

S Club

The S Club Christmas Party for all primary school aged children, will be on Sunday 19th December at 10am in Eastling Village Hall.

Holiday Club is back, for one day only!

On Saturday 18th December there will be a Christmas themed club in Eastling Village Hall, between 9.00 and 12.00, for children of primary school age. We will be doing everything from craft, to games, to quizzes and lots more surprises!

The morning costs £5 per child, and can be booked by emailing Sarah at eastlingyouth worker@hotmail.co.uk to request a form. Either email or call 07932 407713 with any questions! Places limited so don't delay in booking yours!



SKY LIGHTS

Stars are another source of light and the wise men and shepherds followed a star to the baby Jesus.

The answers to this quiz all start with the letters STAR so can you say which Star...

1. is the right-hand side of a ship?
2. is a bird?
3. is used to stiffen things?
4. is to look with wide open eyes?
5. is the US flag?
6. is someone who sets a race off?
7. is suddenly surprised?




What carol is heard in the dessert?
Camel ye faithful.



What's impossible to overtake at Christmas?
The three wide men.




Answers: 1 starboard 2 stalling 3 starch 4 stare 5 Stars & Stripes 6 starter 7 startled



Mouse Makes

There were shepherds that night in the fields taking care of their sheep. An angel of the Lord appeared and said
"Don't be afraid, I am here with good news of great joy that will be for all people. Today a saviour has been born to you, He is Christ the Lord".
 from Luke 2:11-12.

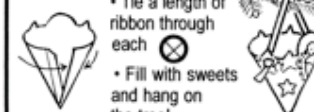
Read The Christmas story in Luke 2:1-20.



Jesus, Light of the world

glue

To make this Christmas decoration:
 • Carefully cut out around the edge then colour in • Curl around and glue into a cone shape



• Tie a length of ribbon through each

• Fill with sweets and hang on the tree!

MERRY CHRISTMAS
from all over the world!

JOYEUX NOEL (French)
 GOD JUL (Swedish)
 BOUN NATALE (Italian)
 FELIZ NAVIDAD (Spanish)

'Live' Nativity with the animals at Snoad Farm, Otterden at 4pm on Sunday 5th December

All the family welcome to come along (in suitable footwear!) prepared to sing some of the best known and well loved carols, while enjoying hot food and drinks. Run by Otterden WI



Carol Singing in our Villages

Stalisfield
Monday 20th December, meet outside the Plough at 6.30pm

Eastling
A carol singing party will be going around Eastling village on Monday 13th December, from 6 - 7.30pm, stopping for short spells of refreshment on the way. All welcome. Please wear warm clothing and bring reflective jackets and torches if you have them. Meet at Eastling Village Hall car park at 6pm. Details Angela Cheeseman 892124.

Crib Service

in Stalisfield Church at 3 pm on Sunday 12th December. All welcome

Christmas Services

Otterden Chapel Sunday 19th
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

Merry Christmas

Good News Parish Magazine December 2010



Whitehill Chapel
Carols by Candlelight
6.30pm on Sunday 19th December
All Welcome

Stalisfield Limelight

We open the Stalisfield theatre season with a spectacular presentation of pantomime based on

J. M. Barrie's "PETER PAN".

Performed by a cast of players drawn from local talent we can confidently invite you to come prepared to be delighted and to be convinced that, with just a touch of magic, a boy can really fly.



The story moulded to fit local experience, will enchant the young and the mature alike. Traditional tricks of the pantomime guaranteed to raise laughs by their very familiarity will slot effortlessly into the plot.

There are only a few days left to make your reservation with Judith on (01795) 890203 leaving a message if necessary. The performance begins at 7.30pm on Saturday 11th December, in The Hut on the Green at Stalisfield.

Tickets cost £6 for adults and £3 for children under eleven. They will soon be as scarce as fairy dust.



But in that poor lowly stable

Already the Christmas music is playing in our shops and supermarkets to create in us the feeling of excitement and anticipation that Christmas is coming. For most, it is coming all too soon, and the music is already a source of irritation and not a soothing influence, as we wrestle through the throng of fellow shoppers in our High Streets. But, many will say, "It's what Christmas is all about!" Or, to hide our own excitement, we will say, "but it's for the kiddies."

The preparations for Christmas can often end up with us feeling cynical, a lack of love for our fellow men, and irritated at the enforced jollity. In some ways, it can be said that this was the experience of those involved in that very first Christmas.

If we look at the main people in the story, Mary and Joseph; they had travelled for miles in order to get to Bethlehem for the enforced census. For poor Mary, who was heavily pregnant it must have equated to trying to get round the M25 in rush hour, with an accident thrown in to slow things even further. They must have been relieved to finally arrive: and yet, there is no where to stay. You can imagine the row between Mary and Joseph! The disappointment must have been overwhelming. It is the innkeeper, who is the star of the story. In seeing their

weariness, he offers them a place of rest in a dirty, mucky stable with animals. But, anything is better than nothing and it is this offer of hospitality that is the pivotal moment of the story. All changes, for in amongst the dirt, muck and stench of the stable a King is born. Not in a palace, but in a stable. It is the Shepherds who are given the



privilege to be the first to glimpse this momentous occasion. Then the Magi come to visit, and the importance and Good News that this little baby brings to the world is acknowledged. From the cards that we receive, we will see images of the Shepherds and the Magi gazing in adoration and love for this child. For this baby, is called Immanuel - God with us.

As Jesus grows, teaches and transforms the lives of those he encounters: we realise again that God meets us in the midst of the dirt and grubbiness of our lives when we are seeking a space where we can find rest and peace.

Often we can feel inadequate, unworthy and overwhelmed in what we can offer to make the world a better place. We may not do it in such a life-changing way, but we do have our God given gifts. The words of the carol *In the bleak mid-winter*, remind us

of the gifts brought to the Christ child. We should be mindful of these words as we struggle to buy the right present for that difficult to buy for loved-one. The carol ends with - *Yet, what can I give him, Give my heart.* We all know through our own relationships the value of love and that true love is beyond any price. In the same way that God gave Jesus as a gift to the world, and a symbol of His love for each of us. We too, can give our love to family, neighbour, friend and stranger. Let us not forget, that love is the key to Christmas in the quagmire of stress, lack of time, and busyness of our preparations.

Let us not forget too, those for whom Christmas will not be a happy prospect of time with loved ones, friendliness and jollity. Let us remember in our prayers those who will be grieving for loved ones, those in broken relationships, and those who have no family to share in the festivities.

We pray that through God's gift of the Christ-child to the world; will bring peace, joy and love. We pray that we may be a source of peace, joy and love. We pray that God will richly bless us all, our families, our homes, our neighbours and our communities in 2011.
Revd. Caroline Pinchbeck



The Nativity on BBC 1 this Christmas

Look out for The Nativity on the BBC this autumn. The script has been written by Tony Jordan, hailed as the top television scriptwriter in Britain. His work includes Boon, Minder, Eldorado, Holby Blue, and Hustle, not to mention 250 episodes of EastEnders. This time he is telling the story of the Nativity, over four half-hour episodes on BBC1 on the run-up to Christmas. Jordan says: "I want this film of the nativity to be accessible, all right? I want it to be watched by the people who watch EastEnders, Hustle, everything I do. I want them to watch it, believe it and sob like a child. "I do have a faith...I believe Jesus Christ was the Son of God and that he came to take away our sins. So, I have written a version of the nativity that I can believe. The people who watch it who aren't already sold, they can watch it and see that it's truthful and they can say, 'That's really cool.' "It's really helped me, writing it. It's helped me to make sense of the story. It's made sense of the birth of somebody that I believed in. Before, I had nagging doubts. Now, I don't have any doubts."

CHRISTMAS FREESTYLE

Sunday 12th December
Eastling Village Hall
10.30am

Come and celebrate the Christmas Story.

We will have a drama group from Folkestone to perform during the service.

Breakfast of fresh coffee & hot croissants from 10am.

All welcome



Prayer Pointers December 2010

Sunday	Give thanks for the glory of Advent and Christmas.
Monday	For all who work to keep us safe and well.
Tuesday	For the sick and suffering.
Wednesday	For guidance to learn about your Holy word.
Thursday	For help to understand other people's opinions.
Friday	For all of the many charity workers.
Saturday	Give thanks for all of God's Blessings.

Cubs' Class enjoyed a visit to Wildwood. They were very lucky, seeing lots of animals and being given a talk by the keepers. The Young Sports Leaders from Year Six spent a day at St. Anselm's School, learning lots of new games to share with the younger children, making lunchtime more enjoyable.

Well done to the football team after a 5-3 victory over Lynsted and Norton. Praise to hat-trick hero, John Turner! Many thanks to everyone who contributed towards our Faversham Carnival float. The New York themed entry received generous applause as it weaved its way through the town. We also received two awards! Sinead Dowds and Maeve Fitzpatrick will be teaching Lions' Class, alongside Mrs Cook, during this term. Congratulations to the Year Six children who successfully completed their cycle training.

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Eastling School News

On November 11, the children, parents and staff took part in a Remembrance assembly led by Leopards' Class who shared their art, writing and gave a brief history of The Royal British Legion. During the open afternoon many parents and friends enjoyed guided tours of the school led by proud members of Year Six. This was followed by an assembly including contributions from every pupil. The football team's latest match was closely fought, losing out narrowly to Ospringe in a 3-2 defeat. Leopards' Class enjoyed a visit to Dickens' World as part of their topic about the Victorians. The highlight was the boat trip around the attraction!

Tree Planting - Leopards' and Lions' Classes enjoyed visits to Huckling Estate near Maidstone to take part in the Tree for All programme, organised by The Woodland Trust. All the children planted young trees that will grow into a new woodland. Basketball - Well done to the eight children from Year Six who took part in a basketball tournament at Herne Bay High School. On 19th November, children, parents and staff raised around £200 by dressing up, making Pudsey Bears from 1p and 2p coins and holding a cake sale, in aid of Children in Need.

Eastling Neighbourhood Watch

Contact Numbers:
Parish /Village Warden 07794 010394
Crimestoppers 0800 555111
Swale Police 01622 690690
Emergencies 999

There has been a report of a dog being stolen in the Selling area, remember to keep your dog under supervision. Whilst saying this, there has also been a report locally of a dog worrying sheep and again, I must point out that a farmer by shooting, that attacks his or her sheep. We do not want a repeat of the situation which occurred behind Spuckles last year. Usual warning this time of year to make sure your property is secure, windows and sheds securely locked, as Mr Nasty will be looking for their Christmas presents. There have been sightings of a couple of young lads riding mini motorbikes in the area, these bikes are not taxed and insured and should not be either on the road, or on public or private land. A warning to these lads - your bikes will be seized by the police and could be destroyed.

We have had in the village callers offering to do tree work or tarmac your drive, it is suggested that you do not get involved with these callers. Should you require works to be carried out, please contact a reputable company.

Have a good Christmas and take care
Regards, Alan



The Carpenters Arms

01795 890234

December sees us enter our third year at "The Carps" and we would like to thank all of you for your continuing support and friendship, without which The Carps simply would not work.

We wish all of you a very merry Christmas and a happy and healthy new year.

Christmas Hours

As normal till Christmas Eve then we have Kellys Heroes playing in the bar from 8:30pm till 11pm.
Christmas Day 12:00 till 2pm bar only.
Boxing Day, open all day bar and food.
Monday 27th December, closed
Then normal hours till New Years Eve
New Years Eve will be a black tie evening with a buffet available at £10 per head, with fireworks at midnight. If you've got a favourite playlist bring it along we may play it!!
Saturday 1st January, closed

Opera Week-end

February 19th & 20th sees the return of Simon and his team for a repeat of the very popular summer opera performance.
This will be a 4 course, black tie dinner performance (not in the courtyard!!!) Strictly limited to 30 covers for each evening please book early if you would like tickets.

Happy Christmas
Mitch, Donna and the dogs

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Crossword Solution

ACROSS: 1, Hide. 3, Disgrace. 9, Sonship. 10, Oaths. 11, Tutti. 12, Ignore. 14, Foreknowledge. 17, Ashram. 19, Men or. 22, Aroma. 23, Nineveh. 24, Amethyst. 25, Trod.
DOWN: 1, His staff. 2, Do not. 4, Imprisonments. 5, Groan. 6, Altered. 7, Easy. 8, Shrink. 13, Searched. 15, Restore. 16, Lament. 18, Reach. 20, Never. 21, Jada.

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What Does Christmas Mean To You?

When you prepare for Christmas
What matters spring to mind?
The coming of the Saviour
Or the gifts that you can't find.

Do you think of baby Jesus
As you deck the halls with holly?
Or are your thoughts preoccupied
With piling high your shopping trolley.

Will you be moved this Christmas
By the sound of carol singing
Or are you more in tune with
The sound of shop tills ringing

On that family occasion
When you choose your Christmas tree
Do you think of how that tiny babe
Came to die for you and me?

Christmas to you could mean much more
If you're prepared to see
The reasons why each Christmastime
Just mean so much to me,

So as you celebrate this Christmas
Why not resolve to start anew?
And change your whole perspective
Of what Christmas means to you.

By Colin Hammacott

Paul Hardingham considers the gift of God to us at Christmas

A Very Special Gift?

George asked, 'My dad's so rich that I don't know what to get him for Christmas. What do you give to a man who has everything?' Harry replied, 'A burglar alarm!'

It's not easy buying Christmas presents for others, especially in times of economic uncertainty. However, let's not forget the greatest gift ever given: Jesus Christ. Our gifts at Christmas mean very little unless they point at the greatest gift of all. This was certainly true of the gifts given to Jesus by the Magi.

'On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh.' Matt 2:11. These were just the kind of gifts that visitors from the east might bring, as they were all traded in this region. They were also very expensive gifts, including gold, frankincense (a plant gum resin used in incense) and myrrh (another gum resin used for perfume). Although all very familiar, they help us to understand God's gift of Jesus:

Who is he? Gold is a gift fit for a king. In Jesus we see a king in baby clothes. The worship of the wise men was costly, not only in terms of their gifts but also for their lives.

What did he come to do? Frankincense was used by the priests in the temple as part of the sacrificial system. Jesus, as the ultimate priest, is the one who came to bring God and man together in reconciliation. He can do this because he is both divine and human.

What did it cost him? Myrrh was used to embalm the dead. This gift reminds us that the baby of Bethlehem would die on the cross to give his life for us. The wood of the crib and the cross are the same wood!

The wise men offered him costly gifts; what are we going to offer him this Christmas? Jesus is for us:

- the Christ;** the king who came to rule us and take care of everything.
- the Lord;** who's not just a person like me but he's God as well.
- the Saviour;** the one who came so that we can be friends with God.



'At Christmas time, when we receive presents we don't really need, God offers us a gift we cannot do without.'
(J John)



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.

This year, our decorating session will be held on Saturday 18th 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.

If you would like to decorate a particular 'spot' in the church we would love to allocate it to you in advance, so if this is the case please could you kindly let Emma/Nerys know before December 18th: tel 07940 490896.

Our colour scheme for this year is white. If you have any flowers in the garden you could contribute - or foilage - it would be hugely appreciated. Please just bring it along on the 18th.



Christmas Trees

Eastling Church has received a cheque for £120 from the sale of trees in 2009 from Alison and Peter Howard, from Nash's Farmhouse.

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

Make your own Christmas Wreath

Come and join us on Thursday 9th December at 7.30pm in Eastling Village Hall, where we will be making festive Christmas wreaths to adorn the doors of our houses! For £5 per person, you will be provided with a wire frame, wire, ribbons and a variety of fresh greenery with which to make your wreath. Help will be on standby for anyone who needs a hand to get started! (Anyone with more ambitious plans for their wreath is invited to bring along anything extra they'd like to add!) There will also be mulled wine and mince pies to enjoy!

Proceeds to Eastling Church.
Please call Philippa: 01795 890322, or, Laura: 01795 890785, or email: eastlingflowergirls

@googlemail.com to reserve your place!
Hurry as places are limited due to finite space in hall!!



The best way to spend Boxing Day

After the over-indulgence of Christmas Day, let Boxing Day exercise come to your rescue. Recent research has found that a good walk in the countryside of at least an hour will help to boost your memory and concentration levels - and can even increase the brain's performance by a fifth. You may need it if you are going home to a family round of Trivial Pursuit on Boxing Day night!

By the way, walking busy city streets does nothing for you other than tempting you to the sales. Such walks are considered 'non-restorative' by the researchers at the University of Michigan.



HEALING FROM THE INSIDE OUT

A day for yourself

with Jennifer Rees Larcombe

Saturday 26th February 2011, in Eastling Village Hall.

Jennifer Rees Larcombe has a fruitful and long-established prayer, healing, speaking and writing ministry. After becoming seriously ill in 1982 with a virus that confined her with constant pain to a wheelchair for eight years. She was healed through the prayer of a new Christian at a meeting at which she was speaking. Jennifer has also experienced a broken marriage. Since then the Lord has focused her ministry on helping people adjust to pain, loss and trauma.



www.beautyfromashes.co.uk

If you would like to reserve a place, please contact Jan Beckenham via The Rectory, Newnham Lane, Eastling. ME13 0AS. Tel: 01795 890487

Cost is £5 per person - cheques payable to Eastling PCC.

Tea and coffee provided, please bring your own lunch or include £1.50 if you would like soup.



"Festival of Light" Luminous Show

On October 31st an alternative to Halloween was enacted - a celebration of the light of God-in Eastling Church.

17 young puppeteers aged 7-13, performed a "glow in the dark" puppet show using fluorescent puppets and ultraviolet light.

The moon rose to a musical accompaniment, fishes swam in the dark, planets floated in space and two tales of space piracy and dalek domination were enacted. The show started with much laughter at the antics of a boy who saw monsters and other scary things in the dark, but who eventually warded them off by asking God to protect him.

Congratulations to all the puppeteers who showed such imagination, enthusiasm and sense of fun.

With regret, I have decided to retire from producing any further puppet shows. However, if anyone

else would be willing to take this on, we have some excellent puppets (mainly not fluorescent) and I would be happy to help them get started if necessary.

Grateful thanks to Pim and Andrew Baxter, Nigel Bickerdike, Peter Cheeseman and Steve Youle for their excellent help and support over the years.

Angela Cheeseman



Family Carols
in the Market Place, Faversham.
All the family welcome
at 7pm on Thursday 23rd December

Christmas Concert

Carols and Songs
Saturday 4th December
St. James Church, Sheldwich

Tickets on the door £6, includes mulled wine and mince pies, school children free.

Christmas Tree Festival
Saturday, 4th December, 10am - 5pm
Sunday, 5th December 1pm - 5pm

Ospringe Church, Water Lane, Ospringe
Following the great success of last year's festival, this is another opportunity for residents and visitors to enjoy a host of Christmas trees decorated by local organisations and individuals, in a wonderful setting. There will be a Christmas singalong at 7pm on Saturday, with mulled wine and mince pies, and light refreshments and various stalls will be available throughout the weekend.
Contact: Sally Wheatley, 01795 534528

Services in our Churches

5th December Advent 2

Romans 15. 4 - 13, Matthew 3. 1 - 12
 Eastling 8 am Holy Communion (BCP)
 St. Mary of Charity, Faversham
 10.30 am Confirmation Service

12th December Advent 3

James 5. 7 - 10, Matthew 11. 2 - 11
 Eastling 8 am Holy Communion (BCP)
 Eastling Village Hall 10.30 am Christmas Freestyle
 Stalisfield 3 pm Crib Service

19th December Advent 4

Romans 1. 1 - 7, Matthew 1. 18 - end
 Eastling 8 am Holy Communion (BCP)
 Eastling 10 am Morning Prayer (BCP)
 Eastling Village Hall 10 am S Club Christmas Party
 Otterden 3 pm Carol Service

24th December Christmas Eve

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

Christmas Day

Eastling 10 am Christmas Service

2nd January The Epiphany

Ephesians 3. 1 - 12, Matthew 2. 1 - 12
 Eastling 8 am Holy Communion (BCP)
 Eastling 10 am Holy Communion (CW)
 Stalisfield 10 am Morning Prayer

(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 Martin Beckenham (01795 892079)

Parish Administrator Jan Beckenham (01795 890487)
 eastlingchurch@googlemail.com (Monday and Friday mornings)

Midweek Groups

Tuesdays Bible study 7.30pm Pinks Farm
 Wednesdays Morning Worship 9.05 - 9.20am Eastling Church
 Thursday Prayer Group 10.30am Pinks Farm
All welcome.

Whitehill Chapel

Sunday 19th December
 6.30pm Carols by Candlelight

Christmas Eve
 4.30pm Crib Service



Christmas Concert
 with the
Snowdown Colliery Welfare Band
Sunday 5th December 4pm
 at
 St Mary's Church, Eastling
 Concert is in aid of 'Friends of Eastling School'
 Festive Refreshments available
 Tickets: £5 adults, £2 children, Family £15
 Available from: Caroline Pinchbeck 01795 890487 or
 Pauline Gaston 01795 886404

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Remembering

by Audrey Keen



When Peter and I moved to Halls Place in March 1970, the first thing I really noticed was the presence of so many owls, which lived principally in the wood opposite the cottage, facing west. Little owls, tawny owls and barn owls, which to me were an absolute delight. But several of my first visitors to Halls Place were worried about the old superstition which suggests that a hooting owl portends death! I say, surely, if an owl is heard calling, it is an indication of life! I welcome the wise owl and have every affection for them.

Several years ago, little owls would roost under the eaves of Mr Wheler's flat at Otterden, and breed there. We were always interested in the progress of the owls and watched their day to day doings. But one day a terrible accident befell the brood as two baby owls fell from the nest. One perished, the other was coaxed to eat by offering him small portions of cat food. The little owl would sit on the brick wall by the french doors and eat the meat, tucking his 'chin' deep into his chest to easily take and digest the fare. He recovered well from his fall and amused me by showing me a facial expression that looked far removed from gratitude. But I was so relieved for him, when he flew away, quite restored, into a life which I could only guess at.

Somewhere in the wood
 The wild owl lives,
 Somewhere in the wood he calls.
 Somewhere in the wood
 He sleeps, and wakes
 When night falls.
 At dusk I hear the wild owl
 Somewhere in the wood;
 At dusk I see him looking for food.
 He sits upon the branches of the
 Sycamore to wait,
 And calls through foggy mists
 To rouse his mate.
 Together they fly
 Somewhere in the wood.
 Together they call
 And part before the morning comes,
 Somewhere in the wood,
 To meet at nightfall.
 AIK

Eastling Parish Council

The next Parish Council Meeting
 date is Wednesday,
 12th January 2011 at
 6.30pm in Eastling Village Hall.
 Residents are welcome to attend.



Otterden WI

Christmas is nearly upon us ladies & gentlemen and I for one can't wait!
 Our meeting in November was a Christmas craft evening when we made Christmas tree hanging dolls, they were good fun to make, but a bit fiddly! We would like to Thank Mary Clark for teaching us how to make them.
 On Sunday 5th December, 4pm at Snoad Farm, everyone will be welcome to our Live Nativity. Please come dressed as your favourite nativity character.
 Our next get together is our Christmas Meal on 15th December at the Wagon & Horses. I now have the new agenda for next year and it's looking very fun filled and exciting, so if there's anything here that takes your fancy and you'd like to join our growing group, then please get in touch with myself, or Kim Curtis on 01795 890691.
 Our Meetings from January onwards will be on the 1st Wednesday of every month:

5th January "Recycled Christmas Swap Shop". Please bring along any unwanted Christmas gifts to swap - guests welcome.

2nd February Craft Evening - Ideas welcome.

2nd March Guest Speaker. To Be Confirmed

6th April AGM & Easter Crafts

29th April Stalisfield & Otterden

Slideshow to be commented by Mr S Murray. Date to be confirmed.

4th May Garden Visit at Larch

Cottage, Otterden, followed by traditional meal at The Plough, Stalisfield.

8th June Wine Tasting

24th June Quiz Night Fundraiser

6th July River Boat Trip along either Medway or Thames. To Be Confirmed.

29th July Music Night at The Plough @ Stalisfield Green, raising money for Stalisfield Village Hall & The WI Charity.

3rd August Guest Speak on Big Cats in Kent

7th September Faversham Brewery Trip

5th October Edinburgh Wool Fashion Night

2nd November A lesson in Salsa Dancing

7th December Wreath Making

I hope you'll agree that this is a packed year for us all and I'm certainly looking forward to a lot of these meetings/evenings out.

I hope everyone has a very Merry Christmas & Happy New Year and I will see you all in the New Year.

Becky Ward,
 Publicity Officer. 01795 890071

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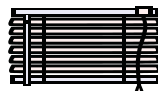
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Halloween in Stalisfield

A big thank you to all the kind and generous householders who gave the children such lovely treats on Halloween. We had 20 excited ghosts and ghouls walking the haunted mile, and finished up in the Plough where Amy and Bob had kindly laid on Apple Bobbing for the children and judged the carved Pumpkin Competition.

1st Prize was won by Abigail Webster, 2nd by James King and 3rd by Joe McCarron. Thank you to all children (and adults) who took part and helped make the evening enjoyable. Maybe next year we can have a largest pumpkin competition?

Painters Forstal with Ospringle WI

Tuesday 14th December

Gillian Simpson will give a talk on *Woolly Hearts*.

Competition: Something you have made.

2.15pm Whitehill Chapel



Eastling Short Mat Bowls Club

The story so far this season. In the East Kent League, Eastling Cherries played Chilham away on October 9th, winning on both mats with a score of 37 shots to Chilham's 27; we came away with 6 points. We made the long trip to Minster, Isle of Thanet, and beat them on both mats Eastling 40 shots to Minster 14, another 6 points. Next, Minster came to Eastling and again we played very well on both mats, Eastling 52 shots, Minster 14: 6 points.

Our next game was played away to Whitstable and, as I said, there would be highs and lows; this was one of the lows. We only won on one mat with the scores Whitstable 31 shots to Eastling 16 - only two points. At the moment we are in top spot in the third division. Then came our club single's competition with all members playing three or four games, and mat winners went through to the semi finals and then onto the final, with George Manthorpe beating Mick Heath.

Regular club sessions continue in Eastling village hall on Wednesdays: 2 - 4pm and Fridays: 2.30 - 4.30pm and 7.30 - 9.30pm. New members welcome, no previous experience necessary. Please contact Roy on 01795 517160 or turn up at one of the regular sessions.

FRIENDS of EASTLING SCHOOL

Everyone enjoyed the Wine & Wisdom held on 12th November - congratulations to the top team!

The Christmas Shopping Evening on 19th November had some really good stalls and thank you to the people who came along to get some great gifts.

Don't forget to come along to the Christmas Concert with Snowdown Colliery Welfare Band, at 4pm on Sunday 5th December in Eastling Church - Tickets £5 Christmas raffle tickets are available now -20p each. The Raffle will be drawn on Friday 17th December.

Eastling School Children's Events:

The After-School Craft Club will be on Thursday 2nd December - £2 each child.

The Infants' Nativity will be on Tuesday 7th & Wednesday 8th December in the school hall.



School Children's Shopping Afternoon is on Friday 10th December, when the children will be able to buy their presents and have them gift-wrapped ready for Christmas.

The School Christmas Disco is on Friday 17th from 6pm - 8pm.



HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO YOU ALL.

Happy Christmas to all our readers



Thank you

We hope you enjoy reading this magazine. We send thanks to all our contributors for their news; to our advertisers for the revenue to pay for the paper and printing; the kind volunteers who deliver this to your door and to any donations received. If you would like to help with the production costs please send a cheque, payable to *Good News Church Magazine* to the Treasurer, 3 Measons Close, Eastling, Faversham. ME13 0AW

Thank you.

Good News Online

You might be interested to know that it is now possible to go to the Good News web pages by using the familiar web address of www.northdowns.plus.com/goodnews or an alternative shorter one of <http://bit.ly/goodnewsmag>. With most browsers you can shorten this even more to bit.ly/goodnewsmag! Many thanks to Harold Wyld for running this website.

Afternoon Club

December 9th
Board Games, at 2pm
in the Champion Hall,
Painters Forstal.

No further meetings are planned for the immediate future.



Calling all Village Walkers

I am enquiring as to whether there are any walkers in Eastling would be interested in forming a not too serious weekday walking group.

The proposal would be to meet at local pubs or car parks at say 10.30am on a mid week day and walk a planned circular walks of not too difficult terrain with a time limit initially of say two hours duration. The group could then either have a ploughman's or pub lunch before dispersing with details of the following weeks walk. The day, the duration, and start times are not set in stone at this stage.

Please contact Harry Kyte on 01795 890703, or email hkass@tiscali.co.uk, if you are interested.

Coffee Pop-In

Every Wednesday during term time, 9 - 11am in Eastling Village Hall
Open to all, no charge, toddlers welcome.

Cakes, Books, Chocolates and Jewellery for sale on 1st December

Many thanks to everyone who supported our successful Charity Pop-In last month. We sent off £115.37 to Help for Heroes and the collection continues with Jill's book sales. Well done to Julia Bailey who won the quiz.

Last Pop-In before the Christmas break is 15th December and we return on 5th January 2011. Thank you to everyone who has supported Pop-In, have a lovely Christmas. Contact number is 01795 890338.

Eastling Senior Citizens

On behalf of the Eastling Senior Citizens, may we say a big thank you to Mitch, Donna, customers and staff of the Carpenters Arms, for the huge donation of £525.00 to our Christmas fund, as part of the proceeds from the harvest auction.

Reminder

The Christmas Lunch this year, will be on Tuesday 14th December, 12.30 for 1pm lunch.

By now, everyone should have received their invitation. If you have not, please let us know and we will put the matter right - ring Norman on 01795 890242.

We hope to see you all there. Norman and Marina



Stalisfield

Over 60s' Tea Party

Everyone should have received an invitation to the over 60s' tea party taking place on Saturday 18th December, at 4 o'clock in The Stalisfield Hall. If you haven't had yours we apologise for the omission and ask that you telephone Ian on (01795) 890475, Cat on (01795) 890298 or Roy on (01233) 712893.

December



2010

1st Cakes and Books at Pop-In	9am	Eastling Village Hall
5th Christmas Concert	4pm	Eastling Church
5th Live Nativity	4pm	Snoad Farm, Otterden
9th Afternoon Club	2pm	Champion Hall
9th Christmas Wreath making	7.30pm	Eastling Village Hall
11th Peter Pan	7.30pm	Stalisfield Village Hall
12th Christmas Freestyle	10.30am	Eastling Village Hall
12th Crib Service	3pm	Stalisfield Church
13th Eastling Carol singing start	6pm	Eastling Hall Car Park
14th Senior Citizens' Lunch	12.30pm	Eastling Village Hall
14th Woolly Hearts at WI	2.15pm	Champion Hall
15th Deadline for January Good News		Details below
15th Coffee Club	11am	Whitehill Chapel
17th School Disco	6pm	Eastling School
18th Holiday Club	9am	Eastling Village Hall
18th Church Decorating	10am	Eastling Church
18th Over 60s' Christmas Tea	4pm	Stalisfield Village Hall
19th S Club Christmas Party	10am	Eastling Village Hall
19th Carol Service	3pm	Otterden Chapel
19th Carols by Candlelight	6.30pm	Whitehill Chapel
20th Stalisfield Carol singing	6.30pm	The Plough
24th Carol Service	4pm	Eastling Church
28th Magazine Folding	2pm	Pinks Farm
JANUARY 8th Gardeners' Party	7.30pm	Eastling Village Hall
12th Parish Council Meeting	6.30pm	Eastling Village Hall

Deadline for January 2011 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: goodnewsmagazine@me.com Past and current issues of the *Good News* may be viewed on www.northdowns.plus.com/goodnews

LEIGH MILES DANCE & FITNESS

CLASSES

Eastling Village Hall

WEDNESDAYS

7.00pm BUMS, LEGS & TUMS

8.00pm FIT DANCE

Last Wednesday classes 15th December
Back 12th January 2011

THURSDAYS

9.15am FITNESS PILATES

5pm CHILDREN'S FREESTYLE DANCE (DTA)

Last Thursday classes 16th December

Back 13th January 2011

MERRY CHRISTMAS & A HAPPY NEW YEAR

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

Look forward to keeping fit with you in 2011.

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Eastling Gardeners' Club

Unfortunately the meeting on Thursday, 9th December has been cancelled.

New Year's Party

Saturday, 8th January at 7.30pm

in the village hall

'Phantasmagoria' magic lantern show followed by a buffet supper with wine.

Free to members, otherwise £2.50

For further details, please contact Clive on 890160.



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References available.

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