

Parish and Community

The Link

St Mildreds Road



Westgate Bay Avenue

Westgate Bay Avenue



St Mildreds Road

**September
2025**

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

Christine Bolger cbolger01@googlemail.com

Verger Mr Stephen Short email office@stsaviourswestgate.org.uk

Enquiries for Baptism ,Calling of Banns, Weddings & funerals
please phone 01843 833314 & leave a message or email
office@stsaviourswestgate.org.uk

WELCOME TO THE SEAMARSH GROUP

PCC Secretary St Saviour's Church 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

FAMILY SERVICE

SUNDAY 7th SEPTEMBER

AT 10.30am – 11.15am

*Worship
With Us*

ALL ARE WELCOME

So, it has finally happened! I am not talking about the end of the war in Ukraine, or aid reaching malnourished children in Gaza, or even the start of the new school year. I am writing about the engagement of Taylor Swift to American footballer Travis Kelce with whom she has been in a relationship for two years.

In case you are not aware Taylor Swift is a music phenomenon; she will be 36 in December and has won so many awards. She is described by the media as the most influential artist in contemporary music and recently her global Eras tour broke all box office records by grossing over \$2 billion.

The young people who make up her fan base are deeply affected by her strong lyrics as well as by her stance on lifestyle issues, which she reveals by her postings on social media. Ask any female under the age of 35 what they think about Taylor Swift, and I am sure the response will be interestingly positive.

In this country those same young people whose life's soundtrack is Taylor Swift are amongst those who responded to a recent report by the Bible Society. In the summary of their report this is what they have said 'In churches across society something amazing is happening, challenging long-held predictions about the future of Christianity in the twenty-first century.' I wrote about this in July, and it is important enough to mention again.

Following Christianity is a phenomenon amongst the generation known as Gen Z (pronounced 'zee' if you want to be 'down with the kids'!) that is the cohort of those born between 1997 and 2012 and they are considered the first generation to have grown up using the internet, modern technology, and social media. Their desire to seek ultimate truth in Christ has been dubbed 'The Quiet Revival' and the findings of the report have shocked many, as it is young men who are coming to church in greater numbers. It has been noticed for a while that young adults are more spiritually engaged than any other generation. With a decline in the mental health and general wellbeing of young people, the desire to seek spiritual refreshment is seen as being strong,

I have been looking at what the Bible might say about the importance of young people. Of course, before the last hundred years or so life expectancy was significantly less than today, medical advances have seen to this. One verse from the Old Testament book of Ecclesiastes has stayed with me from my younger days... 'Remember now your Creator in the days of your youth'.

Jesus was over 30 when His ministry started but in line with traditional Jewish practise of the time many of his disciples would have been aged between 13 and 15.

Joseph whose father gave him a multicoloured coat was only 17 when he was carted off to Egypt and yet remained faithful to God.

David, who defeated Goliath with a sling shot was a very young man when he was called to serve God as king.

In the New Testament, St Paul writes to one of his young followers called Timothy, "Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity". Paul also calls on young people to '... pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart'

It is noticed that growing churches are multi generational churches. At St Saviours if we do not have young people taking an active role, we lack their drive and enthusiasm and their challenge. So, we must do all we can to seek opportunities to welcome them and make them feel at home.

Revd Jef Foulger



I want to thank everyone who was involved in planning and organising my birthday surprises. I did not know about the lovely refreshments and, of course, the book tokens are fabulous. I am aiming to buy a book that I would normally not be prepared to afford. The reason I love being a part of St Saviour's is because of the lovely support you all give to me and the welcome you afford to others. It is Hebrews that says: "Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some people have entertained angels without knowing it." (Hebrews 13:2). Thank you from the bottom of my heart. Susan

FROM THE REGISTERS

For those Baptised

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

Sunday 31st August Adeline

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 Rowe, Mother Karen, Marjorie M, Richard T, Genevieve O, Charlie, Harry, Tina, Eddie Boyle, Dawn, Dario Vaccaro, Eugenius, Nojus, Robert, Sheila M, baby Finlay, Sue T, Hilary, Stacey, Linda W , Joseph, Reena, Tony

The Departed

“Lord now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word”

We give thanks for the life of those who now rest in eternal peace, and pray for their families and friends

For those whose anniversary of death falls at this time.

“Dear God, we thank you for the rest in Christ they now enjoy, and thank you for giving them to us”

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Cicerly, Everton, Alan

World War 2 Roll of Honour for this month

Although we have recently marked the 80th anniversary of the end of the second World War in Europe (VE Day) and the Far East (VJ Day), we continue to remember those who lost their lives in that conflict. This month we remember Flight Sergeant Robert Terry of the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, 624 Squadron of the Royal Air Force, who died on 13th September 1944 aged 21. He is commemorated on the Malta Memorial, Valletta, Malta. G.C. Panel 14. Column 2.

Friends of Kent Churches Sponsored Ride and Stride

An early warning of the date of this year's event for all who might be interested in taking part. Remember – St. Saviour's receives half of your sponsorship money. The date to put in your diary is

Saturday 13th September 10am – 6pm

This year the Ride and Stride celebrates its 40th Anniversary, let's help make it a really successful one. Every year the Friends of Kent Churches gives grants to churches to help pay for repairs to the fabric. So it is a worthwhile event, as well as giving you the chance to meet others connected with churches while enjoying the Kent countryside.

The list of participating churches and the sponsor forms will be available in July. Please contact me for sponsor forms and list of participating churches as soon as possible.

St. Saviour's aims to be open to visiting cyclists and walkers between 10am and 6pm and we need volunteers to 'church sit', preferably in pairs. Please let me know if you are able to help with this. Seeing an open church door, a friendly face and a toilet helps the day along.

I plan to be in the church all day and am asking for volunteers to sit with me for an hour or two from 12 noon until 6pm. The church will be open as normal between 10am and 12 noon, so I will not be alone between those times.

I look forward to hearing from you, either for sponsor forms or to go on the rota of church sitters. Contact me by email or phone as soon as possible.

José Gibbs 01843 834767 gibbszzz@btinternet.com



St Saviour's Church, Westgate

FRIDAY "POP IN"

Pop in for a cup of tea/coffee & a
biscuit or two & a chat

In St Saviour's Church between
10.30am & 12noon every Friday.

Meet friends & make new ones, you
will be very WELCOME.



Coffee & Chat

FRIDAY "POP -IN"

We sadly said goodbye on July 25th as we stopped for the month of August. Our footfall for the first few months has been approximately 237, with numbers boosted by "Bramble's" walking group joining us once a month. It has been great fun welcoming many old friends and making new ones. Steve has been raiding the local charity shops, & we now have a great selection of old favourite games & competition is fierce! At first, we thought separate tables would be preferable, however, most Fridays will find us all together around one table enjoying the chat whilst eating delicious cake. Most weeks visitors arrive to look around & admire the Church & often stop for a cuppa with us. Some weeks we have been joined by residents of local care homes & their carers, which has been a delight. We look forward to meeting again in September. Please join us!
Susan, Val and Jane

Sunday Services

This month sees a change to our usual pattern of services at 10.30am on the third and fourth Sundays of the month. The Revd Barbara Way will be preacher and celebrant at our Sung Eucharist on 21st September and the Revd Jef Foulger will be with us for our first café-style service on 28th September.

The 9am Service of Holy Communion according to the Book of Common Prayer on 28th September is not affected by the changes.

Looking ahead to October, we are having a lay-led Harvest Festival Family Service on Sunday 5th October at 10.30am. Do join us and, if possible, bring donations of food in tins or jars for The Storehouse Food Bank run from the Baptist Church in Birchington.

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 OCTOBER 2025 “The Link” is
SUNDAY 28th SEPTEMBER 2025

Hi Kent Hearing Aid Clinic

Westgate Council Office (Opposite the Cinema)

Every **SECOND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH 10.30am to 11.30am.** 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.

Figgy Banana Bread

Ingredients

125g softened butter
4 large ripe bananas
250g SR flour
200g caster sugar
3 medium eggs
4 tbsp golden syrup
3 fresh/frozen figs 2chopped into small pieces 1 sliced

Method

1. Heat oven 180c.
2. Line a 450g loaf tin.
3. Blend the bananas in a food processor then add all the other ingredients, except the figs, and blend again. Scrape down the sides and blend again.
4. Pour the batter into a bowl and gently fold in the chopped figs. Spoon into the tin and put the sliced figs on top.
5. Bake for 1 hour and 30 minutes covering the top with foil after 40 minutes to prevent burning. Test using a skewer. Leave in the tin for ten minutes then turn out onto a rack.
6. Delicious served warm and excellent toasted.
7. I used defrosted, frozen bananas and figs for this recipe.

Pam, with special thanks to the Good Food Magazine.

X



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

Baptism
 Beginnings
 Bicycle
 Canterbury
 Cathedral
 Chapels
 Churches



Class
 Education
 Friends
 Hidden
 Kent
 New
 Ride



School
 September
 Sponsorship
 Stride
 Term
 University
 Walk

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

The Friends of St Saviour's Church

Forthcoming Events

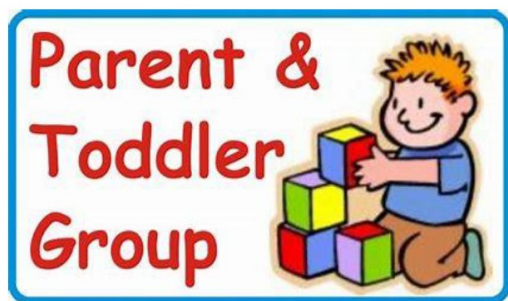
Saturday 4th October

Fish & Chip Supper



St Saviour's Church, Westgate

TODDLER TIME



Meets

MONDAY MORNINGS

(Term time only)

9.15am to 11.30am

**For pre-school children
and carers**



A BUS SHELTER IS WARMER THAN A SUBWAY

Fifty years ago, August Bank Holiday 1975 I and 5 of my motorcycling friends set off on the Sunday to attend the Champion Bike Races at Snetterton Circuit in Norfolk. We had a nice ride up from Kent & enjoyed the races. Most of the teams were travelling across to Oulton Park Circuit in Cheshire for Monday's races. We had decided to do the same & worked out our route using a paper map, (no SAT NAVS). It was a bit of an adventure & enjoyable until the Bank Holiday clouds decided to empty their contents over us! We stopped to put on any waterproof clothing & then continued on our way until our journey was interrupted by the sound of a siren wailing. Yes, we were pulled over by the police, but it wasn't for speeding! It was because the bike at the rear of our group had a rear light failure. I suggested that I would ride at the back so my bikes light would be visible. The policeman accepted that with a warning to fix the light ASAP. He wished us a safe journey & drove off. We restarted our bikes & zoomed away mile after mile through the gloom as darkness fell. It was late at night & we wasn't far from the circuit but of course couldn't get in until morning.

We rode into a town which I cannot recall the name of but after a ride around with nobody about we spied a sanctuary out of the rain. We rode down a pathway into a dry subway. Once parked we took stock of the situation, some of us were wetter than others, one wrung out his socks & hung them on hot exhaust pipes of his bike! I could feel a few damp patches but wasn't too bad. Had we booked accommodation anywhere or even brought a tent? No, we were young & daft & just made things up as we went along.

The rain had nearly stopped so my friend Richard & I walked around to see if we could buy anything to eat or drink, the only place open was a petrol station but as we didn't fancy a pint of four star we made do with fizzy drinks, crisps & Mars bars. Walking back into the subway we noticed how much colder it was down there, gave us the shivers so we went back out to sit in a nearby bus shelter which actually felt warm. The night dragged by & I was glad when the sun came up & the roads were now drying so no more waterproofs & we saddled up & rode to Oulton Park.

We certainly were some of the first to arrive at the entrance gates. Once the bikes were parked & locked we set off for breakfast which turned out to be a choice of hot dogs, hamburgers & bacon rolls! Not the most healthy food but needs must when the tummy is rumbling!, all washed down with the essential mugs of hot tea & we even found a stall selling parts including light bulbs! (sorted).

Once the racing started we found a good vantage point & the sun got hotter & hotter, coats were draped over fences & it was really T shirt weather – no more damp clothing (not sure about the socks!). After one race Barry Sheene rode his Suzuki 750 along the grass verge in front of us & stopped. After removing his helmet he asked if anybody had a spare fag (cigarette) most people smoked at the time (except me) so he was spoilt for choice.

Then he got back on his bike & in a cloud of cigarette & two stroke smoke he rode back to the pits.

After another enjoyable days racing it was time to once again saddle up for the long ride back to our homes in Kent. Apart from a few comfort stops all went well with no more rain. My Suzuki had a quick wash with hot soapy water before I slept like a log. Next morning after tea & toast I was back on the bike & off to work – ah the spirit of youth.

The quality of the little instamatic camera images are not that good after 50 years! – they depict Sheene, Bike 7 & a congested scene at an exit (which was hectic).
Your Scribe, Stephen the Bruce, (Steve 3)



St Saviour's Church, Westgate

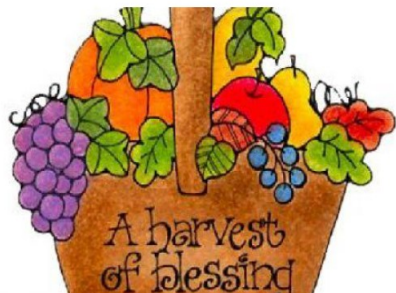


HARVEST FAMILY SERVICE

SUNDAY 5th OCTOBER

AT 10.30am – 11.15am

All Welcome





I trust that you have been keeping well. Thank you to you and your fellowship for your wonderful kindness. Please thank your congregation for baking cakes, hosting and praying for the mission. Please see below some highlights and reflections from this year's mission for you to share with others.

This summer we celebrated the 131st mission at Minnis Bay. It was great to be able to serve with local churches to make Jesus known. All the scheduled activities took place as planned as we were blessed gorgeous weather. We thank you for your prayers.

In total 88 people served on team over the fortnight. We registered over 900 children. The water fight (over 1,000 people) and the Inflatables event (800 people) attracted the largest numbers. The final event 'Grand Finale', at All Saints was packed out as hundreds joined in to celebrate all that God had done. There were no empty seats to be seen. The redesigned shape and structure of the Café and Late-Night Café (Darts, pizza, mocktails, quiz) worked extremely well attracting between 70-120 people each day. It was a privilege to witness beautiful conversations taking place, and during one morning session, a group of people singing Christian choruses. Once again, we carried out prayer walking and supported several community service projects. Again, the feedback was most encouraging. To Him be the glory.

We praise God for:

Over 20 children across the mission starting their faith journey.
Emotional wellness healings including healing to a dislocated shoulder

The baptism of a team member in the sea

Safety of team members

Teenagers receiving words of knowledge from God

Children teaching other children how to read the bible

Young people wanting to join the 2026 team

Increase attendances in the 5-7, 12-15 and 16-18 age groups

Provision of hosts for team members

Children reciting, by memory, psalms at a Talent Show

Children remembering memory verses from the bible

We thank God for His faithfulness, His grace and mercy. It was a joy to be able to gather in person and for His presence to be visible in the community.

Thank you for your support in revealing Jesus.

Avtar – on behalf of the holiday club.







THE BIG Gospel Sing-Along

St Saviour's Church Westgate

Westgate Bay Ave, Westgate-on-Sea CT8 8NX



Bring your friends
and family!

All ages will love this,
so maybe there is someone
you could bring along,
to give them a
feel-good afternoon...

Come and join the
Gospel Fusion
singers and rock-band
for a fun filled
sing-your-heart-out afternoon
of Gospel and feel-good music.

Free
Entry

3pm
26th October 2025

Free
Entry

Bookings must be made in advance by emailing:
contactgospelfusion@gmail.com



Girlguiding



1st Westgate Rainbows

For Girls aged 5 to 7 years

Meet Fridays in term time

4.15 to 5.15pm

Westgate Community Centre

**STARTING A NEW PROGRAMME THIS YEAR WITH LOTS OF
EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES**

APPLY HERE : <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter/>

Any queries: westgaterainbows@outlook.com



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/>

Diocese of Canterbury

Guidance on the Distribution of Holy Communion

March 2025

The normal practice for the distribution of the bread and wine of Holy Communion in the Church of England has, since the reformation, been for both bread and wine to be consumed by each communicant and for wine to be distributed from a common cup.

From time to time there have been situations in which advice or instruction has been given to suspend the use of the common cup in a health emergency and following public health advice. Two examples of this this century have been the outbreak of “Swine ‘Flu” in the 2000s and, more significantly, the COVID-19 pandemic in the early 2020s. Many churches across the Diocese of Canterbury have not resumed the normal practice of distributing Holy Communion after the pandemic.

Since 2022 there have been no restrictions on the use of the common cup and on communion in both kinds. The House of Bishops’ COVID-19 Recovery Group’s advice states that

*Holy Communion should be administered in both kinds unless there is a clear and objective reason why there would be a significant risk in doing so, such as local public health warnings relating to coronavirus levels in your area. It is important that no pressure is placed on members of the congregation to receive the sacrament if they feel unable to do so. **Because of ongoing potential risks to health, an individual communicant may choose to receive only in the form of bread even if consecrated wine is being distributed.***

Therefore, normal practice should now be considered to be for Holy Communion to be distributed in both kinds (bread and wine) and that the common cup be used. Incumbents and Parochial Church Councils of churches where the common cup has not been reintroduced are encouraged to consider its reintroduction and that the normative practice of the Church of England be resumed across the Diocese. The use of individual glasses or cups for individual communicants remains unlawful.

Public health and good hygiene remain important. Therefore

- Those who feel unable to receive the common cup may receive Holy Communion in one kind (bread) only.
- Individual communicants may not dip the bread into the wine (intinction) themselves.
- Care should continue to be taken by those presiding at Holy Communion to maintain high levels of hygiene, including hand washing.
- Those who show symptoms of illness should take steps to minimise their contact with others, including at Holy Communion.
- In cases of particular need, individual communicants may request the minister to dip the bread in the wine (intinction) before giving it to the communicant. **However, this is the exception rather than the norm.**
- PCCs may continue to make local arrangements for how any greeting is organised at the Peace in services of Holy Communion.

+Rose Dover

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Toddler Time Group meets Monday mornings 9.15am to 11.30am. **TERM TIME ONLY. RESTARTS 8th SEPTEMBER**

Bellringers Practice every Thursday 7.30 to 9pm.

Bible Study Group meet Thursday at 7pm, details & inquiries ring

Susan 836430 . STARTS AGAIN 4th SEPTEMBER

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 11.30am on the third Tuesday each month.

Friday Pop In 10.30am to 12 noon RESTARTS FRIDAY 5th SEPTEMBER

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 .

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