

**Services at St Margaret's Underriver
during December 2010 & January 2011**



Sunday	5 Dec	11:15	A short service for all God's children	
Sunday	12 Dec	08:00	Holy Communion	BCP
		11:15	Matins (with hymns)	BCP
Sunday	19 Dec	16:00	Carol Service	
Friday	24 Dec	16:00	Blessing of the Crib—a short service	
		23:30	The First Communion of Christmas (with carols)	CW
Saturday	25 Dec	08:00	Holy Communion	CW
		11:15	Festival Family Service with Communion	CW
Sunday	26 Dec		No Services	
Sunday	2 Jan	11:15	Family Service with hymns and carols	
Sunday	9 Jan	08:00	Holy Communion (said)	BCP
		11:15	Matins (with hymns)	BCP
Sunday	16 Jan	10:30	Sunday Club meets in the Village Hall	
		11:15	Children's Christingle Service (with hymns)	
Sunday	23 Jan	11:15	Parish Communion (with hymns)	CW
Sunday	30 Jan	11:15	Parish Communion Joint Service with St Lawrence	

ST LAWRENCE CHURCH AND VILLAGE CONTACTS

Priest in Charge - St Lawrence Church - vacancy
Reader - St Lawrence Church - Mrs Gretel Wakeham - 761534

Churchwardens	Hilary Denby-Jones 763883 Celeste Davis-Watling 820190	S'oaks District Councillor Cnclr Peter Coates 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	Peter Wharton 810388	Chairman Graham Moynes 760640
Sevenoaks Deanery Synod	Hilary Denby-Jones 763883 Peter Wharton 810388	Secretary Carol Smith 763561
Sunday School	Hilary Darque 453929 Lyn Holness 764210	St Lawrence Village Hall Management Committee
Child Protection Rep	Carol McLintock 452964	Chairman Peter Granville 763832
deputy	Gretel Wakeham 761534	Secretary Peter Wharton 810388
Church Flowers	Sheila Jackson 811422	Treasurer Andy Smaggasgale 760552
St Lawrence CE Primary School		Bookings Secretary Janice Brooker 760843
Headteacher	Alison Saunders 761393	Cricket Club Secretary Robin Webster 01892 862017
Chairman of Governors	Sarah Hudson 810050	Badm'ton Club Contact Ian Lister 762416
Clerk to the Governors	Sarah Brew xd	Bowls Club Peter Granville 763832
St Lawrence Pre-School	Becky Stammers 763289	Tennis Club Contact Gretel Wakeham 761534
1 st St Lawrence Brownies	Janet Boswell 01959 523953	Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators
		Stone Street Contact Janice Brooker 760843
		Seal Chart Contact Nicola Mitchell 764202

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 19 January 2011

The next issue of the Parish Magazine will be in Church on **Sunday 30 January 2011**

Edited and Typeset by Brian Sutton, 50 The Crescent, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN13 3QY (01732 450873)

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**St Lawrence, Seal Chart Parish Magazine
December 2010 - January 2011**



**It's Jesus's Birthday! Happy Birthday, Jesus
and Many Happy Returns**

Priest in Charge

[Vacancy]

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

01732 763883

Celeste Davis-Watling

C/o St Lawrence Church

Church Road, Stone Street

Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 0LN

01732 820190

The Church Wardens Page

In the December parish magazine it was usual for Michael to write a seasonal piece about the true message of Christmas for us all to reflect upon during the busy Christmas season, which can at times be so hectic and commercialised. The Christmas story is about new beginnings, a promise for the future. So this year I can carry on this tradition and write to you on this theme, for at St. Lawrence we are to have a new beginning. On the 7th November we were able to announce at our 9.45 service that, subject to the usual procedures, The Reverend Carol Kitchener, will be joining us as our new priest-in-charge.

Carol is currently the Associate Rector of Chislehurst, St. Nicholas and has been ordained Priest since 1994. Carol is married with two adult sons and her husband Chris is retiring as Vicar of St Mary Cray and St Paul's Cray this coming Easter. She comes with a wealth of parish experience, involving all ages, and has previously been part of a hospital chaplaincy team. She is also keen to work with St. Lawrence School, having been involved in teaching prior to her ordination. Both Carol and Chris are looking forward to being part of our community.

Carol had previously worked with Michael for Churches Together, so she knew of our parishes and The Venerable Clive Mansell, our Archdeacon put her forward for the position. She was interviewed by the representatives of both parishes and met the PCC members at an informal evening gathering. We are delighted that Carol has accepted the position and look forward to welcoming her to our Parish. The date for her installation will be Thursday, May 12th 2011, so please do make a note in your diaries.

In the meantime the PCC join us in wishing you all a happy and blessed Christmas.

Hilary Denby-Jones, Celeste Davis-Watling, Church Wardens

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***Give chocolate***

Don't know what to buy someone you don't know all that well? Try dark chocolate. Sales of dark chocolate have rocketed by a fifth in the past five years – to about £100m annually- - ever since people found out that it is healthy for them.

Medical studies have identified the health benefits of chocolate with a high cocoa content – it can reduce heart problems if eaten in moderation. People are also listening to the anti-obesity campaigns, so prefer their dark chocolate to come in small portions, not large slabs.

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St Lawrence Sunday School

**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 Lyn Holness (764210)**

16 Jan 09:45 to be arranged

Flower Rota for Church Flowers

Sunday 5 December	Kate Clark
Sunday 12 December	Kate Clark
Sunday 19 December	Audrey Ellis-Gibbons
Sunday 26 December	Audrey Ellis-Gibbons
Sunday 2 January	Kate Clark
Sunday 9 January	Kate Clark
Sunday 16 January	Kate Clark
Sunday 23 January	Kate Clark
Sunday 30 January	Kate Clark

~~~~~

***Health & Safety (two thousand years ago)***

*While shepherds watched their flocks by night  
All seated on the ground.  
The angel of the Lord came down  
And glory shone around*

The Union of Shepherds has complained that it breaches health and safety regulations to insist that shepherds watch their flocks without appropriate seating arrangements being provided. Therefore benches, stools and orthopaedic chairs are now available. Please note, the angel of the lord is reminded that before shining his / her glory all around she / he must ascertain that all shepherds have been issued with glasses capable of filtering out the harmful effects of UVA, UVB and Glory.

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FOR THE CHILDREN....

Mouse Makes

There were shepherds that night in the fields taking care of their sheep. An angel of the Lord appeared and said "Don't be afraid, I am here with **good news of great joy that will be for all people. Today a saviour has been born to you, He is Christ the Lord**".
from Luke 2:11-12.

Read The Christmas story in Luke 2:1-20.

Jesus, light of the world

glue

To make this Christmas decoration:
 • Carefully cut out around the edge then colour in • Curl around and glue into a cone shape
 • Tie a length of ribbon through each 
 • Fill with sweets and hang on the tree!

MERRY CHRISTMAS
from all over the world!

JOYEUX NOEL (French)
GOD JUL (Swedish)
BOUN NATALE (Italian)
FELIZ NAVIDAD (Spanish)

Dec 10

CAROL'S CHRISTMAS CHURCH CLEAN

will be on

Wednesday 8 December 2010 from 09:30 to 11:30

The regular team of Church Cleaners would love to have extra helpers, PLEASE!

Just turn up on the day and you will be welcomed with open arms!

Thank you in advance.

Tea or Coffee and Bickies at Half Time

Carol McLintock

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**Carol Singing, Mince Pies and Mulled Wine**

**WHERE :** Round the Christmas Tree at Foxbury Farm, Stone St.

**WHEN :** Tuesday 21st December at 6.00pm

**WITH :** St Lawrence Choir and friends

**WHO :** All adults and children welcome

All in the Parish are welcome to gather round a special St Lawrence Christmas Tree at Foxbury Farm at 6pm on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December to sing Carols led by members of the choir.

There will be mulled wine and mince pies , so why not bring a neighbour and torch along to join us? Everyone will be welcome.

We will continue on Seal Chart, near Chart Farm at about 6.45pm when all are invited to join in singing the carols.

Our grateful thanks to the Mitchell Brothers for making this venue available and for supplying Christmas tree lights and electricity.

*Eric Jackson*

**Thank you**

We would all like to express our grateful thanks and appreciation to Brian Sutton for editing his **150th edition** of the St Lawrence Seal Church Parish Magazine. Congratulations Brian, what an achievement!

We must also extend our thanks to the distributors who push it through your letterbox no matter what the weather; to Felicity Corbally, Gretel Wakeham and Pat Wilson who staple the copies and insert flyers as necessary; to Rosemary Attenborough who sends out the postal copies (and collects the cash); and to Julian Gilchrist and his staff who print the copy.

Our very grateful thanks to all. *Celeste*

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Parish Magazine

I should like to add my thanks to all those who have contributed copy during the year. No fewer than 24 people have between them contributed 168 items; obviously Michael heads the list, but it is noteworthy that there has been a few new contributors. Hopefully in 2011 there will be even more. I am sure that many of you have something you could contribute that would be of interest to other readers.

The time table for copy during the coming year is 08:00 on the dates below:

February	19 January	July	15 June
March	16 February	August	20 July
April	16 March	September	17 August
May	13 April	October	14 September
June	18 May	November	19 October
	December/January	16 November	

Ed

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**Magazine Subscriptions to remain at £6.50 (or £11 if posted)**

At the beginning of this year the magazine subscription was increased to meet increased costs, but we are pleased to tell you that there will be no increase for 2011 and that the annual subscription (11 copies, including one double issue) for the next year will remain at £6.50 for hand-delivered copies (or collected from church) and for posted issues will be £11.00.

To help Rosemary Attenborough, who keeps track of subscriptions, and to save us all having to chase for subscriptions could we please ask that we all pay our annual subscriptions soon – either to the person who distributes, or directly to Rosemary (her address is Coldhanger, Seal Chart, Sevenoaks, TN15 0EJ). *Ed*

**Tomb of the Unknown Warrior**

The BBC recently covered the story of the tomb of the unknown warrior in Westminster Abbey. And it was mentioned that four bodies were originally exhumed from war graves situated in different battlefields and from them the warrior in the Abbey was selected.

The Unknown Warrior is buried in Westminster Abbey as a memorial to the dead of World War One, particularly those who have no known grave.

In 1920, as part of ceremonies in Britain to commemorate the dead of World War One, there was a proposal that the body of an unknown soldier, sailor or airman lying in an unmarked grave abroad be returned to England for burial in Westminster Abbey. This was to symbolise all those who had died for their country, but whose place of death was not known, or whose body remained unidentified. .

It is thought that the idea came from the Reverend David Railton, who had served as a chaplain on the Western Front. There are a number of versions of how the selection of the Unknown Warrior was made, but it is generally agreed that between four and six bodies were exhumed from each of the main British battle areas on the Western Front on the night of 7 November 1920, and brought to the chapel at St Pol, in northern France. Each was covered with a Union Jack. The commander of British troops in France and Flanders, Brigadier General LJ Wyatt, picked one. This was placed in a coffin which was taken to Boulogne, where it was transported to Dover on HMS Verdun. The other bodies were reburied..

On the morning of 11 November 1920 - the second anniversary of the armistice that ended World War One - the body of the Unknown Warrior was drawn in a procession to the Cenotaph. This new war memorial on Whitehall, designed by Edwin Lutyens, was then unveiled by George V. At 11 o'clock there was a two-minute silence, and the body was then taken to Westminster Abbey where it was buried at the west end of the nave. To the surprise of the organisers, in the week after the burial an estimated 1,250,000 people visited the abbey, and the site is now one of the most visited war graves in the world. The text inscribed on the tomb is taken from is from the bible (2 Chronicles 24:16): 'They buried him among the kings, because he had done good toward God and toward his house'.

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I heard the bells on Christmas Day, their old familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet the words repeat, of peace on earth, goodwill to men!

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

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**Remembrance Sunday**

After an early start (and after making sure I had my security pass in my pocket) Mary and I arrived at Charing Cross, made our way to the top of Whitehall, Mary to wait for the parade to start while I joined the crowd of ex-service men and women making their way to Horse Guards Road and the entrance to Horse Guards Parade. The instructions said we should be there by no later than 09:30. Needless to say, since we were ex-service most arrived early and gathered in little groups along the road near the Guards Memorial. Other members of the Royal Air Force Police Association were easy to identify since we all wore our white berets. We were not called ‘Snowdrops’ for nothing.

At 09:25 the security barrier was lifted and we, with several thousand others, streamed on to the parade area to wait in our little group for the order to fall in. There was, of course, much to chat about, old friends to greet, new ones to meet and so the 68 members of our contingent, from all corners of the UK, formed up ready to march as Column C3 through the Horseguards archway and on to Whitehall. By quarter past ten we were there, just by the gated entrance to Downing Street and conveniently opposite a massive television screen on which we could watch the ensuing ceremony. It was uncanny to realise that we were watching exactly what was happening only a few yards in front of us.

At 10:50 the order was given, ‘Parade ‘Shun’, and despite that order most heads turned towards the screen to watch the Her Majesty follow the Royal Princes from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office on to road adjacent to the Cenotaph for the nation’s tribute to those who had made the ultimate sacrifice in two world wars and since.

After the short service and the departure of all the dignitaries the rain started. We waited while Columns A and B preceded us for the march past. Then the command for which we were waiting – RAF Police Association, Quick March. Heads held high, we were off at 100 paces to the minute, past the Cenotaph, down Whitehall, Parliament Street, right to Parliament Square and Great George Street and into Horse Guards Road. With the applause from the crowds lining the streets, in most places eight to ten deep, we felt at least nine feet tall. Just before we re-entered Horse Guards Parade, the command ‘Royal Salute, Eyes Right’ was given as we marched past HRH The Princess Royal and Lt Gen Sir John Kiszely. After being dismissed the RAFPA contingent made their way up Whitehall to one of London’s watering holes for a very convivial buffet lunch.

Somewhere about 14:30 the farewells started to be said, ‘Look after yourself’; ‘See you next year’; ‘Good to see you again’: ‘God bless, have a safe journey;’ and so on. And so we started to drift back to the London termini, all members of a great family, all avowed to meet again in twelve months time.

*Brian Sutton*

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Christmas: Where did Christmas trees come from?

There are two early stories that mention fir trees. The first involves St Boniface, who went to Germany in the 8th century as a missionary and found people sacrificing a child to their god under an oak tree. Boniface was appalled, and rescued the child. He then chopped down the oak tree and found a tiny fir tree growing nearby. He gave this to the people and said: “This is a symbol of life. Whenever you look at this tree, remember the Christ-child who is the one who will give you life, because he gave his life for you.”

The second early fir tree story involves Martin Luther in the 16th century. It is said that one year he decided to drag a fir tree into his home and to decorate it with candles. He used it as a visual aid, telling people that the candles symbolised Jesus as the light of the world, and the evergreen tree symbolised the eternal life that Jesus gives to us. Many of the people who followed Luther were struck by the idea, and took up the custom.

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**Where did Christmas stockings come from?**

No one is really sure, but a story is told of St Nicholas, a bishop who lived in the 4<sup>th</sup> century, who may have started the custom by accident. St Nicholas was of a wealthy family, and of a generous heart. As Christmas approached one year, he wanted to help a poor family whom he knew, but he did not want them to know it was him. So he climbed up on their roof on Christmas Eve and dropped some coins down the chimney.

The next morning the coins, to the great surprise of the family, were found in the stockings of the ladies, who had hung them to dry by the fire the night before. Every year after that they put their stockings out, in the hope that some more money would fall into them. They told the story of this amazing appearance to their friends and neighbours, and the custom caught on.

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A Different Way of Looking at Christmas

You may prefer the Christmas Story as told by Matthew and/or Luke but I recently found a modern thought provoking presentation on

www.paperlesschristmas.org.uk.

From the Home page (and this is worth a few minutes study) click on Downloads and select Combined Movie. If you have a PC click on Windows Media, if you have a Mac click on QuickTime. Enjoy.

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## ***St Nicholas***

Christmas seems to be as old as Europe. Once he was Woden, lashing his reindeer through the darkness of northern midwinter. Then he encountered the Church, and She transformed him into a saint, the much-loved Nicholas, Bishop of Myra (in south-west Turkey) in the fourth century. St Nicholas became the patron saint of children, and was given 6 December as his day.

Since the 6th century St Nicholas has been venerated in both East and West, though virtually nothing is known of his life. Some believe he may have been one of the fathers at the Council of Nicea (325), imprisoned during the Emperor Diocletian's persecution.

According to legend, Nicholas was an extremely generous man. He revived three schoolboys murdered by an innkeeper in a tub of pickles. He rescued three young women from prostitution by giving their poverty-stricken father three bags of gold. (Hence the use of three gold balls as the pawnbroker's signs.)

Over the centuries many, including children, sailors, unmarried girls, pawnbrokers and moneylenders have claimed him as their patron.

Perhaps it was on account of S Nicholas' generosity that in recent centuries children began to write little notes sometime before 6 December, to tell him about the toys they specially wanted. These notes were then left on the windowsill at night - or else on a ledge in the chimney.

But St Nicholas Day chanced to lie in the magnetic field of a much more potent festival... and after awhile his activities were moved towards Christmas. Then in Bavaria the children still left their notes on the window sill, but they addressed them to Liebes Christkind - Krishkinkle as they knew him - and the saint's part in the matter was simply to deliver the letters in heaven.

The most popular result of the cult of St Nicholas has been the institution of Santa Claus. He is based on Nicholas' patronage of children and the custom in the Low Countries of giving presents on his feast. Santa Claus has reached his zenith in America, where the Dutch Protestants of New Amsterdam (New York) united to it Nordic folklore legends of a magician who both punished naughty children and rewarded good ones with presents.

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A Thought passed on by a Christian Arab

"The waters of the Sea of Galilee contain about 0.3% salt whereas, 65 miles further south, the Dead Sea waters contain 30% salt. The Sea of Galilee, fed by the waters of the River Jordan, gives them back again to the river. The Dead Sea only receives. It gives nothing, The waters of the Sea of Galilee are sweet; the water of the Dead Sea are bitter. Could this provide us all with a lesson for life?"



St Lawrence Pre-School
Village Hall, Church Road, Stone Street
Sevenoaks Kent TN15 0LL

A small pre-school for children aged
between 2½ and 5 years set in a rural location.

We are open on
Mon to Fri 9:15 am to 12:00

Our qualified and dedicated staff enjoy helping the children develop to their full potential within the guidelines of the Early Years Foundation Document.

As from September 2011 we have limited places available.

For more information or to arrange a visit, please contact:

Becky Stammers on 01732 763289

Did you know?

On Christmas Day 1918, during the First World War, German and Allied armies faced one another in France. The carol 'Silent Night' was sung simultaneously in French, English and German by the troops during a Christmas truce, as it was one of the few carols that soldiers on both sides of the front line knew.

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## ***Neighbourhood Watch***

Kent Police have advised us that the telephone numbers advertised in the October issue of the Parish Magazine are no longer available.

Another new system has been introduced to ensure that members of the public can contact Kent Police as quickly and easily as possible. The numbers are

- For all non-urgent incidents or enquiries, call 01622 690690
- If a crime is in progress or life is in danger, call 999
- If you are deaf or speech impaired, text 'Police' and your message to 60066

For news, advice or details of your neighbourhood officer,  
visit [www.kent.police.uk](http://www.kent.police.uk)

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You're getting old when you enjoy remembering things more than doing them.

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## ***A Fresh Approach to Christmas***

*What are your plans for this Christmas? Here is one man's story....*

Why is Christmas such a stressful time of year? It turns into some sort of frantic marathon that begins around mid-October. After weeks of shopping we arrive at Christmas day with precious little goodwill left for anyone!

However, it is our choice whether or not we join in the commercialism of it all - or this year consider a fresh approach.

Many years ago a Lord Mayor of the City of Swansea and his family were looking forward to Christmas lunch in the very elegant surroundings of the Mansion House. Then, out of the blue, the Lord Mayor received an invitation from the Salvation Army to help serve Christmas day lunch to the homeless of the city at their Swansea Citadel.

He recalls: "I could have declined, but decided to accept. My family supported me in this – although it meant a very belated family lunch, with two of them missing out altogether (they were nurses on shifts). But none of us regretted that Christmas, and I found serving lunch to the homeless of Swansea a very humbling and rewarding experience.

"Those gathered on that day were the homeless, rough sleepers, the elderly and those struggling with loneliness and poverty. Yet with dignity and great politeness they expressed their gratitude to the cooks and all of us who helped serve them Christmas lunch."

It made the Lord Mayor think. "Members of the Salvation Army give up every Christmas and most of the year to serve their fellow man and embrace the needy, just as Jesus did for us. When I drove away that afternoon I knew I had been privileged to have participated in sharing the real Christmas message of love and joy."

So this year, why don't you resolve to do Christmas differently? Try to spread some good will around. Why not consider taking some disadvantaged children to a pantomime, or donating a Christmas tree to the children's ward of the local hospital? Or you could help a homeless charity to serve meals to the homeless, or invite a lonely elderly neighbour for Christmas lunch.

Jesus Christ came into this world to serve you and me. So what better way could there be for us celebrate the joy of his coming other than by us, in our turn, showing compassion to someone in need?

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Bagpipes and the Loch Ness Monster have two things in common – they attract tourists and terrify little children.

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## ***When men get lost***

It is a truth universally acknowledged that men who get lost while driving are too proud to stop and ask for directions. To the utter exasperation of many women, one in four men will drive about for at least half an hour before asking for help. One in ten men refuses to ask for help at all (even if it means missing their Christmas dinner this year!).

Now a survey has put an actual distance on it: 276 miles is how far male drivers drive each year while they are lost. The distance is roughly the equivalent to driving from London to Newcastle. The time spent searching for destinations – instead of asking for help – costs men up to £2,000 in petrol over a lifetime.

Older motorists have the best sense of direction, according to the survey, carried out for the insurer Sheila's Wheels. Men over 55 get lost 26 times a year on average, while men under 25, complete with satnavs, get lost 37 times. It seems that drivers from the North East are the most confused, spending an average of 12 hours a year lost on our roads.

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Is Rudolph the reindeer a – girl?!

Rudolph the reindeer may have a splendid bright red nose – but there is something else rather odd about him: he has antlers. And anyone who knows reindeer will tell you that Father Christmas's favourite reindeer for foggy nights cannot be male because only female reindeer have antlers at Christmas time.

Two professors at Edinburgh University have been looking into this problem. They found that female reindeer grow antlers in time for winter in order to dig in the snow to reach lichens and so provide food for their young. Males, on the other hand, grow antlers only in order to fight with other males during the mating season in the autumn. Once that is over, they cast their antlers away, well before Christmas.

So – who are the reindeers pulling Father Christmas's sleigh? We have always assumed that all those antlered reindeer were male. But perhaps this is not so.... perhaps we should rename Rudolph Rudolpha!

~~~~~

### ***Do you know?***

St. Lawrence's Church is open every day during daylight hours.

If you would appreciate a few quiet moments then do drop in.

Our thanks go to Mr Mick Hodder who so faithfully unlocks and locks the church and has done so for many years.



*Services and Events at The Church of St Lawrence Seal Chart  
during December 2010 and January 2011*



|                  |               |                                                                                                                                                                       |            |                 |               |                                                                                                                                                                            |            |
|------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>Wednesday</b> | <b>1 Dec</b>  | <b>Prayer Time (Lasts about 60 minutes: All are welcome)</b><br>At Shepherd's Cottage, Kemsing Road, Heaverham                                                        |            | <b>Sunday</b>   | <b>2 Jan</b>  | <b>The Epiphany of our Lord</b><br>Holy Communion (said)<br>Ephesians 3: 1-12<br>Matthew 2: 1-12                                                                           | <b>BCP</b> |
| <b>Sunday</b>    | <b>5 Dec</b>  | <b>Second Sunday of Advent</b><br>Holy Communion (said)<br>Romans 15: 4-13<br>Matthew 3: 1-12<br>All Age Family Service (children in church)<br>Matthew 3: 1-12       | <b>BCP</b> | <b>Sunday</b>   | <b>9 Jan</b>  | <b>First Sunday in Epiphany—Baptism of our Lord</b><br>Family Communion (with hymns)<br>Acts 10: 34-43<br>Matthew 3: 13-17                                                 | <b>CW</b>  |
| <b>Sunday</b>    | <b>12 Dec</b> | <b>Third Sunday of Advent</b><br>Family Communion (with hymns)<br>James 5: 7-10<br>Matthew 11: 2-11                                                                   | <b>CW</b>  | <b>Thursday</b> | <b>13 Jan</b> | <b>Prayer Time (Lasts about 60 minutes: All are welcome)</b><br>At Thrums, Vines Lane, Hildenborough                                                                       |            |
| <b>Sunday</b>    | <b>19 Dec</b> | <b>Fourth Sunday of Advent Sunday next before Christmas</b><br>Holy Communion<br>Romans 1: 1-7<br>Matthew 1: 18-25<br>Service of Nine Lessons & Carols by Candlelight | <b>CW</b>  | <b>Sunday</b>   | <b>16 Jan</b> | <b>Second Sunday in Epiphany</b><br>Holy Communion (said)<br>1 Cor 1: 1-9<br>John 1: 29-42<br>All Age Family Service (with Sunday School)<br>1 Cor 1: 1-9<br>John 1: 29-42 | <b>CW</b>  |
| <b>Friday</b>    | <b>24 Dec</b> | <b>Christmas Eve</b><br>Blessing of the Crib and Distribution of Christingles<br>The First Communion of Christmas (with carols)<br>2 Titus: 11-14<br>Luke 2: 1-14     | <b>CW</b>  | <b>Saturday</b> | <b>22 Jan</b> | <b>In The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity</b><br>Taizé Service - A quiet service of chants from the Taizé Community                                                     |            |
| <b>Saturday</b>  | <b>25 Dec</b> | <b>Christmas Day</b><br>Festival Family Service<br>Luke 2: 1-14                                                                                                       |            | <b>Sunday</b>   | <b>23 Jan</b> | <b>Third Sunday in Epiphany</b><br>Morning Prayer (with hymns)<br>Isaiah 9: 1-4<br>Matthew 4: 12-23                                                                        | <b>BCP</b> |
| <b>Sunday</b>    | <b>26 Dec</b> | <b>First Sunday of Christmas</b><br>No services today                                                                                                                 |            | <b>Thursday</b> | <b>27 Jan</b> | <b>Prayer Time (Lasts about 60 minutes: All are welcome)</b><br>At The White House, Bitchet Green                                                                          |            |
|                  |               |                                                                                                                                                                       |            | <b>Sunday</b>   | <b>30 Jan</b> | <b>Presentation of Christ in the Temple</b><br>Joint Service at St Margaret's Underriver                                                                                   | <b>CW</b>  |
|                  |               |                                                                                                                                                                       |            | <b>Sunday</b>   | <b>6 Feb</b>  | <b>Fifth Sunday before Lent</b><br>Holy Communion (said)<br>1 Cor 2: 1-12<br>Matthew 5: 13-20<br>All Age Family Service (children in church)<br>Matthew 5: 13-20           | <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