

MARCH 2016

VILLAGE DIARY

March

- 1 Parish Council - Hall - 7.30pm followed by Planning Committee
- 5 Clean for the Queen Village Clean-up from 10am
- 6 Footpaths Walk - meet at village hall car park 2pm sharp
- 10 WI Meeting - Village Hall - 2.30pm
- 12 Coffee Morning - Church - 10.30am to noon
- 13 An Afternoon with East Peckham Silver Band - Church - 3pm
- 18 History Soc talk "Myths, Magic & Mistakes in Medicines" - Hall - 7.40
- 26 Easter Activities for children - Church - 9.30am-12.30pm

April

- 5 Parish Council - Hall - 7.30pm followed by Planning Committee
- 20 History Soc talk Women & the Home Front in World War I - Hall 7.40pm
- 22 Fun Quiz - Nursery Group - Teston Village Hall - 7.30pm
- 23 Antiques and the Road Show - A family affair talk by David Sandon (son of Henry, brother of John) - Church - 7.30pm

CUBS ARE 100 YEARS OLD!

Actually they're aged between 8 and 10½, but in 2016 Cub Scouts are celebrating their centenary and **Wateringbury Cub Pack** is no exception. We have lots of exciting activities planned this year, such as camps, sleepovers and parties to name a few. Mid March the Cubs are having their first centenary party and would love to hear from anyone who has helped Wateringbury Cubs in any way over the years, no matter how small a task, especially if they have any Cub stories or memorabilia and photographs we may borrow. We really look forward to hearing from you.

Please contact Nicola Plane (Cub Scout Leader) on 07969 444968

Improvements to Play Equipment area at Playing Fields

Over the coming weeks work will be carried out to the play equipment area and this will mean closing the area for safety reasons. At the moment the times when work will be done are not confirmed.

Residents are asked to look out for the notices which will give up to date information. The Parish Council and its contractors apologise for any inconvenience caused but hope all residents will appreciate the enhanced facilities which will be provided.

VILLAGE PEOPLE *Please let us have your news and tributes by 17 March for our April magazine. Entries are free.*

Ruby Wedding Congratulations to Hilary and Barry Fisher who were married on 20 March 1976 at St Martin's Church, Acrise.

Thank You Bob - the village's **First Responder Bob Ede** is retiring this month from his volunteer post. Thank you Bob, it was comforting to know that you were on call to give support in an emergency until the ambulance arrived.

On **24 April, Tanya Shepelev** local resident & Zumba instructor will be running the London Marathon to raise money for Cancer Research UK. Please visit her just giving page to donate. Thank you for your generosity.

www.justgiving.com/tanyashepelev

Congratulations to Wateringbury Players for their slick, fun production of Aladdin which entertained sell-out audiences at the end of January. Director Tudor Price really brought out the best in all the actors. Congratulations too to all those who worked so hard behind the scenes painting the scenery, creating the props, lighting and sound and doing the make-up and costumes with amazing results. Well done, we can't wait for next year's panto!

DEFIBRILLATOR

The village is very fortunate in now having its own defibrillator. Funds to purchase the equipment were raised locally and thanks must go to all those involved including from St John the Baptist Church (Lent lunches), The Wateringbury and Teston & Wateringbury Nursery Group.

The unit is installed in a yellow cabinet, with a number code lock, on the wall outside the village hall next to the entrance. Thanks to John Evans for installing it and to the Village Hall for allowing it to be placed on the wall. The funds to purchase the cabinet and connect to electrics have been donated by Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council. Instructions on access to the unit are clearly shown on the outside of the cabinet.

Although the unit talks you through its use two training days, with Bob Ede, have been arranged for the public designed to show how the unit works - Tuesday 22 March 7.30pm and Thursday 24 March 2.30pm both in the village hall upstairs room. Further information from the Parish Council 01622 817068

CLEAN FOR THE QUEEN NATIONAL CLEAN-UP SATURDAY 5 MARCH

Please give an hour or so on Saturday 5 March to help litter pick at the playing fields and other public areas. There is also still time to organise a working party with your neighbours to smarten and tidy up a bit of the village that is important to you. You could polish your road sign, sweep up the leaves and clear the weeds from your boundary as well as picking up litter. And in years to come you will be able to tell your grandchildren that you took part in Clean for the Queen the national event to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday on 21 April!!! **Please let Mike Witts know if you can help. (Telephone No 01622-812027).**

Litter picking equipment, high viz jackets, etc will be provided by Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council, and can be collected from the Sports Pavilion, Fields Lane on the day. The general Clean-up will start at 10.00 am.

WATERINGBURY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE THE WI - INSPIRING WOMEN

Our February Club meeting was exciting, we heard about life as a Tiller Girl and volunteers were 'choreographed' into a chorus line. We voted on our Poetry Competition, congratulations Thelma, and enjoyed fellowship together. Thanks to Mike for sound system support.

The March meeting, on Thursday 10 will be quite a contrast. Our annual Competitions Afternoon, an informal meeting with time to socialise and enjoy, and vote for, the items created by members.

Reminding all members, we're hoping for lots of entries in the three classes for the following trophies:

- ~ Freda Robbins Plate: A Tray Bake, to a recipe of your choice, cut and presented on a plate.
- ~ Huxley Cup: A Fresh Flower Arrangement in a Cup and Saucer, size appropriate to the china.
- ~ Hickman Cup: A Needle Case, in any materials and size.

Visitors will be very welcome to come along and view our handiwork, but you need to be a member to take part in the competitions. We are a friendly group who meet in Wateringbury Village Hall at 2.30pm on the second Thursday of the month. Looking forward to welcoming you there!
Elizabeth - 01622 812018 or 07977 125000 - elizabethastrid@aol.com

TESTON & WATERINGBURY NURSERY GROUP

Our theme for term 4 is 'Books/springtime' where we will be celebrating World book day on 3 March by dressing up as our favourite book characters. To welcome in spring we will be making blossom tree pictures, cotton wool sheep and Easter cards. We will be celebrating Mothers' day by asking all our mums, nans and aunties to come in and help their children decorate a bag for life. During the term we will also be having a trip to the Fire Station in Loose, always a popular event with the mums as well as the children!

As part of our fundraising we are now collecting Sainsburys vouchers which you will receive as part of your till receipt. We benefit hugely from these vouchers by buying sports equipment for the children and would welcome any donations. We are also staging a fun quiz night on Friday 22 April at Teston Village Hall, £10.00 per ticket including a sausage and chip supper. Start time 7.30pm. Please call us to reserve your table on 07805 796353.

And finally a shout for help, we will be celebrating our 50 year anniversary this summer! Yes, the Nursery was first opened in 1966 in Teston, and we would like to have a display of any photos from previous years that we can display as part of our celebration day later this summer where everyone will be invited to join us for this very special day.

If you are interested in joining our preschool please contact Tina Driver on 07805 796353 and come along for a taster session.

WATERINGBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS : MARCH 2016

As we move towards Easter, the days are slowly growing longer and our muddy field is beginning to dry out – finally! Lent began with pancake making over a camp stove during Worship, followed by a pancake flipping competition. More seriously, we launched our Lent Appeal for Syrian children's education. Our children have been challenged to give up some of their pocket money to support the schools in Syria and surrounding countries which are struggling to cope with the number of pupils arriving who are desperate to stay in education but have had to flee their own schools.

The Christmas season is not well and truly over until the last pantomime has been performed. The school's Drama Club performed Sleeping Beauty's Dream to a packed house just before the half-term. Everyone involved gave it their all and it certainly showed. What a performance! Senior Choir had their turn at the Young Voices event at London's O2 where they joined 8000 other school children for a massed performance of songs they've been learning since September.

More events take place in March with our school Science Fair on 18th March which will highlight a week of intensive science investigations; Year 5 will perform their version of A Midsummer Night's Dream as part of their work in English; and World Book Day will be celebrated with a week spent exploring the picture book Flotsam and the library which will be transformed into a seaside haven.

Our term closes with our Easter Service at 9:00 at St John's on 24 March, followed by an afternoon of Easter activities. The children will also visit the prayer stations which will follow the trail of Jesus through Holy Week. A Happy Easter to all of our families and readers.

Mrs C Crawford Usher, Headteacher

GRAVESHAM CHORAL SOCIETY & ORCHESTRA PRESENT THE DREAM OF GERONTIUS

At Rochester Cathedral - Saturday 13 April at 7.30pm
Tania Williams – mezzo-soprano; Robin Green – tenor
Simon Thorpe – baritone; Bexley Phoenix Choir, Vigo Singers
Conductor Alan Vincent

MARVELLOUS MAYORS AND THEIR CHOSEN CHARITIES

Recently I've discovered the amazing amount of work our local Mayor does for charity – Tonbridge and Malling Mayor, Owen Baldock, began his Mayoral year in May 2015 – there have been numerous engagements, often several a day, all carried out with charm and enthusiasm! Owen and his wife Christine are true community champions; what's more during the Mayoral year they are raising money for local charities, The Bridge Trust, working with homeless people and Slide Away, a Kent charity working with bereaved children.

Slide Away has been part of my life for many years. I am now a Trustee for the charity but during my time as a local Headteacher quite a number of children were badly affected by the death of a special person in their life.

Support from Slide Away really helped the young person manage feelings and difficult times, enabling them to carry on and hopefully achieve potential. The Charity works closely with schools and families, two day workshops are offered where children have the opportunity to tell their story, recognise feelings, hold onto memories and feel good about themselves.

During 2015 the charity organised ten workshops, supporting 54 primary school children and 27 secondary age young people. At the workshops creative, therapeutic activities encourage talking in a safe atmosphere. Trained staff help manage the journey of bereavement, a difficult, emotional journey - but there is also lots of laughter, not to mention good food and a special Slide Away bear to keep forever! We are looking forward to Owen, the Mayor, attending an end of workshop presentation; he is just brilliant with young people!

Over the last 3 years we have also begun to work with children who have a parent or sibling with a terminal condition, something very hard to cope with. Special monthly meetings take place for this group - they are totally amazing young people who are dealing with complex issues; they truly support one another and enjoy the opportunity to share news and take part in activities.

If you would like to find out more about the very special work of Slide Away the website is full of information as well as feedback from families and young people; www.slideaway.org. I would be very happy to come and speak to any local groups about the charity or if you would like to raise some money for us that would of course be brilliant! My email is lindaecann@googlemail.com

Thank you for your interest and thank you to our Mayor and Mayoress!

Linda Cann, Slide Away Trustee and Watringbury resident

WAR NEWS FEBRUARY 1916

February 21: Battle of Verdun starts as Germans attack

"Some 400,000 women are ... required as soon as possible to enlist for patriotic work in cultivating farms, in milking cows, looking after pigs and poultry, and generally attending to the lighter kinds of agricultural work during the absence of the soldiers." This is an extract from an article "Women and The Land" in *The Times* of February 1916, written by Lady Louisa Wolseley, the widow of Field Marshall Garnet Wolseley, Commander-in-Chief of the British army and a household name in late Victorian England. Garnet's brother, George, and sister, Frances Caldwell, came to Watringbury in 1904 to live at The Thatched House, then a larger property than now. Frances died in 1912; George continued to live there until his own death in 1921.

Watringbury's vicar would have been very conscious of the village connection to the Wolseley family but his comments on *The Times* article in the parish magazine show some respectful scepticism, noting that women already work on the local fruit and hop gardens and querying the need for so many. However, he concludes that the scheme for a Land Army deserves "a fair trial" and notes that "no woman will be expected to work gratuitously." His daughter, Dorothea, would become the parish's Registrar for the scheme. The scheme nationally remained small, dominated by upper and middle class ladies, but attracting a lot of publicity and subject to many jokes in the satirical magazine, *Punch*.

The war resulted in more women taking formal employment but, perhaps more significantly, in higher paid jobs than the domestic service roles dominating female employment before the war. The 1911 census shows there were 434 women in Watringbury, aged 15 and older. For most no occupation is recorded. Only eight are in agricultural employment but this does not reflect the part-time and seasonal work undertaken. Sixty one are in a variety of domestic jobs as many houses in the village employ live-in domestic staff. There were 8 teachers but few other middle class jobs. In 1911 only one woman worked for a brewery, Eleanor, the daughter of Augustus Leney; by May 1915 Leney's were advertising in the Kent Messenger for girls to work in their Bottled Beer Department.

On the outbreak of war the suffragettes put on hold their campaign for women's parliamentary votes which had to wait until the end of the war, but the 1915 voting list for the parish and county elections includes 26 female voters in Watringbury. Caroline Hole of The Beck served on the parochial church council from 1909 but the first woman on the parish council was Mrs. Lemmens, in 1919.

The economic and political status of women in 1916 can be contrasted to the situation 850 years earlier, in 1066, when both Watringbury manors were owned by women, Leofeva and Godil.

Terry Bird

For more details see the web-site of Wateringbury Local History Society.
(<https://www.sites.google.com/site/wateringburylocalhistory/>)

FRIENDS OF WATERINGBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL

FOWPS held a successful school disco on Friday 22 January 2016 raising around £650. A good evening was had by all! We are now busy planning our annual curry & quiz night, mothers' day shop and Easter Egg Hunt. The 5th Annual FOWPS Golf Day is planned for Friday 24 June 2016. For further information or to book a place please contact either Andrew Riedl (andrew.riedl@btinternet.com) or Fraser Nicol (fraser_nicol@btinternet.com) FOWPS Committee chairman@fowps.org.uk

HISTORY SOCIETY

In March Cyril Baldwin is coming along to tell us about the "Myths, Magic and Mistakes in Medicine"!

Our first speaker in 2016 was Colin Breed who came along to give his talk "Royal Visits to Kent". Colin told us that he became a police constable after leaving school in the early 1960's. Over the years he rose through the ranks and after the 'Zebrugga' ferry disaster was sent to Belgium to head the police investigation. On his return he was promoted and given responsibility for the security of any Royal Visits made to Kent. Colin spent six years in this role, which involved meticulous planning down to the very last details. Schedules often slipped and problems arose which required quick thinking and flexibility. He gave us many examples of when these problems had occurred, including the Queen Mother's annual stay at Walmer Castle when she was Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, and the numerous visits made to Kent by the Royal Family, especially the Queen and Prince Philip, Prince Charles, Princess Anne and Princess Diana. During his light hearted and often humorous talk Colin gave us a 'behind the scenes' view to the organisation of a Royal Visit in the 1990's, without the help of our present day modern equipment.

Dates for your Diary:

Wednesday, 18 May – Wine and Buffet Leybourne Castle

Tickets £7.50 - Members only

Wednesday, 13 July - Outing to Syon House, to include coffee and tour of the house, with time afterwards to explore the gardens – further details later. Non members welcome.

MAIDSTONE MENCAP APPLE PIE QUIZ

Saturday 5 March - Cobtree Hall, Mote Park, ME15 8EB

Doors open 7.00pm

£6 each, includes slice of apple pie and cream! Teams 6-8

Contact Rita: 07790 643218

BAROQUE SPECTACULAR

12 MARCH 2016 - 7.30PM ST ANDREW'S CHURCH PADDOCK WOOD

In this celebration of the Baroque the choir will sing Vivaldi's Magnificat, Purcell's Come ye Sons Of Art Away and the four Coronation Anthems composed by Handel accompanied by professional soloists, Paul Jeffrey on organ and The Henham Chamber Orchestra. The orchestra will play The Queen of Sheba by Haydn as a grand centre piece of the concert. Guest Conductor will be the conductor of The London Festival Sinfonia Paul Showell.

TICKETS: £12.50 [under 19, £2.50]

On line www.paddockwood-choral.org.uk email: spring16@paddockwood-choral.org.uk Box Office 01892 822448 Choir members or on the door.

WATERINGBURY TODDLER/BABY GROUP AT THE VILLAGE HALL

We have had a very busy start to the New Year. The craft sessions have included paper plate faces, Chinese lanterns for the Chinese New Year and Valentine cards. As spring arrives we will be making daffodils and getting ready for Easter making Easter bunnies. Our Easter session will include an Easter bonnet competition and an Easter egg hunt. If you would like to join us, we meet Wednesdays and Fridays between 10am and 12 noon. The cost is £2 for the first child and £1 for any others. The price includes tea/coffee for the adults and snacks for the children. For more information please contact Linda on 01732 522437.

FOOTPATHS GROUP

The February walk was mainly along quiet lanes, starting along Old Road, where we encountered a short sharp shower which quickly cleared, then to Pizien Well, Gibbs Hill returning via Mill Lane. A good walk despite the breezy weather.

Next walks:

Sunday 6 March 2016 - meet 2pm at the Village Hall for a local walk of approx. 4 miles along the river to Teston then Livesey Street.

Sunday 3 April 2016 - meet 2:30pm at the Village Hall for a river walk of approx. 3¾ miles to Nettlestead Church & Rock Farm. *Kevin Reynolds*

FEBRUARY PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

Announcements At the start of the meeting the chairman expressed his thanks to the Wateringbury Players for their enjoyable production of Aladdin. He felt the village was fortunate to have so many talented residents who not only gave much pleasure to their audiences but also raised money for local organisations. This year donations will be made to the village church and to Crossroads Care, a charity with premises in the village, which supports Carers and the people they care for.

Clean for the Queen 5 March Mike Witts said that he had organised the equipment and bins for the proposed clean with T & M. Gloves, hi-viz jackets, rubbish bags etc can be collected from the Sports Pavilion at 10am on Saturday 5 March. So far only 2 people had contacted him to offer their help. He was hopeful more neighbours would get together to smarten up their immediate localities and more would volunteer to litter pick at the Playing Fields and other open access areas. Anyone wishing to offer their services should phone **01622 812027**.

Crime Report a written report had been received. In January there was an attempted house break-in and 4 incidents of anti-social behaviour. The police and Explosive Ordnance Disposal teams attended the discovery of a WW2 grenade in a garden shed. A controlled explosion was carried out.

Defibrillator has arrived and will soon be fitted to an external wall of the village hall.

KCC Councillor Matthew Balfour said the huge cuts in central government funding meant that there were very tough times ahead. KCC was striving to meet its statutory obligations. Highways England was consulting about the proposed Lower Thames Crossing: the suggested location could have serious traffic implications for Wateringbury. The chairman thanked Matthew for his financial contributions from his Members Budget for the refurbishment of the village signpost at the crossroads and the village war memorial.

Playing Fields Councillors considered in depth the estimates to repair play equipment, replace the existing play equipment area surface with wetpour and to provide a strengthened surface for part of the additional car parking area at Drayhorse Meadow. They voted to proceed with these projects, subject to certain clarifications and conditions being met. The play equipment area would need to be closed while works were being done.

Planning there were no applications to consider.

Signal Box Councillors Chris Talbert and David Marks will attend the meeting on 9 February to discuss the future of the signal boxes on the railway line when the automated barriers are installed.

Speedwatch Charles Stroud felt the speedwatch teams were having an effect on the speed of traffic in the village. More volunteers would mean that the teams could carry out more speed monitoring sessions. Sessions are for an hour and volunteers do not have to commit for any specific times. Charles emails all volunteers to ask for their availability for the week ahead and simply organises sessions to suit volunteers.

T & M Councillor Simon Jessel said that because of funding cuts any services which were not statutory were at risk, all spending was under constant review. He reported that Abbeyfield were looking at a smaller scale development for the Greensted Home site at The Orpines.

Next meeting The public are very welcome to attend the next meeting of the Parish Council at **7.30pm in the village hall on Tuesday 1 March.**

Fr Derek writes parishofficeemwt@gmail.com

Canon Derek Carpenter is a retired priest living in East Malling who is assisting in the Benefice

'On the third day he rose again' we say each Sunday in our parish church at Wateringbury as part of a statement about what we believe – it's what we call the Creed.

"Of course, it's all a matter of opinion". How often today we hear people say that about any form of religious belief – and if we suggest that there are some facts of our faith which are not matters of opinion, the usual response is "Prove it", with the assumption that if we can't prove a thing scientifically then it can't possibly be true. So with this statement – 'on the third day he rose again': if you believe it, they say, go on and prove it.

What can we say about that? Well, it's asking the impossible. You cannot have scientific proof of the Resurrection, because the Resurrection is an historic event, and you cannot have scientific proof of an historic event. Science and history work with different categories. We can't prove that Julius Caesar came to Britain in 55BC: we weren't there – we didn't see it happen. But we believe it for two reasons: First, it's recorded in history, other people saw it happen, and we believe what they say. Second, because of its consequences: long straight roads like Watling Street, and Roman names – Sarum for Salisbury and Verulamium for St Albans. Roads and names are just two of the consequences of the Roman invasion which confirm the written record. So with the Norman invasion 950 years ago, recorded in history and with Norman arches and pillars in our churches and elsewhere.

It's the same with the Resurrection: we believe it happened because of the written records and the consequences. With regard to the records, there are different accounts in the four gospels, but they reassure me that they are genuine – there has been no collaboration, and they are all agreed on the same point – that Jesus was raised from the dead. St Paul says he was seen by more than 500 people at once, and if that were not so people would simply have said that it was untrue. But they couldn't deny it, and we have the written records to prove it.

And the consequences? They are vast. The whole of history since then, not just church history, has been affected by the Resurrection. There are three very obvious effects.

The effect on the disciples. It needed something dramatic to restore their faith, and yet they were so convinced that within a matter of years many of them were prepared to face death for what they believed, and you don't die for something unless you're absolutely sure that it's true.

Then another: the Resurrection changed the Church's day of worship from Saturday to Sunday. I doubt that people were any less conservative then about making changes in worship than many are today! Every Sunday is, for us, a commemoration of the Resurrection.

And third, consequences for the general improvement of the world: it's a rash claim, but I believe that it's true. Christians aren't perfect, and there have been black spots in the history of the Church. But compare the history of Europe with that of other continents over the past, say, thousand years, and you have some idea of what Christianity has done for our Western world.

You can't prove the Resurrection in a laboratory – it's not that sort of fact. But Christians can prove it in their own lives, because the Christ who was raised on the third day is the Christ who is alive forever. Take him as your Companion and Friend, and you will know that He is, as He himself said, "alive for evermore".

A very happy Easter to you all!

Come and join us at our Regular 2016 Coffee Mornings Saturday 12 March in the Church - 10:30 am–12 noon

Everything Easter is the theme for this month's Special Stall

**EASTER FUN WITH FAITH
SATURDAY 26 MARCH**

9.30am-12.30pm

Calling all Primary school aged children in Watringbury - join us in celebrating the Easter Story.

A morning filled with fun, songs and craft activities. £2 per child in our own Village Church. Parent and/or older sibling helpers always welcome. Booking is essential because of numbers, see

www.watringburychurch.org.uk for form
or contact Debbie on 01622 814793.

BENEFICE MOTHERS' UNION

Our March meeting will be on **3 March at 1pm in East Malling Church** when Rosemary Kempself will give a talk about Being a MU President. All welcome

CAROLS FOR DEMELZA

The Children's Hospice recently notified us that the amount collected just before Christmas from our 'Carolling round the village' was **£162.63**. Many thanks to all who joined the singers and all those who generously donated.

Bob Bowie.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - FRIDAY 4 MARCH - 10.30am in West Malling Parish Church.

Everyone is welcome to join with Christians World Wide in prayer and praise. This year the service has been prepared by the people of Cuba.

ANYONE WISHING TO JOIN THE CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL please complete a form (found at the back of the church) and hand to Hilary Fisher by Sunday 20 March 2016.

IN OUR JOYS AND SORROWS - FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Funeral - We extend our deepest sympathy to the loved ones of

Laurence Frederick Cage (Laurie) father of Rev Sue Blade who took the service (12 February)

AN AFTERNOON WITH THE EAST PECKHAM SILVER BAND

at the Church on Sunday 13 March 2016 at 3pm.

This friendly, thriving Silver Band formed in 1895 can boast the title of the oldest surviving village band in Kent They will play toe tapping music for the entire family to enjoy. Ticket: Adults £10, Children/Students £3 to include programme. Available from Ros on 01622 813032 and Post Office

**ANTIQUES AND THE ROAD SHOW – A FAMILY AFFAIR
SATURDAY 23 APRIL AT 7.30PM AT THE CHURCH**

David Sandon, son of Henry and brother of John, will be giving an interesting and humorous talk on antiques and the Road Show. Whilst Henry and John appear in front of the cameras, David and the rest of the family are all interested in antiques and often attend the filming days. David will tell us about some of the more memorable moments. Tickets: Adults £6, Children/Students £4. Available from: Sheena Stewart on 01732 873737 or at Watringbury Post Office.

COFFEE BREAK - Wednesdays 2, 16 and 30 March - 10.30-12.30

Our meetings are held in the church. Do come along for coffee, cake and a chat. Optional craft activities. Pauline 01622 814673/Gillian 01622 813076

SIMPLY SOUP LUNCHEAS IN LENT WEDNESDAYS 2, 9 and 16 March

From 12.15 to 1.30 in the Church

Do join us for a simple home-made soup lunch. There is no charge but each week there will be an opportunity to donate to a different charity.

THE WATCH CLUB Sunday 13 March The Club is for young people aged 10 and over and meets in the Village Hall from 5-7pm. For more details ☎ 07950 852899

ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING - TUESDAY 5 APRIL

at St John The Baptist Church at 8pm

This meeting is an important part of church life and features reports on all church activities during the previous year. It is the opportunity, with you, to look back and consider the past year in our church and parish life, and also to look forward to see where we are going next. During the meeting election of officers will take place. There may be a role that you are called to perform or you may simply be wanting to be better informed and supportive of the various activities. Whatever your reason, your presence will be greatly valued. All reports will be available on www.wateringburychurch.org.uk or in hard copy on request from the parish office ☎ 01732 843282.

BENEFICE SERVICES

Visit our website www.wateringburychurch.org.uk

<p>Mothering Sunday 6 March 8am Communion - East Malling 9.45am Family Service – East Malling 9.45am Family Service – Teston 10am Mothering Sunday Service – Wateringbury</p>	<p>Sunday 13 March 9.45am Eucharist – East Malling 10am Holy Communion - Wateringbury 6.30pm Evening Praise - Teston</p>
<p>Palm Sunday 20 March 8am Communion – Wateringbury 9.45am Eucharist – East Malling 9.45am Family Service - Teston 10 am Family .Service – Wateringbury</p>	<p>Easter Sunday 27 March 9.45am Eucharist – East Malling 10am Holy Communion – Wateringbury 6.30pm Eucharist - Teston</p>
Every Monday – 2-3pm – Scout & Guide HQ, Glebe Meadow – Toddler Praise	
Every Thursday - 9am in East Malling Church – Holy Communion	
Pilsdon Community, 27 Water Lane, West Malling - Rev Viv Ashworth invites you to the Barn Chapel to join members of the community for a Eucharist Service every Wednesday at noon and 6pm on Sundays	
While we are awaiting a new vicar the parish office will still be operational. To arrange for baptisms, weddings or other services please visit the parish office at 2 The Grange, East Malling on Wednesdays between 6.30pm-7.15pm phone 01732 843282 email parishofficeemwt@gmail.com	

Special Services in March in Wateringbury Church

Mothering Sunday 6 March - 10am A day to remember and give thanks for our Mothers and all the love they gave us. As is our tradition the ladies in the congregation will be given small posies to mark the day.

Palm Sunday 20 March Our traditional parade will leave the **village hall car park at 9.30am** to reach the church in time for the **10am Family Service**.

Good Friday 25 March - 2-3pm **At the Foot of the Cross** - Readings, Prayers and Music for Good Friday.

Sat 26 March - 9.30-12.30 - Easter Fun with Faith Activities for Children

Easter Sunday 27 March 10am - Family Communion led by Canon Brian Stevenson. After the service an Easter Egg hunt is planned.

Fairtrade Fortnight - 29 February to 13 March Do look out for, and buy, Fair Trade Products to celebrate good value for money and the enormous benefits the Fair Trade Organisation brings to small growers and crafts people, their families and communities.