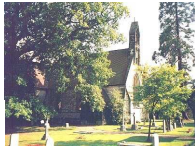


*Services at St Margaret's Underriver  
during April 2016*



**In the Church, every Thursday at 08:30, Morning Prayer (said) - CW**

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>3 April</b>	11:15	Volunteers' Service	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>10 April</b>	08:00	Holy Communion	BCP
		18:00	Evensong	BCP
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>17 April</b>	11:15	Short Family Communion	CW
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>24 April</b>	11:15	Parish Communion	CW
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>1 May</b>	11:15	All Age Family Service	
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>5 May</b>	10:00	Joint Service of Holy Communion for Ascension Day	

**ST LAWRENCE CHURCH AND VILLAGE CONTACTS**

**Vicar - Revd Carol Kitchener - 01732 761766**

**Reader - St Lawrence Church - Mrs Gretel Wakeham - 01732 761534**

**Admin Assistant - Tim Pearce - 01732 832408 admin@stlawrencesealchart.com**

**Parish Website - www.sealstlawrence.org.uk**

Churchwardens	Ron Drury Rob Otto	810214 457442	1 <sup>st</sup> St Lawrence Brownies	Janet Boswell	01959 523953
PCC Hon Secretary	John Morris	810227	S'oaks District Councillors	Julia Thornton	07831 234449
PCC Hon Treasurer	Andy Rowell	884950		Roderick Hogarth	760325
Electoral Roll	Clive McLintock	452964	Seal Parish Council		
Covenant & Envelopes	Rob Otto	457442	Chairman	Edward Oatley	465905
Organist	vacancy		Vice-Chairman	Mike Harvey	
Choir Director	John Morris	810227	Clerk	Lorna Talbot	763488
Bellringers Hon Secretary	Peter Wharton	810388	Ward Councillors	Peter Granville	763832
Sevenoaks Deanery Synod	Ron Drury Peter Wharton	810214 810388		Tony Bulleid	
Sunday School	Hilary Darque	453929	St Lawrence Village Hall Management Committee		
Child Protection Rep	Kate Clark	810829	Chairman	Peter Wharton	810388
Church Flowers	Sheila Jackson	811422	Secretary	Janice Brooker	760843
St Lawrence CE Primary School			Treasurer	Andy Smaggasgale	760552
Headteacher	Alison Saunders	761393	Bookings Secretary	Clare Murray	811389
Chairman of Governors	Paul Martin	761393	Cricket Club Secretary	Robin Webster	01892 862017
Clerk to the Governors	Valerie Maunder	761393	Badm'ton Club Contact	Peter Wharton	810388
St Lawrence Pre-School	???		Archery Club Secretary	Mike Davies	762266
			Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators		
			Stone Street Contact	Janice Brooker	760843
			Seal Chart Contact	Nicola Mitchell	764202

Copy for the next issue should be sent, preferably by e-mail, to the editor,  
Brian Sutton (01732 450873) at manofkent99@yahoo.com

**to arrive by 08:00 on Wednesday 13 April 2016**

The next issue of the Parish Magazine will be in Church on **Sunday 24 April 2016**

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  
April 2016*



*Wishing you every blessing at this glorious Eastertide*

**Vicar**

**The Revd Carol Kitchener**  
St Lawrence Vicarage  
Stone Street  
Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 0LQ  
01732 761766

**Reader**

**Mrs Gretel Wakeham**  
The White House  
Bitchet Green  
Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 0NA  
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**Church Wardens**

**Ron Drury**  
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Ivy Hatch  
Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 0PE  
01732 810214

**Rob Otto**  
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01732 457442

## Our Vicar's Page

This month we will be holding our Annual Parish Church Meetings on the 14<sup>th</sup> (St Margaret's in the Village Hall at 7.30pm) and 17<sup>th</sup> April (St Lawrence's in the church after the morning service).

Our APCMs are important occasions when we have the opportunity to elect, or re-elect officers and PCC members who will have oversight in the coming year. We will have an opportunity to look at our Annual Reports and see just what our church had been doing in the preceding year, usually a lot more than we might remember doing when we looked back. We are also able to look at our finances, ask questions and consider the future.

We can use our APCM as an opportunity to say thank you to the people who work incredibly hard to keep our church going. Our wardens and deputy wardens have generously given their time to our churches and to church business and other people in our churches are similarly generous with their time.

We can use the APCM to ask our PCC a question, which will be considered in a subsequent PCC meeting.

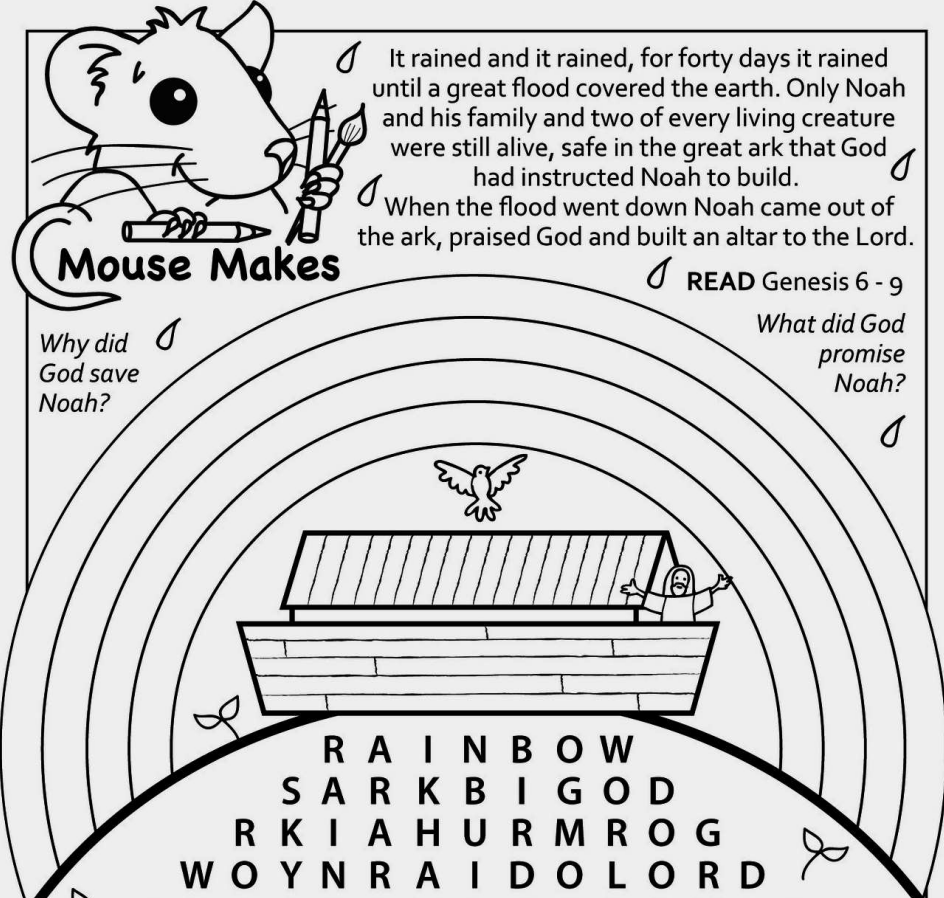
At St Margaret's APCM there will be a short presentation by Brian Pull, the Rochester Stewardship Officer, who will speak about the culture of good stewardship – do come and hear Brian if you can.

God has given each of us so much. We are blessed by families and friends; good jobs, or good retirements; a beautiful place to live; a stable country and the freedom to worship without persecution. When we receive a gift we need to find a way of saying thank you. We can express that through our worship and also through the way we use these resources of time, money and talents in our church, our community and God's world.

This Spring, as you look at all of the signs of new life in your garden and in the countryside, please remember that all of this is a gift from God part of his ongoing creation. Please remember to thank God for what you can see and enjoy and be generous in everything as God has been generous with us!

Yours in the love of Christ *Carol*

## For the Children



**Mouse Makes**

It rained and it rained, for forty days it rained until a great flood covered the earth. Only Noah and his family and two of every living creature were still alive, safe in the great ark that God had instructed Noah to build.

When the flood went down Noah came out of the ark, praised God and built an altar to the Lord.

**READ** Genesis 6 - 9

Why did God save Noah?

What did God promise Noah?

**RAINBOW**  
**SARKBIGOD**  
**RKIAHURMROG**  
**WOYNRAIDOLORD**  
**CNOAHAMLSUDRYOD**  
**YOOFJATADHNGRAVEN**  
**WVTWOJAPHETHELESL**  
**AEARTHANIMALSTSTO**  
**TNRFSA CRIFICEAERW**  
**EAWOODGROUNDSRAOI**  
**RNFORTYDAYSEVENYN**  
**GTIDOLIVELEAFLOOD**

GOD • NOAH • SHEM • HAM • JAPHETH • DESTROY • ARK • BUILD • TAR • WOOD • ROOF  
 DOOR • ANIMALS • BIRDS • SEVEN • TWO • FOOD • SKY • WIND • RAIN • EARTH  
 FORTY DAYS • WATER • FLOOD • WORLD • MOUNTAINS • ARARAT • DRY • GROUND  
 RAVEN • DOVE • OLIVE LEAF • ALTAR • SACRIFICE • LORD • COVENANT • RAINBOW

Apr16 © deborah noble - parishpump.co.uk

# Easter Services

## Holy Week

### Sunday 20 March - Palm Sunday

09:30 Meet at the War Memorial  
for a walk up the hill to . . .

09:45 All Age Family Service at St Lawrence's



### Thursday 24 March - Maundy Thursday

20:00 Holy Communion at St Margaret's

### Friday 25 March - Good Friday

09:15 Devotional Walk from St Margaret's  
to St Lawrence's

11:15 Good Friday Service at St Lawrence's

### Sunday 27 March - Easter Day

09:45 At St Lawrence's  
Easter Day Celebration  
of Holy Communion

11:15 At St Margaret's  
Easter Day Celebration  
of Holy Communion



## **Local Bank Holiday Bike Ride now in its Eighth Year**

On the first Bank Holiday Monday in May, Kent cyclists will be pumping up their tyres to enjoy the eighth Cloisters Charity Bike Ride, starting and finishing as usual at Stansted Village Hall, Kent, TN15 7PH on Monday 2nd May. This year, we are once again very proud to be in association with the EllenorLions Hospices.

Last year over 450 riders took part, raising funds for the Friends of St Mary's Stansted and the Ellenor and had a wonderful day riding through the quiet leafy lanes and charming villages of the North Downs of West Kent. The three rides provide something for everyone, from families to the serious cyclist, with interesting routes, excellent back-up, a ploughman's lunch and the promise of tea with scrumptious homemade cakes. Enjoy the ride and raise sponsorship for the EllenorLions Hospices!

44 miles – “The Challenge”: A lovely ride on many unknown lanes. A very good workout for the most hardened cyclist, a real challenge for the less experienced.

23 miles – “The Classic”: A great ride that includes a very short 1 in 4 hill, with badges awarded to those who ride it! Suitable for all, but requires some training if you don't normally ride a bike

13 miles – “The Cruise”: Quiet lanes especially suitable for the occasional cyclist and for families with younger children.

Entry is open to all ages. Check out the website [www.cloistersbikeride.org](http://www.cloistersbikeride.org) or call 01732 822222 (answerphone) for an entry form.

*John C*

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

## **Public support for Government to help fund church heritage**

60% of us back the idea of the Government providing financial support for churches, chapels and meeting houses, in order to protect their heritage and history for future generations.

This was the finding of a new opinion poll, commissioned by the church building repair and support charity, the National Churches Trust. The poll also found that 57% of British adults said that they had visited a church in the past year for religious services, non-religious activities or as a visitor or tourist.

Since 2014, the Government has given £130m for repairs to historic churches.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

***Read the Small Print***

Last week I posted a package to a friend and to ensure its safe delivery sent it 'recorded delivery'. On Monday I rang him to confirm that had received it and was surprised to find that had not arrived.

I looked at the receipt I had been given at the Post Office and found that I could track the item on line. All I had to do was log in to the appropriate website and key in the id number on the receipt.

This I did: the number was 36745982337168 and appeared about this size. After a few seconds my computer responded, 'The reference number is not recognised'. Accepting that I had made a mistake, I tried again and again the response was that the number was not valid. A third attempt was no more successful and so I walked down to the post office. The counter clerk was very helpful, "What is the reference number?", he asked.

By this time I had memorised it! "36745982337168". I replied. "Are you sure of the last two digits?", he said, "let me see". I passed the receipt to him. "That's not 68", he said, "that's GB." He tried that on the computer in front of him and then told me that my package would be delivered later that morning.

I do so wish that all those companies who insist on packing so much information in so such a small space would have a thought for those of us whose eye sight is even slightly impaired. I'm still trying to find out how much sugar there is in my breakfast marmalade!

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

***Don't believe all you read on line!***

Dragons to be reintroduced to Wales after an absence of more than a 1000 years, local conservation groups say they are pleased by the move that will put a large predator back in the food chain.

There have been concern shown by the farming community due to the risk of predation to livestock but the Welsh assembly say they are willing to pay compensation to farmers who can prove loss, the other danger with the dragons eating habits of taking virgins is not thought to be a problem as they went extinct in Wales may years ago anyway.....  
*Found on Facebook*

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

One can endure sorrow alone, but it takes two to be glad.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

***Saint banned from Rochester train station***

Britain's rail bosses have censored an image of a saint from a display of art inside a railway station, saying it was 'overtly Christian and would offend multi-cultural values'. Network Rail, which is partly funded by the taxpayer, banned an image of St John the Evangelist from Rochester station in Kent.

The image was inspired by Rochester's ancient cathedral and recognised the city's heritage as one of the oldest Christian ecclesiastical cities in Britain. Its cathedral was founded in 604 AD. A Network Rail spokesman said the company told the artist to remove some of the planned images to 'create a balance.'

*Source: Daily Mail*

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

***New YouTube Videos explain Book of Common Prayer***

A brand new series of eight free half-hour videos has been produced by the Prayer Book Society to guide clergy unfamiliar with The Book of Common Prayer when required to conduct its most popular services. The films also will assist wedding planners, undertakers and others advising those arranging marriages and funerals.

The new videos have been produced in two formats: in one they include a spoken commentary explaining to clergy and ordinands the practicalities of conducting the services; the alternative format has no commentary, allowing viewers to concentrate on the wording used in Prayer Book services.

They are Holy Communion, Morning Prayer (or Mattins) and Evening Prayer (or Evensong) as well as baptism, marriage and funeral services. [www.pbs.org.uk](http://www.pbs.org.uk)

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

***The Benefits of Letter Writing***

About two thirds of children in primary school and more than three quarters of secondary school children *never* write letters. In fact, only one in four (26%) said they wrote a letter once a month outside of school, with girls slightly more likely to do so. Those children who do pen letters on a regular basis are more likely to have writing skills above the average expected for their group.

The National Literacy Trust, who did the survey, points out: "Taking time to sit and write a letter by hand feels much more personal than typing an email. Young letter writers are also more likely to write every day outside school, which improves their literacy, enabling them to do better in class and throughout their lives."

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

**Annual Parish Church Meetings**

*A reminder, in case you missed it earlier in the magazine!*

**The APCMs will be held**

**after the 09:45 service at St Lawrence's on**

**Sunday 17 April 2016**

***This is your opportunity to hear what has happened in the past year, what is proposed for the next year and generally to play a positive part in the governance of our church.***

***Please make an effort to attend.***

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

**Some Notes about the Organ in our church**

August Gern was born in Berlin in 1837 and in his early working days was apprenticed as an organ-builder and moved to Paris in 1859 to work with Aristide Cavaillé-Coll, was a French organ builder. He left Cavaillé-Coll in 1868 to build the organ of Notre Dame de France, London and in the years that followed he built a number of pipe organs in the United Kingdom. How many he built in other countries is not known.

According to Michael J. Watcham, Organ Archivist, Amateur organist and Organ Photographer from Maidstone, it is not known how many organs Gern built, but many of these organs by Gern no longer exist: others have been made redundant over the years and scrapped while some have been replaced by other organs, some have been rebuilt and/or reconstructed by organ builders to form a new organ and some have been installed elsewhere. It has been suggested that in 1994 there were but nine of his creations left unscathed in England and two in Scotland. It is not known how many organs Gern built but there must be some in other countries.

There were once two in Kent, one at Hawkenbury which was scrapped some years ago and ours at St Lawrence, one of the few remaining.

In 1994 Paul Joslin, Team Organist with the BBC was writing a thesis at Reading University for a Masters Degree found that 'almost nothing is known about Gern in England, that he had found less than ten Gern organs in original condition 'm the whole of the British Isles and that at St. Lawrence Church the Gern organ, one of the remaining few in original condition, is used for Sunday morning services in addition to weddings, funerals, baptisms, school services and Christmas concerts and services. It is also used for choir practices.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

**Short Mat Bowls**

Have you booked to hire the village hall?

Are you thinking of doing so?

Are you interested in short mat bowls?

If so, the committee would be pleased to hear from you, as they have two sets which are available for hire. It seems such a pity that this kit should lay around unused.

Would it be possible to put something into the magazine again for the village hall, advertising the fact that they have two sets of short mat bowls available for hall hirers if anyone is interested ?

The committee feel that they are rather wasted without use, and the magazine

has a good coverage. There may be some interest from readers ?



Ron

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

**AWAY DAY**  
**OUR ANNUAL AWAY DAY WILL BE HELD IN**  
**THE CHURCH HALL**  
**ST BARTHOLOMEW'S PARISH CHURCH**  
**OTFORD**  
**ON**  
**SATURDAY 7 MAY 2016**  
**10:00—1200**  
**PLEASE LET CAROL KNOW IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN IN THINKING**  
**ABOUT GOD CALLING US TO SERVE HIM AND EACH OTHER**  
**01732 762766 OR CAROL@STLAWRENCESEALCHART.COM**  
**ALL WILL BE MOST WELCOME**



**Services and Events at  
The Church of St Lawrence Seal Chart  
during April 2016**

Every Tuesday at 08:30, in the Church  
Morning Prayer (said) (CW)

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>3 April</b>	<b>1st Sunday of Easter</b>	
	08:00	Holy Communion	BCP
		Acts 5: 27-32                      John 20: 19-31	
	09:45	Volunteers' Service	
		John 6: 1-13	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>10 April</b>	<b>2nd Sunday of Easter</b>	
	09:45	Family Communion	CW
		Acts 9: 1-6                              John 21:1-19	
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>14 April</b>	<b>Prayer Time (Lasts about an hour, all are welcome)</b>	
	10:00	At St Lawrence Vicarage	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>17 April</b>	<b>3rd Sunday of Easter</b>	
	09:45	Family Communion (with Sunday School)	
	CW		
		Acts 9: 36-end                      John 10: 22-30	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>24 April</b>	<b>4th Sunday of Easter</b>	
	09:45	Matins	BCP
		Acts 11: 1-18                      John 13: 31-35	
<b>Monday</b>	<b>25 April</b>	<b>Prayer Time (Lasts about an hour, all are welcome)</b>	
	14:00	At 50 The Crescent, Sevenoaks	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>1 May</b>	<b>5th Sunday of Easter &amp; Rogation Sunday</b>	
	08:00	Holy Communion	BCP
		Acts 16:9-15 & John 5:1-9	
	09:45	All Age Family Service	
		John 5:1-9	
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>5 May</b>	<b>Ascension Day</b>	
	10:00	Joint Service of Holy Communion at St Margaret's	CW



**Church Flowers**



Sunday	3 April	Roz Morris
Sunday	10 April	Christine Hughes
Sunday	17 April	Christine Hughes
Sunday	24 April	Sally Rees
Sunday	1 May	Sally Rees

**Children meet promptly at 09:45 in the School Hall on the dates shown below**  
They will rejoin their parents in the church towards the end of the service.



*All children aged 3 and upwards are welcome*  
*For further information contact Hilary Darque*

<i>17 Apr</i>	<i>Sunday School</i>	<i>3 Jul</i>	<i>Picnic &amp; Games</i>
<i>15 May</i>	<i>Sunday School</i>	<i>17 Jul</i>	<i>No Sunday School</i>
<i>19 Jun</i>	<i>Sunday School</i>	<i>21 Aug</i>	<i>No Sunday School</i>



**Dates for your Diary 2016**

<i>Fri 6 May</i>	<i>In the Church</i>
<i>Fri 1 July</i>	<i>In the Church</i>
<i>Fri 9 Sep</i>	<i>In the Church</i>
<i>Fri 18 Nov</i>	<i>In the Church</i>



**Your Prayers are asked for . .**



**peace throughout the World;**  
**the many Easter pilgrims in the Holy Land;**  
**those who are persecuted for their Christian beliefs;**  
**those who are separated from their families.**  
**Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**