

**VILLAGE DIARY**

**May**

- 5**     **Footpaths Bluebell Walk** – Village Hall car park - 2.30pm  
**7**     **Annual Parish Council Meeting** – Hall – 7.30pm followed immediately by Planning sub-committee  
**9**     **WI Annual Meeting and Resolutions** – Hall – 2.30pm  
  
**11**    **Circular walk from Railway Station** - 10.45am  
**13**    **Wateringbury Sports and Recreation AGM** – Sports Pavilion – 8pm - all welcome  
**14**    **Annual Parish Meeting** – Hall - 7.30pm an opportunity for residents to meet and discuss issues on a more informal basis  
**16**    **Flower Club** – Nettlestead Village Hall – 7.30pm

**June**

- 2**     **Village Celebration Fete** at Playing Fields – Noon – 4pm  
**4**     **Parish Council Meeting** – Hall - 7.30pm followed immediately by Planning sub-committee  
  
**19**    **History Society AGM** then Elizabeth Astridge talk on Alfred     Reader, Teston Cricket Ball Factory – Hall - 7.40pm

**July**

- 7**     **Footpaths walk along Medway** – Village Hall car park – 2.30pm  
**11-13** **Wind in the Willows** – joint production Wateringbury Players and     the School - Church



Come and enjoy  
**Wateringbury Village Fete**  
Celebrating the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Coronation  
and Queen Elizabeth II Field Status  
**Sunday 2 June Noon – 4pm**  
**Wateringbury Playing Fields**  
*Great Fun for Everyone*  
*Live music by The Advocats*  
*Shepherd Neame Drinks Bar, Pimms Tent, Tea and Coffee and Ice Cream*  
*Lots of stalls and exhibits including Circus Workshop and Scouting Village*  
*Kwik Cricket and Running Races for Children and Adults*  
*Raffle with Great Prizes*  
*– Children make and bring along your own Crown*  
*and receive a small gift*  
*If you would like a stall or further information contact Sue Cockburn*  
Volunteers are needed please on the day to help set up  
and steward vehicles for parking  
Please contact Sue Cockburn on 01622 817068

**VILLAGE PEOPLE**     *(Please let us have your news and tributes for the JUNE issue by 17 May). There is no charge for news items in the magazine.*

**New Baby Congratulations to Lisa and Lee Dudley** on the arrival on 9 March of Harrison who weighed in at 7lb 8oz. A grandson for Rev Jim and Jean Brown

**Milestone Birthday Congratulations to Mike Pursey** for 11 May

**Golden Wedding Congratulations to Carl and Sandra Farrin** of Mill Lane who will be celebrating 50 years of marriage on 1 June.

**Ruby Wedding Congratulations to Alan and Jenny Button**

**Paula Shepherd** of 61 Pizienwell wishes to thank all those kind people of Wateringbury and Nettlestead who kindly sponsored her daughter **Julie**, who is a stroke victim, to do a sky dive on Sunday 14 April to raise funds for the Maidstone Stroke Group. Through their kindness Julie raised £2,000.

## **APRIL 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*

**First Responder Scheme** Harry Mallows reported to the Council on his involvement with the scheme. So far he has attended 6 calls, arriving 5-10 minutes before the ambulance. Two were cardiac arrests, others included asthma attacks and one was a fall down stairs. He is fundraising to buy his equipment and Councillor Jean Smith confirmed that she was happy to continue to help with local fundraising. He hoped that others in the village would contact him so a local group can be formed (6 volunteers are needed).

**Crime Report** Chairman Michael Cayzer read the written report supplied by PCSO Phillip Harrison of the Neighbourhood policing team. *"A number of incidents were reported within the Wateringbury Area; they included a parking issue in Glebe Meadow, vehicles were regularly parking on the pavement not allowing people to walk on the pavement, some warning letters have been issued to drivers. The Palm Sunday parade was attended by police, it went well without any incident; some neighbour disputes were reported during March to the police and some of the issues were resolved. Incidents of anti-social behaviour were at a minimum and there were no arrests. Crime figures are available on the website [www.police.uk](http://www.police.uk). Local PCSOs continue to patrol the area and work closely with Neighbourhood Watch and Parish Council."*

**Drayhorse Meadow** Councillors voted to appoint a contractor to fence off the proposed parking area at the meadow and to appoint a contractor to carry out the essential electrical repairs. They will obtain quotes to upgrade the track between the first and second dog-leg. The Scouts have contacted the Council for a location for them to plant about 30 sapling trees or hedging plants. Councillors suggested that the Scouts plant hedging along the proposed new fence at the meadow.

**Sports and Recreational Association** Mike Witts reported that a Workforce Weekend has been arranged for 6 and 7 April and volunteers are needed to help. There had been an increase in the number of dog owners who were not picking up after their dogs at the fields. Dog excrement on the fields is unpleasant and a potential health hazard. The Association had applied to T & M Council for special dispensation to reduce the rates on the Sports Pavillion to zero.

**Highways and Transportation Joint Parish Councils Transport Consultative Group** Charles Stroud had submitted a written report to the council and outlined some of the main points, mainly to do with Kings Hill traffic and its effect on surrounding parishes.

**Public Discussion** The condition of the village welcome signs at the gateways to the village was raised by a parishioner who volunteered to clean and renovate them. Councillors were happy to accept this offer to enhance the village environment.

Among the other items raised were Council plans for Drayhorse Meadow, the visit of the Police Commissioner on 12 April and blocked drains in Canon Lane and Tonbridge Road.

**Planning** Directly after the main meeting the following plans were discussed by the Planning Subcommittee:

10 Redhouse Gardens - new porch, conservatory, double garage and removal/alterations of some windows, doors and bricking up: general internal alterations.

23 Waterside Mews - single storey extension to rear of property.

Drayhorse Meadow - removal of condition 7 of consent to allow independent commercial stabling/livery.

The White House, 171 Tonbridge Road - Listed Building Application to replace 1970s single garage with double garage of oak construction with pitch roof of reclaimed clay tiles on the same but extended footprint.

Oast Cottage, 147 Canon Lane - fell yew tree because of excessive shading and structural damage to garden wall.

Members of the public will be very welcome to the next meetings of the Parish Council:

**The Annual Council Meeting** will take place on **Tuesday 7 May at 7.30pm** in the village hall. At this meeting the Chairman and Vice Chairman will be appointed for the coming year 2013/14.

**The Annual Parish Meeting** will take place on **Tuesday 14 May at 7.30pm** in the village hall. At this meeting members of the public can question councillors on any relevant local matters in an informal setting.

### **WATERINGBURY CRICKET CLUB - U 13 COLTS .**

Wateringbury Cricket Club invite youngsters to join their U13 Colts Team.

You need to be under 13 at midnight on the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2012 to be eligible to play. Practice evenings are held on Tuesday from 6.30 to 8.00 p.m. and will commence on the 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2013. Wateringbury compete in the Mid Kent Youth U 13 League. If you are interested please contact Matt Rye on 01622-202852.

### **WATERINGBURY WALK - KENT COMMUNITY RAIL PARTNERSHIP**

#### **SATURDAY 11 MAY 10.45am**

This walk had to be postponed from earlier in the year due to the bad weather. So now is your chance to enjoy a circular walk of about 4 miles led by Bob Tolson. The walk leaves Wateringbury Station car park at 10.45am and finishes at the Riverside Restaurant for light refreshments. To help with the catering it would be helpful to book in advance by 7 May with Ian Paterson on 07917 841005 or email [ian.paterson19@btinternet.com](mailto:ian.paterson19@btinternet.com). Free Rail Trail Packs will be available on the day.

#### **FOR SALE**

Collection of Pomanders. Collection of Elephants - all shapes and sizes

Computer for novice with printer, etc.

For an appointment to view please phone 01622 812122

### **FRIENDS OF WATERINGBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL (FOWPS)**

#### ***Registered charity 1038836***

We had an 'eggs-cellent' end to Term 4 with an Easter service at Wateringbury Church and an Easter egg hunt in the playground for all the children on the last day before the break. Term 5 has begun with new mini football goals being installed for our youngest children and, if the weather allows, our annual Operation Ground Force jobs day in the school grounds.

Our second annual Golf Day takes place on Friday 14 June at Poulton Wood Golf Centre.. Players wishing to take part can book a place by downloading a form and details from our website at [www.fowps.org.uk](http://www.fowps.org.uk) or by emailing [chairman@fowps.org.uk](mailto:chairman@fowps.org.uk). Places cost £40 per person which includes 18 holes of golf, a one-course meal, competitions and prizes.

The school's Summer Fete will take place on Saturday 29 June with an 'Anyone for tennis' theme as it falls on the middle weekend of Wimbledon.

Gail Isted, FOWPS Chairman

## THE FRIENDS OF WATERINGBURY CHURCH

Our thanks to all those who helped to distribute our new leaflets around the village earlier this month. The leaflets should now have landed on the doormat of every household in Wateringbury and include a renewal form for 2013. We hope you will fill it in and become a Friend of Wateringbury Church for the next twelve months. Our fundraising efforts during our first two years have made more than £6,000, which we have given to the church to install a new glass door in the porch. If, for some reason, you haven't received the leaflet, you can download it from our website [www.fowc.org.uk](http://www.fowc.org.uk), or pick one up at the Post Office or Wateringbury Surgery. Please return the completed form to the Friends' Secretary, Frances English. Her address is printed on the form.

**Village fete** The Friends will be taking part in the Village Fête which will be held on the Wateringbury Playing Field on Saturday 2 June from 12 noon. We will be hosting the Pimms tent and we are also involved in the raffle. Half of the proceeds of the raffle are to be donated to the Friends to boost our fund – a very welcome contribution. There will be lots of exciting stalls and exhibits at the fête, so come along and enjoy a great day out.

## THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS - 11, 12 and 13 July

The Wateringbury Players and children from Wateringbury C E Primary School are now in rehearsal for an exciting new summer production of *The Wind in the Willows* by Alan Bennett. Performances will take place in St John the Baptist Church on Thursday 11th, Friday 12th and Saturday 13th July, 2013 at 7:00 pm (doors open at 6:30 pm). Why not join us in a memorable evening by the river, explore the creepy Wild Wood, and enjoy the excitement of the open road with Toad, Ratty, Badger, Mole and all their friends and creatures of the river bank. We hope to see you there.

Tickets will be available from Wateringbury Post Office and The Handy Stores, Bow Road from week beginning 10th June. Tickets are £8 for all three performances. Thursday performance: £5 concession for children (up to 16 years) and Senior Citizens (available for the Thursday performance only). Celia Pocock email: [wateringburyplayers@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:wateringburyplayers@hotmail.co.uk)

## WATERINGBURY FOOTPATH GROUP

The next walk is on **Sunday 5 May** when we meet at the Village Hall leaving at 2.30pm sharp for our annual **Bluebell walk** up to Cattering and Hoath Woods. Why not come along and enjoy the sight and capture the perfume of the woods carpeted by bluebells.

Our April walk was to Swanton Valley on Sunday 7 April when on a bright sunny spring afternoon 23 walkers (and a dog) met at Mereworth School for this walk along the Swanton Valley to Mereworth Woods. The walk followed the Wateringbury Stream from the start to the spring fed pond at Swanton Valley, which is the head water of the Wateringbury Stream; we then entered Mereworth Woods at Hurst Wood, passing some woodman's workings along the way. Out of the woods we returned to the start passing Yote's Court along the way. Please note that there will be no walk in June as the Wateringbury Village Fete is on 2 June.

## **The Yalding and District Beekeepers Second Honey Bee Fayre and Auction on Sunday 12 May 2013 between 10am to 4:30pm –**

**Riverdale Field, Yalding, ME18 6ES. Free entry and on-site parking.**

Live bee demonstrations to show a hive's inner workings, an observation hive Food and drink available throughout the day, a barbeque, ice cream van, face painting, and a raffle. Come and make your very own solitary bee house, or take home a great book all about bees – books available to suit all ages! Lots of stalls too! More information can be found on our event website, at: <http://beefayre.yaldingbeekeepers.co.uk>

## NETTLESTEAD AND WATERINGBURY PRE-SCHOOL & CLUBS

(Charity No. 1144343)

The last week of term was a very busy and exciting one. Super heroes came to pre-school. We had supermen, batmen, Captain America, Spiderman, the Incredibles and Wonderwoman. The week was spent making super powered weapons, shields, masks and capes. We went hunting for superheros in the woods with our x-ray vision. We had great fun loading and firing our super-sonic potato launcher.

The term ended with a visit by the discovery bus. The children learned about the different environments that animals live in, they were able to explore a night garden with torches, make animal badges, dress up in different woodland animal costumes listen to animal noises, do puzzles, draw pictures, and just enjoy being surrounded by everything woodland.

During term 5 we are going to be exploring science. The term kicks off with volcanoes; the children are going to make their own volcanoes erupt!

On the Staff Development day the Out of Schools club went on a walk along the river to Teston picnic site and adventure playground. The children had a great time climbing, swinging, balancing, and scrambling over all the equipment. We all had a game of football, and timed our friends doing an obstacle course. What a fantastic way to spend one of the first days that felt like Spring, is it here at last?

If you would like to join us please just turn up for a visit or ring on 01622 813120 or email on [nettlesteadandwateringbury@yahoo.com](mailto:nettlesteadandwateringbury@yahoo.com)

### CRICKET CLUB FIXTURES

Do go along and support our village cricket team. The views from our Playing Fields across the Medway Valley are out of this world. New players are always welcome to join the team too.

#### MAY

Sun 5th	Elliott	H	2.00pm
Sat 11th	Gills Green	A	2.00pm
Sat 18th	Tonbridge Forresters	H	2.00pm
Sun 26th	Penshurst Park	H	2.00pm

#### JUNE

Sun 16th	Belnor	H	2.00pm
----------	--------	---	--------

### WATERINGBURY SPEED WATCH – WOULD YOU LIKE TO VOLUNTEER?

Speed Watch is an initiative that allows local residents to make a significant contribution to road safety by helping to reduce excessive vehicle speeds on the roads in their communities. The Wateringbury scheme, sponsored by the Parish Council and operated by a small team of dedicated community volunteers was launched about four years ago and is making a contribution to road safety in the village and hopefully this will continue.

Of course, Wateringbury Parish is not alone in its attempt to increase public awareness of speeding and the cumulative effect of the various active teams county-wide will be to reinforce the message. Recently the Police advised that there were around 60 Speed Watch teams active in Kent and the number is steadily increasing and is expected to reach about 100 by the end of this year.

The volume of traffic passing through Wateringbury is exceptionally high for a "village" environment and with far too many drivers showing little respect for mandatory speed limits means a very dangerous situation is created for all road users, pedestrians and the offending drivers themselves. Most residents will be aware of this long standing problem and there is a perception that that such irresponsible behaviour by drivers will continue unless there are frequent roadside checks by the police. Whilst the police will say that roads policing is a fundamental part of their day-to-day operation the recent cuts to their budgets will probably make it unlikely that there will be a significant increase in activity locally or generally across the County in this regard. Nevertheless, following discussions between representatives of the Parish Council and the Police, arrangements are being made for a special roads policing exercise in Wateringbury starting probably in May. This will be funded by KCC from Borough Councillor Richard Long's Special Projects budget.

The support from the Police will be very much welcomed but it will not replace the local initiative which will assume even greater importance. Current volunteers and hopefully reinforced with some new team members will continue to monitor the situation by positioning its Speed Indicator Device within the village at locations formally approved by the police and by so doing further increase awareness and help to improve the safety and quality of life for the local community. Questions are often asked about the success or otherwise of the local team's efforts. Whilst difficult to assess there are signs that those drivers who travel regularly through Wateringbury anticipate a Speed Watch presence and reduce their speed to avoid being "booked". On the other hand there are many who travel much too fast resulting in the details of their vehicles being recorded and the data passed to the Police at Coldharbour. The operation by the Police in Wateringbury starting in May will however mean tougher penalties for drivers breaking the law.

Under the Speed Watch system vehicles observed speeding repeatedly or excessively in a 12-month period are sent warning letters and advice and it is understood that where these warnings and advice are ignored more appropriate sanctions by way of fixed penalty notice or referral to National Speed Awareness programmes may be imposed.

Last year from 1<sup>st</sup> January to 15<sup>th</sup> October 5,199 vehicles were recorded travelling above speed thresholds by Speed Watch teams throughout Kent. Wateringbury headed the "Top Twelve" Speed Watch Schemes with 1224 detections (23.5%). Detection rates locally during recent months have continued to run at a high level although the figures on a County basis are not yet available.

If you would like to join the Speed Watch team or would like more information please contact the undersigned.

Charles Stroud Tel: 815395 Email: mandaley@btinternet.com

## **WATERINGBURY FLOWER CLUB**

### **16 May - Workshop with Linda Clatworthy**

In May the club have Linda Clatworthy as their guest who is the previous Kent Area Chairman and she will be giving us a workshop with driftwood for Spring. This should be a fun evening. Work sheets were handed out at April's meeting, but if you missed it, look on our website.

At our April meeting we welcomed Christine Nash to our club. a first visit to us, and her wonderful title Strictly Flowers and also our first club competition for members with the same title.

We look forward to welcoming new members and guests; we are a friendly bunch, come along and give us a try. We meet at Nettlestead Village Hall at 7.30pm Jean Schofield Chairman  
Wateringbury Flower Club

## **WATERINGBURY SPORTS AND RECREATION ASSOCIATION DOG FOULING DOWN AT THE PLAYING FIELD.**

Wateringbury Sports and Recreation Association have received complaints from people using the playing field regarding the amount of dogs' mess scattered around the whole area. We implore **all dog owners** to act responsibly and clear up behind their animals. The playing field is for playing sport and recreation and is to be enjoyed by all ages in a healthy environment. We would like you to adopt our simple motto.....

**USE IT .... DON'T ABUSE IT !** Mike Witts ( WSRA Secretary)

## **HISTORY SOCIETY**

In May we do not have a meeting in the village hall as we will be holding our annual Buffet and Wine Evening at Boxley Abbey which is for members only.

Our speaker in March was Dennis Chambers who came along to tell us about 'Haunted Pluckley'. Dennis began his talk by telling us how he became involved in 'matters psychic' when he lived in Manchester. Upon moving to Kent in 1967 he continued his investigations within his local area including Pluckley, which is famous for many 'ghost' stories and unexplained happenings, some connected with the Black Horse pub, the local church and with the 'screaming' woods. Dennis told us that 'ghost hunting' could be fun and it is a subject of great mystery and intrigue whether you believe in ghosts or not. Visit the history society site on <https://sites.google.com/site/wateringburylocalhistory/>, for further details.

## **WATERINGBURY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

Mr Nick Robinson was the guest speaker at our April meeting. He gave us a talk on the subject of Organic Gardening, which was enjoyed by both gardening and non-gardening members alike. He gave us useful tips on subjects such as vegetable growing, compost-making, and how to garden the organic way, all of which members found very informative.

Our Annual Meeting, together with Resolutions, will be held on 9 May. As in previous years, this will be followed by a silent auction, which should provide a bit of light entertainment once the 'serious business' is completed. Kathy Coates

**TESTON & WATERINGBURY NURSERY GROUP (Registered charity 1044257)**  
**[www.testonandwateringburynursery.co.uk](http://www.testonandwateringburynursery.co.uk)**

***Admissions and all enquiries: Amanda Vidler 07805 796353***

What's the one thing you DON'T associate with Easter? Yes, snow! But there it was throughout the whole of our Easter Fun Day. Did it matter? Not one bit. We set it all up and you came and had fun. It was a slightly different matter for our cuddly bunnies, who shivered until they got their well-earned cuddles. We weren't so lucky, we just had cups of tea – isn't that discrimination?! We still managed to raise a superb £250, so, once again, a massive thank you for your support and to the committee who shivered their way through. Such was the fun that our Chairman, Sarah Sewell, gave birth that very evening to a rather bonny baby boy – 10lb 7oz! And we thought we worked hard!! Congratulations to Sarah, her husband Tom and their ever-growing family!

As we welcome our little ones back from their hols, this term's Mini Beasts theme sees us trying to carry our homes around with us (the relevant planning permissions were in place..) and making snail sandwiches...wait, no, that's snail-*shaped* sandwiches. There have been many a bug hunt and we've even made a bug house in the garden...so, we're imitating bugs and they're imitating us – wow, that's clever!

Now, somebody else who's rather clever is our friend Cleve West – did I mention Mr West? Not only will we be seeing our new friend on 2 July, but we'll be seeing him at Nettlestead Place! Does it get any better than that?! Thank you and thank you again to Annabel and Roy Tucker for allowing us to use their beautiful home. Take a look at our website (above) or Facebook page for all the details but allow me to tell you how jolly exciting it is!

## **BENEFICE SUMMER LECTURES**

This year the topic of the 3 talks is Psalms, Hymns and Spiritual Songs.

Each meeting will be in East Malling Church and start at 8pm. Do go along to these free evenings which explore different types of music used in worship.

**Thursday 23 May - Psalms** Guest speaker Canon Neil Thompson (Precentor at Rochester Cathedral)

**Thursday 6 June - Hymns** Guest speaker Canon Michael Saward (Hymn writer) with guest organist Nigel Groome

**Thursday 4 July - Spiritual Songs** With The Music Group from BART (Birling, Addington, Ryarsh and Trottscliffe churches).

#### **INTRODUCTION TO BIBLE STUDY – First Timers only!**

**Starting Monday 13 May** at 8pm in The Vicarage, 2 The Grange, East Malling. If you have never had the opportunity to familiarise yourself with the Bible before then now is your chance. A short course designed for those who have never been to a Bible Study before will be led by Rev Jim Brown. This is your chance to ask that question you've been burning to ask but have never felt able to in the past! We shall start at the beginning and who knows where we will end up. Why not pop along, it will be very relaxed but instructive.

#### **BAZAAR IN THE CHAPEL**

**at Pilsdon Community, Water Lane, West Malling**

**8-10 June between 10am - 6pm**

A beautiful 15<sup>th</sup> century Chapel Barn packed with stunning summer clothing, gorgeous silk and cotton, jewellery, home wares and gifts

all ethically traded from India. Refreshments available

#### **DR JAZZ**

The acclaimed group will be performing live at

**ALL SAINTS CHURCH, WEST FARLEIGH**

**on Saturday 18 May at 7.30pm**

Tickets, including a glass of wine, £10 from 01622 813019

#### **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 Healing Ministry of the Church**

Some of you will remember the great Missions of the 60s and 70s when people flocked in their hundreds and thousands to be healed by a celebrity evangelist. People were seen to be physically healed, throwing away their crutches and wheelchairs at a stadium or large open air event. I am not sure that the image of Christian Healing was well served by such occurrences. The ministry offered by the church is rarely so dramatic and often has nothing to do with any kind of physical healing.

The Healing Ministry of the church has been well established through the centuries and is of great value to people today who seek help of a varying nature. When we speak of healing it can sound rather odd, "that is not the business of the



church" some might say. It can all seem rather "spooky" or "weird". It is apparent in the Bible that the physical, emotional, social and spiritual well-being of human beings are closely interconnected. The Gospels use the term 'healing' both for physical healing and for the broader salvation that we believe Jesus brings. It should be understood that healing does not just occur at the restoration of physical wholeness but that Christ can meet the human needs in many other ways too.

"The Healing Ministry is one of the greatest opportunities that the church has today for the sharing of God's love with all people. More than before in the last hundred years, many in society realise there is a spiritual as well as physical and mental dimension to healthy living. 'Wholeness' is the in-word: it is what everyone longs for." This is how the introduction to "A Time to Heal" begins (a report by the Church of England to encourage the Healing Ministry within the church and for its partners in healthcare). It reminds us that healing, reconciliation and restoration are integral to the good news of Jesus Christ. For this reason prayer for individuals, focused through laying on of hands or anointing with oil, has a proper place within the public prayer of the Church. God's gracious activity of healing is to be seen both as part of the proclaiming of the good news and as an outworking of the presence of the Spirit in the life of the Church. Equally importantly such prayer should not simply imply that the restoration of physical wholeness is the only way in which Christ meets human need.

However, I am so pleased to inform you all that we have a very full Healing Ministry within our churches of this Benefice. This includes monthly healing services where people are prayed for and the laying-on of hands or anointing takes place for those who wish to receive this. It has proved to be of enormous importance to a small group of worshippers. We also regularly offer prayers for people, or listen, or counsel folk who seek some kind of spiritual input to their, sometimes troubled, lives. As a minister in the Christian Church it is my joy and privilege to offer this ministry to all those who seek God's healing in their lives. The church is always available at times of such need.



## **Church of St John the Baptist**

### **Annual Plant Sale**

**Saturday 4 May 2013 10am-4pm**

**Superb nursery plants plus home grown stall,**

**St John's crafts, cards, good condition books and toys**

**home made cakes, cream teas and refreshments**



#### **BENEFICE MOTHERS' UNION**

On Thursday 2 May members will meet for Lunch at Spadework, Offham 12.30pm for 1pm. The meeting on Thursday 6 June will be at 1pm in East Malling church when the guest speaker will be Ruth Webster. Visitors are welcome. Details from 01622 813206.

#### **WATCH CLUB**

The club will meet on Sunday 12 May between 5-7pm in the Church and on Wednesday 29 May for a Whitsun Hike meeting at 10.30am at Teston Village Hall and finishing about midday with refreshments. If you are in school years 6-13 and would like to come along to the Watch Club Youth Group please contact Lisa on 01622 812661.

#### **COFFEE BREAK**

The Coffee Break meetings have now resumed on the fourth Wednesday of the month in the church - so do book the date in your diary Wednesday 22 May between 10.30am and 12.30am. In the meantime, keep knitting and sewing so that you'll have something great to show off to everyone.

## PALM SUNDAY WEEKEND THANKS

Thanks to everyone who came along on the Saturday to help give the church and churchyard a Spring clean and to those who joined our Sunday Parade to Church from the village hall. Sorry for the disappointment that, for the second year, at the last minute the donkey was unavailable but well done to the children who thought to bring along their toy donkeys to carry with them. Eddie and Joanna – Church Wardens

## BENEFICE CHURCH SERVICES

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

<p><b>Sunday 5 May</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 – Rogation Service – Wateringbury</b> (see details below)</p> <p><b>7pm Taize Service - Wateringbury</b> - led by Bob &amp; Becky Bowie</p>	<p><b>Sunday 12 May</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 Evensong - Teston</p>
<p><b>Sunday 19 May - Pentecost</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 26 May – Trinity Sunday</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 Eucharist - Teston</p>
Every Monday – 2-3pm – Scout & Guide HQ, Glebe Meadow – Toddler Praise	
Tuesdays (not 1 <sup>st</sup> 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	

**Rogation Sunday - 5 May** Traditionally at Rogation we ask God's blessings on the land and the crops we grow. This Sunday we shall remember and pray for all those who live and work in our village. There will be fun and games for all to join in with as we pray and worship in the open air. This year our service will be held at 10am in the field at the junction of Love Lane and the pear orchard footpath (by kind permission of Susan and David Walsh). Please bring your own chair or blanket to sit on. If wet we will meet as usual in the Church.

**Quiet Hour Wednesday 8 May** 8-9pm An opportunity for quiet personal prayer and reflection. Come and go as you please.

**Service of Healing and Wholeness Tuesday 7 May** This month the service will be at 8pm in Wateringbury and will be a meditation.

**Ascension Day - Thursday 9 May** - 9am Communion Service in East Malling Church.

**Celebration of Baptism - Sunday 30 June at 3pm** in Wateringbury Church.