

**Welcome to the November issue of
Wateringbury Village Magazine**

**Contributors are reminded that our next issue will
cover December 2023 and January 2024**

VILLAGE DIARY

November

- 1 **Macmillan Coffee Morning** – Church 10.30-Noon
3 **Bonfire Night** - 5.30-7.30 pm - School. Free entry
4 **Annual Poppy Appeal collection** - VH – 9am -
2.30pm
5 **Footpaths walk** – VH – 2pm – earlier winter time
7 **Parish Council Meeting** VH - 7.30pm
9 **WI meeting** - Brian Nobbs's talk 'Gardening for Wildlife'
- VH - 2pm
12 **Annual Parish Act of Remembrance** – 10am –
Church
13 **Footpaths walk** – VH – 10am
15 **George IV – Martin Heard** – History Society talk –VH -
7.45 for 8pm
15 **Flower Club - Helen Hare** Christmas demonstration -
East Malling Institute – 7pm
18 **Christmas Craft Bazaar** - Church - 11am–3pm
18 **Switch-on of Village Christmas Lights** – Cross
Roads – from 5pm
19 **Local Market** – VH and Car Park – 11am–1pm

December

- 3 **X-mas Wreath Making Workshops** - VH - 10am-
1pm; 2-5pm
3 **Footpaths walk** – VH – 2pm
5 **Parish Council Meeting** - VH - 7.30pm
9 **Voices Across A20 – Christmas Concert** – Church -
7.30pm
14 **Carols by Candlelight** – Church – 8pm
17 **Local Market** – Hall and Car Park – 11am–1pm

ANNUAL POPPY APPEAL

We are delighted to let you know that our wonderful band of Poppy Appeal volunteers will be collecting house-to-house for this amazing charity from **Saturday 28th October**. Please help support the appeal this year.

We also have our usual outlets in the village and on the outskirts, where you can also donate and we are grateful to them all for continuing to support the appeal and also to the school who always do so amazingly well for us.

On **Saturday 28th October and 4th November** there will be the opportunity to donate at the Village Hall where we will also have a range of poppy memorabilia. We will be there from 9.00 am to around 2.30 pm, so do please pop in and say hello. Larry and Angela Collins

VILLAGE PEOPLE *Please let us have your news and tributes by 17th November for our December 2023/January 2024 magazine.*

Entries are free. Email: rostrum2@hotmail.com

RIP Jane McKay passed away on 16th September 2023

A service will be on 31st October at 2:30pm in West Peckham Church followed by a reception. Jane was a few years short of a100.

After 36 happy years living in Beck Mews, opposite the church, we have started a new chapter in our lives by moving to France.

We should like to take this opportunity to thank people we have known, in the village, for their friendship over the years.
Colin Osborne and Robert Verity.

Best wishes to Colin and Rob for a happy new life in France from
Rostrum and friends in Wateringbury.

**Wateringbury Market - Third Sunday of each month
19th November, 17th December and 21st January
in village car park 11am to 1pm**

We now have at least 15 regular stalls, including personalised Christmas cushions and gifts, apple juice, honey, fudge, pickles, jewellery, Body Shop, candles, antiques, handbags, bespoke wooden items, cards, jams and chutneys, not forgetting the popular meat stall in the car park!

Come along to support your village community, meet your neighbours, and start your Christmas shopping!

CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING WORKSHOPS

The Flowersmiths invite you to Wateringbury Village Hall on **Sunday 3rd December** for their Christmas Wreath Making Workshops. A great way to start Christmas with some creative fun. £60 including all materials, tuition, X-massy refreshments/mulled wine. **10-1pm or 2pm-5pm**. Get in touch to book your place. www.theflowersmiths.co.uk
Suzanne 07776 135 928

ADVERTISING IN ROSTRUM IN 2024

Rostrum depends on its advertising income to avoid making any charge to recipients. If you use an advertiser found in Rostrum, please let them know that you saw their advert in Rostrum. If you have had a good experience with a local business which does not currently advertise in Rostrum, but which might benefit from doing so, please let Rostrum know (rostrum2@hotmail.com) so we can provide them with details of our distribution and advertising rates for 2024. Existing advertisers will be contacted shortly to invite them to renew their advertising in Rostrum in 2024.

**WATERINGBURY CHURCH OF ENGLAND
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

What a busy first term we have had here at school! Our new pupils have settled beautifully into school and it is hard to believe that I am already showing next year's new entrants around the school.

Already this term, we have had some outings with our reception children going on their first school trip to the Hazlitt Theatre. The children in Year 6 had their week long residential trip in the Ashdown Forest at the end of September. It was an absolute pleasure to see our young people challenge themselves and support each other with some very difficult activities. The children had a whale of a time playing in the mud (as did some of the teachers!), although I think their parents' washing machines were working overtime at the weekend. You may have also seen some of our older children cycling around the village as they took part in their bikeability training, learning to cycle safely.

Our first whole school event of the year was Harvest Festival at the church. All the children sang their hearts out and brought harvest gifts which were shared amongst the parish. We were very excited to be able to use the church's new sound system and the children loved seeing themselves on the big screen.

I am pleased to announce that our new head boy and head girl are Daniel and Ellie. They will be helping me with our open events and parent tours. If you are looking for a school place in a small, outdoor loving, nurture focused school, please contact us for a tour. We love showing off what we do. All of the local community are invited to our Bonfire Night on Friday 3rd November 5:30 – 7:30pm. Entry is free and you will be able to see the parade of guys which our children made.

If you think you can help our school at all with resources, expertise or would just like to help with gardening, please give us a bell.

Debbie Johnson (Headteacher).

Website: www.wateringbury.kent.sch.uk Phone: 01622 812199

UKRAINE APPEAL

Firstly can I pass on my thanks, those of the Ukrainian people and the many aid workers in this country for the amazing generosity of so many Wateringbury villagers. I can't name you all as I'd be sure to miss someone out! You know who you are and should be so proud of yourselves.

Unfortunately the following items are still desperately needed: washing powder, washing up liquid, tarpaulin (any size), curtains, garden & other tools, seeds (fruit & vegetables), wheelchairs, wallpaper, sleeping bags, sewing items, wool and of course the continuing need for warm clothes. Also animal food, medication and bandages.

A lorry is going out to Ukraine at the end of November - and you can be assured that all items in those lorries do reach those in need.

Again, thank you so much. Any questions please don't hesitate to message me: svmcollins@live.co.uk

WATERINGBURY FOOTPATHS GROUP

In October the walkers enjoyed a route that took us on an extended loop across and around the edge of Kings Hill Golf Course using permissive paths as well as public footpaths. Although some of the path is literally alongside the fences of Kings Hill houses' gardens, in places it feels a bit remote and isn't well walked. The downside of this walk is that, unlike most of our walks, there are very few views along the way. On the first walk we were a large group of more than a dozen, while the second was a select group of just three of us. Both walks enjoyed perfect walking conditions and good conversation.

Our next walks will be leaving the village hall at:

2.00pm on **Sunday 5th November**,

10.00am on **Monday 13th November**

2.00pm on **Sunday 3rd December**.

Everyone is always welcome! You are welcome to bring along visiting friends and family. If you let me have your mobile number I'll let you know if there is an additional meeting point such as the station or the village pond which may be more convenient for you. Please contact me if you want any more information.

Lisa Dean 077 5953 9032

NETTLESTEAD AND WATERINGBURY PRE-SCHOOL

Our term 1 came to an end and we moved into our holiday club. Our holiday club this year was themed around autumn and Halloween. The children got to enjoy fun activities like pumpkin

carving, Halloween crafts, face painting and dressing up, apple bobbing, loo roll mummies and making yummy pumpkin soup.

Term 2 we started to explore autumn further, taking the children on walks so they could take in and talk about the season changes. On the walks the children enjoyed collecting natural resources like sticks, pinecones, conkers and some lovely colourful leaves to bring back to the setting to use for crafts or in their play. The children also took little bags home over the half term to explore autumn changes with their families.

With the natural resources the children have been creative and made their own version of autumn trees, wreaths, leaf printing and little bird's nests for their own gardens. Some children have even used the sticks to create stick families using maths language to describe the sticks they collected. With the children's help we have also made our own bird feeders for the birds to enjoy as the weather gets colder. At the setting we will explore bonfire night with the children through craft, baking activities and sparklers for the older children!

Our families have been saving us their 'junk' so we can add to our treasure collection. As part of our Curiosity Approach Accreditation journey, we see possibilities for learning everywhere. Nisha Reed - manager@mwps.org.uk

Gravesham Choral Society present Birthday Celebrations concert on Saturday 18th November 2023 at 7.30pm at St George's Church, Gravesend DA11 ODJ. Tickets are available at the door and via the website graveshamcs.co.uk/events

TESTON AND WATERINGBURY PRESCHOOL

We have nearly come to the end of another fun packed term at preschool; and our focus book 'Whatever Next!' by Jill Murphy. Baby Bear is determined to get a trip to the moon in before his bath-time and finds a rocket, makes friends with an Owl and has a picnic on the moon.

We have made rockets for our bears to go to the moon, using bits and bobs just like Bear. The children have enjoyed making Owls and adding them to our wall display. The children enjoyed smashing the 'moon' rocks.

The children have brought in their picnic sets ready for a picnic on the moon, and talked about what they like to eat.

In our story as Bear flies to the moon, he passes an aeroplane and waves to the passengers; we will be looking at things that fly in the sky and asking our children to bring their flying objects or pictures in for our show and tell sessions.

When a dirty Bear returns home his mother puts him in the bath and puts him in his pyjamas; we will give our children the opportunity to wear their pyjamas and bring in their favourite bedtime Bear.

We have sung lots of new songs linked with our book. Such as: 'Five little men in a flying Saucer,' Zoom, Zoom, Zoom We're Going to the Moon'

We have made a moonscape in our tuff tray using 'moon sand', small world toys and 'moon' rocks.

In our cosy book corner, we have had books about space, transport, healthy eating and weather.

Goodness me, we have been busy! If you would like your child to be part of our amazing preschool 'family' please get in touch to book your visit as soon as possible on testonpreschooladmissions@gmail.com

tandwngroup@gmail.com Tina Driver 07805 796 353

See us on Facebook too.

WATERINGBURY TODDLER GROUP

We are a friendly group that welcomes all parents, carers, grandparents, childminders etc. with children from 0 to 5 years old.

We run every Wednesday from 10.00 to 12.00 during school term time. The cost is £3.50 for the first child and adult and then £1 for every additional child over 8 months old.

The large hall is set up with lots of toys for free play, a craft session is included and then snack and drink for the children. We finish with a music session and lots of footballs. Adult's drinks and biscuits are also included.

We also have a baby area for younger children.

Like our Facebook Page (Wateringbury Toddler Group) for any important information/messages.

Email: wateringburytoddlergroup@gmail.com

GARDENING FOR WILDLIFE

Butterflies and Moths are a good indicator of climate change so the results from this year's 'Big Butterfly Count' that their numbers have slightly increased from last year is much needed good news. However, not all species have fared well, with some species decreasing by up to 60%. It is therefore important that we continue with our efforts to include plants that attract both the adults along with plants that provide food for their caterpillars in our gardens. Hopefully, this will ensure that we can continue to enjoy watching these colourful and fascinating insects.

Another iconic insect is the Ladybird. There are 26 different types in the UK and they come in a variety of colour combinations and number of spots. However, our most recognizable variety has seven black spots and black legs. All Ladybirds eat mostly aphids so are a gardener's friend and at this time of year they're looking for somewhere to hibernate. They often overwinter in large groups indoors or in dry, sheltered crevices or beneath tree bark, so don't be alarmed if you see (as I have recently) large groups seeking shelter. In the Spring they will fly off and start munching our garden pests.

All insects play their part in providing a balanced ecosystem so please avoid using pesticides and allow nature to work its magic.

Now is good time to plant bulbs and one of the first to flower next year will be crocuses that not only herald the beginning of Spring but provide food for early pollinators. So even if you have a small garden or just a window box it's a very worthwhile task to undertake before the nights draw in and gives us something to look forward to. Pauline Knutton

1ST WATERINGBURY RAINBOWS

Rainbows is the youngest group in Girlguiding for girls from 5-7 years old. Our Rainbow unit meets on alternate Saturday mornings from 10am to midday during term time at the Wateringbury Guide and Scout HQ in Glebe Meadow

We have lots of fun at Rainbows and for some of our meetings we do activities outdoors such as a walk in the woods or by the river. We have been on an outing to Kent Life Museum and as that was a longer meeting, we had a packed lunch there too. We do various exciting activities at our meetings to earn badges and there are also interest badges that can be done at home with the supervision of parents!

We are looking to recruit both adult volunteers and also girls. While we do have a waiting list, the girls on there are too young to attend at the moment, so now is your opportunity to

get in quick. If your daughter is interested, please go to the Girlguiding website and register your daughter. There is more information on the website about what Rainbows get up to. Alternatively, you can email me at lesleybarker23@outlook.com

WATERINGBURY GUIDES

Unfortunately, our wide games in the orchard had to be postponed, but we used the time well with more contained games and challenges at the HQ. We did however get to Lower Grange Farm and had an evening of archery and fencing. Some of our girls were natural archers and made short work on the balloons fixed to the targets. The fencers went at it with gusto and James the instructor worked very well with them all.

Our Great British Guide Bake Off had to be redesigned as the ordinary domestic oven in the HQ kitchen would not have coped with all that the girls planned to make. So, we compromised and the girls made their creations at home and brought them along to decorate. Some needed reminding that 'less is more' when considering the amount of decoration but the end results were very creative. Some even got to have a go at a local recipe for Maidstone biscuits, and in the effort completed their Confectionery badge.

Adrian and Luke returned to run another evening of self-defence – a skill that most of us want to know a little about, but hope to never use. They gave us several suggestions for dealing with tricky situations and the girls had a fun evening.

We submitted a team for Challenge Invicta which is a county wide incident hike. The distance is around 8 miles and the teams are required to deal with 7 challenges along the way for which they are scored on their teamwork and results. The girls had attended a map training day earlier in the year and then Lisa came and ran a refresher session just before the event. This obviously made a significant difference – last year the team scored 19 out of 40 for their mapping skills, whereas this year they scored 19 out of 20!

If your daughter would like to join our fun, you can contact me on 01622 815416 or email to wateringburyguides@hotmail.com Sheena Stewart and team. 1st Wateringbury Guides

WI - INSPIRING WOMEN

At our last meeting we heard an interesting talk from Martin Heard on Tulipomania. He described how in the Netherlands in the 17th century an interest in tulip bulbs became so extreme that their trade caused huge fortunes to be made and lost. The talk was illustrated with excellent slides of contemporary paintings. The competition to identify a range of bulbs was won with a very high score by Elizabeth.

Our next meeting on Thursday 9th November will welcome Brian Nobbs to talk on Gardening for Wildlife. Visitors will be very welcome to this meeting at 2:00pm in the Village Hall.

HISTORY SOCIETY

Our next meeting is on **Wednesday 15th November** in Wateringbury Village Hall when Martin Heard will talk about the life of **George IV**. Free tea and coffee is served from 7.45pm and the talk starts at 8pm. Members free and £5 for visitors who are always welcome. It's not too late to join the society for the coming season; the cost is a modest £15.
Christine Byron

A MESSAGE FROM TOM TUGENDHAT - MP

Over recent months I have received more complaints locally about the amount of graffiti across our community and litter being left around towns and villages.

We all know how unsightly and frustrating it is to see graffiti, litter, and fly-tipping throughout Watlingbury. Many neighbours have understandably been writing to me asking what can be done to improve the situation.

Graffiti is the responsibility of the land or property owner to remove. If it occurs on land owned by Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council then they will look to remove it as soon as possible. If you see graffiti on private land then you can also notify Kent Police as they can see whether they recognise any of the tags used.

However, to make it easier for you, I have decided to set-up my own online reporting tool on my website here:
www.tomtugendhat.org/litter-and-graffiti-reporting

You can fill out the relevant form to let me know where the graffiti or littering has taken place. I will then pass this on to either the Council or the landowner for it to be either cleaned up or removed.

It has proven to be really successful so far with numerous people getting in touch to report littering and graffiti. I am however aware that not everybody has access to my website so if you would like to report some to me then please feel free to write to me or give my office a call, you can do so using my contact details below.

Tom Tugendhat MP
130 Vale Road, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 1SP
Tel: 01732 441563

WATERINGBURY FLOWER CLUB

At the October meeting our guest, Gilly Griffin, a very talented teacher, speaker, toastmaster and demonstrator from Sussex area, treated us to a fabulous demonstration with amazing Autumn colours and even a touch of Winter Sparkle thrown in, too! Gilly's designs kept us all enthralled wondering what was coming next - 6 designs later - the raffle tickets were out again as members wanted more chances to win one! A lot of happy members went home with their winnings.

On 15th November there will be a Christmas demonstration by Kent's very own Helen Hare. A teacher and very talented designer, Helen, has competed as part of the Kent Chelsea Team and is very accomplished in all areas of floristry. Christmas Sparkle is the order of the day and with this meeting we usually have wine and mince pies. Visitors are very welcome for a reasonable charge of £5 and so are all friends. Doors open at 7pm at East Malling Institute next to the King and Queen pub with plenty of parking. Jean Schofield for WFC

OCTOBER PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

Asset Review – The Parish Clerk and Councillors will walk the village and review the village assets.

Cemetery – Once the spoil heap has been removed it is planned to plant snowdrops and spring bulbs. The uniformed organisations will be approached to see if they would like to help with the planting.

Christmas Lights Switch on Saturday 18th November

Sarah Hudson outlined the plans, detailed in her article over page.

Crime Report – The number plates were stolen from a car parked in a private car park, the windscreen of a car parked on a house drive was damaged by a stone from a catapult. Sarah Hudson asked residents to use a new My Community website www.mycommunityvoicekent.co.uk to report any crimes, no matter how minor, as this will allow the police to track any trends in petty crime.

Defibrillator for Pizien Well area – Councillor Wells suggested that a defibrillator be purchased and placed in the Pizien Well area since, following a medical emergency, it was realised that residents

in this area of the village do not have quick access to this potentially life-saving equipment.

Parish Notice Board - After discussion, it was unanimously agreed to purchase a large village noticeboard, similar to the one at Teston, and place it on the fence by the traffic lights. It will replace the boards of the Church and the WI who are happy to share a large community board. The present notice board in the grounds of the village hall will then be used to advertise all the activities held at the village hall. It was felt that more people would have the opportunity to read the Council and community notices since the foot-fall would be more at the Bow Road site.

Traffic Lights Survey - The four way survey which KCC conducted recently confirmed what the Parish Council, and residents, had been reporting for some time. There is a very high number of vehicles jumping the red light on all four arms of the junction. KCC plans to refresh the road markings and stop lines and then carry out another survey. KCC felt that refreshing the worn stop lines should reduce some vehicles which are just creeping over the stop lines and then stopping, and will produce a more accurate result. The new survey and results should be available some time in November. The survey showed those jumping the lights were:

From Red Hill 2389 vehicles (11.52%), From Bow Road 981 (2.28%) These figures are probably on the low side since the tracker on Bow Road was put out of action twice due to vandalism. From Tonbridge Road East 1177 vehicles (1.35%) and Tonbridge Road West 2163 vehicles (3.68%)

Village Maintenance - The horse chestnut tree at the cross roads has been trimmed.

Planning Application

Conversion and extension of the existing 4 residential units to create 13 residential units with four additional storeys and alterations to the facade of the existing building at **182, 184 and 186 A, B, C, D and E Tonbridge Road** The earlier planning application which was reported in September's Rostrum to create 7 residential units has been withdrawn and the application for 13 units now submitted. Councillors existing comments for the first application are now applied to this application. Objections were raised about the size of the proposed building, the lack of parking (the village car park is often full in the evenings). Councillors felt the proposal was totally out of keeping with the surroundings as the site is in the heart of the village and in the Conservation area. The vehicle access is very close to the traffic lights which could cause congestion problems. It is also in the area which has very high pollution levels and this could be a health hazard.

The next meeting of the Parish Council is on Tuesday 7th November at 7.30pm in the Upper Room of the Village Hall.

There are two opportunities for residents to raise matters of local interest with councillors. *Approved minutes of council meetings will appear on the Parish Council website in due course*
www.wateringburypc.org.uk

NEWS FROM SARAH HUDSON, KCC AND BOROUGH COUNCILOR, CHAIR OF PARISH COUNCIL

As the end of the year approaches, I have been busy working with the Parish Council to improve our festive celebrations. For the first time ever, we will be having Christmas lights on the lampposts around the crossroads, and there will be an official lights switch on taking place on Saturday **18th November**.

The evening starts at 5pm with members of the Wateringbury Players singing carols around the tree. There will be the horsebox wine bar from Redhill Estate selling mulled wine, other stalls selling Christmas gift ideas, and mince pies available. This will take place outside the village hall. The tree and the lights

have been kindly sponsored by KCT Timber to whom we are immensely grateful.

We hope that you will all come along and join us for this – many thanks.
Sarah Hudson

WATERINGBURY CRICKET CLUB

The cricket season is done and dusted with some great wins and some spectacular losses. Thank you to the people that came down to watch and support. We are now looking forward to indoor nets and preparing for next season.

The AGM was on the 9th October and Mickey Skilton was voted in as captain for next season. The main discussion at the AGM was the need for new and more players. Many local teams are disbanding for the same reason and we would like to keep a team in our village. If you are interested in playing or want to find out more, please contact Patrick on 07533 003 101.

REV GARY WRITES

*The Rectory, 72 The Street, Mereworth
ME18 5NA*

gary.rev@outlook.com

Tel: 01622 813178

War-time Reflections

As we approach Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday this year to remember our brave service men and women of the past and present, I suspect many will be mindful of the hostilities in Gaza. This is on top of the continuing wars in Ukraine, Yemen and Sudan. There may well be others of which I'm ignorant. Archbishop Justin Welby has called for members of the Church of England to pray:

'Pray for the people of Israel, Gaza and the West Bank. Pray for the future of the Holy Land. Pray for those who will weep, and fear, and die tonight.'

We do indeed pray and will continue to do so not only for Israelis and Palestinians but for those caught up in conflicts in other parts of the world as well. Archbishop Justin, just a few days before the attack upon the al-Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza, encouraged us in the church to give to the hospital appeal there. At the time of writing this article the hospital remains in need of medical supplies and if you're interested in knowing more you can visit the website of The Jerusalem and Middle East Churches Association and click on the section for the al-Ahli Hospital Gaza appeal. Here's the address:
<https://www.jmeca.org.uk/> Perhaps there are other appeals you have responded to.

In addition to prayer and giving we also find ourselves wondering why mankind is the way it is. The generations that fought and experienced the two world wars knew there were many that preceded them and I doubt whether any of them thought they would be the last. Sadly, we can probably all say with a fair degree of certainty the present ones won't be the last either.

So, as we gather for our remembrance observances this year we shall indeed be honouring the fallen and giving thanks for their sacrifice. As ever the gatherings will be an opportunity to join together in praying for peace and to be encouraged in our giving. It may also be our gatherings prompt some discussion about why things are the way they are and what do Christians really have to say about it all. I for one am only too pleased to be asked.

Gary Townsend.

Rector of Mereworth, Wateringbury and West Peckham.

GRAND CHRISTMAS CRAFT BAZAAR

11am to 3pm Saturday 18th November

at the Church - Entry Free

Gifts galore for everyone on your list

Lots of new stalls

Accessories, Jewellery and Crafts

Stock up your larder with Sheena's jams and Gordon's pickles

Activities for children to enjoy

Keep your strength up with a cup of tea or coffee

And a mince pie

or a glass of mulled wine

There will also be the traditional Cake Stall and Tombola

General Raffle and Christmas Cake Raffle

SYCAMORE ADVENT COURSE

Following on from our Sycamore Lent Course which many found beneficial, we will be holding an Advent Course on Tuesday evenings in the church (7.30-9pm). Tea or coffee at 7.15pm. Do come along.

**Tuesdays 21st and 28th November,
5th, 12th and 19th December**

Each evening consists of a talk from the presenter, Father Stephen Wang, with discussion questions inserted so that the video will be paused at intervals for group discussion/reflection. Each evening is "stand alone" so even if you can only come to one or two evenings you will still be able to enjoy them. Please don't be shy, if you do not wish to contribute to discussions, just want to listen and silently reflect, you will be most welcome to do so.

*Alastair Byron (01622 812023) and
Barry Fisher (01622 813206)*

CHURCH AND CHURCHYARD AUTUMN CLEAN

Saturday 11th November - 9.30am to Noon

Volunteers are much needed and will be much appreciated, to go along to help prepare the church and churchyard for the annual Parish Act of Remembrance. Please go to the church at any time during the morning and take 'tools' suitable for the job which you would like to do. Tea and coffee will be provided.

**Do come along to the
MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING
WEDNESDAY 1st NOVEMBER
10.30am – Noon
In Watlington Church
Coffee, and Delicious Cakes
White Elephant Stall
Raffle
All proceeds to aid the work of
Macmillan Cancer Support**

COFFEE BREAK

After organising the Macmillan Coffee morning on 1st November the group will be back to its normal format on

15th and 29th November. It's a very relaxed, friendly atmosphere. Coffee and cake are free and those going along are asked to donate £1. Meetings are in the church social area between 10.30am-12.30pm. Do come along.

MESSY CHURCH – Saturday 4th November - 3-5pm

Young children and their carers are invited to go along to the church to enjoy an afternoon with lots of crafts, a bible story and prayers as well as songs led by Rev Gary with his guitar. The afternoon always ends with tea. For more details email ruth.dunn33@btinternet.com

Thank you to Watringbury Players for their £400 donation to church funds from the proceeds of their Pantomime held in January.

FRIENDS OF WATERINGBURY CHURCH STRAWBERRY TEA PARTY

Thanks to all those that braved the weather and attended the Strawberry Tea Party at Manor Farm on September 17th. It turned out to be a dry and very enjoyable afternoon with £726 raised for the Friends of Watringbury Church. The trustees would like to thank William and Frances English for the use of their beautiful garden and grounds, Hugh Lowe Farms for donating the strawberries, Strings & Things for entertaining us and to everyone who donated cakes and biscuits. We hope to see you all next year for more village fun and of course the 'world famous' egg catching competition!

WATERINGBURY CHURCH SERVICES IN NOVEMBER

Benefice web site mwwpchurches.org

Saturday 4th - 3-5pm Messy Church (for young families) – Bible Story, Action Songs, Prayer time, lots of crafts and ending with afternoon tea. All welcome

Sunday 5th - 10am – Matins led by Barry Fisher

**Saturday 11th - 10.50 for 11am Armistice Day
Service at the War Memorial outside Mereworth
Church**

**Sunday 12th 10am - Annual Parish Act of
Remembrance** Our uniformed organisations parade to this service which starts in the church and then continues at the Village War Memorial in the churchyard for the laying of wreaths and the national 2 minutes silence.

Sunday 19th 10am - All Age Worship (An informal service)

6pm - Deanery Confirmation Service with Bishop Jonathan

Sunday 26th - 10am – Communion with Rev Gary Townsend

Sunday 3rd December - 10am – Morning Praise with Barry Fisher

Refresh Benefice Informal Worship Service

5pm to 5.45 (approx) in

St Lawrence Church Mereworth.

Sundays 5th, 12th and 26th November For all who enjoy less formal worship.

On 19th we will be going to Wateringbury for the confirmation service

IN OUR JOYS AND SORROWS

From the Parish Registers

Wedding - Benjamin Brunger and Jennifer Arding
(21st October)

Funerals –

Roy Forrest (12th October)

John Wilson (18th October)

Dates for your Diary

Saturday 9th December – 7.30pm

Voices Across A20 Christmas Concert in the church

Thursday 14th December - 8pm

Carols by Candlelight with traditional readings and well-known carols to enjoy.