



Diocese of
Rochester



**The Newsletter for
The Benefice of
East Malling,
Wateringbury &
Teston**

**October 2013
No 65**

Beneficial News

Business almost as usual! I can't pretend that everything really is "as usual" but it is, nevertheless, all going to happen - sometimes with me and sometimes without. I am so grateful for all my clergy and lay colleagues for all their help in managing the business of the Benefice. I am grateful, too, for Janet who is undertaking an increasing amount of work in the office. We are so fortunate to have such a strong team working together in this way. Above all else, I wish to say an enormous "Thank you" to you all. I have been so overwhelmed with messages of good wishes and assurances of prayers. It has been a very difficult time for Jean, my family and myself since my initial diagnosis. I have never felt the power of your prayers and your genuine expressions of concern and support as much as I have done recently. I have much to face in the not too distant future and I am sure your will all continue to support me in this fashion. I am feeling positive and strong in my faith and your support is greatly valued.

It is important for us all to remember that the Kingdom of God is not reliant on just one or two people. We all have roles and ministries in the service of Christ. Might I, therefore, welcome Mrs Crawford-Usher as the new Acting Headteacher of Wateringbury School. I have visited the school recently and Mrs Crawford-Usher appears to have settled in to her new role well. A good and happy working environment continues to enable the children to learn well. We wish her and the school much success!

Confirmation classes have begun and we have a small group of candidates from our Benefice. Please see details concerning this year's Confirmation in the next column. The service on 13th October will also serve to mark the beginning of the Bishop of Tonbridge's visit to our Deanery. You are all welcome to come to the service to support our candidates and to meet our Bishop.

It is good to know that we are all so active in our service to Christ. once again, thank you and God Bless you all.

Rev'd Jim Brown

For Baptisms, Weddings and other arrangements with the Vicar please attend
**Parish Office at
The Vicarage on
Wednesdays
6.30pm-7.15pm**

The Vicar:
**The Rev'd Jim Brown,
The Vicarage, 2 The Grange,
East Malling, ME19 6AH
Office tel: 01732 843282
Email:
jamesbrown.brown21@gmail.com**

Confirmation

This year's Confirmation Service will be on Sunday 13th October at 6.30pm at St Mary the Virgin in West Malling. Bishop Brian will take the service and there will be candidates from throughout the Deanery. Do come along and support the candidates from our own Benefice.



There are services of **Holy Communion** at St James the Great, East Malling, at 9am every Thursday. It has been agreed that Tuesday evening services of Holy Communion at St John the Baptist will not take place until further notice. However, on the fourth Tuesday of the month, there will be **Evensong with the Choir** at St John the Baptist, Wateringbury. All these services are for everyone in the Benefice. If you need a lift, please speak to a churchwarden.

Who's who in the Benefice?

(Details of Wardens and Ministers for your quick reference)

Hon Asst Priest	Canon Derek Carpenter	01732 874420
Hon Asst Priest	Revd Alan Searle	01622 814443
Hon Asst Curate	Revd Pam Rink	01732 840061
Administrator	Janet Saunders	01732 845816

East Malling

Churchwarden	David Chambers	01732 842582
Churchwarden	Sue Payne	01732 841585
Reader	Alan Bramley	01732 846800
Parish Children's & Vulnerable Adults' Rep.	Michala Neaves	01732 321473

Teston

Churchwarden	Ros Hutchins	01622 297340
Churchwarden & Reader	Dawn Page	01622 812691
Parish Children's & Vulnerable Adults' Rep.	Hilary Fisher	01622 813768

Wateringbury

Churchwarden	Joanna Fyson	01622 814980
Churchwarden	Eddie Scarlin	01622 812148
Reader	Alastair Byron	01622 812023
Reader	Barry Fisher	01622 813206
Pastoral Assistant	Becky Bowie	01622 813396
Pastoral Assistant	Edna Craig	01622 812922
Evangelist	Pauline Welch	01622 814673
Parish Children's & Vulnerable Adults' Rep.	Debbie Bond	01622 814793

Thanksgiving & Remembrance

To enable everyone to pray and give thanks for those we love but who have departed this life, there will be services of Thanksgiving & Remembrance in all 3 churches. There will be 2 services at St James the Great to accommodate all those who wish to come. Invitations will be sent to all those who have recently been bereaved, but everyone is most welcome to attend these services.

St James the Great, East Malling, Sunday 17th November at 2pm and 4pm
St John the Baptist Wateringbury, Sunday 24th November at 4pm
St Peter & St Paul, Teston, Sunday 24th November at 6.30pm

Services of Healing & Wholeness

Tuesday 1st October at 8pm at Wateringbury
Tuesday 5th November at 8pm at Teston



All the Harvest Festivals are on Sunday 6th October

St James the Great, East Malling at 9.45am
St Peter & St Paul, Teston at 9.45am
St John the Baptist, Wateringbury at 10am



Volunteering

Many members of our congregations are volunteers, working for charities and good causes. So often they work away quietly and we know nothing about this. There are probably also many opportunities for volunteering that just don't spring to mind.

Three members of our congregations are doing just that - one of those invaluable jobs - serving teas to prisoners' families when they visit Maidstone Prison. Jane Bates from Wateringbury, Maureen Banfield and Lynda Tidbury, both from East Malling, have been providing tea (and no doubt a kind word) on Fridays. There are certainly many others in the Benefice who volunteer in other ways - we'd love to know - if you don't mind us passing on the word! It may just inspire others to think about volunteering and seeing how they can do the Lord's work in another place.

Sunday Services

Sunday 6th October - Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity

8am Holy Communion - Teston
 9.45am Harvest Festival - East Malling
 9.45am Harvest Festival - Teston
 10am Harvest Festival - Wateringbury
 7pm Taizé - Wateringbury



Sunday 13th October - Twentieth Sunday after Trinity

8am Holy Communion - East Malling
 9.45am Eucharist - East Malling
 10am Eucharist - Wateringbury
 6.30pm Evensong - Teston

Sunday 20th October - Twentyfirst Sunday after Trinity

8am Holy Communion - Wateringbury
 9.45am Eucharist - East Malling
 10am Family Service - Wateringbury
 6.30pm Eucharist - Teston

Sunday 27th October - Last Sunday after Trinity

8am Holy Communion - East Malling
 9.45am Eucharist - East Malling
 10am Eucharist - Wateringbury
 6.30pm Eucharist - Teston



Sunday 3rd November - All Saints

8am Holy Communion - Teston
 9.45am Family Service - East Malling
 9.45am Family Service - Teston
 10am Morning Praise - Wateringbury
 7pm Taizé - Wateringbury

Sunday 10th November - Remembrance Day

8.00am Holy Communion - East Malling
 10.00am Remembrance Service - East Malling
 10.00am Remembrance Service - Wateringbury
 10.50am Act of Remembrance & Remembrance Service - Teston

Sunday 17th November - Second Sunday before Advent

8am Holy Communion - Wateringbury
 9.45am Eucharist - East Malling
 10am Family Service - Wateringbury
 6.30pm Eucharist - Teston

Sunday 24th November - Christ the King

8am Holy Communion - East Malling
 9.45am Eucharist - East Malling
 10am Eucharist - Wateringbury
 6pm Choral Evensong - East Malling
 6.30pm Eucharist - Teston



Around the Parishes



In July, soon after the schools closed, 5 year old Bertie Yelf had to have an emergency liver transplant and his Mum, Alice, donated part of her liver. Here we see Alice visiting Bertie just 24 hours after 'their operations' at Kings. Our prayers for Bertie and Alice were certainly answered. Bertie has now gone back to school at Wateringbury and Alice is back to blowing her own trombone - she teaches it!

Teston's Flower Festival took place over the August Bank Holiday Weekend and as well as the fantastic flower arrangements there was an excellent concert - it went ahead in spite of the deluge that Saturday!



East Malling Youth Group has now joined with Ditton Youth Group and earlier this summer they went to Maldon in Essex to stay in an ex-lightship, converted into a youth centre. Great fun was had by all!

And they won for the second year running!! In August the Benefice Croquet squad trounced the Aylesford and BART Group to bring home the trophy. If you want to play next year why not start practicing now!



Special Events

Harvest Supper

Saturday 6th October at 7.30pm in Teston Village Hall. Tickets £6 (£3 for children) from 812691 or 720931. Please bring your own drinks. Tea & Coffee included.

East Malling Singers Concert

Saturday 19th October at 7.30pm at St James the Great. Fauré: Requiem with guest choral singers, soloists and orchestra plus a selection of works performed by soloists and instrumentalists including the recently formed Aureus Quartet. Tickets £10-12, Concessions £8-10, School children FREE! Email boxoffice@eastmallingsingers.co.uk or call 01622 750943.

Shining Bright Party

Thursday 31st October from 4.30pm to 6.30pm at St. John the Baptist, Wateringbury. A 'Fearless Knight' themed Party for school children between 4 and 13 years of age. Join us for lots of fun, crafts, games, including the popular churchyard treasure hunt. Come dressed in your brightest clothes or as a Knight or Princess and be prepared for lots of treats and sweets! For more information and a booking form please contact Lisa on 07950 852899.

Tea at Three, Teston

High Tea served in the Church at Three on Tuesdays 15th October and 19th November.

Christmas Craft Bazaar at St John the Baptist, Wateringbury

Saturday 16th November from 11am to 3pm. A wonderful array of stalls, full of gifts for Christmas; this year there are many new stalls and an even better range of fabulous items. Old Favourites – Raffle, Cakes and Cake raffle, Tombola and Plants will be there, alongside Festive Refreshments, and, of course, Father Christmas!! (01622 814324)

Christmas Fayre in Teston Village Hall

Saturday 17th November from 2.30pm to 5pm. Stalls, Gifts, Refreshments. Father Christmas will be there. (01622 812691)

Christmas Market in East Malling Village Hall

Saturday 30th November 1.45pm to 4pm. Another chance to get some Christmas gifts, enjoy a foretaste of Christmas and children can visit Father Christmas in his grotto. (01732 845391)

Further Dates for your Diary December & January

7th December - The Kent Chamber Choir, Wateringbury
 22nd December - East Malling Singers Christmas Concert