



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

June 2014
No 69

Beneficial News

When I began my 7 1/2 weeks of treatment it seemed a huge mountain to climb but it is all over now and I'm about to return to my ministry with you. I am quite astonished by everyone's true concern for my wellbeing and in particular the need for me to take things easy and not rush back. The fact that I am not under any kind of pressure means so much and I have found this to be reassuring and it has certainly aided my recovery. I can assure everyone that I have listened to you all! I am, therefore, returning to my work on a restricted basis for the first few weeks. Thereafter, I shall then assess how things have progressed. I do value your words of caution and thank everyone for their genuine concern and love.

I am so very grateful and I wish to thank my Clergy colleagues for everything. They have conducted their ministries selflessly and managed to maintain normal life within the Benefice (whatever normal means!). I must mention at this point my dear friend and colleague Fr Derek Carpenter. In a few weeks time we will celebrate with him the 50th Anniversary of his Priestly Ministry. The church owes much thanks to Derek and everyone in this Benefice recognises his amazing gifts which he shares with us all. I congratulate Derek and thank Pam too for her wonderful support and her valued ministry. But it is not just Clergy. My thanks go to all who have helped manage the services and activities across our three churches. It has all been quite remarkable and impressive too. Thanks to our Wardens too, all of whom have been recently sworn in to their offices.

I am so looking forward to returning to ministry, especially having been away from you at Easter. There is much ahead and I am looking forward to the Church trip to Shallowford. For the very first time in our Benefice we shall be organising a Holiday Club during the school summer holidays at Teston. This will be masterminded by Lisa Glasscote and I am sure she is in need of help as it is open to all the Benefice. It promises to be a most important new venture and I do ask that we commit our prayers to all involved in its organising.

In January's Beneficial News I made two comments, firstly, that my period of absence was likely to be the strangest experience of my life. Secondly, that we need to remember how Angels can affect our lives and how we all need to remember that we should support one another as Angels too. My experiences of Angels continues and has contributed towards making this entire experience the strangest experience thus far in my life. I witnessed God's love to be everywhere but the strangest experience was when I found God's love, through the Angels, and they were unaware that they were channels of that love and peace. It was overwhelming and I hope and pray that you all recognise that same love and peace in your lives too. See you soon!

Revd 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 Revd Jim Brown,
The Vicarage, 2 The Grange,
East Malling, ME19 6AH
Office tel: 01732 843282
Email:
parishofficeemwt@gmail.com**

Archdeacon's Visitation

Our Churchwardens all have to attend the Archdeacon's Visitation every year, to be legally sworn in and listen to the Archdeacon's Charge. There is usually a choice of two dates and venues and some years all six of our Churchwardens are able to attend the same Visitation - but this year Dawn and Ros (top right)



from Teston went to St George's at Wrotham on Thursday 8th May, Eddie and Joanna, from Wateringbury (left - with The Archdeacon and Fr Alan) went to St Andrew's at Paddock Wood on Wednesday 14th May and David and Sue (bottom right) from East Malling went to



St Nicholas' at Strood on Tuesday 20th May. It is no easy task being Churchwarden so we offer them our thanks and our prayers.

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 Priest	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

Around the Parishes



It can't be Easter without the Good Friday and Easter Projects!

They are jolly hard work - and hours of preparation go into them - but on the day they are great fun.

Many of the children who came along in the early days are now helpers. It just goes to show how much they enjoyed themselves!



Yet again we were blessed with sunshine for our annual *Easter Project* event at Wateringbury church.

This year we had nearly 70 children attending a full morning of fun activities around the Easter story.



Garden making, cake decorating and egg rolling are always a big hit. We didn't have an egg escape out of the gate this year but they loved to keep trying! Our cross of many faces will be displayed in the church, so please do come and have a look at the young talent we have in the village.

Every child left with bags of goodies and creations but most of all with big smiles on their faces.



This year's Good Friday project at St James the Great was again very well attended with children from the village (67 in total). Arriving at 9.15 they had a good sing song before starting the various Easter based craft activities.



Breaking half way through the morning for a drink and an amazing choice of homemade cakes. At the end of the morning the children gathered again for a little more singing and were then reminded through the use of various symbols about the Easter Story.

Great fun was had by both the Children and over 40 helpers from the congregation. Thanks to all !

Sunday Services

Sunday 1st June - Seventh Sunday of Easter

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

Sunday 8th June - Pentecost

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



Sunday 15th June - Trinity Sunday

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

Sunday 22nd June - The First Sunday after Trinity

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

Sunday 29th June - St Peter & St Paul

10am Benefice Eucharist - Teston



Sunday 6th July - Third Sunday of Trinity

8am Holy Communion - Teston
 9.45am Family Service - East Malling
 9.45am Family Service - Teston
 10am Matins - Wateringbury

Sunday 13th July - Fourth Sunday of Trinity

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

Sunday 20th July - Fifth Sunday of Trinity

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

Sunday 27th July - Sixth Sunday of Trinity

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



Parish Happenings

There are services of **Holy Communion** at St James the Great, East Malling, at 9am every Thursday. At St John the Baptist, Wateringbury there are mid-week services as follow: On the second Tuesday of the month there is a **Taizé Service**, on the third Tuesday a service of **Holy Communion** and on the fourth Tuesday **Evensong with the Choir**. There are services of **Healing & Wholeness** at 8pm at East Malling on Tuesday 3rd June and at Teston on Tuesday 1st July. The next **Benefice Service** is on Sunday 29th June at 10am at Teston.

All these services are for everyone in the Benefice.

Benefice Pilgrimage / Holiday

From Monday 26th to Friday 30th May 36 folk from the Benefice will be enjoying this year's 'Pilgrimage / Holiday' at Shallowford House, the Diocesan House for the Lichfield Diocese. Among the speakers are the Bishop of Stafford and the Archdeacon of Stoke, so we'll be kept well in order! Afternoon coach trips will take us to the Wedgwood Visitor Centre and to Lichfield Cathedral for a guided tour. Having visited the National Memorial Arboretum at Alweras on the way up, we will be visited by a speaker reflecting on 'Remembrance' and 'Reconciliation' - and evening social evenings will see us welcoming a lady pawnbroker and the Director of Arthur Price, the cutlery specialists and manufacturers. All that, and much more, so a varied and interesting week is in prospect. We'll try to keep the Benefice flag waving circumspectly! Fr. Derek

Tea Time around the Parishes this summer

Every Sunday from 1st June to 7th September at St James the Great, East Malling. Teas will be served from 3pm to 5pm.

Every Tuesday in June, July and August. Teas will be served at St Peter & St Paul, Teston from 2pm to 4pm. Special "T@3" on Tuesdays 17th June, 15th July and 19th August. Refreshments also served every Tuesday from 10am to noon

Thursdays 7th, 14th, 21st & 28th August. Cream teas and home made cakes will be served at St John the Baptist, Wateringbury from 2pm to 4pm.

Further Dates for your Diary August and September

29th July, 14th & 28th August - Benefice Holiday Club, Teston
 23rd-25th August - Flower Festival, Teston
 20th September - Jumble Sale, Teston

Special Events

Teston Garden Safari

Sunday June 8th, Village Garden Safari and Cream Teas. Tickets from Teston Village Hall, on the day. Gardens 2pm-4pm. Cream Teas finish at 5pm. Followed by A Garden Songs Of Praise. Plants and Gardening Goodies for sale.

A Loving Tribute

Saturday 21 June 2pm-5pm at St. John the Baptist, Wateringbury. An opportunity to dedicate a favourite flower in memory of a loved one or to mark a special occasion. Dedication cards and vases will be provided. Home Made Cakes and Clotted Cream Teas.

The Fete On The Green At Teston

Saturday 21st June, 2pm traditional Village Fete. Stalls, Games, Tombola, Raffle, Teas. Children's Races and Dancing display. Dave the Music entertains.

Patronal Weekend. "1914 Remembered."

Saturday 28th & Sunday 29th June - Personal memorabilia display. Teston Camera Club Exhibition. Teas & Light Lunches. Sunday 3pm Illustrated Talk by Dennis Astridge "How Teston's young men answered the call to the colours, and what befell them". Church open Saturday 11am-5pm, Sunday after 10am Service until 5pm.

East Malling Singers

19th July East Malling Singers' Summer Concert including Bob Chilcott: A Little Jazz Mass and Tippett: Five Negro Spirituals. Tickets £10-12, Concessions £8-10, School children free! available from Sue Greenham tel 01622 750943 or on the door subject to availability.

James Ramsay Day

Sunday 20th July Teston's connection with the Anti Slave Trade Movement. Church Open for Exhibition 11am to 5pm. Commemorative Service and wreath laying at 6.30pm.

Friends of St James the Great Summer Fayre and Flower Festival "Our Village"

Saturday 26th July from 10am to 5pm in the Church and the Institute and the Flower Festival continues in church on Sunday 27th July from 11am to 5pm. Each floral display will depict an aspect of village life in East Malling. There will be lots of stalls at the Fayre on the Saturday along with ploughman's lunches and refreshments. Refreshments will also be available in the church on the Sunday, along with craft stalls. Free entry both days.