

You are invited . . .  
to a **LUMINOUS Puppet Show!**  
On Sunday 29th November,  
at 6.30pm in Eastling Church.  
A mysterious and exciting trip into the  
past and future,  
by **Eastling Puppet Club.**  
Suitable for all ages.  
Using puppets that  
**GLOW IN THE DARK!**  
Entrance free.  
Closing collection for NSPCC "Childline".  
Any enquiries to 892124

**S. CLUB**  
**CHRISTMAS PARTY**  
Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December.  
10am Eastling Village Hall  
FUN, GAMES, QUIZES, CRAFT,  
REFRESHMENTS  
All with a seasonal theme.  
**EVERYONE WELCOME**  
(primary school ages)

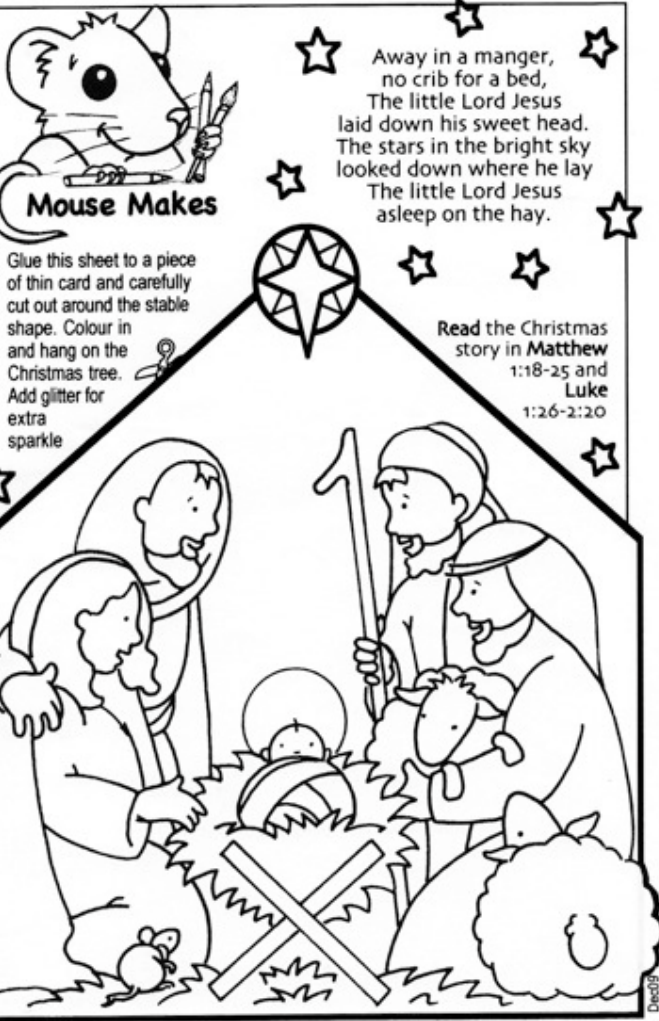
More info  
www.eastlingyouthworker@hotmail.co.uk  
07762469868



**Where did  
Christmas stockings  
come from?**

No one is really sure, but a story is told of St Nicholas, a bishop who lived in the 4<sup>th</sup> century, who may have started the custom by accident. St Nicholas was of a wealthy family, and of a generous heart. As Christmas approached one year, he wanted to help a poor family whom he knew, but he did not want them to know it was him. So he climbed up on their roof on Christmas Eve and dropped some coins down the chimney.

The next morning the coins, to the great surprise of the family, were found in the stockings of the ladies, who had hung them to dry by the fire the night before. Every year after that they put their stockings out, in the hope that some more money would fall into them. They told the story of this amazing appearance to their friends and neighbours, and the custom caught on.



"Does anyone have a light, please?"

*to you and your kin, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Now bring us some figgy*

# Good News Parish Magazine December 2009



**Carol Singing in  
our Villages**

**Stalisfield**  
Tuesday 15th December, meet  
outside the Plough at 6pm  
**Eastling**  
Tuesday 22nd December,  
meet at the village hall at 6pm, finishing at New  
House Farm at 7.15pm.  
All welcome, please wear warm clothing and  
bring a torch if you can.

Christmas at Whitehill Chapel  
Sunday 13th at 6.30pm  
Carols by Candlelight  
Christmas Eve at 4pm  
Crib and Nativity Service



**Christmas  
Concert**

with the  
**Snowdown Colliery  
Welfare Band**

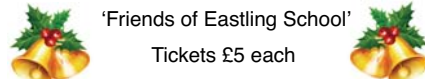
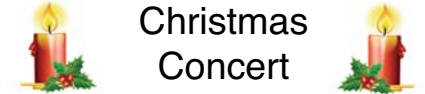
Wednesday 16th December 7.30pm  
at St. Mary Church, Eastling

Concert is in aid of

'Friends of Eastling School'

Tickets £5 each

Available from Caroline Pinchbeck or  
Pauline Gaston 01795 886404



*The news magazine for the combined parishes of Eastling and Stalisfield with Otterden*



**'Live' Nativity at Snoad Farm**  
4pm  
Sunday 6th December  
See WI column in centre pages for  
more information



**Christmas  
Services**

Stalisfield Church  
Sunday 13th  
Crib Service at 3pm

Otterden Chapel Sunday 20th  
Carol Service at 3pm

Eastling Church Christmas Eve  
Nine Lessons and Carols at 4pm

Stalisfield Church Christmas Eve  
Midnight Mass at 11.30pm

Eastling Church Christmas Day  
Christmas Service at 10am

**Stalisfield Limelight**  
Season of 2009

**Little Red Riding Hood**

Produced and stage managed by a  
talented Stalisfield team, this  
unusual take on the traditional  
tale of "Little Red Riding Hood"  
has been transformed into a  
family panto not to be missed.  
The newly formed



**Low Expectation Theatre Group**

is rehearsing right now for your delight, with characters  
portrayed by local talent, skillfully woven into this age-old  
fairy tale.

Reserve your seat for the one-time-only performance on  
Saturday 12th December at 7.30pm in the Stalisfield hut on  
the Green. Tickets are priced at £6 for adults and £3 for  
children under 11, and will include a "welcome" drink.  
Reserve with Elaine on 01795 890518 or with Judith on  
01795 890203. Make it soon - **time is running out!**

Good Tidings we bring  
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.  
We wish you a Merry Christmas, we wish you a Merry Christmas, we wish you a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year.  
pudding for we all like figgy pudding and we won't go till we've got some, so bring some out here. We wish you a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year.



## Christmas is coming . . . . .

Peter and I are expecting a new grandchild in two weeks' time. We have a mixture of emotions: apprehension and excitement, and a feeling of wonder that a new human being is about to join us on this planet and, we hope, become close to us, loved by us and loving in return.



Christmas is also on its way. For many of us, the approach of Christmas brings a flood of chores: buying cards, presents, food to prepare, trees to buy and decorations to put up. For children there is the intoxicating excitement of presents to come. Christmas has, for many, taken on a frenzied and material life of its own. At the same time, for some, there may be memories of past family togetherness which now has become sadness at the empty house and the empty chair.

But should we expect at Christmas something greater than constant activity and consumption? Could it herald the coming of something new into our lives and souls that often ache for a better world? Our culture seems obsessed with blame and cynicism and tortured relationships - "Mock the Week", "EastEnders" and so on. By contrast, the message of Christmas, brought by the birth of a baby, is love and acceptance, not anger and recrimination. This new baby was something more than the creation of a new human life

like that of our children and grandchildren. It was God's human entrance into our world.

God came in such a humble way that it cuts across all our ideas of value and worth. Born in a stable - probably dirty and unhygienic - and definitely downmarket and "uncool"; laid on a food trough by the young spouse of an unknown carpenter - not a celebrity - and welcomed by a group of outcasts. (Shepherds were the lowest in society in bible times, because they could not attend the correct religious observances.) This baby's life unfolded as he grew into a man, Jesus. His life spelled out the great priority of love. He loved people and used his power to heal people, and his eloquence to teach people how to live and love and serve God. He himself, prayed to God with more closeness than ever known before, calling him "Abba" (Father), and spending hours, often at night, in prayer. But society couldn't understand Jesus' unconventional, unbiased teaching of God's love to us all, and he was crucified. Then he overcame death

to show that the kingdom of heaven was open to all who follow him.

So, something much deeper and greater than our worldly concerns happens at Christmas. We receive a miraculous gift. We are invited to unwrap it, and to receive God anew to live and love in us and with us. Even our tears and sadness as we miss loved ones, or our happy anticipation of good times, are dwarfed by the gift that God sent, and still sends us at this time.

So may Jesus, who came as a human baby at Christmas and who understands our human emotions, share our happiness and sadness at this time. And may He speak to us more closely, deepen our faith and enlarge our hearts to love and be loved, more than ever before. A merry and blessed Christmas to you all.

Angela Cheeseman.



### Christmas and St Luke's Gospel

It is to St Luke's wonderful gospel that many Christians turn as the year draws to a close and Christmas approaches, for it is to St Luke that we owe the fullest account of the nativity.

Luke alone tells us the story of Mary and the angel's visit to her, and has thus given the Church the wonderful Magnificat of Mary.

Luke alone tells us the story of Simeon's hymn of praise, thus giving us the wonderful Nunc Dimmittis. Imagine evensong without the Nunc Dimmittis.

Luke alone tells us the story of how the angels appeared to the shepherds and how the shepherds then visited the infant Jesus. So - imagine Christmas cards and nativity scenes every year without the shepherds arriving to visit baby Jesus. Imagine school nativity plays without our children dressed as shepherds or sheep. So - thank you, Luke!

What makes it so amazing is that Luke was not a Jew! The man who wrote the fullest nativity story, and indeed more of the New Testament than any other single person, was a Gentile!



### Betty Smith

Thank you to all our friends for their cards and messages of sympathy at this sad time of our Mother's passing.

Thank you to Caroline, Penny and Angela for making the funeral arrangements and to Janet for the lovely flowers as well as for supporting us on the day. Our thanks also to those who organised refreshments and to those who decorated the church and helped in any way. Our gratitude goes to everyone who came to Eastling church on 11th November.

Your thoughtfulness has been much appreciated. Jimmy and John Smith

### Prayer

### Pointers

### December 2009

<i>Sunday</i>	For those who promote your Holy word.
<i>Monday</i>	That the time of Advent will lead us to You.
<i>Tuesday</i>	For families especially in our parishes.
<i>Wednesday</i>	For friendship in our world.
<i>Thursday</i>	For the young and all who care for them.
<i>Friday</i>	For the true spirit of Christmas.
<i>Saturday</i>	For those who are homeless cold and hungry.



## Eastling Neighbourhood Watch.



Contact numbers:  
Parish/Village Warden 07794 010394  
Crimestoppers 0800 555 111 (24 hours, free and anonymous)  
Sittingbourne police station 01795 477055  
Emergencies or crime in progress always use 999

Now that Christmas is with us again, remember at all times, keep those windows and doors locked as there will be people about who will want to have a good Christmas at your expense, do not allow them.

There has been one or two opportunistic crimes of minor items being stolen so please make sure your sheds are locked and anything of value put away. Remember that when you go out shopping, not only to the shopping centres but also locally, to keep your purse and wallets in a very secure place as the Christmas gangs, of various nationalities, are moving into the towns where sometimes they find easy pickings - be alert.

The green enclosed trailer, which I am sure we have all seen in the village being pulled along by a tractor carrying the beaters for the local shoot, has been stolen. Should anybody have any information regarding this or have seen it in a field or premises please contact me or the police.

The Police will be out in extra strength this Christmas pulling in the stupid people who decide to drink and drive. So if you have a function to go to, do not drink and drive, order a taxi and enjoy yourself.

Have a great Christmas and a Happy New Year.  
Alan.

## The Carpenters Arms

01795 890234

### 1st Anniversary

Friday December 4<sup>th</sup> sees the end of our first year at "The Carps" and we would like to show our appreciation of all your help, support and encouragement by inviting you to a party. There will be a free buffet and your first drink will be on us. Look forward to seeing you

### December Opening Hours

Christmas Eve	Bar 12 - 3 & 6 - 11	Dining (Sold Out)
Christmas Day	Bar Only 11 - 2	
Boxing Day	Bar 12 - 3 & 6 - 11	Dining 12 - 2 & 6 - 9
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Bar 12 - 7	Dining 12 - 4:30
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Bar open all day	Dining 12 - 2 & 6 - 9
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Bar 12 - 3 & 6 - 11	Dining 12 - 2 & 6 - 9
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Bar 12 - 3 & 6 - 11	Dining 12 - 2 & 6 - 9

### New Years Eve

We shall be holding a black tie party with a running buffet, with bells and fireworks at midnight. £5 cover charge for those using the buffet. We wish all of you a very Merry Christmas with a prosperous and healthy New Year.

Our Thanks to all of you  
Mitch & Donna

## School news

Once again, the minibuses donated by FOES have proved very useful. Lions Class enjoyed a great trip to the Gunpowder Mills and found out about Guy Fawkes. The children also managed to find minibeasts on their walk! In the afternoon children made relief pictures and rubbings and drew pictures with charcoal.

Tigers Class spent a few morning metal detecting with the Kingfisher charity. They were treasure hunting for Roman coins but also found Victorian pennies and shillings. Thanks to the Belmont Estate for allowing the children to explore the grounds.

We played a home football match with Selling School but unfortunately came second. Well done to the defence and goalkeeper, and also to goal scorer, Richard Seaman.

Friends of Eastling School (FOES) Christmas Concert. A festive evening for the whole community is to be held in St. Mary's Church, Eastling at 7.30pm on Wednesday 16th December. The entertainment will be led by the Snowdown Colliery Welfare Band. Tickets (£5) are available from Pauline Gaston (01795 886404). Seasonal refreshments served during the interval.

FOES Christmas shopping - a big thank you to all the retailers and shoppers; a successful evening despite the stormy weather.



## Eastling Church Christmas Decoration

Would you be able to help decorate the Church for Christmas? We would be very grateful for any enthusiastic assistance - whatever your age or experience. Equally, if you have any homemade decorations that you would like to contribute they would also be much appreciated. We shall be leaving some containers just inside the church from 14th December for this purpose.

This year, our decorating session will be held on Tuesday 22nd December from 10am - 12 noon. Refreshments, mince pies and other, will be served. Please do come. It is a wonderful way to get in the Christmas spirit and to thank all those who have been involved in the Parish ministry in Eastling over the past year.

### EASTLING FLOWER ROTA COFFEE & CAKE

**Friday, 11th December, 10.30-noon, Eastling Manor**  
We would like to thank all those who have participated this year in decorating the Church - both for Sunday services and special occasions such as harvest festival and Easter. Without you, the Church just wouldn't be as welcoming.

As a small thank you, on Friday, 11th December, we'd love it if you could come for coffee and cake. Equally, if you haven't yet joined the rota, but would be interested in doing so, please do come along.

### Eastling Church Flowers

December 2009

5/6	No Flowers
12/13	No Flowers
19/20	Christmas Tree Decorated
26/27	Christmas Flowers



## Services in our Churches

### 6th December Advent 2

Philippians 1. 3 - 11, Luke 3. 1 - 6  
 Eastling 8 am Holy Communion (BCP)  
 Eastling 10 am Holy Communion (CW)  
 Stalisfield 10 am Holy Communion (CW)

### 13th December Advent 3

Philippians 4. 4 - 7, Luke 3. 7 - 18  
 Eastling 8 am Holy Communion (BCP)  
 Eastling 10.30 am Freestyle  
 Stalisfield 3 pm Crib Service

### 20th December Advent 4

Hebrews 10. 5 - 10, Luke 1. 39 - 45 (46 - 55)  
 Eastling 8 am Holy Communion (BCP)  
 Eastling 10 am Morning Prayer (BCP)  
 Eastling 10 am S Club in Village Hall  
 Otterden 3 pm Carol Service

### 24th December Christmas Eve

Eastling 4 pm Nine Lessons and Carols  
 Stalisfield 11.30 pm Midnight Mass

### 25th December Christmas Day

Eastling 10 am Christmas Service

### 27th December Christmas 1

Colossians 3. 12 - 17, Luke 2. 41 - 52  
 Eastling 10 am Benefice Service

### 3rd January 2010 Christmas 2

Ephesians 1. 3 - 14, John 1. (1 - 9), 10 - 18  
 Eastling 8 am Holy Communion (BCP)  
 Eastling 10 am Holy Communion (CW)  
 Stalisfield 10 am Holy Communion (CW)

(BCP) Service taken from the Book of Common Prayer, 1662.  
 (CW) Service follows Common Worship Liturgy, 2000.



## Ministry in our Parishes

Priest in Charge  
 Reverend Caroline Pinchbeck (01795 890487)  
 The Rectory, Newnham Lane, Eastling  
 Faversham ME13 0AS  
 <caroline.pinchbeck575@btinternet.com>

Curate  
 Reverend Angela Cheeseman (01795 892124)  
 New House Farm, Eastling ME13 0BN

Reader  
 Norman Fowler (01795 890412)  
 4 Meesons Close, Eastling

Reader  
 Hugh Perks (01795 890603)  
 Weald Cottage, Eastling

#### Churchwardens

Eastling Steve Youle (01795 890368)  
 Audrey Smith (01795 890469)

#### Stalisfield with Otterden

Patricia Thompson (01795 890376)  
 Martin Beckenham (01795 892079)

### From the Registers

#### Baptisms

Jonathon Edwin BARRETT  
 Catherine Sylvaria Helen RALPH  
 Helena Anne BARRETT  
 James Edward BARRETT  
 John Alexander Dennis RALPH  
 15th November 2009 at Eastling

#### Confirmation

Emma WALKER,  
 Philippa Jane WIGDAHL,  
 Olivia Grace WIGDAHL,  
 Eliza Alice WIGDAHL.  
 18th November 2009 at Canterbury Cathedral

#### Funeral

Betty SMITH  
 11th November 2009 at Eastling

### Services at Whitehill Chapel

6th December 10 am Brunch  
 10.40 am Family Choice  
 13th December 6.30 pm Carols by Candlelight  
 16th December 9.30 am Prayer Meeting  
 20th December 11 am Holy Communion  
 24th December 4 pm Crib & Nativity Service  
 27th December 11 am People's Choice

For Baptisms, Weddings or Funerals at Whitehill,  
 please contact Revd. D. Hodgson on 01795 532461

**SureStart**

### Faversham Children's Centres

The centres at St Mary's, in Orchard Place, and Bysing Wood, behind Bysing Wood School, work together to deliver a range of services in Faversham and the surrounding areas for all families with children under 5. As well as offering access to midwives, health visitors and other professionals, the centres also provide lots of opportunities for your child and you to socialise, learn and have fun, including messy play sessions, music groups, dads' groups, cooking sessions, and so much more! To find out more please call either centre, or why not pop in, where you will be given a warm welcome! To view our latest newsletter online visit: <http://www.faversham.org/upload/docs/Children%20centre%20newsletter%20Nov.pdf>



Christmas is just around the corner, and Faversham Children's Centres are getting in the spirit with lots of festive fun on offer in December! Join us on Monday 14 December at the Alexander Centre in Faversham, between 10am-3pm, for our Christmas Party! Santa will be in their grotto, a pantomime just for little ones will be coming to town, refreshments will be provided and there's plenty more besides! To be the first to find out the full party programme please call or drop in to sign up!

There will be all sorts of other Christmas themed activities going on throughout December during our normal group times! Pop along to Rockabye or Musical Caterpillars to sing some snowy songs, join the Parent and Toddler Group or Messy Play to make some Christmas crafts; all this and much more!

For more information for St Mary's Centre, call 01795 591109, for Bysing Wood Centre, call 01795 532555.



## Otterden Chronicles

by Audrey Keen



In the summer of 1970 I was working at Otterden Place, in the butler's pantry and I remember Christmas time at Otterden was a joy. The entrance hall was the dining area, with the refectory table decorated for Christmas and, in the corner of the room, a tree which dwarfed the many portraits of Granville Wheler's ancestors. The residents of the time, elderly and reserved, and from all corners of the Commonwealth, enjoyed the celebrations in a stately way. They had a wonderful time and it was rewarding for us, the staff, that they did. It made working on that special day a pleasure for us too. With the usual roast turkey and trimmings, Christmas pudding, brandy sauce, stilton, mince pies, crackers, port wine, carols and much Christmas joy; the day passed in a busy haze.

On Boxing day the huge salmon with cucumber and mayonnaise, decorative and delicious, the puddings, more goodies and a sumptuous tea, all looked dainty and fairy-like.

The residents (at that time, those of the Mutual Household Association), represented another time, genteel dignified and well mannered. I learnt much from these people and their way of life, and they were very happy years for me, working at Otterden Place.

#### December Sky

And I shall paint a sky like this  
 Of powder blue and powder pink,  
 And hurry now to draw the sun  
 That lies on the horizon there.  
 But not a smudge of cloud is white,  
 Just pink, pink, purple pink,  
 Beneath which black trees  
 Form unusual peaks.  
 While on the bough beside me now  
 A blackbird speaks. AIK

#### Short Mat Bowls

Another busy month has provided us with some exciting competitions. On 9<sup>th</sup> October, the Graham Barrow Memorial Trophy, an annual event between Eastling and Tunstall, took place. In a well contested competition, Tunstall won the trophy back from us. On 11<sup>th</sup> October Eastling played in the Epps Trophy. Of our two teams, Pat and George Manthorpe and Des Briggs had some good games. Mick Heath and Eileen and Roy Piles, in spite of winning all their games, narrowly missed reaching the semi-finals by two shots.

In October we began the first of our club competitions, the pairs. This was played on a round robin basis so that members enjoyed more games. In the finals Bob Banks and Mick Heath were the winners, defeating Eileen Piles and Bryan Searley. The first Swale league game was played at home against Teynham and we were hugely successful, winning every one of our fourteen games. Unfortunately, our second league game against Borden was in total contrast: we lost all fourteen games, so we knew how Teynham had felt a month earlier!

At the beginning of November, Eileen, Mick, Chris and Roy were runners up in the Unbadged Fours played at Strood, winning six matches out of seven. On 3<sup>rd</sup> November in a friendly with Bredgar we found it difficult to cope with their mats but enjoyed a very good evening and learnt a great deal. Disappointingly, in our first county game at Strood in the County Fours we only managed to win one point. On 15<sup>th</sup> November the club singles competition was held. Des Briggs and John Graham reached the finals with John the ultimate winner. We have been accepted to play in the East Kent League for the season 2010/11 which will put the Eastling Short Mat Bowls Club on the map.

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## Otterden WI

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November** – Crafts for Christmas meeting at Stalisfield Village Hall at 7.30pm. Come along for some practical tips on a range of crafts for the festive season and the chance to 'have a go' in the company of friends.

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December** 4pm –

'Live' Nativity at Snoad Farm. For the second year, we will be inviting local families and children to come along to celebrate the Nativity with the WI and the animals of Snoad Farm. Children (and adults) please feel free to dress as your favourite Nativity character and come along prepared to sing some of the best-known and well-loved carols while enjoying hot food and drinks.

We are a very friendly group and new members and guests are always welcome. If you're a little shy of coming on your own, please contact us and we'll try to arrange for you to 'buddy up' with a member who lives nearby. If you would like any more details about us, or just a general chat about the WI, please don't hesitate to contact our Secretary Pat Blake on: 01795 531266

Wendy Thomas, Publicity Officer



## FITNESS & DANCE CLASSES @ Eastling Village Hall

### WEDNESDAYS

**7.00pm BUMS, LEGS & TUMS**

*helps to tone & shape these specific areas.*

**8.00pm FIT DANCE**

*works on aerobic fitness, using fun DANCE moves.*

**Last Wednesday classes 16th December back on 6th January 2010**

### THURSDAYS

**9.15am FITNESS PILATES**

*A blend of Pilates & dance exercises. Helps to develop muscle tone, balance, flexibility & relaxation*

Fun & Funky

**4.30pm FREESTYLE DANCE IDTA**  
school years 3 -11

**Last Thursday classes 17th December back on 7th January 2010**

Classes £4.00 each or £7.00 for a double class on Wednesdays.

## MERRY CHRISTMAS & A HAPPY NEW YEAR

*Thank you to everyone who has supported the classes this year.*

*Looking forward to keeping fit with you in 2010.*  
For more info visit

www.milesdanceandfitness.com  
leigh.fitness@btinternet.com  
01795 890149 or 07873 431952

# MERRY CHRISTMAS

## Afternoon Club

Members are invited to a performance of

**"Donkey for Sale"**

at Lorenden Preparatory School, on 9th December, at 2.15pm.

There will be no meetings held at the Champion Hall during December 2009 and January 2010.

## Painters Forstal with Ospringe

### Women's Institute

Tuesday 8th December

2.15pm in the Champion Hall

Interests and Hobbies

Competition -

A handmade Christmas Card.

New members welcome.



## Christmas Trees

Eastling Church has received a cheque for £74 from the sale of trees in 2008 from Alison and Peter Howard, from Nash's Farmhouse. They raised a fantastic £7,752 to Kidney Research,

Cancer research and 7 other charities with nearly £3,000 being donated to local parishes.

If you would like to book a tree and collect it nearer Christmas, phone 01795 532596

## Forgotten?

Gifts to buy and cards to send, Shopping lists that never end, Time's so short, so much to do, There's no room for such as You. Laden down with gifts galore As we rush from store to store; Who's the next one on the list? Is there anyone we've missed?

In the corner, half forgotten,

Lies the Son of Man begotten.

Born into this world's dark night,

He offers us his gift of light.

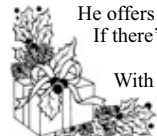
If there's no room,

will we reject him?

With hands so full,

can we accept him?

*Author unknown*



## Stalisfield Over 60s' Christmas Tea

All 'over 60s' in Stalisfield and Otterden are welcome at the over 60s' tea, to be held in Stalisfield Village Hall at 4pm on Saturday 19th December. If you haven't received your personal invitation in good time, please telephone Ian on 01795 890475 or Cat on 01795 890298. If necessary please leave a message.

Thank You.

## EASTLING SENIOR CITIZENS

would like to say a big "Thank you" to Mitch, Donna, their staff and customers of the the Carpenters Arms, for the wonderful donation of £430 - part of the proceeds from their very successful Harvest Auction. You can be sure the money will be spent wisely.

Mrs M. Neaves and Mrs O. Simmons  
Joint Treasurers E.S.C.

## Eastling Gardeners' Club New Year's Party

Saturday 9th January 2010

at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall

To include a beer tasting provided by the Hopdaemon Brewery, Newnham  
New Members welcome - call Clive on 890160



## Stalisfield Highlife

The talented local musicians responsible for the live band night at the Plough Inn on 6th November, played and sang their hearts out to generate a great evening enjoyed by all. A generous donation by Bob and Amy, boosted the Village Hall rebuild fund by £250. A further £120 was raised by the raffle run by Sue McCarron.

At the same function, the draw was made for the prize of a week's occupancy of a seaside holiday apartment, donated by the Saunders. John and Shirley Pritchard were the lucky winners. The subscriptions, made over several weeks, raised £500.

Thanks are due to all those involved, for the generous donations and to all those who gave to raise these outstanding contributions to the Hall funds.

## The Painters Forstal

### COFFEE CLUB

The next coffee club will be on 16th December, in Whitehill Chapel, 11 am - 12.30pm.

This meeting will be in support of the Methodist Homes Association Bradbury Grange Appeal.

All welcome.



Think out of the box!  
Come and join us for

## Christmas FREESTYLE

December 13th

10.30am

Eastling Church

### New Attitude

Breakfast from 10am

All Welcome



## Halloween in Stalisfield

Thanks to all parents who brought their children along to our 'Trick or Treat' event. A special thank you to all the generous villagers who welcomed our huge mob of ghosts and ghouls with arms full of sweets and goodies. You all help to make it such a wonderful evening that is the highlight of the children's year.

This time it was extra special, thanks to Libby who had provided halloween games, refreshments and more sweets in the Village Hall which rounded off the evening perfectly. Thanks again, Su.

## EASTLING VILLAGE HALL

To book ring Julia Bailey  
on 01795 890746



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

Chocolate for Chocoholics brochures are now available. Anyone wishing to place an order for Christmas (last date for orders 4<sup>th</sup> Dec), should contact me via the school office or at the Coffee pop-in on 2nd December.

The infants' Nativity will be on 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Dec in the School Hall - teas will be served after each performance.

The Eastling School children's Christmas Shopping afternoon will be on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December. This is an opportunity for the children to buy their presents and which will be gift wrapped for them.

A Christmas Concert with Snowdown Colliery Welfare Band is on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December in Eastling Church. Tickets are on sale now at £5 each.

Don't forget to buy your Christmas raffle tickets - 20p each to have a chance to win one of the brilliant hampers. The draw will take place on 18<sup>th</sup> December.

The term will end with the School children's Christmas Disco at 6pm on 18<sup>th</sup> Dec. Tickets £2.50 each/£5.00 for family.

## POP - IN

on

Wednesdays,  
9 - 11 am in

Eastling Village Hall

OPEN TO ALL

On 2nd December we

will have Homemade

Cakes and Traidcraft

for sale,

FOES Book stall, plus

Chocolate for sale and

last date to order for

Christmas.

Last Pop-In on 16th

December, back on 6th

January 2010.

Happy Christmas to all

our regulars

December



2009

2nd Cakes & Chocs for sale at Pop-In	9am	Eastling Village Hall
6th 'Live' Nativity	4pm	Snoad Farm
8th Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunch		Eastling Village Hall
8th Painters Forstal WI	2.15pm	Champion Hall
9th Afternoon Club	2.15pm	Lorenden School
11th Flower Arrangers' Coffee	10.30am	Eastling Manor
11th Children's Shopping afternoon		Eastling School
12th Little Red Riding Hood	7.30pm	Stalisfield Village Hall
15th Deadline for January Good News		Pinks Farm
15th Stalisfield Carol Singing	start 6pm from	The Plough
16th Coffee Club	11am	Whitehill Chapel
16th Christmas Band Concert	7.30pm	Eastling Church
19th Over 60s' Christmas Tea	4pm	Stalisfield Village Hall
20th S Club Christmas Party	10am	Eastling Village Hall
22nd Church Decorating	10am	Eastling Church
22nd Eastling Carol Singing	start 6pm from	Eastling Village Hall
29th Magazine Folding	2pm	Pinks Farm
JANUARY 9th Gardeners' Club	7.30pm	Eastling Village Hall

## Deadline for January 2010 Good News

If you would like to advertise in this magazine, submit articles, features or stories for publication, or would like any forthcoming events publicised, send your contribution by 15th December to Hilary Harlow, Pinks Farm, Eastling, Faversham ME13 0BA. Tel: 01795 890338. Where possible, please submit your entry by email: h.f.harlow@btconnect.com Past and current issues of the *Good News* may be viewed on [www.northdowns.plus.com/goodnews](http://www.northdowns.plus.com/goodnews)