier, and proved herself a heroine during the Battle of Britain. Beauty rescued 63 fellow animals from the rubble in the aftermath of the Blitz. She is widely acclaimed to be the first ever "Search and Rescue" dog. Her owner was Bill Barnet who was an Animal Rescue Squad Superintendent, working for the PDSA. Bill used to bring Beauty along to bomb sites for company. One day in 1940, Beauty began to dig through the rubble herself, eventually revealing a trapped cat. The rescue team quickly joined in the search, and managed to pull the trapped cat out from the rubble. The trapped cat was just the first of 63 animals she went on to save. Beauty's talents were recognised, and she became a member of the team. She took part in multiple Search and Rescue operations as the Blitz progressed. Beauty was never trained for this role, but her actions convinced authorities to use dogs in Search and Rescue teams. Thanks to Beauty, many more lives have been saved over the years.

For her service, Beauty was awarded the PDSA Pioneer Medal, an award normally given to people, and a silver medal inscribed "For Services Rendered", by the Deputy Mayor of Hendon. Beauty was also given the Freedom of Holland Park! Beauty was awarded the Dickin Medal on the 12th January. 1945, carrying the inscription "For being the pioneer dog in locating buried air raid victims while serving with a PDSA Rescue Squad".

Beauty died on 17th. October. 1950, aged 11, and was buried in the Ilford Animal Cemetery of the PDSA, just as Simon (Able Seacat) was. Her medals were passed into the care of the PDSA after her death. From the 26th. May. 2007 - 6th. January. 2008, Beauty's medals went on display at the Imperial War Museum North, in respect of "The Animals War" exhibition.

The Dickin Medal is often referred to as the animal equivalent of the Victoria Cross. Love from Valerie.





Here is "Beauty," a terrier and a true P.D.S.A. worker, who accompanies a P.D.S.A. Rescue Squad and is wonderfully clever and successful in locating her buried friends.

**"THE CLOSE
RELATIONSHIP
BETWEEN HUMANS
AND ANIMALS
IS RARELY MORE
PROFOUND
THAN IN TIMES
OF CONFLICT."**



PDSA DICKIN MEDAL
BEAUTY
DMS

"For being the greatest dog in searching buried and
wounded men during the P.D.S.A. rescue work."
Date of Award 12 January 1945

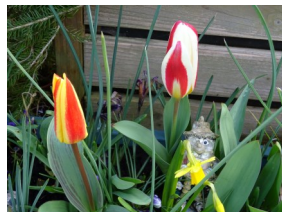


K M A U N D Y P E W G G S W C
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 J R T G D B I Y E R I S E N T

April
 Birthday
 Bun
 Cross
 Crucifixion
 Dragon
 Easter
 Egg



Friday
 George
 Good
 Hot
 Lamb
 Last
 Maundy
 Queen



Risen
 Rose
 Saint
 Showers
 Supper
 Thursday

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The 1st Westgate Rainbows have been chosen as one of the Coop Local Community Fund Groups until October 2021.

We would be grateful for anyone with a Coop card to select us as their cause.

THANK YOU.

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

Meeting 8/02/21 (virtual meeting)

Minutes approved 8/03/21 (virtual meeting)

Matters arising. Services in December 2020. A resumé of services for December confirmed that only those on the first three Sundays, the Crib service on Christmas Eve and the Christmas Day Eucharist took place. All other services were cancelled in deference to the incidence of Covid-19 cases in Thanet. Representatives on Deanery Synod. Mrs Bolger and Mrs Attwood offered to fill the current vacancies and were unanimously elected.

Worship and Mission. Community Room Extension and Our Kitchen. It was reported that both Sharon Goodyer (Our Kitchen) and David Donaldson (Town Councillor) were being kept informed of current restrictions of the use of the church during the pandemic. Both are keen to join in with fundraising and assist with grant applications. Contact with our Architect deferred until after Easter. Opening for prayer and public worship. Although permitted during the current lockdown, it was unanimously decided, in the interest of safety not to do so. Closure had been authorised by Bishop Rose until 28 March 2021 (Palm Sunday). Live streaming of services would continue throughout. Opening for worship for Easter would be considered at the next PCC meeting. The cost of obtaining a plastic screen to protect Mother Karen and/or the wardens as worshippers arrive/depart from church was being pursued. Authorising laity to administer Holy Communion. Again deferred to the next PCC meeting. Future Ministry in Thanet Deanery. Papers received from the joint Area Deans were discussed. Views to be given to Mother Karen in time for submission to the Deanery by 18 February 2021.

Church Heating. Various reports setting out progress to date, evaluations of the present situation and needs/resources to be defined for the way forward. Following discussion all confirmed the preference for replacing the existing 'wet' system with far infra-red heaters similar to those already in situ but without the red glow. The following action was agreed.

- Measurements of the building to be taken prior to seeking advice from a supplier

- Ecclesiastical insurers to be informed of the proposed change to infra-red heating

- Prepare questionnaire to survey congregation and stakeholders

- Involve our architect and Diocesan Care of Churches Officer at an early stage

Treasurer's report. Finance. Statement of account for the preceding three months were received. Annual account. The annual account for the year ended 31 December 2020 was unanimously approved prior to submission to the Independent Examiner.

Roof repairs. Colman Contractors had recently attended to replace the damaged tiles on the porch and north low level roof. Arrangements to meet the contractor to look at the problem over the choir vestry window is being pursued. New Speakers. Kent PA hire had now obtained the necessary speakers and would install them on 13 February 2021.

Churchwarden's report. The PCC noted that the invoice from PTSG for repairs to the lightning conductor had not been received. It was suggested that the ongoing difficulties with the St Mildred's Road gate might be overcome by a ramp at that entrance under plans for the community room extension

Safeguarding. A report following attendance at the Annual Diocesan Safeguarding Conference was noted. Parish Safeguarding Children Co-ordinator. A letter of resignation had been received. The PCC recorded thanks to Mrs Gough and discussed possible successors

Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). Annual Report of Trustees. A first draft had been circulated and comments were invited on the report before the next PCC meeting. The average attendance figures for 2020 (44 adults over only 33 Sundays when the church was open) were discussed. Although one less than the figure for 2019, many more people were joining in the live streamed services at home. **Date of APCM.** Deferred to the next PCC meeting. Deadline for holding APCM extended to 31 May 2021.



A Knitted Easter in
Westgate on Sea

What wonderful
community spirit!

Photo sent in by
Steve Short

GRAND DUCHESS AUGUSTA OF MECKLENBURG-STRELITZ



On Saturday 20th. July 2019, our dear friend, the late Dr. Dawn Crouch organised a "St Saviour's" Tour" in the church, for members of the Heritage Centre (Westgate-on-Sea), to "meet" the people who built and served St. Saviour's Church from 1880-1940. Myself and eleven members of the St Saviour's congregation, each played a "character" to introduce to the assembled folk in the church. I was given the part of Lady Clementine Mitford, who together with her husband and children, had a vacation home at Sea Road, Westgate-on-Sea, which had been designed by Mr. Beazley, the estate architect. The house was named "Exbury". It was ready by 1882, and the house is still standing today at 63 Sea Road. In my script, I related that the Grand Duchess Augusta of Mecklenburg-Strelitz (and her son and his wife) , "who was related to Queen Victoria", had spent some time as guests of the Mitford Family at Exbury, in August. 1883, before going on to St. James' Palace in London. Grand Duchess Augusta 's mother, a daughter-in-law of George III, had apartments at St. James' Palace, until her death in 1889. The Grand Duchess made frequent use of these apartments when she was in London.

Dawn wrote in her publication "Westgate-on-Sea-Fashionable Watering-Place: The First Thirty Years", about the Grand Duchess, her son and his wife staying at Exbury: "Such distinguished visitors must have gladdened the hearts of the Estate proprietors"!

I was curious to learn more about these royal guests, and thus, I have completed my research and have produced another connection between Westgate-on Sea and visiting royalty at the latter part of the Victorian Period! My appreciation to Dawn for the authenticity of the facts.

Princess Augusta of Cambridge (19th. July. 1822 - 5th. December. 1916), was a member of the British Royal family, and a granddaughter of King George III. She married into the Grand Ducal House of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, and in time, became the Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz.

Princess Augusta was born on the 19th. July. 1822 at the Palace of Montbrillant, Hanover. Her father was Prince Adolphus, Duke of Cambridge, the seventh son of George III and Charlotte of Mecklenburg-Strelitz. Her mother was Princess Augusta of Hesse-Cassel. She was titled a British Princess, with the style of Royal Highness. The Princess spent her early years in Hanover, where her father was the Viceroy on behalf of his brothers, George IV and later William IV. Princess Augusta had an older brother, Prince George, and a younger sister, Princess Mary Adelaide, later Duchess of Teck. Princess Augusta was an aunt to Princess May of Teck, later to become Queen Mary, the consort of George V. She was also a first cousin to Queen Victoria, who was three years older. At the time of her birth, Princess Augusta was 9th in the line of succession to the British throne. She was christened into the Church of England at the Montbrillant Palace on 16th. August. 1822.

In Hanover, the Cambridge family lived at the Leine Palace and the Montbrillant

Palace. There, Princess Augusta and her siblings enjoyed a happy childhood. She received her early education from her governess.

Her first visit to her family's main realm in England, took place in the summer of 1825, when she was just three years old. In 1831, she attended the coronation of her uncle, William IV, and also made a number of public appearances during this trip. She returned again with her family in 1835 for her brother's confirmation. During this time, Princess Augusta first became acquainted with the other members of the Royal Family.

In 1837, Princess Augusta and her family moved to Britain, as her father's role in Hanover had ended. The family resided at both Cambridge Cottage in Kew Gardens, and at Cambridge House at 94, Piccadilly, Mayfair. Both properties still remain. Cambridge Cottage is now a function and event centre, and Cambridge House is undergoing major refurbishment which is under construction for a hotel and hospitality. Princess Augusta enjoyed regularly meeting with her relatives in the British Royal Family.

In June. 1838, Princess Augusta attended her second coronation, that of her cousin, Victoria. The following year, Princess Augusta was confirmed at the Chapel Royal, Buckingham Palace, in the presence of her parents and Queen Victoria. She now began to socialise with prominent figures in British life at dinners and balls held in London.

After entering society, the topic of marriage became one of discussion. An engagement was finally announced in October. 1842, that Princess Augusta was to marry her cousin, Hereditary Grand Duke Friedrich Wilhelm of Mecklenburg-Strelitz. The wedding took place on the 28th. June. 1843, in the Chapel Royal, Buckingham Palace, in the presence of members of the Royal Family and Queen Victoria. The Hereditary Grand Duke and the Hereditary Grand Duchess spent a few days at Cambridge Cottage, Kew, where they received a rapturous welcome from a crowd of well - wishers. The same residents turned out to bid an emotional farewell to the Royal couple, when they left on 3rd. July, for their new home together in Mecklenburg, Strelitz.

As the wife of the heir to the throne, the new Hereditary Grand Duchess Augusta enjoyed living in grand surroundings. She was very happy in her new home, but visited Britain as often as she could, and attended the opera, theatre, various dinners and balls. In Hanover, she could still continue to worship at church according to the rites of the Church of England. The majority of the people belonged to the Lutheran Church.

It was on her first visit to Britain a year after her marriage had taken place, that tragedy struck when she gave birth to a child named Friedrich Wilhelm on 13th. January. 1845 at Cambridge House. The little boy only survived birth by a few minutes. The Hereditary Grand Duchess Augusta left Britain in May 1845, and her family came to stay at her home in Neustrelitz for Christmas.

On the 22nd. July. 1848, she gave birth to Hereditary Prince Adolphus Friedrich in

Neustrelitz, and he would be her sole, surviving child.

In 1850, her father, the Duke of Cambridge died. Following the death of her father, the British Parliament granted Augusta an annuity of £3,000.00, a year. She didn't take the payments for granted, but instead she gave back to the country by undertaking royal duties when in residence, donating to charity, and serving as a patron of different charitable causes.

Her father-in-law, Grand Duke Georg died in September. 1860, and Augusta became the new Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz and consort to her husband, Grand Duke Friedrich Wilhelm. She enjoyed her role as first lady, and played a very prominent role in society. She hosted dinners, balls, and charitable fetes. She was also a patron and supporter of the Neustrelitz Theatre, where she would personally oversee productions! Grand Duchess Augusta took a keen interest in following political developments and enjoyed reading books and newspapers.

From her British family, the Grand Duchess had a particularly close relationship with her niece, Princess Victoria Mary of Teck (the future Queen Mary), who was the daughter of her sister, Princess Mary Adelaide. Aunt and niece maintained a regular correspondence. With the marriage of Princess May of Teck to the Duke of York in 1893 (future King George V), Grand Duchess Augusta became closely tied to the senior line of the British Royal Family. Her and her husband, were both selected to be godparents of her niece's second child, Prince Albert, later to become King George VI.

In 1902, Grand Duchess Augusta travelled to Britain to attend the coronation of her late cousin's (Queen Victoria) son, King Edward VII. As this was her third coronation, her advice was sought on matters of protocol and etiquette!

Grand Duchess Augusta and her husband celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary in 1903 in Mecklenburg-Strelitz, with very low key festivities, due to the Duke's failing health. Grand Duke Friedrich Wilhelm died on 30th. May. 1904.

Grand Duchess Augusta was in England, as her brother George, Duke of Cambridge had died in March 1904. Augusta had the sad task of sorting her possessions at her late brother's residence, and her childhood home, Cambridge Cottage, which would become part of Kew Gardens. The Dukedom of Cambridge, fourth creation, ceased at the death of Augusta's brother, but in 2011, it was created as the fifth creation with our own Prince William being created Duke of Cambridge, on the occasion of his marriage to Catherine Middleton. It is no coincidence that Prince George and Princess Charlotte share the names of King George III, and his wife, Princess Charlotte of Mecklenburg-Strelitz!

Augusta was now the Dowager Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, and did not approve of the changes, her son, the new Grand Duke Adolphus Friedrich V, made to the Neustrelitz Court. She also thought that her daughter-in-law, the new Grand Duchess Elisabeth, had extravagant tastes.

In 1910, King Edward VII died, and Augusta's niece, Mary, was to be crowned in 1911, as Queen Consort, alongside her husband, the New King George V.

The Dowager Duchess was too frail to attend. But, on her 90th birthday in 1912, amongst great festivities, she had the pleasure of receiving her niece, Queen Mary to Neustrelitz, where she spent a week. She persuaded her aunt to take a motor ride for the first time!

In June 1914, Augusta's son, Grand Duke Adolphus Friedrich died, being succeeded by her grandson, Grand Duke Adolphus Friedrich VI, with whom she had a close relationship, and who shared her pro-British views.

She received a telegram from the Lord Mayor of London conveying birthday wishes to her from the City of London, just days before the First World War broke out. She was touched that she was still remembered in London, as she hadn't been able to visit London for sometime, due to her advanced age.

During the First World War, the Swedish Embassy passed letters from Queen Mary to her aunt, who still lived in Germany.

As an elderly lady, she was known as being quite shrewd and intelligent. She was not fond of the new science of photography, fearing that it would intrude deeply into the private lives of Royal personages!

The Dowager Grand Duchess Augusta died peaceful in Neustrelitz, at 2am on 5th. December. 1916, aged 94. Proud to the end of her position as a British Princess, she had a message sent to King George V that it was a "stout old English heart which is ceasing to beat". She was the longest-lived grandchild of George III, making her the last link to the British branch of the House of Hanover.

When I walk past "Exbury" in Sea Road, I am always thrilled to think that our town shared so much of Royal Family history in this house:

Augusta was:

- * a granddaughter of King George III.
- * a niece of both King George IV and King William IV.
- * a first cousin to Queen Victoria.
- * an aunt to Queen Mary, consort of King George V.
- * a godmother of King George VI, father of our present Queen.

I hope that you have enjoyed reading about this extraordinary lady, and her link to Westgate!

Love Valerie

Photos:

1. Family Tree
2. Montbrillant Palace, Hanover, birthplace of Princess Augusta.
3. Duchy of Mecklenburg-Strelitz.
4. Painting of Hereditary Duchess Augusta, c. 1850
5. Cambridge Cottage, Kew.
6. Cambridge House, Mayfair.
7. 8. The interiors of Cambridge House.

9. Grand Duchess Augusta.

10. Grand Duchess Augusta.

11. With Queen Mary.

12. Augusta 's only son.

13. "Exbury" , today.





Graham Neve
St Saviour's Parish Church
Westgate Bay Avenue
Westgate-On-Sea
Kent
CT8 8NX

17 March 2021

Dear Graham

Thank you

to everyone at St Saviour's Parish Church for your continued support and donating a further £50 towards Porchlight work! Thank you for being so thoughtful of others at this very difficult and worrying time.

To give you a sense of the tangible impact of £50; it could cover the cost of a fantastic 10 calls to our 24-hour helpline from people in crisis or 2 welcome packs for people moving off of the streets and into our supported accommodation. This is life transforming and is needed more than ever and we can't thank you enough for your support!

It has been a very challenging time for our charity and remains so as we look to the future and implement different ways of working to fit in with the way of the new world. Nationwide concerns of rising unemployment, rising evictions and the impact on people's mental health are all issues that are likely to result in an increased demand for Porchlight's services. We are currently looking at how we can gear up to support this predicted increase in demands of calls to our Helpline and pressure on our resources. However, we also appreciate that we are not alone and know that our supporters have also had their own challenges, both financially, physically and mentally which makes your support even more valued.

Your support is helping us to continue to change the lives of people in Westgate who are facing homelessness. People like Tamara, whose story I have shared with you on the back of this letter.

Thank you so much again for your support and having the confidence in us to deliver our services to those who need it most; it means so much to our staff and the people who we work with.

Best Wishes



Sophie Batchelor
Community & Corporate Fundraising Officer

President Tim Brett JP DL | Chair Hilary Edridge
Porchlight, 18-19 Watling Street, Canterbury, Kent CT1 2UA | 01227 760078
headoffice@porchlight.org.uk | porchlight.org.uk | Facebook/Porchlight1974 | Twitter/Porchlight1974

Registered charity no. 267116. Registered company no. 1157482



INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE



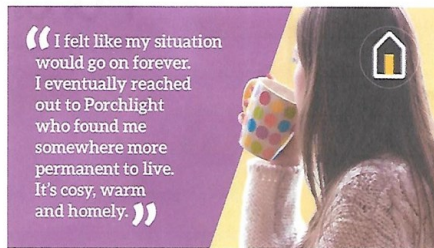
homeless link



Registered with
FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR



time to change



Tamara was made homeless after losing her job. With nowhere to turn, she was forced to sleep rough.

As well as finding Tamara a place to stay to get back on her feet, our team has given her the emotional support to overcome the trauma of homelessness.

Tamara had been working in a kitchen, but earlier this year her contract wasn't renewed and she had no way to support herself.

Universal Credit didn't cover the basic cost of living - such as being able to eat and pay the bills - and she fell behind on rent.

Tamara was evicted. With nowhere to turn, she was forced to sleep rough.

"Sleeping rough was terrifying. I was cold, frightened and ashamed. I would walk all night because it felt safer than sleeping.

"I tried really hard to escape the situation. I didn't drink or take drugs, but most people looked straight through me. It felt like my situation would go on forever. It was soul destroying."

Seeing the person behind the homelessness

Tamara was given new hope when she met Porchlight worker Vicky.

"I had pretty much given up hope, but Vicky listened to me and within a day I'd been put into temporary accommodation. I don't know what would have happened to me if Vicky and Porchlight hadn't helped."

We soon found Tamara somewhere more permanent to live in a Porchlight house she shares with one other person: "It's cosy, warm and homely, and I've made my room the way I want it."



CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Bellringers Practice every Thursday 7.30 to 9pm.

Bible Study Group meet Thursday at 7pm, details & inquiries ring
Susan 836430 .



The Westgate Heritage Centre

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

ALL ACTIVITIES ARE SUSPENDED UNTIL

FURTHER NOTICE

St Saviour's Church has a Hearing Loop System



Large print Hymn Books and Pew Sheets are available.

Gluten Free wafers are also available please see

Sidespersons or Churchwardens

CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday Services

9am Holy Communion Prayer Book

10.30am Sung Eucharist

SEE NOTICES FOR SERVICES

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

1st Westgate Rainbows Fridays 4.15 to 5.15pm

8th Westgate Brownies & Guides Fridays 5.30 to 7pm

Brownies for ages 7 to 10 years Guides for 10 to 16 years

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

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE



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