

Parish of Seale, Puttenham and Wanborough

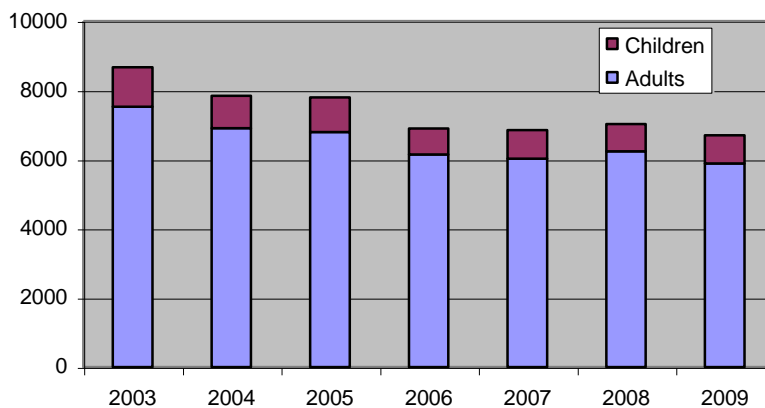
Analysis of attendance 2009

Total attendance

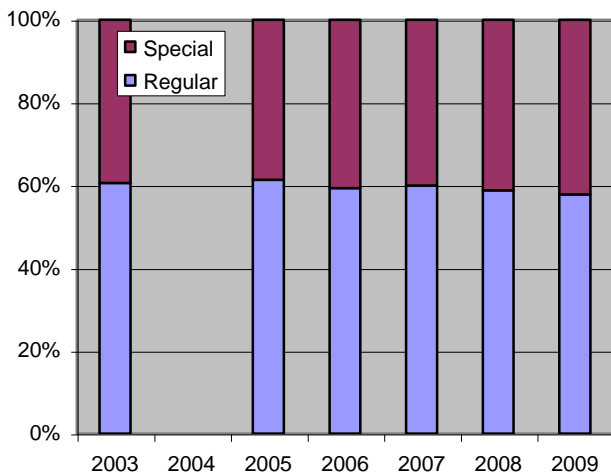
- The total attendance in 2009 was 6699, the lowest since 2003 when records for the whole parish began. The attendance was 4½% lower than in 2008.
- Attendance at 'special' services remained broadly similar to previous years and accounted for 42% of the total. Special services are services on festival days, services to celebrate a special occasion or united services. 21% of all services were 'specials'.
- Total attendance at the normal services fell by over 6% compared to 2008. At Puttenham, it fell by 18% and at Seale by 11%. These falls were offset by a rise at Sands of 24%, helped by inclusion of a baptism at one Sunday service and the introduction of monthly Teddy Services. At Wanborough there was little change.
- At 'special' services 19% were children, whereas at normal services children were only 7% of the total.
- Seale has replaced Puttenham for the first time since records began as the most frequented church. Puttenham's share of the total attendance dropped to 34%, Seale's rose to 37%. Wanborough's share was down a little to 15% and Sands up to 14%.

Full details of attendance are given in Table 1 and of the services held in Table 2.

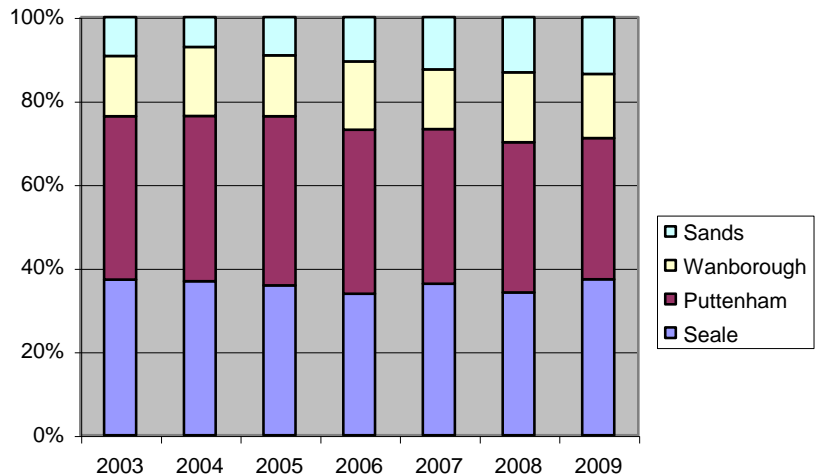
Annual attendance



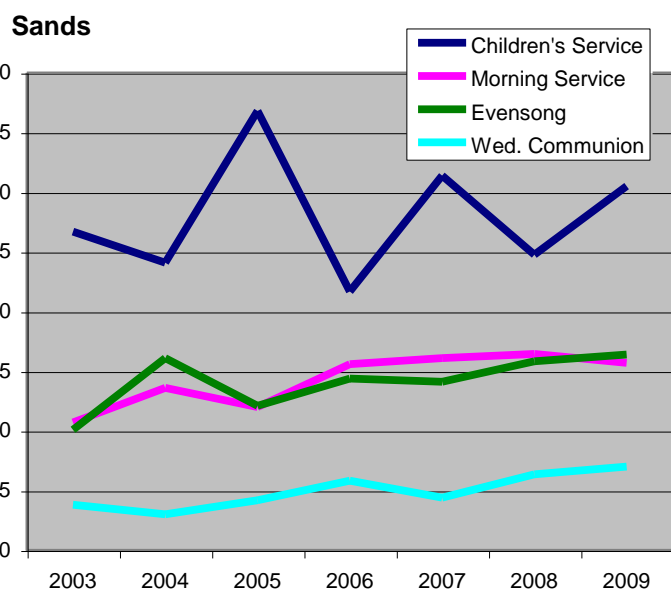
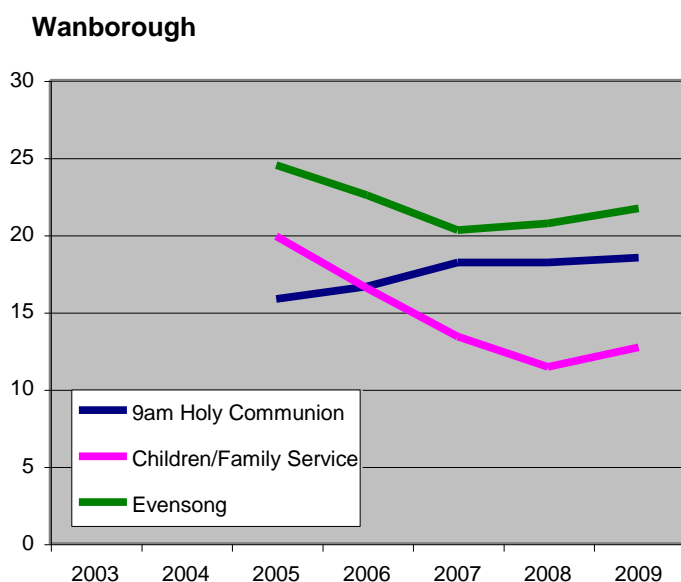
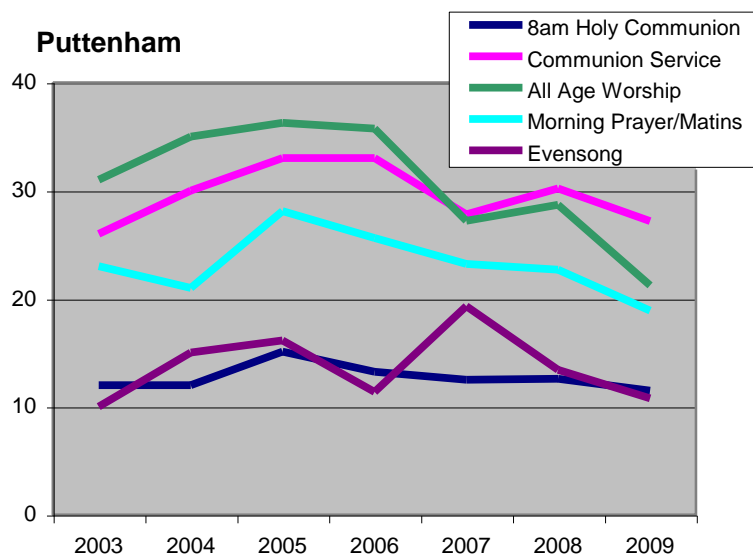
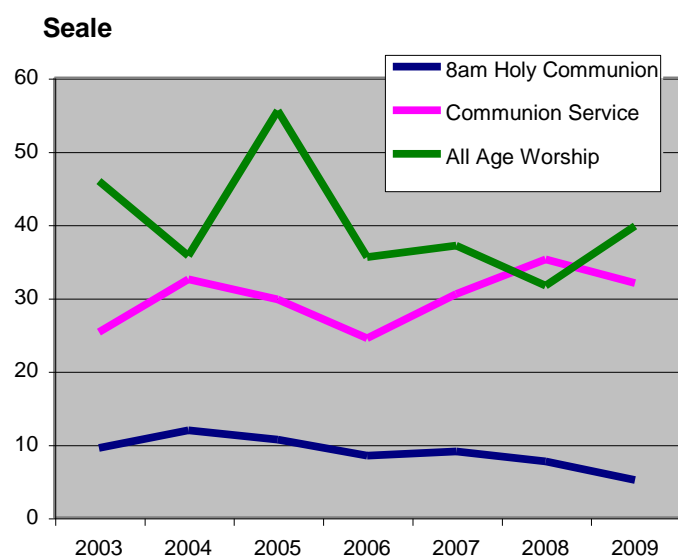
Attendance split by type of service



Attendance split by church



Attendance at each type of service



- **Seale:**

The average attendance at 8am Holy Communion continued to decline, possibly because of the infrequency with which it is held. Attendance at the later Communion Service also dipped, but remains generally higher than in earlier years, partly owing to the holding of some baptisms within the service. All Age Worship saw a surge in attendance.

- **Puttenham:**

There were sharp falls in attendance at the main services at Puttenham and continuing slow declines in numbers at 8am Holy Communion and Evensong. Attendance at all types of service were at their lowest for the last 6 years.

- **Wanborough:**

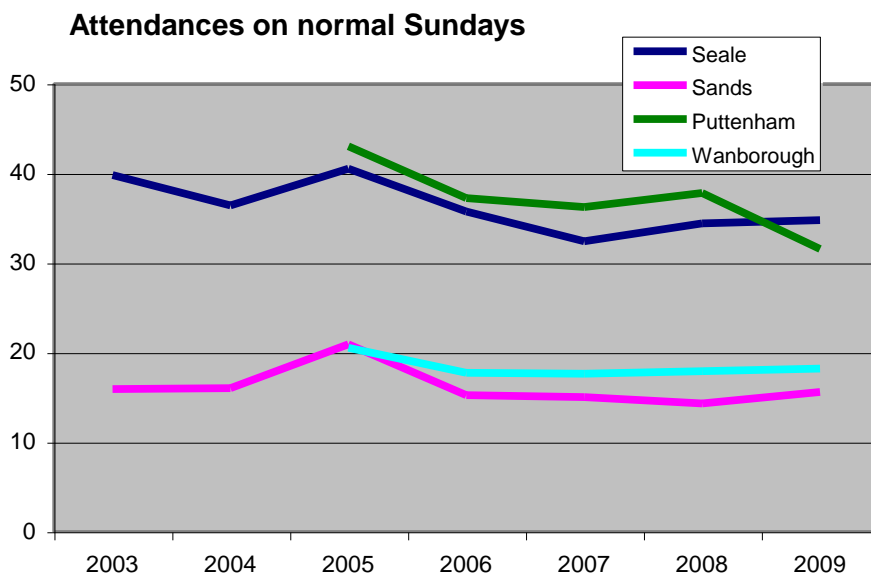
There was a slight increase in average attendance at Holy Communion and Evensong services. The numbers attending the Children's Service appears to have bottomed out.

- **Sands:**

The services at Sands have generally increasing attendances, and the Children's Service has continued to have year-by-year ups and downs. In 2009 there was a marked increase. The Teddy Service introduced in March had an average following of 10, with more young children than adults.

Attendance on 'normal' Sundays

A 'normal' Sunday is defined as one when there is no Special Service drawing people from across the parish and when there is at least one service held at the church in question. In effect they are business-as-usual Sundays. Details are provided in Table 4.



- The average attendance in the parish on a normal Sunday was 100. If united services other than those held on a feast day were to be included the average attendance would fall to 94.6. This indicates that more people attend church when there are normal services than when forces are pulled together in a united service.
- The marked decline in attendance at Puttenham is clearly evident.
- At Seale, Wanborough and Sands, attendance levels have remained fairly constant.

Special Services

The congregations at 51 'special' services are detailed in Table 5, and compared with the equivalent data for previous years.

- Five services drew congregations exceeding 100, fourteen drew 70 or more, and twenty four 50 or more. These numbers largely repeat the 2008 performance.
- The Crib Services in Puttenham and Seale filled the churches to capacity once again. Wanborough's Carol Service continued to be a highlight of the year.

Concluding remarks

- It must be of concern that annual church attendance continues to decline. The decline has been particularly noticeable in Puttenham and the reason for it should perhaps be explored.
- On the other hand, it is pleasing to note the sustained increase in The Sands. The newly introduced Teddy Service has had a good reception.
- Attendance over Christmas and at 'special' services demonstrates the breadth of the Christian community. How can the church reach out to the wider Christian community at other times?
- Record keeping of attendance at church services has slipped. Attendance at 9 services was not logged, most of them in Puttenham. Estimates had to be made.

Table 1 - Total attendance

SEALE		2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Normal services	Adults	1529	1431	1451	1153	1189	1233	1127
	Children	118	146	147	90	113	148	101
	All	1647	1577	1598	1243	1302	1381	1228
Special services	Adults	1356	1107	984	909	972	843	1080
	Children	221	207	213	183	211	179	191
	All	1577	1314	1197	1092	1183	1022	1271
Total	Adults	2885	2538	2435	2062	2161	2076	2207
	Children	339	353	360	273	324	327	292
	All	3224	2891	2795	2335	2485	2403	2499

PUTTENHAM		2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Normal services	Adults	1681	1610	1574	1365	1398	1354	1144
	Children	211	172	153	121	74	84	40
	All	1892	1782	1727	1486	1472	1438	1184
Special services	Adults	1231	1092	1180	1027	860	906	813
	Children	264	226	248	192	201	178	264
	All	1495	1318	1428	1219	1061	1084	1077
Total	Adults	2912	2702	2754	2392	2258	2260	1957
	Children	475	398	401	313	275	262	304
	All	3387	3100	3155	2705	2533	2522	2261

WANBOROUGH		2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Normal services	Adults	920		720	685	630	666	654
	Children	152		84	75	55	24	30
	All	1072		804	760	685	690	684
Special services	Adults	153		289	340	274	422	300
	Children	25		41	23	21	65	46
	All	178		330	363	295	487	346
Total	Adults	1073	1200	1009	1025	904	1088	954
	Children	177	92	125	98	76	89	76
	All	1250	1292	1134	1123	980	1177	1030

SANDS		2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Normal services	Adults	531	415	532	553	541	560	662
	Children	108	97	120	49	109	63	111
	All	639	512	652	602	650	623	773
Special services	Adults	121	50	60	116	162	251	103
	Children	48	0	0	14	43	53	33
	All	169	50	60	130	205	304	136
Total	Adults	652	465	592	669	703	811	765
	Children	156	97	120	63	152	116	144
	All	808	562	712	732	855	927	909

PARISH TOTAL		2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Normal services	Adults	4661		4277	3756	3758	3813	3587
	Children	589		504	335	351	319	282
	All	5250		4781	4091	4109	4132	3869
Special services	Adults	2861		2513	2392	2268	2422	2296
	Children	558		502	412	476	475	534
	All	3419		3015	2804	2744	2897	2830
Total	Adults	7522	6905	6790	6148	6026	6235	5883
	Children	1147	940	1006	747	827	794	816
	All	8669	7845	7796	6895	6853	7029	6699

Table 2 - Number of services held

	Seale	Sands	Puttenham	Wanborough	Total
Normal services	44	50	65	37	196
Special services	18	4	20	9	51
Total	62	54	85	46	247
2008	62	50	83	48	243
2007	62	49	86	46	243
2006	74	49	82	51	256
2005	78	44	86	59	267
2004	82	42	100	60	284
2003	108	58	132	65	363

Table 3 - Average attendance at services

SEALE		2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Holy Communion (8am)	All	9.5	11.9	10.7	8.4	9.0	7.7	5.1
Communion Service	All	25.3	32.5	29.8	24.5	30.5	35.2	32.0
All Age Worship / Family Ser	Adults			42.3	28.4	30.4	26.9	33.1
	Children			13.2	7.1	6.8	4.8	6.6
	All	45.9	35.7	55.6	35.6	37.1	31.6	39.8
Songs of Praise	All	-	31.4	24.8	14.0	-	18.0	-
Evensong	All	15.0	21.0	15.0	8.0	-	-	-
SANDS		2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Children's Service	Adults			25.0	16.8	20.0	17.1	22.9
	Children			11.8	4.9	11.4	7.6	7.6
	All	26.7	24.1	36.8	21.7	31.4	24.8	30.5
Morning Service	All	10.7	13.6	12.0	15.6	16.1	16.5	15.7
Evensong	All	10.1	16.1	12.1	14.4	14.1	15.8	16.4
Wednesday Communion	All	3.8	3.0	4.2	5.8	4.4	6.4	7.0
Teddies Service	All							9.9
PUTTENHAM		2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Holy Communion (8am)	All	12	12	15.1	13.2	12.5	12.6	11.5
Communion Service	All	26	30	33.0	33.0	27.8	30.2	27.2
All Age Worship / Family Ser	Adults			26.7	27.9	22.7	24.5	18.6
	Children			9.5	7.9	4.5	4.2	2.7
	All	31	35	36.3	35.8	27.2	28.7	21.2
Morning Prayer/Matins	All	23	21	28.1	25.6	23.2	22.7	18.9
Evensong	All	10	15	16.1	11.4	19.3	13.4	10.8
WANBOROUGH		2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Holy Communion (9am)	All			15.8	16.6	18.2	18.2	18.5
Children's / Family Service	Adults			11.6	9.7	7.9	8.0	8.5
	Children			8.3	6.8	5.5	3.4	4.2
	All			19.9	16.5	13.4	11.4	12.7
Evensong	All			24.5	22.6	20.3	20.7	21.7

Table 4 - Average attendance on Normal Sundays

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Seale	39.8	36.4	40.5	35.7	32.4	34.4	34.8
Sands	15.9	16.0	20.9	15.2	15.0	14.3	15.6
Puttenham			43.0	37.2	36.2	37.8	31.5
Wanborough			20.5	17.7	17.6	17.9	18.2
Total			124.9	105.8	101.2	104.4	100.1