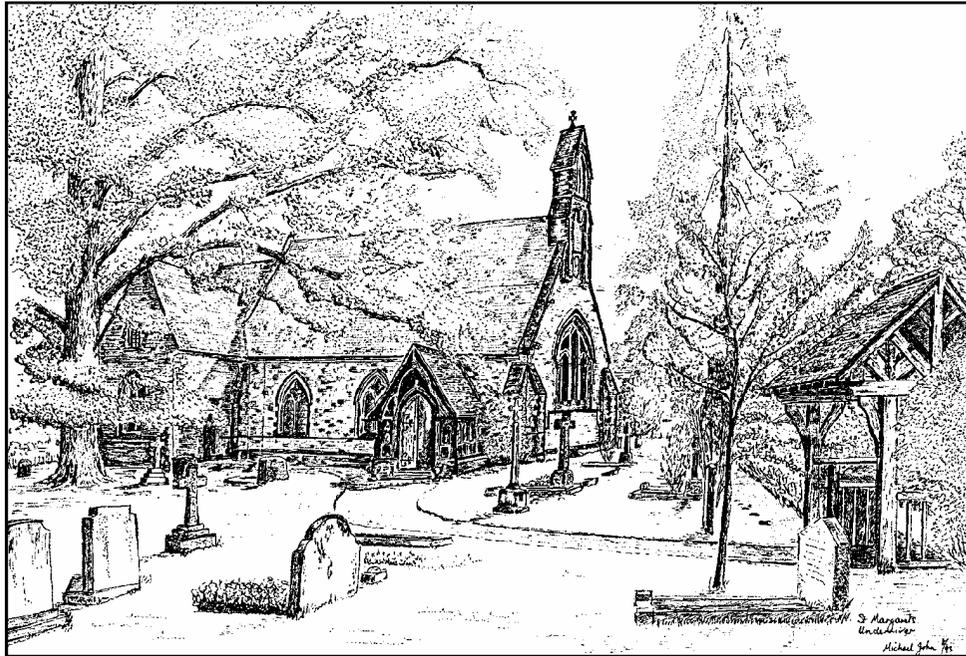


Underriver Newsheet

MARCH 2015



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@stlawrencechurch.com

Church Calendar

MARCH

1	2nd Sunday of Lent	Purple
	11:15 All-age Family service <i>Reading: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16</i>	
5	08:30 Morning Prayer (CW)	
8	3rd Sunday of Lent	Purple
	08:00 Holy Communion (BCP) <i>Readings: Exodus 20:1-17 & John 2:13-22</i>	
	11:15 Matins (BCP) <i>Readings: Exodus 20:1-17 & John 2:13-22</i>	
12	08:30 Morning Prayer (CW)	
15	Mothering Sunday	Purple
	11:15 All-age Service for Mothering Sunday <i>Readings: Exodus 2:1-10</i>	
19	08:30 Morning Prayer (CW)	
22	5th Sunday of Lent	Purple
	11:15 Parish Communion (CW) <i>Readings: Jeremiah 31:31-34 & John 12:20-33</i>	
26	8:30 Morning Prayer (CW)	
29	Palm Sunday	Red
	11:15 Palm Sunday Service with Procession <i>Readings: Philippians 2:5-11 & Mark 11:1-11</i>	
2 April	Maundy Thursday	20:00 Holy Communion at St Lawrence
3 April	Good Friday	11:15 Good Friday Service <i>Readings: John 18 & 19:</i>
5 April	EASTER DAY	11:15 Family Celebration of Holy Communion <i>Readings: Acts: 10:34-43 & Mark 16:1-8</i>

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

This Month:

- * **Spring Show—Page 10**
- * **Come and buy—Page 11**
- * **Support your Parish—Page 12**

FROM THE VICAR

As March comes in the days are getting longer and we can see signs of spring in the hedgerows and in our garden. The promise of new life is before us each day as we watch the birds collecting materials for their nests.

With so much new life outside the door it seems strange for the Church to be in the midst of a penitential season. The six weeks of Lent gives us time to examine our lives, both personal and spiritual, to see if there is room for change and improvement.

After Jesus was baptized he went into the desert for forty days to wrestle with temptation. He needed to be prepared for the ministry to come and as part of that preparation he needed to deal with any potential weaknesses - to test God and see if what God had promised was true, or to use his heavenly powers to satisfy his needs.

If Jesus needed time to examine himself and find his potential weak points then I would suggest we should do the same. If we are honest with ourselves we can all identify the things that let us down. They might be things that other people are unaware of, but we know about them and so does God. They might be the kind of things that stop us from letting go of the past

and those things can spoil our day-to-day lives and the lives of the people we love. So this Lent, take time to be honest with yourself and see what needs to be put right. You do not need to do that on your own, pray about it and be honest with God. Talk to your friends and family as well, they might be a real help – they often know us better than we think they do!

During Lent there in one occasion when we can stop being solemn, on the 15th March we celebrate Mothering Sunday, when we give thanks for our mothers, or the people who cared for us in our childhood. Do come and join us in that day church.

The 29th will be Palm Sunday and we will be remembering the joyful welcome Jesus received in Jerusalem just five days before his trial and death on the cross. There will be other opportunities during Holy Week to join us in church as we journey along towards Easter Day (5th April).

Yours in the love of Christ
Carol



CHURCH NEWS

Looking back:

Ongoing work in the churchyard - during February the paths were re-laid making the church more accessible and more attractive. This is part of the works, which began last year with the renovation of the lych gate, our World War I war memorial. We have John Clemence to thank for organizing this work and for the fund raising, which has contributed to the costs involved.

Looking forward:

15th March 11.15 am Mothering Sunday: come and join us for our celebrations - All-Age (family-friendly) Service)

22nd March 11.15 am Palm Sunday: procession to the church begins at 11.05 am for our Palm Sunday Service

2nd April Maundy Thursday 8 pm: (joint) Holy Communion at St Lawrence's Church

3rd April Good Friday: 9 am walk from St Lawrence's to St Margaret's (refreshments in Underriver Village Hall on arrival)

11.15 am (joint) Good Friday Service in St Margaret's Church

5th April Easter Day: (family-friendly) Celebration of Holy Communion 11.15 am

Prayers:

- For our parish, for our neighbours, for the UVA
- For the groups who use our village hall
- For the joy of Easter

Prayer Times

Please come to our prayer group:

12th March 2pm at 50 The Crescent, Sevenoaks

Easter Lilies

If anyone would like to give Easter lilies in memory of a loved one, could they please contact Jane Martineau either by email or phone, martineaujane@yahoo.co.uk or 01732 833141. There will be a list of those remembered on the altar on Easter Sunday if you would like to give Jane the names.



Newsheet Distribution

Neil and Jennifer Fair have for years now heroically looked after distribution of the Newsheet. One of my most treasured images of Underriver is of Neil on his electric bicycle on his delivery duties! Neil and Jennifer no longer feel that they can continue to do this. May I express my very sincere thanks for all they have done for us for so long. I know that lots of people will want to associate themselves with this.

We do have a volunteer who is prepared to take on the work of distribution. Neil says:

“I am most grateful to Belinda Goodwin for taking on the distribution of the Underriver Newsheet. It’s not particularly arduous but needs a certain amount of organisation and Belinda will be brilliant. Please send her any queries. And I thank all the distributors who have been so helpful to me.”

However, we also need someone to deal with subscriptions to the newsheet: i.e. keeping records of those who receive the Newsheet and payments in etc. This is an important job so if you feel this might be for you, please get in touch with the Fairs (01732 832292) who will be able to give you a better idea of what is involved.

Green matters

Observant Underriverites will have noticed that we now have a green wheelie parked in the churchyard near the church porch. The PCC have decided to scrap our compost heap, a horrible eye sore to many, and this has now been removed. Instead the green wheelie is there for our green waste – flowers, leaves, brambles and other plant waste etc. **PLEASE DO NOT PUT ANYTHING ON THE OLD COMPOST HEAP!** My thanks to Judy Hurrion for making the arrangements with the Council for the wheelie.

The bin will be emptied fortnightly so we are looking for volunteers to wheel it across the road on the appropriate days.

Scrapping the composite heap has left us with some corrugated metal sheets which we no longer require. It occurs to us that some of our local rural businesses, for example, might be able to make good use of this. If that is you, please ring me on 01732 832408 or, for preference, email me on tim.andrea@outlook.com.

St Margaret’s Churchyard

Over the last few months a number of people who are devoted to St Margaret’s have expressed concern about the “scruffy” state of the churchyard. This is partly due to the unusual weather conditions this year, but I would like to draw your attention to the fact that the Warden and PCC also have a number of initiatives going forward to make our churchyard look hugely better. Among these:

Rear hedge Along the rear eastwards boundary a mixed hedge has been planted in memory of Jenny Thornton, someone who dearly loved St Margaret’s. I was not privileged to know Jenny for very long but I do know that she was a wonderful warm-hearted person, who served our church in the choir, on the PCC and in so many other ways too numerous to mention. She sang in the choir at our son’s wedding, just so typical of her generous spirit.

Our thanks to the **UVA** who have financed this out of moneys donated from Jenny’s funeral and in particular to her dear husband Christopher who has agreed that this is an appropriate memorial to the memory of his much loved and missed wife.

Path You will also, I know, have noticed that the church path has been refurbished. This was in a considerable state of disrepair and there was a marked encroachment of grass, considerably reducing the width of the path. I know that some people have been surprised by the ‘brightness’ of the path but the materials are exactly as before and I am assured that they and the metal edging, which should usefully help maintain the edge of the path, will rapidly weather to an acceptable colour.

My very great thanks to John Clemence who made the arrangements for the work to be done.

Andrea Pierce, Churchwarden

Palm Sunday Procession

On Palm Sunday we remember Jesus’s triumphant entry into Jerusalem at the start of Holy Week. At St Margaret’s it is our custom to mark this with a short procession down Carter’s Hill to the church. One of the children rides a pony, representing Jesus. The rest of us –choir, children, mums and dads- wave branches and sing. It’s great fun!

Please join us on the 29th March if you can.

Underriver World War I Memorial

<u>Result of Lych Gate Appeal</u>	£
Total collected	2,420.00
Gift Aid claimed	<u>567.50</u>
	2,987.50
<u>Payments</u>	
Refurbishment J.Woodrow	1,300.00
Metalwork Goodland Eng Ltd	542.40
Share of path cost 15%	537.30
	<u>2,379.70</u>
	607.80
Surplus to Help for Heroes as promised	<u>607.80</u>
	<u>0.00</u>

St Lawrence's and St Margaret's Annual Garden Party

Our Annual Garden Party will be on **Saturday 16th May at 2pm at Fishponds**, the lovely home of Jim and Annette MacKellar. We are very grateful to them for again agreeing to host this prestigious event!

We can already promise the St Lawrence School Orchestra, Punch and Judy, and (hopefully) the Hartley Morris Dancers, as well as plenty of stalls, delicious teas and children's entertainment. All this and more in the most beautiful surroundings.

We will be looking for help and gifts for individual stallholders, but note the date and tell your friends!

Please contact John Carlisle 01732 761097 (St Lawrence's) or Andrea Pierce 832408 (St Margaret's)

Pre-loved Quality Classics

St Lawrence Stitchers will be manning a stall of pre-loved quality clothing and accessories.

Your donations are vital to the success of the stall, so please start to sort out your unwanted items. Donations of dresses, skirts, trousers, jumpers, coats, jackets, shoes, belts, hats, scarves, gloves and jewellery are required.

Please contact Roz on 01732 810227 and collection will be arranged.

Many thanks



Underriver Village

Underriver Village Association membership £10 per household per annum.

Please contact uvasecretary@hotmail.co.uk

Pilates Classes

Mondays 7:30 pm and 8:30 pm
Tuesday 9:25 am

Contact: Zoe George 07950 494 335

Email: zoetgeorge@gmail.com

www.zoetgeorgepilates.com

BOOT CAMP

Fast paced circuit based workout
Every Tuesday 7.30pm

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

Dates for your diaries:

- Saturday Market - Saturday 21st March
- Underriver Archive Group - Wednesday 25th March at Absaloms
- Horticultural Society Spring Show - Saturday 28th March
- UVA Quiz Night – Saturday 7th March
- Saturday Market - Saturday 25th April
- Horticultural Society Plant Sale - Saturday 9th May
- UVA Golf Day - Friday 15th May
- Saturday Market - Saturday 30th May
- UVA "U" Fest (Family Fun Day) - Saturday 7th June
- Horticultural Society Summer Show (*with Cream Teas*) - Saturday 25th July
- UVA Halloween & Fireworks Night - Friday 30th October
- Village Christmas Dinner - Friday 11th December

UNDERRIVER BOOK CLUB

We have just finished **Silent Night** by **Charles Ellingworth**. The author read history at Oxford and this his first novel.



The two main characters are both women, Mimi a German and Marie Louise who is French.

The Story begins with Mimi not very happily married to an older man who is away on the Russian front. She struggles to keep the family estate going in his absence and against her better judgement is attracted to a French prisoner who has to work for her. She finds in him someone she can really talk to, and they discuss among other things the classic novel *Madame Bovary* a character she can identify with.

As the story unfolds we are given a disturbing insight into the horrors of life in Germany at that time, the dreadful bombing we inflicted on them in the west while those in the East try to escape the revenge of the advancing Russians.

We go back in time to France in 1941, and meet Marie Louise, a rather timid woman of simple pleasures and tastes. The War however throws her up against some very strong characters, and she has to learn to assert herself and be strong, and attracted to a young German airman, 'live for the moment'. There were some very moving passages describing the liberation of the village in France where Marie Louise lived, quickly followed by recrimination, guilt and shame.

I think we all agreed that we had enjoyed this book, which was well written, but slightly disagreed how we felt about the ending

Fionna Brooks

THURSDAY UNDERRIVER GROUP

There was an excellent attendance at the February meeting, possibly because of the subject of the speaker - 'Tax and Toy Boys'! This proved to be an interesting and informative talk by Norman Beauchamp, an estate planning manager, from 'Collective Legal Solutions'.

The subject covered was providing for the future in dealing with wills, probate and family trusts. He raised a number of particular issues regarding death benefits, tax avoidance, inheritance tax and funeral plans. Members asked many questions, which provoked much discussion. The 'Toy Boy' aspect dealt with interesting financial issues resulting from second marriages.

The Chairman Wendy announced that the second charity to be adopted this year will be 'Porch Light'. The March meeting will be an evening with Dale and Graham plus their friends from the Sevenoaks Community Theatre.

It is suggested that applications are made early as this is likely to be a popular event.

Sylvia Davis.

UNDERRIVER HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Our forthcoming events:

- ◆ **The Spring Show 28th March,**
Saturday 28th March is the Spring show, the schedule is in the Magazine so do enter a few classes or just come and have a look at the Hall full of flowers and have a cup of coffee after the judging at 11.15 and see what is involved for next year. Some members have some very exotic flowers but most of us just pick the best looking out of the garden and then work out which classes to put them in, it is just so nice to see all the flowers after the winter.
- ◆ The Plant Sale 9th May,
- ◆ The Summer Show and Cream Teas 25th July



Underriver's Village Festival

Saturday 20th June 2015

2.30-7.00pm

A fun afternoon for all the family

Tickets will be on sale *SOON!*

Hog roast & ice cream, Live music

Bouncy castle, Face painting

Human table football competition, Tug of war

History exhibition of Underriver

There will be a bar and Pimms tent, tea, coffee and cakes.

'SEEKING PERFORMERS'

We would like to hear from you if you are interested in performing at the festival.

Young or old, instrumental or vocal, amateur or professional, come and create our own music festival.

Underriver Saturday Market

Do you have Something to sell?

There will be monthly table top sales in the **Village Hall**. To cover the cost of hall hire, tables will be available to rent at £8. (Trestle table provided).

There will also be sales tables for items and produce which have been donated. Takings from these will be donated to charity.

The sale will be open from **10:00am till 11:30am**

Do come and have a nice cup of coffee or tea, and homemade cake, also in aid of a charity.

Dates are:

21st March, 25th April, and 30th May

For further details phone Mary or Sarah Owlett – 01732 838716

Parish Council elections will take place on the 7th May 2015

Under the electoral system Seal Parish Council have twelve seats of which two are for Underriver Ward. In May all Councillors stand down and then anyone wishing to be a Parish Councillor has to stand for election, it is a 4 year term.

As you are aware after 23 years of representing Underriver on the Council, Robin's departure has automatically left a vacancy. When Tony Ansell left the Council, no one came forward from Underriver and therefore the Parish Council co-opted Sam, who lives in Seal and now plans to stand for Seal ward at the next election.

If Underriver parishioners want to be represented by people living in Underriver, then they need to find people who are willing to stand and represent them. If more people than vacancies apply for Underriver Ward there would be an election, if only two stand they are automatically elected. If vacancies remain after the 7th May, then co-option will take place as before and your representatives could live anywhere in the Parish.

You will find information about the Council on our website www.sealparishcouncil.org.uk or you can ring the Clerk Lorna Talbot 01732 763488 to find out more about what is involved.

Applications forms will be available towards the end of March from the District Council.

'We would like to thank **Philip and Katherine Payne** for raising the magnificent sum of £807, half of which goes to the Friends of Kent Churches and half to St.Margaret's in the annual cycle ride September 2014. The energetic pair visited 26 churches in the day, a wonderful effort! Thanks also to their very generous sponsors.'

Best Wishes, Maxine and Graham Clark

LOCAL THEATRE



Live on stage

On Saturday 7th March at **Tunbridge Wells' Assembly Hall Theatre** (01892 530613) the Russian State Ballet and Opera House will perform Verdi's **Rigoletto**. This tragic tale of misunderstanding, revenge and sacrifice was based on Victor Hugo's play *Le Roi s'amuse* and includes the well-known aria *La donna e mobile*. The story revolves around the hunchbacked court jester Rigoletto, his beautiful daughter Gilda and the Duke of Mantua he serves. *Rigoletto* is not my favourite opera, but this production should be good. It will be sung in Italian with English surtitles. The singers will be supported by a large live orchestra.

On Saturday 14th March at **Tunbridge Wells' Trinity Arts Theatre** (01892 678678) the touring company Sell a Door (yes really!) will perform **Jekyll and Hyde**, Jo Clifford's adaptation of Robert Louis Stevenson's classic story. Good Dr Jekyll subjects himself to his own experimental treatments and accidentally unleashes his ultimate inner demon – the infamous Mr Hyde.

On Saturday 21st March at **Trinity** (01892 678678) Vienna Festival Ballet will give a celebratory **35th Anniversary Gala** performance. The evening will include extracts from Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake*, *Nutcracker* and *Sleeping Beauty*. Balletomanes should love this.

From Saturday 21st March to Saturday 28th March at **Tonbridge's Oast Theatre** (01732 363849) the March production will be J B Priestley's excellent comedy **When We Are Married**. Set in Yorkshire in 1908, three couples are celebrating their Silver Wedding Anniversary. Having been married at the same time in the same place by the same parson makes it a very special occasion. However, a startling revelation sends the couples into turmoil, with hilarious consequences as they re-examine their relationships.

The theatrical event of the month will take place from Wednesday 25th to Saturday 28th March at **Sevenoaks' Stag Theatre** (01732 450175). The Sevenoaks Players' spring production will be Stephen Sondheim's celebrated musical **Sweeney Todd**, based on Edward Bond's melodrama. With much suspense, black comedy and gory surprises, Sweeney Todd and Mrs Lovett bring havoc to 19th century London. A full orchestra will support Sevenoaks Players' talented principals and large ensemble.

(Continued on page 14)

(Continued from page 13)

On Friday 27th March at **Trinity** (01892 678678) Blackeyed Theatre will perform John Godber's **Teechers**, a comedy about life at a modern comprehensive. Will Mr Nixon, an unsuspecting new drama teacher, abandon his students for a private school? Who puts the bounce in Miss Prime, the PE teacher? Will Mrs Parry ever find her Koko? And why does everyone smell of spring onions? (Hopefully, this aroma will not cross the footlights!)

Screened live performances

There will be a lot of screened live performances in March. They will include:

Wagner's **Der Fliegende Holländer** from the Royal Opera House on Sunday 1st March at Trinity and the Tunbridge Wells Odeon;

Shakespeare's **Love's Labour's Won** (aka *Much Ado About Nothing*) from the Royal Shakespeare Theatre on Wednesday 4th March at the Stag, Trinity and the Odeon;

Prokofiev's ballet **Romeo and Juliet** from the Bolshoi on Sunday 8th March at Trinity;

Verdi's **La Traviata**, sung in English, from the Coliseum (English National Opera) on Wednesday 11th March at Trinity and the Odeon;

David Hare's play **Behind the Beautiful Forevers**, about escaping from life in the Indian slums, from the National Theatre on Thursday 12th March at the Stag, Trinity and the Odeon;

Rossini's **La Donna Del Lago** from the New York Metropolitan Opera on Saturday 14th March at the Odeon;

Tchaikovsky's **Swan Lake** from the Royal Opera House on Tuesday 17th March at Trinity and the Odeon – and again on Sunday 22nd March at the Odeon;

Shakespeare's **Hamlet** with Maxine Peake in the title role (yes, an actress playing Hamlet) on Monday 23rd March at the Stag and the Odeon and again on Sunday 29th March at the Odeon; and

Arthur Miller's **A View from the Bridge** probably from the Young Vic (but check this) on Thursday 26th March at the Stag.

Some of these will be screened live performances: the others will be second showings.

Arthur Rucker



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For enquiries and bookings please call
01732 835212

Services at St Lawrence, Seal Chart



FEBRUARY

1	Lent 2	8:00	Holy Communion (BCP)
		9:45	All-age Family Service
3	Tuesday	8:30	Morning Prayer (CW)
8	Lent 3	9:45	Family Communion (CW)
10	Tuesday	8:30	Morning Prayer (CW)
15	Mothering Sunday	9:45	Family Communion (CW)
17	Tuesday	8:30	Morning Prayer (CW)
22	Lent 5	9:45	Matins (BCP)
24	Tuesday	8:30	Morning Prayer (CW)
29	Palm Sunday	9:45	Palm Sunday Service (with procession)
31	Tuesday	8:30	Morning Prayer (CW)
2 Apr	Maundy Thursday	20:00	Maundy Thursday Holy Communion
5 Apr	EASTER DAY	8:00	Holy Communion (BCP)
		9:45	Family Celebration of Holy Communion

Rotas for St Margaret's

Sidesmen/-women and Readers

- 1 Mar Sides: J Rucker
Readers: J Hurrion
- 8 Mar
8:00 Side: J Scott
Reader: tba
- 11:15 Sides: T Pierce
Reader: tba
- 15 Mar Sides: R Wells & J Hurrion
Reader: tba
- 22 Mar Sides: J Clemence & C Honnywill
Reader: tba
- 29 Mar Sides: A Rucker & J Rucker
Reader: tba

Church Flowers

- 1 Mar Lent
- 8 Mar Lent
- 15 Mar Mothering Sunday
- 22 Mar Lent
- 29 Mar Palm Sunday

Church Brass Cleaning

- 14 Mar Robert Wells & Phillip Payne
- 18 Apr T Pierce & T Tawney

Church Cleaning

- 7 Mar A Ridge & S Tawney
- 14 Mar B Leaf & L Notley
- 21 Mar R Hawker & A Martin
- 28 Mar G Brooke & J Fair
- 7 Apr F Brooks & E Shirtcliff

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 Robert Talbot, 01732 761546 or uvasecretary@hotmail.co.uk

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.

Cricket 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

Roderick Hogarth, 01732 760325

cllr.hogarth@sevenoaks.gov.uk

Julia Thornton, 07831 234449

cllr.thornton@sevenoaks.gov.uk

Seal Parish Council www.sealparishcouncil.org.uk

Clerk - Lorna Talbot; 01732 763488.

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All contributions should be submitted to the editor by 15th of the preceding month.