

Parish and Community

The Link

St Mildreds Road



Westgate Bay Avenue

Westgate Bay Avenue

St Mildreds Road



**April
2024**

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



Priest In Charge The Revd Jeffrey Foulger

Honorary Assistant Priests

The Revd Susan Wing

The Revd Barbara Way



Churchwardens

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

Mr Andy Jemmett email andyjemmett@aol.com

Enquiries for Baptism contact info@wantsumchurches.org

All other enquiries including Weddings & funerals contact
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

St Saviour's Church, Westgate

INVITE YOU TO AN
ALL AGE SHORT
FAMILY SERVICE
SUNDAY 7th APRIL
AT 10.30am



I have some good news- the Easter season lasts seven weeks! At least for those of us who come to church there are seven Sundays after Easter culminating in Pentecost Sunday when we mark the effective starting point of the Christian Church. I am not sure whether the children and grown-ups I know will be able to make their Easter eggs last that long.

Easter is the most momentous time for Christians, as we thank God for the resurrection of Jesus and how the future trajectory of our lives is guaranteed. The 50 days of Eastertide form a great festival time during which the joy of the resurrection is sustained. Early Christians gave the name Pentecost to this whole period of rejoicing and in Church to remind us we light the Easter Candle which stands prominently for all the Eastertide services.

On the fortieth day of Easter (this year 9th May) the church commemorates Christ's ascension as He commissions his disciples to continue his work and promises the gift of the Holy Spirit. Jewish prophets had talked about a time when God's spirit would be available for everyone, and we are amazed by the accounts of the timid and scared disciples who empowered by the Holy Spirit, spread the Gospel- literally 'Good News' far and wide.

As Christians continue the Easter festival, April 8th sees the end of the Muslim period of reflection and fasting called Ramadan. I recently attended an Iftar, which is the meal served at the end of the day during Ramadan to break the daily fast. We were part of a large group of people who had been invited by members of the Mosque. I was curious to attend, and the lovely thing was the hospitality we received, plates of fruit, various meat and vegetable dishes followed by sweet tea and biscuits, not to mention the packet of dates as a 'take-home' present.

As I sat there listening to the prayers, I was intrigued by the way the meeting space had been decorated. At ceiling height there was Arabic script with an English translation of the 99 attributes of God. From the 'Creator' to 'The Guide' and 'The Everlasting' plus many more that Christians and Jews would understand.

This allowed me to wonder why we do not have similar things in our churches. The reason is down to how Christians understand God. Ultimately we see Pentecost as the fulfilment of what the Old Testament Prophet Ezekiel said ... 'And I will put my Spirit in you so that you will follow my decrees and be careful to obey my regulations'.

As beautiful as the words were, we will not need to have the amazing attributes of God visible because the Holy Spirit lives in us to teach us all the truths about our creator. The Holy Spirit allows us to understand who God is.

I hope you will be able to maintain the Easter celebration with joy and please let me know if you would like to know more about the difference Easter and Pentecost can make to your life.

Jef Foulger 27 March 2024

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”

Liz & Peter Rowe, Andrew W, Mother Karen, Marjorie M, Heidi,,Kevin, Valerie L, Genevieve O, Charlie, Louise, Harry, Tina, Eugenius, Nojus

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

Suzanne

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”

David Morrish, Revd Roy Stagg, Bob Jemmett

World War 2 Roll of Honour for this month

Patrick Johnstone 11th April 1945, Eric Baldwin 13th April 1945,

John Johnstone 29th April 1944

Crew of US Air Force B24 Liberator “Knucklehead” 27th April 1944, John Ross, Clayton Aughinbaugh, Bernard Fink, Nicholas Rich, Ben Munford

News from St Saviour's Church of England School

St. Saviour's children and staff are looking forward to the Easter break, after a very productive term. Terms 3 and 4 tend to be where most learning takes place as children have settled into the routines of their new year group and there are no major disruptions during the first half of the calendar year.

Celebrating what Jesus gave us, through sacrificing himself on the cross, seems apt as we have seen a very pleasing development in our children – through learning and applying Christian values. So far this year, children have learned about: Thankfulness, Trust, Perseverance and Justice. These values are very easy to talk about in collective worship, and children are adept in giving adults the answers and views they think we want to hear. The proof of the worth in learning about Christian values is in seeing children's behaviours gradually change and become more compassionate.

When I show visitors around our school, I sometimes see our children through fresh eyes. Visiting professionals and parents often comment on the polite and calm atmosphere of St. Saviour's. Our children make me feel so grateful when they stop and say good morning to their peers and adults, hold doors open or help each other on the playground. We always try to give real life examples of how children might apply any Christian value we happen to be learning about; how lovely it is to then see children enacting these values around school.

Having new children join our school mid-year is another point where staff notice how kind our children can be. A new child started in Year Three today and children were quick to involve her in their games and friendship groups. We have had moderate numbers of children moving into the area and have just one space in the whole school. All of these new children are playing happily in established friendship groups, none are excluded or lonely. I have also been really encouraged how well our youngest children have assimilated the expectations and boundaries of our school.

Aside from making the school a nicer place to learn and work, this positive behaviour isn't necessarily the goal itself. A happy and calm environment simply makes learning more effective. Children who are happy and not distracted by arguments or silly behaviour will obviously be able to focus more fully on their learning. Teachers should be able to concentrate on preparing children for the rigours of secondary school, rather than dealing with poor behaviour. We are not perfect, children make mistakes, but in the main, our teachers are able to teach interesting, challenging lessons without getting side tracked by inappropriate classroom behaviour.

Christian values are not the only tool we use to promote high quality learning and good behaviour. By far our biggest asset is our amazing staff. However, our Christian values provide an excellent framework with which to communicate our expectations to our children; I think Jesus would be happy with this.

Nick Bonell, Headteacher

EASTER ARTWORK FROM ST SAVIOUR'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL



Whilst you are welcome to take and enjoy a copy of “The Link”, donations towards the cost of printing would be appreciated,. **THANK YOU**

The deadline for MAY 2024 “The Link” is
SUNDAY 28th APRIL 2024

Hi Kent Hearing Aid Clinic

Westgate Council Office (Opposite the Cinema)

11th April, 9th May **All at 10.30 – 11.30**

Batteries, tubes and advice



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.”

The Meeting of the Laity & Annual Parochial Church Meeting **is SATURDAY 18th MAY 10am for 10.30am.**

New applications for the Church Electoral Roll must be handed in no later than SUNDAY 14th APRIL. Forms can be obtained from Valda, Hon Electoral Roll Officer.

EASTER 2024 AT ST SAVIOUR'S CHURCH





Banana Peel Breakfast Cake

Ingredients

125g salted butter, softened, plus extra for tin 4 very ripe bananas
200g caster sugar 2 eggs beaten 2 tsp vanilla extract
100ml Greek style yogurt 300g plain flour 1/2 tsp baking powder
1/2 tsp bicarbonate of soda 75g walnuts roughly chopped

Method

1. Heat oven 160c fan
2. Butter and line a 900g loaf tin. Trim the ends of the bananas and discard. Roughly chop the bananas, peel and all. Blitz in a food processor or blender until smooth. Tip into a bowl and set aside.
3. Using an electric hand whisk, beat together the butter and sugar with a pinch of salt until light and creamy, around 4 or 5 minutes. Beat in the eggs, then add the vanilla yoghurt and banana. Mix in the flour baking powder and bicarb until combined. Fold through the walnuts and gently spoon the batter into the prepared tin.
4. Bake for 50/60 mins until a skewer inserted into the middle comes out clean. Transfer to a wire rack and leave to cool in the tin for 20 mins before removing from the tin and leaving to cool completely.

This cake is good plain or with butter, I rather like it spread with soft cheese.

It will keep in an airtight container for 5-6days. Is also very good toasted.

A versatile cake/ loaf.

Pam x



St Saviour's Church, Westgate

TODDLER TIME



Meets

MONDAY MORNINGS

(Term time only)

9.30am to 11.45am

**For pre-school children
and carers**



"Alan Clark writes "I have come across an article I wrote in October 2015 for "The Link" about maintenance of the church grounds with brief reference to one or two associated matters. Coming across the article by chance all these years later it strikes me for its "good feel" factor and the window it gives on a small part of our church life then and I thought that it might provide some some reminiscence to longer standing church members as well as being of interest to more recent readers. The article is as follows".

CHURCH GROUNDS

This year's annual tidying of the church grounds has gone very well. Unlike last year the weather was very favourable and we were able satisfactorily to cut, trim and generally tidy the trees, bushes, shrubs and beds along the St Mildred's Road, Westgate Bay Avenue and Ivanhoe Road boundaries on just two of the three Saturday mornings set aside, so that the last one on October 31st was not needed this time.

Weather aside, this achievement was due to the splendid turn out of church and family members to do the work. On both days attendance was 15 or more people of all ages, this being two or three times the number in previous years. Thank you to all of them - Lorna and Philip, Jean, Graham, Valda, Ruth and Douglas, Anne, Shirley, Jill, Steve, Gary, Nikki and Valerie, Harry C, Ruby and Lily, Harry, Phil and Tony. Refreshments laid on by Ann halfway through both sessions provided a welcome break and opportunity for a sit down and chat. Most of the debris was cut and bagged up and the equivalent of about 50-60 sack loads taken to the Council tip, so that not a penny in payment for disposal was needed this time.

] It doesn't end there. Thanks to funding from the Friends of St. Saviour's a commercial firm of tree specialists will be coming in early November to cut back and thin out the southern long border adjacent to the Town Hall building. This major piece of work is undertaken every few years - last time in 2008 - and is beyond our capacity. When done, it will lighten up the south side of the grounds, improve security after dark and again expose to easy public view the carvings high on the side of the Town Hall. My thanks to Joanna Cornford for allowing access for the contractor to the pathway between the Town Hall and our grounds. There will then be left untouched with a triangle of grounds on our south west corner where nature is being allowed to take its course. This is in continuation of three awards since 2003 secured for St Saviour's by Dawn Crouch under the Wildlife Gardening Award Scheme run by the Kent Wildlife Trust.

Finally, for those with long memories, the replacement pine for the one we had to fell as being unsafe in late 2012 under the Thanet District Council "Urgent Work" procedure is about to be planted. A sapling has been on order for the last three months and should be ready for collection very soon. At last! Again, the Friends have kindly agreed to cover the cost.

So, the grounds will again be shipshape and Valda and Graham will be carrying on with their regular care of the smaller plants and flowers.

Let me add a couple of footnotes. When I was cutting the hedge alongside St Mildred's Road yesterday a well spoken young man passing stopped to thank me for the work we were doing and to say how much our green grounds in the centre of Westgate were appreciated by him and others. Secondly, an elderly man passing with his wife, visitors to Westgate, told me that he had been a choirboy at St Saviour's in the 1940's, and asked whether the church was open. They went in and Dawn, who happened to come by shortly after, had a long chat with them. She discovered that the man's late brother-in-law, a local man, was one of the names in our Book of Remembrance about whom little was hitherto known. He had died in a POW camp in the Far East although his family did not know this until the War was over. Dawn was able to show them the entry and photos in the Book of Remembrance and the couple were much moved that he should be remembered in Westgate in this way. Both stories reflect well on the work and recognition of the place of St Saviour's in our community.

Alan Clark October 25th 2015

Deanery Synod Meeting 14th March 2024

This Synod was held in St Saviours Church and Debbie and I were serving the refreshments to clergy and Synod members. Jef led a short time of worship. We then had a talk from Revd David Tate who is the champion for Eco Church. He explained and encouraged us to be involved in a questionnaire to discover how Eco friendly our church may be and more importantly what we may do to improve that. Steve our Verger has taken on the task of completing the questionnaire and we are signed up to eCo Church-Rocha UK. Hopefully we will hear from Steve about our progress.

The Thanet Deanery Plan has been sent to the Diocese and collated with the other Deaneries in the Diocese. The Archdeacon has reviewed the draft Thanet Deanery Plan and felt it was a balanced mix of items. The Synod closed with prayer at 8.30pm.

Christine and Debbie.

The Table Top Sale held on 23rd March 2024

We had 12 tables laid out in the church with a variety of items for sale. The Friends had 2 tables. Joy had her jewellery beautifully laid out which was popular. Heather and Laraine ran the tombola and Pam and Sue looked after the refreshments with lovely homemade cakes and cheese scones.

We had a lot of people through the church and there was a happy atmosphere and it was good to chat with the stall holders. The total raised with some donations was £400. Thank you for your support for this event.

Christine and Debbie

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April
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Mowing
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Sunshine
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 Worship

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The Friends AGM held on 16th March 2024

There were 22 members present and we had refreshments and an opportunity to look at the minutes of the last AGM and the accounts.

We opened the meeting with a prayer that we have adopted and we share before we have our committee meetings. We then looked at the fundraising events held in the previous year and the monies raised.

We have been able to achieve a number of additions for the benefit of the church. We had the lectern handrail made and installed which is a great help when stepping up to the lectern. We then had the beautiful carpet laid which has really enhanced the chancel area.

We have a number of activities planned for the coming year and we will keep you informed of upcoming events.

Our next project is to refurbish the toilet and we hope that will be completed in April.

Two committee members retired this year and we appreciate their contribution to the Friends. We have one new member and we still need another member. If you would like to join our happy Committee we would be pleased to welcome you. Our membership stands at 47.

Thank you for your support of the Friends because without you we wouldn't be able to achieve what we have done for our Church.

Christine and Debbie

Pilgrimage

'Pilgrim' and 'pilgrimage' are words that have carried a range of meanings over the centuries.

The English term 'pilgrim' originally comes from the Latin word peregrinus (per, through + ager, field, country, land), which means a foreigner, a stranger, someone on a journey, or a temporary resident. It can describe a traveller making a brief journey to a particular place or someone settling for a short or long period in a foreign land.

Peregrinus was also used in the Vulgate version of the Bible to translate the Hebrew *gur* (sojourner—to stay somewhere temporarily) and the Greek *parepidemos* (temporary resident). These terms supported a central image of the Christian life. Christians were identified as temporary residents in this world whose true home was in heaven. They must therefore live and behave day by day according to their Christian faith as they journeyed through life. During the early centuries of the Church this was the primary understanding of the term.

However as Christian pilgrimage to places considered especially holy developed in the fourth century peregrinus took on a further sense within Christian thought, describing a traveller with a particular religious goal.

Journeying to a place of special significance plays a part in almost all cultures and religions. The goal may be a site given prominence by particular events, the shrine of a saint or other significant figure, or a remarkable geographical feature. Pilgrimage motivated by religious belief is still very much alive in the twenty-first century. For many it is not about the destination but the journey itself.

Starting on BBC Two on Friday 29th March at 9pm is a new series of Pilgrimage. Seven celebrities of differing faiths and beliefs experience an emotional journey on a pilgrimage in north Wales, a route linked by churches dedicated to early Celtic Christian saints. One of the locations they will visit is St Winefride's Well.

St Winefride's Well is a holy well and national shrine located in the Welsh town of Holywell in Flintshire. The patron saint of the well, St Winefride, was a 7th-century Catholic martyr who according to legend was decapitated by a lustful prince and then miraculously restored to life.

I shall be watching this programme with great interest, if only as an armchair Pilgrim!

Steve Verger



Stained Glass windows (above) depicting Winefride's death and (below) as Saint Winefride, who's feast day is on the 3rd November.



A TALKING MICROWAVE & A NUN

For 15 years I was a Home Help to a lady near Birchington who I will refer to as Dora. Once a week I was in charge of the hoover & duster!

During this time Dora's eyesight began to fail so she had to give up driving her car. So I did a few errands for her. Apart from shopping I also collected her pension. Putting on a dress & a wig once a week was not my finest hour! But joking aside I did what I could for her. Sometimes calling in to check on her & spend a little time chatting over a cup of tea or coffee.

Some of her reminiscences were funny, some sad. The worst being when she told me that her 5 year old daughter was killed during a bombing raid in the East End of London.

Over the years she became a friend rather than just someone I helped. But in the end she really needed some personal care, so her niece arranged for Dora to go into a nursing home in the Midlands where she lived. Dora used to visit her every Christmas time.

So during the time before she moved she asked me if I wanted anything from her home. I took a chair & a few items. "Are you taking your microwave?" (I asked). "No I won't be needing that, do you want it?" she replied. "Yes please" I retorted. "Now this microwave talks! whatever button you push in the settings, power mode, minutes, seconds etc. it even says door open, door closed. I have used it for years & the first time my own niece visited me after I got this microwave she said – Who's that talking in the kitchen?!"

It's had a couple of tantrums when all it will say is "Incorrect key". I then pull the plug out & give it a stern talking to & tell it to pull itself together! Once reconnected it works fine again. You have to be firm with these electronic gizmos!

So Dora had moved & sadly it wasn't long before I was informed that she had passed away. So on the day & time of her funeral I wanted to pay my last respects inside a Church. My first port of call was St Saviour's but it was locked, so I rode my motorcycle to the churches at Birchington & Acol & then Minster. All locked!

This was ridiculous I thought as I walked away from Minster Church, then as if by magic a nun appeared before me! - of course she must have come from the nearby Abbey. Perhaps she had seen me trying to batter down the Church door?! Perhaps it was the disgruntled look on my face? But she asked if anything was wrong – I explained my dilemma. "Come with me" she said. I did as she said as I know how strict Nuns can be from my school days. She led me to a small Chapel near the Abbey. She opened the door & told me I could light a candle & sit in there for a while (which I did) lost in my thoughts about Dora. Actually, Dora could tell me things that would happen in the future – I thought no more about them until they happened! Dora appreciated me more than I knew as she bought me a brand new motorbike! Some months after her death I received a letter informing me I had been left a legacy in her Will (hence the new bike).

Time moves on but I still use the microwave & I have a little photo of Dora in my kitchen.

Speaking of pictures I enclose an image I call the Angel of the Four Winds! She lives up high not far from St Saviour's.

Thank you for indulging in my memories in scribble.

Best thoughts to all, Your Scribe, Stephen (the Bruce), Steve3



You are warmly invited to join the Wantsum Benefice Celebration for Rogation Day. 'Walk the Walk' Sunday 5th May Please join us for Ploughman's Lunch at St. Nicholas at Wade at 12.30 (booking required – see below) followed by a Rogation Celebration Service at 3pm at St Mary Magdalene, Monkton. Walking between St. Nicholas & Monkton (less than 2m) is optional. The 'Walk the Walk' continues through to Minster (about 3 miles) for Compline at approx. 5.15pm followed by soup and crusty bread (booking required – see below) in the Old School Hall. The Rogation Sunday Celebration isn't just for those who come to church. Anyone is welcome to join in at any point. We only ask that you let us know in advance if you would like lunch and/or supper Flyers giving details for the whole day – beginning at 9am at Chislet - are available at your church. Anything else you'd like to know, contact Sally Willins 01843 822428/sal.ly13@aol.co.uk Lunch and/or supper bookings to Sally Willins 01843 822428/sal.ly13@aol.co.uk or Sheila Greenstreet (Wantsum Benefice Administrator) info@wantsumchurches.org

The Friends of St Saviour's Church,
Westgate

FISH AND CHIP SUPPER

SATURDAY 20th APRIL

At 5pm



St Saviour's Church, Westgate

**INVITE YOU TO AN
ALL AGE SHORT
FAMILY SERVICE
SUNDAY 5th May
AT 10.30am**



Changes to Canterbury Cathedral's Precincts Pass

Some members of our congregation recently found out that the Precincts Pass enabling free access to the Cathedral and grounds has been discontinued so many of us need to purchase its replacement, known as the Cathedral Pass. This costs £6 and is valid for five years. No discounts are available but children under 17 are not required to hold a ☐ pass and can visit free of charge with a Cathedral Pass-holding adult.

Please note no Pass or Visitor Ticket is necessary to attend services of worship in the Cathedral.

The new Pass can be held by anyone who;

Works in the old city of Canterbury ☐

Lives within 4 miles of Bell Harry tower, including ☐ within The Precincts ☐

Is a member of the Cathedral Congregation ☐

Is immediate family of a Cathedral staff member ☐

Is a Cathedral Volunteer ☐

Is a member of any church in the diocese (on the ☐ parish electoral roll or equivalent) ☐

If you are a Friend of Canterbury Cathedral, please see the last paragraph of this article. Otherwise please apply for a Pass online at www.canterbury-cathedral.org or call 01227 762862.

By signing up to the Cathedral's Pass holder mailing list, you will also be kept up to date with all the latest information on services, events and activities at the Cathedral, often before general release.

If you would prefer not to purchase a Cathedral Pass, a ticket can be purchased on the day of your visit at the Cathedral's Visitor Centre. The standard visitor ticket is valid for 12 months, meaning you can re-visit the Cathedral as often as you want during that time at no extra cost.

Canterbury Cathedral can also be supported via Friends of Canterbury Cathedral membership. This is available to anyone, regardless of location, and offers free visitor entry, a range of free or discounted events, and discounts in the Cathedral Shop and Lodge for an annual membership fee. To become a Friend, please visit <https://www.canterbury-cathedral.org/get-involved/become-a-friend/>

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 .

The Westgate Heritage Centre MEETS 1st SATURDAY of each month at Christchurch URC 10am to 12noon . Refreshments available. See 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

Church Cleaning 10am to 12 noon on the third Tuesday each month.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SATURDAY 18th MAY Meeting of the Laity & Annual Parochial Church Meeting

10 am for 10.30am

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

Service of the Word once a month when advertised.

Family Service for all ages the 1st Sunday of each month at 10.30am.

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