

## ROSTRUM SEPTEMBER 2013

### VILLAGE DIARY

#### September

- 1 Footpaths Group Walk – meet Linton Church Car Park at 2.30pm for a walk along Greensand Ridge to Boughton Church
- 3 Parish Council Meeting – Hall – 7.30 pm
- 8 Friends of Wateringbury Church – Strawberry Tea Party – Manor Farm – 2.15 pm
- 12 W.I. Medieval Medicine – 2.30 pm – Hall
- 18 History Society – Bob Ogley – Doodle Bugs and Rockets – Hall – 7.40 pm

#### October

- 1 Parish Council Meeting – Hall – 7.30 pm
- 6 Footpaths Walk – Meet 2.00 pm Village Hall - 3½ mile walk, taking in edge of Kings Hill, Old Teston Road and Hoath Wood
- 12 Bring and Share Harvest Lunch – 12.30pm – 3.30pm - Hall
- 16 History Society – Around Britain by Tram – Bob Appleton – 7.40pm hall

### VILLAGE PEOPLE *(Please let us have your news and tributes for the October issue by 17 September)*

**Congratulations to Jane Bates** who celebrates a milestone birthday on 6 September

#### **New Arrival Congratulations to**

**Katie and Simon Howes** on the arrival, a month earlier than expected, of Jasmine Elsie who was born at Pembury Hospital on 7 July weighing 5lb 10 ozs. A first grandchild for Alison and Brian Tibbals. Jasmine is now home and thriving, and to

**Denise Tate** on becoming a grand-mother to baby Finley Andrew Jack Tate born on Thursday 8 August in Pembury Hospital. Finley was almost 5 weeks early and weighed in at 5lb 4oz. Congratulations too to proud parents Charlotte and Ben, and great grandparents Jack and Vera.

**Happy Retirement to Noreen Vinall** who recently retired as head of Wateringbury School. **Best Wishes to Mrs C Crawford-Usher** who will be acting head of the school for the coming academic year.

**Sincere Thanks - Alastair and Christine, James and Alice Byron** wish to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, messages and support during the short life of their beloved Arthur who died on 6 July.

**Sheila Shadbolt** long time village residents will be saddened to learn of the death at the age of 73 of Sheila. She worked in the Post Office in the days when Mike Barnes was Postmaster and will be remembered for her positive, helpfulness and her cheery smile. On retirement she and Michael spent many happy years living near Padstow in Cornwall close to Sheila's family roots.

### HERITAGE WEEKEND 14 and 15 September

The Annual National celebration of our heritage is a great opportunity TO VISIT FOR FREE many interesting places, many of which are not usually open to the public. There are many close to home for full details contact the Tourist Information Offices or go to the Heritage Open Days Website.

The Pilsdon Community in Water Lane will be serving lunches and cream teas on 14 and 15 September. A chance to visit their beautiful old barn chapel and look around the grounds.

### **BRING AND SHARE HARVEST LUNCH FOR ALL AGES**

.Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October. 12.30 to 3.30pm in Wateringbury Village Hall.

Games and crafts for children. A paper quiz over lunch for those who wish to participate.

Bring your favourite tippie and food to share. Squash drinks are provided for children.

To reserve places and for further information please contact ROS on 01622 813032 or add your name to the list on the church notice board

### **IT'S A VINTAGE AFFAIR**

Vintage fairs in Villages throughout Kent

Our next event is at

Wateringbury Village Hall

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September – 10.30 am – 16.00 pm

An eclectic mix of vintage, up-cycled and handmade goods for sale

### **FOOTPATH WALKS**

October 6th	Local	Village Hall	2:00
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A local 3½ walk to the edge of Kings Hill, to the Old Teston Road return through Hoath Wood a repeat of last Decembers walk that was requested again.

November 4th	Local	Village Hall	2:00
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A local village walk 3½ via Millpond, Old Road, and Hermitage Farm then Canon Lane

December 2nd	Local	Village Hall	2:00
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Local 3½ mile walk Via Mill pond, Old Road Pizien Well, Canon Court Farm

### **WATERINGBURY FOOTPATH GROUP - 7 JULY WALK**

On a very hot and humid Sunday I wasn't expecting anyone to turn up, with the very hot weather and a certain Andy Murray playing in the final at Wimbledon, a lone walk was on the cards. As it was 8 people turned up so I revised the walk so mostly in the shade of the trees. We started going up along side Gransden towards Redhill Farm, earlier in the day I went out cutting the brambles back, we then from the farm, went through the avenue of trees along Livesey Street to Teston village. On to the country park, which was packed with picnickers, then along the river back to the village. A good walk enjoyed by all. Kevin Reynolds

### **STRAWBERRY TEA PARTY – SUNDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2013 - 2-5PM MANOR FARM, OLD ROAD, WATERINGBURY.**

Friends of Wateringbury Church (FOWC) invite you to its 'Strawberry Tea Party' in the beautiful gardens of Manor Farm (by kind permission of Mr and Mrs Mark English).

Everyone is welcome to come along to enjoy a good old-fashioned English country house and garden afternoon. The English family have lived at Manor Farm for generations and much of the property is unchanged from a century ago. Kent's finest strawberries, provided by the English's cousins, Huge Lowe Farms Ltd on Seven Mile Lane, are superb and may be purchased with cream. For those wishing to have a glass of Pimm's, you will be invited to make a donation. There will also be an opportunity to buy tea/coffee and homemade cakes. To complete the afternoon, a tombola and raffle will be run while you relax and/or play garden games.

Admission is free and entry is via the main entrance in Old Road. There is limited parking at the back of the farm barns so if you live locally and are able to walk up Old Road that will be helpful, and will save parking for the elderly and disabled. You might also like to bring along a rug/folding chairs.

On a safety point please take care when walking in the rockeries and on the uneven paths. Please also take great care to keep children back from the edge of the pond.

So please, consider joining us for a family afternoon in relaxed surroundings with the Friends. Remember - entrance is free.

*All proceeds from the afternoon will go directly to FOWC, registered charity No. 1151983 [www.fowc.org.uk](http://www.fowc.org.uk) Frances English – Secretary 01622 812471*

## **NETTLESTEAD AND WATERINGBURY PRE-SCHOOL AND OUT OF SCHOOLS CLUB**

If you go down to the Holiday Club today you're in for a BIG SURPRISE, in fact lots of surprises, but no teddy bears' picnic in sight! The Holiday Club staff have been working extremely hard to try and make this an exciting and relaxed holiday for all the children who have joined us. The first week kicked off with kayaking at Mote Park and thank goodness it was a warm day because we got WET, WET, WET, the kayaking was fab as was the ice-cream afterwards!

The second week and a lovely walk to Teston park and how great it was to see how well the children played together looking after one another and building strong relationships across all age groups. During week three you may have spotted our happy band around the village tracking down and following the clues for the treasure hunt - always a good way to get the brain box working, better than Sudoku. Week four and pond dipping is on the agenda you will have to read next month's magazine to see what happened on that outing. Week five Zumba and a bit of keep fit to get us back on track for our return to School. In-between all this we have also been making a film with a professional photographer, had a visit from a professional dance teacher for a bit of street dance and finally been cooking, cooking cooking, so all in all a very happy and varied time has been had by all.

Come and visit us at the rear of Nettlestead Village Hall. Contact us on 01622 813120. email [nettlesteadandwateringbury@yahoo.com](mailto:nettlesteadandwateringbury@yahoo.com)

**CHARITY ZUMBATHON EVENT for CANCER RESEARCH UK** to be held at Yalding Village Hall on Friday the 4th of October 7.30pm - 10pm.

Don't miss a great night out whilst raising money for this great cause.

Tickets are £12 and can be purchased in advance at any of the following classes

Monday 10am Paddock Wood Masonic Hall, Monday 8pm Wateringbury Primary School, Tuesday 7pm Wateringbury Village Hall, Wednesday 6.30pm Yalding Village Hall, Thursday 7pm Horsmonden Village Hall Contact Tanya 07531 839159 or email [tanyagrafham@yahoo.com](mailto:tanyagrafham@yahoo.com) for further information

## **VILLAGE STOCKS**

The new Wateringbury Village Stocks will be formally handed over to the Chairman of the Parish Council Michael Cayzer by Terry Bird, Chair of Wateringbury Local History Society in the presence of Cllr. B.J. Luker, a former Mayor of Tonbridge and Malling, as the Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council owns the site on which the new Stocks stand. The small ceremony will start at 7 pm on Wednesday 18th September. This is the evening of a meeting of the Society at 7.40 pm in the Village Hall, when the Speaker will be Bob Ogley.

The new Stocks are a replica of those which stood on the same site (by the village car park and adjacent to the Village Lock-Up), probably for over 500 years. They have been designed and made in Kent by Mounts Hill Woodcraft and Design Ltd., who used CADesign to make them resemble, so far as is possible, those which stood in this position in the 19th century. The Stocks were installed by local craftsman Chris Chaplin (who recently played Toad in *The Wind in the Willows*). The Stocks were financed by the Local History Society and *Rostrum* the Parish Magazine, so the whole cost has been met from within the village.

Stocks have been in common use in England since Saxon times. Their use was authorised by statute in 1351 and a further statute dated 1405 required every Manor to provide and maintain a set of Stocks, and this act has never been repealed. Stocks gradually fell out of use after the formation in 1857 of the Kent County Constabulary.

## **TESTON & WATERINGBURY NURSERY GROUP (Registered charity 1044257)**

[www.testonandwateringburynursery.co.uk](http://www.testonandwateringburynursery.co.uk)

Admissions and all enquiries: Tina Driver 07805 796353

Firstly we never got to see our beloved Cleve West! We had to postpone due to unforeseen circumstances. As soon as we've resolved said circumstances, we'll update you. We've met our new teachers and they must have liked us, as they let us go to school for some taster-sessions and we rather enjoyed them. We enjoyed our Annual Sports Day and laughed our little socks off, as we watched our mummies and daddies trying to win! We bid a fond farewell to leavers and shed a tear as we said goodbye to our most treasured supervisor and friend, Amanda Vidler, who's leaving us after 9.5 years. We know 'Mrs' Vidler will miss us all as much as we'll miss her and she sends thanks for all the fun, smiles and laughter that have dominated her time with us; we're grateful for her expertise, her vision & her outstanding dedication that have impressed us for so long, and have now left us with very big empty shoes...but, rather like Prince Charming & the glass slipper, we've found our Cinderella – Tina Driver!! Hooray for Tina and group hugs all round! Thank you to Amanda for all that you have done for us and thank you to Tina for already showing us that you will do the same.

## **BOOT FAIR AT WEST FARLEIGH 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2013**

All Saints Church and W. Farleigh Sports Club are holding a Boot Fair at the Sports Field, Charlton lane, West Farleigh, ME15 0NY, on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September from 2.00pm to 4.00pm. Boots may arrive to set up from 1.00pm. Prices are: Car Boots £10.00. large vans/trailers £15.00 and public £1.00 per person.

Do clear out your cupboards, come along and make some money. If you haven't enough of your own to fill a boot why not join with a friend? To book a pitch in advance, ring 01622 820305 or 07788433835

## **WATERINGBURY W.I.**

August is the month when we take a break from regular meetings and events. Instead we have a Garden Party, kindly hosted by Sue Cockburn in her beautiful house and garden. The weather was kind to us and we enjoyed a sun-drenched afternoon sitting in the shade with tea, savouries, cakes and time to catch up. A Raffle and Bring and Buy rounded off an excellent afternoon. Many thanks to all who contributed in any way: the Committee for organisation and serving tea, members who contributed items and especially to Sue for her generosity.

Next month we will return to our usual pattern. Thursday 12th September at 2.30 is our Club Meeting when we will be hearing about 'Medieval Medicine' and making time for tea and talk. There will also be our usual lunch, walk and social and scrabble afternoon.

If you're looking for a new activity or club to join, perhaps you're new to the area or recently retired, why not come along to a Club meeting as a guest to see if you'd like to join us. We're a friendly group who meet in Wateringbury Village Hall at 2.30 on the second Thursday of each month. For enquiries please call 01622 812018 or 07977125000. [elizabethastrid@aol.com](mailto:elizabethastrid@aol.com)

More than two dozen walkers assembled at Wateringbury Station on May 11th to enjoy the annual **MEDWAY VALLEY COMMUNITY RAIL PARTNERSHIP** Spring Walk.

Ably led by Bob and Christine Tolson, all participants enjoyed a leisurely guided walk to Teston Country Park along the north of the River Medway before returning along the south bank. Plenty of fresh air and welcome sunshine en-route ensured the group had a healthy appetite for the splendid Cream tea available at the Riverside Restaurant upon return.

### **School Liaison**

34 year 6 pupils from Wateringbury School enjoyed a combined train and Library experience day in July when they travelled on the Medway Valley Line to and from Maidstone Barracks station to visit Maidstone Library.

This excursion was arranged by Carol Sullivan, our Community Rail Engagement Officer, and we are grateful to Matt Fraser from Southeastern for his assistance and also to local historian Bob Ratcliffe who imparted some of his local history knowledge to the pupils.

Ian Patterson : 07917 841005 (Monday to Wednesday only)[www.ruralkent.org.uk](http://www.ruralkent.org.uk)

### **WELCOME BACK – FRIENDS OF WATERINGBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL**

The Friends of Wateringbury Primary School (FOWPS) holds its Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 17 September at 7.30pm in the School Hall. This is an opportunity to celebrate the achievements of the past year and to start planning the year ahead. We also elect our Committee at the AGM and we are very fortunate to have an enthusiastic and committed band of parent volunteers at our school.

Our first school discos of the new academic year will be held in October (18 October, subject to confirmation) with the generous support of Lee Harman of Sounds Alive Disco ([www.discosoundsalive.co.uk](http://www.discosoundsalive.co.uk)).

A big thank you to local builder **John Evans** of Wateringbury who has agreed to be our main Christmas Fayre sponsor this year. The fayre takes place on Saturday 23 November. Other sponsorship opportunities exist for local businesses If you'd like to get involved in return for great local publicity, please contact us as soon as possible. Gail Isted, FOWPS Chairman [www.fowps.org.uk](http://www.fowps.org.uk)

### **WATERINGBURY FOOTPATH GROUP**

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> September – Starting from Linton Church car park at 2.30 pm. A requested shorter walk going along the Greensand Ridge to Boughton Church to view the Weald and Deer Park, and then going down Church Hill.

Sunday – 6<sup>th</sup> October – 2.00 pm Village Hall – 3½ mile walk, taking in edge of Kings Hill, Old Teston Road and Hoath Wood. For more information please call Syd on 812338.

At **BLACKTHORN** the building work on the fire-damaged therapy rooms has begun and we would like to let everyone know that while this is happening, the Garden and the Cafe are open for business as usual. The side entrance is blocked so please follow the signs through the Gatehouses on St Andrews Road and up the path to the gate in the Garden wall. The rear entrance to the Garden is always open, Saffron Close via Tarragon Road off Queens Road.

To visit the ever-popular Cabin sales, every Monday and Wednesday morning, it's best to use this back entrance. The new cabin has arrived and will be open as the new shop location very soon.

We apologise for the late cancellation of the Harvest Fair. We have decided instead to concentrate on the Michaelmas Lunch, held in the Cafe and Garden on 26th September, with all the usual traditional celebrations plus pizzas from our own clay oven.

## **HISTORY SOCIETY**

Our talk in September will be by Bob Ogle, a very popular speaker with the History Society, who is returning to tell us about “Doodle Bugs and Rockets”.

In June we held our AGM, during which the End of Year Accounts were accepted and the present committee re-elected. The Chairman extended our grateful thanks to Ted Bates who had arranged for re-placement ‘Stocks’ to be built and sited next to the Lock-Up, these had been paid for by the History Society and Rostrum.

Following the AGM Elizabeth Astridge gave a talk on “Alfred Reader – Teston Cricket Ball Factory”, which had started in Hadlow in the 19<sup>th</sup> century before moving to Teston. Elizabeth told us about the history of the cricket ball, and of her connection with the factory, through her father, who had been the last member of the family to work there. Through photographs and a Pathe News Clip, we were shown the growth of the factory originally based at the Post Office in Teston, before moving across the road in 1928 to the present site, where the factory remained until it was sold in the late 1990's. Alfred Reader's cricket balls were known and used all over the world, recognisable by the Invicta Horse stamp, which is still used on the cricket and hockey balls manufactured by the company, based in Kookaburra, Australia, who acquired Alfred Reader. During question time at the end of the talk, several members of the audience spoke of their association with the factory and were able to give Elizabeth information to help with her research into the factory's history.

In July, Terry Bird led a group of cubs, on a short historic walk around Wateringbury, ending at the Village Hall where Syd Thompsett explained the origin of the Village Sign. Both Syd and Terry were very impressed by the cubs and their polite and attentive interest. JH

## **PARISH BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE**

The Book of Remembrance in our village church is due to be updated shortly. If you would like the life of a loved one to be commemorated in this way please contact Joy Searle before 30 September (01622 814443)

## **WIND IN THE WILLOWS – 11, 12 and 13 July**

The production of Alan Bennett's adaptation of *The Wind in the Willows* which was performed in the church by Wateringbury Players and pupils from Wateringbury School was an enjoyable, highly professional, polished production.

Congratulations to all the cast, particularly to the youngsters whose characterisations were so charming and believable. The music, specially written by Jonathan Overell, perfectly complemented the mood of the story. The backroom staff really pulled out all the stops, the scenery, and costumes were delightful and the projected scenery of riverbanks and property ingenious. The main props – the caravan, boats and the working motor car (poop, poop) were outstanding, such ingenuity. So well done everyone, thank you for such a great evening's entertainment.

## **FRIENDS OF KENT CHURCHES RIDE AND STRIDE**

The Friends annual fund raising event takes place on **14 September** when cyclists and walkers will be attempting to visit as many of our Kentish Churches as possible. Fifty percent of monies raised by each participant goes to help upkeep our heritage of ancient churches and fifty percent to the church of the rider/walker's choice. If you would like to take part this year please contact Peter Bond on 01622 814793 for a sponsor form. The event means that all of Kent's churches will be open so it is an ideal day for the less energetic of us to go and explore these amazingly interesting buildings.

## **SHINING BRIGHT PARTY. 31 OCTOBER 2013**

A Party for children between 4 and 13 years. Come and join us at the Church between 4:30-6:30pm for lots of fun, crafts, games, (including the popular churchyard treasure hunt) with party food at our:- "**Fearless Knight**" themed party. Come dressed in your brightest clothes or as a knight or princess and be prepared for lots of treats and sweets! For more information and a booking form, please contact Lisa on 07950 852899.

## **THOUGHTS FROM THE VICARAGE**

2 The Grange, East Malling ME19 6AH

e-mail [jamesbrown.brown21@gmail.com](mailto:jamesbrown.brown21@gmail.com) - Benefice office ☎ 01732 843282

## **THE HARVEST OF "GIVING BACK"**

Sometimes I play with words. And other times I let them play with me. What do I mean by this?

Well, take the words "Harvest Thanksgiving". What do they mean in 2013? Even though we are a semi-rural area, it is only a small number of people who are directly involved in the Harvest. And, dare I suggest, that some of them – such is the pace of contracting harvesters nowadays – actually say "thank God that is over". And that is before we think of the weather; the market; the influence of Russia on the global market or the price of fertiliser and feed. Harvest is not what it was. We no longer gather round the completed haystacks, or campfires amongst the hopper huts, and drink the local brew. Should our celebrations change? I suggest that, for most of us, they should.

Yes, let's keep our Harvest Festivals. But let's also concentrate on the Thanks part of Thanksgiving. How do we say thank you in practical terms? Is a tin of produce appropriate? Yes, there is a link with food, but what happens then? Well we are so fortunate because we have a Food Bank of our own called Blessing Bags. This scheme provides basic provisions to those who have no food due to

various problem that people can often encounter; delay in benefit payments; sudden failure of relationships etc. This all means your gifts can become more effective.

Harvest can also mean "to gather". To gather the results of our efforts. If we don't all live in the countryside (and most of us don't) then it doesn't stop us reflecting on the gathering. This means our community. We are all responsible for our community and it is not just up to others all of the time. We have much to be thankful for here in Watlington, our church, our school, our community centres and our social centres (halls, pubs, shops, tea rooms and cafés etc). We have each other, neighbours and friends. As we "gather" together all that we have in our community then we naturally want to give thanks to God and perhaps do something ourselves in return for everything we have received.

This Harvest please look at your giving, the reward for your Harvest, and look at saying thank you to God for all that he has given you. If we recognise God's generosity to us our giving becomes 'giving back' and that is an easier message to take on board.

Revd Jim Brown

### **WATCH CLUB – NEW VENUE**

Watch Club returns for school years 6-13, on Sunday 15 September, 5-7pm in our New Venue . . . Watlington Village Hall, which has table tennis and pool tables for us to use. So spread the word to your friends and its free!!! If you can't make that date, the next Watch will be the 29 September Looking forward to enjoying our new venue together, Sandra, Phil, Rod, Alice and Lisa (for more info contact Lisa on 07950 852899)

### **CHURCH THANKS**

**Rosemary for Remembrance:** A big thank you to everyone who supported our Patronal Saints Day, St John the Baptist's birthday celebration, by helping in countless ways. The Church looked beautiful with so many floral displays and dedications. The donated cakes and scones were as usual delicious, and the beautiful singing by St John's Choir enhanced the day for helpers and visitors. Thank you so much for your support for this event which raised approx. £260 for Church Funds.

**Christian Aid Week, 12 – 18 May:** Grateful thanks to all who helped or contributed to this well-deserved annual village appeal. The grand total of £832.24 was collected – your donations really will make a difference to countless lives.

### **BENEFICE MOTHERS' UNION**

MU Meeting on 5 September will be Ruth Webster who will be giving a talk on the topic WWII evacuees and her work at the Imperial War Museum.

### **GUILD OF CHURCH FLOWER ARRANGERS**

The Guild's AGM followed by a demonstration of church flowers entitled "All is Quiet" by Jean Allen will be held at 7.30pm in St Andrew's Church, St Andrew's Close, Barming on Monday 2 September. The evening is open to all who love church flowers.

### **DIARY DATE - CHURCH CRAFT BAZAAR - SATURDAY 16 NOVEMBER . 11 TO 3**

Another chance to shop early for Christmas at our Annual Bazaar, many of the Regular Favourites will be there – Cakes, Raffle, Textiles Gifts and Pashminas – alongside some New Stalls, so there will be plenty to see and lots of choice.



## BENEFICE CHURCH SERVICES

Visit our website for full details [www.wateringburychurch.org.uk](http://www.wateringburychurch.org.uk)

<p><b>Sunday 1 September</b></p> <p>8am Holy Communion – Teston</p> <p>9.45am Family Service – East Malling</p> <p>9.45am Family Service – Teston</p> <p><b>10am Morning Praise – Wateringbury</b></p> <p><b>7pm Taize Service - Wateringbury -</b> led by Bob &amp; Becky Bowie</p>	<p><b>Sunday 8 September</b></p> <p>8am Holy Communion – East Malling</p> <p>9.45am Eucharist – East Malling</p> <p><b>10am Holy Communion - Wateringbury</b></p> <p>6.30pm Evening Prayer - Teston</p>
<p><b>Sunday 15 September</b></p> <p>8am Holy Communion – Wateringbury</p> <p>9.45am Eucharist – East Malling</p> <p><b>10 am Family Service – Wateringbury</b></p> <p>6.30pm Eucharist - Teston</p>	<p><b>Sunday 22 September</b></p> <p>8am Holy Communion – East Malling</p> <p>9.45am Eucharist – East Malling</p> <p><b>10am Holy Communion – Wateringbury</b></p> <p>6.30pm Evening Praise - Teston</p>
<p><b>Sunday 29 September - Benefice Service - 10am - East Malling</b></p>	
<p>Every Monday – 2-3pm – Scout &amp; Guide HQ, Glebe Meadow – Toddler Praise</p>	
<p>Tuesdays (not 1<sup>st</sup> in month) – 7.30pm in Wateringbury Church – Holy Communion</p>	
<p>Every Thursday - 9am in East Malling Church – Holy Communion</p>	
<p>For Baptisms, Weddings and other arrangements with the vicar please attend the Parish Office at the Vicarage on Wednesdays 6.30-7.15pm</p>	

**Quiet Hour Wednesday 11 September 8-9pm** an opportunity to take time out from our busy world and spend time in silent personal prayer and meditation. Come and go as you please.

**Service of Healing and Wholeness at 8pm.** The next services will be on:

**Tuesday 3 September -** Meditation in East Malling

**Tuesday 1 October -** Taize in Teston

### FROM THE REGISTERS

Holy Baptism on 21 July – Tina Mitchelmore

28 July – Daisy Helena Stoppani

### TOWARDS CONFIRMATION

Rev Jim Brown will be starting a short course in early September for anyone interested in exploring Confirmation. For those who wish to be confirmed the Service will take place on 13 October in West Malling Church and Bishop Brian will conduct the service. For more details contact Rev Jim e-mail jamesbrown.brown21@gmail.com or phone him at the Benefice office 01732 843282

## **JULY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

*The planning committee would appreciate the opinions of parishioners in relation to planning applications prior to its meeting to help formulate the response to T & M. Please send comments to the Parish Clerk, Redhill Cottage, Redhill. Alternatively come along to the planning subcommittee meeting which follows the monthly general meeting*

At the start of the meeting Mr Christopher Stones was co-opted on to the Council.

**Allotments** will be inspected by councillors during July.

**Crime figures for June** were detailed by PCSO Philip Harrison. There had been 3 crimes recorded in the village - 1 burglary, 1 theft and 1 harassment. He had also dealt with 2 incidents of anti-social behaviour. His monthly crime report would be presented in a different format in future.

**Drayhorse Meadow** had been visited by several people who were interested in leasing the facilities for equestrian use. Councillors formulated their responses to questions raised by prospective tenants. The creation of additional occasional car parking for use by those visiting the playing fields was discussed and the council will liaise with T & M to try resolve the issue.

**Parish Partnership** Councillor Chris Talbert reported on matters raised at the meeting he had attended including the Parish Caretaker Scheme, Local Plan updates and Crime Statistics.

**Kings Hill Outline Planning Application** Councillors were concerned about the outline planning application for an additional 975 homes at Kings Hill on land which was designated for business use. They were worried about the additional traffic coming through the village particularly in the vicinity of the traffic lights which, for some years, has had some of the highest levels of pollution in the County. Other concerns were the lack of provision of a secondary school or a cemetery at Kings Hill and the pressures which will be put on all other local amenities by these additional homes. Borough Councillor Simon Jessel and KCC Councillor Matthew Balfour were both at the meeting and assisted with relevant information.

**Speedwatch** teams continue on a regular basis to monitor traffic speeds in the village. In June 164 offenders were recorded. In the first 3 weeks of the month the police sent out 17 warning letters to second offenders 3 to third time offenders, . 1 to a fourth time offender and 8 letters for excessive speeding. The police also continue to operate speed traps in the village

**KCC Councillor Matthew Balfour** congratulated the council on the Village Fete on 2 June which he had much enjoyed. He has been appointed Deputy Cabinet Member with responsibility for transport and waste, so road pot holes were one of his responsibilities. The Parish Council could apply to him for monies from his Members Highways Fund for road related projects. He warned that the next 2 years would be difficult ones with central government imposed cuts in budgets.

**Planning Applications** The council's planning sub-committee discussed the following applications:

6 Phoenix Cottages Single Storey side/front extension

Subject to their being no objections from neighbours, the Parish Council has no objection

The Red House 3 Old Road Proposed detached double garage

Subject to their being no objections from neighbours, the Parish Council has no objection

136 Bow Road Two storey side extension and single storey rear extension being an amendment to consent ref TM/12/01780/FL

Comment deferred to look at previous application

Little Orchard 50 Old Road Removal of Cherry Tree (dead) Sycamore, Birch and Leylandii

As long as the Tree Officer is satisfied the Parish Council has no objection

Kings Hill Phase 3 Outline Application with all matters reserved except for means of access for the demolition of existing buildings including the KCC supplies depot and removal of a section of Kings

Hill Avenue, the erection of up to 975 residential dwellings which could include a retirement/care village, a two form entry primary school with associated playing fields and land safeguarded for an extension to create a three form entry primary school, a self service petrol station, and high quality and attractive public open space including a new linear park.

This application was discussed during the main meeting and comments can be viewed on TMBC website or available from the Parish Clerk.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 3 September at 7.30pm in the ground floor meeting room of the Village Hall.