

ROSTRUM SEPTEMBER 2011

VILLAGE DIARY

September

- 6th **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** - 7.30 pm Village Hall
8th **W.I. Nature Quiz** – Mr. Philip Pretty. 2.30 Village Hall
17th **WATERINGBURY W.M. Club** – Race Night – 7.30 pm
21st **HISTORY SOCIETY** - Jonathan Fenner “The Medway Valley”
Village Hall 7.40

October

- 2nd **FOOTPATHS WALK** – Wateringbury Station Car Park 2.30 pm for a local walk
4th **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** – 7.30 pm Village Hall, followed immediately by a Planning Committee Meeting
8th **HARVEST COFFEE MORNING** - Wateringbury Church –
10.30 am – 12.30 pm
13th **W.I. Queen Victoria’s Dreadful Uncles**, - Mrs. Sheila Boyd
19th **HISTORY SOCIETY** - Barbara Stevens – “Darwin Family of Downe” Village Hall 7.40pm

PUBS OF WATERINGBURY

The Wateringbury (formerly The King’s Head) Tonbridge Road

The King’s Head was built by the local Leney Brewery in 1938 to replace the old Kings Head pub which had to be demolished). It was an imposing building and stood on the site of the Coronation Gardens at the Traffic Lights next to the Hair Traditional shop. In the 1970s the owners, Whitbread, extended the building and created an hotel complex. It was at this time that the name was changed to The Wateringbury. When the Phoenix Brewery was closed by Whitbreads and demolished the large distinctive weather vane was kept and placed on the roof of The Wateringbury. It was damaged in the 1987 hurricane and sent to a company in Essex for repair. Unfortunately the repairers went into liquidation and the weather vane disappeared. A smaller replica was made to remind us of the long association of the village with the growing of hops and the brewing industry. Happily for us The Wateringbury and the adjoining hotel (now a Premier Inn) are still thriving and open for our enjoyment. *(Information taken from Whitbread The Inn behind the Signs by David Harper and Lest We Forget Wateringbury*

VILLAGE PEOPLE *Please let us have your news and tributes by 9am on 18 September for the October issue.*

BIRTHDAY CONGRATULATIONS

to **Anne Ede** who celebrates a milestone birthday this month.

JUBILEE CONGRATULATIONS to David Skinner of Bijou Nursery who is celebrating the 50th anniversary of the nursery on its present site. David started growing and selling plants as a lad and then when he was 18 he acquired a piece of land on the western edge of the village. It was covered in brambles and

nettles so his first job was to clear the ground. Then over the years he built up his business, married Rosemary, built a bungalow and also raised two lovely daughters, Louise and Jo. For the past few years Jo, who trained at Hadlow College, has been working on the nursery with David and Rosemary. If you have never been to see his exhibition of fuchsias do go, they are magnificent.

FOR SALE

3 Wheel Walker with bag

4 Wheel Walker with seat and wire basket

Hardly used – almost new - for full details contact 01622 812122

BRAND NEW ZUMBA FITNESS CLASS

Every Tuesday 7pm - 8pm at Wateringbury Village Hall. ZUMBA is a Latin based dance fitness class for everyone any age, any size and any fitness level. No dance experience required! If you haven't tried ZUMBA yet I'd love to meet you. If you mention The 'Rostrum' magazine get your first class free! Please call Tanya on 07531 839159 or email tanyagrafham@yahoo.com if you require any further details. £5 a class pay as you go. No need to book just turn up! I look forward to meeting you soon.

WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORT SCHEME

Age Concern Malling can now provide transport in a fully wheelchair accessible car for visits to such places as hospital, GP appointments, shopping etc., The vehicle can take manual and electric wheelchairs plus 2 passengers. For further details, bookings and costs call 01732 873977

WATERINGBURY VILLAGE HARVEST FAYRE

Saturday 10 September, 12 – 4pm, Wateringbury School Field

The **Friends of Wateringbury Church** will be holding a traditional country fair for all the family on the second Saturday in September. For grown-ups, there will be a **beer & Pimms tent**, a **hog roast**, a competition to guess the weight of the vicar, **raffle** and a **harvest and produce show**, among others. For the kids, there will a range of great games and things to do, including **maypole dancing**, face-painting, a **pumpkin-growing competition**, **scarecrow-making**, apple-bobbing and lots more. There will also be traditional activities such as a coconut shy, tombola and a craft stall.

For the raffle, we have **terrific prizes**, including a 2012 family season ticket to the Hop Farm, a week's family ticket for David Lloyd Fitness Centre, a family ticket for Leeds Castle, a family ticket for the London Aquarium and meals out for two at local pubs and restaurants. Tickets can be bought for £1 each on the day or after Church Sunday services.

Do you enjoy baking cakes, cupcakes or your favourite homemade biscuits? Why not enter them in the Harvest Produce Show? Just bring them along before 12.30 and enter the competition. There is another competition for gardeners who bring along the longest vegetable, the largest fruit or vegetable, the strangest-looking fruit or vegetable and the best dressed one. They will be judged by the people who know a thing or two about fruit and vegetables, as they run some of the local nurseries! For the cakes, we have asked some more local experts too.

Entry to the Harvest Fayre is just £1 for adults, 50p for Friends and kids go free. Come along and enjoy a good old-fashioned afternoon with your family and friends.

The Friends are looking for help to run some of the stands, and if you have anything suitable for prizes for the tombola, or produce such as cakes or vegetables we could sell to raise money, please let us know. If you'd like to be part of this year's Wateringbury Village Harvest Fayre, please contact Frances English on 01622 812471 as soon as possible – it's not too late to join us. Or visit www.fowc.org.uk.

RING FOR THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE

Church bells are traditionally rung to celebrate national occasions and we think Wateringbury should be no exception. Unfortunately there are not enough bell ringers to ring all the bells at once so we need some new recruits! If you are interested in learning to ring, please contact me, Hilary McGuigan on 01622 815363. We meet on alternate Tuesday evening's in the bell tower.

WATERINGBURY W.M.CLUB

Your local Club with full size snooker table, pool table, bar billiards and darts area.



Two new large screen SKY/ESPN T.Vs, showing all sports and interest programmes
Choice of beers and lagers, wines and all popular spirits

Saturday, 17th September
RACE NIGHT. 7.30 for 8.00

TUESDAY EVENING YOGA GROUP

Yoga classes will start again after the summer break on Tuesday 13th September at 7:30 pm in the Upper Meeting Room of Wateringbury Village Hall. We are a small friendly group and beginners are welcome. If you are interested in joining and would like to find out more then please contact our tutor, Anna Gray, on 01622 734502. Celia Pocock

WATERINGBURY PANTOMIME 2012

Although we are only all just back from our summer holidays, it is already time to look forward to next year's panto, "Little Red Riding Hood".

The Wateringbury Players are always looking to give a friendly welcome to new members, whether to tread the boards or help backstage. Our AGM and first read through of this original script will be on **Sunday 11 September at the Village Hall at 7.30** where the majority of our rehearsals will regularly be held on Sunday evenings. So if you ever been to see one of our shows and wished you could get involved, now is the time! For any further details please contact Brenda Johnson on 01622 812580.

TESTON & WATERINGBURY NURSERY GROUP (Registered charity 1044257)

www.testonandwateringburynursery.co.uk

Admissions and all enquiries: Amanda Vidler 07805 796353

Mmm...what is there to say...let me think...oh, that's it: WELL DONE TESTON & WATERINGBURY NURSERY GROUP FOR YOUR EXCELLENT OFSTED REPORT!!!

What a superb result! Of course, we weren't entirely surprised, but we're still EXTREMELY proud. An impromptu visit, as is usually the case, didn't faze the staff in the slightest and I think the result reflects that: FOUR 'Outstanding's, only one recommendation and a 'Good' overall – what a fabulous team! The staff were treated to a well-deserved meal and we held a little celebration at our annual Sports Day for the children, with the help of a cake and some fun-filled piñatas. So, in case I didn't make myself clear, WELL DONE TESTON & WATERINGBURY NURSERY GROUP FOR YOUR EXCELLENT OFSTED REPORT!!! And breathe...

But whilst I appreciate that the Ofsted report was worth mentioning (I did mention it didn't I?) the question on everybody's lips is: 'Did they have mash? - Yes they did! I don't think there has ever been better-tasting mash...shame I didn't get any, but it was still, so I'm told, pretty amazing. Who knows what it'll be next year...

As previously mentioned, our Sports Day was great fun. The children took part in running, egg & spoon and bean bag races and it's fair to say they put everything into them; as for the Mummies and Daddies races...enough said! There was a special race for the leavers, a mini triathlon, if you will, and everybody received a medal and an ice-lolly voucher ...well I say everybody but I don't remember getting mine...We finished the day with a tombola, the ever-popular cake stall, raffles and strawberries & cream – just perfect! A big 'Thank You', again, to everybody who helped - we really couldn't do it without you.

The last thing on this year's calendar was our Teddy Bears' Picnic, held at Teston Country Park at the end of our last session. We bid a tearful farewell to our 19 leavers and presented them with commemorative bookmarks. If a drought has been declared in this area, then clearly they should have come to Teston Country Park, because the tears were free-flowing! Whilst we will miss all 19 of them, we know they will love their new environment. Just to be sure we had said a proper 'Good Bye', we met for drinks in the evening at the Wateringbury (by we, of course, I mean parents!).

As our leavers embark on their new lives, we shall welcome our newcomers with open arms. They have an exciting time ahead of them and they'll start the new term with our 'Fruit & Veg' theme, on 5th September.

If you'd like your child to be a part of all of this, then why not give us a call?

HISTORY SOCIETY

Jonathan Fenner is coming along in September to speak to us about the 'Medway Valley'. This is Jonathan's first visit to Wateringbury and we are looking forward to hearing more about our local history and the surrounding area.

In July the History Society visited Westenhanger Castle and Medieval Barns, situated near Hythe. The original castle was drastically reduced in size and converted to a manor house during the reign of Queen Anne, and our guided tour started here. We learned about the former owners of the manor house and previous castle, which had passed through many royal hands, from Henry II through to Queen Elizabeth I, who then sold the manor house and lands to Thomas Smythe. It was Thomas who built the 'Smythe Barn' which has been part of the restoration work being undertaken by the present owners, a stone built structure, with a truly

magnificent hammer beam oak roof. The restoration work necessitated making 36,000 new fixing pegs for this roof, which were made by hand to the original design by one very dedicated lady! However, over 90 per cent of the roof is still original, and is one of only two barns in the country to have this type of roof. Of great interest in the grounds is a One hundred year old working ram pump which was at one time used to pump water to the house. Our tour ended in the recently restored Dovecote, built in the original fortified tower in the 13th century.

Following on from a talk earlier this year by Angela Mutana on Medway Megaliths, a small group of history society members visited Addington in August, for a private tour of the Long-Barrow Tombs. A less well known Neolithic site than Kits Coty it has been the subject of several investigations and excavations of the chamber in the past, the latest in 1957, where findings, which have been deposited at Maidstone Museum, have placed its date at late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age. During our visit we were given the opportunity to do some dowsing with metal rods with very positive results for the whole group.

Visit the History Society Website on <https://sites.google.com/site/Wateringburylocalhistory/> for further information

WATERINGBURY BABY & TODDLER GROUP

What a lovely summer we have had! Before we broke for the holidays, everyone enjoyed our teddy bears picnics. A big well done to Chloe and Jai, our winners of the best dressed bear competitions. During the holidays we had lots of chances to meet up with our friends and have fun with outings and picnics to playgrounds, parks etc arranged by the group. I'm sure there were a lot of tired children by the time they got to bed on those nights!

We have lots of craft activities planned for this term to remember our summer holidays like making kites and sailing boats. During our sessions on 28th and 30th September we will be holding McMillan Coffee Mornings so do please come along and support this worthy cause. The children will be decorating biscuits and cakes for us all to buy in aid of the charity.

If there are any parents/guardians wishing to join our friendly group, our sessions are held on Wednesday and Friday mornings from 10am to 12 noon at the Wateringbury Village Hall. There is a small charge of £2 for the first child and £1 each for subsequent children over 12 months old. Adults continue to be free. We also hire out our tables/chairs and toys in the hall; ideal for birthday parties, Christening celebrations etc. If you are interested please contact Tina on our new number - 07506 735137. **THE COMMITTEE**

HISTORY SOCIETY

The Society meets in the Village Hall, 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7.40pm for coffee, speaker at 8.00 pm. Subscription £9 for year September 2011 to June 2012. Visitors are welcome at £2.50. Programme for next year :-

21st September **JONATHAN FENNER** – The Medway Valley
19th October **BARBARA STEVENS** - Darwin Family of Downe

16th November **AIR COMMODORE BILL CROYDON** - A History of Early Flight on Sheppey
 21st December **MEMBERS EVENING** – details to be announced later
2012
 18th January **JAMES M. GIBSON** - The History of Rochester Bridge
 15th February **SHEILA BOYD** – Queen Victoria’s Dreadful Uncles
 21st March **DAVID CARDER** – Some Historic Kentish Towns
 18th April **BRONWEN M. SADLER** - The Great Flood of 1953
 16th May **ANNUAL OUTING** - Venue to be decided – suggestions from Members welcome
 20th June **AGM** followed by **PETER HARTLEY** - The Queen’s Jubilee
 18th July **WINE AND BUFFET PARTY** - Venue to be arranged (Members only)

WELCOME BACK!

The new Wateringbury Primary School year begins on Monday 5 September when we’ll be looking forward to welcoming our new starters and their families.

It’s been a busy summer holiday at the school with new toilets, flooring and an outside paved area all being completed. A new tyre park and a tree seat will be installed very soon as a result of the fundraising efforts last year. The Friends of Wateringbury Primary School (FOWPS) also contributed towards special Leavers’ Books which were handed out on the last day of term to those beginning a new adventure in secondary education in September. We’d like to wish them the very best of luck for the future and thank their families for all their support and assistance during their time at primary school.

Our summer term ended with a sell-out Film Club screening of *Gnomeo and Juliet* as well as a disco, play and special church service for our Leavers.

Term 1 is also going to be action-packed with a Family Quiz on Saturday 24 September (4-6pm), our AGM on Tuesday 27 September (7.30pm) and a Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday 30 September (10.30-11.30am).

If this magazine is delivered before the end of August there is still time to vote for Wateringbury Primary School when you shop at Waitrose in Paddock Wood. Throughout the month of August we’ve been participating in Waitrose’s Community Matters scheme to receive a share of £1,000 available to local charities. Every time you shop in the store you’ll receive a token to use to vote for one of 3 charities, of which Wateringbury Primary School is one. The more token votes we receive from shoppers, the more cash we’ll receive from Waitrose at the end of the month. We’ll let you know the outcome next month.

If any local businesses would like to support us through sponsorship of our forthcoming Family Quiz, School Discos (October) or our Christmas Fayre (26 November) please e-mail chairman@fowps.org.uk. You can find out more about our activities via our website at www.fowps.org.uk

Gail Isted Chairman, FOWPS

You are invited to
A HARVEST COFFEE MORNING

To be held in Wateringbury Church on Saturday 8th October 10.30am – 12.30pm. Cakes, Preserves, St. John's Crafts, Second Hand Books/Toys, Bric-a-Brac, Raffle and Refreshments.

All proceeds are in aid of the farmers in Southwest Bangladesh who in 2009 were hit by cyclone Aila causing huge tidal surges which covered the area in sea water and left salt everywhere.

The farmers are now cultivating saline-resistant seeds which are adapted to grow in this environment, so they can continue to grow their rice to support themselves and their communities. Further information 01622 813032

THE FOOTPATH GROUP

We have no walk planned for September but on Sunday 2nd October, a local walk will take place starting from Wateringbury Station Car Park at 2.30 pm sharp. We are a friendly unofficial group who just like to walk, we do not have anyone to lead walks regularly and would welcome volunteers willing to undertake this task for us occasionally. For more information please call 01622 812338

WATERINGBURY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Our annual tea party at Redhill Cottage, with Sue as our hostess, was very enjoyable and included a raffle and bring-and-buy.

Tea and cakes were the highlight of the afternoon. Thank you once again to Sue for inviting us all to her lovely home and garden.

We will be having a Nature Quiz with Mr Philip Pretty at our 8th September meeting.

Mrs Sheila Boyd will be giving us a talk on "Queen Victoria's Dreadful Uncles" at our meeting on 13th October.

Both of these meetings will be at the Wateringbury Village Hall at 2.30pm. Visitors are welcome.

Kathy Coates.
01622 814618

WATERINGBURY FLOWER CLUB

The August meeting was our club show entitled Garden Glory this was for members only, and did not disappoint, we had 26 entries for 4 different classes plus a separate photography class, this produced many entries which would have given David Bailey a run for his money.

Our guest judge was Mrs Carol Loft from Rainham an accomplished competitor and area judge winning many major competitions herself, we also had our Kent area chairman Mrs Linda Clatworthy, Area clubs rep Mrs Shirley Brewster, and Mrs Jean Bowles past president and chairman of our club, a warm welcome was given to all our guests and a big thank you to all our members who took part and to those who supported us, a special thank you to Kay and Peter who supplied all the home made cakes, needless to say there was only crumbs left at the end of the night.
A full list of the winners will be published next time.

This Summer has seen our club come back into competition work with a bang, in July Sandra Barker won a 1st in the Novice section at the County Show, Jean Schofield won 2nd in the club exhibit and at the Kent Nafas area show at Lordswood in August Jean Schofield won 3rd in the club exhibit, Jean thanked Susan Grandsen for helping her at both shows.

Next month our guest demonstrator is Jackie Watson with the title Dancing with Flowers. We are a friendly club and always welcome visitors and new members, why not come along and try us out - we have a club website www.wateringburyflowerclub.co.uk - this displays all our information and contact details and our gallery has photos of all work the club members have done, also the photography.
Jean Schofield, Chairman WFC

TESTON CLUB

The September events are :

10th Our ever popular Race Night, starts 8.00 pm. As always, complimentary food and a raffle
23rd Live Music Night, starts 8.00 pm. Local band playing acoustic instruments – guitar, fiddle, squeeze box, lute and vocals – a selection of popular music from the 60s, 70s, folk and jazz.

Wednesday afternoons 2. – 4 pm

7th Brenda's General Knowledge Quiz

14th Village information,

21st Sing-along-with Bob. Bob Wilson will be playing requests from his large selection of vinyl LPs.

28th Ronnie's Bingo, fantastic cash prizes!!

VILLAGE HALL ACTIVITIES

This Autumn why not try something new right on your doorstep .

The following is a list of regular activities at the Village Hall

Art Class –Tuesday morning - Elizabeth Harbour – 01622 812344

Baby & Toddler – Wednesday & Friday mornings -Tina Driver – 07530 457451

Badminton – Thursday evenings - Anne Moss – 01622 812597
Dance (Adult) – Friday evenings – Denise Frost – 01622 765211
Dance (Children) – Monday & Wednesday afternoons – Stacey Fell – 01634 243312
Dance (Children) – Friday afternoons - Samantha Pollard – 01634 314853
Foot Clinic – 1st Tuesday afternoon of month – for seniors – from 1.00pm
Fun With Faith – 3rd Saturday morning of month – Sally Barton-Strong 01622 817098
History Society – 3rd Wednesday evening of month – Janet Hall – 01622 817833
Keep Fit – Wednesday afternoons – Becky Nixon – 01732 359947
Line Dancing – Tuesday afternoons – Fiona Stilwell – 01732 872624
Musical Bumps (Toddlers) – Mondays – Debbie Sherry – 01622 670550
Musical Kindergarten – Fridays – Tim Sutcliffe – 07946 091596
Parish Council Meeting – 1st Tuesday evening of month – just turn up at 7.15pm.
Pilates – Thursday mornings (main hall from 9.45am) – Nicola Wignall – 01622 813686
Pilates – Thursday mornings (upstairs from 10.30am) – Jenny Button – 01622 812489
Sugarcraft – Wednesday evenings - Christine McGrath – 07711 849031
Tai Chi – Thursday morning – Linda Rimington – 01622 890720
Total Toning (exercise) – Tuesday evening – Tanya Grafham – 07849 460299
University of 3rd Age – 3rd Wednesday of month – Trevor Ledamun – 01732 822673
Weight Watchers – Monday afternoon – just turn up at 12.30pm
Womens Institute – 2nd Thursday of month – Sue Cockburn -
Yoga – Monday morning and evening- Monique Cuddon – 01732 849656
Yoga – Tuesday evening – Anna Gray – 07776 293842
Youth Club – Tuesday evening – Robin Smith – 07540 996215

THOUGHTS FROM THE VICARAGE

2 The Grange, East Malling ME19 6AH

e-mail jamesbrown.brown21@gmail.com - Benefice office ☎ 01732 843282

Riots? Prayer changes everything

The summer has brought some unexpected events with it this year and will not be remembered for the poor weather but for the mindless rioting which shocked society and created a huge amount of damage and loss. Sadly, allowed by the police, the looters looted and the rioters rioted until such time as the police reinforced their efforts.

The rioting says much about a sick society and, I believe, the need for faith. Apart from the fact that churches in London were at the forefront of efforts to help those whose homes and shops were destroyed the church also has a responsibility to preach a gospel of peace. Prayer changes everything and as Christians we are called to pray for an end to this rioting.

It is interesting to note that there are no particular claims on the part of the rioters. They were not burning buildings for a particular cause or throwing bottles at the police as part of their demonstration against something. It seemed to be a complete and utter breakdown of the society they claim to want to protect. This was encouraged by greed and organised by the social networks of the day. Whilst I have been present at many riots in the past (Brixton, Tottenham, Notting Hill, Southall, Lewisham) I have never known such widespread lawlessness as we have recently witnessed this summer up and down the country. But now there will be much discussion and comment on what caused the riots and how further incidents can be avoided. I can't say I enjoy listening to these folk, especially the politicians, who, all too often, know little of what actually makes community in the first instance. If you reflect on the past few decades we have lost our Post Offices, the local Policeman, The Vicar, the Pubs, the youth clubs and so on. Grandparents no longer live around the corner and Dad works miles away because there are no local jobs to be had. It seems to me that you can't keep removing the very things that have traditionally made up our communities and not expect a reaction of some kind. It can't remain the same. If we acknowledge that then we can start to rebuild. All of this is relevant whether you live in a Kent village or an Inner City.

The lesson in all of this for me is that violence is ultimately defeated not by more violence, but by the imitation of generous service to other people, Community Living. Yes, the police may well have to use violence to protect the lives of the innocent. But ultimately, it won't be this muscle that brings a sustained calm to our streets. Peace is achieved though the widespread imitation of simple kindness and loving service. I have sufficient experience of Community life in the Inner Cities to know that violence is defeated when enough people engage in the right sort of copying. I will be commending that thought to prayer and then it should change everything!

God Bless and keep safe. Revd Jim Brown

BLESSING BAGS

We operate a weekly food bag scheme for anyone in need- whether this be through financial hardship or a temporary situation such as illness or injury which makes it difficult to get shopping. If this could be helpful to you or a neighbour, please contact Rev Jim Brown at the vicarage (01732 843282) or Lisa Glasscote (01622 812661) and request a blessing bag; no reason need be given, just an address and we can leave a bag on the doorstep.

If you would like to donate food to this scheme any groceries can be left in the porch at St John the Baptist Church, Wateringbury or at Lisa's - 16 Waterside Mews, Wateringbury.

SUNDAY'S COOL

During the services on the second and fourth Sundays in the month in term time children are invited to leave the church service during the first hymn and go into the vestry for a bible story, prayers and craft activities. Children under 4 are asked to bring a carer with them.

FUN WITH FAITH

Children of primary school age are invited to go along to the village hall on Saturday 17 September 11.30am-1.30pm for fun and games with crafts, prayer and a bible story. Lunch is included at a cost of £2 per child. For further details please phone 817098

GUILD OF CHURCH FLOWER ARRANGERS

Anyone who loves flowers is welcome to attend the meetings which rotate around churches in the Maidstone area. The next meeting is at 7.30pm at the Union Street Methodist Church, Maidstone. There will be the short formal AGM and then Tricia Bashford will arrange flowers to her theme "Tricia's Treasures" Members £2.50, non members £3.50.

BENEFACTRESS' UNION

Don't be misled by the name, anyone, (even men) are welcome, to come along to the meetings which are usually held at 1pm on the first Thursday of the month and rotate around the 3 churches in our benefice. The September meeting is one of the exceptions. On 1 September we are invited to afternoon tea in the vicarage garden at 2.30pm. For further details or to arrange a lift to East Malling please call the secretary on 01622 814305.

BENEFACTRESS CHURCH SERVICES

Visit our website for full details www.wateringburychurch.org.uk

Sunday 4 September 8am Holy Communion – Teston 10am Matins - Wateringbury 9.45am Family Service – East Malling 9.45am Family Service - Teston	Sunday 11 September 8am Holy Communion – East Malling 10am Holy Communion - Wateringbury 9.45am Eucharist – East Malling 6.30pm Evening Prayer - Teston
Sunday 18 September 8am PB Communion – Wateringbury 9.45am Eucharist – East Malling 10 am Family Service – Wateringbury 6.30pm Eucharist - Teston	Sunday 25 September 8am Holy Communion – East Malling 9.45am Eucharist – East Malling 11.15am Eucharist - Teston 10am Holy Communion – Wateringbury 6.30pm Evening Praise - Teston
Every Monday – 2-3pm – Scout & Guide HQ, Glebe Meadow – Toddler Praise	
Tuesdays (not 1 st in month) – 7.30pm in Wateringbury Church – Evening Service	
Every Thursday - 9am in East Malling Church – Holy Communion	

HARVEST PRAISE 10am 2 October

This year our harvest thanksgiving will be a little later than usual. So do come along and thank God for his goodness to us all in this beautiful part of his world.

Quiet Hour - 8-9pm - Wednesdays 14 September and 12 October

This is an opportunity to take time out in the peace and tranquillity of our ancient village church for private prayer and contemplation. Come and go as you please during the hour.

Services of Healing and Wholeness

The next services are at 8pm on
6 September a Meditation in **East Malling** and
4 October Taize style in **Teston**

CONFIRMATION SERVICE

Sunday 29 October at 3pm in Teston Church

Anyone who wishes to explore the possibility of being confirmed in October should contact Rev Jim Brown (*e-mail jamesbrown.brown21@gmail.com - Benefice office ☎ 01732 843282*) who will be holding a series of training/discussion sessions starting in early September. Each person can then decide if they wish to be confirmed by the Bishop of Rochester on his visit to Teston.

CHURCH THANKS

Our grateful thanks to all who supported our summer events:

☺ The Kent Chamber Choir gave a superb concert on 21 May with young tenor soloist William Morgan singing amazingly. The concert raised, after expenses, £686.13.

☺ Our Patronal Celebrations weekend on 25-26 June gave many the opportunity to bring a favourite flower from their gardens to remember a loved one or special family event and the WI, Flower Club and church organisations provided beautiful floral arrangements. Warmest thanks also go to Caroline and Simon Jessel who kindly opened their garden for visitors to enjoy. Thanks too to the bellringers who came along on Sunday afternoon to allow visitors to try their hand at ringing the church's ancient bells. The weekend was one of fellowship which raised £256

RE-ORDERING OF THE NORTH AISLE

Over the summer months, following receipt of a faculty (the necessary planning authorisation), work has been taking place to raise the floor level so that there is no step between the pews in the main aisle and this area. Three pews in front of the Memorial area have been removed and replaced with chairs and the whole area re-carpeted. This will give us greater flexibility of use for the whole area, eliminate a trip risk and enhance disabled access. Do go along and have a look.

COMING BACK FROM HOLIDAY

It's not just the tan that fades a few weeks after a good holiday. Many people say that the sense of relaxation they come home with fades as soon as they walk in the door and the reality of the piles of washing and all the tasks that have been put off come home to roost. Going back into work can mean facing a deluge of emails and voicemails leaving you more harassed than when you went on holiday in the first place. How can we hold on to the benefits that a holiday has given us? Here's one idea. Try to set aside a few minutes this week to reminisce about one good holiday you have had. If you went with family or friends, try to do this together. Remembering can bring back those positive emotions you felt at the time.

One cold, dark winter's night when the boiler had failed, my husband and I sat, shivering, in our coats and remembered our first holiday as a family. Thinking about our son crawling across a hot Cornish beach, playing in the rock pools, instantly improved our mood no end. Try it!

JULY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Planning Committee

The planning committee would appreciate the opinions of parishioners in relation to planning applications prior to its meeting to help formulate the response to T & M. Please send comments to the Parish Clerk Redhill Cottage, Redhill or e-mail wateringburyppc@hotmail.co.uk. Alternatively come along to the planning subcommittee meeting which is held directly after the monthly parish council meeting in the village hall on the first Tuesday of each month.

Councillor Bev Evans submitted her resignation due to work commitments, there is therefore a vacancy on the council. If you would like to serve the village community by becoming a parish councillor please contact the parish clerk for more details (01622 817068).

Nominations papers had been submitted to the Queen Elizabeth Fields Challenge. It is hoped that the village playing fields will meet the criteria and be registered under this scheme which seeks to mark the Queen's Jubilee in 2012 by giving special status to areas of land for recreation use throughout the UK. The Glebe Meadow play area is too small to meet the criteria.

It was reported that the council's donation of £50 to the school had been used for special awards to children to mark outstanding achievement while at the school.

After consultations with T & M Borough Council, who own the village car park it was confirmed that no changes would be made and it will remain with its present status of a 24 hour car park.

An inspection of the allotments was carried out on 30 June and letters had been sent to those plot-holders who need to improve the standard of their plots.

It was agreed to accept a quote from Evergreen Rabbit Control for new fencing in playing fields.

Borough Councillor Simon Jessel reported that the area planning committee will discuss the polytunnel application on 12 July at Hadlow Manor hotel.

The planning sub-committee discussed the following plans:

TM/08/03739/FL Erection of agricultural polytunnels covered with clear plastic sheeting. To include rotational tunnels and successive tunnels with no more than 165ha (30%) of the land holding covered with tunnels in any one calendar year Addition Information – Ecology Report - Barons Place Farm

M/11/01464/FL Rear conservatory at 13 Cobbs Close

The council did not meet in August. The next meeting will be in the village hall at 7.30pm on Tuesday 6 September. Members of the public are welcome to attend the meeting