

SUMMER 2018 July and August

## **JULY AND AUGUST 2018 VILLAGE DIARY**

### **JULY**

<b>1</b>	Footpaths Walk	Mereworth School layby	2.30pm
<b>3</b>	Parish Council Meeting followed by planning committee	Village Hall	7.30pm
<b>12</b>	WI Cookery Demonstration	Village Hall	2pm
<b>14</b>	Church Fete with Bells On	Church	11am-2pm
<b>17</b>	Friends of Wateringbury Church AGM	Church	7.30pm
<b>25</b>	History Society Coach Outing		9am-6pm

### **AUGUST**

<b>5</b>	Footpaths Walk	Car Park	2.30pm
<b>13-15</b>	Shipwrecked Holiday Club	School	10-noon
<b>2, 9, 16, 23</b>	Cream Teas	Church	2-4pm

### **SEPTEMBER**

<b>4</b>	Parish Council Meeting followed by planning committee	Village Hall	7.30pm
<b>9</b>	Strawberry Tea Party	Manor Farm	2-5pm



## **CHURCH FETE WITH BELLS ON**

**in the church and churchyard**

**Saturday 14 July - 11am to 2pm**

Ploughman's lunches, tea, coffee and cakes, ice creams, stalls, games, the opportunity to buy home-made jams, marmalades, chutneys and relishes, and

**a chance to ring the church bells and more**

### **COACH OUTING TO PARHAM HOUSE, Nr Arundel Wednesday 25 July**

**Coach leaves from The Wateringbury at 9am**

The cost is £45 per person which includes coach travel, a guided tour of the house, entrance to the garden and tea/coffee and biscuits. You may bring your own lunch or purchase it at the Big Kitchen Restaurant.

There is also a gift shop, nursery and garden shop. website <https://www.parhaminsussex.co.uk>

If you would like to come please contact the History Society

who are organising the trip ☎ 01622 812148

## **THURSDAYS 2, 9, 16 and 23 AUGUST**

### **CREAM TEAS**

**AT THE CHURCH 2-4pm**

Do go along and enjoy home-made cake and scones  
in the tranquillity of our ancient village church and churchyard

**VILLAGE PEOPLE** Please let us have your news and tributes by 17 August for our September magazine. Entries are free

**Wedding Congratulations** to **Alan Fisher** and **Lisa Reynolds** who were married on 14 June at Yalding Gardens. The happy couple live in Southborough.

**Thank You to Tony Gosby** for sharing his artistic talents and providing Rostrum with so many delightful cover pictures over the years. Tony has decided the time has come to lay down his sketch pad so we send him our sincere thanks and best wishes.

### **Roy Honnor (2 July 1932 to 5 May 2018)**

Roy was the third generation of his family to run the family business latterly from Earl Street in Maidstone. He and his late wife Ann lived for most of their married life in Red Hill where they raised their sons Andrew and Simon. Health problems in their advancing years caused them to move to Coxhill Manor in Cobham to be closer to members of their family.

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### **RINGING REMEBERS**

#### **1,400 bell ringers died during the First World War.**

Honour their memory by becoming one of 1,400 new bell ringers this year and be part of a nationwide moment by ringing on the centenary of the Armistice on 11 November 2018.

Find out how to take part by emailing [bells@big-ideas.org](mailto:bells@big-ideas.org).

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### **WATERINGBURY FLOWER CLUB**

On **18 July at 7.30pm in East Malling Institute** Gill Smaggasgale area vice chair will give a demonstration titled Tutti Fruitti. In August the Club have an outing to a private garden in Westerham.

The Kent area show which was in conjunction with the Garden Show at Detling last month saw members of Wateringbury win lots of prizes, Anne Ford a novice won her class and the award for best use of plant material, Iris Shaw a first, Pat White, Adele Stewart-Lord, also won prizes and Jean Schofield highly commended. *Jean Schofield for Wateringbury Flower Club*

### **WATERINGBURY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

The Wateringbury Summer Party on 30 June marked the start of the final countdown to the summer holidays. The Friends of Wateringbury Primary School (FOWPS) wanted to trial a new idea so rather than our traditional Summer Fete, they organised bands, a barbecue and inflatables. Thank you to FOWPS for all the effort they put into organising this splendid event and all the other fundraising occasions throughout the year. Funds raised this year have purchased new key stage two playground equipment (monkey and chin-up bars), a new interactive BenQ board for the Year 3 classroom and other classroom resources.

Volunteers are part of the life and fabric of our school. We would be much the poorer without the parents, grandparents and community members who give up their time to support children with reading, classroom work, and extra-curricular clubs and activities. Our annual Volunteers' Tea Party on 28 June was our opportunity to honour them and thank them.

Our Year 6s are putting the finishing touches to their Leavers' Production on 12 July which is followed by Prize Giving. The Leavers' Service at St John's on 19 July (9am) is an opportunity for us all to say farewell and good luck to our Year 6s and their families. We are so proud of the children we send out into the wider world! Farewells also to staff who are moving on to new schools and opportunities. Abi Woodhouse, Deputy, takes up a Head of School position at a Pupil Referral Unit. Sarah Rees-Porter, English Leader, joins Woodlands Primary and Adam Russell, Year 3, is pursuing a career change within law enforcement and youth protection. We wish them all well.

Our refurbished library will be officially opened at our Open Evening on 18 July. The £124,000 raised (including £90,000 from the Department of Education via the Diocese) has given us a new roof, windows, heating system and carpet as well as 'book nooks' designed by the

children: a tree house, a cave, and an old-fashioned sofa in our fiction area. We are hugely grateful for all the community support behind this major project.

Outdoor activity is always a priority and our first Cycle & Scoot day was a huge success. Our grounds were open to all wheels and the children loved racing round. Our Sports Day with traditional competitive races and team-building class activities takes place on 6 July.

Our last day of term will be 20 July. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our local community for supporting our school throughout the year and to wish you all a peaceful and relaxing summer.

*Chasey Crawford Usher – Headteacher [www.wateringbury.kent.sch.uk](http://www.wateringbury.kent.sch.uk)*

**MOBILE PHONE FOUND late May** near Mill Pond in a "Stilgut" black speckled print case with a large letter "M" mounted on the front of the case - details from [suzanneparr.parr669@gmail.com](mailto:suzanneparr.parr669@gmail.com)

## **WATERINGBURY FOOTBALL CLUB**

**Calling parents of all Year 1s and 2s who will be moving into Year 2 and 3 next year.**

You may be aware that Waterringbury Football club started a Youth Academy in 2016 for Years 2 to 3 and has been overwhelmed by its success.....So much so we are now starting a 2nd successive Year 4 team from the current Year 3's for next season in a local league. The club is very proud of its FA Chartered Standard award and has recently funded 4 coaches through the FA Training Level 1 Coaching course.

We've already had enquires from Year 1 & 2 parents about next year and as such this is an open invitation for your children to join us on **Saturday mornings** on the Waterringbury Village **playing field** from **10am to 11.30am** for our fun and informal training sessions.

You are welcome to come along between **Saturday 7th June to Saturday 14th July for free taster sessions** or if you prefer the new term begins on Saturday 15th September. Annual fees are expected to be in the region of £65 (currently under review) which is great value and your child will in turn receive a club hoodie and training top as part of this fee.

Having been involved as an ex Governor at Waterringbury School it's been wonderful to watch pupils I'm familiar with develop in terms of their skills and confidence, so why not pay a visit. We are all very proud of what we've achieved. The club is certainly going from strength to strength. Our philosophy is to not plunge our children into competitive football too early & as such we passionately believe this has paid dividends in developing early skills and is undoubtedly keenly supported by parents. Hope to see you & please drop me a line if you are interested.

Karl Smith, Academy Coach

(07774 649751      [karl.smith@brammer.biz](mailto:karl.smith@brammer.biz))

## **JUNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING NOTES**

Dennis Stones was co-opted as a new member on to the Council.

The Chairman had been contacted by Stephen Tickner who had expressed an interest in re-joining the council as long as other councillors were happy. 5 voted in favour 1 abstained.

Pollution equipment will be installed on the Village Hall wall between 13-19 June.

The delivery of a dog waste bag dispenser is still awaited – it will then be installed in the Playing Fields.

A quotation for repairs to the wet pour in the lower playing area had been received of £1,026. It was reported that swing seats had been damaged. The Council will replace the seats with second hand flat seats and dog proof cradle swing seats and obtain another quotation for the wet pour repair.

The T&MBC Local Plan was discussed at a recent KALC meeting. It was felt that the Government is pushing Local Authorities to increase the number of homes being built in the area. Consultations of the Plan will be in late September for a 6-week period. The Parish Council

reiterated that no application had been received to build houses on land near Fields Lane and that the current high pollution levels could prevent further development.

Crime Report: In May there had been 3 reports of criminal damage with vehicles in The Brucks, Leney Road and Bow Road having their tyres slashed. Abandoned vehicles in Hanbury Close and Love Lane were reported to the Local Authority. A man was detained by police patrol after he was seen trying door handles on vehicles outside the church. There was a road traffic collision involving several cars on Red Hill in April. A resident had received a phone call claiming to be HMRC and threatening court action – the resident put the phone down.

All allotments are currently being leased. A letter had been received asking the Council to reconsider funding the repair of a shed on the site. After consideration, members agreed this on a one-off basis. An inspection is due soon of the allotments.

During May the Watringbury Community Speedwatch Group had carried out 17 one hourly sessions, during which approximately 5,000 vehicles passed by. There were 500 observations of speeding vehicles which generated 100 letters sent to repeat offenders and 23 letters sent to high end offenders (travelling at 45+ miles per hour in a 30mph zone).

Eleven vehicles were found to have no road tax and/or MOT. The Council agreed the Speedwatch Group were doing an excellent job.

A request had been made to install a seat in the cemetery. Councillors will meet with the family who made the request to ensure that the design of the seat is appropriate.

During the public session the following matters were brought to the attention of the Councillors: Residents had observed some anti-social/suspicious behaviour amongst a group of people meeting in the playing fields, under the trees near the cricket equipment lock-up. In an attempt to deter these meetings, they had moved the picnic table from underneath the trees into the upper play area. The Clerk will contact the PCSO urgently.

The water/sewage leak on Bow Road near Maidstone Autos is still a problem and has become very unpleasant. Southern Water were responsible and had been contacted by KCC. A resident advised that she had contacted the Environment Agency, T&MBC, KCC and Southern Water and felt that these organisations were playing off against one another.

Weeds growing around properties in the Crossroads area are making it look unkempt.

The triangular shaped area by the petrol station on the A26 (which is maintained by the KCC) has 7 advertising hoardings on it. A resident considered that as we are in a conservation area they should be removed.

The Parish Council was asked if they would consider the installation of a disabled swing in the upper play area of the Fields.

Large commercial vehicles have been observed parking in Fields Lane making access to and from the Tonbridge Road difficult and causing disturbance to residents in the early morning. The Council advised the KCC would not allow double yellow lines in this area.

The subject of proposed changes to the layout at the Crossroads was brought up by another member of the public and the possible impact it may have on further development in the village. The speaker raised his concerns that if pollution levels were reduced by those changes, it could lead to the development of land in Fields Lane.

A local resident thanked the Parish Councillors for looking after the village.

*The next meeting is on **Tuesday 3 July at 7.30pm** in the Village Hall (upper meeting room). Please note there is no meeting in August.*

*Approved minutes of the June meeting will appear on the Parish Council website in due course.*

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**Target Football Academy** will be holding a **Summer Coaching Camp for the school holidays, they will run on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays 10am-3pm at the Watringbury Fields for 7-11 year olds.** Both boys and girls are welcome. Any parent wishing to register their child please contact Dennis 07523-619856 or targetfootballacademy@yahoo.com for further details.  
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#### **WAR NEWS, JULY/AUGUST 1918**

July 15	Second Battle of the Marne is final major German offensive of war.
16	Tsar Nicholas II of Russia and family murdered.
20	Germans retreat on Western front losing all territory gained since start of Spring Offensive.
August 1	Allies capture Archangel in Russia.
8	Start of the Hundred Days Offensive by allies with substantial gains from first day.

The war turned decisively in Britain's favour in July and August 1918. The village suffered no war fatalities although more were to come before the end in November.

On 1<sup>st</sup> July school re-opened after the soft fruit picking holiday and was visited by 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Jack Horscroft who had, according to the boys school log, won the Military Cross (M.C.). Jack seems from his various entries in the school log and parish magazine to have had an exemplary time at the school.

However, the girls and infants school logs during July note a darker matter, the incidence of influenza. By the end of July the infants school log reports 17 children absent "most of them suffering with influenza."

July 1918 saw the first of three waves of the so-called "Spanish Flu" to hit the U.K. In July there was a high infection rate but relatively few fatalities. U.K. deaths reached a peak in the second wave in November 1918. There was a third wave in February/March 1919. It caused over 200,000 deaths in the U.K. - fewer than the war. It affected the whole world and most estimates are for over 50 million deaths globally, many more than for the war. Towns and rural areas, upper and lower classes, men and women were all equally affected. Children and the old were less affected than those of military age, for reasons still not understood. The Watlington Scouts, despite the incidence of flu, camped in the grounds of Watlington Place for a few days in August and on the Bank Holiday over 300 people attended their sports held there. It rained continually.

At the Leney Board meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> July broad guidance was given to the Managing Director, Richard Tappin, for wage increases, suggesting an extra two shillings (10 pence) a week for men and an extra one shilling (5 pence) for women and boys. Unfortunately we do not know the absolute level of wage rates for the brewery. The following month it was decided to invest a further £5,000 in war bonds bringing the total such investment by the company to £47,000.

John Chalkley, an army deserter, was arrested by Police Constable Baker in Watlington in August and ordered by West Malling magistrates to be handed over to the military authorities with a 5 shilling bonus being awarded to the arresting P.C. Chalkley's connection with the village, other than being here, is not clear.

The Malling military service tribunal met in August and its proceedings were reported in the Kent Messenger, including the cases of 4 Watlington men. Conscription had been originally introduced for single men aged 18 to 41 years in January 1916, and later that year had been extended to include married men. From April 1918 those up to 50 years of age were included and 3 of the 4 Watlington cases were married men in their forties. Military service tribunals were often criticised for being inconsistent in determining who should be exempted because their work was of "national importance"; but in the case of a Watlington coal delivery man consideration was deferred pending a review of all involved in the coal trade in the district. Terry Bird

## **PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT**

It is with regret that I have to record that my predecessor Cllr Michael Cayzer has passed away, his contribution to the council and village life will be greatly missed.

Since my last report I am pleased to welcome to the Council, Margaret Daily and David Michelmores. We now have three female councillors giving us a better balanced council in terms of gender representation.

We continue to face the challenge of reduced funding. Over the past year we decided that the continued costs of repairing the stables roof at Drayhorse Meadow were long term unsustainable and accordingly agreed that best value would be achieved by reroofing them. This unfortunately resulted in an increase in the rates for this year but there will be a much reduced maintenance bill in future years.

We discovered that the Council was paying for insurances for the Recreation Field that should be paid by the Watlington Sports and Recreation Association. At the next insurance renewal date WSRA will be assuming costs for their own insurances.

Our long standing village warden John Ibbs has relocated outside the village and tendered his resignation. We thank him for his service to the village. Council has decided to delay appointing a successor so that it can reappraise the need for, and role of, a Village Warden. If a new warden is to be appointed a revised job specification will be prepared most likely at reduced hours.

Traffic and the resulting pollution continue to be a major issue for the village. We have made significant progress getting KCC Highways to take action and at long last we will see improvements to the crossroads. KCC have obtained monies from the Central Government, Local Enterprise Partnership: Congestion Strategy fund. This will enable a third carriageway to be constructed on the A 26 so that vehicles wishing to turn right do not stop the flow of onward traffic. There will also be a new third lane on Bow Road with a similar aim. Fortunately all the land needed for the new carriageways is already owned by the Village or KCC Highways. We expect the improvements to complete early next year. Less stationary vehicles should result in lower levels of pollution on the A26.

Congestion in the village car park is an ongoing issue and we are discussing with the owners, T&MBC, about installing Pay & Display ticketing to discourage inappropriate all day parking.

We thank our dedicated village Speedwatch team their continuing commitment to this important work.

We are grateful for the important work of Rostrum, led by Christine and Trudy, in recording village life and their continued presence at Council meetings is appreciated.

The Council would not function without the commitment of its Clerk to the Council, Sue Cockburn and we thank her for her continued dedication.

*Richard Tripp*

## JOINING THE WATERINGBURY PLAYERS

Have you been to some of our shows and thought you'd like to join in the fun? Planning for the next pantomime has already begun so if you are interested it would be great to hear from you. We always welcome new members for all roles whether it be acting or helping behind the scenes. We meet on Sunday evenings at Wateringbury Village Hall from September onwards at 6.30 pm.

### Children and Youth Members

Children can join from the age of 7 years and Youth Members from 11 – 16 years but, in order for a Child or Youth Member to take part in the pantomime, we would need an adult family member or friend to sign up **first** to undertake Chaperone training which can be completed online. The Chaperones share the responsibility of looking after the children during the performances and dress rehearsal. The training will need to be completed by the end of September and more details can be found on the KCC website: [www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/activities-outside-school/children-in-entertainment](http://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/activities-outside-school/children-in-entertainment)

If you have any questions please contact us at: [wateringburyplayers@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:wateringburyplayers@hotmail.co.uk)

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## WATERINGBURY FOOTPATH GROUP

**1 July** is a requested walk from Mereworth along the Swanton Valley through to Peckham Hurst. **Meet at Mereworth School at 2.30pm.**

**5 August 2.30pm at Village Hall** for a local walk

The June walk was up to Bow Hill house then along the path to Small Profits. For the second time we were unable to find the path that should have taken us to Hunt Street near Tutsham Farm. So, we took a diversion along the farm track where we found the exit from the lost path. Considerably overgrown, (reported to KCC). From here we went to Smiths Hall West Farleigh, passing through a field of sheep to Tutsham Mill then on to Waregrave's Wood. With the aroma of Wild Garlic, Ransoms, filling the air and back to the start. KFR ☎ 01622 813763

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## TESTON AND WATERINGBURY PRE SCHOOL

We are continuing our 'sports' theme this term talking to the children about the different types of sports they enjoy, and how to keep fit. All our school leavers bring in their PE kit where they learn to change by themselves, good practice for big school. We have also had visits from local school teachers to meet the children and talk to their keyworkers to make sure all needs are met when they arrive for their first days at school.

Our **sports day** will be held on the Teston Village green on **Friday 13 July**. All parents/carers and families welcome but beware there is always a mums race followed by a dads race, which seems to get more competitive each year! After the races there will be a picnic, raffle and of course our popular ice cream man Roy will be paying us a visit.

We would like to thank Teston Farm Shop for their much appreciated support in supplying all our fresh fruit for our children's café every day free of charge. A big thank you to Chris Douglass and team from the village hall committee who do a great job in looking after the hall and making it safe for our children each day.

As always, this time of year is emotional for staff when we say a big farewell to our lovely children. We wish all of our children leaving the best of luck in their new big school, hope you had great fun with us over the past couple of years, we certainly enjoyed helping prepare you for school. Finally we say farewell to a valued member of our team, Debbie Bond, who will be truly missed by both staff and children and we all wish her the best of luck in her change of career. We start back on Monday 3 September Tina Driver on 07805 796353

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## WATERINGBURY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

On **12 July at 2pm** in the village hall our speaker will be Julia Davis who will give her cookery demonstration 'A Taste of Summer Desserts.' This will feature the use of

seasonal fruits and will suggest fresh ideas on how to improve the look and taste of our favourite desserts. The monthly competition will be Recipe and Photo of a Favourite Dessert.

In June the speaker was Andy Thomas who gave a wide ranging talk about unexplained mysteries, conspiracy theories and the cover up of some recent events. The talk ranged from the question of how the pyramids were really built to crop circles, UFO's and much else. He left his listeners with much to think about.

## **TODDLER PRAISE**

It was with great sadness that I read of the demise of Toddler Praise. I brought my grandson Bertie along many times on Monday afternoons to play, sing, learn and listen. It was the highlight of our week.

I hope I speak for all the parents and carers of the toddlers who experienced the care and love of Sandra, Ruth, Ros, Edna and the Rev'd Jim when I say a huge thank you to you all. The songs and books will never be forgotten. *Christina Davies*

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## **MESSY CHURCH? WHAT IS IT?**

About fourteen years ago a young lady called Lucy Moore decided she wanted to try something different from set services and approached her vicar to try something new for families, for any family who perhaps didn't come to church. It would be a light touch Christian focus that was informal with activities for all, where children and families could try out crafts, sing and have a meal together. 'Messy' referred more to the informal approach although frequently there was paint and glue involved!

The idea caught on big time. There are posters, books and other merchandise available and when we met up with Lucy earlier in the year she had just returned from a visit to Australia! Messy Church has gone global!

The Messy Church I started at my previous church is still going strong seven years on. So we have just started with young families in and around Watlington with a focus on families with children up to eight years and meeting in the church on the first Saturday of the month from 3pm – 5pm. We sing action songs, have a Bible story, perhaps games and then creative activities. We come back together to sing and we finish with tea. An August meeting will depend on a response at the July session so watch out for a notice on the Church board at the cross roads or e-mail me on [ruth.dunn33@btinternet.com](mailto:ruth.dunn33@btinternet.com)!



## **"Ship Wrecked" Benefice Holiday Club**

**This summer, come and travel back in time, when our Time Machine return for**

**a "Ship Wrecked" Themed Holiday Club**

**On Mon 13 – Wed 15 August from 10am-12pm at Watlington Primary School**

We will be playing lots of outdoor games and sports, make many different crafts each day, have singing, dancing, face painting, refreshments and more. The Holiday Club is open to all primary school aged children. Pre-school children are most welcome if a parent or carer stays and joins in the fun too! These days will be led by experienced 'children and youth workers' from different local churches. Last year we had a number of secondary school children who made the most fantastic Young Leaders, we would love that help again if any young person is interested. This year we have needed to introduce a small fee of £2 a family per day. Children are welcome to do all 3 days or the odd day(s).

It would just be lovely to see lots of children ready for some summer fun.

**For more information or to book a place(s) please contact**

**Lisa Glasscote on 07950 852899/e-mail [lisaglasscote@gmail.com](mailto:lisaglasscote@gmail.com)**



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## WATERINGBURY CHURCH SERVICES IN JULY AND AUGUST

SJB Church web site: [www.wateringburychurch.org.uk](http://www.wateringburychurch.org.uk)

Church Face Book Page: [fb.me/wateringburychurch](https://fb.me/wateringburychurch)

Friends of SJB Church [web site www.fowc.org.uk](http://www.fowc.org.uk)

**Saturday 7 July Messy Church - 3-5pm** when the theme is 'The Lost Sheep'. We are hoping to run **Messy Church on 4 August** if there are enough families so if you are intending to come and are not on our circulation please e-mail [ruth.dunn33@btinternet.com](mailto:ruth.dunn33@btinternet.com)

There will be craft activities, short bible story and prayer times and ours will always end with afternoon tea.

### **Sundays 1 July and 5 August - 10am Eucharist**

A Communion service based on the Church of England Common Worship Service Book. Rev Nick Williams always prepares a service sheet so it's easy to follow. Sundays Cool (for all children) meets in the Vestry during this Service.

### **Sunday 8 July Morning Praise and 12 August Matins – 10am**

Both Services will be led by our readers.

Secondary Division for those at Secondary School meets for discussion (and a second breakfast) in the Vestry in July and will be on holiday in August.

### **Sunday 15 July and 19 August**

#### **8.30pm Prayer Book Said Communion**

A quiet service using the beautiful words written by Cranmer in 1662. Rev Nick also gives a short address.

#### **10am Family Service**

All age informal services led by the Sundays Cool team with well known hymns.

### **Sunday 22 July and 26 August – 10am Eucharist**

The choir leads our singing of hymns which are usually lively and easy to sing. Sundays Cool meets in the Vestry.

### **Sunday 29 July Benefice Service - 10am in Wateringbury**

On the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month the 3 churches in the Benefice meet together for worship and fellowship.

*Whether you are a first-time visitor, a regular participant or a returning friend, we hope you will be able to join us over the summer. Refreshments are served after all our 10am services so do stay for a chat if you can*

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## SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE

**Sunday 15 July 7pm SOS in East Malling Church**

A service for those who appreciate a less formal style of worship.

**Every Thursday 9am Communion in East Malling Church**

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### IN OUR SORROWS - FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

We extend our deepest sympathy to the loved ones of:

**Jean Aslett** whose funeral was on 5 June and

**Roy Honnor** whose memorial service was on 6 June



The Friends of Wateringbury Church

(Registered Charity No 1151983)

[www.friends@fowc.org.uk](mailto:www.friends@fowc.org.uk)

### **Annual General Meeting**

**Tuesday 17 July 2018 at 7.30pm**

at St John the Baptist Church, Wateringbury at 7.30pm.

Members and public are all welcome.

The AGM will look to approve the Financial Statements for the period to 31st March 2018 and, if considered fit, approve and elect/re-elect trustees to the Board. If you are interested in becoming a trustee, please submit your name to the Secretary with a proposer and seconder by Tuesday midnight 10 July 2018. At the AGM, only members of FOWC will be eligible to vote.

As the AGM is the FOWC's formal annual public meeting, members are encouraged to submit written questions in advance by Tuesday midnight 10 July 2018. However, questions will be taken on the night.

*Frances English – Secretary - 01622 812471 [friends@fowc.org.uk](mailto:friends@fowc.org.uk)*

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### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF

### THE FRIENDS OF WATERINGBURY CHURCH

On behalf of the FOWC President and Board of Trustees, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone in our community and beyond who have done so much to support FOWC raise the donation sum of £25,000 towards the re-shingling of the Church spire which took place in May and June 2018. As Friends will know from Friendsmail, in mid May, following a period of due diligence, the Board of Trustees agreed on the donors' behalf to pass the cheque for £25,000 to St John the Baptist Parochial Church Council in support of the re-shingling project.

This time nine years ago, FOWC was established on request of the PCC with a view to raising funds for the maintenance and upkeep of the Church and churchyard. Since then over £32,000 has been raised in support of this charitable aim and within this you, as donors, have enabled the legacy project of re-shingling the Church spire in oak, which will last for at least another two to three generations.

I hope that you will feel a true sense of pride whenever pass by the church. The re-shingled spire is your legacy to future generations and I thank you for it. Charitable fundraising continues. As many of you know, we had a fabulous Morgan event at Manor Farm in May, raising almost £400; our next event will be our **annual Strawberry Tea Party held at Manor Farm on Sunday 09 Sep 2018, 2-5pm**. I hope you will put this in your diary and consider coming to the event in order to continue to support our charitable aim. Again, I thank you for your kind and generous donations.

*William English, CBE - Chairman FOWC*

## **PRIESTLY PONDERINGS**

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

parishofficeemwt@gmail.com 01732 843282

July and August are for many people relatively quiet times in church terms with many people taking the opportunities offered by the school holidays to go away with their families or to visit relatives. My offering for you this month is therefore relatively short but I hope it contains something of interest in that I have to tell you about the results of the consultation on the Malling Deanery Mission and Ministry plan.

As you will be aware the plan proposed the joining of Teston with Barming, Watlingbury with Mereworth and West Peckham and East Malling with Larkfield. Many of you in response to my request were kind enough to share your views on this proposal with me and I ensured that those views were included in my response to the working group who were examining the idea.

I've since received a reply to our response which in summary says that there will, in the short term, be no formal changes but all the parishes concerned should consider working more closely together. So for the time being things will continue as they are. As always you will continue to be in my prayers, and please remember to enjoy any time of rest and relaxation you can.

Yours in Christ

Rev Nick Williams

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## **COFFEE BREAK – Wednesdays 11 & 25 July, 8 & 22 August**

Do go along to the church between **10.30-12.30** and enjoy coffee, delicious cake and chat. If you enjoy jigsaws we now have a jigsaw puzzle lending library. At the church fete on 14 July 11am-2pm we will be having a stall selling some of the items coffee breakers have made – well worth a browse. We hope to see you there!

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**Annual Plant Sale Thank Yous** to all who supported our sale in so many ways which raised £800 for Church Funds and the raffle for the tower re-shingling appeal which raised £66. Special thanks to the Skinner Family at Bijou Nursery and Martin and Debra Cronk at Cromar Nursery who were extremely generous in their giving of so many top quality plants. Their kindness and generosity is overwhelming.