

Good News Parish Magazine

High Downs Parish

Serving the villages of Eastling, Otterden, Stalisfield and Throwley

www.goodnews.rf.gd



AUGUST 2022

- 1st Events Planning Meeting
Stalisfield Village Hall 6pm
- 3rd Otterden & Stalisfield W.I. Picnic
Stalisfield Village Hall 6.30pm
- 12th Eat, Pray, Walk
Doddington Church 1.30pm
- 24th **YouthFest**
Stalisfield Village Hall 7 - 8.30pm
- 25th **YouthFest - and family BBQ**
Stalisfield 10am - 2pm
- 27th Stalisfield Summer Fête
Village Hall & Green 2pm

SEPTEMBER

- 7th Otterden & Stalisfield W.I.
Stalisfield Village Hall 7.30pm
- 9th Eat, Pray, Walk
Doddington Church 1.30pm



STALISFIELD GREEN

SATURDAY 27TH AUGUST 2022

FACE
PAINTING

2-5PM

CRAFT
STALLS

FREE ART
ACTIVITIES

VILLAGE
FETE

YOUTH
CLUB
AREA

WITH PERFORMANCES FROM

TRACTOR
DISPLAY



Juggle It All

&

TEA
& CAKES
FROM THE
WI



**GDC School
of Dancing**

SNOAD
FARM
MEATS
BBQ

DOG SHOW CLASSES:

MOST HANDSOME DOG, PRETTIEST BITCH
WAGGIEST TAIL, DOG JUDGE WOULD MOST LIKE TO TAKE HOME
ENTRIES FROM 2PM, JUDGING 3PM

SAT NAV: ME13 0HY

MJCARTER64@OUTLOOK.COM

STALISFIELD



Youth Group Dates for August:
Wednesday 24th 7.00 - 8.30pm
Thursday 25th 10.00am-2.00pm
with family bbq from 1.00pm

Stalisfield Fête

Donations are needed in the form of books, bottles (both non-alcoholic and alcoholic) and bric-a-brac. Please leave at Stalisfield hall on Sunday 21st August between 3-6pm

Donations for home produce on the day between 8 and 10am
Also this year is a very special year as we will be celebrating The Vants farming Stalisfield for 100 years! We would like to pay tribute with a tractor display. Please bring along your old and new tractors or farming equipment on the day to arrive before 1pm.

Volunteers are of course needed, whether you can help with set up/clear down or manning a stall for a couple of hours, all welcome!

Please contact Melanie Carter: mjcarter64@outlook.com 07961 566 814

August Message

From our Curate, Revd Caroline Turvey

This time last year I had just been ordained Deacon in Canterbury Cathedral. A Deacon, in the words of the ordination liturgy says this:

They are to proclaim the gospel in word and deed, as agents of God's purposes of love. They are to serve the community in which they are set, bringing to the Church the needs and hopes of all the people [...] reaching into the forgotten corners of the world, that the love of God may be made visible.

A Deacon is then 'Priested' a year later in a separate ordination service which happened on Saturday 2nd July. Absolute joy filled the cathedral as eleven of us again made vows to serve God, being ordained to 'lead God's people in the offering of praise and proclamation of the Gospel, sharing with the Bishop, the oversight of the Church, delighting in its beauty and rejoicing in its well-being'.

Lots of words, lots of pageantry, twirling of robes, donning of hats and vestments, and the Archbishop himself preached the question, 'Why all the fuss?' Why do we make it so complicated? In the secular world, there is a natural progression in career, surely this is the same 'what a palaver!' Aren't we just re-enacting a ceremony that happened in the past and meant a lot to people then, but today? Why does it matter? And his answer: because we recognise that God is here. He is involved. The Holy Spirit comes on us afresh and is involved and will equip us for the task ahead to which we are called; to bring others to know they too are loved by God.

This is the next stage on an eternal journey which began with God calling us by name before the foundations of the earth were laid. This journey never ends and we spend an eternity rejoicing in His presence. That's surely worth a fuss and a party in heaven, let alone here!

As Christians, we know that Jesus Christ carries our sin and guilt and all of that is forgiven if we receive his love. This is the truth. That's why there's a great big celebration. The church grows as more and more people discover the truth and accept his love. From just a handful of fearful disciples gathered in a small room after

Jesus died to a small community growing, even overthrowing the Roman Empire without force. And now, today, this community is a 2 billion strong church which continues to grow despite its failures and foolishness. Why? Because God is here. It is true and God invites us all to come in, to commit our lives into the hands of God and to experience the power of Jesus Christ and his inbreaking love through the Holy Spirit.

That's what all the fuss is about. If this idea is new to you and you'd like to know more, then give me, or any of our ministry team a call. We'd love to share the hope we have with you.

That day was so special. It will mark the part of my life journey of which you all are a part. Praise God for each one of you and may you find the life-giving truth of God's party loving spirit, and then go out and celebrate



Starting at Doddington Church Car Park
Time spent with others in the fresh air, over
a cuppa and in prayer
ALL WELCOME



Eastling Church August 2022



31st July & 7th Aug - Julia B & Marion
14th & 21st - Pippa and Gaby
28th - Dorothy

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

Prayer Pointers

August 2022



Mondays - Pray for our clergy as they minister to their people through these
challenging times.

Tuesdays - Give thanks for emergency services, pray for the safety of those serving.

Wednesdays - Pray for all using our Foodbanks and for families unable to afford a hot
meal each day.

Thursdays - Give thanks for crops harvested and pray for our farmers wrestling with
increasing production costs.

Fridays - Pray for people living in war torn areas of our world and pray for peace.

Saturdays - Give thanks for our young people and pray for the success of **YouthFest**
at Stalisfield.

Sundays - Rejoice in the grace of God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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Eastling Parish Council Vacancy for Councillor

Would you like to make a difference to your local community?

Would you like to assist in decisions that affect your community?

If so why not apply to become a Parish Councillor

Eastling Parish Council currently has a vacancy for Parish Councillor and is looking to fill this position by co-option. We invite anyone who is interested in being considered to notify the Clerk Mrs Wendy Licence - eastlingpc@gmail.com . In particular we would like to hear of any specific skills or interests that you believe would benefit the Council. If you would like an informal discussion with any member of the Parish Council please do not hesitate to contact any Councillor or the Clerk.

EASTLING PARISH COUNCIL

Speed Limit for Newnham Lane

For some considerable time Eastling Parish Council has been in negotiation with Kent County Council (KCC) to reduce the 40 mph speed limit in Newnham Lane to 30 miles.

Unfortunately, our efforts have not been successful. Despite wide support from our community KCC has advised that an application to reduce the limit is likely to fail.

The reasons listed by KCC are:

1. A speed survey carried out by KCC for a week earlier this year showed the mean speed to be 22.5 mph. The test was conducted at the valley outside Goose Meadow. Only one vehicle exceeded a 30 mph limit travelling at 31 mph at 2 am in the morning.
2. The costs of making an application would involve considerable expenditure for the Parish Council. £2,500 is required to change the statutory Traffic Regulation Order, around £1,000 to erect the sign and a further sum to fund the signage. Whilst some of the costs might be shared with other councils the support of KCC to achieve this was not apparent.
3. There are detailed regulations for what distribution of houses is required to justify a 30mph limit. The pattern of housing in Newnham

Lane does not comply with the regulations. There is rarely an occasion when there are houses on both sides of the road, and considerable instances of open fields or woodland.

On a positive note, the Parish application required a Highway Improvement Plan (HIP) to be presented to KCC. Two items in the plan have been undertaken by KCC Highways Maintenance Department with new drainage on the double bend before entering the village and repairs to the post and pipe fencing on Kettle Hill Road.

The Parish Council will discuss with KCC if any other form of sign might warn users of Newnham Lane of its potential dangers to pedestrians and cyclists.



Eastling Telephone Box.

The Parish Council has obtained ownership of our historic telephone box, on behalf of the village. Colin Bell and Brian Williams have beautifully renovated it. The box has tried to house a library but the books got damp and untidy. Please let the Council know if you have ideas as to possible uses for the box. One idea is a lit Christmas tree in December.

Contact members of the council or our clerk Wendy Licence: eastlingpc@gmail.com .

Cllr Julia Bailey.

Eastling Neighbourhood Watch

Village Warden

07794 010 394
or 01795 890848



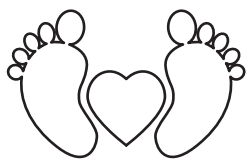
Police 101 Emergency 999

With the harvesting going on at present please be careful and tolerant when using the roads, as you never know what you may come across around the next corner and, if having barbeques at home or away, remember the fields are extra dry and the slightest spark could set off major fires as we have been seeing on the news.

With the advent of the fields being cut down it will unfortunately attract the kind of people who will indulge themselves in hare coursing and other illegal escapades in the fields. Please do not hesitate to report any seen either to the police, or myself, of course stating location.

Through out the County there have been multiple instances of gardening equipment and used cooking oils being stolen. Please make sure that all your items are stored away as securely as possible and any time anything suspicious seen please report it.

Have a good month
Take Care
Alan.



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An extract from 'Kent's Treasured Countryside'

by Audrey Keen

The Long Bottom

I stand on the green ride and hear
the charming sound of summer
birds. The wood itself exudes
pleasant odours coupled with the
visual delight of yellow broom,
rhododendrons, blue vetch,
speedwell, bugle, buttercups and
many more eye catching colours
of summer flowers. Water lilies
like pinks wax protrude from wide
pads of green over which pond
skaters and water boatmen hurry
across the wood pond. Wild
clematis and bramble creep ever
nearer to the water's edge. A
butterfly travels over St. John's
wort and pink fireweed. Insects
hover and hum, the sun shines.

I rest on the pond bank edge
and close my eyes.

'And as I walk beside
The hedge in summer
I can tell

Tenacious stems of scented
Briar frequent this path
As well.

While loosestrife beckons
Butterflies to feed
As I recall,

A line of verse deep in
My heart, it says
'I love them all' '

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Eastling Primary School

We were delighted to be offered the opportunity, by Swale Borough Council, to take a group of 15 children to Beach school once a week for the duration of term 5. The children from years 2-6 travelled to Swalecliffe beach. They learnt about native and non-native shells, Estuaries and geographical terminology, litter picking, reducing, reusing and recycling. The children also learnt how to hold crabs and identify a wide range of sea creatures.

Wrens Hill Rescue visited the school on 25th April to talk to the children about hedgehogs. The children enjoyed learning about hedgehogs and meeting Wonky.

Willow class were delighted to go to the Living Land show at Detling on 5th May. It was a wonderful day and the children took part in a food tasting workshop, watched a bird of prey display, discovery and machinery workshop, met the animals and watched the sheep show.

The school choir, led by Mr Glazier, went to the O2 on Friday 6th May to perform in the Young Voices concert. This was an amazing opportunity for the children to experience singing and performing with 7000 children. The school was very lucky to have their own box which was situated behind the main stage giving everyone a great view.

Birch class visited St Marys church on Wednesday 4th May where they were joined by Mrs Youle. They had been learning about sacred places as part of their RE topic this term. Birch class also visited the Mosque in Canterbury on Monday 16th May. On Thursday 12th May Acorn class visited Bedgebury Pinetum where they went on the Gruffalo trail.

The whole school celebrated National Outdoor Learning Day on Thursday 19th May. We were delighted to be joined by Wild Classroom for outdoor cooking. The older children had been learning about WWII so they made corned beef hash and homemade beans. Willow class made a risotto with locally sourced greens. Birch class made

pasta and meatballs and the youngest children made Gruffalo crumble (rhubarb crumble). All of the classes spent time planting and enjoying Joey's Garden. Other activities included making bug hotels and preparations for the Jubilee celebrations.

The school held a Jubilee picnic afternoon on Friday 27th May on the school field. Each class was involved and everyone learnt the National Anthem. It was a huge success and was very well attended.

The school sports week was a great success. Over the week the children took part in hockey, Roots to Food, cricket, skipping, boxing (KS2), Miss Sophies' dance, Charlton Athletic, sponsored run and Sports Day. Miss Johnson organised the whole week including sporting trips for each class. Acorn class went snow tubing and tobogganing at Capstone, Silver Birch went climbing and scootering at Revolution Skatepark, Willow class went bowling in Whitstable and Oak class went ice skating at Gillingham. The sponsored run raised £1600 for Abbie's Army.

On Monday 13th July, 15 children enjoyed a day at the Kent Cricket Ground watching a match and taking part in a variety of activities. Other trips in the final term have included visits to Otterden, Belmont, Reculver and the Police Headquarters.

The Friends of Eastling School organised a hugely successful summer fete on Sunday 3rd July. It was lovely to see so many people from the local community. The fete raised an amazing £3000.

Eastling Primary School wishes you a relaxing summer and we look forward to seeing everyone in September.

Melanie Dale, Head Teacher

Updates from Citizens Advice Swale

citizens
advice

Citizens Advice Swale has become increasingly aware of the threat buy now pay later poses to those living on the breadline. A lack of regulation and easy access to credit, runs the risk of pushing people further into debt while the cost of living crisis looms. Our debt referrals have increased in recent months and we're expecting things to get worse. Since April, we have provided information and advice to over 180 people seeking help with their debts. We have also extended the support we offer to include looking at ways to reduce expenditure, increase income and alternative ways to source credit facilities.

Our Faversham Centre Manager, Jude Lee, said, "More and more people are relying on credit as the cost of living continues to impact on people's finances. Currently many of these are unregulated and whilst they can be a useful way to survive short term, unless they are paid back within the agreement terms, the interest charged on these accounts can throw people into debt. Typical arrangements being used by people to survive daily include Klarna, Paypal, Clearpay to name a few."

There are many ways you can contact us, so if you or somebody you know needs help, please do get in touch.

How can we help you?

- **General Advice:** Call Adviceline on freephone 0808 278 7979 or send an online request at <https://citizensadvice.org.uk/email-general-advice/>
- **Debt:** Request a call back at <https://citizensadvice.org.uk/debt/>

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Otterden and Stalisfield W.I.

If you can get along to hear a presentation by Andy Robertshaw, do so! He was an excellent Speaker at our July Meeting, when we had over 30 Members and Guests attending. A very professional, knowledgeable gentleman who made an interesting subject come alive with background information of the film War Horse. Did you know that some of the trench scenes were taken in an area between the M25 and M3 or that there were 15 'Joey' horses that had makeup to enable them to look like the same horse. Or that the 'dead' horses on the battlefield were made of foam and if not pegged down, blew away in the wind! These and other anecdotes made for an entertaining evening.



Our August Meeting on Wednesday 3rd, is an informal evening, as many people are away on holiday or days out. We will be gathering at Stalisfield Village Hall at the earlier time of 6.30 p.m. for a 'Fare to Share' picnic, outside if the weather permits or indoors if not. There will also be various games available for those who wish to partake. Bring whatever food and drink you enjoy for a good social evening to catch up with friends and neighbours.

Wednesday 7th September will see a completely different subject from Mandy Oliver, a Herbalist who produces natural skincare products. She runs workshops at Belmont House as well as other venues.

Please feel free to join us, we normally meet the first Wednesday of each month at 7.30 p.m. at Stalisfield Village Hall. Contact our President Helen Brooks on 07477580727 or our Secretary Ellie Cameron on 01795 892016 if you would like to come along.

Thundering Sermon!

A minister was preaching on the dangers of alcohol and concluded by thundering: "And that is why, if I had all the beer in the world, I'd take it and pour it in the river. If I had all the wine in the world, I'd take it and pour it in the river. And if I had all the whiskey in the world, I'd take that as well, and pour it in the river." Satisfied that the point was made, the minister sat down.

The music leader then stood up and, with a sheepish grin, announced: "Our closing hymn is number 438: 'Shall We Gather at the River'."



Kids Outdoor Music Workshops

Brogdale Collections World Music Garden
Tuesday 2nd, Tuesday 9th August
10am – 12pm

Come and play at the National Fruit Collection in our beautiful orchards with local community samba band **Samba Pelo Mar**.

You'll learn a piece of percussion-based music using the samba instruments and incorporating Brogdale's own instruments in the World Music Garden. We'll be playing surdo bass drums, snares and repiniques, tamborims, bells and shakers from Brazil along with Brogdale's World Music Garden tubular gongs, bat phones and log drums from Africa, South America and Asia.

A performance and parade will be the finale of the workshop. No previous experience needed and all instruments provided.

Only suitable for children over 8 years

Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times. Book at : <https://brogdalecollections.org>

Stalisfield Village Hall



Planning for events 2023

Stalisfield Village Hall

Monday 1st August at 6pm

Please come along if you would like to help organise the events or have new any new ideas.

I will be stepping back from the committee at the end of 2022 so we will be looking for the next candidate to take the reins.

Please contact me for further details

mjcarter64@outlook.com

Look forward to seeing you

Melanie

Stalisfield Highlife

Stalisfield Village Hall

2022

27th August Village Fete: 2 - 5pm

9th & 10th Dec Pantomime: 7pm

17th Dec Children's Christmas Party

18th Dec Seniors' Christmas Party

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Sunday Services

31st July Trinity 7

Colossians 3. 1 - 11, Luke 12. 13 - 21

Eastling 10.30am Benefice Communion

7th August Trinity 8

Hebrews 11. 1 - 3, 8 - 16, Luke 12. 32 - 40

Eastling 10.30am Holy Communion CW

Norton 10.30 Morning Worship

Wychling 4pm Evening Service

14th August Trinity 9

Hebrews 11.29 - 12.2, Luke 12. 49 - 56

Eastling 9am Holy Communion BCP

Throwley 10.30am Morning Prayer

21st August Trinity 10

Hebrews 12. 18 - 29, Luke 13. 10 - 17

Newnham 9am Holy Communion BCP

Eastling 10.30am Morning Worship

28th August Trinity 11

Hebrews 13. 1 - 8, 15, 16, Luke 14.1, 7 - 14

Throwley 10.30am Holy Communion

Newnham 10.30am Morning Worship

4th September Trinity 12

Philemon 1 -21, Luke 14. 25 - 33

Eastling 10.30am Holy Communion CW

Norton 10.30 Morning Worship

Wychling 4pm Evening Service

Online Daily Worship Continues

As well as the services in our churches, the daily 9am Morning Prayer at Lynsted and Sunday Breakthrough at 6pm, will continue and be live online on www.kingsdowncreekside.co.uk - also on the Kingsdown and Creekside Facebook page.

More information is updated weekly on St Mary's Eastling 'A Church Near You':

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/11982/>

High Downs Parish

Rector Reverend Canon Dr. Steve Lillicrap
01795 522510 steve.lillicrap@kc-hd.org.uk

Associate Priest Reverend James (Jim) Pye
01795 890726 jim.pye@kc-hd.org.uk

Curate Reverend Caroline Turvey
01795 886351 caroline.turvey@kc-hd.org.uk

Reader Caroline Ramshaw (07799 538809)

Anna Chaplain Caroline Ramshaw
AnnaChaplaincy@outlook.com

Churchwardens

Eastling Andrew Baxter (01795 890598)

Administrator Janet Payne
E mail: eastlingchurch@gmail.com

Stalisfield with Otterden

Jenny King (01795 890366)

Administrator Shirley Pritchard
Email: Stmarystalisfield@gmail.com

Throwley Gaynore Moss (01795 890995)

Parish Office Email: eastlingchurch@gmail.com
facebook.com/highdownsbenefice

From The Registers

Funeral

Wendy Allen
2nd July 2022 at Eastling

CONTACT THE *GOOD NEWS* EDITOR

Hilary Harlow 01795 890338

If you would like to submit articles, or to advertise in the September 2022 magazine, send your submission by 20th August to: goodnewsmagazine@me.com.

Past and current issues of the Good News may be viewed on www.goodnews.rf.gd

Afternoon tea and a tour of the archives and library is on offer at the Cathedral next month. It will be on Monday 15 August and to book your ticket and find out more at: canterburycathedrallodge.org



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Wild Classroom Family Cooking Workshop

Tuesday 9th & Tuesday 30th August, 10am - 1.30pm

Step outside this summer and join Wild Classroom where you and your family will be able to cook over fire using seasonal produce from our Kitchen Garden. £65.00 includes the registration of 2 adults & 2 children aged 4-15 years.

Open Air Theatre: Cinderella

Saturday 20th August, 3pm

In an enchanted kingdom in a faraway land, magical creatures and fairy godmothers come together to tell the best loved of all fairy tales. Join us on Cinderella's journey of a lifetime to a magical ball where nearly anything is possible especially if it is before midnight. Adult £18, Child 5-16/NUS Student £11, Child under 5 Free and Family (2 Adults & 2 Children) £50.

Woodfest & Country Fair

Saturday 10th & Sunday 11th, 10am - 5pm

We have lots of exciting woodland demonstrations taking place over the weekend including chainsaw carving, wood turning, spoon carving, campfire cooking, horse logging, pole lathe turning as well as vintage tractors and a fantastic display of stationary steam engines.

The main arena attractions run continuously throughout the day and will include Joe's Bows Falconry Display, Gun Dog demonstrations, Ferret Racing, Fun Dog Show (Sunday only) and new for 2022, The Mini Pony Show. There will also be a range of craft stalls, local food and drink. This is a great show for all the family! £10.00 per person and children under 16 are free of charge. Save 10% when you book online.

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W: www.belmont-house.org



Samuel Pepys & the strange Wrecking of the Gloucester

The sinking of the Gloucester was the most controversial and significant shipwreck of the 17th century. Many blamed James, the future king, but it was the pilot who ended up in

the Marshalsea Prison. Samuel Pepys, naval administrator and diarist, blamed almost everyone for the disaster, but Pepys himself had some awkward questions to answer.

Nigel Pickford is the speaker in Charing Parish Hall at 8pm on



Thursday 8th September, doors open at 7.30pm.

CHARING & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

www.charinghistory.co.uk



The Arts Society Faversham

We run regular lectures at the Alexander Centre, Faversham. Subjects cover all aspects of the Arts in its widest sense and are given by experts in their chosen field and include university lecturers, broadcasters and tour guides. Come along to a lecture as a guest (£5 fee) or join for a year's lectures.

Our next lecture is on the 22nd September at 11.00am on "The Heritage of Gilbert and Sullivan" by Bernard Lockett. Coffee and biscuits will be served from 10.20am.

For further information contact us at info@theartssocietyfaversham.org.uk



The Arts Society Egerton

The Arts Society brings people together through a shared curiosity for the arts

- We are a large and friendly organisation which began in 2002.
- We welcome guest lecturers, top experts in their field, to talk to us each month and we offer a wide range of subjects from across the arts, cultural and heritage sector.
- We are part of a national organisation so members also receive a magazine and have access to events all over the country including on-line talks etc
- Our members come from across the Weald and North Downs areas
- We meet at the Egerton Millennium Hall Elm Close, TN27 9DS at 2.30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month at 2.30 p.m. (doors open from 2.00)

The first 2 lectures in our 2022-23 season will be:
Wednesday 14th September at 2.30: BOMBING WITH BANKSEY & CO – the Graffiti Art and Street Art of Shoreditch and Spitalfields. Our lecturer, Pepe Martinez, is a London Blue Badge Guide and comes highly recommended as an expert and very entertaining speaker.

Wednesday 12th October at 2.30: THE ART OF THE TABLE: FEASTS & FANTASY. Our lecturer, Nicole Mezey, was the first Director of the Department of Art History at Queens University, Belfast and a Fellow of the R.S.A. and of the Higher Education Academy

Visitors are always very welcome at £5, refunded if you join. Annual membership is £40 for 10 lectures. For further information please contact Christine Willis, our Membership Secretary via cmwillis75@gmail.com or 01233 756377.

www.theartssocietyegerton.org.uk

Grace – it really is amazing

by Lester Amann

Most of us will know the hymn, *Amazing Grace*, by John Newton. Grace is an essential element of our faith, but what is it, exactly?

In everyday life the word 'grace' has many uses: in the courts, a pardoned person has been 'shown grace'; in the arts, an exquisite dancer moves with beauty and grace; if someone undertakes an unpleasant task cheerfully and willingly, it is done with 'good grace' and composers sometimes add 'grace notes' to their music to enhance the playing of their music.

The biblical use of the word 'grace' is quite different! The New Testament describes grace as God doing something for us that we could not do for ourselves. That 'something' is the free and unearned favour of God towards us. It is God's goodness which removes human inferiority and worthlessness and which raises our status. It pays the debt of sin. Grace welcomes the wretched, the weak and the wayward. It adopts us – homeless orphans – into God's family.

The story of King David and Mephibosheth is a remarkable example of grace. (see 2 Samuel 9:1-13) When David discovered a disabled relative of a former friend, he opened the way for this person to be brought into the royal household. He was accepted into David's family and given the same status as one of his sons.

Similarly, God accepts the unacceptable into His Heavenly Family. He accepts us as we are, regardless of status, health - or any objections we may have! Our gracious God loves us even though we are unlovely, undesirable and unholy.

We must see God's love in the gift of His Son. We can only be thankful that through Christ we have a new relationship with God. It is by His grace we are saved.

In John Newton's famous hymn, he wrote 'grace will lead me home'. Through the grace of God we can be assured of eternal life, joy, peace and security with Christ.



Praise!

Praise the Lord in merry song,
Praise Him, praise Him all day long.

But what of me?

I cannot sing –

I have no melody to bring.

But in the Bible, joy of joys,

The Lord says: "Make a joyful
noise!"

Anonymous

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KCC COUNCILLOR'S REPORT JULY 2022

There are two updates this month. Firstly, a piece on an excellent local campaign which has the potential to open up a safe cycling route between Faversham and Whitstable, and then an update on the situation with KCC's bus subsidy cuts.



SOLAR CYCLEWAY

The Solar Cycleway is the brainchild of a keen cyclist and local campaigner from Graveney. He came up with a great idea to try and get something positive out of the hugely unpopular solar farm scheme in Graveney by campaigning for the developers to include a cycle path across the site, leading from the creekside path in Faversham across to The Sportsman at Seasalter.

This would make cycling from Faversham to Whitstable significantly safer, as cyclists would no longer have to navigate the fast, winding sections of Seasalter Road from Graveney up to the coast.

I have been working with the Solar Cycleway team over the past year to see what is possible in terms of the laws relating to public rights of way, and our hard work is beginning to pay off. Sustrans, the national cycling charity are now on board with the scheme and keen to assist us, and the scheme has the support of KCC, Swale Borough Council, Faversham Town Council, and the two MPs whose constituencies the path would be in (Helen Whately and Rosie Duffield).

Despite the strong support from every local authority, the developers have so far not budged and not met with us to discuss the idea of allowing a cycle path, but we now have a chance to employ people power to get the Solar Cycleway on the agenda. Although the decision on building the site was taken by the government, the developers now have to get some final

details agreed with Swale Borough Council before they can proceed with construction. One of these details is a traffic management plan, which makes no mention of the danger their construction traffic will present to pedestrians and cyclists on the Seasalter Road.

Their proposals are currently on the Swale Planning Portal and we are hoping that enough responses about the need for walkers and cyclists to be considered in the plans will put the topic firmly on the agenda. If you would like to respond in support of this project, please visit - www.solarcycleway.com for more information.

BUS SUBSIDY CUTS

Despite councillors from all parties presenting strong arguments against the council's proposal to cut £2.2m from its bus subsidy budget, the administration at KCC have moved forward with this decision. This will have a huge impact on our area, leaving many villages without access to regular public transport.

I am in talks with officers at KCC and other opposition members to see if it's possible to have the decision looked at by the Scrutiny Committee. If we are able to do so, a Scrutiny meeting will take place in early August. I will report the outcome of the meeting in my next piece, and also provide updates via my Facebook page - www.facebook.com/RichLehmannSwaleEast.

Assuming the cuts go ahead (which now seems likely), the only public transport option remaining for some villages will be the Kent Karrier service. This costs £3.50 per return journey (regardless of whether you have a bus pass or not) and requires booking in advance. I will write more about the Kent Karrier in the next piece, or if you would like to find out more, search online for 'Kent Karrier Swale'.

Rich Lehmann
rich.lehmann@kent.gov.uk

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Look out for **YouthFest** 24/8/22 and Thursday 25/8/22 10-2 games and activities on the Faversham Youth bus rounding off with a BBQ for all the family
 Contact : Clnorwood@doctors.org.uk



Ride & Stride For Kent Churches

The Friends of Kent Churches Sponsored Ride & Stride takes place on the second Saturday in September each year.

This year it will take place on **Saturday 10th September 2022.**

To register as a participant, for further information, or to download a sponsorship form, contact a local church or go to: www.kentrideandstride.co.uk



Mouse Makes

READ the full story in the book of Jonah

What swallowed Jonah?
A big _____

How long was he there?
three _____ and three _____

Jonah 1:17

JONAH'S JOURNEY

Which city did God tell **Jonah** to go to?

and why?
Jonah 1:12

Where did Jonah try to go instead?

What did he travel in?

Jonah 1:3

What did God send to stop him?
A great _____

What did Jonah tell the **sailors** to do to make the sea **calm**?

him into the **sea**
Jonah 1:4-16

What did Jonah do?

then what did the fish do?
Jonah 2:1-10

JOPPA

DID YOU KNOW?
In Bible times wearing itchy sackcloth made from goat's hair was a sign of grief and repentance

SWALLOWED HIS MESSAGE

CREATED A SHIP

KIDNAPED THE BOAT

CALM DOWN THE FISH

LYNDON ILLINOIS

OSPREY WINGS

TARSHISH

HTBNFORTYSANINEVEHSHIP

When Jonah reached Nineveh he proclaimed God's **message**... the city would be overthrown in _____ days

Jonah 2:1-10

What did the people do?
F _____

What did they put on?

Jonah 3:1-9

What did God do?
R _____

Jonah 3:10

Find the missing words. Look up the Bible references then look for them and the words on this page in **bold** in the word search