

Parish and Community

# *The Link*

St Mildreds Road



Westgate Bay Avenue

Westgate Bay Avenue



St Mildreds Road

**November  
2021**

The Magazine of  
St Saviour's Parish Church

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

Website [www.stsaviourswestgate.org.uk](http://www.stsaviourswestgate.org.uk)

Email [office@stsaviourswestgate.org.uk](mailto:office@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](mailto:cattwood2002@yahoo.co.uk)

Mr Andy Jemmett email [andyjemmett@aol.com](mailto:andyjemmett@aol.com)

**WELCOME TO THE  
SEAMARSH GROUP**

**PCC Secretary** Mrs Christine Attwood

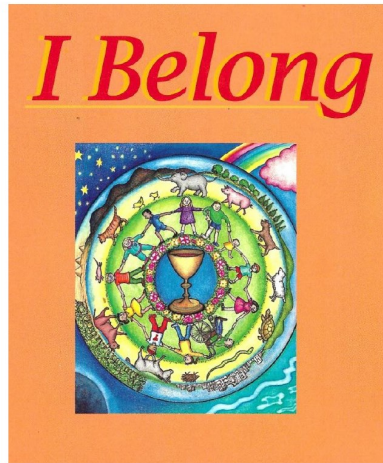
**St Saviour's Church of England Junior School**

**Elm Grove, Westgate Telephone 01843 831707**

**Headteacher** Mr N Bonell

Editor "The Link" [valdaneve@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:valdaneve@hotmail.co.uk)

**CRAFTS,  
MUSIC,  
SINGING**



2pm to 3.30pm

## Refreshments at 3pm



# **St Saviour's Church, Westgate**



**CHURCH IS OPEN FOR SERVICES ON SUNDAY  
AT 9am (Holy Communion Prayer Book) LAST  
SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH**

**and Sung Eucharist at 10.30am every Sunday.**

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

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



Dear friends,

'Remember- remember' is the theme for November each year from the Festivals of All Saints and All Souls, Bonfire Night and onto the annual Festival of Remembrance. This November, we might also find ourselves looking back to last year's lockdown and reflecting gratefully that we are now out and about, visiting friends and family, creating new memories and sharing precious time together.

As the nation falls silent once again to mark the 11<sup>th</sup> day of the 11<sup>th</sup> month, we are inspired and challenged by stories of lives which have become part of our collective memory. This is hugely significant because, as Winston Churchill famously remarked, "those who refuse to learn the lessons of history are doomed to repeat it". In our age of increasing individualism, we do well to mark the passing of time by recalling and reflecting on lives which have made a lasting impact on our own and which continue to shape our identity and culture.

However, we ourselves will always have a part to play in the story of our community's life and each of us will be able to find some opportunity, whether by encouraging and supporting others or through active engagement, to help create a happy and sustainable future for everyone, especially the most vulnerable in our community.

Times and seasons change but human nature remains constant. We need one another to live fully and to flourish. The Christian gospel teaches us that we belong together, like limbs and organs of a single body. When we recognise this, remembering and celebrating our inter-connectedness, we can find true fulfilment and, in the beautiful old words of the Prayer Book, 'the peace which passes understanding'.

May God bless you and your loved ones throughout this season of Remembrance and beyond.

Mother Karen



**ALL SAINTS AND ALL SOULS SERVICE at ST SAVIOUR'S CHURCH 2021**



## FROM THE REGISTERS

### For those Baptised

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

Wednesday 6th October    Melissa

Sunday 24th October    Melody, Jade, and Gen

### 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, Janice, Michele, Stuart, Gordon, Gill, Jean, Ann, Terry, Derrick, Peter, Tina, Patricia

### 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”*

Patricia, Dawn

### World War 2 Roll of Honour

Robert Duff 7th November 1944,    Geoffrey Maxton 11th November 1942,

George Lynas 13th November 1944,    Ernest Hole 14th November 1943



**St Saviour's Church, Westgate**

**REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**

**14<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER**

**10.30am SUNG EUCHARIST**

**Procession 11.30 for**

**11.40am outside St**

**Saviour's Church to War  
Memorial.**

**Service at War**

**Memorial 12noon**

**REFRESHMENTS FROM 12.30pm in Christ Church  
United Reformed Church.**

**St Saviour's Church will be open  
THURSDAY 11<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER with  
prayers at 10.55am**

**And Two Minutes Silence**

## Christmas Fair 2021

Please forgive me for mentioning Christmas so early, but if we want the fair to be a success, we need to start planning. A few ideas have started to form in my head, but I'm always eager to hear suggestions.

The proposed date is Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December and will run from 12 til 3pm.

So, volunteers are needed to make a "Santa's Grotto", I think it will look best in the creche area at the back of the church. Then of course we need a Santa, and perhaps a few elves to help things run smoothly.

Children's crafts stall, somewhere the children can sit and write a letter to the main man, have a post box, so they can post their letter, then make a Christmas tree decoration to take home.

The normal tombola stall will be running so donations would be greatly received. The raffle will be slightly different this time but I'm looking into this now. I've asked someone to do face painting again as this is always a success. A produce stall, another great stall, please if you can bake something, that we can sell on this stall please let me know, people flock for homemade goodies especially at Christmas time.

Pam will oversee the catering again and nearer the time we will be asking for help.

Well that's enough for now and I hope we make this fair a huge success and another great family day.

Chris x







## " ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL!!!

~~~~~

On Sunday 3rd October, Mother Karen held her second Pet Blessing Service at St. Saviour's, in honour of the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi. The sun was shining as all the animals, along with their owners, arrived at the church at 3pm. The service was very well attended, with a wide assortment of different pets. There were dogs, a young cat called Lion, who was recovering from a serious operation, two guinea pigs, and finally a beautiful tortoise whose age was 65 years plus! Everybody participated in the hymn singing, and listened to readings associated with our St. Francis Celebration. Each pet received a blessing from Mother Karen, who also exchanged a few words with every owner. The animals were so well-behaved, and they enjoyed meeting Mother Karen's dog, Toast too, who was ably assisting her! It was a lovely afternoon, and I hope that you enjoy the photos of the event!

Love Valerie







## Treasurer's Report

### Statement for the month of September 2021

#### September 2021

|          |              |
|----------|--------------|
| Income   | £4905        |
| Expenses | <u>£7489</u> |
| Deficit  | £2584        |

The deficit within the month is due to the payment of the omitted parish share for August (£2576).

Cash donations towards the Pantry in the Porch up to withdrawal (Oct) £188. It is not possible to quantify the value of goods provided by the Community during this time, but the benefit has been apparent and greatly appreciated by those in need. Thank you to everyone who has helped make this project a success.

|                 |                   |         |
|-----------------|-------------------|---------|
| Total assets at | 1 January 2021    | £103340 |
| Total assets at | 30 September 2021 | £100802 |

Deficit for year to date.....£2538

G R Neve Hon Treasurer Email: [neve389@btinternet.com](mailto:neve389@btinternet.com)

### **The Holy Family are on their travels**

If you have a child, grandchild or young neighbour who goes to St Saviour's School, you may well find them 'entertaining' the Holy Family- Mary, Joseph and the faithful donkey for a night as they make their way around the parish of St Saviour's, Westgate this December. Every class in the school will have their own Crib figures. 'The Travelling Crib' is an old Spanish custom called the 'Posada', meaning 'Inn'.

These miniature Crib figures will be 'travelling' and staying in homes around the parish, reminding us of the long and difficult journey made by Joseph and Mary and also helping us to keep other refugees in our thoughts and prayers this Advent. Please do come to the Blessing of the Cribs service (10.30) on Advent Sunday ( 28<sup>th</sup> November) and look out for the Holy Family coming to stay with you- or a family near you!





St Saviour's Church, Westgate

**ADVENT SUNDAY**

**28<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER**

**BLESSING OF THE CRIBS  
SERVICE**

**AT 10.30am**

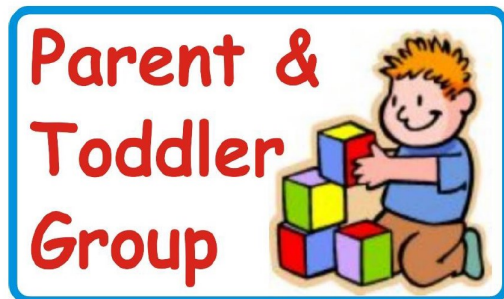


**Look out for the Holy Family coming  
to stay with you- or a family near  
you! ALL WELCOME**



St Saviour's Church, Westgate

# **PARENT & TODDLER GROUP**

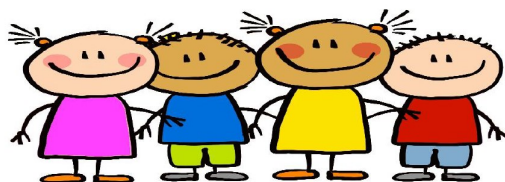


**Meets MONDAY  
MORNINGS**

**10.30am to 12 noon**

**For pre-school children & parents**

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



## Church Ground Cutback – October 2021

The annual cutback took place over two Saturday mornings (16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> ). The weather was kind and pleasant for working. Many thanks to everyone who helped restore the boundary shrubbery to a neat and tidy shape.

Topbranch attended on 2 November to tackle the large hedge along St Mildred's road and the shrubbery down the South side (cinema side) of the grounds. All clippings were also removed from site.

Once again the grounds look well cared for and attractive to residents and visitors alike.



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS Seasonal messages will appear in the December edition of "The Link" . Messages can be sent or emailed to Valda no later than SUNDAY 21st NOVEMBER. Donations for sending greetings this way to be given to Graham Neve, Treasurer. ALL DONATIONS ARE FOR CHURCH FUNDS.

 Seasons  
Greetings

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”.**

**SATURDAY 6<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER**

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



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



**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](mailto: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 DECEMBER 2021 “The Link” is**  
**SUNDAY 21st NOVEMBER 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.'**

## **Glance back over October**

October is always a month of transition, taking us from the warmth and sunshine of the beginning to the cold and dark evenings of the end of the month as the clocks go back. Now, once again we're needing to be careful in church because of Covid infection rates and the joyful days of having the West door open for services and the children playing in the garden are fast becoming fading memories! October began with a celebration of our beloved pets in the St Francis blessing service and ended with a joyful celebration of All Saints and a solemn and beautiful commemoration of All Souls- those we have known and loved but see no longer in a lovely service led by Rev'd Susan Wing.

We have been delighted to welcome back Fr David Chance to lead worship on two Sundays as he and his wife Andrea returned to their former home and friends in Westgate for a holiday.

Friendly Fridays and the Toddler Group have continued to thrive and a number of the Group came to celebrate with mother Jade and daughter Melody from the Toddler Group for their baptism. *Mother Karen*

***Thanet Deanery***



**A growing deanery  
Transformed by hope**

***Come and meet the Bishop!***

**Bishop Rose Hudson-Wilkin in conversation**

***Thursday 25 November***

***6.30pm***

***All Saint's Church, Birchington***

***An opportunity to meet Bishop Rose and hear her in conversation and to ask questions.***

***This evening will mark the end of the day when Bishop Rose is visiting Thanet Deanery.***

**(This event will be livestreamed – further details to follow).**



## Confirmation service in Canterbury Cathedral

Confirmations don't happen very often so they are always very special occasions but this one may have been even more special for those involved; Andrew Jemmett, Melanie Collins and Melissa Stuttle, as they had been preparing for this day for over two years! Confirmation preparation needs to be thorough as it's an opportunity to absorb, question and reflect on many aspects of Christian faith, but this was thorough in the extreme! We all enjoyed each and every session, however, and look forward to continuing to learn about faith in the new once a month study course which is open to everyone in church, starting in the New Year.

Sunday evening's service was inclusive, affirming, encouraging and beautiful. Bishop Rose spoke to us powerfully about God's constant presence in our lives even (and perhaps especially) when we feel like saying, with Martha at the tomb of her brother Lazarus, "Lord, if only you had been here..." Bishop Rose reminded us that God is always with us, however bereft we may feel- the clearest and best message for any confirmation candidate- and indeed anyone to hear. At the end of the service each candidate received a lighted candle, a Bible and a certificate signed by the Bishop.

Congratulations, Andy, Melanie and Melissa on your careful and robust preparation for this unforgettable day and we look forward to continuing to walk together with you into the future on the great adventure of faith. *Mother Karen*



**St Saviour's Church, Westgate**

**TOY SERVICE**

**SUNDAY 5<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**



**10.30am SUNG EUCHARIST**

**Toy Service in celebration of St  
Nicholas/Father Christmas. If you are able,  
please bring (money) donations in aid of  
Oasis.**

## THREE BRAVE HORSES!

### Recipients of the PDSA

#### Dickin Medal



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The first three equine recipients of the PDSA Dickin Medal were British horses Regal, Olga and Upstart, serving with the Metropolitan Police. They received their awards at a ceremony on 11th April. 1947 at Hyde Park, in recognition of the courage they exhibited during the Second World War. This is their story:

#### \* REGAL

~~~~~

Regal was a bay gelding with a small white star on his forehead, and socks on his hind legs. Together with his handler, PC Hector Poole, Regal served in the North London suburb of Muswell Hill. On 19th. April. 1941, during the last month of the Blitz, incendiary bombs dropped near the Muswell Hill police stables, which caused a fire to erupt. The fire soon spread to the area around Regal's stall. Not panicking, Regal was led out of the burning stable without injury. Three years later, on 20th. July. 1944, the stable was again damaged when an explosion from a nearby V1 flying bomb impact, caused the stable to partially collapse and injure Regal with flying debris.

#### \* OLGA

~~~~~

Olga was a bay mare with a narrow white front coronet marking. She was used in crowd control and rescue operations in South London, near Tooting. On 3rd. July. 1944, Olga and a replacement rider, PC Thwaites, were patrolling Besley Street SW16, near to the railway line, when a bomb exploded 91 metres in front of them. The bomb destroyed four houses, killed 4 people, and caused a plate-glass window to fall in front of poor Olga. She was very startled, and at first ran a short distance away from the blast. PC Thwaites soon calmed Olga down, and guided her back to the area where she helped him to divert sightseers away from the scene.

#### \* UPSTART

~~~~~

Upstart was a police horse serving in Bethnal Green, in the East End of London during the Second World War. Upstart was previously posted near Hyde Park, but was relocated when his stable was severely damaged. He was on patrol with his rider

when a flying bomb exploded just 75 yards from them. Upstart and his rider were showered with broken glass, debris and shrapnel, but Upstart didn't bother. He just stayed calm and continued quietly with his job. He and his rider controlled traffic etc, until the incident had been dealt with. Police Horse Upstart epitomised coolness under pressure.

I hope that you have enjoyed reading about the bravery of the three horses. All three horses are buried at the Metropolitan Police Mounted Training Establishment at Thames Ditton. Their Dickin Medals are proudly on display in the force's museum.

The two photos show the three horses in Hyde Park at the medal ceremony, and also Besley Street, today. The street has a mixture of old and new houses.

Love Valerie



From left to right: Olga, Regal and Upstart with their handlers at the Dickin Medal ceremony in 1947.

**St Saviour's Church, Westgate**  
**SUNDAY 12<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**  
**10.30am SUNG EUCHARIST**  
**SERVICE OF LIGHT in CELEBRATION of**  
**St Lucy.**



**If you are able, please bring (money)**  
**donations in aid of Porchlight.**



## An update from The Friends of St Saviour's Church, Westgate-on-Sea

Due to the 3 national coronavirus lockdowns, no AGM could be held in 2020 and our AGM for 2021 finally took place on 30<sup>th</sup> October, some 6 months later than usual. Despite the inclement weather, 17 members attended compared to 23 in 2019, with 8 members sending apologies for absence. Several members took the opportunity to renew for 2021 and we gained 3 first-time members. Ann Clark and Lorna Oliver provided light refreshments and Joy Palmer and Sue Bennett ran the raffle with prizes donated by members of the Committee and which raised £32. Thank you all.

Business at the meeting consisted of the minutes of the 2019 AGM, the trustees' annual reports for both 2019 and 2020, the accounts for those years, various elections and the appointment of an independent examiner for the current financial year. If you are a member of The Friends and would like copies of these documents, do let me know.

If you have not yet joined The Friends for the 2021, please contact me. Membership is only £2 but the majority of members kindly add a donation. Please note subscriptions will increase to £5 per person with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022. This will be the first increase since The Friends were formed in 1990!

Election and appointment results:

|                                        |   |                                                           |
|----------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Chairperson to serve for 1 year        | – | Vacant                                                    |
| Secretary to serve for 1 year          | – | Vacant                                                    |
| Treasurer to serve for 1 year          | - | Frances Morris                                            |
| Committee Members to serve for 3 years | - | Sue Bennett, Christine Bolger, Jill Fordham and Sue Wells |
| Independent Examiner                   | - | Len Reed                                                  |

The Committee also consists of Ann Clark, Lorna Oliver and Christine Attwood as Trustees; Joy Palmer (elected to serve for 3 years in 2019); Steve Short (co-opted until 2023 in 2019); and Mother Karen (ex officio as priest in charge).

Christine Attwood  
Trustee

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

Andrew

Armed

Bonfire

Candle

Chapel

Cross

Dove

Fawkes



Fireworks

Forces

Guy

Honour

Lily

Memorial

November

Poppy



Remembrance

Roll

Saints

Silence

Souls

War

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



The 1st Westgate Rainbows have been chosen as one of the Coop Local Community Fund Groups until October 2022.

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**

Children and staff at St. Saviour's have finally reached the end of a mammoth eight-week term. My heart went out to Year 6 in particular this week, as the majority of the year group were, rather anxiously, awaiting Kent Test results.

I am very pleased to say we have had a record number of children being assessed as suitable for grammar school. I believe these results are chiefly down to the innate ability of the children but credit must also go to the support from families and the skill of teachers. Our Year 6 cohort are a lovely group of children and I am confident they will make us proud, whichever school they attend next.

This is a key point to remember when considering the eleven plus. The most important factor governing success at secondary school is not the *type* of school but the work ethic of the child. Having attended the prize-giving evenings of local high schools, I have been impressed by the number of children leaving those non-selective schools with excellent GCSE / A-level results and going to top-flight universities. We are lucky in Thanet to have really well-led and staffed secondary schools. The learning of secondary school children is in no way capped by their educational setting.

Children who are selected as 'suitable for grammar' should feel proud of their achievement but should not rest on their laurels. For all children transferring to secondary school in summer, a vitally important phase of their education is just beginning. One of the most important choices these children will make is that of friendship group. Teenagers tend to work as hard as their friends. Knowing our Year 6 children, I am confident they will choose their friends wisely.

For children and families feeling disappointed by 11+ results, I would urge them to remember that children change hugely between Year 6 and GCSE years. Some children have not matured enough to reach their full potential at primary school. The beauty of teaching in one school for a long time (as I and many of my colleagues have done) is that we see children leave us at the age of eleven; we then meet them ten or fifteen years later and are amazed at what lovely, intelligent, productive members of society they have grown into. I know I am getting truly old as a child I taught in Year 6 has returned to St. Saviour's as a Year 3 parent! I am officially ancient!

*Nick Bonell, Headteacher*

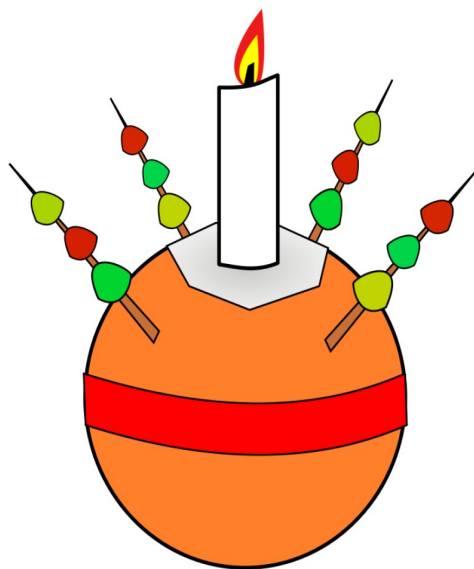


**St Saviour's Church, Westgate**

**SUNDAY 19<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**

**10.30am SUNG EUCHARIST**

**CHRISTINGLE with CAROLS**



**If you are able, please bring (money)**

**Donations in aid of**

**The Childrens Society**

St Saviour's Church, Westgate

# CRIB SERVICES

FRIDAY 24<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER

CHRISTMAS EVE

At 3pm "Young children"

participation

4pm "All Age Families"

participation



## A SUMMER MESSAGE FROM WESTGATE-ON-SEA, IN AUGUST 1932!

The postcard- a fascinating insight into the day-to-day lives of people!



I have always been fascinated by the messages written on the reverse of old picture postcards! Before the telephone became popular, the postcard provided a means of near- instant communication, the postal service being very reliable. The written message can be funny, sad, or mysterious! Picture postcards from bygone days, can also provide a running commentary on social history.

I have chosen a postcard from my own collection to show you this month. It is dated 2nd August. 1932, and was posted at Westgate - on -Sea for a collection at 8.30pm. The postcard was being sent to London. King George V had just under 4 years left to reign, before his death in January 1936. The photograph on the front of the postcard shows St. Michael's Convalescent Home, Westgate-on-Sea, now St Michael's Care Home. As you can see from a present day photo, the grade II listed building remains virtually unchanged in appearance. Built in 1895 as a convalescent home, St Michael's has a long history of caring and nursing.

This postcard in my collection was sent to a Mr & Mrs. T. Porteus at 18, St. George's Road, St. Margarets, Twickenham, London ( St Margarets is a suburb in the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames, and is within the Twickenham Post Town) .

The postcard reads:

"Westgate, Tuesday.

Enjoying ourselves very much, but the weather might be kinder. Thanks for visiting Len and cheering him up. I simply hated leaving him at home, but as you know, Meg was in need of sea air. She has just bathed and is quite tanned. Harry and Daphne are off to Paris on Saturday, but Harry has suggested that we stay on and that Len joins us. Hope he will. Love from all here to all at 18".

The postcard is written in ink rather than pencil, and I am surmising that Harry and Daphne were on holiday with the writer and Meg. The forthcoming holiday plans of Harry and Daphne suggest that they enjoyed a comfortable lifestyle. This was after all, the early years of the Depression. The house to where the postcard was directed at 18, St. George's Road, remains standing, and the average price of a house in that particular road, is currently fixed at £3 million!

The writer speaks of Len being left behind whilst she stays at Westgate with Meg. One can only wonder if they did stay on, and whether Len did, in fact, join them!

I was also intrigued about important current events which happened on the 2nd August. 1932, and discovered that Tommy Hampson, originally from Clapham, London, had won gold on this day, in the 800 metre race at the Olympics held in Los Angeles in 1932!

Tommy Hampson's time was 1 minute, 49.8 seconds, setting a new world record! These Olympic games would prove to be the penultimate games to be held before the Second World War. The games would be held in Berlin in 1936, and would not resume again until 1948, when they were held in London.

I hope that you have enjoyed this little article!

Best wishes, Valerie



Tuesday

2 August 1932







## WESTGATE-ON-SEA HERITAGE CENTRE



- *Calendar 2022* -

HOTELS, HOSTELRIES AND HOLIDAYS IN  
WESTGATE-ON-SEA

**AVAILABLE SOON The Westgate-on-Sea Heritage Centre 2022 Calendar**

Ideal for a Christmas present. See WHC website for details.



MY GRATEFUL THANKS

~~~~~

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to you all for supporting me in a very difficult and sad period of my life, when my beloved mum, Sheila, passed away. Mum was always interested in life at St. Saviour's, and she read The Link with much interest. I was thrilled to receive such beautiful flowers, chocolates and wine upon my return!

God bless you all 🙏.

Love Valerie







BALMORAL CASTLE

26<sup>th</sup> August 2021

Dear Mrs Scott,

The Queen wishes me to write and thank you for your letter and for your message of sympathy on the death of Her Majesty's beloved husband The Duke of Edinburgh.

It was also very kind of you to send The Queen an article from your church magazine about Louise, Princess Royal and Duchess of Fife, and Her Majesty greatly appreciated your thoughtfulness.

The Queen was touched to know of your loyal support, and I am to thank you again for writing as you did.

Yours sincerely,  
Elizabeth Leeming

Lady-in-Waiting

Phyll Scott— a member of St Saviour's Church wrote to the Queen to offer her condolences for the death of Prince Philip enclosed the following article from the May edition of "The Link", which linked Westgate to the Royal Family. Phyll was a choir member , flower arranger and did many other jobs around the church.

🏡🏡🏡🏡🏡🏡🏡🏡 DANEHURST, SEA ROAD, 🏡🏡🏡🏡🏡🏡🏡🏡  
AND PRINCESS LOUISE, DUCHESS OF FIFE.

William Bennett Rogers was, by profession, an auctioneer and valuer, and he was chosen by the partners of Coutts' Bank, to be their agent in Westgate, throughout the time that they had financial interests in the Westgate-on-Sea Estate. William Bennett Rogers' Westgate home was the first "Marine Villa" to be built at Westgate Bay in 1874. He and his wife, Ann, had a family of eight children, and were loyal supporters of St. Saviour's Church. In 1893, the Duke and Duchess of Fife spent some time in the summer at Danehurst, as guests. The Duchess had given birth to her second daughter, Princess Maud of Fife, on 3rd April 1893, and one can only assume that she came to Westgate to regain her health. We understand that when the Duke and Duchess left Westgate Station at the end of their stay, the Stationmaster presented flowers to the Duchess, that he had grown in his own garden. She graciously thanked him for his kindness. She was much recuperated. My grateful thanks as always, for the authenticity of the material relating to Westgate-on-Sea, as provided by the late Dr. Dawn Crouch.

Louise, Princess Royal and Duchess of Fife, was born on 20th February. 1867 at Marlborough House, London, and was the third child and eldest daughter of the future King Edward VII, and Queen Alexandra. She was a younger sister of the future King George V. In June 1867, her grandmother, Queen Victoria, made a rare expedition to London to see the infant Princess Louise of Wales.

Louise had two older brothers, Albert Victor (known as Eddy), and Prince George, later to become King George V. She would go on to have two younger sisters, Princesses Victoria and Maud. A third brother, Prince Alexander John of Wales, had died shortly after birth.

Princess Louise's mother, the future Queen Alexandra, was an indulgent mother who adored her children. Louise grew up in a carefree environment on the Sandringham Estate, in Norfolk, and spent most of her childhood there. She often wrote to her grandmother, Queen Victoria, and on 1st. September. 1887, whilst staying at St. Moritz, she enclosed a piece of Edelweiss in her letter, writing : "I am sending you a little piece for luck, which I picked myself, and we had to go up a great height to get it!"

Louise and her sisters received a very limited and indifferent education. Retiring by nature, she was far more at home in the country, or in a family setting, rather than the glittering social life in which her parents existed and flourished. But, Princess Louise was an accomplished musician, and often played the organ at the Sunday services at Sandringham Church.

Nevertheless, Louise became engaged in June 1889, when she was 22, to Alexander Duff, Earl Fife. She had first met her future husband four years before at the wedding of her aunt, Princess Beatrice, Queen Victoria's youngest daughter.

Alexander Duff, Earl Fife, was 18 years Princess Louise's senior, and was a friend of the Prince of Wales, Louise's father. He was also one of the few friends of her son that Queen Victoria liked, and both father and grandmother gave their full approval of the match.

Earl Fife possessed great wealth, and owned no less than fourteen country houses. But, he was a sound businessman, showing great judgement, and was very successful.

However, the engagement announcement was met with some concern. Many thought that it was rather strange for a future Princess Royal to marry a subject. But, Princess Louise was perfectly happy with her future husband. Her father, the Prince of Wales, also waved concerns away, and at a luncheon with the Queen, Queen Victoria was: "much pleased, and readily gave my consent".

The wedding took place on Saturday 27th. July. 1889 at the Private Chapel in Buckingham Palace. It is worth noting that Joseph Barnaby's hymn, "O perfect love", (also known as Fife and Sandringham), was used here for the first time. Her bridesmaids were her two sisters, The Princesses Victoria and Maud, and her cousins, The Princesses Helena Victoria and Marie Louise of Schleswig-Holstein. ( Please see my article in the "" Link"" for March 2021!).

Princess Louise was very happy, and a lady-in-waiting of the Queen said that the bride "looked her very best". As a wedding present, Queen Victoria, Princess Louise's grandmother, created the bridegroom a Duke. He became the Duke of Fife.

The newly-wed Princess seemed to blossom after her marriage. Her husband, despite the age gap, appears to have been a tower of strength to her. Marriage brought Louise "out of her shell". Her family found her looking so "mischievous and happy". She discovered talents in herself, such as a love of painting and interior design. In early 1890, Louise wrote to her grandmother, Queen Victoria, "I daresay you know, dear Grandmama, that I do not often gush, but I cannot tell you how happy I am with Macduff. Happier than I ever thought I would be".

After honeymooning at Mar Lodge and other estates in Scotland, the couple eventually divided their time between Sheen Lodge in Richmond Park (their favourite home), and several homes in Scotland. The couple were well-matched, and settled down to a life of country pursuits. Louise became an expert at salmon fishing.

Very early on in their marriage, the couple lost their first child, a little boy called Alastair, who was stillborn.

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A healthy daughter named Alexandra was born on 17th May 1891, and on the 3rd. April. 1893, Lady Maud was born to them. They would have no more children. On 3rd December. 1891, Princess Louise's eldest brother, Prince Eddy, Duke of Clarence, became engaged to Princess May of Teck (the future Queen Mary). Their wedding day had been set for 27th. February. 1892. Princess Louise gave a dance in honour of the newly-engaged couple, on Boxing Day 1891, in London. However, the couple's happiness was not to last. On 14th. January. 1892, at Sandringham, after contracting influenza which led to pneumonia, Prince Eddy, heir presumptive, died at just twenty-eight years old.

Princess Louise's remaining brother, Prince George, Duke of York, (later King George V), was more equipped for the position of heir presumptive, than his deceased brother. At Christmas 1892, Prince George sent Princess May a handsome brooch. The year of respectful mourning had passed. Finally, on 3rd. May. 1893, Princess May was a guest for tea at Sheen, Richmond Park, which was the home of Princess Louise, Duchess of Fife. Princess Louise announced, "Now, Georgie, don't you think you ought to take May into the garden to look at the frogs in the pond?". It was hardly a romantic gesture, but Prince George proposed to May and she accepted. As a family, the Fifes were a very close knit one, and as a whole, they tended to avoid the court life surrounding their cousins and Louise's parents. Upon marriage, Louise even declined the services of a Lady-in-Waiting. But, the marriage was one of united happiness and affection, and the Duke of Fife devoted himself to the welfare and interests of Princess Louise and their daughters.

Louise's father, the Prince of Wales, succeeded Queen Victoria in 1901, and on the 9th. November. 1905, he created Louise, the Princess Royal, a title traditionally bestowed on the eldest daughter of the sovereign. At the same time, her two daughters were created Princesses of Great Britain and Ireland, and were given the title of "highnesses".

In December. 1911, the Fife family were sailing to Egypt on the liner S. S. Delhi. Louise wanted to spend the winter there for her health. The ship ran aground off the coast of Morocco in a storm. The family escaped into a lifeboat, but then they, and the other survivors had to walk four miles in driving rain to Cape Spartel lighthouse. Once all was settled, the Duke of Fife took the opportunity to telegraph home to advise that, "although suffering from fatigue and shock, he and his family had experienced no serious consequences". Princess Louise praised the courage of the British and French seamen involved.

The now King, King George V ( His father King Edward VII, had died on 6th. May. 1910, and George had succeeded him to the throne), remarked to their mother, Queen Alexandra, that "I am proud that she is my sister".

The Fifes travelled up the Nile River to Khartoum. Unfortunately, the journey had to be halted when the Duke became seriously ill. He had caught a chill, probably caught as result of the shipwreck. The chill developed into pleurisy, and just missed pneumonia. Princess Louise's personal physician was summoned from London, but it was too late. The Duke of Fife died in the early morning of 29th. January. 1912, in Aswan.

Princess Louise was in an extreme state of deep shock. At the end of February. 1912, the grieving Louise and her two daughters arrived back home in Portsmouth on board HMS Powerful, with the Duke's coffin on board. Louise's mother, Queen Alexandra, felt that her daughter had become "a changed being, who can bear every cross, now".

After her husband's death, Princess Louise found solace in her deep Christian faith. She became more reclusive. She was taken ill in the autumn of 1929 at Mar Lodge, and was brought back to London. At her house in Portman Square, she was given the best nursing and medical treatment, as befitted the sister of the king, but to no avail. She lingered on, listlessly, for another fifteen months, comforted by the attention of her family. As Christmas 1930 approached, she was growing weaker, and her daughters were summoned. Princess Louise, Princess Royal, the Duchess of Fife, died on the afternoon of 4th. January. 1931. She was sixty-three years old, and at the time of her death, was tenth in line to the throne. Her brother, King George V, felt her loss in the family, deeply.

The house at Danhurst no longer stands, being demolished around 1960. In its place, stand the Danhurst apartments.

Princess Louise, Princess Royal, Duchess of Fife, stayed at Danhurst in Westgate in 1893. She was:

- # a granddaughter of Queen Victoria.
- # a daughter of King Edward VII.
- # a sister of King George V.
- # an aunt to King Edward VIII and King George VI.
- # a great-aunt to our present Queen, Queen Elizabeth II.

A Victorian letter-box stands at the junction of Sea Road and Rowena Road, which would have been very convenient for the residents of Danehurst to post their letters in. One wonders, if indeed the Duchess of Fife sent any letters from here, perhaps to her grandmother, Queen Victoria, or her mother, Princess Alexandra! I hope that you have enjoyed reading this article as much as I have enjoyed writing it. I have sadly come to the end of my "Royalty" travels in Westgate, but I will soon be embarking on a research of a selection of Queen Victoria's 42 grandchildren. Queen Victoria was known as the "Grandmother of Europe", and her descendants endured as monarchs of multiple European countries.

With love, Valerie

Louise, Duchess of Fife

(20 February 1867 - 4 January 1931)



Louise with her mother,  
Princess Alexandra



Louise in the 1880s







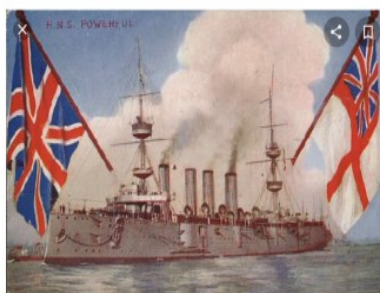
Louise with her daughters Alexandra and Maud, circa 1894; Credit - Wikipedia



280 A DUCHESS OF FIFE. (captioned photo, S.C.)



THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF FIFE.



*Victorian pillar-box at junction of Sea Road and Rowena Road, Westgate*

1. Cameo painting of Louise with her mother.
2. Louise in the 1880's.
3. Wedding Day with her father, Edward, Prince of Wales.
4. Wedding Day with her husband, the Duke of Fife.
5. Louise with her daughters, the year after her stay in Westgate.
6. The Fife family.
7. Louise.
8. Older photo of the Duke and Duchess of Fife.
9. Framed photo of Louise and her daughters.
10. 11. The ships: S S Delhi and HMS Powerful.
12. Victorian Letter Box, still standing outside Danehurst apartments.

# 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**

**Meets** on the 1st Saturday of each month 10am to 12noon. A talk is usually given at these sessions. **FROM NOVEMBER 2021 until**

**MARCH 2022 meetings will be at CHRIST-CHURCH URC due to heating problems.**

Refreshments are available. See the website for further details.

**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 on the last Sunday of each month.

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](mailto:1stwestgatescoutgroup@gmail.com)



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

**[www.yoakleycare.co.uk](http://www.yoakleycare.co.uk)**