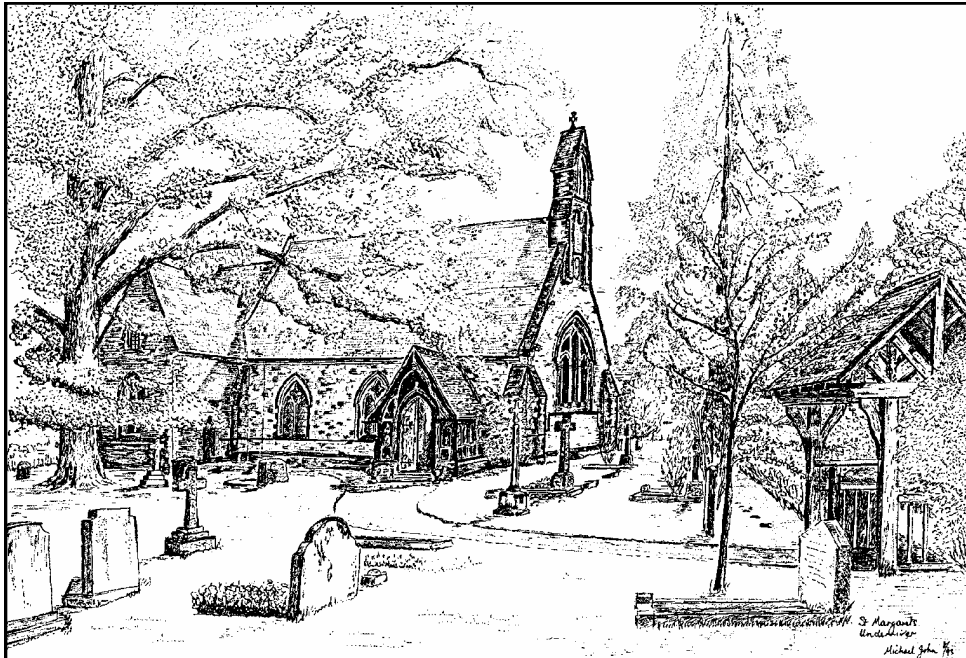


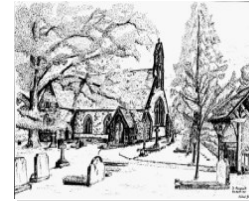
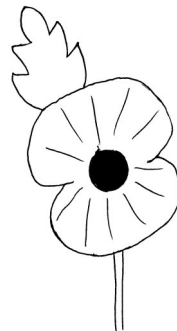
Underriver Newsheet

NOVEMBER 2014



9th November—Remembrance Sunday

* **LEST WE FORGET..... Page 10**



The Church of St Margaret, Underriver

Vicar: The Reverend Carol Kitchener

St Lawrence Vicarage, Stone Street, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 0LQ
Telephone: 01732 761766 Email: carol@stlawrencesealchart.com

Church Calendar

NOVEMBER

2	ALL SAINTS DAY		White
		11:15 All-age Family service	Reading: Luke 15:3-7
3	ALL SOULS	20:00 All Souls Service	Reading: Wisdom 3:1-9
6		08:30 Morning Prayer (CW)	
9	REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY		Red
		08:00 Holy Communion (BCP)	Readings: Amos 5:18-24 & Matthew 25:1-13
		10:55 Service of Remembrance	Reading: John 15:9-17
13		08:30 Morning Prayer (CW)	
16	2nd Sunday before Advent		Red
		10:30 Sunday Club in the Village Hall	
		11:15 All-age Service	Reading: Matthew 25:14-30
20		08:30 Morning Prayer (CW)	
23	Christ the King		Red
		11:15 Parish Communion (CW)	Readings: tba
27		8:30 Morning Prayer (CW)	
30	ADVENT SUNDAY		Purple
		11:15 All-age Advent Service (with Posada)	Reading: Mark 13:24-end
DEC 4		8:30 Morning Prayer (CW)	

Key: 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

St Margaret's Church Website

St Margaret's now has its own website. To keep up to date about services and events please see

www.stmargaretsunderriver.org.uk

FROM THE VICAR

In November we find ourselves in a largely contemplative season as we look back and take stock. On the 3rd of November at 8pm at St Margaret's Church Underriver, we will have our joint All Souls Service. This provides an occasion to remember the people we have loved and lost - family members and friends. In the quietness of the service we will have an opportunity to remember the many ways they impacted on our lives, the things that still bring smiles to our faces and tears to our eyes. All Souls Day is an occasion to thank God for the people we have loved and lost and then let them go, once again, into God's safe hands.

Remembrance Sunday will be on the 9th November this year and we will be remembering the sacrifices made by people in the world wars of the 20th century and in the conflicts that have followed until the present day. It will be especially poignant this year with the 100th anniversary of the start of World War I. The majority of those who die in armed conflicts are very young and we have evidence on that on our war memorials of lives only half lived. These services provide us with an opportunity to recommit to peace and to living our lives anew.

On the 23rd November we will be celebrating the feast of Christ the King – an occasion to celebrate the risen Christ, remembering the way his Kingship became apparent just before his death. Pilate made this statement at Jesus' trial, "You are a king, then!" (John 18:37). This will be the last Sunday before the season of Advent begins.

Advent Sunday will be on Sunday the 30th November and this will begin a new year in the church calendar. On that Sunday we will be sending out our Posada figures, Mary and Joseph, to travel from house to house around the parish and in the town through the month of December. They will arrive back in church on Christmas Eve at the Crib and Crib and Christingle services.

Please do come and join us at our many services during November, you will be made welcome in either of our churches, at any of our services (see the details elsewhere in the magazine, or on our church website).

Yours in the love of Christ
Carol



CHURCH NEWS

Looking Back:

We had a wonderful **Harvest Festival** service with the church beautifully decorated – thank you to everyone who made the church look so wonderful. Thank you also to Andrea and to others who planned and delivered a delicious Harvest lunch after the service.

Looking Forward:

All Souls Service 3rd November at 8 pm at St Margaret's Church. A joint service with St Lawrence to remember the people we have loved and lost – all will be welcomed.

Remembrance Sunday Service 9th November at 10.55 am.

Advent Sunday 30th November at 11.15 am. Come and join us as the season of Advent begins and our Posada figures begin their journey from house to house.

Prayers:

For older people as the nights get dark earlier and as it gets colder

For those who find this season of remembering painful

For healing for those who are sick,; strength for those receiving treatment and patience and peace for those awaiting tests and results.

Prayer Times

Please come to our prayer group:

13th November 10 am: at Shepherd' Cottage, Heaverham

24th November 2 pm: at Grenadier, Riding Lane, Hildenborough

Securing the Future – a Joint Benefice?

I approached our archdeacon, the Ven Clive Mansell, to enquire about ways of securing the future of both St Lawrence's and St Margaret's when I retire in the summer/autumn of 2016. At the present time each church is a separate parish and therefore a quarter time appointment (together they make a half time post sharing the same vicar) and as such they are potentially vulnerable. Plans are being made at the moment which will bring our diocese in line with other dioceses and the allocation of money for ministry could in the future be decided at a deanery level. People will quite rightly be making decisions about where ministry money should be spent and small parishes do not offer good value for money. One possible solution would be to legally bring the two churches together. The best model for our two churches would be a "Joint Benefice", with two PCCs; four church wardens and separate finances – working together more closely, but retaining our identities.

The Standing Committees, of both churches, have met twice to discuss this and both PCCs have met and there is a willingness to explore this further and to get answers to questions raised at the meetings. As part of the process of discerning what might be a good way forward we would like to involve people from both congregations in the discussions that are taking place. We would need to agree about what we might like to share together,

or what we would like to commit to and this would be part of our application should we decide to go ahead. I would appreciate you coming (if you can) to a joint Away Morning to help to shape this. We will be meeting on the 8th November at Platt Church Room (adjacent to the church in St Mary Platt) from 9.30 am – 12.30 pm.

If we came to the decision that it would be right for our churches to become a Joint Benefice there would be a process to go through, which might take some months. The change could be made by what is called a Pastoral Scheme, and it would need the agreement of both PCCs. The diocese would then have to make the decision to proceed at the Pastoral Committee (that would come with a recommendation by the archdeacon); Bishop James would then have to send the required paperwork to the Church Commissioners; the Commissioners would ask the parishes to consult locally, to see if there are any objections; then the Commissioners would take the final decision. The process could take 3-4 months, or maybe longer? The diocesan secretary has already been informally approached by the archdeacon and would be agreeable to this change should we decide to make it. The archdeacon wondered why this had not happened 20 years ago when the churches were linked together with the same vicar?

Please come to the Away Morning, if you possibly can, and please pray about this.

Carol Kitchener



Underriver Village

Village Association Chairman: Helen Watson

The Old Vicarage, Underriver, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 0SB

Telephone: 01732 833930

Underriver Village Association membership £10 per household per annum.

Pilates Classes

Mondays 7:30 pm and 8:30 pm

Tuesday 9:30 am

Contact: Zoe George 07950 494 335

BOOT CAMP

Fast paced circuit based workout

Every Tuesday 7.30pm

Contact: Charles on 07759479179 or find us on www.facebook.com/CharlesCrouchBootcamp

UNDERRIVER VILLAGE HALL – HIRE OPPORTUNITY

After a long association with Underriver Village Hall the Underriver Under 5's Nursery closed for the last time on July 18th.

This provides an opportunity for new clubs & businesses to hire the hall as daytimes on a Monday, Wednesday & Friday will become available.

If you would like to discuss this further please contact Robert Talbot on 01732 833930 or email uvasecretary@hotmail.co.uk

PILATES CLASS VACANCIES

There are spare places in all classes on Monday nights and Tuesday mornings in the village Hall. Contact Zoe George – Tel: 07950 494 335

NOTICE of UVA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM of the Underriver Village Association will take place in the Village Hall on **Wednesday 26th November** at 8.00pm. Please send any application to become a new committee member of the Association, in writing to the Secretary (Robert Talbot, Weald Heights, Fawke Common TN15 0SP) by Wednesday 12th November, i.e. 14 days prior to the AGM. Applicants must be fully paid up members of the UVA and must be proposed and seconded by other fully paid up members.

Underriver Village children's Christmas party

Unfortunately, we have had no volunteers to take over the running of this year's party and it looks as though it won't be going ahead. If anything changes we will let you know.

Hopefully, the village will be able to continue this lovely tradition next year! In the meantime, thank you to the UVA for all its generous support over the years and to all of Santa's many helpers...

Thank you,
Stephanie Barton
E: bartonx@btinternet.com

Underriver Christmas Dinner – Friday 12th December

Our annual Christmas Dinner will take place on Friday 12th December at The White Rock. Tickets for this 3 course extravaganza are the same as last year at £28 per head which includes a tip for the staff.

Numbers are limited & this has now sold.

Robert Talbot
uvasecretary@hotmail.co.uk.

UNDERRIVER BOOK CLUB



The Paris Wife by Paula McLain proved a lively book for discussion when the Underriver Book Club met in October. It is the story of Ernest Hemingway's first wife Hadley Richardson, and paints an intriguing picture of the American artistic and literary community living in Paris after the First World War. Recognisable names - Ezra Pound, Gertrude Stein, Scott FitzGerald keep appearing.

Paula McLain was inspired to write it by Hemingway's own book **A Moveable Feast** which was written many years after he and Hadley lived in poverty in Paris whilst he tried to hone his writing skills. He shows nostalgia for her, the first of his four wives, whom he married when she was 28 and he was only 20.

The book is written as if narrated by Hadley, which it was thought worked well. Some parts were perhaps a little drawn out, particularly the end. Considerable research had gone into it and it was interesting reading about Hemingway rather than one of his own books, which not everyone liked. The couple was probably not as mismatched as the age difference would suggest, as Hemingway had been wounded and had grown up fast after being an ambulance driver in WWI. Their son Jack, 'Mr Bumby', worked for the French Resistance and had a successful career. Hadley married again but even in her old age described Hemingway as a 'prince'.

Janet Rucker



UNDERRIVER CHRISTMAS MARKET SATURDAY 6th DECEMBER 2013

9.30 TO 11.00

AT

UNDERRIVER HOUSE, UNDERRIVER

IN AID OF

HOSPICE IN THE WEALD

CHARITY NO 280276

COFFEE AND MINCE PIES



THURSDAY UNDERRIVER GROUP

October gathering:

We enjoyed the usual delicious supper (especially the delectable puddings) and sat with friends at the flower decorated tables.

Then Neil Arnold regaled us with a fantastic number of ghost stories. He has an outrageous hair do, well lacquered, and was dressed all in black. Every story began, "It was a dark and stormy night". You never see ghosts in broad sunlight!!

He is dedicated to researching ghosts. From Blueberry Hill and the disappearing bride and the bodies in the road, through the Cooper's Arms and the monk in Rochester Castle, to the headless body and the faceless head, he took us there and back again. He did his best to persuade us that if we danced naked round a bush in Pluckley, we would see the devil. No way!

He spoke fluently and energetically. He knew enough stories to provoke us and kept us entertained for nearly an hour.

J. Fair

Underriver Christmas Market can you help?

We would really appreciate it if you could look to see if you have any of the following items to donate for sale at the Christmas Market on the 6th December at Underriver House:-

Unwanted gifts such as stationary, toiletries ,scarves, things for men, jewellery, nice china or glass

Good quality toys and games

Christmas items

NO BOOKS PLEASE

Either leave the items in the box outside our gate or contact Jane Kildahl on 01732 832123 and she will come and collect it.

Thank you very much

REMEMBRANCE

At the conclusion of hostilities in 1918 the nation sought to find rituals and forms by which it could palliate and assuage the immense grief at its heart. The pattern set in the years immediately following became and has remained a yardstick for most of the 20th century, and continues with little variation to this day.

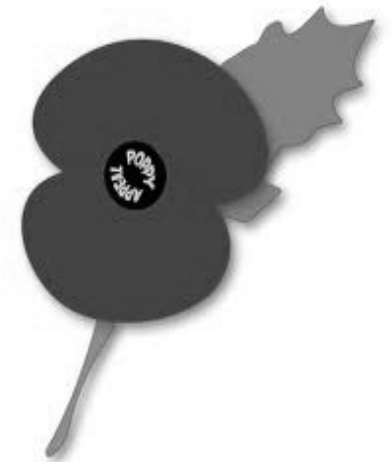
The Church of England led the mission to bring such spiritual relief as it could; in doing so it showed the humanity and flexibility to allow and to some degree to adopt new rites and ceremonies which had popular support ; today we recognise these in the cult of the Unknown Warrior, and the sounding of Last Post and Reveille, with the laying of wreaths in spite of the element of paganism therein.

Furthermore the Church of England orchestrated and formalised the Cenotaph service on Remembrance Day with its accompanying moments of national silence. The urge to exercise the collective memory in a dignified and respectful manner was not the sole prerogative of prelates and prime ministers; it was driven also by the people, from all walks of life, seeking to express an irresistible national mood.

Countless monuments, shrines and epitaphs, deriving their inspiration initially from the wayside shrines in rural France reflected patriotism, the nobility of the dead and respectful commemoration; these included in war cemeteries the Stone of Sacrifice and the Sword of Remembrance, and the haunting inscription coined by Kipling on the headstone of every unknown warrior, "A Soldier of the Great War, Known unto God."

One hundred years after the outbreak of the Great War it is fitting that Remembrance should never be allowed to fade away.

LEST WE FORGET.....



MEMORIES OF THE GREAT WAR

The 7th Somersets had been practically wiped out. Only two officers had survived, with the remnants of their companies _ two NCOs and about sixty other ranks. Lieutenant R.L. Tawney (commanding D Company) was killed fighting, revolver in hand, to the very last.

So died my father's first cousin, on the 30th November 1917, aged only 21, at the battle of Cambrai, as the German counter-attack sought to reverse the gains made by the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry and the Somerset Light Infantry during the preceding ten days. The total casualties suffered by the Battalion on the 30th November 1917 were 12 officers and 332 other ranks.

But his story really began the previous year, on 11th April, on the Canal north of Ypres. On the 22nd March the Somersets relieved the 6th Oxford and Bucks in support on the Canal bank. With better weather during the first few days of April trenches were improved and new ones dug. On 11th April the enemy launched a major attack, shelling the Canal bank, and laying down a heavy barrage of 5'9s. The violent bombardment had cut the telephone wires, and at 7.30 p.m. a message reached the CO from the 7th Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry asking for S.A.A. (small arms ammunition) to be

sent up to their left company.

2/Lt R.L. Tawney of D Company was ordered to take his platoon and carry up as many boxes of ammunition as they could. He divided his platoon into two parties, taking one himself and his platoon Sergeant the other. These two parties passed through the enemy's barrage, and delivered all the ammunition, having suffered only 4 casualties on the way up. They then gave a hand in repelling the Germans who were trying to break through a gap in the battalions.

Robert Lionel Tawney was awarded the Military Cross for gallantry on this occasion.

For many years Robert's sister believed he had been wounded, captured, and died in captivity. She had received the Death Plaque for Robert, which has now passed to me. For some weeks I walked the ground where he fell, and have been able to narrow down the probable site of his death to a very small area.

Robert has no known grave; he is commemorated on a panel at the Cambrai Memorial to the Missing, at Louverval, a small village not far from the city of Cambrai.

Tim Tawney



LOCAL THEATRE

There will be some important amateur productions this November, all by excellent companies. In date order:

From Tuesday 4th to Saturday 8th November, at **the Assembly Hall (01892 530613)** Lloyd Webber lovers can see a professional production of his ever-popular **Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat**. Songs include *Those Canaan Days, Any Dream Will Do, Close Every Door to Me* and *A Land of Our Own*.

From Wednesday 12th to Saturday 15th November, at **Sevenoaks' Stag Theatre (01732 450175)** the **Sevenoaks Players** will perform J B Priestley's **An Inspector Calls**. Set in 1912, this excellent play begins rather like a thriller with the enigmatic Inspector Goole disrupting Sheila Birling's engagement party to hold the family to account for the suicide of a young woman. But all is not as it seems; and we are left wondering who Inspector Goole really is. Strongly recommended.

On Friday 14th November (one night only), at **Tunbridge Wells' Trinity Arts Theatre (01892 678678)**, you can see a professional adaptation of Jane Austin's **Persuasion**. Anne Elliot and Frederick Wentworth were once hopelessly in love - but he is not of her standing. She ends their engagement; he leaves for the sea; she regrets her decision; but will he ever forgive her?

From Saturday 15th to Saturday 22nd November, at **Tonbridge's Oast Theatre (01732 363849)**, the Oast's own amateur company will present Gerald Sibleyras' gentle comedy **Heroes** in a translation by Tom Stoppard. Henri, Philippe and Gustave are residents in a home for retired military gentlemen in southern France. Over the years a bond of friendship has formed between them, but life is dull. They hatch a plan to escape to Indochina - or, if that's too far, to picnic in the field just beyond the cemetery!

On Friday 21st and Saturday 22nd November at **the Stag (01732 450175)**, **Kentish Opera** will present a **Gala Evening**, featuring fully staged excerpts from favourite operas, sung in English. There will be a full orchestra, professional soloists and the impressive Kentish Opera Chorus. Last year this event sold out in three days - so you may already be too late!

From Tuesday 25th to Saturday 29th November, at **Tunbridge Wells' Assembly Hall Theatre (0845 269 1889 or boxoffice@twods.org)**, the **Tunbridge Wells Operatic and Dramatic Society** will celebrate their **125th Anniversary** with Franz Lehár's **The Merry Widow**. First performed in Vienna in 1905, this operetta tells of a young

(Continued on page 13)

(Continued from page 12)

rich widow, whose countrymen attempt to keep her money by finding her the right husband. The wonderful score includes *Vilja, You'll Find Me at Maxim's* and *The Merry Widow Waltz*. This production will be set in Paris in 1905 and stay true to the spirit of the age – but with some modern twists. **Thursday 27th November will be a special Gala performance:** come in evening dress and black tie and you'll get a glass of fizz and a prize draw ticket. Go on – you know you love dressing up!

From Thursday 27th to Saturday 29th November, at **the Stag** (01732 450175), the Petts Wood Operatic Society will present Gilbert and Sullivan's **Iolanthe**. This production will have the original words and music, but - G&S lovers be warned! - it will be based on the Profumo Affair with Mary Quant inspired fairies, sharp suited lords and a Lord Chancellor with a magic teddy bear.

Finally, **Trinity** will have two shows on its big screen (01892 678678), the first recorded and the second live:

On Saturday 23rd November, you can see **Moscow's Bolshoi Ballet** in **Pharaoh's Daughter**. Young Englishman Lord Wilson is travelling through Egypt when a storm breaks out. Forced to take shelter in the nearest pyramid (as one does), he falls asleep next to the tomb of a Pharaoh's daughter and dreams she has come to life. We are promised an exotic setting, impressive parades, spectacular variations and crowd scenes and star performances by Svetlana Zacharova, Nina Kaptsova and Ruslan Skvorstov.

On Wednesday 26th November, there will be a live performance from **London's Royal Opera House** of Donizetti's delightful **L'Elisir d'Amore**. Adina, the most sophisticated woman in the village, is loved from afar by handsome but shy Nemorino. Sergeant Belcore is a worrying rival; but Nemorino is sold a love potion that gives him a powerful dose of courage - with comic and touching results. We are promised a starry cast (not named); and the staging is said to be hilarious - but the pictured set looks a bit basic.

Next month – panto!
Arthur Rucker.

Concert at Underriver House on Saturday 20th September

It was particularly appropriate that this concert should be given by three “core” members of the Harrison Sisters' Players: Oliver Davies, piano; Robert Gibbs, violin; and Adrian Bradbury, cello. It marked the end of a wonderful musical era of eighteen years, given to us by the peerless hospitality of Simon and Jane Kildahl, at Underriver House. Oliver was there at its inception in 1996, Adrian first joined him in 1998 and six years later Robert made his Underriver debut. The trio they then formed has become a major musical entity, giving us many memorable evenings over the years. The concert on 20th September was a superb finale for us all.

Oliver has shared many of his fascinating research findings over the years, and the evening's opening trio by Richard Walthew was another such delight. An alumnus of the Royal College of Music in the 1890's, Walthew studied with Parry and Stanford and certainly, on this hearing, deserves to be more widely known. This was followed by a lyrical performance by Robert of a tender *Romanza* by Granados. Adrian and Oliver ended the first part of the evening with Beethoven, his 1815 *Sonata no.2 in D*, superbly played.

The second half of the evening held more little known musical treats. First Robert gave us two pieces, a *Romance* and a *Pastorale* by Ralph Vaughan Williams. Written in 1915, at the same time as *The Lark Ascending*, these weren't published until much later – and are just as beautiful – worthy companion pieces. Finally the trio came together in a rare performance of Schumann's *Phantasiestücke*. But there was one more unscheduled offering - dedicated by Oliver in gratitude to Simon and Jane for their generosity over 18 years – Beethoven's lovely *Allegretto in B flat major*.

It was, as always a perfectly organised event, thanks to David and Sally Candlin and all helpers. A substantial donation was made to Dame Stephanie Shirley's Charity *Autistica*.

The Harrison Sisters' Players will, of course, continue their concerts in other venues, the next being on Saturday 29th November at St John's Church, Sevenoaks (details from David Candlin 01732-832203)

Griselda Barton



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OPEN NOW!

For enquiries and bookings please call

01732 835212

Services at St Lawrence, Seal Chart



NOVEMBER

2	All Saints	8:00	Holy Communion (BCP)
		9:45	All-age Family Service (Lost Sheep Service)
4	Tuesday	8:30	Morning Prayer (CW)
9	Remembrance	10:30	Service of Remembrance
11	Tuesday	8:30	Morning Prayer (CW)
16	2nd before Advent	9:45	Family Communion (CW)
18	Tuesday	8:30	Morning Prayer (CW)
23	Christ the King	9:45	Matins (BCP)
25	Tuesday	8:30	Morning Prayer (CW)
30	Advent Sunday	9:45	All-age Advent Service (with Posada)
Dec 2	Tuesday	8:30	Morning Prayer (CW)
Dec 7	2nd Sunday of Advent	8:00	Holy Communion (BCP)
		9:45	All-age Family Service

Rotas for St Margaret's

Sidesmen/-women and Readers

- 2 Nov Sides: P Payne
Readers: tba
- 9 Nov
8:00 Side: J Hurrion
Reader: tba
- 10.55 Sides: T Pierce & R Wells
Reader: tba
- 16 Nov Sides: J Rucker
Reader: Sunday Club
- 23 Nov Sides: J Clemence & H Clemence
Reader: tba
- 30 Nov Sides: tba
Reader: tba

Church Flowers

- 2 Nov Jennifer Fair
- 9 Nov Betty Tong (Remembrance)
- 16 Nov Helen Watson
- 23 Nov Jane Martineau
- 30 Nov Jane Martineau

Church Brass Cleaning

- 15 Nov Robert Wells & Phillip Payne
- 13 Dec Tim Tawney & Tim Pierce

Church Cleaning

- 1 Nov B Leaf & L Notley
- 8 Nov J Horner & S Owen
- 15 Nov L Law & H Watson
- 22 Nov J Martineau & L Weston
- 29 Nov S Brunton & S Sinclair

Newsheet subscription:

£7.00, or £13.00 for postal subscribers (who should send cheques – payable to St Margaret's Church, Underriver – to Neil Fair, Westover, Underriver, TN15 0SE)

Useful Names and Addresses

Church Warden

Andrea Pierce, 1 Grenadier Cottages, Riding Lane, Hildenborough, TN11 9QH; 832408.

Underriver Village Association

Secretary: Robert Talbot, Weald Heights, Fawke Common, Underriver, TN15 0SP; 761546. uvasecretary@hotmail.co.uk

Village Hall Reservations Helen Watson, 07973 215892. helen@underriver.com

www.underriver-village.org.uk Robert Talbot via the website.

Thursday Underriver Group

Secretary: Pat Hope, 01732 833933.

Horticultural Society Secretary: Mary Owlett, Absaloms Farm; 838716.

Underriver Youth Group Charles Honnywill, Underriver Farm; 838036.

Cricketer Club Michael Tong, Hollandhurst; 832069.

Scotts Project Secretary: Jill Scott, 833498.

Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator: Lorna Talbot Underriver.nw@hotmail.co.uk

Kent County Council Nick Chard, 42 High Street, Sevenoaks, TN13 1JG; 07855 787511. nick.chard@kent.gov.uk

Sevenoaks District Council Ward Representatives

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cldr.hogarth@sevenoaks.gov.uk
Julia Thornton, 07831 234449
cldr.thornton@sevenoaks.gov.uk

Seal Parish Council www.sealparishcouncil.org.uk

Robin Watson, The Old Vicarage, Underriver; 833930. robin@underriver.com
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All contributions should be submitted to the editor by 15th of the preceding month.