

VILLAGE DIARY

Correction to October edition: We apologize for publishing an incorrect date of the Poppy Appeal collection outside the Village Hall. These collections will take place on 30th October and 6th November.

November	
2 nd 7.30 pm	Parish Council followed by Planning Committee Meeting in the Village Hall
6 th 9am-3pm	Poppy Appeal collection - outside the Village Hall
7 th 2 pm	Footpaths Group Walk starting at the Village Hall
11 th 2 pm	W.I. meeting in the Village Hall
13 th 7.30 pm	Voices Across A20 – Concert – Church
14 th 10.30 am	Annual Parish Open Air Act of Remembrance in the Churchyard
16 th 10am	Footpaths Group Walk starting at the Village Hall
16 th 7.30pm	Finance and General Purposes Committee - Village Hall
21 st 12 - 2pm	Wateringbury Community Market in the village car park
27 th 2pm	Advent Fair - Church

RBL Annual Poppy Appeal Collection

It is 100 years since Royal British Legion was established and funds are still very much needed to support those who have served our country in the forces. This year a limited door-to-door collection will start on 30th October. There will also be a collection table outside of the Village Hall on two Saturdays, **30th October** and **6th November**, from 9 am to 3 pm. There will be a full range of RBL Remembrance products for sale. Donations at the collection table can be made in cash or debit / credit card as the card reader will be available. Donations can also be made directly to RBL's Poppy Appeal 2021 website

<https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/ways-to-give>.

If you are able to volunteer to help with the Poppy Appeal collection, please contact Larry Collins on 07867 975508.

Thank you for your support of this worthy cause.

A26 – Night closure

Tonbridge Road will be closed between the junctions of Danns Lane and Canon Lane from 15th to 17th November from 10pm to 5am to reinstate the cat's eyes after resurfacing earlier this year.

There will be a temporary suspension of the 7.5T weight restriction on the B2015 Maidstone Road to allow traffic diversion.

VILLAGE PEOPLE

Please let us have your news and tributes by 17 September/November for our December/January magazine. Entries are free.

Email www.rostrum2@hotmail.com or phone 01622 812566

Happy 100th Birthday to Irene "Poppy" Ockenden

of Cobbs Close who will be turning 100 on November 11th 2021. She moved to Wateringbury in 1980 and is a past President of Wateringbury WI.

Congratulations to Michael and Karen Davie who are delighted to announce the arrival of their first grandchildren, **Alice Rose** and **Daisy Elizabeth**, born on 27th September

Thanks to Jill Hussey who kindly volunteered to deliver Rostrum to houses between 226 Tonbridge Road and the corner with Red Hill.

WATERINGBURY FLOWER CLUB

October meeting: Pat White will give a Halloween Demonstration for Members and show some designs on this theme. Hopefully members will join in, as it's sadly, still by Zoom.

In **November** we will have a live demonstration in our hall by the talented Graham King. We are also hoping to live stream it by Zoom for those members who are still wary about meeting up in the hall.

In **December** we will have our Christmas Social at Iris Shaw's new home. Thank you, Iris.
Jean Schofield

WATERINGBURY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Our speaker in October was Rod Leeming, a retired Metropolitan Police officer, who spent much of his career as a member of the Protection Squad who provide security for public figures, many of whom are Members of Parliament. They are also involved in protecting foreign visiting dignitaries. His very interesting talk compared the methods of protection employed in this country with those of the United States.

Several members have personal memories of Irene Ockenden. She was a dedicated W.I. member who served at one time as our President. All the members present wished her many congratulations and best wishes for her forthcoming 100th birthday. In November we will welcome Jean Surrey with her talk Grandma's Workbox. The competition will be an item from your workbox.
Margaret Malsher

WATERINGBURY LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

After an 18 month break we are happy to say that we have booked the village hall for a Christmas get together on Wednesday 15th December 2021 at 7.30pm. Please join us for a glass of wine, nibbles and entertainment. Moving forward we are looking to continue with our meetings on the 3rd Wednesday of the month beginning in January. Membership and guests will be free until July 2022.

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION AND PRESTON HALL

The Royal British Legion (RBL) was set up 100 years ago this year to support soldiers and their dependants killed or wounded in WWI. Its foundation was before the National Health Service (NHS) existed and at a time of mass unemployment caused by the Great Depression. The times have changed, and the RBL as well, but the need and RBL's objective are constant and current. Details of this year's poppy collection in Wateringbury are on the first page of this Rostrum.

Tuberculosis (TB) was a common disease among soldiers returning from WWI and the RBL acquired Preston Hall in Aylesford to create a specialist TB hospital there. TB is an infectious lung disease, often fatal if untreated, and is still endemic in many parts of the world. Plenty of fresh air was a standard treatment for TB and the cottages initially created in Preston Hall had a distinctive veranda, so beds could be put outside. George Orwell, who had earlier picked hops for Frank Blest, a Wateringbury farmer, was a resident in the hospital for

nearly 6 months just before WWII. After WWII and the creation of the NHS, the hospital passed to NHS control.

A RBL village was also set up in the extensive grounds of the hospital for ex-servicemen and their families and RBL Industries was located there, providing employment in the manufacture of various items, particularly road and other signs.

Wateringbury resident, Admiral Sir Henry Moore, was for many years on the RBL village's management committee and was Patron until his death in 1978. A road in the RBL village is named after him.

Terry Bird

West Malling Bridge Club

West Malling Bridge Club has returned to face-to face meetings at Offham Village Hall on Wednesday evenings. If you would like to discuss if this could be an appropriate club for you, please call Terry on 01622 812566. A partner can usually be found if needed.

WATERINGBURY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

The school year is well and truly underway now and the day-to-day business of learning and having fun is back to normal (despite Covid's best attempt to disrupt us). Our children have been showing us that they are fully embracing our vision of:

'Learning, growing, achieving our journey together with God.'

This week I have been showing new prospective parents around the school and have been bursting with pride at how focused, happy and welcoming all the children have been. They are keen to share their learning with visitors and show off their favourite parts of their classroom!

Many of our school clubs have started up again and the children are enjoying taking part in sports, art and musical activities after school. Our Harvest Festival was held in the church last week with the children in each year group sharing their thoughts on the importance of being thankful for what we have and sharing with others. Thank you to all our families and everyone at St John the Baptist Church for your donations and helping to make the morning such a special event – it was really quite moving seeing all the children back in the church again worshipping together.

There are lots of exciting events happening in school. Our Year Six pupils had a memorable day in London visiting the Houses of Parliament to learn about how our country is run – they were also lucky enough to see the changing of the guard.

November sees the return of our Bonfire Night organised by our Friends of Wateringbury Primary School (FOWPS). Come along between 5:30 – 7:30pm on Friday 5th November for some warm food, a roaring fire and to vote for your favourite guy built by the children.

We have lots of outings and other events planned and, before you know it, it will be nativity and carol service season. We hope lots of you will be able to join us to celebrate such a special time.

If you are looking for a school place for your child and would like a tour, please contact the school office at office@wateringbury.kent.sch.uk – you are very welcome.

Debbie Johnson – Headteacher

www.wateringbury.kent.sch.uk

TESTON AND WATERINGBURY PRE-SCHOOL

Welcome back to all our children and families to what will be a very exciting term 2. This term we will be exploring the book 'Dream Snow', by Eric Carle. Children will delight in this book as it embraces the magic of Christmas and the value of giving and sharing with others.

Our small group phonics classes will be starting this term for our school leavers. As well as learning their letters and sounds it also helps them

to work well with others, understand instructions, being patient and waiting their turn, and having the confidence to speak in front of others. This term will also see the return of our 'clever finger' activities to help with their fine motor skills such as their pencil grip.

If you are interested in joining our pre-school, please contact Tina Driver on 07805 796353 or email on tandwngroup@gmail.com.

SCHOOL WAR MEMORIAL BOARD

The cover of this edition of Rostrum is Wateringbury School's War Memorial Board which is located in the vestry of the Church. The board shows not only the 36 Old Boys from the school who died in WWI, in the central brass panel, but also the 211 who served during the war. After WWII side panels were added to remember those who died in that conflict. When the school moved in 1976 from Red Hill to its current premises, the board was stored until it was moved to its current location and restored, financed by grants from various organisations including Rostrum's Village Amenity Fund.

VILLAGE AMENITY FUND

The fund is open to applications to contribute to specific projects benefiting the village. In the past these have been in the areas of education, youth services, heritage, and sport but others could be considered. It is unlikely that any individual grant would exceed £500. Applications should be made in writing to rostrum2@hotmail.com describing the project in no more than 250 words; on the basis of this initial proposal further specific information may be requested. Proposals should be received by the end of the year and will be considered early next year.

WATERINGBURY FOOTPATH GROUP

In October we walked along the river, taking advantage of some lovely walking weather and the footpaths not being muddy. As usual, there was a Sunday afternoon walk and a weekday morning walk, both following the same route. We went down Bow Road to Bow Bridge and along the path on the north bank of the river heading downstream. We crossed the river at Teston Bridge and returned through Tutsham Farm and Waregrave's Wood. At Teston Country Park we encountered highland cattle grazing together with major works for machinery to access the Environment Agency's 'Sluice Investigation Works'. Some paths in the Country Park were diverted and we had to find alternative routes to get onto Teston Bridge – a more adventurous route through the Country Park than usual. The walk back through Tutsham Farm gave us the usual lovely views of the river, including alpacas in a field on the other riverbank.

Our next walks will be on **Sunday 7th November**, leaving the Village Hall at 2.00pm (note earlier winter starting time) and again on **Tuesday 16th November**, leaving at 10am. Everyone is welcome! Please contact me if you want more information.

Lisa Dean 07759 539032

WATERINGBURY SCOUTS

What a rollercoaster of a year!

September 2020 saw us having some face-to-face meetings, with the Beaver Scouts going on a hike, learning some knots and generally having a laugh over the fields.

The Cub Scouts had a paper aeroplane competition, learnt about animals and

had a huge campfire at Hamlet Wood!

Scouts did some open fire cooking, wide games and lots of games over the fields.

The Explorer Scouts managed a BBQ, tested their tracking skills and attempted origami over zoom!

Then we had another lockdown, so it was all back to Zoom again, but this time we were ready and all the sections had it properly sussed out! On-line meetings take a lot of planning and preparation (an ability to mute some members is also useful!) but the sections still had some crazy ideas, including watching our members turn their houses upside down looking for random objects through to a certain Beavers painting their parents own faces (including Tudor the Beaver Leader!)

Cubs did some amazing things online, from origami lessons to quizzes.

Scouts had some wonderful ideas including the "Adventures of Bob" which involved lobbing a wooden spoon (called Bob) out the window to land safely with a parachute and helping him survive on a raft!

Explorers honed their cooking skills holding a Masterchef zoom night and also showed their knowledge of many useless facts with a quiz!

As 2021 progressed more of the Covid restrictions and rules were removed, meaning we could do more adventurous activities like messing around down the stream, going on hikes and gathering round a fire once again.

Some of the leaders finally decided that given we are called WATERingbury we should have some permits to do with water! As a result of some wet days on the water (more 'in' I'd say!) 11 leaders now hold the relevant permit to take a group of 6 young members each out in kayaks!

Then in June... WE COULD GO CAMPING!! The Scouts and Explorers pretty much booked the site within 48hrs of the news and that was it, we were in full camp planning mode! It was great to see so many of our members, after nearly two years, doing what they do best - having a laugh, making friends and just enjoying life with no real worries.

I'm sure you have all seen the news that Scouting now has a new section. Squirrels is for 4-6 year olds and plans are now falling into place for us to be able to offer Scouting to 4-5 year olds in Wateringbury in 2022!

Scouting couldn't happen without the dedication of the Leadership Team, the countless hours they give to ensure that Scouting continues, remains fun and above all remains safe for everyone always leaves me speechless and to that I am truly humbled and owe a debt of gratitude. We are #TeamWateringbury.

Nick Keates

Group Scout Leader

Wateringbury Scout Group.

FIRST WATERINGBURY GUIDES

At the time of writing we've just had another trip to Lower Grange Farm for a second session of archery, fencing and geocaching. Those that did geocaching this time were more challenged as it was dark from the start but with a little help from the leaders, they found five out of the six caches. We've also had a trip to Clip and Climb at Tonbridge which was very popular as we had over 30 attend and a good time was had by all.

We had five girls take part in Challenge Invicta in frankly foul weather pretty much from the start. It was an all-day event involving map reading and route planning, working as a team and tackling challenges. The event was shortened because of the awful rain but I'm really proud of the fact that our team came 7th out of 20. Particular thanks go to Lisa Dean for unravelling the mystery of maps for the girls and helping them to understand how to plot their route. Thanks also to the parents for making sure the girls had suitable kit, for which the team got full marks even before they'd left the start base.

I'm turning my thoughts to whether or not I might be able to organise a wide game activity during half term so by the time you read this, if you saw or heard a large group of girls outside having fun during that week, it could well have been your local guide unit. I could offer the girls much more

activities if I had some adult help this term, so even if you don't fancy going into uniform but want some outdoor fun, do please let me know.

If you're interested in helping, even on an irregular basis, do please contact me as I'm sure we can work something out. You can call me on 01622 815416 or email to sheenastewartx3@gmail.com. Where else can you enjoy the out of doors and have this much fun? Sheena Stewart 1st Wateringbury Guides

GARDENING FOR WILDLIFE

This week, I attended a KWT talk entitled 'Gardening with weeds and wild flowers'. It is debatable as to the distinction but I think that we would all agree that Bindweed is a pest, whereas Foxgloves are now an acceptable garden plant. However, there were a number of wild flowers mentioned that would look attractive in most gardens with the added benefit of attracting a wide range of insects. Two in particular, which are still flowering now, are Ragwort and Purple Toadflax. Ragwort is bright yellow and is often seen in fields (not advisable near horses). It is the only food plant of the yellow and black Cinnabar caterpillar which pupates into a rather beautiful red and black moth. Purple Toadflax often appears by magic and I allow it to seed around the garden as it is an attractive, upright plant and the only food for the Brocade caterpillar.

We are all currently being urged to plant trees and now is the ideal month to do so. Obviously, native trees are preferable as a single, mature Oak can support over 2,300 species including mammals, birds, insects, mosses, lichen and fungi. However, most of us haven't the room so maybe plant one of the smaller varieties of Silver Birch with its beautiful bark. Alternatively, fruit trees come in a range of sizes and provide blossom for pollinators in the Spring and fruit for us in the Autumn. In particular, Crab Apple trees display attractive flowers in the Spring and then provide a food supply for many garden birds such as Blackbirds and Thrushes through the Autumn and Winter.

Pauline Knutton

A CASUALTY ON THE EASTERN FRONT

In the last few days the screen saver on my computer has shown the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin, beautifully restored and illuminated. It reminds me of my many visits to Eastern Europe and its battlefields and cemeteries of WWII. Being a Vicar, I am drawn to war graves and have visited the Thiepval Monument on the Somme which contains so many names of the British fallen in 1916. Since the year 2000, many new museums have opened at the Normandy beach landing sites. When we stayed at Juno beach we visited the fine new one there at Courcelles sur Mer. Then we drove along the road to Caen. This was the route that the Canadian and British forces had to advance along in June 1944 and liberate Caen. It is about 15 miles but it took them six weeks. It was no picnic as you can see from the number of war cemeteries along the way. Every three or four miles there is a Commonwealth War Cemetery, some large. We were there in June and the sunshine helped us cope with the sacrifice of many young men's lives. There were flowers and the grass was green and beautifully mown. All of the cemeteries were symbols of devotion.

That was in 2008 and in January 2010 I flew to Tallinn, Estonia to take part in a clergy conference on the Baltic. I was to stay at Johvi with the Vicar and his family. Johvi is in the far east of Estonia close to the Russian border. It was freezing and covered in snow. The Vicar spoke excellent English and was very talkative. He was fascinated by three things: church architecture, coins and the history of WWII. Somehow his church had been partially destroyed in the WWII when the German munitions shed in the churchyard blew up and damaged the tower. He wanted to know about the Western Front and my visits to Amiens, Montreuil and especially the Vimy Ridge tunnels. He was fascinated by these tunnels which the British had dug out towards and under the German lines. He saw them as similar to the catacombs which the Christians had dug in Rome when the church was persecuted. He was very disappointed in my ignorance of the WWII in Estonia and he decided that we would set off on the Monday morning to visit the scene of the battle of the River Narva of 1944. The River Narva is the border between Estonia and Russia and he was very keen to explain that it was the longest battle of WWII, lasting from January to August. It was 20 miles to the east of Johvi and on the way we would visit war graves and then view the crucial target of the bridge over the Narva. So, off we set on a January Monday

morning. The temperature was -17celsius, complete snow covering and the road was sheet ice.

I must have looked slightly alarmed as we got into the Skoda but the Vicar said the car was new, and had chains on the tyres and it was a sunny day with good visibility and no snow forecast. We were to stop to look at the war cemeteries on the way. The German ones had been laid out in 1999 and the larger Russian ones were older. The main Russian one in Tallinn has a fine statue of a young soldier. Viewing the graves was not as easy as at Caen in the summer. All was white and the shrubs were snow-capped, but it was a fine sunny day with not a cloud in the sky; but still - 10.c. We began to run late, visiting graves and hearing about Estonia in WWII, which meant we accelerated towards Narva and on a sweeping bend we left the road and luckily hit a roadside barrier which prevented us falling into a ravine. The airbags saved us from serious injury. The car was a write off and we had to wait for an ambulance and a breakdown lorry. Very quickly a car stopped to see if we needed help and I was allowed to sit in it to keep warm. The driver was a Russian speaker and loved talking in English - he had been to the UK and was very fond of Shrewsbury where he had been on business. The breakdown lorry only took us with the smashed car to the garage on the outside of town and we then had, as walking wounded, to trudge back to the Vicarage for three miles through the drifts. It was glorious to be back in the warmth with hot soup. In the battle of Narva the Red Army had 680,000 dead and wounded. I never did espy the famous bridge but felt that I could live without having seen it - a bridge which had proved too far for so many in 1944.

Brian Stevenson

TOM TUGENDHAT MP

Fuel shortages over the last few weeks have hurt us all. We have seen again how important HGV drivers are and why the shortage has occurred.

Many other countries are also short of drivers. Poland and Germany are finding it hard to find people and we all need to pinpoint ways we can reduce the impact this could have on prices we pay in the shops.

With only a few shopping weeks until Christmas, a time where so many of us will be ordering food and presents, we need to sort this now. The toys and turkeys we will need take time to plan for and companies need certainty to help them do it.

The end of free movement, Covid delays at the DVLA and the rising wages in other careers make it hard to simply fill the gaps, so we must look hard at our visa system and see where we want to make changes.

We can reach out to others around the world and make a generous offer to those we want to attract to work here and avoid any future shortages. By Christmas, shelves will be stocked and presents delivered as we move into a new phase, as more HGV drivers take their place on Britain's roads. In getting back to normal after Coronavirus they will have played a vital role, and one we are all grateful for.

FROM OUR KCC & T&M CLLR SARAH HUDSON

Did you know that Wateringbury now has a monthly Farmers Market?

We meet up at the car park next to the Village Hall.

After the recent fuel crisis, now, more than ever, we should be shopping locally. Let's support our local food producers, keep the food miles low, and support the local economy. With so much great produce literally on our doorstep why drive for miles?

Our fruit and veg stall is run by the same community fridge gang - all is sold at cost, so will be cheaper than in other places. We have fresh bread from Teston Bakery, cheeses from Winterdale, jams and chutneys, sausages and other meat products, plus wines from Redhill Farm Estate As well as other

stalls featuring crafts, jewellery and antiques. All naturally sourced here in Kent.

Please, do stick your head in! We are open from 12-2 on the 3rd Sunday of the month.

Sarah Hudson

Small plot of land to let in the Pizien Well area

It measures roughly one third of an acre and is suitable for goats, but not many! Or for an allotment. References essential.

Please telephone 01622 81784

NOVEMBER PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

At the start of the meeting the Chairman presented **Mike Williams of The Friends of Wateringbury** with the certificate awarded in 2020 by The Kent Association of Local Councils in recognition of the work The Friends do to enhance the village environment by litter picking and other tasks. Mike thanked all those who had helped with these tasks.

Announcements – Due to additional work commitments Christian Ball has resigned. The chairman thanked Sarah Hudson for her financial support for the village roads survey. The report of the consultants is awaited.

Cemetery Car Park – the process of acquiring the freehold is underway.

Crime – the e-watch website showed a car had been stolen from Barming Road and a car had been set on fire in Bow Road.

KCC and BC Councillor Sarah Hudson – The Boundary Commission First Draft has been published and will reduce the number of T & M Borough Councillors giving a saving of £55,000 a year. Wateringbury will be linked with Mereworth and East Peckham and have 2 councillors. Residents have until next May to comment on the plan.

So far only one objection has been received to the plan to reduce the **speed limit on the A26 between Pizien Well Road and Canon Lane**; all others completing the on-line consultation have been in favour.

Village Fete to Celebrate Queen's 70th Jubilee – it is hoped to hold a Village Fete on Sunday 5th June as part of the Nation's events. Friday 3rd and Monday 6th June will be Bank Holidays. The Woodlands Trust can supply small sapling trees to organisations to plant small woodlands to mark the Queen's Jubilee.

Playing Fields Play Equipment – the recent Timber Inspection report and possible solutions were discussed. Further advice will be sought.

Speed Watch – the volunteer teams continue to record unacceptably high numbers of vehicles speeding through the village.

Village Map – a volunteer will develop a village map for the Council's website. The artist will allow the Council to use the map for local purposes but will retain the copyright to possibly develop local commercial products.

Public Open Forum – Mike Williams hoped the Parish Council would be willing to make a financial contribution to proposed display boards which are being planned to tell of the village's heritage. He also suggested that the council consider replacing the 3 individual notice boards on the hall fence with one smart large board which the organisations could share.

Planning – Councillors had no objections to the following applications:

- Extension to existing double garage at **189 Canon Lane**
- **Coppice Court 70 Teston Road** demolition of existing stables erection of replacement dwelling revision to approval TM/18/02150/FL
- Prior notice of large house **extension at 23 Leney Road**

The next meetings of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 2nd November at 7.30 in the upper room of the village hall and **Tuesday 16th November** for the Finance and General Purposes Committee which will discuss next year's budget and precept.

REV GARY WRITES

The Rectory, 72 The Street, Mereworth ME18 5NA

gary.rev@outlook.com

☎ 01622 813178

November holds two very important events for me. The first is the honouring of all our service men and women both past and present. Across the benefice there will be an Armistice Day observance beginning at 10:45 at the War Memorial at St Lawrence's, Mereworth. Then, on Remembrance Sunday, which falls on the 14th this year, there will be a service of Remembrance held outside at SJB beginning at 10:30 and a service beginning in the church at 10:15 at St Lawrence, Mereworth with the act of remembrance outside at the memorial. Everyone is welcome at all and any of these and I am proud that the churches in our villages still have a part to play in leading these occasions which are important to us all. Those we honour at this time are all people who have answered a call to make sacrifices and they and their selflessness and bravery are quite rightly remembered with grateful appreciation.

And that leads me to the second important event in November – St Andrew's Day (30th November). Some Christians mark the end of November with a reflection on St Andrew who answered Christ's call to leave all he had and follow Him. To turn to Christ and follow Him is a call to obedient and sacrificial service in His Name. There is an old prayer that some of us say on St Andrew's Day:

Almighty God, who didst give such grace unto thy holy Apostle Saint Andrew, that he readily obeyed the calling of thy Son Jesus Christ and followed Him without delay: Grant unto us all, that we, being called by thy holy word, may forthwith give up ourselves obediently to fulfil thy holy commandments; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The sacrifice made by those in the last great war in particular and those who still lay their lives on the line to keep our nation safe have secured the liberty we enjoy in this land. But our nation is far from internal conflict: 'spirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth and care' as Timothy Dudley-Smith put it in the hymn: *Lord for the Years*. We need to see that problems in a nation come down to problems within the people that make up that nation. Christ came to save us from our sins and there's no dealing with sins and the wrongness that is within each of us without sacrifice – without Christ's we couldn't even make a start and without our own there is no genuine response to His call. Each of us must take up the cross and follow Him. God grant to us the grace to do it.

*Rev Gary Townsend
Priest-in-Charge of Mereworth, Wateringbury
and West Peckham*

**WATERINGBURY CHURCH -
SERVICES IN NOVEMBER**

[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)

6th Nov 3-5pm Messy Church (for young families) – Bible Story, Action Songs, Prayer time, lots of crafts and ending with afternoon tea. All welcome

7th Nov - 10am – Matins led by Barry Fisher with guest speaker Michael Cooper of the Church Army

PARISH ANNUAL REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

Sunday 14th November at 10.30-11.05 (approx)

This is a very well attended service as our village youth organisations parade to church to remember all who gave their lives in the service of our country. In these Covid times it would be impossible to have over 300 people in the church building while maintaining safe distancing for those who are vulnerable. So this year our service will be an **Open Air Service** in the Churchyard and will be led by Rev Gary Townsend.

21th Nov - 10am - All Age Worship

28th Nov - Advent Sunday- 10am – Communion with Rev Gary Townsend

5th Dec - 10am – Morning Praise with Barry Fisher

To comply with Covid regulations it is important that those hoping to attend a service notify their wish by emailing before 2pm on the prior Saturday to office@wateringburychurch.org.uk / 01622 813852.

This does not apply to our outdoor Remembrance Day Service

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WEEKLY ZOOM BENEFICE BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Thursdays at 7.30pm for about an hour

Rev Gary Townsend invites you to join him for bible study. To join please email gary.rev@outlook.com for the link to the meeting.

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IN OUR JOYS AND SORROWS – From the Parish Registers

Baptism - Phoebe Beatrice Hammond
(17th October)

Funeral - Sheila Mary Ward (29th September)

ANNUAL CHURCHYARD AUTUMN TIDY
Saturday 13 November 9.30am-Noon

Please come along for an hour or so and help tidy the church grounds ready for the Annual Parish Act of Remembrance which this year, due to Covid, will be an Open Air Service. Please bring your own tools.

ADVENT FAIR

SATURDAY 27TH NOVEMBER

2pm – 4.30pm

IN WATERINGBURY CHURCH

Crafts, Cakes, Books, Tombola,
Handmade Christmas Decorations,
Sheena's Jams and Chutneys,
Children's Christmas Craft making,
General Raffle, Picture Raffle
Homemade Christmas Cake Raffle,
(drawn at 4pm)

Mulled Wine, Coffee and Mince Pies

A chance to enjoy socially distanced
stalls dotted around the church

ENTRY FREE

Autumn Craft Fair

St Lawrence Church Mereworth

Saturday 13th November

11.30am-2.30pm Entry Free

Lots of Craft Stalls and Refreshments
A Bit of a Sing is Back – Voices Across the A20 present
An evening of Folk Songs Old and New with
opportunities for audience participation

SATURDAY 13TH NOVEMBER AT 7.30PM

Church of St John the Baptist, Tonbridge Road
Wateringbury

Tickets £5 on the door

Refreshments available