

**Welcome to the September issue of Rostrum  
Wateringbury Village Magazine**

**VILLAGE DIARY**

**September**

- 3 Wateringbury Footpath Group** – 2.30pm - Hall car park
- 3 Wateringbury Players AGM** - 6.30pm in Village Hall (VH)
- 5 Parish Council Meeting** - 7.30pm followed by Planning Committee - VH
- 11 Wateringbury Footpath Group** – 10am - Hall car park
- 14 W.I.** "The Gift of Dogs" talk by Sharon Lynn - 2pm in VH
- 17 Wateringbury Market** – 11am-1pm VH car park  
**Strawberry Fair** – 2pm-5pm - Manor Farm, Old Road
- 19 Wateringbury Sports and Recreation Association Extraordinary General Meeting** - 7pm - VH
- 20 History Society** talk "Queen Charlotte Ahead of her Time" VH - 7.40 for 8pm
- 20 Wateringbury Flower Club** - 7pm - East Malling Institute

**October**

- 1 Wateringbury Footpath Group** – 2.30pm - Hall car park
- 3 Parish Council Meeting** - 7.30pm followed by Planning Committee - VH
- 15 Wateringbury Market** – 11am-1pm - VH car park
- 18 Wateringbury Flower Club** – 7pm - East Malling Institute
- 18 History Society** talk "D Day" - Simon Waterfield - 7.40 for 8pm – VH

**Wateringbury Sports and Recreation Association (WSRA) Extraordinary General Meeting** on behalf of WSRA and the Parish Council will be on **Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm**. It will take place in the first floor meeting room of the Village Hall.

**The play area extension** is now open. With the new swings, roundabout, multiplay tower, play panel and springies it should now provide a range of play equipment for the younger children and complement the existing equipment.

Once again the Parish Council would like to thank our grant funders – the National Lottery and the FCC Communities Foundation and our local contributors.  
Cllr Francis Fielding

**Wateringbury Market**

Our village market is proving more popular every month with an eclectic mix of stalls selling chutney, fudge, jewellery, personalised items, wood carvings, beauty products, honey, cards, bags, candles and more! As well as our meat man Dave with delicious pies, bacon and sausages..

Please support your village market every 3rd Sunday of the month – on 17th September, 15th October, 19th November, 17th December at 11am -1pm. in the Village Hall and car park.

**VILLAGE PEOPLE** *Please let us have your news and tributes by 17th September for our October magazine. Entries are free.*  
Email [www.rostrum2@hotmail.com](mailto:www.rostrum2@hotmail.com)

## **RIP**

### **David German – 26.01.68 – 3.06.23**

David was born and brought up in the city of London where he made life-long friends. He studied drama and was a talented performer. Although he did not pursue a career in this field he retained a love of music throughout his life. David was a great people person, a superb listener, who is remembered for the generosity of his time. He was caring, supportive and nurturing. He would always go the extra mile to help friends and colleagues and enriched the lives of many by encouraging them to appreciate their own skills and develop their talents. He moved with his family to Watringbury in 2004 and loved their life in the countryside. David lived life to the full and enjoyed cars and fishing, spending many happy hours by the waterside.

A wonderful husband and father, he will be missed dearly by all who knew and loved him.

### **John Edward Childs - 21.09.51 - 23.06.23**

John was born and grew up in St Paul's Cray. He met Janet when he was 21 and she was 19. They married in 1976 and moved to Old Road in Watringbury. He worked hard on their cottage and they eventually purchased the adjoining property to create a beautiful home where they raised their family. (Jonathan was born in 1980 and Mary-Jo in 1983). John developed his building, planning, design and restoration business John Childs & Associates, which for many years advertised in Rostrum and had premises in the village (latterly at the station). John was always willing to give advice and nothing was too much trouble. In 2016 John and Janet left the village and moved to Whitstable. He will be remembered as a kind, thoughtful and generous man.

### **Sydney William Joseph Thompsett - 7.03.27 – 12.07.23**

Syd died unexpectedly at the care home in Denham where he had enjoyed living over the past two years. Syd was born in Edenbridge and came to Watringbury in 1947 to work in the surveyor's department of Watringbury's Phoenix Brewery, part of the Whitbread group. He worked for Whitbread for 40 years, many based in Watringbury but with wider geographic responsibilities, before retiring in 1987. He met his future wife, Vera (died 2016), at work, marrying in 1955. In 1967 they purchased land on Red Hill and designed the bungalow where they lived happily for many years. Syd was very active in village life. He played football for Watringbury in a team which won the Maidstone Challenge Cup. He served on the Parochial Church Council and actively participated in church affairs. He took a keen interest in the work of the Parish Council. He founded the Watringbury Footpath Group and was a founding member of Watringbury Local History Society, subsequently serving as treasurer and chairman. He was a Trustee of Watringbury Working Men's Club.

Syd's funeral took place in Watringbury Church on 15th August and he is buried in the village cemetery.

**New Baby Congratulations to James and Lauren Saunders** on the birth of their first child Louie born on the 12<sup>th</sup> July. Louie was a healthy 8lbs 15oz and congratulations to Lorraine and Gary on becoming grandparents for the first time and Chloe on becoming an aunt.

**Silver Wedding Congratulations to Tudor and Suzanne Price** who were married in Watringbury Church on 5<sup>th</sup> September 1998 by Rev Denys Gower.

### **Pizien Well Road**

Many Rostrum readers, while taking a walk in Pizien Well Road, have enjoyed the plants and areas created by Ted Shepherd and have stopped for a chat and expressed their thanks to him. But, as the result of recent correspondence from the landowner, he is no longer allowed to look after these plants and so it is likely that this area will revert over time to its untended state. He has also

been obliged to remove the bench installed and to stop varnishing the seat.

Ted and his wife Paula are very disappointed and wanted Rostrum readers to know why the bench has been removed and Ted has stopped working there.

### **Ukrainian Appeal**

The demand for items to help the Ukrainian people unfortunately continues. Desperately needed is dried and tinned food, bandages, plasters, antiseptics for the families, and particularly the children, devastated by the ongoing war. Also, men's and women's toiletries (sanitary products, shaving items, soap, toothbrushes and toothpaste etc.). Baby items - nappies, baby food, formula, dummies, etc. Families urgently need household items - saucepans, kitchen utensils, cooking equipment etc., etc. Also needed is animal food as well as medication i.e. flea, worm treatments, bandages, antiseptics etc. Sam, in Barming, has already made up over 1,000 shoeboxes which have been sent to Ukraine packed with goodies for children from toddlers to teenagers. She has another 200+ boxes to fill! Therefore, if you have any suitable items your children, teenagers, grandchildren have grown tired of; please 'recycle' them in this way! Small packets of sweets, biscuits, drinks can be included. In fact there are very few items not needed in order for the Ukrainians to maintain some normality in their war torn country. Every little helps.

Thank you so much for your amazing donations so far. They really are appreciated.

View *KentRelief* on Facebook to see how valued and essential your donations are to the Ukrainians. The next lorry is due to leave the UK in late September but lorries are leaving every couple of months so the need for donations is continual.

Any queries, please don't hesitate to contact me - [svmcollins@live.co.uk](mailto:svmcollins@live.co.uk), Facebook or Messenger. Sue Collins

### **WATERINGBURY GUIDES**

We finished the summer term with an evening of football coaching from the local football team. A completely different activity for us but it was very enjoyable and our thanks go to Rich and the rest of the team for a great evening. Some of the girls went sailing at Haysden Lake near Tonbridge and learnt how to sail as well as learning some land-based skills. We ended the term with an evening of activities preparing for our camp.

Our summer camp was at Paxwood near Swanley and we had a brilliant time. The site warden showed us pond dipping and we found tadpoles, newts, fresh water shrimps and lots of other residents of the pond. Ashe also took us on a bat walk and he brought along the listening devices so that we knew there were bats around. We found ourselves back at the pond listening to, and watching the bats swoop over the pond collecting insects to eat.

We also made chariots and after dressing up as either ancient Romans or ancient Greeks, we raced the chariots around an obstacle course. We were more than surprised to find that both chariots survived without collapsing halfway round. We had wide games hunting luminous skeleton parts in the woods as well as 'capture the flag' and of course had the obligatory 'summores' from the fire along with some sparklers. It was a relief to find that despite it being wet on two of the three days, the girls all enjoyed themselves and are keen to go again.

You can contact me on 01622 815416 or email to [wateringburyguides@hotmail.com](mailto:wateringburyguides@hotmail.com) Sheena Stewart and team.

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

We have had a very busy end of term with the children and families joining in with an animal encounter session. The children were able to explore different animals ranging from a spiky hedgehog to a slippery snake, with most children and staff being brave enough to have the snake placed around their shoulders! In the afternoon the children had a leavers disco, where we all got together to say goodbye to our school leaver children.

Sports day is always lots of fun, where the children get to share the event and everything they have practised with their families. As always, we received an incredible amount of support from our families to make the day a huge success for everyone. It was great to see such a fantastic turnout and we were even lucky that the weather held out for us, and we didn't end up running our races in a downpour as predicted.

It has been sad saying goodbye to our school leaver children and families, but we wish them all the very best on their next adventure and looking forward to seeing pictures of them all dressed up in their new uniforms!

We are also looking forward to welcoming back all our remaining children with their families, along with all our new children and families joining us from September.

We hope that everyone has had a lovely and restful summer break and looking forward to another busy term. Nisha Reed Tel: 01622 813120

## **WATERINGBURY FOOTPATH GROUP**

Over the summer we had four walks on two different routes. In July our route took us up to the woods near Redhill Farm, where the public footpath had become rather overgrown as woodcutters had made their own route through the wood, breaking down a fence in the process. I had cut the brambles back so the walkers could take the official public right of way. I reminded them that the group had been started by Syd Thompsett more than 50 years ago in order that we regularly walk the official public right of way footpaths and don't lose them. Little did we know that Syd was to sadly pass away the day after I'd given this reminder when we were on the walk. Our walk took us on to the North Pole, down Livesey Street to Teston village and back to Wateringbury on the riverside walk.

In August we went along the riverside walk on the other bank, up through Tutsham and on up past polytunnels growing raspberries to admire the view at Shingle Barn on Smith's Hill. From there we took the tiny lane called Small Profits, down to Hunt Street, then continued downhill to Bow Meadow Cottages and back to Bow Bridge.

Our next walks will be leaving the village hall at:

**2.30pm on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September,  
10.00am on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September and  
2.30pm on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October.**

**Everyone is always welcome!** Please contact me if you want more information. Lisa Dean 077 5953 9032

## **GARDENING FOR WILDLIFE**

The annual 'Big Butterfly Count' was due to take place between the last week of July and the first week of August. My first challenge was finding a dry, sunny day to undertake it but I managed to complete mine on the very last day and recorded; eleven 'Gatekeepers', four 'Large (Cabbage) Whites' and a few other species including a beautiful yellow 'Brimstone' and two 'Holly Blues'. A few moths were included this year and although I didn't see any on the day, we have recently sighted a beautiful 'Jersey Tiger Moth', which has black and white striped top wings and red lower wings and the extraordinary 'Hummingbird Hawk Moth'. This insect hovers (like a Hummingbird) in the air and uses

its long proboscis to feed on tube shaped flowers such as Buddleia, Red Valerian and Honeysuckle.

Moths are often considered rather dull compared to Butterflies but these two species along with many others prove otherwise.

Many Moths and Butterflies along with some caterpillars and pupae, hibernate through the Winter, so if you can avoid tidying a small part of your garden, you may be rewarded in the Spring by an early sighting.

One of the exceptions to this rule is the 'Painted Lady' which migrates to North Africa. However, as our climate warms, it is thought that they may overwinter here instead, although after last Winter, they may well have changed their minds!

I will update you on the results of the count next month.  
Pauline Knutton

## **WATERINGBURY CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL**

The new academic year is an exciting time for all schools and it is no exception at Wateringbury! As a result of our growing school population, we are opening up another class which means we have new staff and new pupils to welcome into our school as well as all our new reception children. Moving to one class per year group (no mixed age classes this year) means that we have some extra spaces in some year groups. If you would like your child to be part of our school family, please contact the office for a tour and more information.

Our Year 6 leavers will be donning their oversized blazers and heading off to big school this term and we wish them every success in their new classes. We know they have the skills they need to become whatever they choose to be. Our new Year 6 children are ready to take on the pupil leadership roles and I look forward to being able to tell you who our new head pupils and castle captains are very soon.

Although it is the summer (and we are all enjoying a little bit of sunshine now), staff have been working hard to prepare a new and improved curriculum for the new academic year with some exciting extra activities added in. Last year we visited the beach, castles, farms, museums, the O2, The Globe theatre and forests – I am sure that this year will bring equally exciting opportunities for our children.

If your child is due to start school in September 2024 you may already be thinking about visiting possible schools; we would love to invite you to come and look around our happy, friendly, little school. **We will be holding tours for new entrants on 10<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> October all at 10am.** Please contact the office to book a place. There will also be an information evening around that time (actual date still to be confirmed) where you will be able to hear from the headteacher and other key members of the school team about what makes our school such a great place to learn and flourish. We cannot wait to welcome you!

Debbie Johnson (Headteacher).

Website: [www.wateringbury.kent.sch.uk](http://www.wateringbury.kent.sch.uk); Phone: 01622 812199

## **THE WATERINGBURY PLAYERS**

Thank you all once again for all your support for our 2022/23 Panto *Jack and the Beanstalk*. We are very happy to announce our charity donations raised from this Panto:

£400 to St John the Baptist Church Wateringbury

£400 to Wateringbury C of E Primary School

£400 to our chosen charity, Crossroads Care Kent.

We are now getting ready to start production of our 2023/24 Panto. We are pleased to announce that it will be *Cinderella*. This Panto holds a very special place in the repertoire of The Wateringbury Players. We perform it every 10 years and this production of *Cinderella* will mark our 40 year anniversary!

Details to follow in the coming months. We will be kicking off panto season with our **AGM on Sunday 3rd September at 6.30pm in the village hall**. If you are interested in treading the boards or helping backstage please come along.

### **NEWS FROM SARAH HUDSON, BOROUGH AND KCC COUNCILLOR, CHAIR OF PARISH COUNCIL**

Just as July's Rostrum went to print, the Boundary Commission announced the final recommendations for the new constituencies of Tonbridge, and Maidstone & Malling. Wateringbury remains in Tonbridge, but Kings Hill, East and West Malling are now in Maidstone & Malling. These will take effect from the next election.

Budgetary pressures still exist at KCC, with Grant Thornton suggesting that we are facing an overspend of circa £86m this financial year. This is predominantly in Adult social care and children's services. Something radical needs to change, but should not be at the expense of services used by the majority of tax payers.

### **FROM TOM TUGENDHAT, OUR MP**

Much has been said recently about the expansion of the Ultra Low Emissions Zone – ULEZ. This punishes those who need to get around, costs jobs and hurts families. London is the engine of the economy but this is a barrier to people working in and travelling to London from communities like ours.

The Mayor of London is also looking to scrap the popular Day Travelcards. These train tickets allow so many of us to travel into London for the day and have access to the tubes and buses throughout the capital. They can be incredibly valuable for families who would otherwise not be able to afford the full price,

During August, I invited everybody to fill out a petition on my website so that Sadiq Khan knows how important this is to us all. As a result, I also wrote to the Mayor of London passing on concerns of people across the community.

However, all is not lost just yet. The Mayor has made it clear that he is still open to reversing this. I would still be very interested to hear your thoughts on how this will impact you, so please feel free to either email me, or write to me.

This decision from the Mayor of London will impact many across our community. I am very grateful for everybody who took time to complete my petition.

E-mail: [tom.tugendhat.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:tom.tugendhat.mp@parliament.uk)

Address: 130 Vale Road, Tonbridge, Kent, TN9 1SP Phone: 01732 441563

### **WATERINGBURY FC**

We are excited to get back to full pre-season training and there is a buzz around the children (and the coaches) about the upcoming season. If any in the community are free on Saturdays or Sundays, it would be fantastic for the children to have your support. We have some brilliant young talent, spread across many age groups. You will always be welcome and perhaps pop into 'Clair's' café'.

We are currently finalising squads for the 2023/24 season. We are especially looking for **girls** and **boys** at under 13 age group, **boys** under 18, and a goalkeeper for our under 11 **boys** and **girls**. To join, please contact Tony.

The club are also trying to recruit a pitch liner to mark the pitches out each week - approx 2 hours work, preferably on a Friday (£20 per week).

If interested, please contact Tony on 07890 053921;  
[Tony@wateringburyfc.co.uk](mailto:Tony@wateringburyfc.co.uk)

### **HISTORY SOCIETY**

The Society has some interesting talks booked for the coming season. We meet in Wateringbury Village Hall on the third

Wednesday of the month. Free tea and coffee is available from 7.40pm with the talks starting at 8pm. Membership for the year to June 2024 costs a very modest £15; this is for 8 talks and a Christmas Social evening. Visitors are always welcome at £5 per talk.

Evenings booked for 2023 are:

20<sup>th</sup> September – “Queen Charlotte Ahead of her Time” –

Geoff Collins

18<sup>th</sup> October – D Day - Simon Waterfield

15<sup>th</sup> November – George IV – Martin Heard

20<sup>th</sup> December – Social evening with wine, nibbles and a quiz

*Christine Byron*

## **WATERINGBURY FLOWER CLUB**

The August meeting had a great turnout as it was our own Robin White, Designer of the year 2019. He had us in stitches with his anecdotes and funny stories of his travels all-round the country and abroad flower arranging. He did not disappoint with his designs and the colours - true to form as usual. We sold more raffle tickets in the interval as people wanted to win one of the designs.

Members will have a mini show in September called *Summer into Autumn* with 5 classes for members and, hopefully, something for every level. Jenny Nye will be our judge for the evening.

We were delighted to welcome a new member last month; it's great to have some young blood join us. Jean Schofield

## **W.I.-Inspiring women**

Wateringbury W.I. will meet on **Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September at 2pm** in the Village Hall. Our speaker is Sharon Lynn who will give her talk *The Gift of Dogs*. She has wide experience in training working dogs, especially as lifesavers. She no longer trains dogs herself so will not be bringing one with her but will illustrate her talk on screen.

Wateringbury W.I. was founded over 100 years ago. It is a small friendly group and we meet monthly. Most of our meetings invite an outside speaker and we have heard some excellent speakers on a wide variety of subjects. Afterwards we enjoy tea, cake and a friendly chat. We would love to welcome new members and anyone interested can come along as a guest to start with. Please just come along to the hall or call Margaret on 01622 817874 if you need more information or would like to be met at the door.

**Maidstone film society** starts its 74th season on 11<sup>th</sup> September with a wide-ranging program of international films. Membership is £52 for the season of 12 films shown on Monday evenings in the Hazlitt Theatre, Maidstone, starting at 7.30pm. The complete program is available on **[www.maidstone-film-society.org.uk](http://www.maidstone-film-society.org.uk)** For more information please contact our membership secretary on 07904 381 182.

## **JULY PARISH COUNCIL NOTES**

**Allotments** – Quotes will be obtained for the cutting back of the brambles and the removal of rubble.

**Cemetery** – A response is still awaited from the managing agents for Manor Farm regarding the trees which are overhanging the cemetery wall. The clerk was asked to contact them again.

**Crime Report** – The new Police Beat Officer, PC Levi Carvana, attended the meeting and introduced himself to those present. He will cover Wateringbury, Hadlow and East Peckham. There were no crimes reported on the Kent Police e.watch site. At the public

open session the question of e-scooters was raised. It is illegal for these to be used in public places, roads and pavements. PC Carvana said current police policy is that for the first incident of illegal use the user will be issued with a formal warning. A second offence will lead to the confiscation of the e-scooter.

**Village Defibrillators** - It was confirmed that systems were in place to keep the Emergency Services updated every 3 months as to their location so that in an emergency the access codes can be given by the 999 service.

**Finance** - The Parish Council bank account with NatWest has been closed and the new on-line account is now fully operational. The process to allow new councillors to become authorising signatories will now begin.

**Speed Watch** – Co-ordinator David Merry was given the speed gun which the Parish has purchased. This means that teams will be able to monitor and record the speed of vehicles travelling in both directions at each session. At the public open session a member of the public felt that the speed watch teams should operate on the Tonbridge Road on the east side of the traffic lights. It was explained that all speed watch sites have to be approved by the police and there was no safe site on the A26 before the parish boundary with Teston.

**Sports and Recreation Association** - A meeting had been arranged for Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July in the village hall upper room. The Parish Clerk will contact all organisations mentioned in the Charity's Trust deed asking them to send a representative to the meeting who will be prepared to serve on the management committee for the year to May 2024.

**Playing Fields** - A quote was accepted to weld the joints on the goal posts as this will reduce the need to pay for maintenance every year. The play equipment in the far corner near the station will be removed after the new equipment has been installed at the main play area. A quote was accepted to repair the gate catch to the play equipment area.

#### **Planning Applications**

Councillors had no objections to the following applications:

**1 Bow Road (Hair Traditional Building)**- Roof replacement of the original building and chimney works (general and listed building applications).

**Home Farm, Red Hill** - installation of crop rain-protection system for existing top fruit orchards.

Objections were raised to the following applications:

**Wateringbury Station Goods Shed railings** – Large sign for timber merchants to be fixed to existing fencing. Objections were raised to the size of the proposed sign which would be out of keeping, and detract from, the nearby listed building.

**182, 184 and 186 A, B, C, D and E Tonbridge Road (junction of Red Hill and Tonbridge Road opposite side to Where Memories Meet)** – Conversion and extension of existing 4 x residential units to create 7 x residential units, with additional storey and alterations to the existing building facade. Objections were raised about the size of the proposed building and the lack of parking (the village car park is often full in the evenings). Councillors felt the proposal was totally out of keeping with the surroundings as the site is in the heart of the village and in the Conservation area. Vehicle access is very close to the traffic lights which could cause congestion problems. It is also in the area which has very high pollution levels which could be a health hazard.

The next meeting of the Parish Council is on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm in the Upper Room of the Village Hall.



Approved minutes of council meetings will appear on the Parish Council website in due course [www.wateringburypc.org.uk](http://www.wateringburypc.org.uk)

### **TESTON AND WATERINGBURY PRE-SCHOOL**

Welcome back to all our children and families to what will be a very exciting start to the new academic year. This term we will be exploring the book 'Whatever Next' by Jill Murphy. A beautifully illustrated story sending us into space! Baby bear is determined to fit in a trip to the moon before bath time. Can he do it?

Children will develop their imagination whilst exploring the stars and the moon. They will learn about friendship and how to pack a healthy picnic. We will explore the sound of rain along with things that may or may not withstand getting wet, as it starts raining on Baby Bears adventure.

In our craft activities we will be making our own rockets to help us fly to different planets and making a healthy picnic to take with them.

If you are interested in joining our warm and friendly pre-school, please contact Tina Driver on 07805 796353 or email on [tandwngroup@gmail.com](mailto:tandwngroup@gmail.com)

**Claire's Days Out Ltd** is a new local company offering coach trips with a personal touch.

Please join me for the inaugural trip on 27th September to Eastbourne for fish and chips and time on the pier. On October 18th, a theatre trip is booked for the matinee performance of "Crazy For You" in London. Collection points are from the Tonbridge Road bus stop in Teston, Wateringbury Hotel and the Bull, Barming, travelling with Brookline Coach company. Please contact me from 1st September for enquiries and bookings on 07725 570547 Email: [clairesdaysout@gmail.com](mailto:clairesdaysout@gmail.com) Claire.

### **WATERINGBURY CHURCH - SERVICES IN SEPTEMBER**

*Benefice website* [www.mwwwpchurches.org](http://www.mwwwpchurches.org)  
*Church Face Book Page:* [fb.me/wateringburychurch](https://fb.me/wateringburychurch)

***All Sunday Morning Services start at 10am and there are simple to follow service sheets. Tea and coffee are served afterwards. Do stay if you can.***

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> - 3-5pm Messy Church** (for children and their carers) – Bible Story, Action Songs, Prayer time, lots of crafts and ending with afternoon tea. All welcome

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> – Matins led by Barry Fisher**

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> - Communion led by Canon Brian Stevenson**

***Messy Church on Sunday meets in the vestry during this service***

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> - All Age Worship**

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> - Communion led by Rev Gary**

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October - Harvest Morning Praise led by Barry Fisher.** Do come and give thanks for the work of farmers near and far in providing our food.

**Refresh Benefice Services in Mereworth Church at 5pm** return after a summer break on 3<sup>rd</sup> September. Weekly services for those who enjoy less formal worship.

**IN OUR JOYS AND IN OUR SORROWS –  
From the Parish Registers**

**Baptism**

6<sup>th</sup> August - **Zarah Elizabeth Dahlia Knight**

**Funerals**

29<sup>th</sup> June - **David German** - followed by cremation

13<sup>th</sup> July - **Irene Ockenden** - burial of ashes

18<sup>th</sup> July - **John Edward Childs** - followed by  
cremation

15<sup>th</sup> August – **Sydney William Joseph Thompsett** –  
followed by interment in cemetery

**Dates for your Diary**

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November

Annual Churchyard Tidy in preparation for

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November

Annual Parish Act of Remembrance Service

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November

Christmas Craft Bazaar

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November

Deanery Confirmation Service with Bishop Jonathan

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December

Voices Across A20 Christmas Concert

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December 8pm

Carols by Candlelight with traditional readings and well-  
known carols