# What's On

WEEKLY EVENTS:				
<b>Tuesdays</b> Table Tennis	7 - 9pm	Stalisfield Hall		
Wednesdays (Alternate) Eastling Walkers 10.30am Call 01795 890703				
<b>Thursdays</b> Zumba	6.30pm	Stalisfield Hall		
Fridays	0.00p			
Yoga	9.30am	Eastling Hall		
Short Mat Bowls	7.30pm	Eastling Hall		





## **Easter Services in our Parishes**

**Palm Sunday, 14th April** 10am CaféStyle in Eastling Village Hall 10.30am Morning Prayer in Throwley Church

> Maundy Thursday 8pm Last Supper in Lynsted Church

**Good Friday** 10.30am Stations of the Cross in Doddington Church

**Easter Day** 6am Sunrise Service in Wychling Church 10am Holy Communion in Stalisfield Church 10.30am Holy Communion in Throwley Church

# Good News Parish Magazine

High Downs Parish

Serving the villages of Eastling, Otterden, Stalisfield and Throwley

ccgi.northdowns.plus.com/goodnews

Research



Entry £2.50 / person

## The Lion and the Lamb

As I write, I can see the daffodils are out in the garden and our large Magnolia on the front lawn is coming into flower. Last year the Magnolia flowering was completely ruined by the 'beast from the east', and this year I am looking nervously at the Magnolia to see whether the flower buds will survive the winds we are experiencing at this time in March.

It has reminded me of the saying that I was taught as a child -

'March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb'

By the time you are reading this we will all know whether the lamb of March has arrived, and whether our Magnolia survived the winds of early March to produce a good show.

And all this reminded me of the words of a modern worship song:

> Our God is a Lion the Lion of Judah He's roaring in power and fighting our battles And every knee will bow before Him

Our God is a Lamb the Lamb that was slain For the sins of the world His blood breaks the chains And every knee will bow before the Lion and the Lamb Every knee will bow before Him

> Leeland Mooring, Brenton Brown, Brian Johnson © 2015, Thankyou Music

These words come from Scriptural pictures.

God as a lion: God as the one who is the Almighty, the Creator, the all powerful God.

God as a lamb: the merciful God, the God who finds a way through our troubles, the God who dies for us.

And here we find the true story of Easter. The lamb of God, Jesus, who goes to the Cross, dies for us that we might know God's love and mercy in our lives.

And then on the 3rd day it is the all powerful God that defeats death and is raised.

Easter is a late one this year having been at the end of March last year, and so the story of March 2019 and its likeness to a lion and then a lamb will be well past when we arrive at Easter. My Magnolia will be in full leaf and its flowers gone; the daffodils, in our area, will have flowered and died back. Easter however is about the God who is the Lion and the lamb.

We find this reflected in a passage written by the apostle Paul to the Church in Philippi, one that is thought to be an early Christian hymn:

#### **Christ Jesus:**

Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

rather, he made himself nothing

by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a man,

he humbled himself

by becoming obedient to death —

even death on a cross!

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,

in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2:5-11

Whether we have been and are experiencing a meteorological lion or a lamb can I wish you all a very happy Easter. Do join us at one of our services to celebrate all that God has done for us through the death and resurrection of His Son, Jesus.

Steve Lillicrap highdownsvicar@gmail.com

#### Easter Day:

6.00am Sunrise Service with breakfast Wychling Church 10.00am Easter Holy Communion by Ext Stalisfield Church 10.30am Easter Holy Communion 6.00pm Easter Breakthrough

Throwlev Church Lynsted Church

## **Prayer Pointers** April 2019

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Sundays - Almighty God, as we conclude our Lenten journey, open our hearts and eyes to your glorious resurrection.

Mondays - Bless those who are hungry, those who are homeless, those without hope.

Tuesdays - Creator God, as we are refreshed by the new growth of spring, bless all farmers in this country and abroad.

Wednesdays - Pray for all in Mozambique coping with the effects of the cyclone. Thursdays - Holy God, grant healing to all those living in pain or sorrow.

Fridays - Bless us with your compassion as we lay our burdens at the foot of your cross. Saturdays - Lord Jesus, as you prayed in the garden of Gethsemane 'Not what I will but what you will', grant us the strength to accomplish your will in our lives today.

## Eastling Church Flower Rota April



8th - 14th Lent - no flowers 21st Easter - All hands needed on Saturday 20th from 10am.

28th April & 5th May - Janet Wood

If you would like to join the flower arranging rota, please call Bay on 01795 892036.

#### **Short Mat Bowls**

We are still looking for new players to help with our membership, if not we are right on the brink of folding and I would not like to



see that happen. We welcome all ages, all abilities on Friday evenings, 7.30-9.30pm in Eastling Village Hall, contact Roy on 01795 537162.

The competition teams are still just about hanging on in the second division, since last month's report we have only played two games. On Friday February 22nd we played at home to Minster (Thanet) Des, Bryan & Roy only managed to draw, and our other team lost so Minster, I would think, went home very happy with five points. We then travelled to Minster on Tuesday 26th February when Des, Bryan & Roy suffered a rare defeat, but we were very pleased for John

Hobbs, John Graham and Eileen as they pulled it out of the bag with a very good win and we came home with two



points. We now have only two games to go which are against Canterbury, home and away. I think it will be down to these games as to whether we stay in the second division, so we're hoping for a good result; more next month.

BelmontHseGdns



Belmont House and Gardens

## BELMONT HOUSE & GARDENS EASTER EGG HUNT

Sunday 21st April 11am - 3pm

Join us at Belmont House for some Easter fun. Take part in our outdoor trail around the grounds to win a chocolate treat, then head back to the Orangery to get crafty with our Easter themed activities.  $\pounds$ 5.00 per child and  $\pounds$ 2.00 per adult.

### **SPRING FAIR**

#### Monday 6th May, 11am - 4pm

Our Spring Fair features a superb range of quality plants and herbs, garden-related gifts, artwork, textiles, jewellery and a whole host of wonderful crafted delights as well as some delicious local food and drink

 $\pounds$ 3.00 per person and free for children under 16.

### INTRODUCTION TO SCREEN PRINTING

Monday 13th May, 10am - 4pm

Learn about the basic principles of screen printing by experimenting with paper cut stencils which produce bold and effective prints. Materials and refreshments included £50.00 pp.

## SPOON CARVING WORKSHOP

Tuesday 14th May, 10.30am - 4pm

Enjoy a unique and satisfying experience learning how to carve your own wooden spoon. You will be taught safe and proven ways to carve and whittle. £40.00 pp, materials and lunch included.

Belmont House & Gardens, Throwley, Nr Faversham, Kent ME13 OHH www.belmont-house.org



## Charing & District Local History Society

Thursday 11th April, 8pm in Charing Parish Hall

#### AND SO TO TED.... A HISTORY OF TEDDIES AND OTHER BEARS by Melanie Gibson-Barton,

A fun talk of Bear Essentials to appeal to arctophiles and bear overs! Originally inspired by a teddy bear that brought comfort to its owner during the Battle of the Bulge

> Doors open at 7.30pm, Visitors pay £3

## Stalisfield and District Crib League

The Stalisfield and District Crib League held its finals and presentation night at the Plough Inn, Stalisfield on Wednesday 13 March. In the closest of finishes, the eventual winners of the league were Jackie & David (The Trogs) who were just half a point ahead of Lauren & Barrie (Overcooked).

In the knockout competitions there was a double for John who won the singles and followed up with a victory in the doubles with his partner Rod.



All players would like to thank our hosts at the Plough for looking after us so well throughout the season. And we would also like to thank Jayne for organising the league.

The league is very much a fun, social gathering rather than a fund-raiser; that said, we were pleased to be able to donate  $\pounds 70$  to Kent Air Ambulance at the end of the night.

We are already looking forward to next season which will start in the autumn. New players – of any ability – will be made most welcome.

#### THE LANDMARK TRUST

**Housekeeper required** to clean and prepare a small, historic property that sleeps 2 in the grounds of Belmont House, Throwley, for short holiday lets. Generally Monday and Friday and some Tuesdays after Bank Holiday weekends.

Hours 10-2pm. Must make own transport arrangements. £9.23p/h. Interesting perks contribute to remuneration package.

See Landmark Trust website or contact sgriffiths@landmarktrust.org.uk, 0771 777 8859 or snixon@landmarktrust.org.uk 07775 842 332

## Otterden and Stalisfield W.I.

Our previous Secretary, Lesley Andrews, has recently had a fall which resulted in her having a hip replacement. All good wishes for a speedy recovery Lesley, from the Ladies of our Group.

March's Meeting was great fun, being presented by our present Secretary, Helen. She brought along her Thermomix machine to demonstrate and aid the making of Macarons. Helen had gone to a great deal of preparation, making the brightly coloured shells, which we were then able to complete with the filling of our choice. We were then able to take home our creations and as there were a good number attending, there were no Macarons left at the end of the evening.

Stalísfield HíghLífe			
<u>2019 [</u>	<u>Events</u>		
Quiz Night	26 <sup>th</sup> April		
Afternoon Tea	18 <sup>th</sup> May		
Treasure Hunt	8 <sup>th</sup> June		
Film Night	19 <sup>th</sup> July - TBC		
Summer Fête	24 <sup>th</sup> August		
Harvest Supper	5 <sup>th</sup> October		
Panto	6 <sup>th</sup> / 7 <sup>th</sup> December		
Children's Party	8 <sup>th</sup> December		
Seniors' Christmas Dinner			
	14 <sup>th</sup> December		
Burns Night - TBC	25 <sup>th</sup> January 2020		



## Lodgings/Accommodation Required

in the Stalisfield Area for our Daughter. If you can help or have any suggestions please contact Angela Lee on 01795 890143 or

angelalee@vfast.co.uk

Wednesday 3rd April at 7.30 sees the return of Helen Kendall-Tobias. A popular Speaker on her previous visit, she will be talking to us on the subject that 'Wrinkles don't Matter'.

In May we have an outing to the Gurdwara, Gravesend one of the largest Sikh Temples in Europe to look forward to something very different to our usual outings.

If you wish to join us on the first Wednesday of each month at Stalisfield Village Hall, please phone either Ellie Cameron on 01795 892016 or Helen Brookes on 07477580727.

## Painters Forstal with Selling W.I. The next meeting is our

**Birthday Meeting** 

on Tuesday 16th April at 2pm in Eastling Village Hall. I really hope all members will arrive early to help set up, I am going to be there at 12 noon.

Do not forget we will be debating the two resolutions chosen to go forward in May. Details as usual from Barbara on 01795 890020

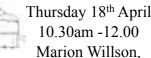


## **Eastling Gardeners' Club** meets on Thursday Ath April for a talk or

4th April for a talk on **'Wild Orchids**' The meeting will start at

7.30 pm in Eastling Village Hall and will be followed by wine and home-made nibbles. The annual subscription of £8 per person is payable at the meeting. Non-members pay £4 per meeting

### Coffee and Cake at Churchfields.





Jenny Lind and Julia Bailey invite you to a coffee morning to raise funds for

St Mary's Church, Eastling. A donation of £5 per person is requested. No RSVP just come if you can.



Come and Enjoy Afternoon Tea in Stalisfield Village Hall at 2.30pm on Saturday 18th May 2019 Hope to see you there! contact Angela Lee on 01795 890143 or angelalee@vfast.co.uk

### CONTACT THE GOOD NEWS EDITOR

If you would like to advertise in the May 2019 magazine, submit articles or stories for publication, or would like any forthcoming events publicised, send your contribution by 15th April to: Hilary Harlow, Pinks Farm, Eastling, Faversham, ME13 0BA. Tel: 01795 890338. Where possible, please submit your entry by email: goodnewsmagazine@me.com

# Past and current issues of the Good News may be viewed on ccgi.northdowns.plus.com/goodnews

EASTLING VILLAGE HALL To book ring Hayley on on 01795 890968 www.eastlingvillagehall.co.uk



A beautiful hall in a lovely village location for your wedding, club, sports or meetings. The large hall has pretty grounds, car parking, meeting rooms and fully equipped facilities for professional or self-catering occasions.



Friends of Eastling School Date for your diary Summer Fête Sunday 7th July, 12 - 3pm on the School Field

## Services in High Downs

#### 7th April Lent 5

Philippians 3, 4b - 14, John 12, 1 - 8 Eastling 10 am Morning Prayer (BCP)

#### 14th April Palm Sunday

Romans 10. 8b-13, Luke 4. 1-13 10 am CaféStyle in the Village Hall Eastling Throwley 10.30 am Morning Prayer (BCP)

## 21st April Easter Day

Philippians 3. 17 - 4.1, Luke 13. 31 - end			
Stalisfield	10 am	Holy Communion (CW)	
Throwley	10.30am	Holy Communion (CW)	

#### 28th April Easter 2

1 Corinthians. 10. 1 - 13, Luke 13. 1 - 9 Eastling 8am Holy Communion (BCP)

#### 5th May Easter 3

Philippians 3. 4b - 14, John 12. 1 - 8 Eastling 10 am Morning Prayer (BCP)

#### **Kingsdown and Creekside Parish**

#### Sunday 7th April – Fifth Sunday of Lent

Lynsted	Holy Communion BCP
Oare	Holy Communion ext CW
Doddington	Holy Communion CW
Teynham	Family Service
Teynham	Holy Communion BCP
Lynsted	Breakthrough
	Oare Doddington Teynham Teynham

#### Sunday 14th April – Palm Sunday

9.00am	Norton	Holy Communion ext CW Trad.
9.00am	Oare	Holy Communion CW
10.30am	Lynsted	Family Service
10.30am	Newnham	Holy Communion ext CW
10.30am	Teynham	Family Service & Communion
3.30pm	Teynham	Evensong
6.00pm	Lynsted	Breakthrough

Oare

#### Holy Week - 15th to 20th April

•	
Monday	8.00pm
Tuesday	8.00pm
Wednesday	8.00pm
Maundy Thursday	8.00pm
Good Friday	10.30am
Good Friday	10.30am
Good Friday	2.00pm
Saturday	8.00pm
	•

Reflection Newnham Reflection Teynham Reflection Lynsted Last Supper Stations of the Cross Doddington Family Service Teynham Last Hour of the Cross Norton Doddington Reflection

#### Sunday 21st April – Easter Day

6.00am	Wychling	Sunrise Service
9.00am	Newnham	Holy Communion ext BCP
9.00am	Oare	Holy Communion CW
10:30am	Doddington	Family Service
10.30am	Lynsted	Family Service
10.30am	Norton	Holy Communion CW Trad.
10.30am	Teynham	Family Service
3.30pm	Teynham	Holy Communion BCP
6.00pm	Lynsted	Breakthrough Holy Communion

### Sunday 28th April - Second Sunday of Easter

10.30am	Lynsted	Holy Communion CW APCM
6.00pm	Lynsted	Breakthrough

# High Downs Parish

Parish Office	Email: eastlingchurch@gmail.com		
	facebook.com/highdownsbenefice		
Priest in Charge Reverend Canon Steve Lillicrap			
	highdownsvicar@gmail.com		

Reader	Norman Fowler 4 Meesons Close, Eastling	(01795 890412)
Reader	Caroline Ramshaw	(01795 892088)
	4 Glebe Cottages, Eastling	

#### **Churchwardens**

Andrew Baxte	r (0179	95 890598)	
Janet Payne			
E mail	: eastlingchurch	@gmail.com	
Stalisfield with Otterden			
Jean West	(012)	33 712270)	
Sheila Moger	(012.	33 713212)	
E mail: samhawksnest@aol.com			
ntact: Maggie	e Scutt (017	95890312)	
or Alison	Young (0179	95 890213)	
	Janet Payne E mail Otterden Jean West Sheila Moger E mai ntact: Maggie	Janet Payne E mail: eastlingchurch( Otterden Jean West (012: Sheila Moger (012: E mail: samhawksnest ntact: Maggie Scutt (0179	

## Midweek Groups

Tuesdays: Study group, 9th & 23rd April, 9.30am at Garden Cottage, Eastling. 01795 890368

Wednesdays: Study group, weekly, 7.30pm, 18 Beech Close, Faversham. 01795 890338

Thursdays: Prayer group, weekly, 10.30am, Pinks Farm Kettle Hill Road, Eastling. 01795 890338

Fridays: Study group, weekly, 10.45am, New House Farm, Eastling. 01795 890629

You will be welcome at any of our groups.

## **Annual Church Meetings 2019**

**Eastling Church** Sunday 7th April, Eastling Church, 11am

**Throwley Church** Monday 8th April, Parsonage Farm Conference Room, 7.30pm

**High Downs Parish** (Eastling, Throwley, Stalisfield with Otterden) Monday 29th April, 7.30pm, venue tbc.

## **HOGBEN & PARTIS LIMITED Independent Funeral Directors** and Memorial Suppliers

Chapels of Rest SOLOMON'S LANE NEWTON ROAD FAVERSHAM KENT ME13 8EF TEL:Faversham 532319



Administration Office **37 STONE STREET** FAVERSHAM KENT ME13 8PH TEL: Faversham 532319



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The Plough Inn, Stalisfield; great food and drink from the pub on your doorstep.

**Our NEW bedrooms are now ready** ask us to look around or visit our website for more details

#### **DIARY DATES**

#### 19th April - Good Friday

Celebration Good Friday in true tradition with our variety of fish specials. PLUS entertainment from Rosie Horne, from 7.30pm

21st April - Easter Sunday Traditional Sunday Lunch 12 - 3.30pm

#### 22nd April - Easter Monday Family lunch with fun for you and your little ones

23rd - 30th April - British Beef Week Our steaks are second to none!

Keep up to date by following us on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram

Stalisfield Road, Faversham, Kent, ME13 0HY Tel: 01795 890 256 theploughinnstalisfield.co.uk Email: info@theploughinnstalisfield.co.uk

## THANK YOU to

Faversham & Villages for your **Generous Support!** 

Since October 2018 together we raised:

£4,144 Good Clothes Events (Oct '18)

£ 218 Classical Recital (January '19)

- £ 684 Calendar Sales
- £ 160.40 Market Stall Donations

How We are Spending Your Money:

£500 to provide Warm Food Refugee Kitchen £1000 to respond to the Most Urgent Appeal from our onthe-ground partners at Care4Calais £1000 to Replenish Urgent Stock of Essentials at the

Women's Refugee Centre

£750 for Warm Winter jackets Care4Calais £500 for Phone Credits - a life saver, helping refugees keep safe, keep in touch with families & seek legal advice £200 towards funding a Mobile Library & Learning Resources for young, vulnerable people in Athens £500 to respond to Recent Urgent Appeal for Sleeping Blankets Care for Humanity.

Faversham & Villages Refugee Solidarity Group: registered charity 1180448

Your Support is Vital - The Problem Has Not Gone Away

## Stories of a Time Gone By

I love looking at old photographs which tell a story of a time gone by. It is not that I look at the past as a 'golden age'. You only have to walk through a churchyard and read the inscriptions to become acutely aware that the 'good' old days weren't as good as some want to believe, but by knowing what there was in the past, we can evaluate the present.

Old photographs change the way I look at people, buildings and the countryside. Maybe it is the same for you?

A while ago I came across a website which I enjoyed enormously: www.kentphotoarchive.com/kpa/ desktopindex.php It is an archive ( on a non commercial basis) of old images from Kent.

As I have friends in Eastling, I also looked for photos of Eastling. There are hardly any, only from the church which hasn't changed that much in its looks. There must be old photos of the main Street in Eastling when horse and cart were around or photos of the school, when the headmaster's house was still occupied by the headmaster, photos of the school 'hall' itself etc.

Throwley...are there photos of the old

Windmill Pub somewhere? Or any others...children, playing on the Green? Stalisfield....photos of the Plough, the old village hall?

There are no photos at from Otterden on the website at all.

There must be photos somewhere which show an old farmyard in the village, or a tractor model 1954 parked in front of a post office, or people having a chat in the road, sheep being driven through the main street......

These are the sort of photos which would put your village on the map, in a family album they might get lost. My experience is that old family photos eventually end up in the bin.

Maybe you can consider getting in touch with Roy Moore via email royston.moore@virginmedia.com

He would love to digitise your pictures, you would not lose your originals, they would be scanned from the album. Ron also said that he would be happy producing a CD for the villages. So that they can be used in the community.

In this way, these old photos which are somewhere in a box or family album will be saved for posterity.

Henny Shotter, Warren Street

## PLEASE SAVE THE DATE FLOWER FESTIVAL

St Mary's Church Eastling Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd June 11am - 5pm

We are delighted to announce the revival of a Flower Festival in Eastling Church this year, raising money for a Floral Memorial Garden in the church grounds.

The theme is MUSIC - from pop to opera and everything in between, and we are seeking the involvement of the whole village. We have a loyal group of regular flower arrangers who will form the backbone of the Festival, but there is room for everyone's creation! We will shortly be allocating positions inside church for the installation of decorations. If you would like to contribute a music-themed floral design, please let us know asap.

We are also hoping that floral designs might be sponsored by people in the village in memory of loved ones, or in support of local businesses. If you would be willing to be a sponsor, please email us. (Depending on size, we are suggesting £10-£50 per display).

Please spread the word far and wide so that as many people as possible visit our village over that Mid-Summer weekend. Hilary has kindly offered to organise a team to make refreshments so, if you could spare some time to help, please contact her on 01795 890338. We will also need stewards during the opening hours and will be drawing up a rota for that as well.

There is no entry fee; all of our profits will come from sponsorship and donations from our visitors. Please come and help us make this a fun, flowery event in the village calendar.

For any queries or for more info on how to get involved, please email Bay on baylees@me.com or Di Kemp on di.kemp@sky.com.



Many people have told me they've had enough of Brexit, but it is the most important thing going on in Parliament at the moment, so I feel I have to mention it.

At the time of writing, I have voted twice for the Prime Minister's Brexit deal. I have also voted to keep 'No deal' on the table and against an indefinte extension. The country voted to leave, and that is what we should do. I would prefer we left with a deal, as that avoids the challenges of a nodeal Brexit. I'm also pragmatic; though the deal isn't perfect, the most likely alternatives are either a closer Norway-style Brexit, or a second referendum, both of which I think would be worse. You have to choose among the options you have, not the options you might like there to be.

And I am worried about this whole process dragging on for ages, to the detriment of our economy and people's livelihoods. I hope more of my colleagues will come round to this way of thinking and back the deal so we can get out and get on.

Meanwhile, I'm getting on with my local campaigns.

#### Let's make Graveney Marshes a haven for wildlife instead of a solar power station

From the top of the tower of All Saint's Church you can see for miles across Graveney Marshes. You really get a sense of what a waste it would be if this landscape was covered with black solar panels. I went up the other day with local campaigners from the Graveney Rural Environment Action Team to hear about the impact plans for a huge solar power station could have on their lives.

I also invited representatives from the Environment Agency, Natural England, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and Kent Wildlife Trust to discuss the impact on wildlife and the natural environment. Each organisation will have a say on the planning application, before the final decision is made by the Government.

Solar energy is important - but this site has so much potential. It could be used for natural flood management or as a habitat for rare birds. Industrialising it with swathes of solar panels would be a missed opportunity to do something even better for the environment.

Message from our M.P.

## What does stroke units decision mean for patients?

If you have a stroke and you live in Kent, your chances of recovering are currently worse than in other areas. That's not acceptable. Now that the NHS has decided where the new stroke units will be we're a step closer to getting better care.

I know some people are worried about the choice of William Harvey Hospital, and what it means for the future of the Kent & Canterbury. That's why I have previously sought reassurance on this and been told very clearly that this does not affect forthcoming decisions about the future of East Kent Hospitals (and Kent & Canterbury specifically). If the decision is made to have the major acute hospital in Canterbury, the Stroke Unit would move there.

I have written again to the NHS following the latest announcement asking for confirmation of this, and assurance that if  $\pounds 20$  million is spent on a unit in William Harvey, that facility can either be moved or repurposed to make sure public money isn't wasted.

#### Faversham purges plastic

Congratulations to all the businesses in Faversham that have gone plastic free! Edible Culture has got rid of plastic straws bags, bottles, sachets and cutlery while The Yard, Jittermugs, Tides, The Pantry and MB Farms all allow customers to fill up their water bottles for free. Email plasticfreefaversham@gmail.com if you'd like to get involved in the brilliant Plastic Free Faversham Campaign.

I'm doing my bit by taking the Tearfund charity's Plastic Pledge for Lent. I'm using a reusable coffee cup and water bottle, cutting back on products with too much plastic packaging in my weekly shop and avoiding disposable cutlery. And the Government has ambitious plans to make it easier for all of us to reduce, reuse and recycle. A deposit-return scheme for plastic bottles, a tax on plastic packaging that isn't at least 30% recycled and simpler household recycling are all in the pipeline.

Helen Whateley M. P.



#### An Alternative to the Bluebell Walk

For all who are disappointed on the cancel-lation of this year's Bluebell Walk,how about this for an alternative day out? The bluebells will have finished but the chance of a dry day is far better. You can enjoy a nice walk followed by a full ploughman's, plus strawberries and cream, to the accompaniment of a local jazz band. Come along on the North Downs Walk on SUNDAY 9th JUNE, organised for the past 33 years by the Rotary Club of the Weald of Kent. The walk starts and finishes at Harrietsham village hall and offers the choice of 1,3,6 and 9 mile routes.

If you want to raise money for your church or village, simply arrange sponsorship and leave the Rotary Club to do all of the organisation. They will allow you to retain 50% of all the money you raise for your own cause AND provide you with free food at the end!!

See the poster below or go to www.wealdofkentrotary.org.uk/ndwalk.html for more details. If all else fails, call John Tait on 01795 890324 or Duncan Payne on 01622 890234



The Rev Tony Horsfall...considers Jesus' death and resurrection

## Easter jov

I remember vividly a simple poster I saw on the notice board of our local Methodist Chapel. It had a silhouette of three crosses on a hill, and underneath the words,

'FOR YOU'.

Nothing fancy or clever, but a clear presentation of the Easter message, and it struck me deeply.

At Easter our thoughts are drawn to the death and resurrection of Jesus. These events are central to our faith. but sometimes we can overcomplicate their meaning. The heart of it, though, remains very simple: Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and on the third day was raised to life (1Corinthians 15:3).

He died to show his love for you. He gave his life as a demonstration or proof of the love He has for each one of us, no matter who we are or what we have done. He was motivated to lay down His life for us, not out of duty or obligation, but compassionate love. See Romans 5:8

He died to set you free. Sin has entangled every one of us. We are under it's power and unable on our own to loosen its grip. At the cross Jesus dealt with sin once and for all by dying in our place. Now, when we turn to Him for help, we can be released from the hold it has on us and find complete forgiveness.

He died to bring you home. The Cross makes it possible for us to be reconciled to God. Like the prodigal son we were once far away from God, but now because we have been forgiven, we can return to our true home in God. A welcome awaits us, and a joy-filled reunion is possible.

This Easter, why not think about these two simple words: FOR YOU

## **STALISFIELD**

Annual Parish Meeting of the Parish Council Friday May 10<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm in Stalisfield Village Hall

## EASTLING

Annual General Meeting of the Village Hall Trustees Annual Parish Meeting of the **Parish Council** 

These two meetings will take place in the village hall on Wednesday 24th April 2019; the Trustees meeting at 7.30pm and the Annual Parish Meeting at 8.00pm. Please come along to support these two local organisations and raise any comments and queries. Both meetings are open to all. Refreshments will be served.

## EASTLING

#### Attention footpath walkers and their dogs

The Belmont Estate has been pleased to inform the Parish Council, that

most walkers and their dogs, are careful to keep to designated footpaths around the village. However there have been several sightings of walkers using

hedgerow routes or crossing fields which are not designated as footpaths. Crops are being spoilt and the Estate requests that walkers follow only footpath signed routes. Cllr Julia Bailey.



Eastling

## Neighbourhood

## Watch

Village Warden 07794 010 394 or 01795 890848

Police 101 **Emergency 999** 

As you may have heard in the media or the newspapers millions of pounds have been made from telephone scams, especially the calls purporting to be from HMRC. The village has been targeted in the past but thankfully those, including me, who were called were wise to the fact and no local damage was caused. Please be aware at all times of telephone and doorstep callers; any problems call me, or the police on 101.

There has been another instance of the hounds from the local hunt causing chaos in the village despite a previous warning issued by the police to the owners to keep their dogs under control. These hounds cause a lot of distress in the village running in and out of gardens that back into the fields causing great alarm to domestic pets, charging across roads to the alarm of

motorists. Timely reminder again to keep your dogs on a lead within the vicinity of sheep or any other farm animals. Have a good month Take care Alan





Sweeping Service for Open Fires and Wood Burners **Clean Efficient Service** Institute of Chimney Sweeps Trained and Fully Insured Certificate Issued after Sweeping For Further Details please call Berni on 01795 581755 or 07751 109300 Visit me at www.barniessweeps.co.uk







## **Eastling School News**

The term started with our infant class going on a school trip to Bedgebury Pinetum to complete the Zog trail and consolidate their learning about habitats. It was the most glorious day with the sun shining and the children had a fabulous experience with more learning outdoors. Our Year 3/4 class had their class assembly on the first Friday of the term sharing their learning around the topic of Egypt. Acorn class, our Reception children, had their class assembly on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March focusing on Africa and London. Both assemblies had wonderful speaking, drama, singing and artwork and were well supported by the parents.

We continue to increase our participation in sporting events with a team of Year 5/6 children recently entering a hand ball competition. Miss Johnson said the children had a great afternoon and Hugo was awarded Player of the Match. A team from Silver Birch class took part in an Infant Agility event at Herne Bay High School along with 16 other schools. They participated in a range of events including javelin, jumping and throwing.

The week beginning 4th March was our book week. Each class focused on a chosen text and brought their learning alive through writing, drama, art, cooking and even science experiments. Acorn class enjoyed the book Katie in London, Silver Birch Cinderella, Willow class Harry Potter and Oak class The Lost Thing. At the end of the week, the parents were invited to an Open Afternoon to look at all the wonderful learning that had taken place. On 7<sup>th</sup> March, the whole school dressed up for World Book Day. The children and staff all dressed up in the most amazing costumes including Roald Dahl, David Walliams characters, a range of superheroes and the entire cast of Harry Potter. Have a look at the school website to see photographs from this and other school events.

We do have a few spaces available across the school for an immediate start. Any prospective parents looking for a Reception place for September 2019 are welcome to call the office on 01795 890252 to arrange a visit.



# Help feed local people in crisis

## Foodbank April 2019

Thank you for your ongoing support. With the Easter school holidays this month many parents will have to find an extra meal at lunchtime for their children which puts additional pressure on their limited means. If you know someone who needs help, please direct them to : faversham.foodbank.org.uk/get-help/ for further details

**Urgent items for April:** Squash; tinned sponge puddings; custard tinned or carton; coffee; tinned carrots; tinned fruit; carrier bags.



