

Parish and Community

The Link

St Mildreds Road



Westgate Bay Avenue

Westgate Bay Avenue



St Mildreds Road

**December
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



Parish in Interregnum

Honorary Assistant Priests

The Revd Susan Wing

The Revd Barbara Way



Churchwarden

Mr John Barnfather email barnfather.john@yahoo.co.uk

Mobile 07887247543

WELCOME TO THE SEAMARSH GROUP

PCC Secretary Mrs Christine Attwood

St Saviour's Church of England Junior School

Elm Grove, Westgate

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Headteacher Mr N Bonell

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

St Saviour's Church, Westgate

TOY SERVICE

SUNDAY 4th DECEMBER



10.30am SUNG EUCHARIST

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

Hello everyone, it is the beginning of the Church year and you have the first of these letters under different penmanship. I am hoping that we will be able to have these letters written occasionally by different authors during the year. The new Church year begins with Advent. The word from the Latin means “coming” or “arrival” but to what? It is a time that has been celebrated at least since 480 CE, so one of the oldest periods of the Church year. It is a time, like Lent, when we can examine our relationship with God. A time of repentance and, originally, fasting for some. I always feel it is a velvet midnight and, in the distance, the light shines, the promise of a time that has come and a time to come. We remember and approach both the birth of Christ and his Second Coming when all will be with God fully; celebrating Christmas but being alert to God and waiting for the time when he comes in his glory and to judge us.

Waiting is not something that many of us tolerate well. We live in a time of instant decisions, instant action, and instant gratification of our wants; there is little emphasis on waiting with patience and in expectation for decisions or desires to be met. Patience is a virtue and a fruit of the Holy Spirit in the lives of Christians – many of us find it one of the most difficult fruits of the Spirit with which to be blessed. Yet wait we must, for even Jesus did not know when the time was to come when God would complete the healing of his creation through the return of Christ. Not surprisingly, therefore, this is a time for looking at our faith and our understanding of God and for preparation.

Traditionally, also, it is the time when the four last things are taught – death, judgement, heaven and hell – not easy subjects on which to speak but essential as we try to understand what will finally happen. Strangely, perhaps, as we deal with the four great last things we start the new Church year. It seems a contradiction in terms but as we seek to understand the deep mysteries of faith so we prepare ourselves for the new beginning of Christ’s second coming for each one of us. The first Sunday you will have heard the wonderful music of “Wachet auf” – sleepers awake be up with the morn and be ready for our Lord’s return. In the meantime let us rest more deeply with Christ, allowing him to access all areas of our lives and change us. As we celebrate Christmas, in all the noise and bustle take time to give him space and rejoice in his first coming, God’s greatest gift to the whole of creation. Now will the velvet darkness shine with the one true light.

May he bless you greatly this Advent tide and this Christmas. “Rejoice the Lord is King”. Susan



Home Produce Stall Christmas Fair 10th December

We are continuing with the popular Home Produce stall at this year's Christmas Fair and would greatly appreciate contributions from home cooks and growers! We already have promises of bread, marmalade, chutney, quiche and sausage rolls. Over the years we have found that people seem more interested in savoury items than sweet treats, so things like cheese scones, cheese straws, even some more sausage rolls, will be greatly appreciated. That's not to say we will turn away offers of cakes, but small cakes do seem to sell faster than large ones. Why not share your favourite bake with the people of Westgate?

Do you grow vegetables? If you should have an excess of some crops, we have found that homegrown veg sell well and will be happy to receive your contribution

It would be helpful if you are planning to cook for us to let us know what to expect so please contact José at gibbszzz@btinternet.com

We will be setting up the stall after 2pm on Friday 9th December and will take produce that is sealed in tins or plastic boxes or glass jars. Produce that is loose should be bought along after 9am on 10th December.

We look forward to seeing you at the home Produce Stall!

Many thanks Kathleen, Valerie and José



The Friends would like to have a stall at the Christmas Fair and we need nearly new toys for our stall. Please can you donate soft toys, games, puzzles, cars, dolls, crayons colouring books and books that are in good condition. Thank you for your help and generosity from the Friends. Please leave items with Christine B or Debbie.



Our Christmas Fair is almost here once again & the JEWELLERY STALL will be there. WHAT A GOOD IDEA FOR A PRESENT..... Come & have a good browse. Joy



St Saviour's Church, Westgate

CHRISTMAS FAIR

SATURDAY

10th DECEMBER

10am to 12 noon

Stalls to include Home Made Produce,
Santa's Lucky Dip,

Books, Jewellery, Arts & Crafts,

Name the Teddy, Raffle,

Refreshments,

Guess the weight

Of the Cake

& Much More!



Mother Karen & Aidan's Farewell Service (These articles had to be held over to this month due to deadline.)

Today we held our All Saints and All Souls Services and said our goodbyes to Mother Karen and Aidan.

I would like to say thank you to everyone who donated to our collection for Mother Karen, your generosity was very kind. I was asked to arrange some gift vouchers and having spoken to some of you, we decided to purchase a National Gardening Gift Voucher for Mother Karen and to also say thank you to Aidan for his hard work setting up and operating our Live-Streaming, with an Amazon Gift Voucher.

Also a big thank you to Pam for arranging sandwiches, teas and coffees and to those who provided homemade cakes. The chocolate cake was excellent - I took the last slice!

Best wishes and I'll see you all next Sunday.

Steve , Verger





🕯️ 🏛️ 📖 A SERVICE FOR ALL SOULS 📖 🏛️ 🕯️

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At 3pm on Sunday 30th. October. 2022, Mother Karen held her very last service ever, at St. Saviour's Church. It was a service for All Souls, and was very well attended. The service was both poignant and moving, and the hymns, readings and prayers reflected the occasion. People attending, were invited to light a candle in memory of their loved ones. It was a beautiful service, and I am sure that it brought a great deal of comfort to those remembering and mourning loved ones.

Love Valerie (Assistant Churchwarden)





## ST SAVIOUR'S CHURCH

From left to right, Mr. Stephen Short (verger) Mrs. Christine Attwood (PCC Secretary and Parish Administrator, Mr John Barnfather (Churchwarden), Mrs Valerie Lamb (Assistant Churchwarden), with Mother Karen, the Service of All Saints. 30th. October. 2022.



## Introduction to Your St Saviour's Faith & Order Group

It has been almost a month since Mother Karen Gooding left St. Saviour's parish church in Westgate-on-Sea to take up her new duties in Louth in Lincolnshire.

In full knowledge that St Saviour's Church would move into Interregnum for the foreseeable future, Mother Karen created a Faith & Order Group just prior to her departure. Mother Karen wanted this group to share knowledge in matters relating to church services. Whilst in interregnum, it is the responsibility of the churchwarden to ensure that services can continue in a manner in which the Diocese requires, that is to say as a high church. The Faith and Order group was formed in order to ensure that there would be a team of highly committed church officers who would continue to develop a more open and friendly congregation within St. Saviour's church. The members of the Faith & Order Group are:

John Barnfather (Churchwarden), Valerie Lamb (Assistant Churchwarden), Christine Attwood (Parish Administrator and PCC Secretary) and Steve Short (Verger). We are also greatly supported by our two honorary Assistant Priests; Revd Susan Wing, and Revd Barbara Way, for which we are deeply grateful.

Mother Karen's legacy of enthusiasm continues, and St Saviour's remains a welcoming Church for all, and a community church for the people of Westgate to share. We are committed to maintaining Mother Karen's devotion of bringing the love of Christ that she has, to Westgate. We will preserve her innovation for fresh, new ideas and to ensure that the church remains a happy church as she indeed wished.

To that end, we have been looking at ways to achieve this. We are endeavouring to create an enthusiastic team of **Sidesmen/Welcomers** at St Saviour's (in addition to those who are already fulfilling this role), to help share these duties. Your tasks will include:

Being one of the first to arrive in church to set out hymn and service books.

Quietly greeting and welcoming people as they arrive

Lighting and extinguishing candles

Taking the collection plate to the altar during the service



Putting hymn books etc away, after the service and tidying the pews

Please speak to a member of the Faith & Order Group if you are interested in taking part in this important role.

We are also looking for people who would be keen to join our rota of **Scripture Readers** at the lectern each Sunday, in respect of the first lesson, the psalm and the second lesson. Again, please approach any of the Faith & Order Group, if this could be something for you.

Could you help on **Saturday Mornings** between 10:30am and 12:30am. Christine and Steve try to open the church every Saturday morning, for visitors, tourists, general enquiries and private prayer. Are you available to help?

Finally, we have a very enthusiastic and friendly **Church Choir** at St Saviour's, and new members are always very welcome. Please speak to Lesley Cooper if this is something that would interest you.

God's blessings

John, Valerie, Christine and Steve

"



"A warm welcome was received by the 1st Westgate on Sea Beaver Scouts on Tuesday 8th November during their recent visit to St Saviours.

The evening aimed to introduce the 25 Beavers', aged between 6 and 8, to the church building, whilst helping them to understand what to expect when they attended the Remembrance service and parade later that week. The visit also helped the Beavers in the completion of their Faith badge.

For many of the children this was their first visit to St Saviours and they very much enjoyed learning about aspects of the church, local history and finding objects around the church whilst discussing their significance.

As part of the evening, as a act of Remembrance, the Beavers created a collaged wreath out of their cut out paper hand prints. This was then presented to the church wardens and displayed in the church on Remembrance day.

The evening also offered the Beavers their first opportunity to utilise digital cameras - as donated by kind people from around Westgate - a project run in conjunction with the Town council over the last 3 months.

The Beavers' and leaders wish to share their thanks to John and Christine for kindly giving up some time to open up the Church. The had a brilliant time and can't wait to visit again in the future". Rhys Hughes (Hawkeye)



~~~~~

On Tuesday evening, the 8th. November, St Saviour's Faith & Order Group was delighted to welcome the 1st. Westgate-on-Sea Beavers to the church. The Beavers have been working towards their Faith Badge, and we were thrilled for them to visit their own Parish Church, to complete it. Rhys, the Beaver Leader, started the evening with a brief chat about the church and Remembrance Day. The Beavers then divided into three groups to work on a number of tasks. An important task was to make a wreath for Remembrance Day, to present to St. Saviour's Church. The wreath was made using a collage of the hands of all the Beavers, with painted poppies. It was first class, and we were very pleased to receive it. At Remembrance Sunday, Revd Susan, who was leading the service, showed the wreath to the assembled congregation in which the Beavers also sat, and Revd Susan then placed the wreath at the front of the altar. We look forward to another visit by Rhys and the Beavers!

PS. If you look very carefully on the left-hand side of the photo of the wreath, you can see that one of the Beavers has drawn a smiley face! We loved this!

Love Valerie (Assistant Churchwarden).



Remembrance Sunday flowers

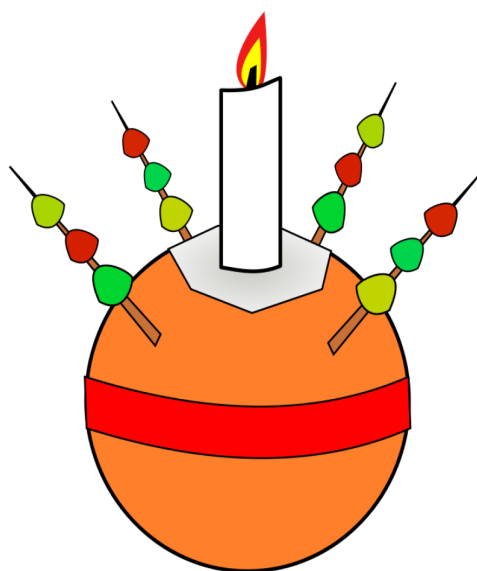


St Saviour's Church, Westgate

SUNDAY 18th DECEMBER

10.30am SUNG EUCHARIST

CHRISTINGLE with CAROLS



Monetary

Donations in aid of

The Childrens Society





Mother Karen's Licensing Service

Monday 7th November, St James' Church, Louth



I Just thought that I would share with you our brief weekend with Mother Karen in Louth.

We left Birchington on a very grim Sunday morning and sadly the torrential rain followed us all the way to Lincolnshire.

As we approached Louth it was lovely to see St James' church spire visible from afar.

We stayed at the Kings Head in Louth which was a very short walk to St James' church.

On the Monday morning we had a stroll around the lovely town, which has a great variety of shops, plenty of cafes and a wonderful local butcher.

On our visit to St James', we were greeted by a very friendly older couple who were volunteering in the shop at the back of the church. The shop sells books, greeting cards, prayer cards and all sorts of religious gifts. There was also a café at the back of church which sold food and drinks and appeared to be very popular with the locals.

When you first walk into St James' it definitely has the wow factor, it is huge and gives one the impression of being in a cathedral. As you look up you will see amazing carved angels looking down on you.

Mother Karen had invited us for lunch, so we headed to the vicarage for some lovely winter vegetable soup and a lovely chat. We have known Mother Karen for about five years, and it was so nice to spend quality time with her, despite her having to go to fetch Aidan from his new job at Linkage Choices 30 minutes' drive away.

The service itself was a wonderful occasion and very well attended. Mother Karen's friends Elaine Southern and Michelle Houldershaw from Theology college were there to support her as well as a former neighbour Justine Whitehill. The choir were amazing and were all dressed in red robes and white cottas, (reminded me of a Christmas card).

The licensing of Mother Karen as Team Vicar on Monday 7th November was conducted by The Archdeacon of Lincoln, The Ven. Gavin Kirk.

The hymns that she chose were:

Praise my soul, the King of heaven

Be thou my vision

Guide me, o thou great redeemer

Thy hand, God, has guided

After the service we had refreshments, and it gave us an opportunity to meet with her new churchwardens and other members of her congregation.

The next morning, we again went to the vicarage to say goodbye and have a coffee whilst the rest of Mother Karen's possessions from Westgate were being installed by the removal men into her lovely new home.

Unfortunately, Toast was not on his best behaviour as he was jealous of the attention we were hoping to give to the cat.

The vicarage is a wonderful spacious house and I know that they are both so excited to be able to share it with her family on their next visit.

We all pray that both Mother Karen and Aidan will find happiness and love within their new Parish.

We said our farewells and made our return journey, yet again, in torrential rain. We hope to return again to Louth at the beginning of July.

Sue Turner 22/11/2022





Treasurer's Report

Statement for the month of October 2022

October 2022

Income	£13737
Expenses	<u>£6577</u>
Surplus	£7160



Total assets at	31 October 2022	£106083
Total assets at	1 January 2022	£97498
Surplus for year.....	£8585	

The above surplus for October arises because of a generous donation of £8000 to add to the funds received towards the heating appeal. The total funds raised at 31 October amount to £16484 and costs paid this financial year (£6276) are included in the statement above. By taking the sums out of the running cost account the adjusted position for the year is,

Adjusted deficit for year.....£1623

New heating system (update)

I am delighted to report that the installation of the new heating boiler is under way and should be completed by early December. Just in time for our Christmas celebrations! We can then focus on phase 3 which is providing under pew heating.

We do not know at this stage what the overall cost for all four phases is likely to be but a best guess would still be in the region of £80k. Some very generous donations have been received along with concert takings giving a current total as shown above which is good progress and thanks to everyone who has, and continues to contribute.

Please help us to reach our target of £80k. Donations can be made by cheque payable to

St Saviour's PCC Westgate-on-Sea and sent to, 15 Sewell Close, Birchington CT7 0BP. Or by direct payment to our bank, (please email office@stsaviourswestgate.org.uk for details). Cash can be deposited inside the church when open. Thank you.

G R Neve
Hon Treasurer



A Christmas Thought

If there had never been a Christmas or a Holy Christ Child birth
 or the angels singing in the sky ,
 Of promised Peace on Earth –
 What would the world be like today with no Eternal Goal.
 What would the temporal body be without a living soul –
 Just what would give us Courage to push on when hope is dead.
 Except the Christmas Message
 And the words our Fathers said –
 “In love I send my only Son to live & die for you,
 And through His resurrection you will gain a new life, too.

Wishing you a Season of Peace & Happiness.
 Love Tricia.



Peace
 On
 Earth

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”

David, Gill, Phyll, Tracey, Peter, Joanna, Hilary, Sharryn

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

Jean

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”

Father Stanley, Sheila Brace

World War 2 Roll of Honour

Frederick Clark 1st December 1943 Edwin Tyrie 11th December 1941

Bernard Setterfield 23rd December 1944



To everyone that I know enjoy a Happy Healthy Christmas and New Year . To all the people who I do not know well yet enjoy a Happy Healthy Christmas and New Year, hopefully we will get to know each other soon. Thank you everyone for your prayers for John and me.

God Bless you all. Love Anne x

Wishing everyone at St Saviour's a Happy,
Healthy & Peaceful Christmas & New
Year. Love Joy.

Happy Christmas & good wishes for
2023, From Graham & Valda

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,. Many thanks to all who donate.

The deadline for the JANUARY 2023 “The Link” is
SUNDAY 1st JANUARY 2023



'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.'



**FRIENDS
of KENT
CHURCHES**

UK Registered Charity Number 207021



Mrs Valda Neve
Local Organiser
WESTGATE-ON-SEA, St Saviour

Susan Hooper
Kent Ride and Stride Treasurer
Bakersbarn
Golford Road
Cranbrook, Kent
TN17 3NW
Tel: 07968 122 985
Email: kentrideandstridetreasurer@gmail.com

15 November 2022

Dear Valda and all at St Saviour

Re: Ride and Stride for Friends of Kent Churches, 10 September 2022

Thank you for your participation in Ride and Stride 2022 and for arranging for your church to be open or accessible to our riders and striders this year. A particular thank you to those who managed to give a personal welcome and provide refreshments particularly at a time of national mourning for our late Queen when churches were very busy. The Friends of Kent Churches are so grateful to have had so many churches accessible and it encouraged the riders and striders on their travels.

Please pass on our thanks to your leadership team and all in your church who made it possible for you to participate.

Thank you to all your riders, striders, welcomers and donors who raised £195.00 which will help to support your own church as well as providing much needed funds so that the Friends of Kent Churches can continue to award grants to churches of all denominations throughout the county of Kent. A return payment of £97.50 was made to your church bank account on 31 October 2022 being 50% of the total raised by your church.

I look forward to reporting on the final funds raised last year in due course and to your participation in 2023 and future years supporting our charity raising funds to support Kent Churches.

Kind regards

Susan Hooper
Treasurer Ride and Stride, Friends of Kent Churches

St Saviour's Church, Westgate



CHRISTMAS EVE

Saturday 24th December

Crib Service with Carols

& Blessing of Crib & Children from

**St Saviour's School returning their
cribs**

AT 4pm

11.30pm Midnight Festival Mass



OH HOLY NIGHT!

St Saviour's Church,

Westgate

CHRISTMAS MORNING

Sunday 25th December

FAMILY COMMUNION

With CAROLS



I am lucky to live very near London and so if I ever have any free time I can hop on a train and get up to Charing Cross very easily. There is nothing I enjoy more than going to one of the galleries near there and my favourites are the Portrait Gallery, (when it opens again in the spring after a refit) Somerset House, the Mall Galleries and some of the smaller galleries such as the Philip Mould gallery.

A friend tipped me off about the latest exhibition there of the work of Sarah Biffin. It was really fascinating and Philip Mould has made a short film to go with it.

Sarah was born to a Somerset shoemaker and his wife in 1784. She had no arms, hands or legs and yet she was determined to make her way in the world. This was quite some feat for a disabled female in those times.

She decided she would teach herself to sew and practised and practised until eventually she could thread a needle, tie a knot and cut out and make her own dresses. She taught herself to write with beautiful copperplate script.

When she was 13 a Mr Dukes offered to take her as part of his travelling show. She was a tremendous drawer and people would pay to watch her write. She spent 10 years touring with what amounted to a freak show.

During this time she taught herself to paint and had a huge talent. She spent hundreds of hours perfecting her skills and painted landscapes and then highly detailed miniatures.

She came to the attention of the Earl of Morton, who saw her at one of the shows. He commissioned her to paint his portrait once he was convinced that the work was done purely by Sarah. (He took the painting home with him after each sitting so that no one else could have access to it.) Morton became her sponsor and showed her work to George III who became an admirer.

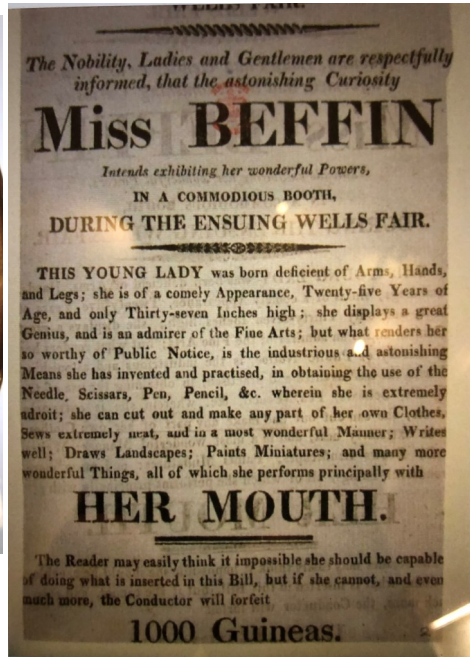
Sarah eventually had her own studio in central London. She travelled to Brussels and painted a miniature of the Prince of Orange. He appointed her as official miniaturist to the King of Holland.

She had her work accepted by the Royal Academy and was awarded a silver medal for an historical miniature.

Two years before her death she painted a portrait of Queen Victoria, when the queen was eleven years into her reign.

Truly Sarah Biffin was a remarkable woman.

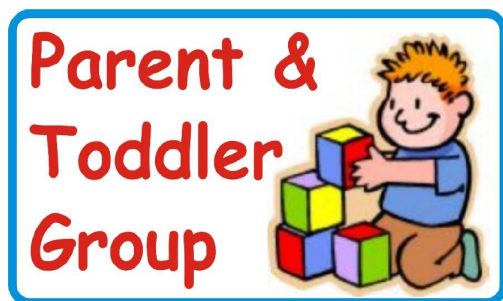
Lesley Cooper



The first photo is self portrait, the second a poster and the 3rd a still

St Saviour's Church, Westgate

TODDLER TIME

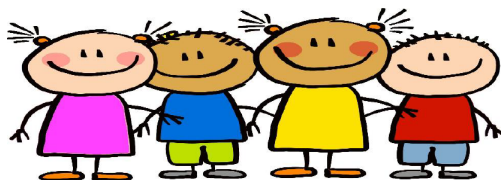


**Meets MONDAY
MORNINGS** (Term time only)

9.30am to 11.45am

**For pre-school children
& carers**

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



St Saviour's Church, Westgate

Welcome

**TO OUR
FRIENDLY
FRIDAY
MORNINGS**

10am TO 12noon



**REFRESHMENTS
AVAILABLE,
ACTIVITIES**

OR MEET FOR A CHAT



Join Us!

**ALL
ARE
WELCOME**



WITH THE LOOKING AHEAD GROUP.

The Friendly Friday group has enjoyed yet another happy month. We have been pleased to welcome lots of visitors to the church, many of whom have stayed to enjoy a cup of tea/coffee with us.

We were sad to say a temporary "goodbye" to our Looking Ahead friends, as their work now for the season, is completed. But..... they will be back with us in the spring!

The Friendly Friday members were proud to come across to the Memorial Chapel in the church, to observe the 2 minutes silence on the 11th. November. This lovely and poignant service was led by the Revd. Susan.

On our last Friday of November, the 25th, the Friendly Friday brass cleaning team worked hard to ensure that the church will be looking beautiful for the Advent and Christmas season.

We wish you a healthy and a happy Christmas!

Love Valerie, leader of Friendly Friday.



CANDLES MADE BY VALERIE

These candles are made from candles that have originally been used during Services at St Saviour's

Please feel free to choose a candle, and leave a donation. ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO ST SAVIOUR'S HEATING FUND

THANK YOU. A CHOICE OF CANDLES ARE AVAILABLE ON THE TABLE AT THE BACK OF CHURCH .



News from St Saviour's Church of England School

Christmas is fast approaching at St. Saviour's. Working in a junior school is enough to remind any adult just how excited children get about Christmas. I generally take the view that it is best not mentioned lest it set off a frenzy of excitement and distract from learning. However, today I broke my own rule and talked to the children about trying to make life easier for parents at a potentially stressful time of year.

For many of our families, the festive season presents a financial challenge. The current financial situation, with inflation in double figures is exacerbating the stress on vulnerable families. I dress this lecture on domestic economics up as a 'top secret' way of getting extra Christmas presents. I advise the children that parents will be thriftily saving for weeks (if not months) in order to buy their presents and Christmas food. I tell them to help around the house by engaging in small acts of kindness like helping tidy, or simply telling their parents or carers that they love them. The assembly is a light-hearted way of explaining that the indulgence of Christmas day comes at a cost. None of this is children's problem. Children should not have to worry about the financial pressures facing their parents. Nevertheless, children should appreciate that their parents do have to pay for their treats and be thankful for this.

Last week we talked about the nativity story and wondered why Jesus was born in such humble circumstances. I tried to explain that the story is way of telling us that we can achieve great things regardless of the wealth of our parents, being kind is not necessarily a product of being rich.

Mrs Theobald-Grainger, our Family Liaison Officer, has encountered this kindness again this week. The school has been offered hampers for struggling families. When Mrs Theobald-Grainger calls a given family, they frequently respond with, 'Give it to someone worse off than us'. This response does not fit with the stereotype of feckless families holding out their hands for charity! We are often faced with the problem that we literally cannot give away charitable donations as families believe there are more deserving cases.

Meanwhile, children have been making festive bunting to decorate our school hall. When the bunting is hung in the hall, the excitement ramps up and we are truly in Christmas mode!

Nick Bonell, Headteacher



in 1905 and 1928!

~~~~~

This month, I have two postcards to show you, which gives us an insight into people's lives at that time, and also an observation of the social history of the time.

The first postcard offers us a view of the "Old Pier, Weston-super-Mare". The date stamp shows the postage date as being 2nd. September. 1905, which was a Saturday. The stamp portrays King Edward VII, who had reigned for 4 years.

Turning to the photo on the postcard, I was interested to learn that this pier, built in 1867, is the only pier in the country which links the mainland to an island. It is situated in the Bristol Channel. The pier has sadly been closed to the public since 1994, and is now on the "Buildings at risk" register. Since its closure, ownership has changed many times, and has been subject to a series of proposals which have all proved fruitless. Part of the pier collapsed during storms on the 30th. December. 2015.

As usual, I try to "read between the lines" to envisage something of the life of the postcard sender, and the recipient. Over these last few years in which I have been studying these postcards, I wonder how near (or indeed how far!) I have come to the truth! It is certainly "food for thought"!

The script of the postcard reads:

"thanks for p. c. Hope you are enjoying your visit. I have had a lovely time. Shall see you soon. Love M. E. H."

The recipient is one "Miss Steele,

St. Paul's School,

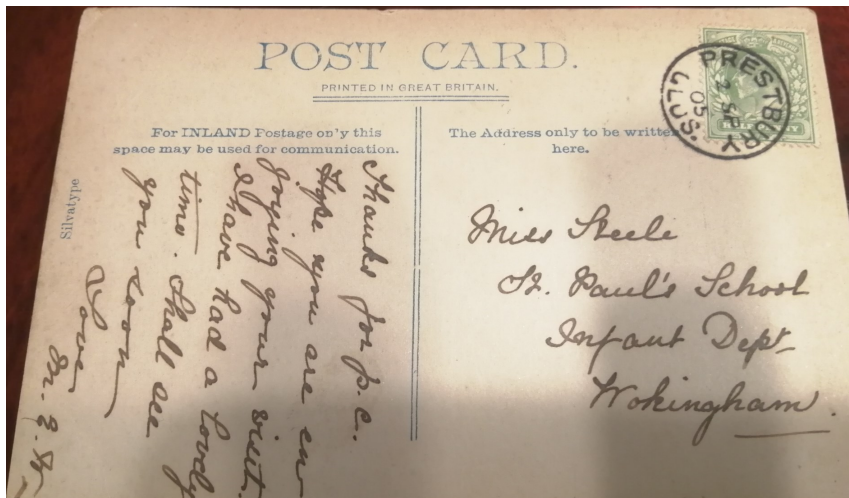
Infant Dept, Wokingham.

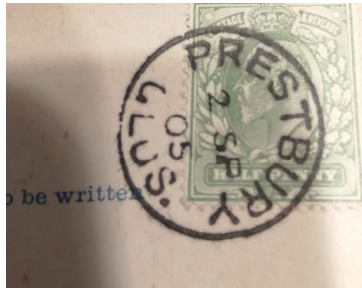
The writer of the postcard writes in a good hand, and she has written it in ink. I looked a little further into St. Paul's School, Wokingham, and discovered that it had built as a National School in 1864, mainly from the generosity of a wealthy benefactor, and from fundraising by members of the parish. Two further rooms were constructed in 1867, one to accommodate the infants, and the other to serve as living quarters for the female teachers. Could it be that both ladies were term time residents at the school, and were looking forward to returning to a new school term?!

Let us take a look at events that were happening in the United Kingdom in 1905:



- The pier at Scarborough is washed away in the East Coast gales.
- Chelsea Football Club founded.
- Vauxhall opens a factory at Luton, Bedfordshire, as its main manufacturing base.
- First public protest by Suffragettes at Westminster (12th.May).
- Cadbury Dairy Milk chocolate bar first produced in Bourneville.
- The Automobile Association is inaugurated.
- British Red Cross Society formally inaugurated.
- Aspirin sold in the UK for the first time.





## St. Paul's Schools



## Description

St. Paul's Schools, with master's house attached were built by John Walter III on land that he purchased from Mr. Palmer of Holme Park in December 1864. The projected cost of the new school to accommodate 325 mixed children and infants was £ 1,000. John Walter was the major donor with rest contributed by the parishioners and fund raising events.

Our second postcard for this month, dates from 1928. King George V will reign for another 6 years, with his consort Queen Mary. The photo on the postcard shows the Jetty at Margate. It is an iron jetty begun in 1853, and opened in 1855. It replaced the previous wooden structure, and it actually became the first iron sea-side pier in the world. The photo gives a lot of detail, showing a pre-war steamer and the Lifeboat building and slipway. In 1898, a building and slipway were constructed on the pier to allow the Margate Lifeboat Station to be located there.

Turning to the reverse of the card, we can see that the card is postmarked "Margate Kent, 9.15 pm, 5th.August.1928". The postage cost was 1 Penny. The message is written in pencil, in a tidy hand. It is difficult to ascertain much about the writer, George, as we are given no real clues. This is what he writes:

"Dear aunt & uncle,

Just a P. C. Hope you are enjoying good weather. We are down at Margate for a week, it rained all day on Saturday but has turned out nice today. I hope it continues so.

Cheerio, love from George."

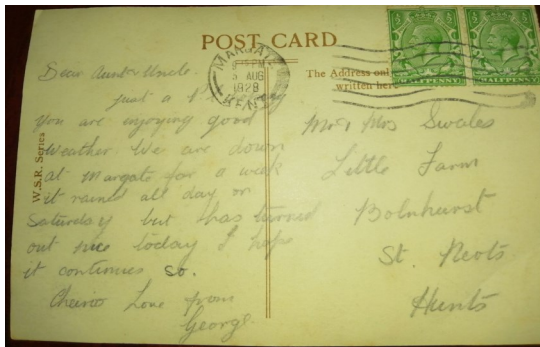
The recipients of the postcard are a Mr and Mrs. Swales, who live in Bolnhurst, Huntingdonshire, at Little Farm. Bolnhurst remains a small village today. I don't think that George is a schoolboy. I believe that he is a lot older, and he signs off with a cheerful "cheerio"!! The 5th. August 1928 was a Sunday, which ties in with the message about the weather. I wonder if George had good weather for the rest of his holiday!

Let us now take a look at what was happening in the UK in August of 1928:

- The Equal Franchise Act of 1928 granted equal voting rights to women and men. As a result, both men and women could vote at the age of 21.
- The Scottish inventor, John Logie Baird, broadcasts a transatlantic television signal from London to New York.
- Aviator Amelia Earhart becomes the first woman to make a successful transatlantic flight as a passenger, in a Fokker aircraft, from Newfoundland to Wales.
- The Scottish physician Alexander Fleming, observes a bacteria killing mould growing in his laboratory, discovering what later became known as Penicillin.

That brings us to the end of our "Postcard History" for this month! Once again, I am very grateful to our kind Verger, Steve, for passing his postcard collection over to me.

Love Valerie



The remains of the pier after the 1978 storm surge

### A storm surge on 11–12 January 1978

destroyed much of the structure and washed debris onto the beach.<sup>[1]</sup> The RNLI station was isolated by the collapse. [REDACTED]

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

Meeting 31/10/22

Minutes to be approved at a meeting on 05/12/22

**Matters arising.** Doorframe to boiler room. Estimate received and accepted via email consultation. Works to be carried out before installation of the new boiler. Church cleaning. To take place on the second Monday afternoon of the month. Friendly Friday members have taken on the responsibility to clean the brass every 2 months. External noticeboards. Repairs to north entrance board ongoing. Thanks recorded to Colin Osborne for revarnishing the St Mildred's Road noticeboard. Christmas Tree. To be purchased from the local florist, with the cost met via an appeal to the congregation and not from PCC funds. Decorating the church for Christmas was dependent on the dates of St Saviour's School services yet to be confirmed. Baby Grand Piano. To be collected by members of St Nicholas-at-Wade church. Flower Club. No longer running. Arrangements for making Christmas decorations and window sill decorations to be discussed. Live Streaming. The Diocesan Care of Churches Officer had advised that the removal of equipment did not require formal approval. All equipment was removed and taken away with no arrangement in place for payment towards items belonging to the Church. Contact with Kent PA Hire had been arranged to obtain costs of continuing live streaming. Cost for a new hand held radio mic would also be obtained.

**Safeguarding.** It was reported that most PCC members did not need to complete the domestic abuse training. A resource pack for safeguarding Sunday had been ordered. The emergency mobile phone had been returned to the vestry.

**Churchwarden/Verger report.** Mice. The Health and Safety issue was raised given that the humane traps had not solved the problem. It was agreed to purchase traditional traps and check daily for activation. Bell tower ladder. The Diocesan Advisory Committee considered the proposals for a new ladder at their meeting on 14 October and advised that a full faculty application was required. That building regulation approval would be required and the PCC should approach their inspecting architect for advice and guidance. The majority of the costs would be met from the Bell fund although some fundraising would still be needed. Website. It was explained that the website was maintained as a gift by the website designer. Limited requests for updating the website to be submitted monthly to avoid incurring costs in the future.

**Treasurer's report.** The statement for September had been previously circulated. Thanks were expressed for the grant from the Friends of St Saviour's and the successful application for a refund of VAT on eligible expenditure. One large payment made per invoice to the heating consultant. Parish Giving Scheme. Details made available at the recent Deanery Synod Roadshow. Pros and cons explained to the PCC who decided against St Saviour's joining the scheme.



Parish Share. To increase by around £5000 for 2023 with no adjustment on account of being in interregnum. Government Heating Grant. The Diocese have been given £341k which equates to £1539 per church. In view of the lack of heating data for the past two years it was decided to claim £1539 only.

**Heating.** Installation date unknown. Agreed that churchwarden oversee the completion of the work rather than pay 4% of the cost of project to the heating consultant. Consultant to be chased for a start date for the works.

**Correspondence.** An invitation to take up a further licence from Christian Copyright Licensing was rejected.

**Any other business.** There was a brief discussion regarding the care of the vicarage and reading of the meters now the property was empty. It was understood that Diocesan Property Services had made arrangements to visit the property.



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H W S H E P H E R D Z B L C E  
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Advent  
 Angel  
 Candle  
 Carol  
 Children  
 Christingle  
 Christmas  
 Christmas



Crib  
 December  
 Father  
 Fayre  
 Lucy  
 Nicholas  
 Oasis  
 Porchlight



Saint  
 Shepherd  
 Society  
 Star  
 Toy  
 Tree  
 Wreath

## Gingerbread Mince Pies

Makes 12

Preparation 30 mins plus time for chilling the pastry

Cook in 20 mins

### Ingredients

400g mincemeat

50g stem ginger plus 1 tbsp ginger syrup from the jar

For the Pastry:

250g plain flour

1/4 tsp ground cinnamon

1/2 tsp ground ginger

125 cold, unsalted butter, cut into small pieces

3 tbsp castor sugar

1 egg beaten

You will also need an 8cm biscuit cutter and a mini gingerbread man cutter

### Method

1. For the pastry, tip the flour, butter, spices and a pinch of salt. Rub together with your fingertips until it resembles breadcrumbs. Stir in the sugar. Add the egg and use a cutlery knife. Mix until it clumps together. Tip out onto a lightly floured board and knead until you have a smooth dough. Alternatively pulse the ingredients in a food processor. Shape into a disc, wrap and chill for at least an hour.

2. Heat the oven to 190C or 170 C fan, gas mark 5.

Mix the mincemeat with the ginger and syrup. Roll the pastry out to 3mm thickness. Stamp out 12 discs using an 8 cm biscuit cutter, press into a 12 hole cupcake tin.

3. Fill each pastry case with 1 tbsp mincemeat mixture. Re roll the pastry and stamp out 12 mini gingerbread men. Place one on top of each pie.

4. Bake for 20 minutes. Leave to cool in the tin for 5 minutes then lift out onto a wire rack. Dust with icing sugar.



Deaf Friends book club has recently started meeting at St Saviours and thought we should introduce ourselves to you.

First our thanks for such a warm welcome to your Church and community. We really feel at home.

We started as a club in lockdown when some of our members were understandably bored. We used zoom when we could not meet in person. It worked and people joined us but as I am sure you can imagine sign language is tricky on zoom.

We are based on a local group of young Deaf people, some of their friends and some volunteers. British Sign Language is the group's communication method.

We discuss what is happening-in the news-and read books from the charity Books Beyond Words series

These are social stories told completely with pictures-no words. The library has the books and orders copies for us and we have been able to buy some copies for the group too.

Currently we are reading Going to Court. We read all sorts of things. Refugees, the war in Ukraine, the death of the Queen. Things that interest the group and that they want to talk about and understand better.

You are supporting us by hosting us in your beautiful church on alternate Saturday mornings. If you want to know more just ask, we can write again and tell you more.

Do say hello either at the club or in Westgate.

We also hope to run a beginner level sign language and Deaf awareness course in the new year which will be free and open to local people. We will advertise at St Saviours once we have firm details.

In the mean time some messages from the group-

Thankyou the club is good,

Thankyou we have good communication and information,

Looking forward to christmas trees and presents and I like the discussion and making Tea and Coffee.

I like the story and the Church and the community.

I like that the church has heaters when it gets cold, and meeting friends.

-Thanks a lot          Sue Carmichael



# WESTGATE-ON-SEA HERITAGE CENTRE



*- Calendar 2023 -*

*A COLOURFUL LOOK AT  
WESTGATE-ON-SEA THROUGH THE DECADES*

The calendar is on sale at our Saturday talk days, at the Westgate-on-Sea Town Council offices in Station Road & from Christine Attwood in St Saviour's Church. PRICE £5

**Makes a lovely Christmas present**



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.

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,

**New Hi Kent Clinic for batteries, tubes and advice.**

**Westgate Council Offices, St Mildreds Road**

**Second Thursday of each month 10.30 - 11.30am**

### Mice

We had a little mouse living in our garden, in a cosy hole in our brick wall. He enjoyed the bird seed and left over dog food we put out for the birds. We could often see him from our windows picking up crumbs from our patio.

One day he decided to move into our house. That was not on because he brought all his friends and relations.

We looked into ways of moving them out, and at Brills found deterrents which emitted a high pitched tone only audible to mice, not other animals.

We tried two thinking they would be enough, it took a week or two, then he and all friends and relations moved back into the hole in the garden, where they are feeding once again on bird seed and dog food.

I hope this is helpful to any one with mice in their house. Ann Clark





# CHURCH ACTIVITIES

**Toddler Time Group** meets Monday mornings 9.30am to 11.45am Term time only.

**Bellringers** Practice every Thursday 7.30 to 9pm.

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

**Friendly Fridays meets** Friday mornings 10am to 12noon. All welcome

## **The Westgate Heritage Centre**

**Meets** on the 1st Saturday of each month 10am to 12noon. A talk is usually given at these sessions. **Until further notice 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](mailto: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