

## VILLAGE DIARY

### April

- 2 Footpaths Walk** - meet at village hall car park 2.30pm sharp
- 4 Parish Council** - Hall - 7.30pm then planning committee
- 5 Simply Soup Lunch** - Church 12.15-1.30pm
- 13 100 Years of Toys and Play talk** - WI - Hall - 2pm
- 15 Easter Fun with Faith** - Church - 9.30-12.30
- 19 Coffee, Craft & Chat** - Church - 10.30-12.30
- 19 Bob Ogley The Great Storm and how it affected my life**  
History Society - Village Hall - 7.40 for 8pm
- 22 Pre-school Quiz night** - Teston Hall - 7.30pm

### May

- 2 Parish Council** - Hall - 7.30pm then planning committee
- 7 Annual Bluebell Walk** - meet at hall car park 2.30pm sharp
- 13 Innominata Concert** - Church - 7.30pm
- 27 Annual Plant Sale** - Churchyard - 10am-3pm

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### WATERINGBURY VILLAGE FETE

**Sunday 4 June at Playing Fields Noon to 5pm**

**Lots of Fun for Everyone**

**Start teaching your dog a new trick for the dog show**

**Lots of Stalls old favourites and first-timers**

*If you would like a stall there is just space for a few more*

£10 for local village clubs/societies/commercial.

£15 for those outside Wateringbury

*First Come/First Served contact Mike 01622 812027*

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### GARAGE SALE

**SATURDAY 29 APRIL TO MONDAY 1 MAY - 9AM-5PM**

**2 HANBURY CLOSE**

**Come along and bag a bargain**

**20% of all sales to Church Spire Appeal**

**Details from 01622 815306**

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

**Big Birthday Congratulations to  
Beaver's Leader Tudor Price for 2 April**

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**Happy 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday to Bob Edmunds** who will be celebrating on **5 April**

**Belated 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday** greetings to **Rev Alan Searle** who celebrated on **28 March**-----

**RIP Denise Elisabeth Goodwin** (known to many as Bett) died on 7 March 2017 after a short illness. Bett was born on 21 January 1930 and is a former Watringbury School Pupil and resident having lived in the village since 1976. She set up Nettlestead and Watringbury play school in the 1970s and was also a childminder in the village and she had seen many children grow up into adulthood. She worked as a cleaner for Kent County Council at what was then West Malling Air Station from September 1975 and remained cleaning there until September 2016, 26 years past her retirement date. Rostrum extends condolences to all her family and friends.

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**Tracey Brydon-Brown** who is a village brownie pack leader and an ex paramedic, recently qualified as a first aid instructor. She would be very happy to run **awareness courses on basic first aid, recovery position, cpr etc free of charge** for local people at a suitable village venue for a **donation to SADS UK** (sadsuk.org.uk registered charity number 1113681) who donate defibs to local schools and preschools. Tracey would also be available for more formal courses in the future but her primary aims are to educate and give confidence to people in the world of first aid and teaching life skills for the benefit of village people. If any local groups or small groups of parents/grandparents are interested please contact tabbfirstaidtraining@gmail.com or phone 07941147445-----

**Well Done to Daisy Burrows** who had her very long hair cut and donated a plait 30 centimetres (nearly 12") long to the Little Princess Trust. The charity seeks donations of children's hair to make into wigs so that children who have lost their hair can have wigs which are made of real hair

**Sweet Dreams** the fourth book by Local Author Jennifer Button is now available at the Post Office price £8.99. It is about Stella Sankey whose life is boring, magnolia coloured and repetitive. Her only escape from this monotony comes from her dreams: dreams which transport her to a wide screen Technicolor world where anything is possible, a place where she is free of the self-doubt and disappointment that dogs her waking life. Gradually Stella's dreams start to merge with reality. Life becomes a complicated web of doubt. Martina, an extremely damaged young woman, bounces her way into this vulnerable woman's home and worms her way into her affections. This manipulative, young woman will stop at nothing, even murder, to achieve her own unscrupulous ends.

**LONDON MARATHON MAN SEEKS SPONSORS** I moved to the village a few months ago, and I have been very impressed with, and pleased by, the community spirit of the village! I walk and run around the area a lot, and the number of friendly Hello's and chats with folk I'm meeting for the first time is really humbling. I thought your readers might be interested to know that I will be running the **London Marathon in April, raising funds for the road safety charity "Brake" and the Cystic Fibrosis Trust**. My training is going well (although I am far from athletic, this will be my fourth and final marathon). **Donations from readers would be much appreciated** for my charities and may be made at [uk.virginmoneygiving.com/Colin.evans1](http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/Colin.evans1)

## **A FAMILY AFFAIR ART EXHIBITION**

Three artists (Jane Guthrie, Thomas Best-Shaw, and Lucy Best-Shaw) will be exhibiting their work in West Malling at **Belmont, 104 High Street, West Malling (next door to The Five Pointed Star). on Saturdays, Sundays & Bank Holidays (10am – 5pm) between 29th April - 29th May** (or by special arrangement). Jane is mother to Thomas and Lucy, but paints under her maiden name. Thomas lives in Watringbury, and specialises in oil portraits and seascapes. He is always happy to show his work by private arrangement (tel. 299713, or email: [bestshaw1@gmail.com](mailto:bestshaw1@gmail.com)), and for a preview go to his website [tbsart.co.uk](http://tbsart.co.uk). Do go along the exhibition - all welcome.

## MARCH PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

The meeting opened with the Chairman extending a warm welcome to a new member of the Parish Council, **Keith Fisher**, who has lived in Wateringbury for many years. The welcome return of **David Marks** to the Parish Council was also announced.

Richard Tripp congratulated Cllr Chris Talbert on his recent marriage to Janet Hall.

**New 40mph advisory signs** have been erected approaching the bend of the A26 Tonbridge Road near to the junction of Pizien Well. Unfortunately, one sign has already been damaged. Comments from residents would be welcomed as it is felt that further improvements are needed to encourage motorists to reduce their travelling speed on this bend.

**Crimes** reported during December in the village amounted to eight: 2 violent crimes, 2 anti-social behaviour, 3 criminal damage and 1 vehicle crime.

**Drayhorse Meadow** - trees abutting the building require trimming and this will then allow access for repairs to be carried out to the roof. The stables have been cleaned and painted and are in good order. Councillors should be present when the stables are handed over to the new tenant.

The issue of Parish Councillors attending **planning consent site meetings** was discussed. Councillors felt that often their knowledge of the local area could be beneficial on these occasions but the current rules restrict them from offering their comments. Procedures at the present time only allow them to report to Parish Council meetings and then comment on applications. The matter is to be taken up with T&MBC.

During February the **Speed Watch** team made 529 observations of vehicles speeding through the village and this total will have been added to the Kent Police Community Speed Watch database.

**Arriva Bus Service 6 - Maidstone to Tunbridge Wells via Wateringbury, East Peckham and Paddock Wood. completely revised from 2 April 2017.** Service 6 will run only between Tunbridge Wells and East Peckham, with some school-time buses to and from Maidstone. Five Oak Green will no longer be served. Daytime frequency every thirty minutes. New Sunday service. New Service 66 will link East Peckham with Maidstone Hospital. See more at: <https://www.arrivabus.co.uk/>

During the public session a local resident volunteered his services to clean the village signs. Unfortunately, due to insurance cover restrictions this offer is unable to be accepted at the present time. In view of future budget cutbacks. The clerk is to investigate extending insurance cover for volunteer activities which enhance village life.

Other items raised during the public session were:

**Overgrown vegetation** encroaching on the pavement of Bow Road between Leney Road and Phoenix Drive. It is proving hazardous to pedestrians and is a well-used school route. It also restricts the view to drivers turning right out of Phoenix Drive. The problem of litter deposited around the village. Overgrown shrubs on the Tonbridge Road are making it difficult for pedestrians. **(All residents are requested to cut back vegetation from their property boundaries to keep pavements clear)**

A resident of the village accompanied the Chairman to inspect various matters that need addressing along Bow Road.

The "Welcome to Wateringbury" sign near the school has been missing for about 7 months. (The finger signpost at the crossroads is also being repaired by the same company - the clerk will contact them)

The Park Road sign in Pizien Well is missing.

The condition of the **zebra crossing near the school** is poor and road markings are faded. The village school will be asking for support for a possible pelican crossing.

Residents in Old Road who use the post box in the wall opposite the entrance to Old Road find crossing the A26 precarious. Would it be possible to have another post box?

**Planning** Subject to any comments/objections from neighbours the Parish Council had no objections to the following applications:

**2 Old Road** - TM/17/00473/FL - First floor front/side extension, demolition of conservatory and erection of a garden room, alterations to elevations including rendering brickwork. No objections.

**8 Warden Mill Close** - TM/17/00479/FL - Single storey rear addition and construction of porch. No objections.

**Next Meeting** Members of the public are welcome to attend the next meeting in the village hall upper room on **Tuesday 4 April at 7.30pm.**

## HISTORY SOCIETY

Our speaker for the next meeting on **Wednesday 19 April** is **Bob Ogley** whose talk is entitled **The Great Storm and how it affected my life.** Many of you will have heard Bob speak about various subjects over the last 10 years or so and need no reminding of his ability to deliver a good story in a relaxed manner. Do come along from 7.40 pm, the talk beginning at 8pm, and join us for a cup of tea or coffee. Visitors £3. Members free.

On the 15 March Peter Batty gave us a talk on Maidstone, a town of firsts. Peter made the talk thoroughly entertaining and imparted so much information about the "firsts" in Maidstone including Napoleon's Will was written on paper from Whatmans Paper Mill, Edith Cavell lived at 72 Bank Street, Maidstone and Maidstone is the first town in the UK to have a dinosaur on its coat of arms.

## WATERINGBURY'S BLUE PLAQUES PROJECT

Wateringbury Local History Society is in consultation with some local residents and T & M Planners to install a number of Blue Plaques on properties in the village to share the stories of Wateringbury people whose lives have helped shape our world. It is planned to have events in the village on 9 September – make a note in your diary! Thanks go to the property owners involved for their co-operation.

**WATERINGBURY EXPLORER SCOUTS** would like to say a BIG THANK YOU to everybody who helped with our jumble sale at the end of February whether they collected jumble, transported it, sorted it, sold it, displayed posters, made cakes, prepared the hall or counted the money, it was all very much appreciated. We would also like to say thank you to everyone who generously donated so much jumble and to those who attended and bought it, without which we would not have had such a huge success and a super atmosphere. We are very lucky to live in such a supportive community. By the way, we raised over £850 towards our Canada expedition later this year! THANK YOU

## Teston's Sewing Bee Saturdays 8 April and 20 May.

If you are interested in **sewing, knitting, crochet or embroidery** do go along. **Teston Village Hall** between **9am-noon**, refreshments provided.

Small charge to hire of hall details from 01622 812948

## WATERINGBURY SCOUTS NEWS

Sorry it's been awhile since my last update, but we've been SUPER busy in the Scouts in Wateringbury.

Our youngest section, **Beaver Scouts (6-8yrs)** have had sleepovers, toasted marshmallows, games in the dark and have even had a famous motorcycle racer in to visit them!

Tudor continues to run an amazing programme and I honestly don't know where all his crazy ideas come from!

The Beaver section does need a bit of help, nothing major, just someone who can offer a few hours each month to give help give our young members amazing adventures and the best opportunities we can offer, if you can help and make a massive difference, email [nick@wateringbury-scouts.org.uk](mailto:nick@wateringbury-scouts.org.uk)

**The Cub Scouts (8-10.5yrs)**, well, where do I start?!

They've been to the beach for Summer Camp and had a campfire on the beach enjoyed their own private outside cinema! They have been on hikes, climbing, abseiling, shooting, archery and even had a go on the Fire Engine at Maidstone Fire Station!

**Our Scouts (10.5-14yrs)** had an amazing Summer with loads of activities including go-karting, shooting, night hike, archery and jacob's ladder. Our Scouts have a say in the programme, so they last few months have been quite crazy...they've made their own chocolate bars (and ate them!) had a pancake obstacle course and Winter Camp with over 30 different activities to do!

**The Explorer Scouts (14-18yrs)** are going to Canada in the summer so the last year have been all about fundraising and making plans for Canada. A large number have also just completed their Duke of Edinburgh Awards, a big achievement to add to their future CV's, Well done!!

If you are interested in helping out, giving our young members the chance to do the things most young people can only dream of and have a couple of hours to spare each month during normal term times, we'd love to hear from you! You don't need to be super adventurous or a Bear Grylls look-a-like, we want people who are happy to get involved and try new things, oh and have a great laugh and fun along the way with the most amazing people in the world!

And last but not least, It leaves me to say a MASSIVE thank-you to the leaders and adults who already help us, your amazing and we love you to bits, your time and energy means the world to me and our young members! :-)

Nick Keates Group Scout Leader Wateringbury Scout Group

### **FOOTPATHS GROUP NEXT WALKS**

**Sunday 2 April** meet at Village Hall at later time of **2.30pm** for a local woodland walk.

**Sunday 7 May** meet at Village Hall at **2.30pm** for our **annual bluebell walk** in the local woods

Our March walk looked as though it may be a little damp! 15 minutes before, steady rain was falling and 5 minutes before the start the rain stopped. Because of muddy conditions, it was decided to take a different route. We went to the top of Canon Lane via Gransden Path noting the new planted vines at Canon Court Farm. Crossing Canon Lane we followed the golf course perimeter down to Wisteria Cottage then along Old Road and Millpond, stopping to admire the good work the new owner has carried out on tidying it up. Kevin Reynolds 01622813763

### **TESTON & WATERINGBURY PRE-SCHOOL**

Our theme for term 5 is 'People who help us' where we will be learning about all the people in our community who have special jobs that benefit and help others.

We are again **collecting Sainsburys vouchers** this year and would welcome any of your unused vouchers, just drop them in to the preschool.

A date to put in your diaries, we will be hosting a **quiz night in Teston Hall on Saturday 22 April at 7.30pm** in aid of Teston Preschool and our chosen charity this year The Brain and Spine foundation. All are welcome, £10.00 per head including sausage and chip supper. To book contact Tina on 07805 796353.

### **WATERINGBURY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

During our meeting in March, when we do not have a speaker, the judging of our annual competitions took place. The Freda Robbins Plate, for six cupcakes, was won by Diana Burbridge. The Flower Cup, a Basket of Spring Flowers and the Hickman Cup, a decorated container and lid, were judged by the members and were won by Margaret Andrews and Janet Talbert respectively. We had a very enjoyable afternoon.

On the **13 April, Helen Allison** is coming along to give her talk "**100 years of Toys and Play**", when the monthly competition is a childhood book, game or toy. Visitors very welcome, the meeting starts at 2pm at Wateringbury Village Hall.

For enquiries please contact Elizabeth, on 01622 812018, or elizabethastrid@aol.com

## WAR NEWS APRIL 1917

April 6: United States declares war on Germany.

April 9: Allied Artois and Champagne offensive starts (Battle of Vimy Ridge).

April 16: French Nivelle Offensive starts.

The village had no war deaths in April. The news of the United States entry into the war on 6<sup>th</sup> April, following Germany's adoption of unrestricted submarine warfare, was received across the nation with relief and, possibly, a feeling of "about time too". In Watlingtonbury the senior classes of both the boys and girls schools attended a service at the Church on 20<sup>th</sup> April. The Boys' school log says the service was "to celebrate the entry of America into the war" and the Girls' school log says "in recognition of America joining the Allies to fight against barbarism."

With so many men in the armed forces, inflationary pressures on wages and salaries started and in Watlingtonbury we see the evidence of this with the Parish Clerk applying to the Council for an increase. The council deferred a decision but a few months later agreed to pay the Assistant Overseer a "war bonus" of £10, to be paid in two instalments. The school cleaner, Mrs Weller, had been given an additional 1s. a week for the duration of the war in the previous year.

The Board of Frederick Leney met regularly (in the village) and the minutes now record more commercial matters than previously. Although profitability is not mentioned, it is evident that the firm had not suffered financially from the government's attack on alcohol (shorter pub hours; weaker beer; higher duty etc.). A series of substantial (£23,000 by the end of 1917- equivalent to over £1 million today) investments start in Government War Bonds. Its direct taxes though, for 1916 of £31, seem modest. Discussions with other brewers had taken place to ensure that a new beer price to tenants and for retail were adopted. These were announced on 4<sup>th</sup> April as 5d. (2 pence) for a pint of mild, and 8d (3 pence) for a pint of ale or stout. Starting in May, distribution would be by motor to pubs in the Sittingbourne and Chatham areas, enabling a man, horse and dray to be dispensed with.

Throughout the country there was great fear of attack on civilians from the air by Zeppelin or aircraft. In Watlingtonbury this is reflected in the church accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 1917 which include an insurance premium of over £7 for "aircraft" insurance, the largest individual premium for that year. Bombing from Zeppelins had started in 1915; aircraft bombing started in June 1917 when 162 people were killed in London (including 18 school children at a Poplar primary school). The Leney Board did not get round to discussing the matter of aircraft insurance until September 1917 when it decided to insure against "air raid" on its pubs in the Chatham area. This is surprising given that the related Leney company in Dover had been bombed several times. Watlingtonbury did not actually suffer from the air in WW1, but it is an ongoing theme to which we will return. Terry Bird

### WATERINGBURY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

As we march into spring and the days grow warmer, school life naturally turns to the outdoors. We welcomed eight students from Oakwood Grammar School on their Community Volunteer Day. The boys cleared our pond and nature areas of the winter debris (and many lost balls!). They worked enthusiastically and industriously and were a real credit to their school. During the afternoon, the boys read with our young readers and were excellent role models as they shared their enjoyment of books. Our own Gardening Club and Year 2 Gardening School have been busy planting 50 saplings in our 'orchard' at the bottom of the school field; the children's interest in digging and planting is wonderful to see. A group of eight Year 5 pupils participated in a 6-week Forest School project, led by a parent trainee instructor, in a beautiful patch of woodland at Nettlestead Place. We are fortunate, indeed, to be able to offer these experiences to our children and we're very grateful for the support of our community and neighbours. And to top it all off, we were awarded a £600 grant by Caterlink for our bid to create a kitchen garden. Plans include a raised bed for each class, composters, a water butt and fruit trees!

We've enjoyed two themed weeks this term with Book Week and Science Week both taking place in March. Our English team chose the stunning children's book *The Lost Thing* by Shaun Tan and each class drew on different themes in the story to produce written work and artwork. Our library was transformed into a 'lost thing' scrapyard for the children to build their own lost things to inspire their writing. Science Week concluded with our annual Science Fair which is now a highlight of the year. Our young scientists were able to explain their investigations and scientific knowledge to parent visitors throughout the final afternoon and loved taking on the role and expertise of scientists!

Year 5 will be performing their version of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* as part of their work in English; the children have enjoyed a trip to the Globe theatre and a series of drama workshops in preparation for their performance. They have written the script themselves, drawing on their deep understanding of the play and its language.

Our term closes with **our Easter Service at 9:00 at St John's on 31<sup>st</sup> March**, followed by an afternoon of Easter activities and our annual Easter egg hunt which is organised by our parent volunteer organisation, FOWPS.

The **new term starts Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> April** and it's always a busy term with final preparations for the Year 6 SATs week. Our annual St George's Day assembly will take place at the flagpole two days early on 21<sup>st</sup> April which coincides fortuitously this year with the birthday of Queen Elizabeth II. We will also be hosting our annual open air service with St John's on Rogation Sunday on 21<sup>st</sup> May at 10:00, followed by games and a picnic. We wish you all a happy and peaceful Easter.

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

### **CHILDREN'S SOCIETY BOXES**

The total for this year's collection was £415.79, - an extract from The Children's Society letter says " every year over £1.6m in loose change is gathered by a multitude almost 120,000 collectors". So a huge thank you for your continued support. Maria White

### **SIMPLY SOUP LUNCHES – LAST CHANCE**

The last lunch this year is on **Wednesday 5 April** in the church from **12.15 to 1.30pm**. This week the charity for which donations are invited is the MS Society.

### **CHANGES TO BENEFICE CHURCH SERVICE PATTERN**

Following the arrival of our new vicar Rev Nick Williams a review of services in the Benefice has taken place and some changes made. Full details for the 3 churches will be in May's magazine. From the beginning of May the pattern of services in Wateringbury will be:

First Sunday in Month	10am Holy Communion
Second Sunday in Month	10am Morning Praise/Matins
Third Sunday in Month	8.30pm Prayer Book Communion
	10am Family Service
Fourth Sunday in Month	10am Holy Communion
Fifth Sunday in Month	Benefice Communion Service

### **CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 14-20 MAY - CAN YOU HELP?**

Huge thanks to Gillian Sessions and Cathy Killer for all the years of service in expertly co-ordinating Christian Aid Week collections in Wateringbury. They have decided it is now time to focus on other projects. Nevertheless, a house-to-house collection is planned again for this year. If you are able to volunteer to deliver and/or collect envelopes from a street in the village this would be very helpful. Support and guidance is available for new volunteers. Please contact Becky Bowie on 01622 813396 or [becky.bowie@gmail.com](mailto:becky.bowie@gmail.com).

## **SUNDAYS COOL**

Sundays Cool sessions continue in the vestry during the Sunday service on Easter Sunday (16 April) and 23 April - all children welcome. From May, our sessions will change slightly to fit with the new pattern of services - we will meet on the 1st and 4th Sundays of the month. Dates for May therefore are 7 and 28 May. Some of our older members have graduated from Sundays Cool now that they are at secondary school and have formed a monthly 'Secondary Division', also during the Sunday service; next sessions are on the 2 April and 14 May and any secondary school aged youngsters are welcome to come along and meet them!

**ANNUAL CHURCHYARD PLANT SALE SATURDAY 27 MAY 10.30-4pm - great choice of plants for all types of gardens**

## **PRIESTLY PONDERINGS**

Rev Nick Williams

father.nick@btinternet.com

The Vicarage, 2 The Grange

parishofficeemwt@gmail.com

East Malling ☎ 01732 843282

Brothers and Sisters in Christ

My comments in this issue of your parish magazine are broadly the same as those in the 'Beneficial News' which I know many of you read, this is for one straightforward reason. The main subject I'm going to talk about needs to come to the attention not only of active members of our worshipping community in Wateringbury, Teston and East Malling but also the readers of the various parish magazines who may not attend any of our churches, but who like to know what's going on and like to offer their views on those events.

As you may be aware we have been carrying out a consultation on a new service pattern for some time now. This consultation is now closed but I would like to thank those of you who made constructive comments as to how this might be achieved, they have been read with interest by all those involved in the process. The new service pattern comes into use on Sunday 7 May 2017. It is by no means perfect, but it is the best of a job that is in reality much more difficult than it appears on the surface. For most people who worship at Wateringbury and East Malling there are some slight changes, there are however no changes at Teston. You will be able to find copies of the full service pattern on your Church notice boards but as I said there aren't too many changes to get used to.

The new pattern allows me as Vicar of all three Churches to regularly and predictably be with you for services in the course of the month, something I am looking forward to, in addition if we are lucky enough to gain any additional 'staff' clergy (which is unlikely) then it will become possible for me to attend even more services across the benefice.

On Sunday 7 May the days services across all three churches look like this:

8.30am - Holy Communion (BCP said) - East Malling

9.45am - Non Eucharistic family service - East Malling

9.45am - Children's Church - Teston

10.00am - Holy Communion (Common Worship sung) - Wateringbury

For other weeks please see the church notice boards.

Special services, like Christmas and Easter are not included this pattern as I will endeavour to arrange additional clergy cover so if necessary a Eucharist can be held in all three Churches but we'll deal with those things as they arrive.

Easter is traditionally a time of rebirth and renewal and Pentecost a time when we particularly look to the action of the Holy Spirit in our lives. I hope and pray that this new service pattern will herald a time of spiritual rebirth and reinvigoration for all of us. Rev Nick Williams

### **COFFEE, CRAFT AND CHAT**

We will meet on **Wednesdays 5 and 19 April between 10.30-12.30 in the church.** Do join us for homemade cake and coffee and optional knitting, crocheting, etc. Our Coffee Ladies are kindly making items for us to take to Watlington fete, every thing is made with much love and care. Every body is welcome to come along, a warm welcome awaits you. More details from 814673.

### **ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH – SPIRE UPDATE**

You can hardly fail to be aware that the wooden shingles on our lovely church spire now need to be replaced. This is just a brief update to keep you in the picture. We are delighted and very grateful to have received a pledge of “up to £15,000” towards this work from The Rochester Bridge Trust.

THANK YOU to everyone who has already given, and ways in which you can support us may be found on our website – [www.watlingtonchurch.org.uk](http://www.watlingtonchurch.org.uk) – follow the link through our SOS page; also via The Friends of Watlington Church website: [www.fowc.org.uk](http://www.fowc.org.uk). We are still some way short of our target, but with your help we are confident we can achieve our goal in the near future.

## **Easter Fun with Faith**

**Calling all Primary school aged children in Watlington...**

**join us in celebrating the Easter Story**

A morning filled with fun, songs and craft activities on **Saturday 15 April**

£2 per child and starting **9.30am until 12.30pm at your church**

Parent and/or older siblings helpers always welcome

Booking is essential because of numbers

See **[www.watlingtonchurch.org.uk](http://www.watlingtonchurch.org.uk)** for form

or contact **Debbie on 01622 814793.**

**INNOMINATA CONCERT**  
**IN WATERINGBURY CHURCH**  
**SATURDAY 13 MAY 7 FOR 7.30pm**

Tickets from Post Office or Handy Stores £7.50 accompanied children free

**BENEFICE SERVICES**

*Visit our website [www.wateringburychurch.org.uk](http://www.wateringburychurch.org.uk)*

<b>Sunday 2 April</b>  8am Holy Communion - East Mallng  9.45am Family Service – East Mallng  9.45am Family Service – Teston  <b>10am Morning Praise – Wateringbury</b>	<b>Palm Sunday 9 April</b>  <b>8am Holy Communion – Wateringbury</b> 9.45am Eucharist – East Mallng  9.45am Palm Praise - Teston  <b>10am Family Service - Wateringbury</b>  6pm - Benefice Choir sings “The Crucifixion” - East Mallng
<b>Easter Sunday 16 April</b>  6am Dawn Service – East Mallng  9.45am - Eucharist & Renewal of Baptism Vows - East Mallng  9.45am Easter Eucharist - Teston  <b>10am - Easter Eucharist - Wateringbury</b>	<b>Sunday 23 April</b>  9.45am Eucharist – East Mallng  <b>10am Holy Communion – Wateringbury</b>  6.30pm Eucharist - Teston

<b>Sunday 30 April - 10am - Benefice Communion – East Mallng</b>
Every Monday – 2-3pm – Scout & Guide HQ, Glebe Meadow – Toddler Praise
Every Thursday - 9am in East Mallng Church – Holy Communion
Pilsdon Community, 27 Water Lane, West Mallng - Rev Viv Ashworth invites you to the Barn Chapel to join members of the community for a Eucharist Service every Wednesday at noon and 6pm on Sundays
For Baptisms, weddings, funerals and other arrangements please contact the Vicar Rev Nick Williams on 01732 843282 or email <a href="mailto:father.nick@btinternet.com">father.nick@btinternet.com</a>  For all other enquiries, please contact the Administrator on 01622 815218 or email <a href="mailto:parishofficeemwt@gmail.com">parishofficeemwt@gmail.com</a>

## **SPECIAL SERVICES AND EVENTS IN HOLY WEEK**

### **Monday 10 to Saturday 15 April**

***Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday*** - 7pm - Compline - East Mallng

***Wednesday*** - 8pm - Agapè Meal - Teston

***Maundy Thursday*** - 8pm - Holy Communion, Foot washing and Vigil - East Mallng

***Good Friday*** 10am - At the Foot of the Cross - Teston

1pm - Stations of the Cross - East Mallng

2pm - Silent Devotions - East Mallng

**2pm - An Hour at the Cross - Wateringbury**

2.30pm - Solemn Liturgy - East Malling

***Holy Saturday* Easter Fun with Faith – 9.30-12.30 Wateringbury**

7.30pm - Easter Vigil - East Malling

At Wateringbury church the **Easter Sunday Communion** at **10am** will be led by **Canon Brian Stevenson**. He will also be with us on **23 April**

The worship team at St John the Baptist Church wish everyone

A Joyous Easter – Alleluia He is Risen – He is Risen indeed