

Parish and Community

The Link

St Mildreds Road



Westgate Bay Avenue

Westgate Bay Avenue



St Mildreds Road

**August
2021**

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

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

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**WELCOME TO THE
SEAMARSH GROUP**

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Dear friends,

We walk through mists of uncertainty. To whom shall we turn? The words of Psalm 121 spring to mind:

I lift up my eyes to the hills: where does my help come from?

My help comes from the Lord; the Maker of heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot slip-

he who watches over you will not slumber:

indeed, he who watches over Israel

will neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord watches over you-

The Lord is your shade at your right hand;

The sun will not harm you by day,

nor the moon by night.

The Lord will keep you from all harm- he will watch over your life;

The Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and for evermore.

Many of us will be making some travel plans this summer, whether long or short: I write this on the eve of a journey to visit my old home. In a sense, all our journeys and resting places are precursors of our final journey home to God. A few weeks ago, with the fragrance of roses from her garden wafting into the room, and confident of her loving husband and son's constant presence, our sister Shirley slipped peacefully into her eternal home with customary grace; quietly and peacefully. Shirley had chosen Psalm 121 for her funeral.

Many of us will not be as serene at the moment, trying to negotiate our way through the troubled days of the continuing covid pandemic. We don't know whether cases will rise again and whether our vaccines will fully protect us or our loved ones. There are many uncertainties. All we can do, at times like this, is to remind ourselves of the Everlasting Arms which loved us into being and will love us to the end of our lives and beyond.

Mother Karen

St Saviour's Church, Westgate

PANTRY IN THE PORCH

HELP YOURSELF

Available from the PORCH entrance in
WESTGATE BAY AVENUE

10.30am to 12.30pm

MONDAY TO SATURDAY



ONE PERSON AT A TIME IN THE
PORCH.

REMEMBER SOCIAL DISTANCING.

St Saviour's Church, Westgate

CLOTHES RAIL

IN THE PORCH

BABY CLOTHES

CHILDREN'S

CLOTHES



ADULT CLOTHES

PLEASE HELP YOURSELF TO ITEMS

ON THE RAIL & IN THE BOXES



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 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.**

ROMANTIC OR SINISTER?

DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES ON VAUGHAN WILLIAMS' "THE LARK ASCENDING"

"The Lark Ascending", by Ralph Vaughan Williams, has been voted the UK's favourite piece of classical music. But this piece is overshadowed by impending war, and was written in Margate as the British Navy prepared for battle. On 5th September the original score for violin and piano will be performed by Jack Liebeck (violin) and Daniel Grimwood (piano) in St Saviour's Church in Westgate on Sea. The programme also includes the Violin Sonata by Cesar Franck, which Jack will be performing at the Leeds Festival.

Ralph Vaughan Williams, was born in a Gloucester village on 2nd October 1872, the third child of the local vicar. Next year will be the 150th anniversary of this man who did so much to record English folk music and revive an interest in mediaeval English music.

In various polls to vote for the UK's favourite piece of classical music, his composition "The Lark Ascending" has been at number one, most recently with over 200,000 votes in the Classic FM Hall of Fame. Seen as an idyllic sound-picture of beautiful natural surroundings and the sweetness of birdsong, based on a poem by George Meredith, this extended single-movement violin piece clearly has a special place in the public affection, along with another of Vaughan Williams' single-movement works "Variations on a theme of Thomas Tallis", another romantic piece based on mediaeval English themes.

But the beginnings of this composition throw a very different perspective on it, since it was born under the shadow of war.

We can trace the beginnings of "The Lark Ascending" to 1914, and we know that he spent a week's holiday in Margate that year, during which he worked on the composition. As he looked out into the Channel he would have seen the Navy ships in exercises preparing for the war that was to follow. During the war, he was a stretcher-bearer carrying the wounded from the front. After the war he produced – on the basis of the score for violin and piano - an orchestrated version which is the one we know today; it was given its first performance in 1920.

The score for violin and piano is rarely heard these days, but on 5th September at 3pm it will be performed in St Saviours Church, Westgate on Sea, by Jack Liebeck (violin) and Daniel Grimwood (piano).

St Saviour's Church, Westgate

FLOWER ARRANGING with LUCY

Meets IN CHURCH 12.30-2pm

**“Come along to enjoy arranging
flowers in our beautiful & peaceful
church”.**

Meeting Saturday 28th August

ALL WELCOME

**Garden flowers (bring any from your
own garden) Oasis & trays provided.**



**Arrangements
can be taken
home or left
for decoration
in Church**



FROM THE REGISTERS

For those Baptised

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

Sunday 4th July Castiel Isaac

Sunday 18th July Nisi

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”

Anne and John, Phyll, Doreen, Beryl, Joyce, Vanessa, Maureen, Janice, Tricia, Michele, Stuart, Suki, Gordon, Sheila, Gill, Jean, Annabelle and her family

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”

Julia, Thelma

World War 2 Roll of Honour

26th August 1941 Tom Appleby

Glance back over July As I glance back over July, children are in the forefront of my mind: lots and lots of them. Having had two of my own families to stay has presumably helped this impression! However, this is something to be very grateful for, especially at this time of the rebuilding of community after the worst of the pandemic (we trust). School has now broken up, but our Gala Fair attracted very many families who are beginning to join us for other activities in church as well- and we look forward to this continuing over the summer. We had two baptisms in July- baby Castiel and Nisi, a 3rd year student from the University of Canterbury. Our Toddler Group is growing and flourishing and we are very pleased to welcome Nahid and Salma as new helpers, joining Valda, Valerie, Sue and Alan Turner (Monday's Shepherds) and me.

On 11th July, we welcomed Trevor Clarke from Global Generation to be our guest speaker at the 10.30 service. Trevor works as a Street Pastor and also set up the thought-provoking Prayer Space in school which Elaine, Laraine, Susan and I supported during the following week; we all found ourselves engaged in very interesting conversations with the children.

NHS Day (5th) and Westgate Day (18th) provided a change of focus from children to older people, especially those who had been bereaved during the pandemic. The NHS and Westgate Flags were hoisted accompanied by a short service of blessing, and the Town Council joined with us in a service of commemoration on the afternoon of 18th in church. We have also hosted the Westgate Scarecrows in the church garden this year!

The children have continued to plant and water the seeds in their part of the garden and we hope that you will take a look at their little patch by the Ivanhoe Road gate when you're passing.

It has been lovely to be able to enjoy refreshments again after the service and a special thank-you to Chrissy and Pam for making this possible.

We have submitted our entry for the *Green Churches Scheme* and we now await further news.

The newly formed Flower Arranging Club met in church on 3rd July and proved extremely popular- further sessions are planned for 31st July. Many thanks to Lucy and Kathleen for sharing their passion for flowers and for making the church look so beautiful over our Birthday weekend.

Many thanks and congratulations to Chrissy, who organised the fabulous Gala Fair and to all the very many helpers- stall-holders, including home produce, jigsaws, jewellery and toys, and all who made and served the delicious refreshments, not forgetting the great team of washers-up! Thank you to Steve for creating the popular Coconut Shy and Sarah for her magnificent face-painting. Captain Bernard brought his animals along to finish the afternoon with the story of Noah and the Ark and the animals went in two by two and finished up- of course- in the Bouncy Castle!!

Archdeacon Darren came to lead our Birthday weekend services at very short notice together with his family; his daughter even stepping in to support our servers team! Archdeacon Darren delighted and inspired us all to offer whatever we can- whether or not we think it's 'good enough' as he reminded us that all the saints were human beings with faults and failings like us; and we'll all remember his precious glued-up 'Ugly Mug'!!

Mother Karen

The sandpit being enjoyed at Toddler Group which was donated by The Mothers Union —

THANK YOU

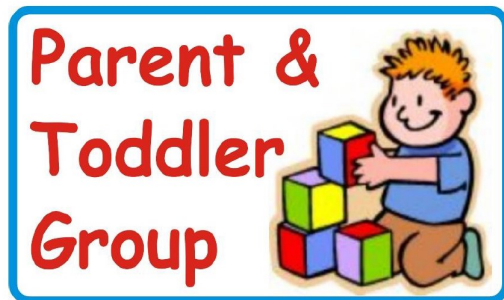


Planting seeds at

Toddler Group - watering the seeds was very enjoyable!!

St Saviour's Church, Westgate

PARENT & TODDLER GROUP

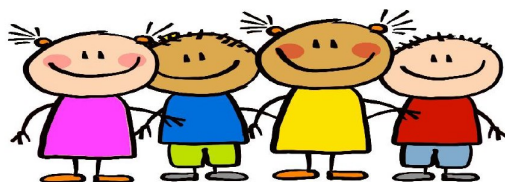


**Meets MONDAY
MORNINGS**

10.30am to 12 noon

For pre-school children & parents

**Have fun in the garden or inside if
wet**



Eulogy for Shirley Plummer

Thank you everyone for your tributes and your support, particularly Mother Karen, Aiden, Joe and all here at St Saviour's Church, Gore Brothers, Emma Campbell Florists and the friends and family who have been in touch.

My Mum was awesome.

Everybody here today or watching online and many, many others will all have different memories of my Mum in different contexts and for different reasons.

When you look at my Mum's interests over the years it's easy to see why.

They include art, theatre, travel, sailing, caravanning, horse riding, archery, music, reading, gardening, animal welfare and the environment - she was saving water back in the 70s, long before these things were fashionable!

When I was about five years old I chased someone down a road in Germany with a bit of litter they'd dropped to give it back to them. Forty years later I formed a litter picking group in Waltham Abbey.

That environmental awareness didn't come from nowhere - it came from my Mum.

Painting was a major passion of Mum's. She went on regular painting holidays, learning more about art, developing her skills and losing herself in a creative world for a few days.

A couple of years ago I was wandering around the Westgate Art Group exhibition in this very building when a painting caught my eye. 'Ooh' I thought. 'I like that. I think I'll buy it.'

It was only when I got close enough to read the label that I realised it was one of my Mum's.

It's one of three of Mum's paintings hanging on my wall back in Waltham Abbey.

Mum's art was always developing, she was always trying new things - new techniques, new materials, new subjects. We'll never get to see where that journey could have taken her.

Sailing was another passion. Mum went on many sailing trips up the coast with Dad and friends from Margate Yacht Club, where she was a very active member for many years.

Mum and Dad also went on many sailing holidays in Greece with their friends Alan and Jane Partridge - and on one occasion they were accompanied by dolphins, something which really made her day.

Mum was a founding member of TWIGS - the Thanet Womens Interest Group - when it broke away from The National Womens Register (formerly the National Housewives Register.) - and whose meetings give their partners an opportunity to meet in a pub to put the world to rights.

She was a supporter of Thanet Riding for the Disabled whose stables are in the grounds of Maurice House, just a few hundred yards from the house we lived in when Dad was the manager there.

She was also involved with Thanet Archery for the Disabled, where she made a big difference to a lot of peoples' lives.

That's a common theme through my Mum's history.

I'm still learning about more things Mum was involved in - it was only a few days ago that I found out she was on the Westgate Residents Association committee!

Another Community that Mum was involved in is here in St Saviour's Church. Her faith was very important to her and she passed away believing that we'd all meet up again. I know that she took great comfort from that.

Mum was devoted to her family, both Dad and I and others further afield. She was particularly close to Ethel and Alan, her Mum and Dad, who she'll be joining in rest.

My Mum's best friend, Betty and my Dad's best friend, Gordon, introduced them to each other Mum at the tail end of the 60s. Mum passed away on the day before Mum and Dad's 51st wedding anniversary - a marriage that couldn't have been closer. They were utterly devoted to each other, staying together through thick and thin.

When I said at the beginning of this that my Mum was awesome I was wrong.

My mum IS awesome.

She lives on through every life she touched, every person she inspired, every cause she supported and every smile that she raised.

Mum, I'm going to miss you.

Dave Plummer (Shirley's son).



A message of thanks from Tricia

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for your prayers for my family and myself when my Dear Mum passed away.

From a chorus I sing at home, which has encouraged me when feeling sad -
" Father I place into your hands the things that I can't do. Father I place into your hands the times that I've been through."

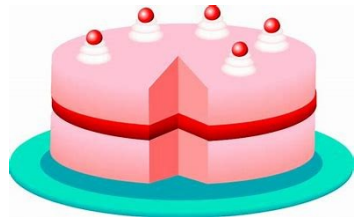
A word of encouragement for us all.

Entrust yourself to God.

As a child would entrust himself to his father.

He will never let you fall.

Love Tricia.



A very big THANK YOU to Iris who made and provided the delicious Church Birthday Cakes - a carrot cake with a fresh cream and walnut topping and a sponge. The cakes were delicious and enjoyed by all.

Another big THANK YOU to John who shared his chocolate birthday cake with a shooting star decoration with us all . It was very yummy!!

A Massive Thank You

Once it was announced that restrictions were being lifted it was all systems go for the vision we had for our Birthday Gala. From the outset we knew that we wanted it outside as well as inside, not just because of covid, but we wanted to let the whole town know that we are here. Making the church a hub for the community and families.

With Valda designing posters and flyers and Pam organising the refreshments it was a huge effort by all, we wanted to give the community a great day after being in lockdown.

We booked Affordable Bouncy Castles which were very professional and we would recommend them. The stall was run by Mother Karen which gave her a chance to meet with local families, and children, even a baptism or two were discussed which gives us lots to look forward to.

A plea was given out in church notices for volunteers to make a coconut shy, and Steve took up the challenge, and i think we have the best looking coconut shy around! Unfortunately Steve was unable to run it on the day, but you did us proud. With carefully printed instructions Alan and Sue assembled, ready for John to run.

The tombola did so well on the pavement drawing people in (along with my shouting), Phil with his bad back stood spinning the ticket box, and Caz giving out the prizes. Thank you Caz and Phil. Lots of lovely donated prizes made it look spectacular.

Sarah on the face painting had a constant queue, and the children loved being a butterfly, puppy or pirate, with so many designs to choose from. Sarah you're a star

The refreshments run by Pam and her team Susan, Irene and Lorraine did an amazing job giving people a chance to sit in the sun with tea and cake enjoying the atmosphere. To all the people that made cakes they were just delicious. Andy was kept busy washing up all afternoon.

Justine from Mainsale had a stall for children to buy pocket money toys; this was such a huge success, thank you.

Andrew Way with the music and sound system, keeping us entertained all

afternoon, the music was perfect, people even danced. Capt. Bernard with his puppets telling the story of Noah's Ark. Hearing the vicar sing "As the animals came in two by two", will be remembered for a long time.

Jose and Kathleen were on the home produce stall selling wonderful homemade cakes, bread, marmalade etc. With home grown fruit and potatoes a delight for all.

A raffle was run with some amazing prizes all donated, a lovely flower arrangement (made by Lucy) and The Classroom in Westgate donating books etc. Making prizes suitable for all ages. Thank you to all that gave towards the raffle. Poor Peter and Caroline got writer's cramp taking people's numbers for the draw.

Joys Jewels, what a remarkable stall selling beautiful costume jewellery this is always a crowd puller. Joy was helped with Sylvia. Well done ladies

It was so lovely to see Jean with her jigsaws, let's face it everyone did a jigsaw during lockdown. Christine helped Jean as Gill is poorly and in our prayers. Thank you ladies

Aidan on his computer provided lovely music for inside the church making it a pleasant atmosphere. You're a talented young man Aidan and thank you

Eileen with her antique jewellery caused quite an interest and gave people lots to talk about.

As the day was approaching I was becoming quite anxious and a budding meteorologist with my apps!! The famous British weather was the talking point. By mid-week it was looking grim, Steve was giving me regular updates from the Met Office, so on the Friday (after work) I was in church moving tables and chairs around making it as Covid friendly as possible accommodating all inside. At 4am my prayers had been answered and the sun will shine. I then decided it's outside (hurray) so once again it was moving tables and back to the original plan. (If you need removals don't ask me!!!!)

Thanks to Steve and Stuart on helping move so many tables and chairs.

All in all a perfect afternoon was had, so once again thank you to everyone involved. Chris x

St Saviour's Church – Summer Fayre 24 July 2021

Result

Face Painting	£53.70
Teas/Coffees/Cakes	£131.40
Home Produce	£79.40
Raffle	£121.00
Coconut Shy	£82.70
Bouncy Castle	£42.80
Jigsaws/Cards	£74.00
Jewellery	£68.50(for the Friends of St Saviours)
Tombola	£182.95
Stall holder pitches	£30.00
General donations	£32.84
Total	£899.29 less expenses £82.00

Standalone donations received £244.14

Thanks to Chrissy Joiner for organising this event and to everyone involved in making the day a success.

The team getting the
Coconut Shy ready





Ready for action, coconuts in place!



Having fun at the Fair on the Bouncy Castle



Sales of
Costume
Jewellery
going well
on the
Friends stall



Making a sale on the Jigsaw
and Home made Greetings card
stall



The Refreshment team taking orders
and keeping up with the washing up





Lovely fresh home grown produce

Queues forming to purchase
Raffle Tickets



Jewellery stall being admired



Tombola stall St Mildred's Road

Captain Bernard and the Puppet Show presenting Noah's Ark



Face painting - a favourite with the children

All the fun of the Fair - a good time was had by all

PARISH & COMMUNITY-JULY- FRIENDLY FRIDAY AND TODDLER GROUP-

FRIENDLY FRIDAY 🍷👩🏠🍷👩🏠🍷👩🏠🍷👩🏠🍷👩🏠🍷

The Friendly Friday Group has had an enjoyable month, and we welcomed new members. It has been lovely to be able to serve refreshments again, and the Club and Kitkat chocolate bars were very well received!

We have been busy at the Crafts table, enjoying Mexican tin art, stained glass window colouring, and air-drying clay.

It has been wonderful to see folk catching up with each other, again. Friendly Friday will continue to run all through the summer, including the school summer break.

Come along!! You will be assured of a very "friendly" welcome!

Love Valerie (Group Leader), together with Joy and Sylvie

TODDLER GROUP 🍷👩👧👧👧🍷👩👧👧👧🍷👩👧👧👧🍷👩👧👧👧

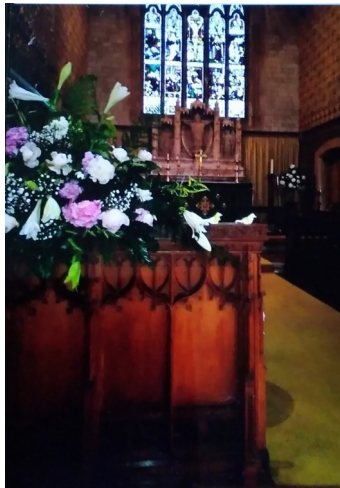
Our Toddler Group has been running for over a month, now, and the toddlers and their mums really look forward to their Monday mornings spent in St. Saviour's Church! When the weather is fine, we have taken advantage of the beautiful church garden. The toddlers have very much enjoyed gardening, and planting seeds in the little pots. Our toy corner holds an exciting array of toys, games, books, Play Doh, and ride-on toys. The toddlers and their mums enjoyed a visit from a "tiger" early in the month, when I read to them, the "Tiger who came to tea", by Judith Kerr. I brought along a soft, cuddly tiger, too! Valda has been busy preparing healthy snacks for the children each week, and just before we all go home, Mother Karen plays the piano for us, and we sing and play instruments. Our final song says "goodbye" to everybody individually! It is certainly a fun morning!

Love Valerie (Helper), together with Valda (Helper) 🍷👩👧👧👧

CRAFT ACTIVITIES AS OUR GROUPS CAME TOGETHER 🍷👩👧👧👧👩👧👧

The weekend of the 18th/19th July, proved very memorable! The Festival of Scarecrows began on Saturday 17th July, and lasted for a week. St Saviour's Church entry was "Larry & Len, the church garden men" (!), and the "boys" welcomed other scarecrows into the church garden! The scarecrows (Larry & Len), were a joint effort, with members of the Parish and Community Groups, adding flowers, bees, and ladybirds etc. On the following day, a Memorial Service was held at 3pm in the church, in tribute to those lost during the Pandemic. Mother Karen and Reverend Susan, led a most moving service, with candles being lit in memory of loved ones. At the close of the service, Mother Karen offered each member of the congregation a ceramic dove of peace to take home, which she blessed. The doves were crafted by myself on behalf of our Parish & Community groups.

Best wishes, Valerie



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 **Donations of food can be left in the Porch at**

St Saviour's Church for Pantry in the Porch.

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 SEPTEMBER 2021 "The Link" is
SUNDAY 29th AUGUST 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.'

A belated thank you for yours and St Saviour's offering of prayers for my Golden Jubilee of priesting. We had a great day in church. The grandchildren carried cross and candles and helped read lessons in Swimbridge church where I take service every Sunday. There's quite a shortage of clergy in north Devon.

Andrea and I are beginning to settle down although we do miss Westgate, Thanet and Canterbury. Tomorrow we start training as Exeter cathedral guides. We are both volunteers at the Barnstaple museum and grandson Aidan and I volunteer at the Exmoor steam railway- great fun ! So you see we don't sit around.

Here's a photo of our family at my Jubilee service.

Every blessing and good wishes, David & Andrea



A SHORT HISTORY OF THE SCARECROW

Having made three scarecrows myself recently, I realised that I didn't know too much about their origin. I have completed some research and was interested in my findings!

Amazingly, scarecrows have been in existence for more than 3,000 years. The scarecrows with which we are most familiar, is a hay-man in the shape of a human being, usually dressed in old clothes, and placed in open fields to discourage birds such as crows or sparrows from disturbing and feeding on recently cast seed and growing crops. But it was not always this way

The Egyptians used the first scarecrows in recorded history to protect their vast wheat fields along the River Nile from flocks of quail. Their scarecrow was a wooden frame covered with nets.

About 2,500 B. C., Greek farmers carved wooden scarecrows. They created a "scarecrow" that was supposedly ugly enough to scare the birds away from the vineyards, ensuring a good harvest.

The Romans, in their turn, copied the Greek scarecrow custom, and introduced it to Europe when their armies marched through the lands.

About the same time, Japanese farmers started making their own version of a scarecrow, to protect their rice fields. Their scarecrows were shaped like people, dressed in raincoats and straw hats.

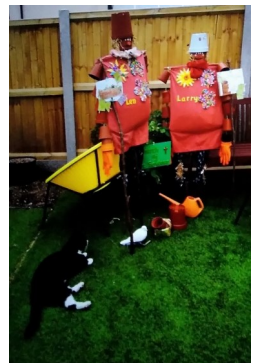
In Germany, scarecrows were originally wooden, made to resemble a sorceress. In medieval Britain, young boys and girls were used as "bird scares", where they would patrol the fields of crops and scare away the birds by waving their arms. This eventually led to farmers stuffing sacks with straw, and using painted gourds or melons to make hats and faces to create "straw men", which they would then lean up against a pole to scare away the birds.

In the United States, immigrant German farmers began making humanlike scarecrows, that they would dress them up in old clothes stuffed with straw.

Scarecrows are widely used today as "decoys" to protect gardens, from the smallest vegetable patch to open fields of produce. However, as a population, I think that we mostly enjoy seeing scarecrows dotting our landscapes during the autumn. I have so enjoyed making my three scarecrows. They are really easy and good fun to do. If you do make one of your own, let your imagination wander! It's your scarecrow!!

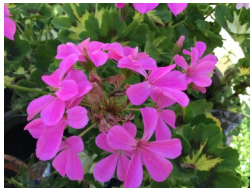
As long as birds are hungry and farmers are growing crops to feed the people, they will look for a solution to keep birds at bay. The solution is..... SCARECROWS!!

Valerie Lamb

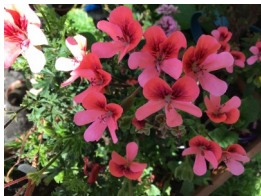


L U G Z V G Y Y N Y R A M Z K
 H C A E B Q R A U G U S T U Z
 V U W H X N O I T I B I H X E
 K R E L D D O T I T N E R A P
 E X C V M M A E R C X G R L L
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 C A N D E L A B R A B K B U W
 A R T A D H O L I D A Y G S Q

Art
 August
 Bank
 Baptism
 Bartholomew
 Beach
 Candelabra
 Cream



Exhibition
 Exhibition
 Group
 Heritage
 Holiday
 Ice
 Mary
 Parent



Summer
 Swimming
 Toddler
 Transfiguration
 Virgin
 Wedding

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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.

News from St Saviour's Church of England School We are the end of another year at St. Saviour's Church of England junior School. As I look back on a very odd year, there are several events I hope the school never has to go through again. I hope never to have to contact parents over the weekend to close a bubble. I hope never to have to ask staff to put themselves at risk of serious illness by doing the job.

What I will regret more than the event which has happened is what has not taken place. I feel very guilty that our current Year 6 – one of the hardest working cohorts of children we have ever had – have not had the chance to have their residential trip this year. Children in all year groups have missed out on numerous extra-curricular activities over the last eighteen months. We have had minimal after school clubs, no swimming and no trips. I am acutely aware that these are the events which children remember forever.

We were unable to hold our Year 6 graduation ceremony at St. Saviour's Church this year. Instead we gathered in our school playground. Our Chair of Governors, Mr Graham Neve attended and our thoughts were with our St. Saviour's Church colleagues who would also normally be there. Our link with St. Saviour's Church is one of the many things which make our school unique. The church not only gives us our values but the support we all receive from Mother Karen and Graham Neve is invaluable. To not have attended any services at St. Saviour's since Christmas 2019 just feels wrong.

Despite a year where children have missed out, I have gained solace from the sheer resilience and good humour of our children and families. Each time we have had to make change to the way we do things, every member of our school community has adapted and made the best of it.

Now we are at the end of the year, I am thinking about new beginnings. I am looking forward to welcoming a new cohort of Year 3 children to St. Saviour's. We are all looking forward to the end of year group bubbles (and their closure!). Whole school collective worship will return, clubs will resume, inter-school sport, school trips and church services can begin again. I am sure this pandemic has a few more twists and turns left in it yet – but I remain hopeful we will not see any sustained school closures again. Having spent a professional lifetime insisting children come to school, I felt an absolute fraud telling families their children could not come in. I sincerely hope the coming year will be safe for us all!

Nick Bonell, Headteacher

Treasurer's Report

Statement for the month of June 2021

June 2021

Income £5070

Expenses £13789

Deficit £8719



This is an extraordinary deficit which has arisen because of the payment for roof repairs £9901 which are the subject of an insurance claim awaiting settlement. Settlement of the claim was effected on 5 July 2021.

Total assets at 1 January 2021 £103340

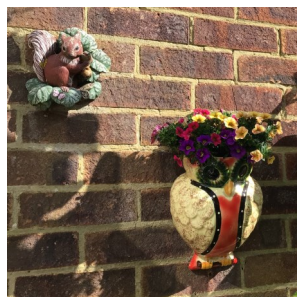
Total assets at 30 June 2021 £86058

Deficit for year to date.....£17282

G R Neve

Hon Treasurer

Email: neve389@btinternet.com



WESTGATE ART AND CRAFT GROUP EXHIBITION and
WESTGATE HERITAGE CENTRE
EXHIBITION in church from
MONDAY 23rd August



ADVANCE NOTICE

There will be a Memorial/ Thanksgiving Service for Dr Dawn Crouch to be held on Saturday 4th September at 1pm in St Saviour's Church.

🐾🐾🐾🐾🐾🐾🐾 Judy-Recipient of the PDSA 🐾🐾🐾🐾🐾🐾🐾
Dickin Medal

Our story this month of a very brave dog and recipient of the PDSA Dickin Medal for valour, is about Judy: the dog who became a prisoner of war.

Judy saved countless lives; survived sinking ships and spent several years in internment camps. Judy became one of the most famous and unlikely heroes of the Second World War. This is her story:

Judy, was a pure-bred liver and white Pointer. She was born in February, 1936, in the Shanghai Dog Kennels, a boarding kennel used by English expatriates in Shanghai, China. In the autumn of 1936, the crew of HMS Gnat, stationed on the Yangtze River before and during World War Two, voted to get a ship's mascot. The Captain, chief Bosun's mate and the chief Petty Officer, purchased Judy from the Shanghai Dog Kennels, and presented her to the crew. It was hoped to train her as a gundog, but the men began to treat her like a pet, instead!

HMS Gnat was anchored at the time in the Port of Shanghai, and was preparing to set sail up the Yangtze River to protect British trading posts and shipping, and also to deter pirates. However, barely had the ship left Shanghai, when a curious Judy tumbled off the deck and into the muddy waters of Asia's longest river. The alarm was raised, and the captain ordered an immediate stop, and the ship's launch searched desperately for the missing dog. Finally, Judy was brought safely back aboard.

As the Gnat continued along its way, Judy completed her first life-saving act. It was late at night when Judy sensed two Chinese Junks packed with river pirates, who were drifting silently downstream. The pirates were intending to take the Gnat by surprise. Instead, the crew was called to action stations by Judy's barks, and they met the pirates with a fusillade of fire. Judy saved their lives.

With the outbreak of the Second World War, HMS Gnat and other gunboats were recalled to British ports, and Judy set sail with her crew for Singapore. Judy continued to prove her worth, warning the crew of Japanese Air attacks, long before the warplanes became visible, and audible to the human ear. Thus, Judy repeatedly saved the gunboat from destruction.

But, luck soon ran out for the small vessel and her crew when a formation of Japanese warplanes pounced, bombing her and the flotilla of little ships that she was escorting, as they tried to escape from the advancing Japanese.

The crews who had survived, found themselves on a dry and barren desert island. Judy once again saved the survivors by finding the only source of fresh water. She and her Royal Navy fellows fled and tried to escape the encircling enemy. But, eventually, both sailors and dog were captured and taken as Prisoners of War. At the first prison camp, Judy met Aircraftsman Frank Williams, who shared his small portion of rice with her.

Judy and her fellow POW's were sent to labour on the Burma Railway, in the dense, tropical jungle, finally. But, when Judy fell pregnant with a litter of puppies, her fellow prisoners seized the moment: they offered one of the prettiest puppies to the Japanese Camp Commandment, as a gift, and in exchange, they persuaded him to give Judy an official document assigning the dog her own POW number:81A.

Judy moved around several camps, and survived the sinking of the transport ship SS Van Waerwijck. A British submarine torpedoed the ship, unaware that the vessel was being used to transport allied prisoners of war. Judy was also on board the sinking ship. Luckily, Judy was by a port hole, and she was pushed through it. She ran down the ship's side. In the aftermath of the sinking, she saved several passengers from drowning. Judy brought people ashore by letting them hold on to her body; as she delivered one, she returned to the water for another. She also pushed pieces of wood towards people who couldn't swim.

Les Searle from HMS Grasshopper, smuggled Judy into the next camp, where she was later reunited with Frank Williams. It was an emotional reunion. Judy flew into Frank's arms, covered in oil, and eyes burning red.

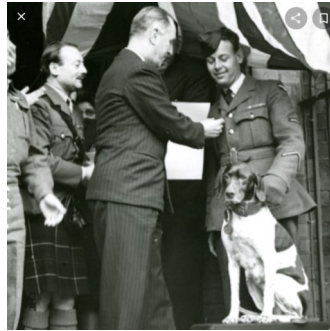
Miraculously, Judy survived the prison camps, that claimed so many British, Dutch, Australian, American, and other Allied lives. Judy had raised morale in the POW camps, and also barked when poisonous snakes, crocodiles, and even tigers approached the prisoners.

At the end of hostilities, when the allies arrived, Judy returned to England aboard a troopship, and spent the next six months in quarantine in Hackbridge, Surrey. Frank visited regularly, as did a number of servicemen, who had known Judy during their internment in Asia. She went on to be adopted by Frank Williams, the one prisoner she had come to love the most, and they lived a long and happy life together after the war. She was awarded the Dickin Medal by the PDSA for valour, at an event held in Cadogan Square, by the PDSA in May. 1946. The ceremony was attended by Maria Dickin. She won her medal for the many life-saving acts aboard the Royal Navy gunboat and in the POW camps, and for the role she played everywhere by boosting morale. She was described by the ex-RAF crewmen as "a dog in a million". Frank and Judy spent 1946 visiting the relatives of POW's who had not survived.

Frank remarked that Judy always seemed to give a comforting presence. They raised money for charities, and appeared at dog shows throughout the country. Judy died in 1950 in Tanzania from a tumour, after travelling with Frank to work there on a groundnut food scheme. She was 14 years old. She was buried in her RAF jacket, with her campaign medals. Frank spent two months building a granite and marble memorial in her memory, which included a plaque that told of her life story. In 2006, her collar and her Dickin medal went on public display for the first time in the Imperial War Museum, London, as part of "The Animals War" exhibition. Alan Williams, Frank's son, presented the medals.

Judy was the only dog to to be registered as a POW during the Second World War. A lot of people owe their lives to her.

I hope that you will enjoy this true story as much as I did when I was researching it. It is another true story of how a dog raised the morale of her fellow prisoners, and gave great comfort when it was needed. Best wishes, Valerie Lamb.





STOP PRESS

A new book from the Westgate on Sea Heritage Centre on the History of Westgate on Sea Railway Station is now available. It is available to purchase from the Town Council Office and the Westgate Heritage Centre Office in the Town Hall Building, for collection or can be posted out by arrangement. The address is -

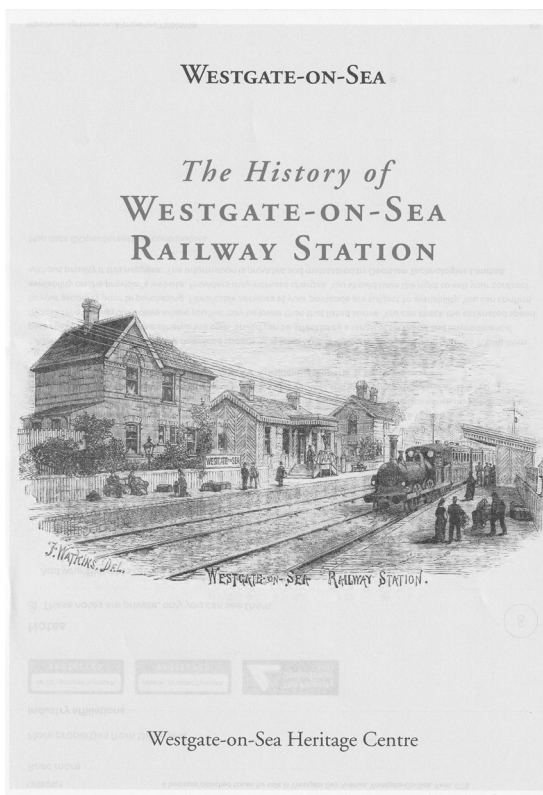
Westgate-on-Sea Heritage Centre

Office 2, Town Hall Buildings St Mildred's Road,

Westgate-on-Sea

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.



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

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



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