

**Services at St Margaret's Underriver  
during September 2009**



<b>Sunday</b>	<b>6 Sept</b>	11:15	Family Service	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>13 Sept</b>	08:00	Holy Communion (said)	<b>BCP</b>
		18:00	Evensong (with hymns)	<b>BCP</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>20 Sept</b>	10:30	Sunday Club meets in the Village Hall	
		11:15	Short Family Service for all God's Children	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>27 Sept</b>	11:15	Parish Communion (with hymns)	<b>CW</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>4 Oct</b>	11:15	Harvest Festival Service	
		12:30	Harvest Lunch in the Village Hall	

*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**

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

Churchwardens	Hilary Denby-Jones 763883	S'oaks District Councillor	Cnclr Peter Coates 762129
	Celeste Davis-Watling 820190	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 01634 244700		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	Gretel Wakeham 761534	Secretary	Carol Smith 763561
	Hilary Denby-Jones 763883	St Lawrence Village Hall Management Committee	
Sunday School	Hilary Darque 453929	Chairman	Peter Granville 763832
	Elspeth Cooke 761766	Secretary	Peter Wharton 810388
Child Protection Rep	Carol McLintock 452964	Treasurer	Marie O'Connor xd
deputy	Gretel Wakeham 761534	Bookings Secretary	Janice Brooker 760843
Church Flowers	Sheila Jackson 811422	Cricketer Club Contact	Graham Cook 761827
Memorial Flowers	Annie Scarsi 810864	Badm'ton Club Contact	Ian Lister 762416
St Lawrence CE Primary School		Bowls Club	Peter Granville 763832
Headteacher	Alison Saunders 761393	Tennis Club Contact	Gretel Wakeham 761534
Chairman of Governors	Sarah Hudson 810050	Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators	
Clerk to the Governors	Sarah Brew xd	Stone Street Contact	Janice Brooker 760843
St Lawrence Pre-School	Mandy McCracken 847990	Seal Chart Contact	Nicola Mitchell 764202
1 <sup>st</sup> St Lawrence Brownies	Janet Boswell 01959 523953		

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 16 September 2009**

The next issue of the Parish Magazine will be in Church on **Sunday 27 September 2009**

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**St Lawrence, Seal Chart Parish Magazine  
September 2009**



**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  
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 Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 0NA  
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**Church Wardens**

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

**Celeste Davis-Watling**  
 C/o St Lawrence Church  
 Church Road, Stone Street  
 Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 0LN  
 01732 820190

**Services at The Church of St Lawrence Seal Chart during September 2009**



<b>Thursday</b>	<b>3 Sept</b>	<b>Prayer Time for both parishes</b> (Open to all - lasts about 60 mins) At The Vicarage	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>6 Sept</b>	<b>Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity</b> Holy Communion (said) James 2: 1-10, 14-17      Mark 7: 24-37	<b>BCP</b>
	09:45	All Age Family Service (with children in church) Mark 7: 24-37	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>13 Sept</b>	<b>Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity</b> Family Communion (with hymns) James 3: 1-12      Mark 8: 27-38	<b>CW</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>17 Sept</b>	<b>Prayer Time for both Parishes</b> (Open to all - lasts about 60 mins) At The Tudor House, Coach Road, Underriver	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>20 Sept</b>	<b>Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity</b> Holy Communion (said) James 3: 13- 4:3, 7-8a      Mark 9: 30-37	<b>CW</b>
	09:45	All Age Family Service (with Sunday School) Proverbs 31: 10-31      Mark 9: 30-37	<b>CW</b>
		Collection at this service is for the Church Army	
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>22 Sept</b>	<b>Bible Study for both Parishes</b> At Kettlehill House, St Julians Road, Underriver	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>27 Sept</b>	<b>Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity</b> Morning Prayer (with hymns) Numbers 11: 4-6, 10-16, 24-29      Mark 9: 38-50	<b>BCP</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>2 Oct</b>	<b>Prayer Time for both Parishes</b> (Open to all - lasts about 60 mins) At The White House, Bitchet Green	
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>3 Oct</b>	<b>Harvest Supper</b> In the Village Hall	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>4 October</b>	<b>Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity</b> Holy Communion (said) Hebrews 1: 1-4,2: 5-12      Mark 10: 2-16	<b>BCP</b>
	09:45	Harvest Festival Service (with children in church) Joel 2: 21-27      Matthew 13: 24-30	
		Collection at this service is for the Rural Development Movement's work in Parakkanvilva, South India	

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

**For the Children**

**Mouse Makes**

May the peoples praise you,  
O God, may all the peoples praise you.

The land has yielded its harvest; and God, our God has blessed us.  
Psalm 67:6

**What's in the pot of jam?**  
Can you find...

CHERRY • YAM • WINE • KIWI  
FIG • MELON • CHIPS • PEAR  
PLUM • LIME • APPLE • GRAPE  
PEACH • MANGO • ONION  
LYCHEE • LEMON  
ORANGE

**Can you find these fruit?**  
PINEAPPLE • GRAPES • FIGS  
KIWI • MELON • PEACH • PIP  
CHERRY • PEAR • PLUM • LIME  
ORANGE BANANA • APRICOT  
APPLES • DATE

**All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above, then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all his love.**

**Find these words in the haystack:**  
HARVEST PLOUGH FOOD  
SEED GOD WHEAT SUN  
SOIL RAIN BREAD  
SCATTER LAND SOW LOAF

## Methuselah's Diet

Methuselah ate what he found on his plate,  
And never, as people do now,  
Did he note the amount of the calorie count;  
He ate because it was chow.

He wasn't disturbed as at dinner he sat,  
Devouring a roast or a pie,  
To reflect it was full of saturated fat,  
Or a couple of vitamins shy.

He cheerfully chewed each species of food,  
Unmindful of troubles or fears  
Lest his health might be hurt by some fancy desert –  
And he lived over nine hundred years!

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

## The Vicar's Page

*"New ev'ry morning is the love, our wak'ning and uprising prove;  
through sleep and darkness safely brought, restored to life and pow'r and thought."*

Do we believe it – once the English is rearranged into normal order - that (merely) waking and getting up prove each morning the presence of new love? Or, for most of us or much of the time, are John Keble's words rather poetic licence? Do we really want anything *new*, or do we hark to things as they *were*?

For many people September is indeed a time of new beginnings and new associations:- a new class with new relationships, or for silverbacks a new U3A course; even a new school or university; or start of school itself, with the first days of life largely away from the family home. In each of these life-events we can see lots of new beginnings – and opportunities to give and receive love.

For many others, however, this September may seem less lovely. Recent graduates may find the employment prospects far from rosy. Others are already longer-term out of work, and the prospect of getting up at all is becoming a real drag. And sadly - for I know personally some in this category – there are others who feel they have reached the end of their useful life, and whose daily wish as they try to go to sleep is that they don't even wake up. Or even those who, like the recently highlighted case of Debbie Purdy who took her plea to the law lords, may plan that through a visit to Dignitas they will certainly not wake. Where is the love proven in such or similar cases?

As leaves begin to turn to glorious colour or begin to fall, as the autumn evenings draw in, and outdoor pursuits become more curtailed there are deep issues here to ponder over death and life; of the extent of the truth of mantras like "It's love that makes the world go round." There is much to pray about!




But there's one aspect in all this which we may not have sufficiently noticed:- the hymn verse's use of the word "our" (and in other verses the words "we" and "us"). Life is not lived or died alone. Our Autumn of the year or of life is matched by Spring for others – indeed, and with a rising world population there are more New Years than Year's Ends! "*Old friends, old scenes*", "*the trivial round, the common task*" are all present or all happen at least in part because of laws of nature that in this world we will never fully fathom. Taken as a whole, not only new love, but "*new thoughts of God, new hopes of heaven*" are being shown, if we would but raise ourselves to recognise them:-

*"If on our daily course our mind be set to hallow all we find,  
new treasures still, of countless price, God will provide for sacrifice."*

With all blessings,

Michael

PS For the full words, see hymn 349 in our St Lawrence's hymnbook

	<b>Flower Rotas for</b>	
<b>Church Flowers</b>		<b>Memorial Flowers</b>
Jill Beynon	Sunday 6 Sept	
Jill Beynon	Sunday 13 Sept	
Jill Beynon	Sunday 20 Sept	
Elsbeth Cooke	Sunday 27 Sept	
Elsbeth Cooke	Sunday 4 Oct	
<b>St Lawrence Sunday School</b>		
		
Sun 10 Sept	PLANNING MEETING	At 21 St Edith's Road, Kemsing
Sun 20 Sept	Parable of the Sower	Lesley and Hilary
Sun 4 Oct	Harvest Festival	
<b>Our Sunday School meets in St Lawrence School at 09:45 on the dates shown</b>		
<b>All children are welcome</b>		
<b>For further information, contact Hilary Darque (453929) or Elspeth Cooke (761766)</b>		

***Sponsored Ride and Walk with Friends of Kent Churches:***

***Saturday, 12 September (10am-6pm)***

Help to save churches in Kent! Bicycle or walk, with sponsorship money divided equally between the Friends of Kent Churches and the church or chapel of your choice. As usual St Lawrence's will have refreshments available in our porch for those who pass by. And if you are not riding or walking, could you think of sponsoring someone who would? More details from Hilary Darque (Tel 453929).



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***Prayer Points for this month***

- **For all those involved in the start of a new school/academic year**
- Those we know in our parishes whose **health is failing** – and all faced with issues of having to move from home.
- **Those who serve overseas** – and for their families back home praying for safety and a good homecoming.
- **Those due to be married this month** - including Matthew Jordan and Rebecca Corbally.

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***Finding out more about Christian Belonging***

Last year from our two parishes we had ten people (six children and four adults) expressing an interest in what it means to be a Christian, and in fact after a mini-course of 8 sessions (arranged to suit availabilities) eight eventually went forward for Confirmation.

If you think that this autumn might be the time to find out more for yourself, do please have a word with one of us as soon as possible – there's no obligation implied by asking for more details. *Michael (761766) or Gretel (761534)*

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***Sevenoaks & District Branch of the Workers' Educational Association - Courses 2009-2010***

WEA courses of 10 or 20 weeks will start again in the weeks beginning September 28<sup>th</sup> 2009 and January 11<sup>th</sup> 2010. There will also be some Day Schools. Details are to be found in the brochure, together with a booking form and this is available in your local library if you have not already been sent one, or on the web site [www.weaeastkent.org](http://www.weaeastkent.org). You can also ring for further details on courses or to book in advance: Dorothy Palmer (01959) 522936.

slow down eg walk more slowly or stand at the longest check-out queue in the supermarket?

Saying No:- How do our decisions help or hinder our ability to love God and others? Looking at your diary, what do I need to do differently?

Balancing Rest and Work:- Although we complain about working long hours, many of us secretly love it! We associate busyness with importance and too much free time indicates that we are not needed. What is a helpful rhythm of work and rest in our lives? How can we take seriously the Sabbath principle of having one day a week to rest and not work? We might do something we don't usually give time for eg taking a long walk or having an unhurried conversation with a friend, as well as avoiding more regular activities eg checking emails!

De-cluttering: - The more stuff we accumulate, the more time and energy are required to maintain it. What could we live without in order to live more simply? Go through your wardrobe, loft or garage and give away what you don't use.

Using Leisure Time Creatively:- When we actually take a break we often end up simply watching TV, surfing the net, shopping when we don't need anything or eating when we are not hungry! Why not choose leisure activities that really refresh you. It's not a case of more leisure time, but using the time we have more creative.

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***THE 23rd PSALM FOR THE 21st CENTURY***

The Lord is my Programmer, I shall not crash.  
 He installed the software on the hard disc of my heart.  
 All His commands are User-friendly,  
 His directory guides me to the fight choice  
 For His name's sake.  
 Even though I scroll through the problems of life,  
 I will fear no bugs,  
 For He is my backup  
 His password protects me.  
 He prepares a menu of life before me  
 In the presence of my enemies  
 His help is only a key strike away.  
 Surely goodness and mercy will follow me  
 All the days of my life  
 And my life will forever be merged with His  
 And saved forever.

(From Goring Parish Magazine)

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eternity). We realise that this sense of the majesty and glory of God gave perspective to his own life, for all the brilliance of his particular gifts. He delighted in humour and jokes because he knew humour always helped humanity keep a sense of proportion. It is related to humus, the soil, and to humility. Humour keeps our feet firmly on the ground, rejoicing in life and creation, but preventing us from becoming too high and mighty. That is the playfulness of Haydn's music, which breaks down our defences and pretensions.

As we listen, we rejoice in the energy and joy of his compositions, written under the over-arching perspective of divine providence. There is a story that George III said to the composer, 'Dr Haydn, you have written a great deal.' The composer modestly replied, 'Yes, Sire, a great deal more than is good.' The king rejoined, 'Oh, no, the world contradicts that,' and we, 200 years later, would agree.

*Michael Burgess*

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***Say it Slowly***

On a beautiful late summer's day, two American tourists had driving through North Wales into Anglesey.

They reached Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwylllantysiliogogoch and stopped for lunch.

Still gazing in fascination at the place name on the sign outside, one of the tourists approached the waitress and said: "Before we order, I wonder if you could settle an argument for us. Can you pronounce where we are, very, very, very slowly?"

"Sure," the girl shrugged.

She leaned over the counter and said: "Burr . . . . gurr . . . . king".

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***Your Life, Your Choice: Hurry Sickness***

Every day we are pressured to cram more and more activities into fewer and fewer hours. This has been described as 'hurry sickness' and it's something we can all identify with. For example, when did you last attempt to join the slowest checkout queue at the supermarket? Hurry is an enemy of our spiritual life, as most things connected with the kingdom of God cannot be done in a hurry!

We should draw a distinction between being busy and being hurried. Busyness has to do with our outward condition, while hurry is all about the state of our souls. It arises from having too many competing priorities at any given moment. Jesus was often busy but never hurried! We can train ourselves to be less hurried in the following ways, which will help to be more in tune with God's priorities.

Slowing Down:- To break the hold of a frantic pace of life why not deliberately

***St Lawrence's Harvest Supper and Festival***

As you see from the flyer included with this magazine, the Harvest Supper takes place on **Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October**. This is always an enjoyable community event and everyone is welcome. It is an enormous help to the organisers if you can get your tickets at least two weeks beforehand, so if you are planning to come, please contact Elspeth Cooke (Tel. 761766) or Rosemary Cole (Tel. 763107) to reserve your place. Tickets are £8 for adults and £4 for children under 12. The profit from the evening will be donated to Farm Africa.



The following day, Sunday, 4th October the **Harvest Festival Service** will be an All-age service at 9.45 am at St Lawrence Church. **Please do come!**

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***From the Registers at St Lawrence's***

26 May Burial of the Ashes of the late Geoffrey David Harold Rushant, late of Godden Green, and who had died aged 80 in December 2008.



15 July Funeral and Burial of the late Alvinia Jane Santer, late of Seal, and who had died aged 82.

We extend to both the above families our deepest condolences on their losses.

25 July Marriage after Banns of Daniel Ian Hayward and Samantha Louise Hyman. We wish them both every blessing in their new life together.

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***Thank You ...***

... to everyone who gave at the **open collection at the United Service at St Margaret's Patronal Festival (26<sup>th</sup> July)**, when a total of £189.15 (includes Gift Aid recoverable and a cheque made payable on a CAF account) was given for the Sevenoaks Area Youth Trust.

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***Jumble Sale for Christian Aid***

If you are having a summer clear-out, the Sevenoaks Christian Aid Committee would be very glad of any jumble for the sale which they are holding on 31st October. If storage until nearer the date of the sale is a problem, please contact Elspeth (Tel 761766). Thank you.

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## ***Beware the Bent Elbow***

New technology brings new ailments: have you heard of ‘mobile phone elbow’ yet? Orthopaedic specialists have found that people who talk on their mobiles for long periods of time can over-extend their ulna nerve, leaving them tingling or numb from their elbows to their fingers.

The nerve extends along the arm underneath the funny bone, and can be damaged when someone’s elbow is bent for too long a period. Surgeons say that if you must talk for a long time on your mobile, at least switch hands regularly....

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## ***An Appeal for RAF Personnel in Afganistan***

Would you like to support the men and women of the Royal Air Force who are presently servicing Afghanistan? Would you like to send a ‘comforts’ parcel to them?

Providing the following instructions are followed, there is **NO CHARGE** for postage to the BFPO address shown below.

- Parcels must be addressed to an individual
- They must **not exceed 2Kgs** in weight
- A 'shoe box' is ideal in size and containment
- They must be securely wrapped
- Sender's name and address are to be shown on item
- Customs declaration is to be affixed (CN22 - obtain from PO)
- No aerosols/dangerous items to be included
- No ‘fresh’ foods to be included
- Caution with liquids

Suggested items for inclusion: books, magazines, puzzle books, sweets (not choc), chewing gum, biscuits (not choc), tea bags (pref branded), branded coffee, toiletries - toothpaste, deodorant, moisturiser, etc, choc drink sachets, coffee/cappuccino drink sachets, nuts, face wipes, surface wipes, DVDs, torches/batteries, novelty items (anything for a laugh), etc. (List is not exhaustive - feel free to be innovative.)

Address: : F/S Al Bruce  
RAF Police/FP  
Camp Bastion  
Op Herrick BFPO 792

Please enclose a note with name of sender and mention St Lawrence Church.

All parcels must be handed over a Post Office counter. **Do not post in post box.**

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## ***GOD IN MUSIC***

‘The trumpet will sound...and we shall be changed’: Joseph Haydn

‘I get up early, and as soon as I have dressed, I go down on my knees and pray God and the Blessed Virgin that I may have another successful day. Then when I’ve had some breakfast, I sit down at the clavier and begin my search. If I hit on an idea quickly, it goes ahead easily and without much trouble. But if I can’t go on, I know that I must have forfeited God’s grace by some fault of mine, and then I pray once more for grace until I feel I’m forgiven.’

Those words of the composer, Joseph Haydn, describe his daily routine of composition. The ideas must, in fact, have flowed in abundance for he composed an enormous amount of music: 104 symphonies, over 60 string quartets, over 60 piano sonatas, oratorios, 20 operas and 14 masses, and a host of other compositions besides.

Joseph Haydn was born in 1732, the son of a wheelwright in Rohrau, in eastern Austria, near the border with Hungary. From an early age he displayed a talent for music, and when he was eight years old, he became a chorister at St Stephen’s Cathedral in Vienna. The regime there did not stifle his playful, adventurous spirit: on one occasion the empress Maria Theresa caught him climbing scaffolding, and in 1749 he was dismissed from the choir for cutting off a fellow-chorister’s pigtail. Obligated to fend for himself, he eventually became Kapellmeister at the Esterhazy court. He was there for 24 years, ‘cut off from the world’ as he expressed it. Travelling to London in 1791 was a revelation for Haydn as he was feted as a renowned composer and a celebrity. In 1795 he returned to his homeland, where he was to die in 1809.

In this 200th anniversary year of his death, we give thanks for the incredible creative output of those years, written, as he expressed it in a letter to music lovers in Bergen, to provide ‘a spring of rest and refreshment’ to those pursued by sorrow and anxiety. ‘That was a powerful motive for pressing onward.’ What characterises much of Haydn’s music, along with the clarity and lucidity of the lines, is its energy and zest and the abundance of jokes and surprises.

When we read of the ministry of Jesus in the Gospels, we often find him relishing jokes (the camel going through the eye of the needle, for instance) and the sparring banter that we can sense in many of his encounters. That sense of humour and the delight in dialogue abound in Haydn’s works. It is there in the Joke String Quartet, where we are never quite sure if it has ended, and the Surprise Symphony, which wakes us up in the Andante, should we have nodded off, as it is there in many of his works. Look at the playful ending of the Farewell Symphony, and the stops and starts of several of the piano sonatas. They all witness to ‘a fellow of infinite jest.’

I think Haydn had that sense of fun and playfulness because he realised that his life, like all lives, was lived sub specie aeternitatis (under the perspective of