

*Services at St Margaret's Underriver  
during June 2017*



<b>Sunday</b>	<b>4 June</b>	11:15	All Age Family Service	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>11 June</b>	08:00	Holy Communion	BCP
		18:00	Evensong	BCP
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>18 June</b>	09:45	Joint Communion Service at St Lawrence	CW
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>25 June</b>	11:15	Parish Communion	CW
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>2 July</b>	11:15	All Age Family Service	

**ST LAWRENCE CHURCH AND VILLAGE CONTACTS**

*Vicar - (vacancy)*

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

*Admin Assistant - Tim Pearce - 01732 832408 admin@stlawrence Seal Chart*

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

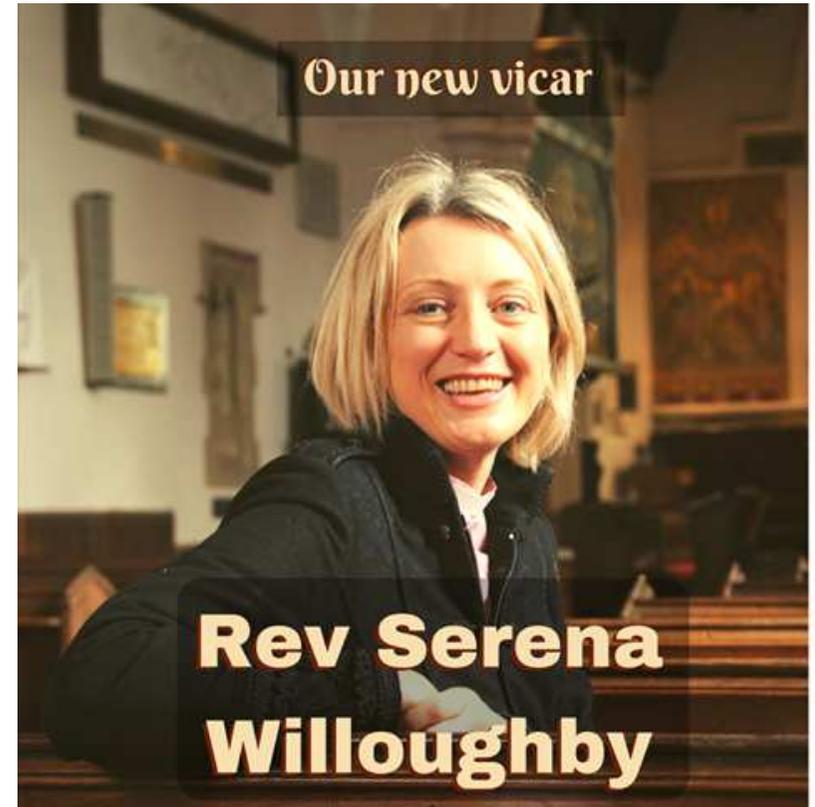
Churchwardens	Ron Drury Rob Otto	810214 457442	1 <sup>st</sup> St Lawrence Brownies	Janet Boswell	01959 523953
PCC Hon Secretary	John Morris	810227	S'oaks District Councillors	Julia Thornton	07831 234449
PCC Hon Treasurer	Andy Rowell	884950		Roderick Hogarth	760325
Electoral Roll	Clive McLintock	452964	Seal Parish Council		
Covenant & Envelopes	Rob Otto	457442	Chairman	Fidelity Weston	463372
Organist	Alex Trigg		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		Gary Aldridge	
Sunday School	Hilary Darque	453929	St Lawrence Village Hall Management Committee		
Messy Church	Wendy Dartnell	07880 725885	Chairman	Peter Wharton	810388
Child Protection Rep	Kate Clark	810829	Secretary	Charlotte Sinclair	764285
Church Flowers	Sheila Jackson	811422	Treasurer	Andy Smaggasgale	760552
			Bookings Secretary	Andy Smaggasgale	760552
St Lawrence CE Primary School			Cricknet Club Secretary	Robin Webster	01892 862017
Headteacher	Alison Saunders	761393	Badm'ton Club Contact	Peter Wharton	810388
Chairman of Governors	Paul Martin	761393	Archery Club Secretary	Mike Davies	762266
Clerk to the Governors	Valerie Maunder	761393			
St Lawrence Pre-School	Melissa Alchin	763354	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 21 June 2017**

The next issue of the Parish Magazine will be in Church on **Sunday 2 July 2017**

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  
June 2017*



*Vicar*

*(Vacancy)  
Until 3 September 2017*

**Rob Otto**  
23 Hillingdon Avenue  
Sevenoaks  
Kent TN13 3RB  
01732 457442

*Reader*

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

*Church Wardens*

*Vacancy  
until a volunteer comes forward*

## Great News from our Church Warden

Hi everyone

I wanted to include a little more information about Serena, as well as a nice picture for those of you who haven't yet had the opportunity to meet her. (see front cover, Ed)

Thank you all very much for your support and prayers, as we have sought to find a new Vicar for the two parishes of our benefice.

We are delighted to let you know that the Bishop has offered the post of Vicar of Seal Chart and Underriver to the Revd Serena Willoughby, whom some of you will already know from her previous ministry in the Sevenoaks Deanery and from some services which she has taken in our benefice during the vacancy period. Serena's appointment as our Vicar is part-time, on the basis of Sundays, plus 3 other days each week. The appointment is subject to the usual safeguarding and health check clearances. She will also be working part-time in a separate post as Chaplain at Bethany School, near Goudhurst.

Serena is very much local to our area, having attended Bennet Memorial School in Royal Tunbridge Wells before attending Oak Hill Theological College in North London. She was ordained at St Barnabas Church in St Paul's Cray, Orpington and spent the following years alternating between ministry work (at both St John's and St Stephen in Tonbridge) and teaching positions at Hillview School and Tonbridge Grammar School. In 2006 she was appointed vicar of St George's in nearby Sevenoaks Weald and held that post for eight years, before accepting a role as Chaplain at Christ's School, Kingston-upon-Thames. Serena's hobbies include ballet, reading and walking her dog.

We are very excited at the prospect of Serena's appointment and look forward to her and John and their family moving into the vicarage during the summer holiday period and to the Collation and Induction Service — probably in early September — when the Bishop of Rochester will come to Commission Serena for this new chapter in her ministry.

Your in Christ, Rob

Rob

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## For the Children

“May the *grace* of the Lord **JESUS** Christ and the *love* of **GOD** and the *fellowship* of the **HOLY SPIRIT** be with you all.”  
2 Corinthians 13:13

Can you find all the names of the Trinity in this 3 in 1 word search?

**GOD - THE FATHER**

C R E A T O R  
J O N E L H O L Y  
E A I L M G N O A  
H S A V I O U R H  
O J M A G D I D W  
V U O N H I G H E  
A D F A T H E R H  
H G I M Y K I N G  
E T E R N A L

**GOD - THE SON**

M E S S I A H  
S J M O S T T A L  
C E M N V W R B A  
H S A V I O U R M  
R U N O N R T E B  
I S U B E D H A W  
S H E P H E R D A  
T A L I G H T A Y  
L O R D O O R

**GOD - THE SPIRIT**

S P I R I T E  
W I T N E S S T T  
C O M F O R T E R I  
P T H E L P E R I  
O T R U T H A N N  
W I S D O M C A I  
E B R E A T H L T  
R I G U I D E E Y  
T H O L Y R D

LORD • GOD  
JEHOVAH • I AM  
YAHWEH •  
HOLY • ONE  
SAVIOUR • KING  
ETERNAL  
ALMIGHTY  
CREATOR • JUDGE  
FATHER • ON HIGH

JESUS • CHRIST  
SAVIOUR • LORD  
EMMANUEL  
SHEPHERD  
LAMB  
WAY • SON  
DOOR • LIGHT  
BREAD • WORD  
MESSIAH • VINE

HOLY • SPIRIT • COMFORTER • TEACHER • GUIDE  
HELPER • TRUTH • POWER • WISDOM • BREATH • ETERNAL

Hiding in one of the puzzles is the word 'TRINITY', can you find it?

## ***Church Services to Celebrate Godparents***

At least six million people have been asked to become a Godparent at a Church of England christening since the millennium, according to a new analysis.

Around 120,000 Church of England baptisms take place every year, with an estimated six million people taking up the role of Godparent since the millennium alone.

Godparents' Sunday was launched last year (2016) by the Church of England. It followed research with 1,000 parents conducted in 2013 showing that having Godparents was one of the key reasons for wanting to have a child christened, alongside wanting God's blessing and starting a child on the right path in life.

During a christening, Godparents will make important promises to pray for their Godchild and support them as they discover more about the Christian faith.

Godparents also spend time with their Godchildren, and help them to make good choices in life for themselves and for others. They are there as a listening ear for their Godchild over the years and help children discover more about the Christian faith, through their church and in other ways.

The Rev Canon Dr Sandra Millar, who leads research on christenings for the Church of England, said: "Our research shows that Godparents are really important to families. Parents put a lot of thought into choosing Godparents, often honouring existing friendships.

"Godparents are part of child's life for a long time and families really appreciate having an extra voice to bring wisdom, encouragement and love.

"It's a mutual relationship - Godchildren and Godparents bless and pray for each other. Godparents' Sunday is a great day to be in touch, to be supported and encouraged on the journey by the wider church and to discover more about the amazing journey of faith that starts at a christening."

*(Godparents Sunday was the third Sunday of Easter; this year 30<sup>th</sup> April)*

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## ***Change of Dates for July Issue***

***I shall be away during the week beginning Sunday 13 June and the closing date for copy for the July issue will be Wednesday 21 June; The magazine will be in church for Sunday 2 July.*** *Ed*

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## ***St Lawrence Church Annual Parochial Church Meeting***

The Annual Meeting of the church took place after the service on April 30 attended by 26 church members. The meeting is a requirement of the church authorities but is also an opportunity to discuss what has gone on during the year in the life of the church. The first task was to appoint Rob Otto as church warden; he will be on his own this year as our other warden, Ron Drury, has decided, after six years in the role, to take a break.

Members of the PCC retire after three years on a rolling basis so this year we had three retirees, with two, Eric Jackson and John Carlisle, being re-elected for a further term. We are left with one vacancy on the PCC.

A major item at the annual meeting is the presentation and approval of the accounts. Treasurer Andy Rowell presented a pleasing financial picture with a modest surplus of income over expenses on the church upkeep accounts and a record amount of £6300 donated to charities, thanks in large part to our successful first entry in the Bewl Water Dragon Boat Race in September which was a highlight of the charitable fund raising year.

The Annual Report of church activities this year focussed, amongst other things, on our charitable donations and the excellent relationship we enjoy with the Headteacher, staff and pupils of St Lawrence School.

Roz Morris gave an update on the Stitchers group, a team of ten ladies who have met weekly for the past eight years to produce textiles not only for the church but also for charities which include Hospice in the Weald and Project Linus.

As the parish is in a vacancy until the arrival of our new Vicar, Rev'd Serena Willoughby, in September, the meeting was chaired by Ron Drury who expressed thanks to the many people who work hard in different ways on behalf of the church.

*John Morris PCC Secretary*

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### ***First Aid Course***

On Saturday 22 April six of us from St Lawrence's attended a half day Family First Aid Course at St Julian's run by Peak Skills. Even though some of the subjects were very scary, our instructor Yvonne managed to make the morning both instructive and enjoyable. Among the topics covered were how soon and when to call 999, choking, asthma, bleeding, stings, burns, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (commonly known as CPR), as well as how to place someone in the recovery position. Great fun was had by all especially when it came to the practical sessions as you will see from the expression on Rob's face!



One tip to be shared is to check the use by dates in your first aid kit. None of us realised that some bandages are bio degradable and will start to break down, even though they appear sterile and useable because the seal has not been broken!

*Hilary*

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### ***Bible Success in Northern Iraq***

A team of Bible translators in Kurdistan, northern Iraq, working against the backdrop of civil unrest and religious persecution, have completed the first ever translation of the whole Bible into the Central Kurdish Sorani language.

For the last eight years, Church Mission Society mission partners have been an integral part of the team, working alongside indigenous Kurds and other foreign nationals drafting text, checking names, terminology and style, and finally checking both the Old and New Testaments so they could be published together for the first time as the complete Bible.

The whole translation of Old and New Testaments took 28 years to complete, and will enable six million native speakers of the Sorani language to hear and read the Bible in their own language for the first time. As well as physical copies, the new translation is available digitally, both through the YouVersion app and a newly designed Kurdish app called Pertukekem ('My Book').

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pieces of canon law and how they apply to individual situations within the plethora of parishes and churches under his control, but also somehow manages to prayerfully hold his entire patch together, representing our interests and helping us to understand our place in the wider Diocese, church and world. Clive, in particular, has been of massive support, both pastoral and practical, during our interregnum and has been instrumental in effecting the appointment of our new vicar, Reverend Serena Willoughby.

Clive's retirement service takes place at Rochester Cathedral on 1 July and Bishop James and his team are asking for donations towards a suitable farewell gift for Clive and his wife Jane. We've decided that it would be most expedient to collect all such contributions locally and then make a single donation on behalf of St Lawrence Church.

Could I ask that any gifts, whether cash or cheques (payable to St Lawrence PCC) be given directly to me, before Sunday 18 June? Alternatively, donations can be made directly into the PCC bank account (details on request) with the reference "Clive Mansell".

Thank you all in advance and we wish Clive and Jane all the best for their well-earned rest up in Yorkshire,

All the best,

Rob

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**Coming back to St Lawrence, Seal Chart  
on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> June at 6.30pm**

**The Story of Jazz Piano**

**Featuring the Robert Reid trio**

***Prosecco and light refreshments will be served  
during the interval***

**Tickets £12 adults and children £6 available from**

**Eric Jackson 01732 811422**

**John Carlisle 01732 761097**

**Rob Otto 01732 457442**

## ***Getting Older***

Most seniors never get enough exercise. In His wisdom God decreed that seniors become forgetful so they would have to search for their glasses, keys and other things thus doing inore walking. And God looked down and saw that it was good.

Then God saw there was another need. In His wisdom He made seniors lose coordination so they would drop things requiring them to bend, reach & stretch. And God looked down and saw that it was good.

Then God considered the function of bladders and decided seniors would have additional calls of nature requiring more trips to the bathroom, thus providing more exercise. God looked down -and saw that it was good.

So if you find as you age, you are getting up and down more, remember it's God's will. It is all in your best interest even though you mutter under your breath.

*Please share this wisdom with others while I go to the bathroom.*

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## ***Sevenoaks Greensand Commons Consultation and Walks***

During this month you should be receiving, in your copy of the Seal Advertiser, an invitation to walks on all the Greensand Commons with a consultation feedback form for you to complete, whether you have been on a walk or not. If, for any reason, you have not received a copy and would like to be involved please either email the Project Officer, Andrew Willmore at [andrew.willmore@kentwildlife.org.uk](mailto:andrew.willmore@kentwildlife.org.uk) or telephone Fidelity Weston on 01732 463372 and leave a message and we will ensure you receive one. Further details and updates are also available on the project website at: <http://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/sevenoaks-greensand-commons>. *Fidelity Weston*

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## ***Wishing our Archdeacon a wonderful retirement***

The Venerable Clive Mansell, who retires at the end of next month after 15 years of wonderful service to Tonbridge archdeaconry, certainly has been a firm friend to us here at St Lawrence. Clive, to me, is one of those rare people who manages to be both detail-oriented and a "big picture" thinker simultaneously. He's able to focus on the intricate specifics of particular

## ***Trinity Sunday***

Tell me how it is that in this room there are three candles and but one light, and I will explain to you the mode of the divine existence. - *John Wesley*

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## ***ROW,ROW,ROW YOUR BOAT - TAKE 2 !***

The 9<sup>th</sup> September 2017 will see the 20<sup>th</sup> annual Dragon Boat Festival at BEWL Water (TN3 8JH).

The 2016 event raised over £80,000 for 50 different charities, and St Lawrence's were a part of that effort.

This year, we are planning to take to the water once again, in an effort to better last year's time, and raise money for our charities. We have 16 committed rowers, and a support team, but we need your help to raise funds for these most worthy causes. ALL money raised will go to our chosen charities including :

Sevenoaks Area Youth Trust ([sayt.org.uk](http://sayt.org.uk)) : A youth work charity based in Sevenoaks, with the aim of training, employing and supporting detached Christian youth workers in Sevenoaks and its surrounding areas.

Children in distress ([childrenindistress.org](http://childrenindistress.org)) : Saving the lives of Romania's disabled and abandoned children.

Scott's Project ([scottspj.org.uk](http://scottspj.org.uk)) : Scott's supports adults with learning disabilities to strive to reach their aspirations and make choices about how they want to live their lives through three interlinked services, based near Tonbridge in Kent.

PLEASE - If you can help with a donation of any amount visit [bit.do/DragonBoat2017](http://bit.do/DragonBoat2017) or speak to Ron (810214) or Rob (457442).

Do mark the date and join us if you can. This is a fun day for all ages, with races on the water starting at 10 am and finishing around 4 pm with the 10 boat grand final.

Everyone is welcome, and we look forward to seeing you there !

Thank you for your support.

*Ron*

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*Services and Events at  
The Church of St Lawrence Seal Chart  
during June 2017*

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>4 June</b>	<b>Pentecost</b> 08:00 Holy Communion Acts 2:1-21 John 7:37-39 09:45 All Age Family Service Acts 2:1-21	BCP
<b>Monday</b>	<b>5 June</b>	<b>Prayer Time (Lasts about an hour, all are welcome)</b> 14:00 At The White House, Bitchet Green	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>11 June</b>	<b>Trinity Sunday</b> 09:45 Family Communion 2 Corinthians 13: 11-end Matthew 28: 16-end	CW
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>18 June</b>	<b>First Sunday after Trinity</b> 09:45 Family Communion (with Sunday School) Exodus 19: 2-8a Matthew 9: 35—10: 8	CW
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>25 June</b>	<b>Second Sunday after Trinity</b> 09:45 Matins Jeremiah 20: 7-13 Matthew 10: 24-39	BCP
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>2 July</b>	<b>Third Sunday after Trinity</b> 08:00 Holy Communion Jeremiah 28: 5-9 Matthew 10: 40-end 09:45 All Age Family Service Matthew 10: 40-end	BCP



*Church Flowers*



Sunday	4 Jun	Pat Wilson
Sunday	11 June	Gill Beynon
Sunday	18 June	Gill Beynon
Sunday	25 June	Sheila Jackson
Sunday	2 July	Sheila Jackson



*Children meet promptly at 09:45 in the  
School Hall on the dates below*

*For further information re Sunday School please  
contact Hilary on 01732 453929*

*All children aged 3 and upwards are welcome*

*They will rejoin their parents in the church towards the end of the service.*

4 June All Age/Family Service

18 June **SUNDAY SCHOOL** Fathers' Day Brunch Lyn & Penny

2 July All Age/Family Service



*For further information re Messy Church please  
contact Wendy on 07880 725885*

12 June **MESSY CHURCH** At 15:15 in the Church

7 July **MESSY CHURCH** At 15:15 in the Church



Dear Lord,  
When I fall, Catch me.  
When I'm sad, Hold me.  
When I cry. Wipe my tears.  
When I'm broken, Put me back together again.  
In Jesus' name,  
Amen

