

VILLAGE DIARY

July

- 1 Footpaths Group Walk meet village hall car park 2.30pm sharp
- 3 Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm followed immediately by a Planning Committee Meeting – village hall ground floor meeting room
- 12 WI talk – The Write Stuff – 2.30pm - Hall
- 14 School ‘Olympic’ Fete - Noon to 3pm at School
- 18 History Society Wine and Buffet Evening (Members Only)
- 19 Flower Club demo ‘O what a lovely Basket’ – Nettlestead Hall – 7.30
- 25 Coffee Break – Church – 10.30-12.30

August

- 2 Launch of Kingshill U3A – Kings Hill Community Centre – 2pm
- 5 Footpaths Group Walk meet at Mereworth School 2.30pm sharp
- 22 Coffee Break – Church – 10.30-12.30

Please note no Parish Council or Planning Committee meeting this month

September

- 4 Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm followed immediately by a Planning Committee Meeting – village hall ground floor meeting room
- 19 History Soc talk by John Vigar – Britain with Betjeman – Hall – 7.45

ROSTRUM COPY

Our Summer issue will cover the months of August and September and the copy deadline is July 17. We are very pleased to received news of local happenings and societies, that's what makes the magazine interesting for our readers. We only have a limited amount of space and respectfully remind contributors that articles SHOULD NOT EXCEED 250 WORDS – that is half an A5 page in Arial 10 font. Articles over this length may be edited in order to allow room for all our copy, so please, please, limit your copy to 250 words.



IMPORTANT NOTICE

Bow Road (B2015) will be closed to all traffic between Wateringbury Village Hall and Wateringbury Primary School while the School's Torch Procession is taking place between 11.45AM AND 12 NOON ON SATURDAY 14 JULY The procession will start from **Wateringbury Village Hall car park** at 11.45am and the car park will be closed to vehicles while the children are

assembling. No vehicles will be allowed to exit any of the side roads along the route during these times. Thank you for your co-operation with this special event. *See also article Torch Procession Through Wateringbury*

VILLAGE PEOPLE *Please let us have your news and tributes by July 17 for our August/ September magazine*

Golden Wedding congratulations to **Viv and Nell Rubin** who celebrated 50 glorious years on 2 June.

Congratulations to James Neate who will be one of the **Olympic Torch Bearers** on Thursday 19 July at Westgate on Sea. He was nominated by Joanna Fyson, Wateringbury Group Scout Leader, for his services to Scouting, including camping out for 100 consecutive nights during the winter of 2004, raising £1,400 for Demelza House Hospice. James went to Wateringbury School and then to Dorton House School for those with visual impairment in Seal. Having enjoyed his time in our cub and scout groups James has overcome his personal handicaps to become a sectional helper with the Beavers.

Paul Smart – Wateringbury's (veteran!) Motorcycle ace, recently went to Italy as a guest of honour for World Ducati Week. Part of the celebrations were to mark the 40th anniversary of the superbike race when, in Ducati's first entry into superbike racing, Paul won the race and his Ducati team-mate Bruno Spaggiari was second. Paul was promised the bike if he won the race and for many years it was on display in his shop at Kawasaki Paddock Wood; it is now on loan to the Ducati museum in Bologna. The race took place on 23 April 1972 (Paul's 29th birthday) and Ducati have never forgotten the achievement. Whenever he goes to the factory he is treated like a king, and many workers come and shake his hand.

QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE WEEKEND CELEBRATIONS

AT THE CHURCH – 3-5 JUNE

Wow what an amazing weekend for fellowship and community spirit we experienced with visitors coming from far and wide to see the wonderful Carpet of Flowers in our Church. Everyone was impressed and delighted at the creation and beauty of the display. We are indebted to the skill, patience and sheer hard work of our talented and industrious flower arrangers Gillian Sessions and Cathy Miller and their helpers Gwyneth Sutton, Patricia and Philip Gage and Vera Tate who worked tirelessly from 9.30am to 8.30pm on Saturday 2 June to complete the Carpet in time for the 3 days of celebrations. Thanks too to Flower Arrangers Audrey Allen, Anne Ede and Brenda Clarke for their beautiful floral displays. Did you see the Carpet of Flowers on the BBC TV Local News? The crew arrived unexpectedly, and hoisted their camera and equipment into the organ loft in order to obtain great pictures. The coverage brought many visitors on Bank Holiday Tuesday who wanted to see the carpet for themselves. They were also entertained in the afternoon by harpist Carys Hughes.

Enjoyment of the community churchyard fete on Bank Holiday Monday was not dampened by the 'English Summer Rain', some of the stalls moved into the church, others had gazebos for protection from the showers. Musicians Tony Pepper and Peter White entertained in the churchyard with a wide range of music. The History Society's Jubilee walks and booklet were much appreciated. Peter Bond was the lucky winner of Vera Tate's enormous crown shaped cake. (It was delicious; Peter shared some of it at coffee time after the service on 10 June).

Norma Betts and her team worked non-stop to provide delicious cakes, scones and other refreshments. They certainly were kept very busy.

The Jubilee Celebration Church Service allowed us to give thanks to God for the dedicated Service of our Queen and for the many blessings we all receive, not the least of which is living in such a great village. The special edition Jubilee New Testament Bibles, which were given away over the weekend, will be continuing reminders of God's love for us in Jesus.

Such an event would not have been possible without the help of countless people who worked so hard and gave so generously of their time and talents. Thank you all so much, and special thanks to Ros Diment who co-ordinated the week-end so superbly. Thank you too to all who visited the celebration events and helped raise £1494 for church funds and to Tonbridge & Malling Council for their sponsorship.

JUNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Village Youth Club - Robin, a Youth Club Leader, reported to councillors on the activities of the club which meets in the School Hall on Wednesday Evenings. There are 2 parents who help on a regular basis but more helpers would be much appreciated and would allow further expansion of activities. The Chairman expressed his thanks to those who helped with the club and assured Robin that the club had the full support of the Council. Anyone in the village who is interested in serving the community by helping with the Youth Club should contact the Parish Clerk on 01622 817068.

Crime – there were 7 reported crimes in the village during May: Theft of metal piping from a secure yard in Red Hill; Burglary from a motor cruiser moored at Bow Bridge Marina when 5 life jackets were stolen; Theft of a Blue VW Sharan (MF 51 HAE) which was parked overnight in Tonbridge Road; Theft of a water pump from a pumping station in Red Hill; Theft of fuel from a motor vehicle parked in Old Road; Burglary at a property in Bow Road and Vehicle interference when a car parked in the driveway of a property in Bow Road had a window smashed and its ignition barrel forced.

Joint Parish Councils' Traffic Consultative Group – Councillor Dennis Stones agreed to join Charles Stroud at these meetings. The main points discussed at the last meeting were the 20 year battle to persuade the Government to build a new slip road at Junction 5 on the M25 to allow west bound traffic to exit to the A21. The next meeting will be held in Kings Hill.

Parish Partnership Panel – Councillor Talbert reported on the meeting he had attended on 17 May. Two matters which were of particular interest to Wateringbury were:

Make Kent Quicker – Wateringbury is one of the areas across Kent which has **slow Broadband speeds**. The telephone exchange needs to be upgraded. The KCC are urging residents to vote online to ensure that our area is prioritised. Register your support at www.makekentquicker.com

British Red Cross Community Emergency Response Teams The Red Cross is working closely with KCC to set up teams in every town and village in Kent to support the local community in times of crisis with first aid, practical help and emotional support. No experience is needed and free training will be given. Anyone from the village who is interested in volunteering should telephone 0800 0280 831 or email enquirieskentand_sussex@redcross.org.uk in both instances ask for the Emergency Response Team Manager.

Allotments – the vacant plot has been let.

KCC Councillor Richard Long reported that there was a proposal for dropped kerbs on the A 26 in the area near to the church to help residents cross the road since a pedestrian crossing was not considered a viable option. Councillors considered that as the pavements were very narrow the proposed dropped kerbs would be more of a hindrance than a help. They suggested consideration be given to a 20 mph speed limit and changing the road surface to “rumble strips” to alert drivers to the 30 mph zone. Councillor Long said he would report the council's concerns and suggestions back to the KCC department concerned. The KCC is going ahead with the installation of an interactive sign on Red Hill.

T & M Borough Councillor Simon Jessel reported on matters of local interest. He had recently been appointed to serve on the Transport Planning Committee

Planning – The council had no objections to the following applications: Detached Garage and Storage building - North Pole Inn: New Garage and Store at Gransden, Tonbridge Road: External Canopies for extensions and alterations to existing rear additions including new pitched roof at Lodge Cottage, Tonbridge Road and Single Storey Front WC extension at 23 Barming Road.

The council objected to the application for the erection of a new dwelling bungalow with annex at ground floor and room in roof at 21 Barming Road.

Next Meeting will be in the village hall at 7.30pm on **Tuesday 3 July**. The public are always welcome at the Parish Council's meetings. Please note there will be no meeting in August.

DAMAGE TO CHILDREN'S SWINGS

The rubber seats of the two young children's swings at the playing fields have been badly damaged, cannot be used for safety reasons, and have to be replaced. If anyone has any information on how this damage was caused, or by whom, please contact the Parish Clerk on 01622 817068 or email:susan_jc@btinternet.com Any information received will be treated in confidence. Thank you

WATERINGBURY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE The WI - Inspiring Women

We welcome women of all ages, and we have members from Wateringbury and surrounding villages. We meet in Wateringbury village hall at 2.30 on the 2nd Thursday of the month. This month we enjoyed an excellent talk - 'From Motorina to Racing Driver' by Anna Astin, tracing the history of women and cars. We had a report on the National Federation AGM at the Royal Albert Hall which was an inspiring day. Imagine the hall packed with WI members all singing Jerusalem! The day ranged from a national debate on the need for more recruitment and support for retention of midwives to an exhibition of dancing from 'Strictly' performers. We also attempted to break into the Guinness Book of Records for the number of people knitting at the same time, but we don't know the result yet.

Our local group have also done a group walk and enjoyed a lunch together.

Next month our speaker is Terry Wheeler on 'The Write Stuff'. We welcome guests and new members, please call if you'd like more information.

Elizabeth Astridge. 01622 812018 or 07977125000

BLACKTHORN NEWS

Here at Blackthorn, despite the awful weather, we are seeing our ever-changing surroundings blooming! The Blackthorn Bee Buffet (indigenous, bee-friendly plants) is coming along nicely, and we have one hive buzzing with a colony of bees, delivered a couple of weeks ago.

We have an **open day on Saturday 28th July** where we will be running workshops throughout the day to take part in. Our knowledgeable team leaders have a wealth of experience and the workshops include biodynamic composting, herb growing and uses thereof, making your own organic insecticide, choosing good pollinating plants for bees, growing your own cut-flower bouquets, and crafts for children. Workshops are £7.50 each or £10 for two. Children's craft activities £2.50. Please call 01622 722219 or email info@blackthorn.org.uk to book your place. Café open 10am-3pm. Come and learn something new and see how things work inside the community that rebuilds lives!

EAST MALLING SINGERS

To conclude its 40th anniversary year the EM Singers invite you to their Summer Concert on **Saturday 14 July, at 7.30pm**..in the Church of St James the Great, Church Walk, East Malling. Tickets: £8, £6 concessions, school children free, available from: 01622 750943 or on the door The Programme includes: Eric Whitacre's Animal Crackers Delibes's Flower Duet Offenbach's Entr'acte & Barcarolle

U3A KINGS HILL LAUNCH

Retired? semi retired? The Third Age Trust is a time for creativity and fulfilment. A time to learn new skills and interests and to share your knowledge with others in a place where learning is informal and fun. On **Thursday 2nd August** there will be a public launch meeting held at 2.00pm at Kings Hill Community Centre. Please come along and find out more!

WATERINGBURY FOOTPATH GROUP

Our next two planned walks will be on: **1 July**, (3½ miles), to start from the Village Hall, and on **5 August** starting from Mereworth School (parking in the lay-by outside the school) to walk around the Swanton Valley, both walks starting at 2.30 pm sharp. For more information please call Syd on 812338.

NETTLESTEAD AND WATERINGBURY PRE-SCHOOL AND OUT OF SCHOOLS CLUB (charity No. 1144343)

None of the Staff or Committee members can believe that another academic year will be at a close in just a few weeks, but what we can believe is that all the children who will be moving onto Primary school are more than ready for the next steps in their academic journey. We all wish them the very best and are looking forward to supporting them with their 'Taster Days' by walking them up to the school and by one member of staff staying to support the transition from pre-school to school.

I promised to let you know more about our Ofsted Inspection. This is now available on line for you to read, but briefly I would like to let you know that Ofsted judged us **OUTSTANDING** in 'Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage', my favourite section is **OUTSTANDING** in 'the extent to which children develop skills for the future', which for me just confirms their readiness, eagerness and ability to meet the challenges of the future.

We were thrilled to be a partner in the Big Jubilee Lunch, it was great to see so many of our families and friends all together to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. We had already had a tea party and many of the children, both pre-schoolers and out of schoolers, had been using the role play and cooking areas for their own 'Street Parties'.

To round off our school year we will be having the obligatory Sports Day. The fun kicks off at 1.30pm on Wednesday 18 July and all are welcome. Hopefully the weather will be kind, but we will go ahead come rain or shine or hose pipe ban!

Finally we come back in September on Wednesday 5 September if you are interested in joining our happy band for breakfast club, pre-school or after school clubs then please get in quick as spaces are limited. We are offering holiday clubs throughout the summer break on a Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays - 8am to 6pm with clubs on Wateringbury School's staff development days. You are welcome to come and visit us anytime you like, or for more information give us a call on 01622 813120 or email; nettlesteadandwateringbury@yahoo.com OR visit us at nawps.org

FLOWER CLUB

Our July meeting is Joyce Pannell - Oh what a basket Thursday 19th

Members competition - Oh what a basket . Nettlestead Hall at 7.30pm

Our meeting in June was Gill McGregor with her title Joy of Summer. Gill from Sussex area enthralled us with her many tales of travels and competitions entered all over the country, and all the people she met over the last few years, what a lady, I wish I had her energy! Gill's designs were magnificent, the colours used really did say Joy and could not be anything else other than Summer, I think we all learned something. I can say that all members new and old thought the same. During the month 9 members went to Margate for the annual Kent Area Members' Day in the Winter Gardens. As usual we had a fabulous time, there was a speaker in the morning and a three course lunch and then a marvellous demonstrator in the afternoon; this of course was interspersed with shopping trips to the variety of stalls in the grand hall with lots of lovely things for members to buy. We wish good luck to all members taking part in the County Show at Detling.

WATERINGBURY BABY & TODDLER GROUP

Our treasurer celebrated a milestone birthday and we blew out her candles and ate her cake! Well, she had a small slice too. Then we set about the task of creating fabulous bookmarks for all our marvellous Daddies for Father's Day. Not that there will be too much reading going on with Euro 2012 this summer closely followed by Wimbledon and then the Olympics. What Olympics?! Why, the toddler group Sports Day Olympics! To be held on Friday 6th and Wednesday 18th July (our last day of this term) so bring your PE kits and get ready for the starter's whistle! We'll be making our own Olympic torches and flags as well as having lots of fun races and lots of prizes.

We're all going on a summer holiday.... No more toddler group for a week or six! Six weeks?! That's forever! Don't worry, you'll still get a chance to meet your friends as we've organised a few play and picnic sessions during this time at various local parks. Please see the posters at the group or, if we've already broken up by the time you read this, phone Linda for specific details of dates and places. We return on Wednesday 5th September so see you then for more fun and laughter. 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 Wateringbury Village Hall. For more details contact Linda on 01732 522437

MRS JENNY HERBERT

Mrs. Herbert, or Mrs. Curtis as she was then (and even now I constantly lapse and refer to Jenny as Mrs. Curtis) joined us at Wateringbury School in September 1988. As a School, we were not doing very well. We were just five teachers, two secretaries, a cleaner-in-charge and 138 children in four and a half classes. We'd had a grim Inspection and needed staff, following several resignations. Jenny had an impressive application, interviewed well and had excellent references. On the day we held the interviews, she had had other appointments elsewhere - the then Head of Halling C.E. School, Iain Stewart, was very keen on making an appointment. As soon as Mrs. Curtis (you see I'm still doing it) left us for home, I rang her house and kept the telephone ringing, so that no-one else could offer her a post before we did.

Jenny accepted the job immediately, and over the time we worked together, Jenny proved us right. One of the first things she did was enrol her children, Andrew and Jacqueline, demonstrating her commitment to, and her belief in the school. If you need any proof, then just look around the School. Jenny is a gifted teacher, devoted to her pupils, positive in outlook and vision, but most of all approachable and normal. Her classroom was always a bright, interesting haven of calm, teaching both children and their parents. She was everything I could have hoped for as my Deputy, and should really have progressed further in the Profession. The Education Service have lost out in not appointing Jenny to a senior position – Headteacher or Inspector perhaps - which she certainly deserved and earned, many times over.

Jenny's modesty would cause her to deny this and would be accompanied by a blush, a nervous smile and a quick change of subject. Over the last twenty one years, no one person has made a greater impact or influence on the hundreds of those children, parents and staff who have passed through the School as has Jenny Herbert. As a school, Wateringbury Church of England Primary is now bursting at the seams. It is the school of choice for many in the district and has a massive waiting list. It now has high records of achievement both in external examination and national tests, but perhaps more important, something far less tangible in that it has produced outstandingly steady, normal people ready and able to take their places in Society. Jenny Herbert is a great lady of Wateringbury. She has my admiration, praise and thanks for what she has done for us over her many years at School. Richard Arnold

DR JAZZ - KENT'S FAVOURITE JAZZ BAND

APPEARING AT St MARY'S CHURCH - WEST MALLING

FRIDAY 13 JULY 2012. 7.00 to 10.30 PM

Don't let the date worry you, this is probably the most experienced group of Jazzmen around, who will set your feet tapping and feeling that urge to get up and dance in the aisles. If the weather is good, come and have your picnic in the Churchyard before the concert.

HISTORY SOCIETY

In May we held our annual outing which this year was to Tenterden. The trip commenced with a visit and guided tour around Chapel Down Vineyard, very interesting, and following generous tasting of their wines we moved to Tenterden for lunch. In the afternoon we were divided into two groups for guided tours around Tenterden, during which we learned a lot about the town's history and were shown areas that we might have missed if taking a casual walk around.

Also in May several members attended the annual Kent History Federation Conference in Headcorn. During the morning we were given three talks, which covered the Cloth Industry in the Weald of Kent, Hop Cultivation in Wealden Kent and Headcorn at War. Following lunch we all set off on our chosen guided tour, ours being a walk around the town. Headcorn's main street boasts many old houses, some dating back as far as the late 1500's, and the influence of the architectural design used in each century could clearly be seen. During the tour we went into our Guide's historic cottage to view the original carved beams still in place. Our tour ended at the Church which has a magnificent vaulted ceiling and several stained glass windows which fortunately were not damaged during WWII bombing.

During the Jubilee Weekend we had a stall in the Church, where as well as displaying historic information about the village, we were also selling our publications. On Monday, Syd Thompsett and Terry Bird both led a guided walk around the village, fortunately in dry weather. For those who missed the tours, we have produced a self-guided version of the walk, which includes many items of historic interest, copies of which can be purchased from the Post Office. Overall it was a very enjoyable and successful weekend for the History Society and we would like to thank all those who helped us at the Church. Visit the history society site on <https://sites.google.com/site/wateringburylocalhistory/>, for further information.

WATERINGBURY SCHOOL STATUS CHANGE CONSULTATION

The Governing Body of Wateringbury Church of England school is considering changing its status to become a voluntary aided (VA) school. The Governors want to gain powers over admissions appeals to better manage class sizes in the school and they also want to strengthen the Church ethos. As the government is encouraging, and in some cases requiring, all schools to become independent of local authority control, the status of the school and the powers of its Governing Body are quickly becoming important issues when planning how to provide the best education for children.

Details about the reasons for this consideration are available from the school office and letters page of the school website. This is shortly to include a detailed list of questions and answers received as a result of the consultation evenings and initial publicity. Interested members of the local communities are encouraged to find out more and express any views about this. The final deadline for the initial public consultation is **4 July 2012**. Should the Governors proceed to propose a change, this will be publically announced, advertised locally and there would follow a statutory 6-week period for final consideration.

Wateringbury School, 147 Bow Road, Wateringbury, Maidstone, Kent ME18 5EA, Tel. 01622 812199
Email: finance@wateringbury.kent.sch.uk

Website: www.wateringbury.kent.sch.uk/

Many thanks for your interest

WHERE MEMORIES MEET – TEA SHOP AND ANTIQUES

How lovely it is to have our own tea shop in the village and with the added bonus of antiques to browse, buy for your home or to give as gifts. I have lived in Wateringbury for 20 years and have often wished that there was somewhere to enjoy a really nice cup of tea after a walk on our many local footpaths and to take friends and visitors.

I think that Mark and Sze Lin, the owners, have made the shop really welcoming and certainly serve delicious tea and cakes. They and their staff are always pleased to see everyone and there is a very friendly atmosphere. If you haven't already tried it, please do. We need to support this addition to our village. Christine Thomas

TESTON & WATERINGBURY NURSERY GROUP (Registered charity 1044257)
www.testonandwateringburynursery.co.uk

Admissions and all enquiries: Amanda Vidler 07805 796353

What do you get if you cross our fab garden with a Diamond Jubilee? A Garden Party! We celebrated in 1977, we celebrated in 2002, so why not now? We joined the bunting frenzy and went one better as the children designed their own. Anyone who was anyone was there ...except the Queen (understandably) but she did send a commemorative certificate, which was displayed in our gallery, along with some 'genuine' royal artefacts and self-portraits of our own Kings and Queens. There was a sea of cakes, decorated by the children, basking in the sunshine and it was certainly a day to remember...more so for some, but you'd need to speak to our chairman about that! All the children were presented with Jubilee medals to end the term.

This term we welcomed loads of Dads to make hats for Father's Day and I'm assured that no mercury was used so any madness was purely coincidental; we have a junior Sports Coach helping with our Olympic theme and we'll be trying long and high jump, cycling – which came in very handy for our sponsored Pedal Push - and running – very handy for our Sports Day, which will be on 13 July. Remember last year? All that sun, all those strawberries – let's do it again. We'll also be saying farewell to our leavers who are practising their changing and folding skills (clothing, obviously) and will be meeting the 4 reception teachers who'll be visiting us. We have so much more going on so take a look at our website where you'll also see all the fun of our Garden Party, Pedal Push and Father's Day activity. This time it's Mr & Mrs Jacobs from Hornchurch who've won the 100 Club – well done!

WATERINGBURY SPORTS AND RECREATION ASSOCIATION – “ BEE FRIENDLY”

Wateringbury Sports and Recreation Association have just been informed that their application for a grant from the “KCC Member Community Engagement Grant Scheme 2012/2013” has been successful. We are most grateful to our County Councillor Richard Long for supporting our application. The money we receive will be spent on introducing wild meadow flowers to Wateringbury playing field. All the flowers chosen will be insect friendly. The intention is to include information boards within the project to hopefully inspire young children and their families to take an interest in the flowers and insects that they attract. If you want to assist in this project please contact Mike Witts on 01622-812027.

TORCH PROCESSION THROUGH WATERINGBURY – Saturday 14 July

Wateringbury will have its own special Torch and Flag procession just days before the Olympic Torch arrives in town. Children from Wateringbury Primary School will parade in sporty clothes through the village on **Saturday 14 July** before the school's Summer Fete. Bow Road in Wateringbury will be closed to all traffic between 11.45am and 12 noon – *see notice on front page*. The procession will start from Wateringbury Village Hall car park at 11.45am and the car park will be closed to vehicles while the children are assembling. No vehicles will be allowed to exit any of the side roads along the route during these times.

We hope everyone will come out and cheer on the children during the procession as we want this to be a village celebration. Bring your Union Flags to wave too!

Then we'd like to invite you all to join us at our Summer Fete in the school grounds from 12 noon to 3pm. Entry is FREE for everyone! Main attractions include an adults Tug of War, BBQ, Pimms and Strawberries, Sports Displays, Giant Bouncy Slide, Tuck Shop, Face Painting and a Grand Draw with a star prize of a £1,000 hospitality package at Man Utd FC's Old Trafford ground next season. If you want to buy Grand Draw tickets please contact Gail Isted – *see below for contact details*.

Our Diamond Jubilee Picnic on the last day of term (31 May) was a great success. A special thank you to Michael Cayzer, Chairman of Wateringbury Parish Council for joining us in Assembly to present the children with commemorative Diamond Jubilee medals. These have been generously funded by the Parish Council and will be treasured by the children.

As we approach the end of another school year the Friends of Wateringbury Primary School, which is a registered charity (No 1038836), would like to thank everyone in the community for their support this year. If you or your business want to support our activities in any way, please contact Gail Isted, Friends of Wateringbury Primary School Chairman, Tel 01622 813716 or email chairman@fowps.org.uk. Keep up-to-date on our activities via our website at www.fowps.org.uk

THOUGHTS ON ENGLISH SUMMERS

Three fine days and a thunderstorm - (King Charles II)

The English winter – ending in July, only to recommence in August - (Lord Byron)

THOUGHTS FROM THE VICARAGE

2 The Grange, East Malling ME19 6AH

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

LONDON 2012

If you've been to Trafalgar Square lately you will have seen the Countdown Clock for London 2012, it's been ticking away for almost 500 days! The Nation is gripped and poised to host the greatest sports event to be staged in the world and London holds the distinction of being the only city in the world to do this on three occasions. The IOC completed their tenth and final visit to London in March 2012. They concluded that "London is ready to host the world this summer"! Fantastic and we are all now looking towards enjoying an amazing spectacle of human achievement. The Opening ceremony of the 2012 Summer Olympics will be held on 27 July 2012 and will be called 'The Isles of Wonder.' The Queen and the Prince Phillip will officially open the games and Sir Paul McCartney has announced he will perform at the close of the ceremony.

As you would expect, there are many sceptics who are concerned about matters relating to cost, ticket allocation, venues, the legacy, transport, the sale of torches, security and so on. It is a great

shame because London has done so well in preparing for this event and we now need to support it wholeheartedly and show the world that we are the perfect hosts. I hope that's how we are seen by our neighbours.

During the London 2012 Games, the nine major faith traditions of this country - Christian, Muslim, Hindu, Sikh, Jewish, Bahá'í, Jain, Buddhist and Zoroastrian – will be represented in the Multi-Faith Centre in the Olympic Village during the Olympic and Paralympic Games. The Multi Faith Chaplaincy Service will involve 193 chaplains recruited from the faith communities. It is very encouraging to see how communities of faith are being drawn in to this great enterprise of celebration and regeneration.

What will all this mean to us? I hope you find it an amazingly exciting and uplifting spectacle and that it provides us all with the unity and harmony that the world is in such desperate need of. I hope and pray that London 2012 is an opportunity to showcase itself to the world leaving a legacy of hope and promise for the future. Have a wonderful Olympic Summer!

Revd Jim Brown

SUMMER TEA TIMES TO ENJOY AROUND THE BENEFICE

Every Sunday until 9 September Teas will be served in **East Malling** Church between 3-5pm

Every Tuesday in July and August teas will be served at **Teston Church** between 2-4pm. Special "Tea at Three" on 17 July and 21 August.

JUBILEE THANKS FROM THE SCHOOL

Dear Friends,

On Thursday 31 May, Michael Cayzer attended a special Jubilee Assembly in order to officially present commemorative medals purchased by the Parish Council to every child at Watringbury Church of England Primary School, all 247 of them. This assembly began a day of celebrations including a whole school picnic and even the weather co-operated to make it a wonderful end of term. We are immensely grateful for the support shown by the Parish Council and I know that each child will treasure their medal as a memento of the Diamond Jubilee. We are blessed to have so much support from our community.

Thank you. Noreen Vinall

SILVER JUBILEE CROWNS (1977)

At the village celebrations school children were presented with Silver Jubilee Crowns (5 shilling pieces - 25p) which were donated by John Norris of The Orpines. Mr Norris wonders how many are still in the village. Please e-mail Rostrum and we will pass the information on to John (rostrum2@hotmail.com).

FROM THE REGISTERS

BAPTISMS

15 April 2012 Riley James Lillis

10 June 2012 Jane Nataliya Chisholm

MARRIAGES

14 April Robert Phipps and Rebecca Goodwin

26 May Joseph Westgate and Amy Johnson

FUNERAL

27 March Maggie Marfell Leggate

BENEFICE CHURCH SERVICES

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

Sunday 1 July 8am Holy Communion – Teston 9.45am Family Service – East Malling 9.45am Celebrate our Saints – Teston 10am Matins – Wateringbury	Sunday 8 July 8am Holy Communion – East Malling 9.45am Eucharist – East Malling 10am Holy Communion - Wateringbury 6.30pm Evensong - Teston
Sunday 15 July 8am Holy Communion – Wateringbury 9.45am Eucharist – East Malling 10 am Family Service – Wateringbury 6.30pm Eucharist - Teston	Sunday 22 July 8am Holy Communion – East Malling 9.45am Eucharist – East Malling 10am Holy Communion – Wateringbury 6.30pm Holy Communion - Teston
Sunday 29 July – 10am Benefice Service in Teston Church	
Every Monday – 2-3pm – Scout & Guide HQ, Glebe Meadow – Toddler Praise	
Tuesdays (not 1 st in month) – 7.30pm in Wateringbury Church – Holy Communion	
Every Thursday - 9am in East Malling Church – Holy Communion	
For Baptisms, Weddings and other arrangements with the vicar please attend the Parish Office at the Vicarage on Wednesdays 6.30-7.15pm	

Quiet Hour Wednesday 11 July – come and go as you please, an opportunity for private prayer.

Service of Healing and Wholeness - 8pm. The next services will be a Taize style service in Teston on **Tuesday 3 July** and on **Tuesday 7 August** a Praise Service in Wateringbury

BENEFICE MOTHERS UNION

On Thursday 5 July members will be going to Pilsdon in West Malling for a Quiet Day. Visitors are also very welcome. Please phone 01622 814305 for details.

FUN WITH FAITH

For the July meeting Fun with Faith will be having a Cake Decorating Stall at the School's Olympic Fete (14 July between noon and 3) see you there! The club is on holiday during August.

COFFEE BREAK

On the fourth Wednesday morning (10.30-12.30) of each month the Church will be open for refreshments including cakes, scones, sausage rolls, biscuits, tea and coffee. A chance to meet friends old and new in a tranquil setting. Local transport available - please phone 01622 814673 to arrange a lift. So put the dates in your diary **25 July, 22 August and 26 September** and come along and enjoy a chat and delicious refreshments