

*Services at St Margaret's Underriver
during June 2010*



Sunday	6 June	11:15	Family Communion	
Sunday	13 June	08:00	Holy Communion (said)	BCP
		18:00	Evensong (with hymns and canticles)	BCP
Sunday	20 June	08:00	Holy Communion (said)	CW
		09:45	St Lawrence Dedication Festival	
Sunday	27 June	11:15	Parish Communion (with hymns)	CW
Sunday	4 July	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	Hilary Denby-Jones 763883 Celeste Davis-Watling 820190	S'oaks District Councillor Seal Parish Council	Cnclr Peter Coates
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 Chris Sutton-Mattocks 762013
Organist	Lizzie Veglio 01634 244700	St Lawrence Village Association	
Choir Director	John Morris 810227	Chairman	Graham Moynes 760640
Bellringers Hon Secretary	Elspeth Cooke 761766	Secretary	Carol Smith 763561
Sevenoaks Deanery Synod	Hilary Denby-Jones 763883 Peter Wharton 810388	St Lawrence Village Hall Management Committee	
Sunday School	Hilary Darque 453929 Elspeth Cooke 761766	Chairman	Peter Granville 763832
Child Protection Rep	Carol McLintock 452964	Secretary	Peter Wharton 810388
deputy	Gretel Wakeham 761534	Treasurer	Andy Smaggasgale 760552
Church Flowers	Sheila Jackson 811422	Bookings Secretary	Janice Brooker 760843
Memorial Flowers	Annie Scarsi 810864	Cricket Club Secretary	Robin Webster 01892 862017
St Lawrence CE Primary School		Badm'ton Club Contact	Ian Lister 762416
Headteacher	Alison Saunders 761393	Bowls Club	Peter Granville 763832
Chairman of Governors	Sarah Hudson 810050	Tennis Club Contact	Gretel Wakeham 761534
Clerk to the Governors	Sarah Brew xd	Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators	
St Lawrence Pre-School	Mandy McCracken 847990	Stone Street Contact	Janice Brooker 760843
1 st St Lawrence Brownies	Janet Boswell 01959 523953	Seal Chart Contact	Nicola Mitchell 764202

*St Lawrence, Seal Chart Parish Magazine
June 2010*



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

Hilary Denby-Jones
 Broomsleigh Park
 Seal Chart
 Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 0ES
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 Church Road, Stone Street
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Copy for the next issue should be sent to the editor (or e-mail to brian@bsutton0.wanadoo.co.uk)
to arrive by 08:00 on Wednesday 16 June 2010

The next issue of the Parish Magazine will be in Church on **Sunday 27 June 2010**

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*Services and Events at
The Church of St Lawrence Seal Chart
during June 2010*



Sunday	6 June	First Sunday after Trinity 08:00 Holy Communion (said) BCP Romans 8:12-17 John 3: 1-17 09:45 All Age Family Service (children in church) Luke 7: 11-17
Friday	11 June	Prayer Time for both parishes (Open to all - lasts about 60 mins) At Shepherd's Cottage, Heaverham Road, Kemsing
Sunday	13 June	Second Sunday after Trinity 09:45 Family Communion (with hymns) CW 2 Cor 5: 6-17 Mark 4: 26-34
Sunday	20 June	Third Sunday after Trinity 08:00 Holy Communion (said) - At St Margaret's, Underriver CW Galatians 3: 23-29 Luke 8: 26-39 09:45 St Lawrence Dedication Festival with Sunday School 1 Chron 26: 6-19 Ephesians 2: 19-22 We shall be joined by members of St Margaret's, Underriver
Friday	25 June	Prayer Time for both parishes (Open to all - lasts about 60 mins) At The White House, Bitchet Green
Sunday	27 June	Fourth Sunday after Trinity 09:45 Morning Prayer (with hymns) BCP 1 Kings 19: 15-16, 19-21 Luke 9: 51-62
Sunday	4 July	Fifth Sunday after Trinity 08:00 Holy Communion (said) BCP Galatians 6: 7-16 Luke 10: 1-11, 16-20 09:45 All Age Family Service (children in church) Luke 10: 1-11, 16-20

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



Flower Rotas for Church Flowers



Sunday 6 June	Annette McKellar
Sunday 13 June	Roz Morris
Sunday 20 June	Roz Morris
Sunday 27 June	Jean Stirling
Sunday 4 July	Jean Stirling

St Lawrence Coffee Morning

**Drop into St Lawrence's Church
for Coffee, Cake and a Chat**

First Wednesday of every month during term time at 9 am

ALL WELCOME

For further details contact Hilary Denby-Jones (763883) or Carol Lambert (763415)



St Lawrence Sunday School



**For a trial period, Sunday School is on Sunday
afternoons at 3:30 pm**

**but PLEASE let us know your thoughts on this. If an afternoon is difficult,
don't forget that at all the corresponding morning services (9:45 am)
there will always be a children's item**

20 Jun	9:45	Dedication Service	St Lawrence	Sam & Lyn
19 Sept	???		The Creation	Lesley & Celeste

All children are welcome

For further information, contact Hilary Darque (453929) or Elspeth Cooke (761766)

Who is best at the wheel?

Children feel safer in the car when their mother is driving, according to a recent study by GEM Motoring Assist. Youngsters 5 to 16 said their fathers drove too fast, were more aggressive and lost their temper at the wheel. Six out of ten children said their mother's driving was best, even though she was more likely to stall the car or find it hard to park.

Mouse Makes

Just as the different parts of our body need each other to make a whole living person, so Christians need each other to make a whole living church!

“Now you are the **body of Christ**, and each one of you is part of it”
1 Corinthians 12:27

“Though we are many, **we are one body** in union with Christ, and we are joined to each other as different parts of **one body.**”
Romans 12:4-6

My hair colour:

I am GOOD at:

My name is:

ALL ONE

may all be different but you are all one in Christ Jesus.

The Vicar's Page

For how many of the following do you know what they stand? SEEDA, SATs, DAC, PEG, HTPe, MSDPE, OCR, OEIC, kt (not Kt), SWALK? Without looking any of them up in a dictionary or on-line, could you claim 100%?

All are of course acronyms, and here's a middle-aged man on the complain trail! Some acronyms are so widely used – we can think of MP or NHS - that it's perfectly in order to use them to avoid the longer expression Member of Parliament or National Health Service. But many others have a currency only within a certain discipline – perhaps local government or school – or to those of a certain age. How many times have you been in the presence of others and wondered what on earth they were talking about with such shorthand being freely bandied around? You feel socially or professionally excluded – and that is not good or right.

Or, for other acronyms which have more than one meaning, there is the distinct risk of misunderstanding. Look up RPG, for instance, and there are at least 4 different meanings within the military, let alone others relating to netball or statistics.

The church, we admit, also has its shorthand; many of us think we know what BCP stands for (Book of Common Prayer), but in fact to which such Book are we referring? The one dating from 1549, or 1662? Or the unauthorised (but widely used) version from 1928? Or none of these, exactly? It makes a big difference when people say they want the BCP service. What they usually mean is “the BCP as they like it” – which can be another thing altogether!

And some acronyms shield us from fully realising the significance of the full expression. One meaning of “kt” is kilotons, i.e. 1,000 tons – but the meaning is now more usually associated with the destructive force of a nuclear weapon. Using a cryptic set of letters can serve to remove from the equation the enormity of human catastrophe and murder implied. One meaning of OT is Old Testament – commonly the first 39 Books of the Bible. But is it right to call it the *Old Testament*? The term is not only offensive to Jews, for whom it is the only Testament – but the Hebrew Bible in question is continually interpreted afresh in the light of new research and knowledge and it is this ever-lively word which informs not only the so-called New Testament, but your and my very existence today. Ever old and ever young!

My plea then this month is that while use of shorthand can on occasions save much writing and long-winded repetition, we use it always with extreme care. We in the church need to be as wary as others. There are too many barriers already in this world without unnecessarily creating more. The ultimate purpose of life is that one day there will be no barriers either in this world, or between us and God. But discussion of that could lead us to perhaps the ultimate mystery – JHWH - and opening our eyes to that (or him) must wait for another occasion!

With love and blessings,

Michael

Special Services and Events in June

Our Annual Dedication Festival takes place on **Sunday 20th June at 9:45am** – NB please note the time (it’s not as in the past for this united service). We look forward to welcoming as our visiting preacher the Revd John Goulding who has done so much for us over the years. Please come and join what should be a very happy occasion.

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**Grandparents: Understanding your grandchildren**

Would you like to understand better the world of your grandchildren, and be more effective in communicating with them both spiritually and in other ways? Church Army in conjunction with Brierley Consultancy are running a practical seminar for Christian grandparents on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> October at Holy Trinity Church, Redhill. Cost is £25 (includes food for the day and handout of talks by the speakers; special offer £40 for 2 people.) More details from Michael or from the Church Army’s Laurence Keith (Telephone 0114 272 7451, his e-mail address is l.keith@sheffieldcentre.org.uk )

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Timely Reminders

Gluten-free wafers: This is just to let everyone know that we have a supply of gluten-free wafers for use in Communion services at St Lawrence’s. If you’d like to receive one of these, could you please EITHER mention your request to a sides-person on arrival at the church, OR (using one of the ballpoint pens in the pew) draw a square on your hands. (Square, because the visible difference is that the gluten-free variety are square-shaped.)

What may (not) be introduced into the churchyard: Again, a reminder that there are rules from the Diocese designed to help keep our churchyard both as lovely as possible for all who visit, and manageable for us to maintain. Basically, the only items which may now be introduced without prior permission from the Vicar are fresh flowers! Over the decades the church has learnt that some former practices make for real difficulties – e.g. kerbing (whether formal or informal), gravel and lead-lettering have for many years not been allowed:- kerbing causes extra work in grass-cutting, gravel flies like bullets when strimmed, and lead lettering will eventually fall off.

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**Prayer Topics for this month**

- For our **new government** to be true to its word, and wise in its legislative programme

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Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

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**News from our School**

As I write this we are embarking on ICT week. Two or three times a year we



collapse the usual curriculum and focus on a particular subject or theme. During the week the children will be making movies of Little Red Riding Hood, using a data logger to record the growth of plants, using some clever software to make an animated advert for a Viking weapon, learning about internet safety and much more. As we are all aware, ICT is becoming very much a part of our lives both at work and home and it is having an increasing influence

on the way we run our lives. A simple calculation will reveal that the children in our reception class now will be retiring from the workplace in 2070 and we have very little idea what technologies will be common place then. As educationalist, we need to do a degree of future gazing to try to ensure that we are nurturing children who will be able to deal with the challenges of the future. We hope that ICT week is a step in the right direction.

Last week the year six children (10 and 11 year olds) tackled the annual SATs tests. These are often considered to be an unpleasant part of education but I explained to the children that it is a chance for them to ‘show off’ the wealth of knowledge they have amassed during their time at primary school, and since they have all worked hard, they all have much to ‘show off’. They all responded by tackling the tests with enthusiasm and cheerfulness and I anticipate some excellent results.

We still have much to look forward to this term: Sports Day, St Lawrence Garden Party, the Orchestra’s performance in Rochester Cathedral and much more. I will not be short of material to write about next month.

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Artists have usually concentrated on the birth and infancy of John and his imprisonment and death. Here Murillo portrays John in his teenage years. We all know how difficult those years can be, coping with physical and spiritual change, and encountering the adult world of opportunities and responsibilities. Perhaps Murillo had in mind Joel's prophecy of old men dreaming dreams, and young men seeing visions. For here is John the Baptist sat on a rock, holding a reed cross in his left hand and stroking a lamb with his right hand. It is certainly a tender scene, but there is also a strength there. With a few lines in brown ink and black chalk from a skilled artist, we sense the emotions of the youthful John the Baptist.

We see the lamb by his side and know that John will welcome Jesus as the Lamb of God. Sat on a rock here, we know John will journey into the rocky wastes of the wilderness to emerge from that experience ready to prepare the way of the Lord. John seems to ponder the way ahead, just as later he will call on his listeners to think about their way of life and the values they live by – to repent and turn to God.

In the gospels John is painted as a man of great presence with a powerful message. People flocked to hear him, even though he chastised them as a brood of vipers. The drawing here is like a preliminary sketch for a later, fuller, more mature painting, just as the John portrayed here will grow and mature into the prophet of God - a prophet who speaks to us from the pages of the Gospels just as he spoke to that first audience. Here in Murillo's drawing, we see John pondering what God will call of him, just as in the Gospels we hear him asking that question of us.

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### ***Contributed by John***

The following have all appeared in church magazines so let us thank God for church ladies with typewriters.

Next weekend's Fasting & Prayer Conference in Whitby includes all meals.

Sunday morning sermon: 'Jesus Walks on the Water': Sunday evening sermon: 'Searching for Jesus.'

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our community. Smile at someone who is hard to love.

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation .

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

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

2<sup>nd</sup> May                      Baptism of Matthew Robert James Otto, infant son of Robert and Leigh. We wish the family every joy in this new stage in their life.

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Parish Profile

Following Michael's announcement of his retirement in September, the PCC is undertaking preparatory work for the period of the interregnum and part of that work is to produce a Parish Profile. This is a key document, in the form of a small booklet, which aims to do two things:-

- 1 It is the first picture a possible new priest will get of the parish, the issues which face it and to recognise the qualities that are needed in a person who wishes to serve as the Parish Priest there
- 2 It is the PCC's guidance note to the parish representatives when they are considering a candidate and are looking to make the right choice

It is similar to a job description, only longer. Once complete, it will need to be sent to the Bishop and Archdeacon to help them as they look for a new Priest-in-Charge for the parish and to anyone who expresses an interest in applying for the post.

Copies of the Parish Profile will be available in church for parishioners to peruse.

Celeste

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### ***Time to celebrate our volunteers!***

There is an army at work in our land - busy day and night, in all sorts of conditions and places, beavering away with just one aim: to be of help. Unobtrusive, undemanding, often unseen.... but where would our communities be without the thousands of volunteers who keep them going?

From the men who risk their lives in lifeboats to the women who serve you in the charity shops, or make tea in our hospitals for anxious families.... our nation's volunteers are a hardy and life-enhancing lot of people. They deserve our thanks – and the first week in June is the time to give it – for Volunteers Week runs 1 – 7 June.

Volunteers' Week is an initiative of the volunteer development agencies working across the UK (Volunteering England, Wales Council for Voluntary Action, Volunteer Development Agency Northern Ireland and Volunteer Development Scotland). Have a look at [www.volunteersweek.org.uk](http://www.volunteersweek.org.uk)

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All in the month of June

It was....

300 years ago: - on 10th June 1710 that James Short, the British optician and astronomer who produced the first distortionless parabolic mirrors for reflecting telescopes, was born.

200 years ago: - on 8th June 1810 that Robert Schumann, German Romantic composer, was born.

150 years ago: - on 23rd June 1860 that the US Congress established the Government Printing Office and the US Secret Service.

125 years ago: - on 17th June 1885 that the Statue of Liberty arrived in New York City on the French ship 'Isere', as 350 individual pieces packed into 214 crates.

100 years ago: - on 1st June 1910 that British explorer Robert Falcon Scott's ill-fated Antarctic expedition left England. (Scott and for members of the party reached the South Pole in January 1912, but all perished in severe weather on the return journey.)

90 years ago: on 4th June 1920 that World War I was concluded with the signing of the Treaty of Trianon in Paris by Hungary (which lost two-thirds of its territory) and the Allies.

80 years ago: - on 13th June 1930 that Sir Henry Seagrave, American-born British racing driver and motorboat racer who set three world land speed records, was fatally injured after breaking the water speed record when he hit a floating branch.

75 years ago: - on 1st June 1935 that compulsory driving tests were introduced in Britain (they had been voluntary since 1930).

70 years ago: - June 1940 was a dramatic month in World War II. Main dates include:

4th – evacuation of Allied forces from Dunkirk was completed

5th – the Battle of France began

9th - Norway surrendered to the Nazis

10th - Italy declared war on France and Britain

14th - German forces entered Paris

15th – The Soviet Union occupied Lithuania

17th – Operation Ariel – Allied troops began evacuating France

18th – Prime Minister Winston Churchill gave his 'Finest Hour' speech to the House of Commons

21st – France surrendered to Germany

27th – The Soviet Union invaded Romania

60 years ago: - on 25th June 1950 that North Korea invaded South Korea, beginning the Korean War.

50 years ago: - on 29th June 1960 that the BBC Television Centre opened in Shepherd's Bush, West London

40 years ago: - on 2nd June 1970 that Bruce McLaren, New Zealand racing driver and racing car designer, was killed while testing a car at Goodwood, England.

30 years ago: - on 17th June 1980 that The British Ministry of Defence announced plans to deploy US cruise missiles at Greenham Common and Molesworth military bases

25 years ago: - on 9th June 1985 that the American academic Thomas Sutherland was kidnapped by Islamic Jihad in Beirut, Lebanon (released 1991).

20 years ago: - on 1st June 1990 that at a Washington Summit, US President George Bush and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev signed an agreement to end the production of chemical weapons and to destroy existing stocks.

15 years ago: - on 20th June 1995 that the oil company Shell abandoned plans to dump the Brent Spar oil rig at sea, after international pressure.

10 years ago: - on 26th June 2000 that rival scientific teams announced that they had completed the first rough map of the human genome.

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### ***'You, little child, shall be called a prophet of God the Most High'***

On 24 June around the year 400 St Augustine preached at Hippo in North Africa. It was the feast of the birthday of St John the Baptist. 'I cannot let this feast pass by without a sermon,' he said. And then it sounds as if the day had been a busy one: 'If I speak more briefly than the dignity of the subject demands, its very profundity gives you food for thought'. He prays that despite the lack of time and lack of skill, the Holy Spirit may enlighten his listeners to see in the birth of this child, one who will grow up to be a prophet of God the Most High. Although the sermon Augustine preached was a simple one, its simplicity led his congregation to think again of this appearance of John, the voice crying in the wilderness.

In the same way, a simple drawing leads us into looking afresh at John the Baptist. The drawing of a young John is by the Spanish artist, Murillo. Murillo was born in Seville and died in 1682. His paintings can often appear lightweight and sentimental, but this drawing from 1655 displays a strength and rigour that belies any such judgement.

*For copyright reasons I cannot included a copy of the picture, but you can see a copy of it at: [www.getty.edu/art/exhibitions/window\\_spain/](http://www.getty.edu/art/exhibitions/window_spain/)*