

Parish and Community

The Link

St Mildreds Road



Westgate Bay Avenue

Westgate Bay Avenue



St Mildreds Road

**January
2023**

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



Epiphany Worship

Churchwarden

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

Mobile 07887247543 and/or Mrs C Attwood, **Parish Administrator**

Email office@stsaviourswestgate.org.uk

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

January 2023

“Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18.

Happy New Year everyone, I hope that you had a good Christmas and have found time to put Christ at the centre of your celebrations and to thank him for his love and mercy. We so happily give thanks to friends and family who have given us presents, let us think about the continuing gift of love from God to us and give him thanks and praise. 2022 has been a year of disaster and sadness but also of recovery, seeing our families and friends again, may be going on holiday again. Despite the bleakness that surrounds us both at home and abroad, we can still be joyful always because of that love. I would like to thank all those who helped in any way to make our Christmas celebrations so joyful. We had a very successful Crib service and doubled our congregations at the other Christmas services. This I feel is very much a recovery from Covid and an opportunity for all of us to meet together to give God the glory. Mother Karen worked very hard and faithfully to keep our community together both during the terrible time of Covid and our slow recovery. Our thanks go to her for her faithfulness and wish her well in her new appointment back in Lincolnshire.

During this last year we have seen the Holy Spirit quietly at work in the lives of our community. Not in a spectacular way but quietly moving among us in our services, giving us space or stirring us up to look at our beliefs and actions again. For me, it has been a time when I have had to rely more and more on the Lord to get me through the tasks that I need to do. But I wonder how much I have really thanked God for all that he has done and is doing in my life and in the life of this community. More importantly how much have we thanked him for who he is and his grace and mercy to us, for the gift of his Son. Thanksgiving is at the heart of all those churches where God is at work powerfully.

If God sent his most precious Son to suffer on the Cross and to bear the punishment of all our sins, then we have a great reason to thank God for his grace – his love for us poured out without limitation. There is a wonderful piece of music by Bach that asks God for one thing more – a grateful heart; a heart that will praise and thank him without end. Paul’s letter to the Thessalonians calls on us to thank God in all circumstances - whether life is comfortable or uncomfortable. Paul, himself, gave thanks and praise through persecution and hardship, as do many of today’s Christians. It is not for worldly comfort that he is giving praise but for salvation won for us by Christ on the Cross and for the hope of eternal life gained through Christ’s resurrection.

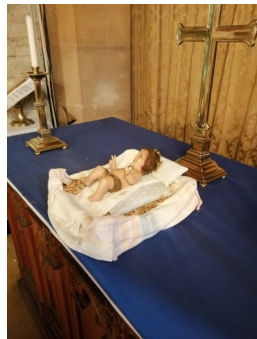
The New Year may have brought a number of good resolutions – usually I don't make them as I break them by the end of January. I am always impressed by the knowledge of their scriptures shown by Jews and Muslims alike, they put us to shame. I want to issue **a challenge** to all of you – **read the complete Bible this year**. When or have you ever read the entire Bible? If it was some time ago, it is time to do it again. Too often we flounder because we have allowed ourselves to grow slack in Bible reading and prayer. If that is you, how about having a go at the Bible in a year? Probably starting at Genesis 1 and going through to the end of Revelation will prove difficult but there are various guides to help you do it in manageable bites. We also have Bible study groups to help in working out what is meant and how it applies today. In a country which is losing its Christian faith and its direction in life we need to be prepared to speak of the hope that is ours and theirs. I will be joining you, although I read my Bible I need to re-look at some of the books which are not so well known. The story of God's creation and saving work and his love for us is quite staggering; it does not start at the New Testament but is a story from creation to the time that has not yet come. If our knowledge of the Bible is poor, how can we tell the story?

God Bless **Susan**

"May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, body and soul be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful and will do it." 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24.

👤👤 EA BABY JESUS EA 👤👤 FROM SPAIN!

~~~~~.PCC member, Sue Turner, recently returned from Spain, and brought home with her, a beautiful and exquisite figurine of Baby Jesus. He is extremely old, and is made from plaster. Sue and Alan had found him in a drawer in their Spanish home, left by the previous owner, and did not want to leave him there for Christmas! I offered to make a crib for Sue to place him in, and we were both thrilled when we placed him in it. He lays comfortably on the Lady Altar, and will leave when all of the figurines in the Crib at the steps of the Chancel depart! Love Valerie with Sue T.



# Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2023

## ***Do Good: Seek Justice***

*(cf. Isaiah 1:17)*

*Services organised by Christians together, in Westgate, Westbrook and Garlinge.*

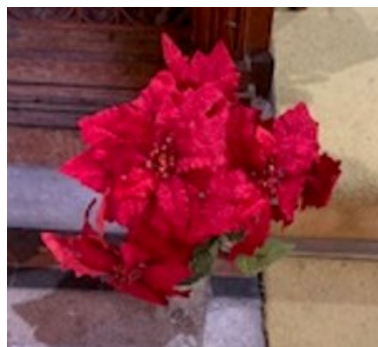
### ***Every Service is a 10.30am Start***

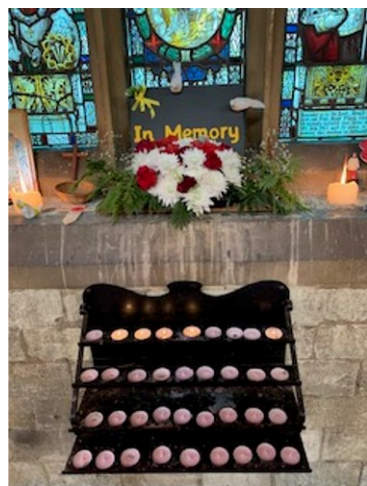
|                                    |                                |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> January | Christ Church URC, Westgate    |
| Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> January  | Roman Catholics at St Saviours |
| Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January    | Methodist Church, Garlinge     |
| Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> January   | St Saviours Church Westgate.   |
| Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> January | Christ Church URC, Westgate    |

*For further information please contact:*



## CHRISTMAS 2022 at ST SAVIOUR'S CHURCH







Above the Travelling Cribs that pupils from St Saviour's Church of England School collected on Advent Sunday and returned and placed on the altar at The Crib Service on





The Christmas Figures were placed in the Crib by the children at the Christmas Eve Crib Service.

A rousing singing and playing on the organ "I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas" ended the Crib Service.





All window sills had a fresh flower arrangement .



The Wise Men started their journey to see the new born King and were placed on a sill in the north aisle of the Church.

## Treasurer's Report

### Statement for the month of November 2022

#### November 2022

|          |                         |
|----------|-------------------------|
| Income   | £27296                  |
| Expenses | £4753                   |
| Surplus  | £22543 (see note below) |

|                       |                  |         |
|-----------------------|------------------|---------|
| Total assets at       | 30 November 2022 | £128627 |
| Total assets at       | 1 January 2022   | £97498  |
| Surplus for year..... | £31129           |         |

The above surplus for November arises because of generous donations amounting to £24000 to add to the funds received towards the heating appeal. The total funds raised at 30 November amount to £40615 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.....£3210

#### **New heating system (update)**

I was delighted that the installation of the new heating boiler was completed in time for our Christmas services. There remains the installation of two new radiators at the west end of the church to be completed early in the New Year. The expected overall cost is around £47000 including vat. Once complete, we can then focus on phase 3 which is providing some under pew heating.

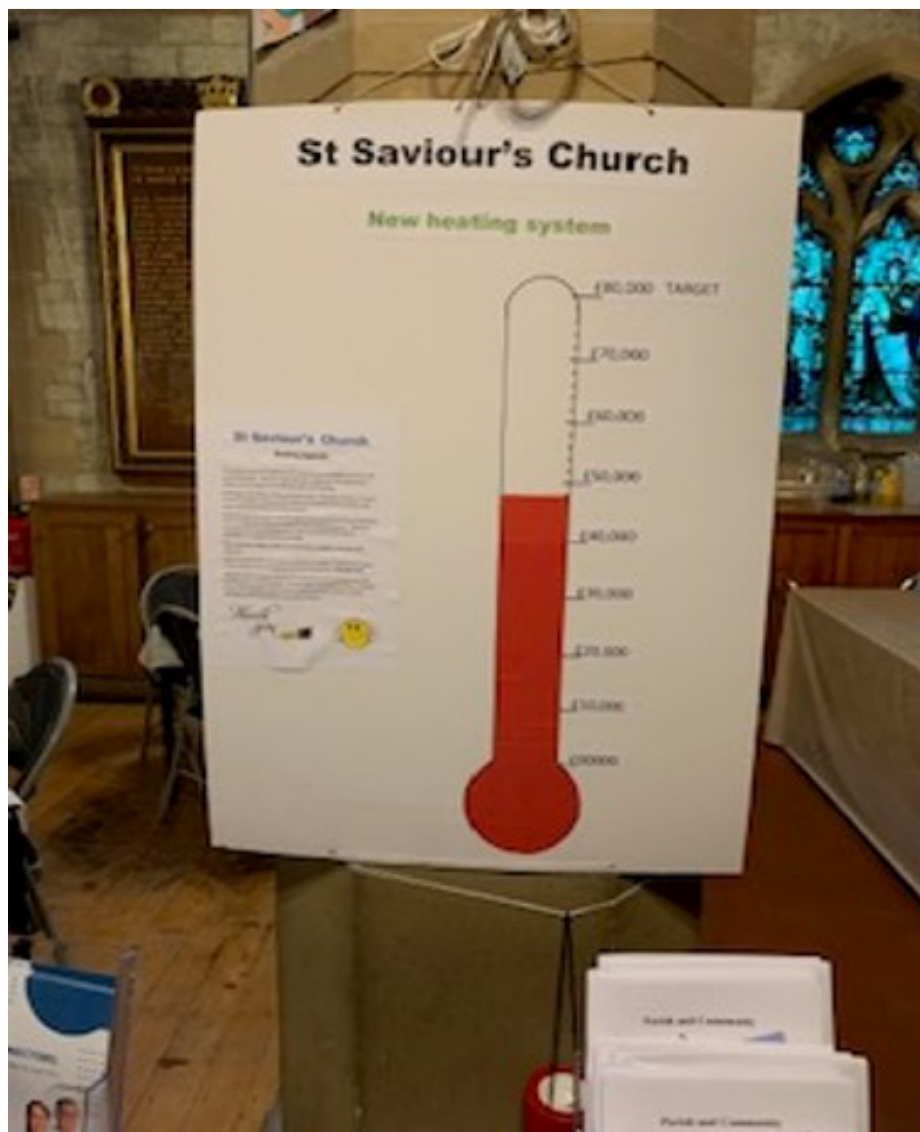
We do not know at this stage what the overall cost for all four phases is likely to be but a best guess would still be in the region of £80k. Some extremely generous donations have been received this month giving a current total as shown above which is absolutely amazing progress and thanks to everyone 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](mailto:office@stsaviourswestgate.org.uk) for details). Cash can be deposited inside the church when open. Thank you.

G R Neve, Hon Treasurer



*Happy  
New  
Year!*

2023

## 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, Peter, Sharryn, Stuart, Margaret

### **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

Carole, Joanna, Peggy Vale aged 99years

### **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”*

Angela, Thomas William Hoadley

### **World War 2 Roll of Honour**

Benjamin Jefcoate 9th January 1943      Wilfred Smith 28th January 1942

On Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2022 we held our church Christmas Fair between 10:00 – 12:00.

The event was very well attended, despite the church being extremely cold due to no heating and very limited advertising (which we will take on board for next year).

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank every one of you that helped to make this a memorable event. To all the stallholders, to everyone that baked cakes/ sausages rolls/bread etc, to our arts/crafters who made such wonderful gifts, to the gift stall so beautifully presented, to everyone that donated generous raffle prizes, to Valda for creating the posters and to Joanna Cornford from the Parish Council who attended the event and gave her time.

A very special thank you to the Deaf Book Club who came along willingly to help with the washing up and helped Pam on the refreshment stall.

A big thanks to Valerie for hosting our committee meetings at her house and making us all so welcome, supplying us with hot drinks and goodies.

The event raised the brilliant sum of £997.24 which includes £142.35 raised by the Friends of St Saviour's who ran the children's nearly new toys/books and jewellery stalls.

The raffle was a success with lots of donated prizes, so thank you to everyone that purchased tickets and for Jide and Stuart for their help on the day.

Once again, thank you to everyone that helped to raise funds for St. Saviours.

Kind regards

Sue  
Turner











Dear everyone at St Saviours Church,

We wanted to send you a personal note to say thank you so much for your generous donation of £96.

Because of the support you've given us this year, we've been able to help more people who were forced to sleep rough, struggling with their mental health, or at risk of losing their home.

You have helped us protect people facing the hardest of times. Thank you for being part of the change we all want to see.

We hope all of you have a wonderful Christmas and we look forward to continuing our partnership in the new year.

From Abbie (Fundraising Officer) and the staff and clients at Porchlight

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,. Many thanks to all who donate. **A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE DONATED TOWARDS THE PRINTING COSTS OF “THE LINK” THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.**

**The deadline for the FEBRUARY 2023 “The Link” is**  
**SUNDAY 29th 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.'**

🔪 🔪 🏰 CHURCH CLEANING! 🏰 🔪 🔪

~~~~~

We are a very dedicated small group of cleaners at the church, and are seeking an additional person, who would be happy to be in "reserve" to cover unforeseen absences.

We normally clean the church on the 2nd Monday of each month, but this can always be flexible. We have a very enjoyable 1 1/2 hours, and it is very rewarding to see the church sparkling!

Please see Valerie (Assistant Churchwarden), if this is something for you. You would be made very welcome.

Thank you, regards Valerie.

🎄 🎄 🎄 ST SAVIOUR'S 🎄 🎄 🎄

CHRISTMAS TREE 2022

~~~~~

We were blessed with a beautiful and substantial Christmas Tree at St. Saviour's for Christmas 2022, which was locally provided.

On an extremely cold day on the 14th. December. 2022, ( the church was still without heating for a few more days to come!) Alan T and myself spent a very enjoyable morning putting the lights and decorations on the tree. We seemed to co-ordinate the baubles successfully, and we were very pleased with the finished result. I attach the very first photos of St. Saviour's Christmas Tree 2022, which has continued to give much pleasure to both visitors and churchgoers over the Christmas period.

Love Valerie, with Alan T



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**

## **To Stream or not to Stream.....**

That is the question being considered by the PCC

During the covid pandemic when lockdown prevented, among many other freedoms, the opportunity to attend services at St Saviour's church, live streaming was started via the internet. Initially Mother Karen conducted services from the vicarage using minimal equipment. When lockdown was lifted, and services could again be held in church, live streaming was set up in church. This was a very much more involved set up and a lot of equipment was purchased by the church and Aidan personally who masterminded the whole project. The biggest limitation was access to reliable Wi-Fi, which was provided through the use of a mobile phone. The church paid £30 per month for the mobile phone. Results were sketchy due to poor connectivity.

All the equipment previously used has now been removed. As the title suggests the PCC are considering whether there is a sufficient demand to provide live streaming for people unable to attend the church perhaps due to health reasons or location. A local firm can provide a streaming service on their own website platform at a cost of £35 per month. To this the cost of having broadband must be added at say £30 per month giving a total monthly cost of around £65 per month. An initial cost to set up the camera and microphone will be £2000.

The PCC need to know whether there is sufficient interest in providing a live streaming service. Please give us your thoughts by emailing the PCC at

[office@stsaviourswestgate.org.uk](mailto:office@stsaviourswestgate.org.uk) .

Thank you for your assistance.

## **NEWS FROM THE 1st WESTGATE RAINBOWS**

The Rainbows had a very exciting time leading up to Christmas.

On the first Sunday in December all of the Rainbows had the opportunity to go and see the new film “Matilda” at the Carlton Cinema for a reduced rate. At this event they met Rainbows, Brownies and Guides from the Thanet North Division. They had a lovely time each receiving a bag of popcorn, a drink and a new badge.

Then on the second Saturday in December a hall was hired and all had a lovely Christmas treat—painting a plate which was then glazed and fired to give to their family as a present, the results can be seen in the photos. The last meeting in December finished with the Christmas Party playing games and eating lovely food.

This was all achievable with the help of some of the monies raised by the Coop Community Fund.

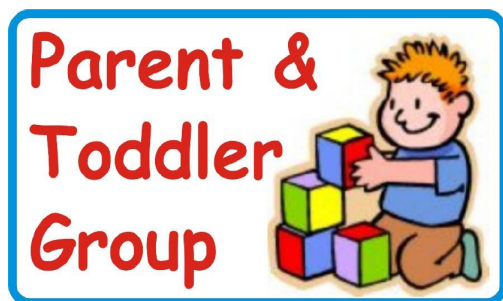






St Saviour's Church, Westgate

# **TODDLER TIME**

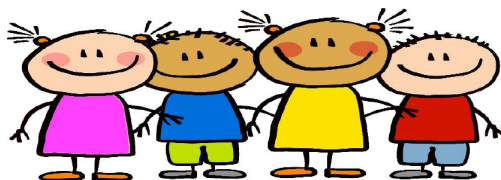


**Meets MONDAY**  
**MORNINGS** (Term time only)

**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**

🎄 🍷 🍰 🏠 FRIENDLY FRIDAY 🏠 🍰 🍷 🎄

## AND LOOKING AHEAD GROUP CHRISTMAS PARTY!

~~~~~

On a very cold morning on the 16th. December. 2022, John, our churchwarden and myself, (ably assisted by Jane who is a fellow member of Friendly Friday) hosted a Christmas Party for the members of Friendly Friday, and Looking Ahead, at St. Saviour's Church.

We arrived early to set out mince pies, Christmas biscuits, chocolates, crisps, cheese puffs etc. We even had crackers to make the party go with a swing! But....., the piece de resistance was..... John's famous CHILLI CON CARNE, which certainly warmed up all of our guests !!!!

John and I entertained both groups with a game of Bingo, and there was much delight, each time a prize was won. Our community Police Officer, Eileen, and our Community Warden, Jason, also joined in with the fun!

Finally, we moved forward to the front of the church near to our magnificent Christmas tree, and John handed out gifts to our Looking Ahead friends, and their helpers. It was then time to sing some Carols! I accompanied the singing on my old, faithful descant recorder!

It was all too soon for everybody to go home, and we were thrilled that everybody enjoyed themselves! We look forward to seeing our Looking Ahead friends again in the Spring!

Best wishes, Valerie, with John.





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

As we start the final week of the Christmas term I am impressed by the progress our new(ish) Year 3 children have made. When Mr Arnold and I visited this cohort at their infant school it was clear the children had missed significant chunks of Reception and Year 1 due to Covid. While they have been at St. Saviour's, teachers have been delivering an intensive programme of reading / handwriting practice and phonics. As a staff team, we looked through our topic books last week; we were stunned by the progress these children have made. Our youngest children have really improved their writing stamina, letter formation and basic spelling skills.

I have also noticed how settled the year group are, in terms of learning behaviours. I have shown several families around the school in the last two weeks, all have commented how settled and calm our classrooms are. We have had to support this cohort of children to play positively with each other. Having missed the earliest section of their education, the children sometimes lack the ability to take turns, deal with conflict or simply to come up with games to play at lunch time. Teachers and support staff have modelled social skills and generally tried to teach the children how to manage their relationships and play. Having worked with these children for four months now, we realise how much work on socialising goes on in the foundation stage of infant schools.

I have also very much enjoyed watching the Year 3 children gain confidence as the autumn has progressed to winter. Year 3 children sometimes find our, rather large, playground daunting when they come to us in September. I do a lunchtime playground duty four days per week and have noticed the Year 3 children increasingly playing with older children and being more communicative with adults. Our Year 6 playleaders have done a sterling job of engaging the younger children in active play, the Year 3 children have been playing very enthusiastically with all manner of balls, space hoppers and on our outdoor gym equipment.

By the end of this week, we will be a third of the way through the academic year. Our teachers have got their classes into positive learning habits and we have carried out formal assessments, which they will use to plan their teaching for the coming weeks. I must commend the hard work of our staff and children. I hope all members of the school and church community have a safe and restful Christmas.

Nick Bonell, Headteacher

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

Baptism
 Camel
 Christ
 Christian
 Cold
 Crown
 Epiphany
 Frankincense



Gold
 Hogmanay
 Ice
 January
 Men
 Myrrh
 Naming
 New



Prayer
 Snow
 Star
 Unity
 Winter
 Wise
 Year

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

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

Meeting 05/12/22

Minutes to be approved at a meeting on 09/01/23

Matters arising. Mice. A dozen traditional traps had been purchased but not deployed due to opposition from non PCC members. It was considered that more needed to be done to mitigate the ongoing mice infestation. An initial meeting with a pest control person had been unsatisfactory and further contact had been made with AGS One as shown on the Thanet District Council website, where response was awaited. Alternative firms were recommended by members of the PCC. The worst affected area in the SW corner of the church had been cleared, cleaned and a bait left in situ. It was stressed that by engaging a pest control professional, their methods would be harsher than what has proved to be ineffective humane traps currently being used. Baby Grand Piano. Due to be collected on 9 December 2022 at the cost of St Nicholas-at-Wade PCC. Flower arranging. To take place on 17 December to make Christmas wreaths.

Safeguarding. The present mobile phone for emergency use was not user friendly. The removal of the local mobile phone mast caused signal difficulties around the church. It was agreed that there must always be two church members present when the building was open to the public.

Treasurer report. Attention was drawn to the generous donations received towards the heating fund which at today's date stood at £40k. However when separating the heating fund from running cost account the statement for October showed costs exceeded income by £1622 at the end of that month. Registration as a charity with HMRC had been initiated and response was awaited.

Churchwarden report. Boiler room doorframe. The door had been rehung onto a new side frame and coated with ship's paint. The wooden arch over the door had not been replaced as it needed to be done by a professional carpenter. New boiler. It was agreed to defer installing the new radiators until after Christmas to enable heating to be provided during the Christmas period. Noticeboard. No progress since last meeting. It was agreed that Allstyle Products be contacted. Bell Tower Ladder. Further email with wording for resolution to be sent to all PCC members. Stoup. There was discussion as to where this and associated plaque should be sited, with some members of the PCC being against fixing them on the grounds that the stoup did not fit in with the style of worship of St Saviour's. To be discussed further.

Kent PA Hire. Recommended options to improve the sound within the church were to provide a good quality radio mic and fit an antenna amplifier to overcome the problem of sound dropping out from the lapel mic. The cost would be no more than £600 and was approved to go ahead. Advice had also been sought about live streaming which can be provided by Kent PA Hire. It was generally thought that low numbers of viewers did not justify the costs. Views of the congregation would be obtained by means of a survey in the parish magazine.

Special December Services/Events. A Christmas tree had been ordered with the cost (£70) met from donations. Clergy cover for all services had been arranged before Mother Karen left. Faith and Order group had arranged clergy cover from 1 January to Easter with the exception of Maundy Thursday. Details of clergy taking services to be given in the weekly pew sheets.

Any Other Business. A Christmas card was to be sent to St Saviour's School to the Headteacher and Staff on behalf of the church. The customary practice of the school in providing mince pies to everyone leaving the School Concert would be held in the outer porch due to the ongoing mice infestation.

The funeral of the late Carole Bean is at 1.45pm at Thanet Crematorium Thursday 19th January. It is hoped that Revd Paul Worledge will take the service as he was a friend of Carole's.

The funeral of the late Peggy Vale aged 99 years will take place at Thanet Crematorium Friday 20th January at 3.15pm.

 A POSTCARD FROM 1903!

~~~~~

This month, I would like to show you my oldest postcard. It is dated 14th. September. 1903, making it 120 years old. It was posted at 9.45pm on the 14th. September. 1903 at Ramsgate, using a half-penny stamp displaying an image of King Edward VII, who had reigned for just two years, after the death of his mother Queen Victoria. The front of the postcard shows a view of Rochester Castle, and is printed by Joseph Welch & Sons (JW & S), whose business ran from 1864-1936. The "Picture Postcard Annual" of 2023, records the earliest posting of divided-back postcards, as actually being a JW&S postcard on 25th.August.1902. My postcard is dated 13 months later!

The communication on the postcard reads:

14.9.03

"Dear Mother,

Arrived at Ramsgate at 5.30. Had a very stormy journey; the wind almost blowing a gale.

After Canterbury, we encountered seasonal showers. We are stopping at Mrs. Farmers.

Will write you, tomorrow

Your son/Euan? "

The recipient is a Mrs. E. R. Thompson,

19, Baker Street,

London,

W. C.

Baker Street was originally a high class residential area, but is now mainly occupied by commercial premises. The builder, William Baker, laid out the street in the 18th.century.

When I read the postcard, I came to the conclusion that it was a young man writing to his mother. The postcard is written in a good, strong hand, in ink. From the earliest postcard written, there always seems to be a fixation of the time of arrival! This has continued down the years, I myself writing postcards to my grandparents in the 1960's whilst on holiday, and the time of departure from home and the arrival at our destination, seemed of vital importance!

At first glance, I thought that our author might have taken a steamer to Ramsgate, as he writes about "the wind almost blowing a gale", but I have come to the conclusion that he could have been in a motor car. Also, he adds that "they encountered seasonal showers after leaving Canterbury! Let us have a look at the facts and figures of those early years of the motor car:

\* There were 23,000 cars on Britain's roads by the end of 1904. Early motorists needed a spirit of adventure! The first driving lessons in the UK were offered from the year 1900. They were supplied by the Motor Carriage Supply Company of London.

\* The Motor Car Act 1903 was an Act of the United Kingdom Parliament that received Royal Assent on 14th. August. 1903. The Act introduced motor vehicle registration, driver licensing, and increased the speed limit from 14mph to 20 mph.

\* From 1st. January. 1904, it was compulsory for drivers of motor cars in the United Kingdom to have a driving licence. No test was required, the licence being issued by the council on payment of five shillings (25p)! The qualifying age for a car licence was 17 years. A compulsory driving test was not introduced until 1934. In order to improve the quality of roads at the turn of the century, with the increased number of motor cars on the road, necessary work had to be done. In 1902, the County Surveyor for Nottinghamshire, Edgar Hooley, patented an all-weather road surfacing material made from mixing tar with ironstone slag, which he called tarmac. When laid, tarmac acted as a sealant, suppressing both dust and loose matter. However, a considerable number of years were to elapse before most roads had been tarmacadamised. Let us now take a look at the events that were taking place in the world in 1903:

- On 1st. January, King Edward VII is proclaimed Emperor of India.

- On 19th. January, there was the first transatlantic broadcast between the United States and Britain.

- 15th. February, the first Teddy bear was introduced in America.

- In this year, motor taxis first appeared in London.

- Orville and Wilbur Wright launch the world's first successful manned flight in a motorised airplane at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, at 852 feet in 59 seconds.

- First Tour de France bicycle race takes place.

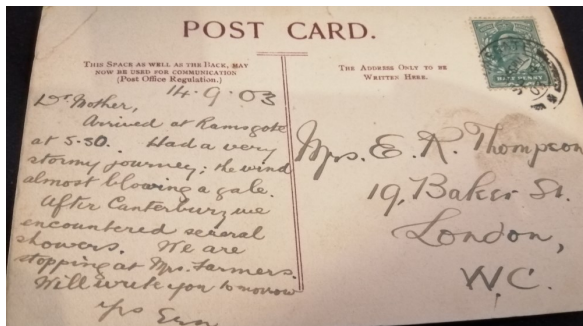
- Pierre and Marie Curie win the Nobel Prize in physics.

- Henry Ford founds the Ford Motor Company.

- First Garden City Ltd formed to develop Letchworth.

I hope that you have enjoyed this "look back in time to 1903"!

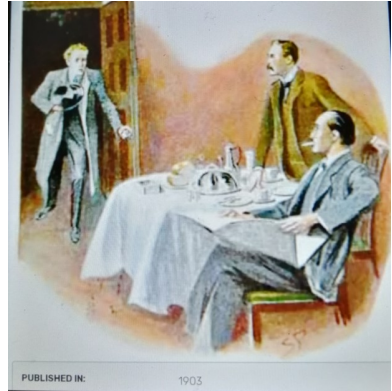
Love Valerie.



Baker Street in 1906



"Ground floor drawing room in 1903 in Baker Street"



" The fictional Baker Street detective, Sherlock Homes"



" A 1903 motor car"



"Where Mrs. Thompson's House stood today!!"



# 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

# **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 Church-wardens



# **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 .

Service of the Word once a month.(2nd Sunday, No Holy communion)

## **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