

Parish and Community

The Link

St Mildreds Road



Westgate Bay Avenue

Westgate Bay Avenue



St Mildreds Road

**September
2026**

The Magazine of
St Saviour's Parish Church

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST SAVIOUR WESTGATE ON SEA

Website www.stsaviourswestgate.org.uk

Email office@stsaviourswestgate.org.uk



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The Revd Susan Wing

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St Saviour's Church, Westgate

FAMILY SERVICE

SUNDAY 6th SEPTEMBER

AT 10.30am – 11.15am



ALL ARE WELCOME

Heroes

Many people have spoken about Dolly Parton, following her death at the end of August. There are sad words, but a lot of comments are so admiring of all the philanthropic things she did. It is well known that she did not attend church, but nevertheless she had a deep spiritual Christian faith and apparently prayed every night and morning. It was her faith that inspired her songs and her donations to charities that added up to millions of dollars every year. Her humility comes across in the stories about her, such as donations to AIDS charities, that could have ended her career. Her fame crossed political cultural and religious divides and you don't have to be a music fan to understand why she is a role model and hero to many.

The Bible has many humble heroes of the faith, which we hear about in our readings and sermons from time to time, but I have always looked for more modern saints who just as faithfully serve God and know His purpose for their lives.

One such saint and one of my heroes is Eric Liddel the Scottish Olympic athlete whose story is told in the film 'Chariots of Fire' which won 4 Oscars at the 1982 Academy Awards. The reason why I have an interest in his life is that I used to run competitively and was inspired by his words 'God made me fast. And when I run, I feel His pleasure'. He found fame, but gave it all up to serve God as a missionary.

Eric Liddell was born in China in 1902 to Scottish missionary parents and although he was sent to board at Eltham College School in South London; he spent as much time as possible in Edinburgh. At school Eric was an outstanding athlete captain of both the cricket and rugby teams.

In 1920 Liddell joined his brother Robert at the University of Edinburgh to study Pure Science. Eric continued to enjoy sport running and playing rugby for the university. Not only did he become well known for being the fastest runner in the country, but he played Rugby for Scotland. He was famous for scoring tries and breaking running records.

Eric had a strong Christian faith and in between his running and rugby regularly spoke at meetings organised by university groups. As he was so famous he was the lead speaker and it is said his job was to evangelise the men of Scotland.

Eric was selected to run for Britain in the 100 metres at the 1924 Summer Olympics held in Paris, but because the heats were going to be held on a

Sunday he withdrew. Nevertheless, it was agreed he could run in the 400 metres instead, even though his best time was modest by international standards. On the morning of the Olympic 400-metre final, 11 July 1924, he was handed a folded piece of paper by one of the team masseurs on which was written "In the old book it says: 'He that honours me I will honour.' Wishing you the best of success always." This reference to 1 Samuel 2:30, encouraged Eric to realise how his stand had been acknowledged by other people.

Eric's chances of winning were immediately reduced as he was given the unfavourable outside lane for the race, but inspired by the Biblical message and unable to see the other runners, Eric sprinted the first half of the race and as he hurtled around the final bend he held off the challengers in the straight to win in an Olympic and world record time.

After the fame and glory of his Olympic success Eric felt God was calling him to return to China as a Missionary. In 1932 he was ordained a minister of the Congregational Union of Scotland and Florence Mackenzie whose Canadian parents, had also been missionaries.

Eric remained in China, but 3 years after the start of the Second World War the Japanese expanded into China, so the British government advised their nationals to leave. Thus his wife and their young daughters went back to Canada but Eric stayed to help.

In 1943, he was sent to an Internment Camp with the members of the China Inland Mission. Eric became a leader and organiser at the camp, but food, medicine, and other supplies were scarce. He helped the elderly, taught Bible classes and set up games and classes for the children, who referred to him as Uncle Eric.

Someone who survived the camp later said about Eric, '... It is rare indeed that a person has the good fortune to meet a saint, but he came as close to it as anyone I have ever known.'

In his last letter to his wife, written on the day he died, Eric wrote of suffering a breakdown due to overwork. Sadly, he was malnourished and had an undiagnosed brain tumour. Eric Liddell died on 21 February 1945, five months before the camp was liberated.

"As Christians, I challenge you. Have a great aim - have a high standard - make Jesus your ideal...make Him an ideal not merely to be admired but also to be followed." ~ Eric Liddell

Rev Jef Foulger

Services in September and our Harvest Festival

Sunday 6th All Age Service at 10.30am followed by refreshments and the monthly number draw for September

Sunday 13th Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) at 9.00am

Sung Eucharist at 10.30am followed by refreshments

Sunday 20th Service of the Word at 10.30am

Songs of Praise for Christians in Westgate, Westbrook and Garlinge at 6.00pm

Sunday 27th Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) at 9.00am

Sung Eucharist at 10.30am followed by refreshments

Sunday 4th October All Age Harvest Festival Service at 10.30am followed by refreshments and the monthly number draw for October. Donations of food in tins or jars gratefully received for The Storehouse Food Bank run from Birchington Baptist Church

Donations for flowers for decorating the church for Harvest would be most welcome. Please see Christine Attwood or Christine Bolger. Thank you.



FROM THE REGISTERS

For those Baptised

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

Sunday August 16th Bertie

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”

The Departed

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

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

For those whose anniversary of death falls at this time.

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

World War 2 Roll of Honour for this month

Robert Terry 13th September 1944

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

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 2026 “The Link” is
SUNDAY 27th SEPTEMBER 2026

October “The Link” will be the last edition that I will be editing as Publisher is now finishing and I am not wanting to undertake learning new technology. Many thanks for all of your support over the many years. Valda (Editor)

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.

C	W	S	S	S	S	N	E	Y	H	D	P	P	H	D
A	W	E	Z	D	C	A	O	T	I	I	L	E	C	G
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Apprenticeship

Autumn

Beginnings

Churches

College

Education

Equinox

Friends



Headteacher

Kent

Leprosy

Living

Naaman

Ride

School

September



Sponsorship

Stride

Sunday

Together

University

Well

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2		5		7				3
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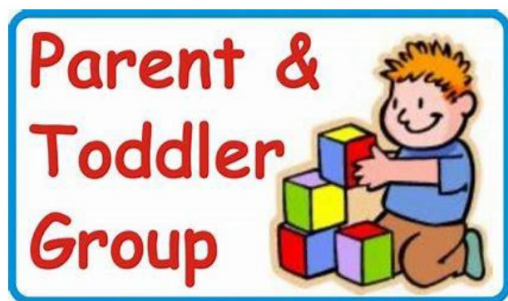
As you may be aware INEQE Safeguarding Group have been commissioned to conduct Independent Safeguarding Audits of the Church of England to make sure dioceses and cathedrals are doing all they can to create environments where everyone feels safe, valued and respected. As part of the audit process for Canterbury, INEQE hope to engage with parishioners and members of the parish community through an online survey which will act as a mechanism through which individuals can comment on any matters relevant to the Audit's focus. The survey is both anonymous (we are not seeking to identify you) and confidential (you will not be identified). We would therefore ask you to be open and honest with your responses. The survey results are received directly by INEQE's Audit Team and not by the Church of England. The survey is now live and will close at 11.30 pm on Wednesday 2nd of September 2026. To access the survey relevant to you please visit: <https://ineqe.com/churchofengland/canterbury/>

Monthly Number Draw

The winner of the draw after the 10.30am service on Sunday 2nd August was Steve Short. The next draw takes place on Sunday 6th September after the service that morning.

St Saviour's Church, Westgate

TODDLER TIME



Meets

MONDAY MORNINGS

(Term time only)

9.15am to 11.30am

**For pre-school children
and carers**



STITCHES, BOILERS, PIPES, IMPS & A SILVERWING

For my penultimate article for "The Link" I thought I would send in a dredger deep into my memory bank! About 65 years ago, as a boy would sometimes be with a group of friends & we played on a patch of rough ground (a bombsite) some older boys had these wooden carts. They had no pedals & steered by a loop of rope, pull left or right to turn. You really needed to ride it on a slope. I did get a few rides by my repeated cries of "Can I have a go?". Then on one ride I hurtled down this bumpy slope & when I turned at the bottom the cart turned over & I landed bottom first on a load of rubbish containing a lot of broken glass. My rear end hurt a bit but I was more concerned about the trickle of blood running down the back of my leg! So I went home for first aid! Mum did what she could but took me to the hospital. She didn't have a car so we must have walked or caught a bus. The doctor showed me a piece of glass which was removed from my lower cheek, then the wound was stitched up & it was several days or more before I could sit down properly. I still have a scar but the only people who would see it now would be a doctor or a nurse! Into the 1960's & we had moved away from Erith & bombsites. The family home was a bungalow & Dad was doing well as a Self employed Plumber. He had a new red Ford Anglia van with his name painted on the sides. He installed a lot of central heating systems to older houses, lots of boilers & pumps, radiators & several miles of copper pipes. On occasion during my school holidays he would take me to work with him. I would hand him tools & sweep up any mess. I liked to watch him solder the copper pipe joints, he used a blowlamp with paraffin, it had a plunger which he pumped to get a good flame from the nozzle.

I wasn't so keen when sometimes he had to cut up asbestos sheets for insulation, you got covered in a dusty white powder. He also used asbestos gloves & cloth, the dangers to health wasn't known then.

He was a tidy worker, never left any mess and he was a tidy person as he always wore a shirt & tie under his bib & brace overalls. He worked hard & part of his reward was his love of cars. The cars he owned had style you could admire & tell one make from another (unlike today!) also the names sounded magical, Ford Consul Classic, Ford Zephyr, Zodiac – Vauxhall Victor, Vauxhall Cresta in 2 tone colour of cream & blue with lots of chrome parts to shine, as a boy I liked them all.

Mum wasn't just a housewife as she took care of all the paperwork, accounts etc, part of her reward was a new car, a Hillman Imp in blue. It was a lovely little car that she kept for a couple of years until she changed it for another new Imp, I think it was a brown or gold colour.

Once my sister had left home to start her own family & I was messing about on motorbikes I think Dad had a bit of a midlife crisis! Gone were the big saloon cars & along came zippy sports cars, all were Triumphs, TR4 & TR5 then a bright yellow whizzer called a GT6. After a few years it was back to bigger saloon cars only he moved to Audi & Mazda cars.

What used to be considered Dad's car was now the family car which Mum now drove having sold the Imp.

I have mentioned in previous articles about some of my motorcycle activities but by 2007 I fancied a new scooter! But scooters had been developed by companies such as Honda, Suzuki & Yamaha. They called them Maxi Scooters with engines of 500 to 650cc. I liked the look of the 600cc Honda Silverwing (see Photo). It was different to ride as it was automatic (no clutch or gear lever). The first few rides I went to pull the clutch lever which wasn't there! But I soon got used to it. It was really smooth & comfy. You could ride at 100mph (so I am told) as if you were riding on a magic carpet. It had a large storage area under the seat as well as a topbox to carry items, it was great for holidays & I covered thousands of miles on it, but due to my ailments I wasn't using it or any of my motorcycles very much so I gave it to my old friend Richard. He is enjoying it & adding more miles, only recently he rode it down from Dartford to visit me & it was gleaming clean! So now I have an electric trike which is slightly like a bike & I can ride it pain free whenever I like!

Your Scribe, Stephen (the Bruce)



Friends of Kent Churches Sponsored Ride and Stride 2026

This year's Ride and Stride will be place on

Saturday 12th September 2026 10am – 6pm

Last year the Ride and Stride raised in excess of £152,000. 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 and coast.

The list of participating churches and the sponsor forms should be available in July. Please contact me if you wish to know more. It would be good to see more people from St. Saviour's riding or striding and raising money through sponsorship. Half the money raised through your efforts comes back to St. Saviour's.

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. Seeing an open church door, a friendly face and a toilet helps the day along. As I no longer ride or stride – I did it for many years – I intend to sit in the church all day to welcome everybody. However, I can not do this alone and need someone to sit with me. Please let me know if you are able to be on the hourly rota for this.

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.

José Gibbs 01843 834767 gibbszzz@btinternet.com





1st WESTGATE RAINBOWS

For Girls aged 4 to 7 years

Meets Fridays in term time

4.15 to 5.15pm

Westgate Community Centre

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.**

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 we meet on the 3rd Thursday of every month at 10am to 11:45am - all are welcome to join.

Friday Pop In 10.30am to 12 noon

St Saviour's Church has a Hearing Loop System

Large print Hymn Books 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