

*Services at St Margaret's Underriver  
May 2008*



<b>Sunday</b>	<b>4 May</b>	11:15	Family Service	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>11 May</b>	08:00	Holy Communion (said)	<b>BCP</b>
		18:00	Evensong (with hymns)	<b>BCP</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>18 May</b>	10:30	Sunday Club meets in the Village Hall	
		11:15	A Short Service for All God's Children	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>25 May</b>	11:15	Parish Communion (with hymns)	<b>CW</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>1 Jun</b>	11:15	Family Service	

*For details of joint services, bible study, prayer times, etc., please see Page 2*

**ST LAWRENCE CHURCH AND VILLAGE CONTACTS**

**Priest in Charge - St Lawrence Church - Revd Dr Michael Cooke - 761766**  
**Reader - St Lawrence Church - Mrs Gretel Wakeham - 761534**

Churchwardens	John Morris	810227	S'oaks District Councillor	Cnclr Peter Coates	762129
	Hilary Denby-Jones	763883	Seal Parish Council		
PCC Hon Secretary	Richard Glencross	761202	Chairman	Robin Watson	833930
PCC Hon Treasurer	Tony Webb	xd	Vice-Chairman	Edward Oatley	465905
Electoral Roll	Clive McLintock	452964	Clerk	Lorna Talbot	763488
Covenant & Envelopes	John Morris	810227	Ward Councillors	Peter Granville	763832
Organist	Lizzie Veglio	see page 5		Chris Sutton-Mattocks	762013
Choir Director	John Morris	810227	St Lawrence Village Association		
Bellringers Hon Secretary	Elspeth Cooke	761766	Chairman	Graham Moynes	760640
Sevenoaks Deanery Synod	Tony Webb	xd	Secretary	Carol Smith763561St	Lawrence
	Gretel Wakeham	761534	Village Hall Management Committee		
Sunday School	Hilary Darque	453929	Chairman	Peter Granville	763832
	Beryl Storey	451510	Secretary	Peter Wharton	810388
Church Flowers	Jean Stirling	810258	Treasurer	Marie O'Connor	xd
Memorial Flowers	Annie Scarsi	810864	Bookings Secretary	Janice Brooker	760843
St Lawrence CE Primary School			Cricket Club Contact	Graham Cook	761827
Headteacher	Alison Saunders	761393	Badm'ton Club Contact	Ian Lister	762416
Chairman of Governors	Mrs Sarah Hudson	810050	Bowls Club	Peter Granville	763832
Clerk to the Governors	Sarah Brew	xd	Tennis Club Contact	Gretel Wakeham	761534
St Lawrence Pre-School	Mandy McCracken	847990	Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators		
1 <sup>st</sup> St Lawrence Brownies	Janet Boswell	01959 523953	Stone Street Contact	Janice Brooker	760843
			Seal Chart Contact	Nicola Mitchell	764202

*St Lawrence, Seal Chart Parish Magazine  
May 2008*



*Priest in Charge*  
**The Reverend Dr Michael Cooke**  
 St Lawrence Vicarage  
 Stone Street  
 Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 0LQ  
 01732 761766

*Reader*  
**Mrs Gretel Wakeham**  
 The White House  
 Bitchet Green  
 Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 0NA  
 01732 761534

*Church Wardens*

**John Morris**  
 Beaconsmount, Pine Tree Lane  
 Ivyhatch  
 Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 0NJ  
 01732 810227

**Hilary Denby-Jones**  
 Broomsleigh Park  
 Seal Chart  
 Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 0ES  
 01732 763883

*Please make [www.sealstlawrence.org.uk](http://www.sealstlawrence.org.uk) one of your favourite websites*

Copy for the next issue should be sent to the editor (or e-mail to [brian@bsutton0.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:brian@bsutton0.wanadoo.co.uk)).

**to arrive by 08:00 on Wednesday 14 May 2008**

The next issue, of the Parish Magazine will be in Church on **Sunday 25 May**

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*Services at The Church of St Lawrence Seal Chart  
May 2008*



<b>Thursday</b>	<b>1 May</b>	<b>Ascension Day</b> Holy Communion (said) Daniel 7: 9-14    Acts 1: 1-11    Luke 24: 44-53	<b>CW</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>4 May</b>	<b>Seventh Sunday of Easter</b> Holy Communion (said) Acts 1: 6-14    John 17: 1-11 09:45 All Age/Family Service (with children in church) Acts 1: 6-14	<b>BCP</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>9 May</b>	<b>Prayer Time for Both Parishes</b> (Open to all - lasts about 60 mins) At Shepherd's Cottage, Heaverham Road, Kemsing	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>11 May</b>	<b>Pentecost</b> Family Communion (with hymns) Acts 2: 1-21    John 7: 37-39	<b>CW</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>18 May</b>	<b>Trinity Sunday</b> Holy Communion (said) 2 Cor 13: 11-13    Matthew 28: 16-20 09:45 All Age/Family Service (with Sunday School) Isaiah 40: 12-17, 27-31    Matthew 28: 16-20	<b>CW</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>22 May</b>	<b>Prayer Time for Both Parishes</b> (Open to all - lasts about 60 mins) At St Lawrence Vicarage	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>25 May</b>	<b>First Sunday after Trinity</b> Morning Prayer (with hymns) Leviticus 19: 1-2, 9-18    Matthew 5: 38-48	<b>BCP</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>1 June</b>	<b>Second Sunday after Trinity</b> Holy Communion (said) Romans 1: 16-17, 3: 22b-28    Matthew 7: 21-29 09:45 All Age/Family Service (with children in church) Matthew 7: 21-29	<b>BCP</b>

BCP = Book of Common Prayer - a service using traditional (17th C) language and form  
CW = Common Worship - a service using contemporary (21st C) language and form



**Church**

Roz Morris  
Roz Morris  
Wedding  
Wedding  
Wedding

**Flower Rota**

Sunday 4 May  
Sunday 11 May  
Sunday 18 May  
Sunday 25 May  
Sunday 1 June

**Memorial**

Francesca Turner  
Francesca Turner  
Pat Edghill  
Pat Edghill  
Juliet Evans



**St Lawrence Sunday School**



Sun 18 May	A Man by the Road	Celeste & Lyn
Sun 15 June	The Story of St Lawrence	Helen & Beryl
<b>NB at 10:30</b>		
Sun 09 Sept	Planning Meeting	At Beryl's
Sun 21 Sept	Peter and Cornelius	Lesley & Hilary
Sun 05 Oct	Harvest Festival	

**Our Sunday School meets in St Lawrence School at 09:45 on the dates shown  
All children are welcome — Bring Mum or Dad as well!!!**

**For further information, contact Hilary Darque (453929) or Beryl Storey (451510)**

**SEAL & DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

Look what's on this year!

16 April	Speaker on Hardy Geraniums
21 May	Visit to a Local Garden in Wildernesse
25 June	Visit to Shoreham Lavender Fields
16 July	ANNUAL SHOW
20 Aug	NO MEETING
17 Sept	Speaker on the 1987 Hurricane
15 Oct	Speaker on the Nature of Fungi
19 Nov	Flower Arranging

Annual Membership Fee £5 - Visitors Welcome!

8:00 PM IN SEAL VILLAGE HALL (unless we are visiting somewhere)

Telephone Sarah 07970 484232

Should politics be kept out of the Olympics? It's a topical question, in view of the demonstrations we have been seeing as the Olympic Torch makes its world tour. Both practical and moral considerations seem to lead to the same conclusion – No! Top-level sport is always about more than the skills of individual sports people – much though we applaud athletes' wishes just to let sport be sport.

Nations which score well in the medals table know that they will reap well. It's good for self-esteem; it's good for trade; it's good for the politicians who oversee the arrangements. So it can "pay" nations to bend rules – for example during the Communist era East Germany did its best through enforced training regimes, drug-abuse and at times child-abuse to make out it was a greater and more important nation than it was.

In the case of the Olympics, politics seems to be even more intrinsic to the system. Politics is at the heart of which city is chosen as a venue – if Beijing 2008 was in part to honour and respect the world's most populous nation, the reasons for London 2012 included "time to be in Europe", "opportunities for urban redevelopment" as well as presumed competence of Britain to organise the games well. Not least to offset some of the costs (and there are major moral issues here over the forced relocation of people from their homes and over the £ billions spent, only part of which can be deemed of benefit after the short event itself), a host nation will often seek to maximise the opportunity for self-promotion. China's current attempts are nothing new – we remember Moscow (1980) and most infamously Munich (1938).

But there's a deeper reason why politics will always be connected with sport. In its truest sense, politics is about people and their relationship. Sport too is about relationships between people – we see this in team sports, and in the whole support system: training and coaches depend in large degree on a nation's facilities. Funding depends on other people, and often on a good system of sponsorship and tax-efficient charity- again the state may be involved.

Moral issues are involved in all the above – but they become even more critical when what a nation stands for in sport is so at variance with its relationships towards other groups of people. When such hypocrisy means gross mistreatment of whole peoples, then a nation's over-elevation of itself through sport becomes so wrong that humanity demands some resolution. Though we will certainly differ over the means to correct such evils – e.g. street demonstrations (2008 - Tibet and human rights), or boycott (1980 – Russian invasion of Afghanistan), or terrorism (1972 – policy of Israel) - some action is right if sport is not to become either a god or a means for a nation behaving like god.

With all best wishes,

Michael

**Mouse Makes**  
The Lost Sheep

People would come to listen to Jesus, one day he told this parable:

"Suppose one of you has 100 sheep and loses one of them- what does he do? He leaves the other 99 in the pasture and goes looking for the one who is lost until he finds it. When he finds it he is so happy he calls his friends and neighbours together and says to them "I am so happy. I found my lost sheep. Let us celebrate!"

Why did the man go looking for one lost sheep?

What happened when he found it?

Jesus said "In the same way, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over 99 respectable people who do not need to repent."

Read the story in Luke 15:1-7

Jesus said:  
"I am the good shepherd ... I know my sheep and I am willing to die for them"  
John 10:14

cut out

cut out

cut out

cut out

Make shepherd and sheep finger puppets to help you tell the story.  
Glue onto stiff card, cut out and colour in.

May08

## News from our School

I write this looking out on a very unseasonal covering of April snow! The weather was certainly very different a month ago when Mr Evans and I took our year 5 and 6 children to Hilltop Outdoor Centre in Norfolk. As always, I thoroughly enjoyed our three-day trip, it is definitely one of the highlights of the year for me. The children had the opportunity to tackle a wide variety of outward bound activities including an assault course, high ropes, a giant zip wire and night games. I am a firm believer in the value of these activities in promoting an enjoyment of the great outdoors as well as the chance to push yourself beyond the limits of what you thought you could do. As a teacher it is always extremely exciting to see the look on a child's face when they have achieved something they thought was beyond them. This year the group of children seemed to be even pluckier than usual. They were also described by one instructor as 'the best behaved group of children he had ever had' – he had been working at the centre for three years! I was very proud of all of them.



I was very encouraging to see a large number of school families in St Lawrence Church on Palm Sunday to support the orchestra and enjoy the 'donkey'. I was very grateful to Rev Michael Cooke and the regular church members who were so accommodating of our ever growing orchestra – we really were made to feel most welcome.



You may have noticed another event at St Lawrence School that made the front page of the Kent Messenger. Our History Week! We were very aware that children often study specific periods in history but rarely put them all together to see the bigger picture and get an idea of chronology. So different groups of children and adults (the PTA and the governors got involved) researched different English monarchs and then, on the Friday afternoon, we put them all together to create a timeline starting from William the Conqueror and finishing with our present Queen. It was great fun but also a vibrant learning experience for the children.

There have been many other events over the past month: our girls' football team excelled at a recent tournament, some children had artwork exhibited at an exhibition in The Drive Methodist Church and the PTA Easter Egg hunt to name just a few. St Lawrence continues to be a busy, happy little school.

*Alison*

## Thank you from The Vicarage

Dear Friends

Thank you so much to everyone who contributed to the most generous Easter gift to the Vicarage. We continue our one-room-a-year redecoration of the house – this year it is the turn of the upstairs 'study' which is more of a storeroom for music, Sunday School materials etc. I have found that the best way to get a room really tidy is to decorate it, so perhaps this will be the year to have a good turn-out of outdated resources.

As I write, the garden is showing signs of new growth. The first hostas are just emerging – H. 'Chinese Sunrise' is one of the first to appear. This smallish, but vigorous hosta has bright green shiny pointed leaves edged with dark green and has a very long season of interest as the dark purple slender flowers don't open until early autumn. Some of the shrubs I have planted are now large and mature – the 5 year old *Stachyurus praecox* has just finished flowering and its arching branches with lovely racemes of pale yellow bells looked stunning with new underplanting of deep blue *Pulmonaria 'Blue Ensign'* – a very successful combination. The camellia beside the front door (variety not certain – possibly 'Ave Maria' which would be most appropriate!) is suffering badly from sooty mould – we didn't get enough sharp frost to kill off the aphids), but I am very pleased to report that the daughter plant (produced by air-layering a few years ago) is in good health and has at last produced flowers. No structural changes are planned for the garden this year – I must resist the temptation to extend the cultivated area any further! Recent modifications such as the cornus bed and the area round the old water tank have established very well and look more mature than their years. This year I should do some renovation of the older borders.

Many thanks again to you all.

*Elspeth*

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## Landing on Mars on 25 May

This month a robotic spacecraft called the Phoenix is going to land on Mars. It is the first scientist, or Principal Investigator (PI) led, mission to Mars. The scientists conducting the mission are looking for something specific: environments which might be suitable for some sort of life to exist on that harsh red planet.

Phoenix left Earth on 4 August 2007, and is scheduled to land on 25 May. It is run by a multi-agency programme under the direction of NASA, and is a partnership of universities from the US, Canada, Switzerland, Denmark, Germany, NASA itself, the Canadian Space Agency, and the aerospace industry.

The scientists hope to land Phoenix on Mars' northern polar region, so it can dig its robotic arm into the Arctic terrain.

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# **St. Margaret's and St Lawrence's Annual Garden Party**

**Saturday 14 June 2008**

**2pm - 5pm**

**at Bassetts, Underriver**

## **STALLS INCLUDE**

**RAFFLE, TOMBOLA, FLOWERS, CAKES,**

**PLANTS AND PRODUCE, BRIC-à-BRAC,**

**BOOKS & TOYS**

**TEAS and LIGHT REFRESHMENTS**

**CHILDREN'S RACES**

If you are able to help on the day (particularly on bric-a brac or toys)  
or have items to donate please call

Rosemary Cole - 01732 763107 or Hilary Denby-Jones - 07776 136678

## **ANTIQUES AND COLLECTABLES**

**After last years successful Antiques and Collectibles Stall**

**Tony Webb is planning a repeat.**

**This time it will be called**

**Something Old/Something New**

If you have any possessions, either old or new,  
(unwanted gifts for example) that you would like to donate,  
please get in touch with Tony Webb, on 01732 763436., who is especially  
looking for items that could be sold for £5 and above.

## ***To All Flower Arrangers***

Having organised the Flower Rota for the past eleven years, I think it is time to retire. I would like to thank everyone who has supported me so well over the years.

Sheila Jackson has agreed to take over from me. Sheila is an excellent flower arranger and I know will bring some new ideas to our flower arranging displays. I am sure you will all give her the support you have given me.

With very many thanks and best wishes to all,

*Jean Stirling*

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## ***Some Special Dates for our Diaries***

1<sup>st</sup> May (Thursday) is Ascension Day – one of the most important festivals in the church's calendar. Our Communion Service for both parishes is held this year at St Lawrence's (10 am).

14 June (Saturday) is our joint parish Garden Party, held this year in Underriver (see enclosed flyer).

Please let's mark these dates in our diaries.

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## ***A New Resident Organist for St Lawrence's***

We welcome Lizzie Veglio (pronounced Vay-lio!) as our new organist at St Lawrence's. Lizzie lives in Snodland, and has previously played (and in emergencies still does occasionally help out) at Aylesford Priory. For the last five years she has been organist at Chalk – and will continue to help them for their evening services.

Lizzie expects to be starting with us on 4<sup>th</sup> May. And we look forward to sharing enthusiasm and good music. Welcome Lizzie!

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## ***Prayer Topics for this Month***

- Thanks for the Lordship of Christ over all creation (c.f. Ascension Day)
- For Gareth and Helen, for Matt and Bolette, and for Ed and Victoria who are marrying in this merry month of May. May the Lord bless them greatly.

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## ***Strong creatures***

Many insects can carry 50 times their own body weight. This would be like an adult person lifting two heavy cars full of people.

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**Christian Aid Week 11-17 May 2008**

**Time for action on climate change**

As sea levels rise in coastal Bangladesh, saltwater is contaminating the water supply of riverbank and coastal communities. These communities also face losing homes to rapidly increasing river erosion. The changing climate is poised to reverse decades of development. Forget making poverty history; poverty is set to become permanent unless we address climate change as a matter of urgency.

Your donations this Christian Aid Week will help communities in the developing world to cope with the effects of climate change. But money in itself is not enough. We also need to act. We can all use our influence on politicians and business leaders in the rich world – who are the ones making many of the key decisions affecting poor countries. Global warming is not just a distant forecast. It's already happening now, and poor people are the ones who are being hit the hardest.

Climate change is an issue of injustice. The world's poorest people have done the least to contribute to the problem, and yet they are suffering the worst effects. Carbon has fuelled the rich world's wealth and development. But the devastating impact of our CO<sub>2</sub> emissions on our climate means that poor countries cannot now develop in the same way.

To enable poor countries to develop in a way that won't further increase climate change and condemn them to perpetual poverty, Christian Aid is pressing for an international agreement which

- calls for rich countries to cut their own CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by at least 80 per cent by 2050;
- compensates poor countries for the damage already caused by climate change so they have the resources to adapt
- assists poor countries to develop in ways that will limit CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

As citizens of a rich country, we are all in a powerful position to make a difference. And this is where we need your help. Please sign the prayer and action card this Christian Aid Week (you can get one from the back of St Lawrence's Church) and send a message to the government that urgent action is needed on climate change now.

Campaigning works. Previous campaigns have delivered real change on issues such as debt and fair trade. We need to take action on climate change now, before it is too late. Find out more about Christian Aid's Climate Changed campaign, and sign up to take further action, by visiting [www.christianaid.org.uk/climate](http://www.christianaid.org.uk/climate)

**Commissioning Service for Christian Aid Week**

You are warmly invited to come to this year's special ecumenical service which will be held at St Thomas of Canterbury's RC Church on **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May at 4 pm**. The speaker will be Colin Kemp, Legacy Manager for Christian Aid.

**House to House Collection in St Lawrence Parish**

The theme of this year's Christian Aid Week is 'Empowering: helping the weak to help themselves'. The House-to-house collection which we shall be having in St Lawrence Parish is an excellent opportunity to raise money which will be channelled through Christian Aid's partner organisations to enable some of the poorest peoples in the world to build a better future for their own communities.

Could you be part of the team of collectors in the parish this year? It just involves delivering envelopes to a small number of houses early in the week and then calling back to collect them. An hour or two collecting from a few local houses could raise enough to make a significant difference to the life of someone in a developing country. The more collectors we have, the easier the task, so please give prayerful consideration to helping. Perhaps you could do it with a friend. If you can help, or if you'd like to know more about what is involved, please contact me. If you live outside the parish and would prefer to collect in your own local area, do please still contact me and I can put you in touch with the organiser for your area. More collectors are needed in all areas. Thank you.

**Station Collection at Sevenoaks Station**

Could you spare an hour during the morning or evening rush-hour to 'rattle a can'.

*Please contact Elspeth Cooke (01732 761766) to offer to help or for further information about Christian Aid.*

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**On your Bike !!!**

**Advance Notice**



**This year's Bike Ride for Kent Churches  
will be on Saturday 13 September**