

Parish and Community

The Link

St Mildreds Road



Westgate Bay Avenue

Westgate Bay Avenue



St Mildreds Road

**March
2022**

The Magazine of
St Saviour's Parish Church

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

Website www.stsaviourswestgate.org.uk

Email office@stsaviourswestgate.org.uk



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Honorary Assistant Priests

The Revd Susan Wing

The Revd Canon Gary Colville



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

Mr Andy Jemmett email andyjemmett@aol.com

WELCOME TO THE SEAMARSH GROUP

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St Saviour's Church of England Junior School

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Telephone 01843 831707

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

Dear friends,

I wish you a holy Lent: but what does that mean? Lent starts with the solemn and sombre ritual of 'ashing' – the placing of a cross on the forehead made from the ash from the previous year's Palm crosses and, if we're not careful, Lent can be a time of excessive guilt for failing to live up to our resolutions. I want to invite you to approach this Lent differently- for it to be a time of opportunity to be more joyful and free from unnecessary burdens of guilt. How can we manage to do this?

The answer is clear- together! If we attempt in our own strength to draw closer to God, we'll fail every time, but if we see Lent as a chance to become closer within the Body of Christ (God's Church) we will find that Lent is opening up ways to God rather than closing things down. Put simply- we can seize the opportunity of the lengthening days (the original old word *lencten* from which we get Lent) to come out of our houses a bit more and enjoy sharing food, drink and a chance to chat. The Lent Groups *Daring to see God now* which are running in our parish again this year are different in character from one another and meet in a variety of times and places but all aim to help us come closer to God as we come closer to one another over this period of forty days.

The reflection which accompanies the season of Lent can enable us to live more simply and prayerfully- to be more mindful of simple blessings and to celebrate the increase in sunshine and warmth as the days go by; it's a time of the natural unfolding of wonder in nature around us. This year, as we open up our lives as we feel our way into a 'new normal' let's make a special effort to reach out to one another after the previous two years of isolation as, slowly but surely we adjust to living more fully in the warmth and light of God's eternal love. Mother Karen

LENT COURSES

Monday 10am Garlinge Methodist Church - Daring to See God Now

Monday 2pm Christ Church United Reformed Church - Receiving Christ in 5 Different Ways

Wednesday 12 noon Lunch at St Saviour's Church– Not By Bread Alone

Thursday 7 pm at Rev'd Susan Wing's home 01843 836430 -Daring to See God Now



News from



Churches prepare for National Day of Prayer for Ukraine

Churches across England and beyond are preparing for a special Day of Prayer tomorrow following the invasion of Ukraine.

It follows a call from the Archbishops of Canterbury Justin Welby and Archbishop of York Stephen Cottrell to set aside this Sunday as a day of prayer.

The Church of England has made [prayer resources](#) available online.

On Thursday, both Archbishops issued a pastoral letter to the clergy and people of the Church of England, calling on them to pray for peace in Ukraine.

They wrote: "This attack is an act of evil, imperilling as it does the relative peace and security that Europe has enjoyed for so long.

"The attack by one nation on a free, democratic country has rightly provoked outrage, sanctions, and condemnation.

"We lament with the people of Ukraine, and we pray for the innocent, the frightened and those who have lost loved ones, homes, and family.

"We continue to call for a ceasefire and the withdrawal of Russian forces as well as wide-ranging efforts to ensure peace, stability and security."

The Church of England's Bishop in Europe, Robert Innes, has also [recorded a message](#) urging people to pray.

In a video he recorded in Brussels, Bishop Robert spoke of the Church of England congregation of Christ Church, Kyiv, Ukraine.

"Our little church in Kyiv are right at the centre of this crisis," he explained.

"Some of them have fled the city by car, others are still there.

"These are our people, our brothers and sisters, and of course we are very concerned for their wellbeing and safety.

"In the face of military action and aggression, we feel powerless. What can we do? One thing that we can all do is pray."

The Church of England is also supporting a call from Pope Francis for a Global Day of Prayer and fasting next week on Ash Wednesday.

St Saviour's Church

Heating Appeal

The earliest form of heating in this church was through coal fires and coal fired boiler. This was replaced with a gas fired heating boiler, being a much cleaner and efficient form of heating.

Following, the failure of the gas boiler after 30 years service, it is again time to consider replacing the means of heating with a cleaner and more environmentally friendly method.

Over the past two years we have been researching the best alternative form of heating leading us towards being carbon neutral. We have selected infrared heating panels, which including the cost of installation is approximately £80,000.

We need your help to raise the money to enable us to take this forward.

This is an appeal for donations, to keep St Saviour's Church as a jewel in the centre of the Westgate-on-Sea Community. **PLEASE HELP.**

Cheques can be made payable to St Saviour's PCC Westgate-on-Sea and posted to; The Vicarage, Thanet Road, Westgate-on-Sea CT8 8PB. If you wish to make a payment by online banking, please contact office@stsaiviourswestgate.org.uk for details.

*Thank
you*



St Saviour's Church

New heating system

St Saviour's Church

Heating Appeal

The current form of heating in the church was brought into use and cost £100,000. This was replaced with a gas fired heating boiler and being much more efficient than the old system.

Following the failure of the gas boiler after 10 years service, it is again time to consider replacing the means of heating with a cleaner and more environmentally friendly method.

Over the past two years we have been researching the best alternative form of heating heating to provide long term service. We have selected infrared heating panels, which including the cost of installation is approximately £80,000.

We need your help to make the money to enable us to take this forward.

This is an appeal for donations, to help St Saviour's Church to proceed with the project of the design and installation of the new heating system.

Donations can be made payable to St Saviour's PCC, Wokingham or here and credited to the Heating Appeal Fund, Wokingham on the CTS 006. If you wish to make a payment by other methods, please contact the church office for more details.

Thank you  

£80,000 TARGET

£70,000

£60,000

£50,000

£40,000

£30,000

£20,000

£10,000

£00000



Treasurer's Report

Statement for the month of January 2022

January 2022

Income	£2657
Expenses	<u>£4054</u>
Deficit	£1397

Total assets at	1 January 2022	£97498
Total assets at	31 December 2021	£96101

Deficit for year.....£1397

New heating system

We continue to raise funds towards the new heating system for our church following the failure of the existing gas boiler. We know that the cost to install electric heating, being the most viable eco-friendly system, is going to cost in the region of £80k. Some generous donations have been received to a total of £3k which is a good start but still a long long way to go.

Please help us to reach our target of £80k. Donations can be by cheque made payable to St Saviour's PCC Westgate-on-Sea and sent to, The Vicarage, Thanet Road, Westgate-on-Sea CT8 8PB. By direct payment to our bank, (please contact office@stsaviourswestgate.org.uk for details). Cash can be deposited inside church when open on most mornings. Thank you.

G R Neve
Hon Treasurer
Email: neve389@btinternet.com

Clocks go forward by an hour on March 27, 2022 at 1am



St Saviour's Church, Westgate



**CHURCH IS OPEN FOR SERVICES ON SUNDAY
AT 9am (Holy Communion Prayer Book) 2nd, 4th &
5th 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) &
obtaining the link on the Visiting Page shown
below the service information.**

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”

Anne and John, Phyll, Doreen, Beryl, Joyce, Vanessa, Michele, Gill, Ann, Terry, Derrick, Peter, Heidi

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”

World War 2 Roll of Honour

Michael Savage 19th March 1945

Stuart Smith 21st March 1945

Percy Price 27th March 1943

St Saviour's Church, Westgate



CHURCH GATHERING

SATURDAY 12th MARCH

10am for 10.30am REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

CONCLUDING with THE ANNUAL
MEETING

COME & DISCOVER TOGETHER HOW GOD IS LEADING US
FORWARD



Collect stamps for RNIB and make a difference to blind and partially sighted people.

If you receive cards and letters through the post, could you save the stamps and bring them along to St Saviour's church? St Saviour's will then send them to the RNIB who will recycle them into much-needed funds for their services.

By collecting stamps you're helping to break down the barriers that stop people with sight loss living life to the full. The RNIB accept all stamps: new or used, first or second class, foreign, first day covers, presentation packs or albums. Stamps are sold by weight and we raise £20 per kilogramme of stamps, so it's a brilliant way to raise money.

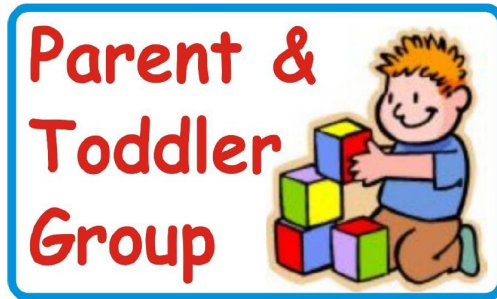
Please make sure you leave a centimetre of envelope or packaging around each stamp. This is just a recommendation and stamps that have been trimmed less or more will still be accepted.

You can also support the RNIB by donating disused or foreign money. If you have any surplus foreign currency from overseas trips, or any unusable old British currency hiding at the back of the drawer, we'd love to receive it! Please hand in any donations to our Church Wardens, Steve Short your Verger or Joy Palmer. Thank you to everyone for your support.
Joy and Steve



St Saviour's Church, Westgate

CARER & TODDLER GROUP

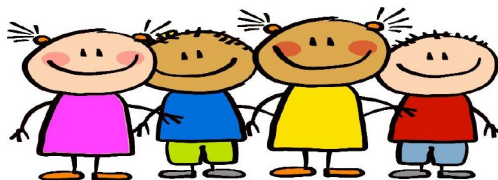


**Meets MONDAY
MORNINGS**

10.30am to 12 noon

For pre-school children & carers

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





FRIENDLY FRIDAY

AMALGAMATED WITH THE LOOKING AHEAD

COMMUNITY!

I am very pleased to be able to tell you that Friendly Friday will re-commence on Friday the 4th. March. 2022, after a three month break! We shall be enjoying the company of our dear friends from the Looking Ahead Community, who will be most welcome to join us in our craft making! Delicious cakes, hot soup, toasted tea cakes and tea and coffee will be available from our on-site Looking Ahead Cafe!

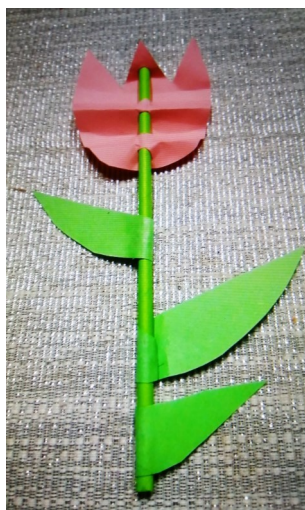
It will be lovely to see everybody again and to catch up with all of our news!! There will be exciting spring crafts to make, which will be great fun! Please feel free to join in!

As always, you will be assured of a very "friendly welcome"!!

Friendly Friday will be open from 10.30 am - noon, and we will be located at the back of the church.

Our Looking Ahead Cafe is open from Tuesday to Friday from 10am - 3pm.

Love Valerie.



MONDAY 7th FEBRUARY BELLRINGING NEWS

Today we had a band of experienced ringers visit St Saviour's to ring a Quarter Peal, which started at around 10am.

A Quarter Peal at St Saviour's takes about 45 minutes to complete and has to be completed non-stop and without any errors.

Details of todays performance are as follows:

Kent County Association

Westgate on Sea, Kent

St Saviour

Monday, 7 February 2022 in 45m (9–3–16 in Ab)

1260 Grandsire Doubles

1Jane Lawrence

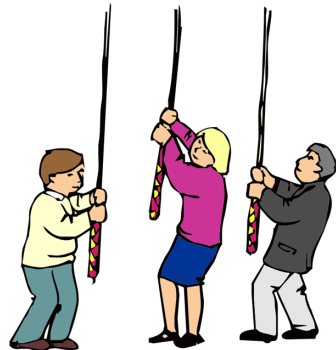
2Richard Bushell

3Tim Attridge (C)

4Ollie Watson

5David Sheekey

6Emma Tapsell



Rung to celebrate 70 years since the accession of H.M. Queen Elizabeth the Second
(Inaugural ringing for the "Monday Morning Quarter Club")

Well done to everyone who attended, it was lovely to hear the bells ringing, which I could hear from my garden on a bright sunny Monday morning! The perfect way to start the week. *Steve Short*



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 APRIL 2022 “The Link” is
SUNDAY 27th MARCH 2022



'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.'

Introducing **Looking Ahead** from a parent's perspective

Where to live, how and why are complicated questions that most of us have faced at one time or another. There are many issues to consider: proximity to loved ones, especially if they need special care, the demands of work and our other friendships and hobbies- and it's often far from straightforward. However, in our move from London to Thanet in 2016, I felt that God was guiding us very strongly and one of the clearest reasons I was able to discern this was by getting to know the *Looking Ahead* community.

After leaving school or college, it's important to find ways of pursuing interests and discovering fulfilment in new areas but this can be really challenging for those with additional learning needs. *Looking Ahead's* ethos is summarised in its name, reflected in the combination of purposeful attitudes and insistence on high standards of work with a gentle inclusion underpinning everything. As a parent, I continue to be very grateful for Linda and Brian's talents, thoughtfulness and care as well as their passion and resourcefulness in constantly finding new ways to promote the well-being of all their students and I am delighted that *Looking Ahead* is becoming a valued part of the friendly community life of St Saviour's Church.

Mother Karen





POSTCARDS!

This month, I have found two postcards in my collection, dating from 1969/70 and 1969. They are in contrast with each other, but share the same aim of conveying a message in a similar way as people do today, via Facebook or by text-messaging!

Our first postcard shows a holiday view of a village in Devon called Lynmouth. The writer is a lady called Jean L. She is writing to her colleagues at the Pay and Pensions Section at the City Treasurer's Dept. at Manchester Town Hall. She writes: "Dear all, having superb time. Weather is marvellous up to now. Food delicious, scenery couldn't be better"!

Jean posts her postcard using a first class postage stamp, which cost her 5d (five old pennies, pre - decimal currency). I am unable to ascertain the exact year of Jean's holiday, as the ink over the stamp cannot be deciphered. However, it was posted on 1st. July at 6pm. I have checked through the dates of our postage stamps, and noted that the blue 5d postage stamp that Jean used, was in circulation from 16th September. 1968-15th February 1971. Thus, Jean could have been holidaying in either 1969 or 1970.

The 13 sets of the initials noted on the card by her colleagues, reflects perhaps, the discipline of an office at the time!

Let us consider how different a working office would have been in the late 1960's / early 1970's, in contrast with an office of today: Jean's workplace was housed in Manchester Town Hall, which is one of the most iconic landmarks in the city. It is regarded as one of the finest examples of Neo-Gothic architecture in the United Kingdom, and is one of the most important Grade 1 listed buildings in England. I would imagine that Jean's office was very well organised, with people working studiously at their desks, without the aid of computers! People would also have been permitted to smoke at their desks. There would have been an office dress code with the gentlemen wearing smart tailored suits, and the ladies wearing stylish skirts with blouses or dresses, usually paired with elegant shoes. But.... the most important event of the day for Jean and her colleagues, would most certainly have been the arrival of the tea trolley ☺ !!! Trolley service in major office buildings, was a common sight in the 1950's, 1960's and the 1970's. The trolley would be stacked full of mugs, cups, tea, coffee and sugar, all at the ready for employees. The tea ladies would brighten the morning with a smile and a steaming hot beverage at your desk! The tea trolley would come around sometimes twice a day, and some lucky offices even got a selection of cakes or buns on offer from the trolley, without having to move from their desks! The tea ladies often knew which biscuits each office worker preferred. The passing of the tea ladies' era, changed office life forever!

Our second postcard this month, shows an image of Caernarvon Castle, and was posted at Caernarvon on the 27th. June. 1969, being just 4 days away from the investiture of Prince Charles as Prince of Wales, on the 1st. July. 1969. The writer of the postcard is called Sylvia, who was visiting Caernarvon, and her message reads: "Greetings from Caernarvon - just seen Lord Snowdon leaving the castle. Sylvia". The postcard is a 53 year old version of Facebook or text-messaging of today! Sylvia is clearly enthusiastic at seeing Lord Snowdon leaving the castle, and she clearly wants to convey this event to the addresses, the misses C & J Saunders in Llangollen!

Let us have a look now at the ceremony itself:-

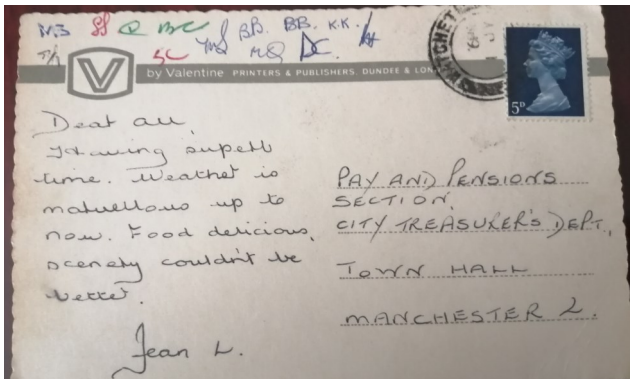
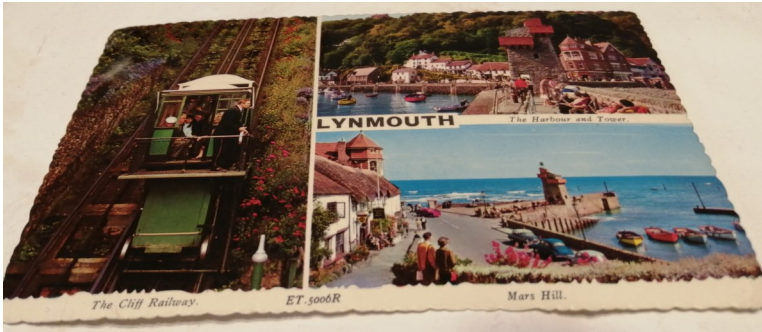
On the 1st. July. 2022, it will be the 53rd anniversary of the investiture of HRH Prince Charles, the Prince of Wales. The investiture took place on 1st. July. 1969 at Caernarvon Castle in Wales. Prince Charles is now the longest serving Prince of Wales in British history, as no heir has waited longer to become the monarch.

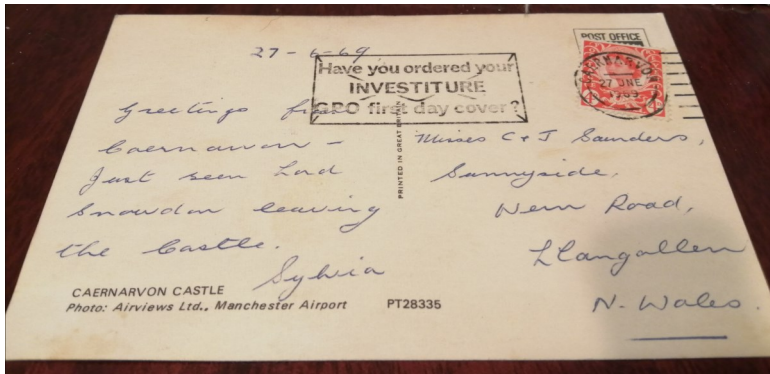
The title Prince of Wales is traditionally given to the eldest son of the reigning monarch of the United Kingdom. The centuries-old custom involved the Secretary of State of Wales reading the Letters Patent in Welsh, while the Queen bestowed upon Charles, five pieces of insignia: a sword, coronet, ring, the gold rod, and the kingly mantle. Prince Charles then took an oath, and once he finished, the public greeted him with resounding applause. He also gave a speech in both Welsh and English. The Queen Mother, Princess Anne and Princess Margaret, were all in attendance.

Lord Snowdon, Princess Margaret's then husband, was appointed Constable of Caernarvon Castle in 1963. As part of this role, he assisted in organising the investiture of the Prince of Wales. Lord Snowdon was responsible for the grandiose decor of the Investiture ceremony. He designed custom red chairs, that the privileged guests could take home, flat packed! Lord Snowdon's creative spirit and his experience as a photographer, offered a magnificent staging, consisting of huge banners bearing the arms of the various Welsh counties, a podium for three thrones, and a canopy inspired by the tent of King Henry VIII at the Drap d'Or camp. There was extensive television coverage watched by millions, and the event attracted large and excited crowds in Caernarvon.

I hope that you have enjoyed "reading through the lines" of this month's postcards with me!

Love Valerie





😊😊😊😊😊 TOBY! 😊😊😊😊😊

Brian and I are delighted to announce the birth of our third grandchild, a little boy called Toby, and a cousin for Hugo and Jack. Toby's arrival has brought much joy to his parents, Anthony and Lauren.

We would like to express our appreciation of the skills of the staff at the Neonatal Unit of Southend University Hospital, Essex.

Love Valerie and Brian x

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

Ash
 British
 Courses
 Daffodil
 David
 Days
 Forty
 Leek



Lent
 March
 Mothering
 Nights
 Pancakes
 Patrick
 Saint
 Shamrock



Shrove
 Soup
 Spring
 Summer
 Sunday
 Time
 Tuesday
 Wednesday

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



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

Whoever named Term 4 in schools 'Spring Term' clearly had a sense of humour about the British weather; we currently have numerous buckets dotted around the school, catching drips from leaking sky lights. Weather aside, we have cause to celebrate.

Covid restrictions have relaxed to the extent that we can mix year groups once more. St. Saviour's is now able, once again, to hold whole-school collective worship. I was able to talk the whole school on Monday, as we started learning about this term's Christian value – justice. I was very pleased to see our older children providing such good role models for behaviour as our younger year groups came into the hall for assembly. I think parents and carers would be extremely proud if they saw how their children conduct themselves around school.

The move back to mixing between year groups has also allowed us to continue with our cross-year group reading mentoring. Each day, ten or so Year 6 children work with counterparts in Year 3 to read to and with them. Seeing children working together so constructively is a delightful sight.

The school is taking tentative first steps in mixing staff from different year groups. So far, we have observed strict segregation between year group teams, in order to limit the impact of Covid outbreaks. Staff have been using four separate staffrooms and most meetings have taken place online. This has somewhat atomised our team and reduced opportunities for constructive, professional conversations. I do think there is a limit to what online meetings can achieve; we have made them work as best we can but 'in-person' promotes more nuanced conversation. We are meeting as a whole staff team once again, albeit, socially distanced and with all windows open.

Aside from some intermittent staff Covid absence, I hope this second Spring Term continues without any disruption (no heavy snow thank you!). These spring terms tend to be when we see the most learning taking place. Children have settled into the routines of their new year group, there is no Christmas to contend with so we see children making very good progress at this point in the year.

We had already begun attending church services, splitting our school into two halves for less crowded events. We are looking forward to attending Easter services; Mrs Anderson, our amazing music teacher has already started planning these events. I am looking forward to an increasing return to normality, with the spectre of whole school closures firmly behind us.

Nick Bonell, Headteacher

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

Meeting 1/11/21

Minutes approved 31/01/22 (virtual meeting by Zoom)

Matters arising. Appointment of Sides persons postponed. Congratulations extended to the Confirmation candidates following the service in Canterbury Cathedral. Cost of lilies recorded as £4 each.

Church heating. It was reported that the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) had considered our proposals but required oversight by our architect and an independent heating consultant. Quotes were outstanding from E Saunders Margate) Ltd and Matt Clark Carpentry. It was agreed not to pursue these, accept the quote from A C Electricals and pursue quotes from other carpentry firms. John Bailey (inspecting architect) to be asked to review proposals and offer details of a heating consultant. Concerns expressed about escalating costs (£67325 at this time) which would almost empty PCC reserves. It was agreed that application for grants were needed. Comments on the draft Statement of Significance and Statement of Need were invited.

Worship and Mission. Garden Community Hub. It was confirmed that this was a joint project between Westgate-on-Sea Town Council (WTC) and St Saviours' for both Christian and secular use. Funding was being looked into by WTC and it was agreed that any appointment of a hub manager would be approved jointly. Looking Ahead Group. Are having to leave their current venue sooner than anticipated. Their plans are to develop the church grounds for more community use including raised flower beds. Also to provide a 'professional' standard café on weekdays.

Treasurer's report. The statement for September was presented showing a deficit of £2538.07. Details of the two concerts held were provided as far as were known. It was agreed not to invoice the Westgate-on-Sea Heritage Centre as no heating costs had been incurred and electrical costs were negligible.

Churchwarden's report. Repairs to defective light bulbs in the north aisle had been carried out. It was agreed to proceed with repair to the defective heater in the social area and the intention to review the fire safety risk assessment and emergency evacuation plan was noted.

Correspondence. Toddler group. An application for a grant from WTC of £500 had been successful. Revd Canon Gary Colville. Recently retired and was currently awaiting a decision on his application for permission to officiate at St Saviour's.

Any Other Business. Grounds Clearance. Took place over two Saturday mornings. Another volunteer had re-varnished the church gates. Safeguarding. The importance of encouraging those with disabilities to speak for themselves, rather than by their carer, was stressed. Church PA system. A new good quality radio lapel mic had been purchased and it was agreed that the sound engineer be asked to overhaul the existing mics and loop system. Godly Play. Mother Karen was undertaking training to enable the use of Godly Play in St Saviour's School.

     GUSTAV AND PADDY     

D-DAY PIGEONS       

TWO VERY IMPORTANT PIGEON RECIPIENTS OF PDSA DICKIN MEDAL

Gustav (Service no: NPS. 42.31066), was a pigeon of the RAF Pigeon Service. He was a grizzle coloured pigeon, and had been trained by Frederick Jackson of Cosham, Hampshire. Gustav's early missions saw him carrying messages out of occupied Belgium for the resistance. His most important role came on the 6th June. 1944, at the Normandy Landings. Gustav was on board an Allied Landing Ship Tank. He was released to send news back to the UK with the message:" We are just 20 miles or so off the beaches. First assault troops landed at 7.50. Signal says no interference from enemy gunfire on beach. No enemy aircraft seen". Gustav's message was very important, as it was the first word of the invasion to reach the British mainland, because the fleet was undergoing radio silence at the time. Gustav made the 150 mile journey to his loft at RAF Thorney Island, Sussex, in five hours and sixteen minutes, while facing a headwind of up to 30 mph. His handler, Sgt. Harry Halsey received him.

Later that day, a fellow pigeon, Paddy, who was an Irish carrier pigeon with the service no. of NPS. 43.9451, became the first pigeon released to return to the British mainland, with news of the success of the D-day invasion. Paddy flew 230 miles across the English Channel in four hours and fifty minutes, the fastest recorded crossing. Paddy was awarded the Dickin Medal on 1st. September. 1944, the only animal in Ireland to be awarded this medal. Paddy's medal citation reads:

"For the best recorded time with a message
from the Normandy Operations, while serving
with the RAF in June 1944".

Gustav was also presented with the Dickin Medal on the 27th November. 1944, by Mrs A. V. Alexander, the wife of the First Lord of the Admiralty. Gustav's medal citation reads:

"For delivering the first message from
the Normandy beaches from a ship off
the beachhead, while serving with the RAF on 6th
June. 1944".

Two amazing and courageous pigeons! I hope that you have enjoyed their story!
Love Valerie



PIGEON MESSAGE FORM.

To: Publications London

From: Taylor for Reuters

Series No. _____ Date _____

We are just twenty miles or so of the beaches. First assault troops landed 0750. Signal says no interference from enemy gunfire on beach. Passage uneventful. Steaming steadily on formations. Lightnings typhoons. Fortresses crossing since 0545. No enemy aircraft seen.

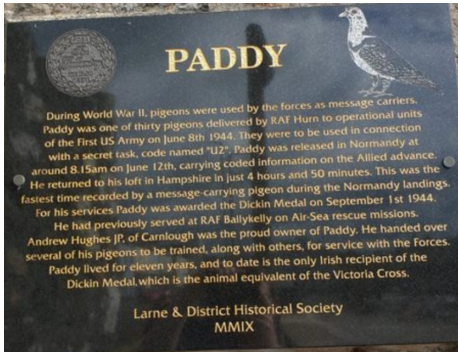
Liberated 0830

Time of origin: _____

Sender's Signature: Taylor

Time received at loft: 1344/10.

Should this bird fail to return to its own loft, the finder is requested to telephone or otherwise deliver the message it carries to the nearest R.A.F. Unit, or Post Office. It may save lives if this is done promptly.



Paddy was born and raised in Carnlough



In church this morning completing my Verger jobs and I saw something on the floor. I thought it was a piece of paper...until it moved!!

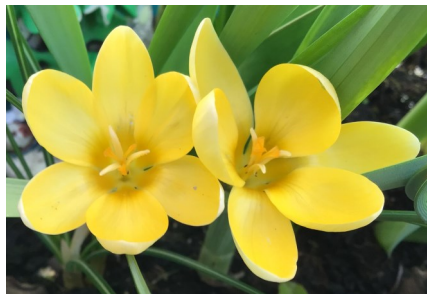
A lovely peacock butterfly which has hibernated through winter inside our church. I took it outside into the warm sunshine and after a while it flew away.

Steve



SPRINGTIME!





CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Toddler & Carer Group meets Monday mornings 10.30am to 12 noon

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. Until JUNE 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 £5

New members welcome. Join the Friends of St Saviour's church Subscription only £5 per year . All monies raised go towards the upkeep of the church and grounds. Membership forms at the back of the church or ring

Debbie Tel: 01843 446584 / 07896508399 email: drdebbie08@gmail.com

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 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month and also on the 5th Sunday of a month where applicable.

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