

NOVEMBER 2016

VILLAGE DIARY

November

- 1 Parish Council** - Hall - 7.30pm followed by planning committee
- 6 Footpaths Walk** - meet at Village car park - 2pm sharp
- 10 WI talk** - Printing on Silk Scarves - Hall - 2pm
- 13 Annual Parish Act of Remembrance** - Church - 10am
- 16 Malting and Malthouses in Kent, History Soc talk** - Hall - 7.40pm
- 16 Induction of Rev Nick Williams** - Church - 7.30pm
- 23 P C Finance and General Purposes Committee** - Hall - 7.30pm
- 26 Grand Christmas Craft Bazaar** - Church - 11am-3pm

December

- 3 School Christmas Fayre** - School
- 4 Footpaths Walk** - meet at Village car park - 2pm sharp
- 6 Parish Council** - Hall - 7.30pm followed by planning committee
- 10/11 Cribbs, Angels and Teas** - Church - 2.30-4.30pm
- 14 History Society Members Christmas Social Evening** - Hall - 7.40pm

NEXT ISSUE FOR DECEMBER/JANUARY

Contributors are reminded that our next issue covers **two months**. The copy **deadline is 17 November**. Rostrum welcomes items of local interest and items for our Village People section.

ADVERTISING IN ROSTRUM IN 2017

This month we will be inviting advertising support for our village magazine in 2017. Advertising space is booked on an annual basis. Existing advertisers will be contacted by mid November. Anyone interested in advertising in the magazine for the first time and reaching 900 plus local homes 10 times a year should contact rostrum2@hotmail.com by the end of November. Rostrum is self financing from its advertising income and thanks all this year's advertisers for their help which we hope was mutually beneficial.

ANNUAL HOUSE TO HOUSE POPPY COLLECTION

Please buy your poppy from the House to House Collectors who will be out and about in the village in early November selling poppies in aid of the Royal British Legion which helps ex service men and women.

Grand Christmas Bazaar

11am to 3pm Saturday 26 November



at the Church of St John the Baptist, Tonbridge Road

Entry Free

A great opportunity to buy some special and unusual presents

Stock up your larder for Winter with Sheena's jams and pickles

or honey from James, our local beekeeper

Revitalise your Christmas tree with some sparkling decorations

Bijou Nurseries will be there with a wonderful array of plants

Gifts galore for everyone on your list

Come along and find just the right thing for that difficult person

Sunday's Cool will have some exciting activities for children to enjoy Keep your strength up with a cup of tea or coffee and a mince pie

or a glass of mulled wine

VILLAGE PEOPLE *Please let us have your news and tributes by 17 November for our December/January magazine. Entries are free*

Congratulations to Rev Jim and Jean Brown on becoming Great Grandparents on the birth of their Great Grandson, Marli James who was born on 23 September to Amie and James Byers.

Belated 90th Birthday Congratulations to Christina Caldwell for 29 October. Christina was born on the family farm in Ayrshire, came to farm in Kent with her family and eventually found her way to Wateringbury.

Syd Thompsett thanks all those who have sent him sympathy cards and letters and those who attended Vera's funeral on 5 October. Sincere thanks too to Wateringbury WI who organised a delicious afternoon tea in the village hall afterwards. Special thanks to all neighbours for their help during Vera's illness.

Vera Rose Thompsett nee Steel 1922-2016

Vera came to Wateringbury in 1939 when her father was appointed head gardener at Wateringbury Place, the home of Mr and Mrs Dann. They lived in a tied house next to the church. In late 1940 Vera went to work as a shorthand typist at The Phoenix Brewery in Bow Road. At the end of the working day, Vera, along with many others went to the engineering shop and helped to make engine parts for the war effort. Vera also belonged to St John's Ambulance, worked at the WVS canteen for the troops in the church rooms (site of the village hall). Along with lots of WI members Vera knitted many items for the troops. She also sang in the church choir and remembered going to the vicarage

(then at the White House) to be taught how to shoot by the vicar Rev Walkey. In 1943 Vera volunteered for the ATS and was posted to Leicester working in an admin role. She was awarded the Defence Medal. After the war she returned to work in the surveyors' department at the Brewery where she met her husband Syd. They married in 1955 at St Alfred's, Whitstable where the Steel family had moved in 1951 on the retirement of her father. In the early years of their marriage Syd and Vera lived in Commercial Road, Paddock Wood where Vera was active in the parish church and WI. She also volunteered to help at the local mother and baby clinic distributing the National orange juice and dried milk powder, etc. Here she met Dr MacDonald who, on discovering Vera's secretarial skills, offered her a job. She worked at Dr MacDonald's surgeries in Paddock Wood and East Peckham for many years.

In 1967 Syd and Vera moved back into the village into the bungalow they had built in Red Hill. Vera rejoined the Wateringbury WI and assisted Syd in many aspects of village life. Vera is buried in Wateringbury cemetery.

WAR NEWS, NOVEMBER 1916

November 5th: Battle of Verdun: French retake Fort Vaux	18th: Battle of Somme ends.
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The Battle of the Somme ended with a final British offensive on ground that was now a quagmire and with the first snow of winter. Two further Wateringbury fatalities occurred in these final days, Charles Winter and George Pearce.

Charles Winter was killed on 13th November close to the same village, Beaumont Hamel, where William Butchers had been killed on the first day of the Somme. Both came from the same part of Wateringbury and were from agricultural families. Beaumont Hamel, a village of 160 houses, had been attacked on 1st July but it remained in German hands until it was finally captured on the day of Charles' death. Charles' family had moved to Wateringbury after he had left school. He married in 1915, served in the Royal Fusiliers and was 25 when killed. He is buried in Redan Ridge No. 2 Cemetery, close to Beaumont Hamel.



George Pearce (pictured left) was killed on 18th November, the last day of the Somme, near Grandcourt. George had worked at Tovil paper mill and had enlisted in December 1915, serving in the 7th battalion of the Royal West Kent Regiment. He was 24 years old. His mother wrote to the War Office from Pelican Farm, Wateringbury in March 1917 to ask for information. In November 1917 his photo was in the Kent Messenger with an appeal from her for information. She did not receive acknowledgement of his death from the War Office until December 1917, a year after it had happened. He has no known grave.

In November **Arthur Jessup**, from a very poor Pizien Well family, was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal (D.C.M.) with the following citation in the London Gazette:

For conspicuous gallantry in action, when, although wounded, and being the only one of his gun team left, he carried his gun up to the objective, and then brought up the magazines and laid the gun for action. He was ordered by his C.O. to go to a dressing station, but was found several hours later still at his post. Only one other Wateringbury person won the D.C.M., second only in prestige to the Victoria Cross. We will hear more about Arthur later.

At school 3 girls were caned on 3rd November "for repeated disobedience". At Malling court two men were prosecuted on 6th November for ill-treating a horse at Wateringbury and fined £2 each. The parish council met on 13th November and considered matters such as the allotment hedge overhanging the road; whether to supply allotment holders with manure; and the repair of the door to the "Lock up". On 20th November, a shrine was dedicated by the Bishop of Rochester in the wall of Wateringbury Place's grounds near the Church. It was paid for by the owner of Wateringbury Place, Thomas Brocklebank. The schools received a holiday so they could attend the ceremony. War shrines with a "roll of honour" were common at the time. Terry Bird

BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

We are now well into our Autumn term, our craft sessions have included making clocks and hedgehogs. We look forward to making spiders for Halloween and fireworks for bonfire night. Our singing sessions at the end of each morning are proving very popular, with the children joining in, they love to pretend to be sleeping bunnies. If you are interested in joining us, why not come along and

give us a try. We meet every Wednesday and Friday morning between 10am and 12 noon. For more information please contact Linda on 01732 522 437

FOR SALE

Headboard, two bedside cabinets and a 6 drawer chest.

Paid over £1000 Solid wood with rattan fronted drawers.

Quality spacious stylish furniture. Excellent quality and condition

Reluctant sale £250 ONO. Pictures can be sent if interested

Please email sab44290405@hotmail.com

FOOTPATHS GROUP WALKS

Next Local Walks - Sundays 6 November and 4 December

Meet at village car park to leave sharp at 2pm

On a fine autumnal afternoon our October walk took us passed Broomsdown to Rock Farm then on to Gibbs Hill. Near the old Nettlestead Quarry we had good views of several stag deer in the field alongside Park Road. Walking through Pizien Well on to Old Road, back to the start where some of us retreated to Where Memories Meet for afternoon tea.

The footpath group wish to send their condolences to Syd Thompsett on the recent loss of Vera who in the past was a regular walker with the group.

Kevin Reynolds

HISTORY SOCIETY

On **Wednesday 16 November** our speaker will be James Preston who is coming along to tell us about **Malting and Malthouses in Kent**. Visitors are very welcome; the talk starts at 8pm but come along at 7.40pm for a cup of tea or coffee and a chat.

Robert Sackville West was our speaker in September, and he had come along to tell us more about his ancestors, who had either lived in or been connected with Knole Park, in his talk entitled 'Disinherited'. Fourteen generations of Robert's family have lived at Knole Park, including Lionel Sackville West who inherited the property on the death of his elder brother in the 1850s. Lionel had never married but had produced five children through a relationship with a beautiful Spanish dancer, the eldest daughter Victoria was to become a great aunt to Vita Sackville West. Although illegitimate, Victoria lived at Knole Park and became accepted by society and eventually married her cousin, also called Lionel, and they both moved into Knole to live with her father Lionel. Robert's talk was both interesting and amusing, and being interlaced with snippets of scandal relating not only to Lionel and his family but to many of his other ancestors, held our attention and left us wanting to hear more.

WATERINGBURY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Our next meeting is **Thursday 10 November**, when Sue Woods will be coming along to give her talk '**Printing on Silk Scarves**', members can take part if they wish. The competition is "My Favourite Scarf".

In October Sue Hollings came along to give us a demonstration on 'Medieval Cooking'. Before starting her demonstration Sue reminded us that the foods we now take for granted and are a staple part of our diet were not available in Medieval times, and although meals eaten by the 'peasants' were very different from the Lord of the Manor's, both would have been enhanced with the herbs and spices available at the time. Sue prepared three meals for us, the first a beef and vegetable pottage, followed by a leek, mushroom and herb dish and finally she made 'Lombardy slices' (a sweetmeat) made from honey, hard-boiled egg yolks and breadcrumbs. We all enjoyed sampling the dishes which were washed down with a taster of Mead. The competition was won by Kathy Coates whose 1850s cook book was judged to be the oldest and very interesting; a fitting end to a very enjoyable afternoon.

AUTUMN CRAFT FAIR ST LAWRENCE CHURCH MEREWORTH
SATURDAY 12 NOVEMBER 12-3pm,
Lunches of Soup and Hot Dogs Crafts, Homemade Food, Raffle, Tombola Entry Free

TESTON AND WATERINGBURY NURSERY GROUP

Our term 2 has started well settling in our new children and welcoming our new parents. Our AGM was well attended and many thanks for those who volunteered to join our fundraising committee. It is great to hear so many fundraising ideas and plans for the forthcoming year. I'm confident that we will succeed in our aim of raising £2,000 a year. The money raised by the committee is always used for the benefit of the children, new toys, craft materials etc.

This term we will be looking at colours and shapes; making round pizzas, star cookies and rainbow t-shirts. We will also be making Diwali candles, poppy pictures, Christmas cards and tree decorations that the children will be taking home (you have been warned!!) Time photography will be coming into the setting on Thursday 3 November and our Christmas concert is on Wednesday 21 December.

I must also mention a big thank you to our outgoing committee members who have stepped down now their children are at big school; their support and contribution have been invaluable over the past couple of years.

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

PADDOCK WOOD CHORAL SOCIETY

Saturday 10 December St Andrew's Church Paddock Wood 7.30pm
CHRISTMAS JOY

The Society's first concert under the baton of its new director, Kevin Ashman, welcomes Christmas with joyful contributions from The Messiah alongside traditional carols for all to join in. Pieces by contemporary Canadian composer Leonard Ballantine and music from a brass quintet will complete a resounding programme of heart warming delight. Candlelight, wine and mince pies enhance the evening as all the family is invited to relax and embrace the musical treats of the season. A charitable donation will be made from the proceeds.

Tickets:- £12.50 Children Free

Box Office tel: 01892 822448 On line at: www.paddockwood-choral.org.uk

email:- xmas16@paddockwood-choral.org.uk Or at the door.



DON'T MESS ABOUT

When walking a dog please bag up and bin it!

WATERINGBURY F.C.

Juniors U12s

The under 12s continued with their fine start to the season on Sunday, when they made it 5 wins out of 5. A resounding 7-1 victory against Jarvis Brook, with both James Gerrish and Tom Roantree keeping up their impressive goal scoring record, with 2 goals each. Overall for the season, the team have scored 27 goals in league and cup - they now enter a very tricky fixture list against the top sides in their League in the coming weeks. If you haven't got anything else to do in the afternoon of Sunday 16th and Sunday 30th October, come down to the park and support the lads. Kick off at 1pm on both occasions.

Juniors U11s

The team had their first loss of the season away to Hailsham on Saturday 8th October, losing 4-0. Richard Dickety, the team manager was unable to attend the game, due to a poorly back and it is strange how the youngsters tend to lose their way without their coach in attendance! However 3 wins

out of 4 and a plus 10 goal difference is something to be proud of, especially after starting the season with only 10 players in their first season of 9 aside football. It is a real challenge of their stamina and concentration for the players. The club and team are pleased to welcome Lloyd Griffin, Oliver Bulley, Harrison Tait and Tom Gross to the club. New players arriving is testimony to the great team atmosphere that Rich and his parents have created.

Seniors

After winning the first two games of the season, the seniors went on a 3 game losing streak! After a fantastic victory against Kings Hill in the Maidstone Charity Cup, the team were brought down to earth in their second League game of the season, away to Rusthall Reserves. A combination of our lads probably being over confident from the previous week's win and Rusthall recognising our potential, saw them get into their stride much quicker and they run out deserved winners, 3-1. Two more cup games were lost, 3-2 away to Woodlands FC and 1-3 at home to Willesborough Athletic before a resounding League win against local rivals, Larkfield & New Hythe Reserves FC, on the 8th October, 9-0 at home, got the team back on track.

Fixtures for November have not been published at the time of this report but can be found on the Kent County League website , www.kentcountyfootballleague.co.uk/fixtures and we are in the 3rd Division, East and Central.

John Ibbs Club Chairman and First Team Coach 07717 484186

WATERINGBURY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

As the days draw in, our school's commitment to improving the health and fitness of the school community continues with the daily ten-minute mile. Six children accomplished the full mile at the end of Term 1. The children will have the chance each term to see if they can complete the mile alongside headteacher Mrs Crawford Usher.

Part of the open-plan 'atrium' of the school has been transformed into four dedicated learning spaces for phonics, reading, spelling and maths with small groups of pupils. The matching tables and stools have been separated into a quadrant by purpose-built dividers and whiteboards. A large carpet underneath has significantly softened the sound problem. We are grateful to the Honnor family for their generous donation in memory of Ann Honnor, a former governor at Wateringbury.

The children's contributions of food and produce during the annual Harvest Service at St John the Baptist were parcelled up and delivered to individual families in need as well as to local shelters and refuges. Another annual October event, the Macmillan Coffee Morning, raised £136 to support families where one member is facing the difficulty and trauma associated with a prognosis of cancer.

If any parents with children who will begin school in September 2017 missed the Open Mornings in October, please contact the office to arrange an appointment to visit the school and speak with the headteacher. Follow-up visits by prospective parents (and children) are also welcomed.

The capital campaign to raise £115,000 towards the library roof and windows continues as staff and pupils dream up different ways to raise awareness and funds. A group of Year 6 pupils ran a lunchtime cakes/clothes/toy sale and a Year 3 pupil raised hundreds of pounds when she had her long hair cut off and sent to a children's wig-making charity. Year 5 teacher Mrs Fraser is planning a tandem skydive and hopes to reach her fundraising goal of £350. To sponsor her visit <https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/mrsfraser>.

The school's **popular Christmas Fayre will be held on Saturday, 3 December** and will feature artisan stalls, craft and decorations, teas, cakes and crepes and, of course, the hugely successful and imaginative grotto. We look forward to welcoming the wider community.

Chasey Crawford Usher – Headteacher
www.wateringbury.kent.sch.uk

PRIESTLY PONDERINGS

Rev Nick Williams
The Vicarage, 2 The Grange,
East Malling

parishofficeemwt@gmail.com

01732 843282

Brothers and sisters in Christ, arriving in a new benefice, especially one as different from my old benefice as this one is, always gives rise to what the Chinese would doubtless term interesting times. There are uncertainties and much tip-toeing around on all sides as we all get used to working with each other in the service of the gospel of Christ .

That being said, it's a privilege to come to you as your new Vicar and a humbling experience to be called to minister in a benefice that has so many capable people who have worked hard demonstrating their skills and talents looking after the benefice for the year or so you have been in interregnum. It's a privilege as well to take over from someone like Fr Jim who accompanied you on your journey of faith for so many years and left the benefice in such good condition and Fr Derek who has been 'minding the shop' together with all the other retired clergy during the interregnum. Having looked at the lists of people who have roles in the three parishes I am acutely aware of how many people there must be to thank, far too many to name individually. So please take this short message as a 'thank you' to all of you, with a particular and personal 'thank you' to all of those who have worked tirelessly in their spare time re-decorating the Vicarage. I can assure you that Mrs Williams will make good her promise to bring you cake at the very earliest opportunity!

I'm sure however that there are many of you wondering how things will change. It is after all the habit of new Vicars to change things and whilst Fr Jim and I might have been members of your long line of vicars who were police officers I'm sure that we will both have our own unique and perhaps 'individual' ways of doing things. Well, let me provide those of you for whom this is a worry with a small amount of reassurance, I would really like to get to know you, the benefice and the wider parishes before even thinking of changing anything. I hope you will see me out and about in the benefice and will feel confident enough to come and talk to me about your hopes, aspirations and even the little things that niggle all of us. I don't have a monopoly on good ideas and I'm willing to 'borrow with pride' from each and every one of you, so come and talk or even come and dream!

It is however only fair to warn you that I do have an agenda. That agenda is to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ to as many people as we possibly can. Everything that we do is subordinate to that one simple calling and it should be the lamp that lights the path to the decisions we make. There will be 'interesting times' ahead for all of us but together I am certain we can do great things in the service of Christ, and I look forward to accompanying each of you on our journey together into the future.

Yours in Christ

Rev Nick Williams

WATERINGBURY BELLRINGERS

Ringling practice nights have been rather infrequent over the last few months due to holidays and work commitments, however recently we had enough people to ring all the bells. We therefore took the opportunity to ring a quarter peal. Quarter peals are usually rung to commemorate or celebrate people or events and the details of this quarter peal are as follows:

Reason To celebrate 40 years since the dedication of Wateringbury C E Primary School on the Bow Road site.

Date Tuesday 27 September 2016

Details 42 minutes Tenor: 7-1-19 1260 Plain Bob Doubles

- Ringers** 1 Frances James, 2 Glynne Knight, 3 David James
 4 Sue Collins (Conductor – First quarter as Conductor)
 5 Richard Young

Interested in learning to ring? Contact Sue Collins on 01622 812262.

BENEFACTORY SERVICES

Visit our website www.wateringburychurch.org.uk

The Institution of Reverend Nicholas Williams
as vicar of the Benefice of East Malling, Wateringbury and Teston
 by the Bishop of Rochester will take place on
Wednesday 16 November at 7.30pm in Wateringbury Church
Everyone Welcome

<p>Sunday 6 November</p> <p>8am Communion - East Malling</p> <p>9.45am Family Service – East Malling</p> <p>9.45am Family Service – Teston</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10am Matins – Wateringbury</p> <p>4pm Thanksgiving and Remembrance East Malling</p>	<p>Remembrance Sunday 13 November</p> <p>10am Remembrance - East Malling</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10am Parish Act of Remembrance - Wateringbury</p> <p>10.50am Remembrance - Teston</p> <p>6pm Evensong - East Malling</p>
<p>Sunday 20 November</p> <p style="text-align: center;">8am Communion – Wateringbury</p> <p>9.45am Eucharist – East Malling</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10am Family Toy Service – Wateringbury</p> <p>6.30pm Personal Thanksgiving - Teston</p>	<p>Advent Sunday 27 November</p> <p>9.45am Eucharist – East Malling</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10am Holy Communion – Wateringbury</p> <p>6.30pm Advent Carols and Readings - Teston</p>
<p>Every Monday – 2-3pm – Scout & Guide HQ, Glebe Meadow – Toddler Praise</p>	
<p>Every Thursday - 9am in East Malling Church – Holy Communion</p>	
<p>For Baptisms, Weddings and other arrangements please contact the Parish Office phone 01732 843282 email parishofficeemwt@gmail.com</p>	

SPECIAL SERVICES

Annual Parish Act of Remembrance - 13 November - Church at 10am and then to the War Memorial in the churchyard for the laying of wreaths and the 2 minutes silence. There will also be a small area for the placing of wooden crosses dedicated to those we especially wish to remember who have died in the service of our country.

Annual Toy and Gift Service - 20 November at 10am. Please help children and mothers who will be spending time at local Women's Refuges enjoy the Christmas festivities by donating nearly new toys and gift vouchers for the children. Also the mothers really do appreciate toiletry items, etc

Evensong with the choir Thursday 24 November at 7.30pm

IN OUR JOYS AND SORROWS - FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Baptism - We welcomed into the family of the Church:

Rory James Hammond (28 August) **Emma Lisa Allen** (16 October)

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

Vera Rose Thompsett (5 October)

COFFEE BREAK CRAFT AND CHAT

Wednesdays 9 and 23 November, 7 December - 10.30-12.30

We have a really pleasant morning so do come along, it would be good to see you. We meet on alternate Wednesday mornings in the church for tea, coffee, cake and chat. Some have revived their interests in knitting and other crafts, there is usually someone who can give help and guidance if requested. Everyone is most welcome. Pauline and Gillian

WATCH CLUB Sundays 13 and 27 November and 4 December

Watch Club is open to all youth from age 10-18 years old.

The November meetings will be in the village hall from 5-7pm and on 4 December we will be in the church for our Christmas Party. For more details please phone Lisa 07950 852899

CHURCH AND CHURCHYARD AUTUMN CLEAN

Saturday 12 November 9.30am to Noon

Volunteers are much needed and will be much appreciated, to go along to help prepare the church and churchyard for the annual parish Act of Remembrance. Please go to the church at any time during the morning and take 'tools' suitable for the job which you would like to do. Tea and coffee will be provided.

POSADA

From **Advent Sunday 27 November** until Christmas Eve the wooden figures of Mary and Joseph will travel to homes in the village to stay for a night. Posada is the Spanish word for Inn and encourages households to give a home to the Mary and Joseph figures from the Posada crib which will be in the church from Christmas Eve. If you would like them to visit you please phone Gillian 813076.



ANGELS AND CRIBS

AT WATERINGBURY CHURCH

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY 10 AND 11 DECEMBER

2.30-4.30pm

Visit the church to see displays of nativity sets and angels

Enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and angel cakes and biscuit

Craft Stall

OCTOBER PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors John Evans, David Marks, Lyn Simons, Michael Wells and Borough Councillor Simon Jessell .. Councillor Catherine Moreland was also absent.

Crime Report The chairman read details of July crimes in the village taken from the Kent Police website: 1 criminal damage/arson, 1 vehicle crime, 1 shoplifting, 2 anti-social behaviour, 1 violent crime and 1 'other' crime

Donation Councillors agreed to donate £50 to the Heart of Kent Hospice in memory of Vera Thompsett. They sent their condolences to Syd Thompsett who had been a regular supporter of the council for many years.

Drayhorse Meadow Councillor Stones reported on an inspection carried out by Councillors which found the stables and grazing land were in good order. The CCTV monitoring equipment on the pavilion will now be checked.

Height Barrier at Car Park Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council, who own the car park, have refused permission for the erection of a new height barrier which the Parish Council were investigating purchasing and erecting.

KCC Councillor Matthew Balfour reported on several matters of direct local interest:

Village Traffic Lights had an under road fault which was scheduled for repair soon. Whilst this work was being done the lights would be upgraded to allow them to react better to traffic flow.

Pizienwell Junction with A26 Re-alignment work will be carried out to re-align the road which hopefully will reduce traffic accidents.

Lorry Parks KCC were in consultation with Highways England to provide small parking areas for lorries at various locations in Kent to alleviate traffic problems.

Parliamentary Boundary Changes The recently published proposals show the breaking up of the present Tonbridge and Malling Parliamentary Constituency. The proposal shows Wateringbury moving into the Chatham and Aylesford Constituency and Kings Hill going into Tonbridge and Weald

Constituency. There is now a public consultation period to allow local organisations and members of the public to submit written reactions to the proposals. Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council will not be effected by these changes.

After a short discussion councillors agreed to discuss the Parish Council's response to the proposals at its November meeting. This will allow councillors time to consider all implications of the proposed change.

Speed Watch Councillors all had a copy of a letter received from the police congratulating the village Speed Watch volunteers. The chairman expressed the Parish Council's thanks to the handful of volunteers and asked for the letter to be printed in Rostrum:

Letter sent to Parish Clerk

*I came across a **speed watch** table/graph a few days ago which had the states for all the speed watch teams in Tonbridge and Malling. Wateringbury were by far above and beyond all others by a large margin. Therefore on behalf of the Community Safety Unit for Tonbridge and Malling I would like to thank all the individuals involved in this important and valuable contribution to the area you live in. This sort of commitment helps us manage the issue of speeding in and around Wateringbury. Thank you all for your efforts they are unmatched across the area. Please pass on our gratitude to all involved as I'm sure they don't often get thanks for the work, time and effort they put in, so thanks to all. Kind Regards*

Callum Harkness 58880 Police Community Support Officer

More volunteers are needed to assist with the work of keeping the village roads safer by encouraging motorists to drive within speed limits. Please contact the Parish Clerk for details.

Standing Orders Councillors approved slight amendments to its standing orders 46 and 47 to meet current legal requirements.

Tonbridge& Malling Borough Council's financial support for 2017/18. The Parish Council had been advised that a recommendation would go to Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council Cabinet that funding arrangements with Parish Councils cease as from 2017/18. If agreed this would mean a drop in the income to the village of around £12,000, which would have to be raised via the precept.

Planning Councillors had no objections to plans for a rear conservatory at 476 Red Hill and details of an extractor duct at 5 Claremont House.

Next meetings The public are very welcome to attend the next meetings of the Parish Council at **7.30pm in the village hall on Tuesday 1 November** for the monthly meeting and to the **Finance and General Purposes Committee on 23 November**.