



Knee-mail

Each month we hope to include a prayer written by a child from one of the Sunday School groups in the benefice. James from S Club starts the series.

Subj: Lent
Date: February 2004
From: James Freed
To: JC@Godinheaven.com

Dear God
Thank you for the opportunity of Lent that allows us to prepare for the wonders of Easter. Let us give up the things we like for Lent. Then we will appreciate it on Easter Day when we can have them again.
Amen



Young People's Craft Club (Y.P.C.C.)

Friday 6th February
6.15pm to 7.15pm
in the Champion Hall.
50p each - all are welcomed.

Children's Church

Painter's Forstal: 8 - 13's meet in the Champion Hall at 10.40am on 1st February and 7th March. Family services follow on at 11am.

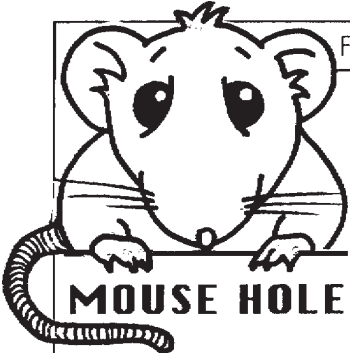
Ospringe: Sunday School during 11am services on 8th and 22nd February. Family service is on 15th.

Eastling: S Club meets 10am in the Village Hall on 15th February. Youngstyle is on 22nd.



On 21st December 2003, members of Eastling's S Club performed a Nativity play, written especially for the occasion by senior member Sarah Bell.

Thank you to Helen for the use of this picture



MOUSE HOLE

From my home in the church I learn about all sorts of things...

Do you have friends at school or at church? Do you have a best friend?

One of Jesus' best friends was Lazarus. Once, while Jesus was away, Lazarus became very sick. When Jesus returned from his journey he found that Lazarus had died and had been buried in a tomb.



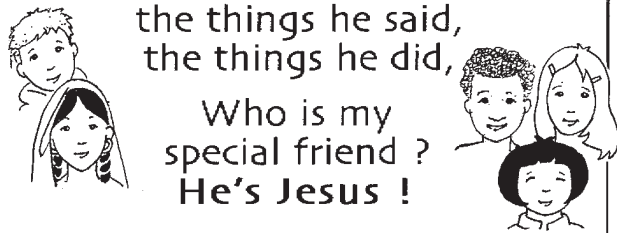
But Jesus did something very special...he went to the tomb and bought Lazarus back to life!

Read all about it... in John chapter 11

He's my best friend, although I've never seen him.

I talk to him night and day, I know he understands.

I know a lot about him; the things he said, the things he did,



Who is my special friend? He's Jesus!

Thank you Jesus for my friend

Thank you Jesus for all my friends, and thank you for being my special friend. Amen.

MINT CREAMS

These are fun to make for your friends.

- Sift 250 g [9 oz] of icing sugar into a bowl. Add 2 tablespoons of milk and a few drops of peppermint essence and mix together to make into a paste, like toothpaste!
- [add a little milk if the mixture is too stiff or more icing sugar if too runny.]
- Roll out, cut out sweet shapes and leave to dry.



- Cut a large square of wrapping paper, put some of the mints in the centre and gather together with ribbon.

A belated new year 'Thank You' from the Good News production team.

Good News Parish Magazine February 2004

Thank You to all our Good News deliverers, to those who come together once a month to fold the magazines and to John at JR Digital Print, whose machines print the Good News each month.

Thank you to all who send in their news for publication, all who have sent in donations to help with the cost and, of course, thank you to all our advertisers, whose revenue pays most of the production cost.

With the new houses in Ospringe, we now deliver to over 1390 homes in our benefice and beyond.

We do need some extra help with deliveries in Ospringe and if you can spare a few minutes once a month, please call Hilary on 890338.



St Mary's, Stalisfield

News of Parish Survey

The Survey has now been completed and the preliminary findings are encouraging. We shall be publishing the final results in next month's magazine.

In the meantime we would like to thank very much indeed all those who so willingly gave us their time and attention. Your views are most important to us.
Hilary Galer (Church Warden)

You are invited to participate in our party (disguised as a quiz night) in our historic hut on Stalisfield Green. The event is scheduled for the evening of Friday 20th February 2004 at 7.30pm. Previous participants will need no further incentive to book the date and gather their teams for a guaranteed night to remember. Others would be wise to follow their example before all our space

is filled. There will be no further announcement in GOOD NEWS or in the national press. Act now! We will follow our universally popular formula of £2 per person, bring your own nibbles and tipples. Fill a table of six, if you can. Come anyway if you can't. Telephone Ian on 01795 890475 to reserve your space for the best quiz party in town.



Shrove Tuesday 24th February

PANCAKE RACES will be held on Friday 20th February starting at 2.30pm in Eastling School Playground. There will be hot pancakes to buy as well as drinks and sweets. This will be great fun for children and parents alike!

Ash Wednesday 25th February

3pm Holy Communion at Ospringe Church



Happy Valentine's Day Saturday 14th February

Stalisfield Highlife



Need something new to read during Lent?

Here are some suggestions with different themes: Social justice, plant life, music, families, environmental issues and more.

Small World by various authors £4.95 0 2325.2522 6

The CAFOD Lent Book for 2004 that offers reflections on the daily scripture readings for Lent aiming to draw out their social justice message for the reader to contemplate.

Thorn, Fire and Lily by Jane Mossendew £10.99 0 8264 7064 5

A beautiful book of daily meditations from Ash Wednesday to Easter day, exploring how plants featured in the book illuminate Lenten themes such as prayer and fasting.

The Harmony of Heaven by Gordon Giles £7.99 1 8410.1334 X

This book brings together daily Bible readings and comment for every day from Ash Wednesday to Easter Monday and reflections on music that has some special relevance to this season, such as the Messiah.

A Talent for Living by Martin Kitchen £7.99 0 2810 5622 6

Each chapter is dedicated to one of the roles that different people fulfil: helpers, listeners, healers, peacemakers and teachers. With the help of Scripture, poetry and current understanding of human nature, we are encouraged to reflect on the different talents, styles and callings that we each have.

Ospringe Church, valued by the community.

A few months ago we had a "Gift Day" at Ospringe Church where people were able to bring donations of money to help keep the church "afloat". The result was very encouraging, suggesting that many of you place considerable value on Ospringe Church and its place in the community.

To further help our church, it seems a good idea for the people of Ospringe and the people of its church to get together to pray for the church. This would include things like the work of the Church in the community, what we need to do to

Cheer up, it's Lent!

by Tony Castle £5.99 1 8441 7167 1
For many families the only time they are together, during the week, is when they eat together. If Lent is to happen at all in the Christian family, as a shared experience, it has its best hope for success at the family meal. With the help of *Cheer up, it's Lent!* - and a little organisation and determination to make it work - you can transform Lent into a true preparation for Easter for all the family.

Jesus and the Earth

by James Jones, Bishop of Liverpool £6.99 0 281 05623 4
A lively examination of what Jesus taught about the earth and creation. Ecology and environmental issues are widely recognised as being of primary importance, and our relationship with the planet can be enlivened and take on real meaning in the light of Jesus' teaching.

Knowing & Growing by

David Adam £5.99 1 8441 7177 9
This 8-week course, taking readers from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday, is perfect for those who want to explore the way to abundant life, for those who seek to know Christ and the power of his resurrection.



ensure the stability of the church and for the future of Ospringe Church.

To this end, there will be an **Afternoon of Prayer** on Saturday 28th February. This will start at 2:00pm with prayer sessions of forty five minutes at



...cooking a pancake on a primus stove in the pulpit seemed a good idea at the time...

Prayer Pointers

February 2004

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| <u>Sundays</u> | For a spirit of Christian joy. |
| <u>Mondays</u> | For those who feel useless or unwanted. |
| <u>Tuesdays</u> | Those preparing for marriage. |
| <u>Wednesdays</u> | Churches preparing for Lent courses. |
| <u>Thursdays</u> | The security services. |
| <u>Fridays</u> | Victims of natural disasters, especially in Iran. |
| <u>Saturdays</u> | Aid workers, especially in Iraq. |

World Day of Prayer Friday 5th March

Services in Faversham to mark the day are:

2pm Ospringe Church
Speaker: Cindy Davis
Children welcome

8pm - St. Mary of Charity

The 2004 theme is
'In Faith, Women Shape the Future'
written by women in Panama.

To learn more about the World Day of Prayer and it's history, visit the website:
<http://www.worlddayofprayer.net>

2:30pm, 3:30pm, and 4:30pm. The prayer sessions will be supervised or led by a member of clergy. At 5:30pm or so, it is hoped that we will be able to have a light meal together.

A little fellowship goes a long way.
Ian Willsher

FROM THE ORGAN LOFT

I am not quite sure if the mouse activity in the organ has stopped! The droppings are few but the bait disappears. Is it the phantom mouse?

I have had this letter from Kay Baxter of Niagara Falls.

"Thank you so much for adding me to your prayer list. I need all the prayers I can get! (Don't we all?) I am due to be ordained on March 21st, 2004 as a Deacon. This is a servant vocational ministry. My vocation is pastoral and palliative care. I have a number of seminary courses completed but do not need the full number for the diaconate. A deacon's job is to go into the community and help those in need. I also do some counselling, specialising in Grief, Depression and Suicide (prevention). I am hoping to form a young adults/newcomers social group in the spring and have established a lending library at our church. On top of all this, I take an active role in worship. A deacon may not consecrate or bless but is supposed to know how to do most jobs in case someone doesn't show up - but now that never happens, does it? Yeah, right! In other words, like all other clergy, I could be running from morn 'til night but as I am in a non-stipendiary role I do try to keep my hours on a part time level.

Now you wanted some personal information. My family of origin consisted of my paternal grandparents Charles and Sarah Pink (deceased) both Salvation Army and lived with us in Kent. My parents, Ernest 98 and Dulcie, 90 (Waby) Pink. Sisters, Eileen born 1940, Joy 1942, Christine 1946 and myself Kay born 1953. By 1953 we were living in Bayfield, Painters Forstal. We sailed from England in 1956 landing in Halifax, Nova Scotia, and travelled directly to the Niagara Peninsula. I would love my Godparents to know that their promise to God on my behalf in June of 1953 has been upheld. It took me 50 years - however - as the saying goes, "In God's time, not mine!" I have been married to John Baxter for 30 years. We have a son, Michael, 28, a

police officer and Kelly, 26, works in accounting. They are both getting married in 2004.

My home church in Niagara Falls is St. Martin's on Dorchester Road almost at Lundy's Lane if you still have a map of the city. Yes, this area is so beautiful."

I must ask Kay if Michael works at the Police Station in Niagara Falls as we were told it is the oldest Police Station in Canada. I wonder if she is the priest marrying her children?

Do visit the FREE Exhibition of Christening Robes at The Fleur Gallery next to our Heritage Centre Shop in Preston Street, just down from the Alexander Centre. They are exquisite and many are/were Faversham heirlooms.

Another prayer from our M.U. Prayer Diary:-
"How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!

"It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion. For there the Lord ordained His blessing; life for evermore." Psalm 133.

Gilbert and I saw Mount Hermon from the Lebanon in 1962, and in August we could see the snow on its top!

Next time, "My visit to the Lowry Centre" God bless, Vicky.

Wilderness mortality - the beginning of Lent

Read: Matthew 6: 16 -21

Ash Wednesday - the beginning of Lent! How seriously do we take this wilderness? The BBC Evensong today will probably include that beautiful but bittersweet setting of Psalm 51, Allegri's Miserere, and such a mingling of loveliness and sorrow will set the scene for our Lenten journey.

The hypocrites in the reading even paraded penitence as a mark of their piety, and though one takes seriously the simple ceremony of

being 'ashed' on the forehead at today's Eucharist, with the words 'Remember that you are dust, and unto dust you will return', I've never left my face unwashed so that people can see that I've been ashed.

CHOIR REPORT

Thank you Choir for all your lovely cards. This one I put up in the Parish Room:-
"Dear Everyone at Church Choir,
I really love Choir and everyone here are brilliant friends"

Choir practices are due to start again as I write. I want to thank all the Choir for their wonderful singing for church services and during the visits to the Cottage Hospital and Carnalea. It brought much joy to all those who heard us as well as to us. At the Cottage one visitor sang along with us! As the youngsters do not break up for Easter until it is upon us, I will see if we can sing somewhere during half-term.

For Candlemas, our Feast of Light, we hope to sing our new anthem, "Make me a Light" by Philip Wily, Director of Music at Halifax Parish Church and for the Halifax Choral Society. They know how to sing "up there"!!

The Women's World Day of Prayer is on Friday, 5th March, and the afternoon service is at Ospringe at 2 p.m. Please would anyone like to be part of the choir then? We could include an anthem and parts for the hymns. Carol Marshall, our M.U. Branch Leader is also the Chairman of the Faversham Group of The W.W.Day of Prayer. I have already asked a few folk when I have been out and about in Town!



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Services in our Benefice

1st February Presentation of Christ

Hebrews 2. 14 - end, Luke 2. 22 - 40

| | | |
|------------------|------------|-----------------------|
| Ospringe | 8 a.m. | Holy Communion (BCP) |
| Eastling | 10 a.m. | Holy Communion (CW) |
| Stalisfield | 10 a.m. | Holy Communion (CW) |
| Whitehill Chapel | 10.40 a.m. | Sunday School (8-13s) |
| Whitehill Chapel | 11 a.m. | Family Service |
| Ospringe | 11 a.m. | Morning Prayer |
| Ospringe | 2 p.m. | Baptism |

Tuesday 3rd February

Whitehill Chapel 2.15 p.m. Holy Communion

8th February 3rd Sunday before Lent

1 Corinthians 15. 1 - 11, Luke 5. 1 - 11

| | | |
|-------------|------------|----------------------|
| Eastling | 8 a.m. | Holy Communion (BCP) |
| Stalisfield | 10 a.m. | Morning Prayer |
| Eastling | 10.30 a.m. | Newstyle |
| Ospringe | 11 a.m. | Holy Communion (CW) |
| Ospringe | 11 a.m. | Sunday School |

15th February 2nd Sunday before Lent

Revelation 4, Luke 8. 22 - 25

| | | |
|-------------|---------|----------------------|
| Ospringe | 8 a.m. | Holy Communion (BCP) |
| Eastling | 10 a.m. | Holy Communion (CW) |
| Eastling | 10 a.m. | S Club |
| Stalisfield | 10 a.m. | Holy Communion (CW) |
| Ospringe | 11 a.m. | Family Service |

22nd February Sunday next before Lent

2 Corinthians 3. 12 - 4. 2, Luke 9. 28 - 36 [37 - 43a]

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|----------------------|
| Stalisfield | 8 a.m. | Holy Communion (BCP) |
| Eastling | 10 a.m. | Young Style |
| Whitehill Chapel | 11 a.m. | People's Choice |
| Guest Speaker: Revd. Chris Esgate | | |
| Ospringe | 11 a.m. | Family Communion |

25th February Ash Wednesday

Ospringe 3 p.m. Holy Communion (BCP)

29th February Lent 1

Ospringe 10.30 a.m. Songs of Praise with choices from around the benefice.

7th March Lent 2

Philippians 3. 17 - 4.1, Luke 13. 31 - 35

| | | |
|------------------|------------|-----------------------|
| Ospringe | 8 a.m. | Holy Communion (BCP) |
| Eastling | 10 a.m. | Holy Communion (CW) |
| Stalisfield | 10 a.m. | Holy Communion (CW) |
| Whitehill Chapel | 10.40 a.m. | Sunday School (8-13s) |
| Whitehill Chapel | 11 a.m. | Family Service |
| Ospringe | 11 a.m. | Morning Prayer |

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

Sharing Ministry in our Benefice

| | | |
|----------------------------------|--|--|
| Priest in Charge | Reverend Penny Fenton (01795 536366) | 9 Brogdale Road, Faversham. ME13 8SX |
| Curate | Reverend Patricia Pollard (01795 535407) | 7 Arthur Salmon Close, Faversham. |
| Reader | Mr. Hugh Perks (01795 890603) | Weald Cottage, Kettle Hill Road, Eastling. |
| Reader | Mr. Norman Fowler (01795 890412) | 4 Meesons Close, Eastling. |
| Methodist Minister | Reverend Chris Esgate (01795 532461) | Chris@Esgate.plus.com |
| Churchwardens | | |
| Ospringe | Mr. P. Larter (01795 531044) | Miss C. Brightman (01795 531960) |
| Eastling | Mr S. Youle (01795 890368) | Mrs. A. Smith (01795 890469) |
| Stalisfield with Otterden | Mrs. H. Galer (01795 890780) | |
| Whitehill | Miss. B. Richards (01795 532756) | |

Contacting the Church's staff

For general enquiries and for specific enquiries about Baptisms and Weddings, please telephone Faversham 536366. If you would like the parish clergy to conduct a funeral, either in our churches or elsewhere, please ask the funeral director to make the necessary arrangements.

March 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, please send your magazine contribution by the 15th February to Hilary Harlow, Pinks Farm, Eastling, Faversham ME13 0BA. Tel: 01795 890338. Where possible, please submit your entries by e-mail: h.f.harlow@talk21.com

From the Registers

Funerals

Sybil Edna HOFSSASS
Cremation at Barham on 5th January 2004

Florence Victoria (Floss) SINDEN
Cremation at Charing on 14th January 2004

Violet Florence (Vi) READ
Cremation at Bobbing on 20th January 2004

~~~~~  
**Special Service**  
for everyone interested in Education.  
Sunday 15th February  
6.30pm in Canterbury Cathedral.

## EASTLING PARISH COUNCIL

### Eastling's Council Tax Precept

At their meeting on Monday, 12 January, parish councillors agreed the Council's budget for the 12 months starting in April. With a parish precept of just under £1,400, Eastling's council tax levy for the year will be £9 per "average" Band D property.

### Meeting Dates

The transfer of this year's parish council elections from May to June means that dates for some Eastling Parish Council meetings have changed. Ordinary meetings of the Council are now on 8 March, 10 May, 21 June and 12 July. The Annual Parish Meeting is expected to be on Monday, 26 April. The Parish Council's Annual General Meeting, at which the chairman and other appointments are decided, moves to Monday, 21 June, immediately before the scheduled ordinary meeting of the Council.

### Grant Help

Eastling parish councillors are to make a grant of £50 to Faversham Citizens Advice Bureau in appreciation of the good service it provides to people in the town and surrounding villages, including Eastling. A request for a donation by the Kent branch of the British Trust for Nature Conservation for its work in supporting tree wardens was turned down. Although the Council had made small grants in previous years, members felt the parish was unlikely to benefit from the organisation's services in the coming year.

### Hedge Cutting

Concerns have been expressed at problems caused by debris from roadside hedge cutting operations. At their January meeting, Eastling councillors heard that two villagers had recently reported tyre damage from thorny cuttings in The Street. Others had been appalled at the debris left on the Eastling to Faversham road following hedge cutting along the boundary to Fisher Farms during December. Cllr Harold Wyld said it

appeared to be a widespread problem with "limited manpower" frequently used as an excuse for not clearing up. Chairman John Payne said he appreciated the personal efforts of one local farm manager to try to reduce the problem for road users. Members agreed he should be thanked and the matter further discussed with him.

### Road Problems

Eastling parish councillors are drawing the attention of Swale Highways Unit to several highway problems. These include: new potholes forming on the edge of the Eastling Road just to the north of the "watertank" bends, the edges of the road breaking away near Goosemeadow in Newnham Lane and several damaged or "turned" signs on the approaches to Eastling. Councillors were pleased with new replacement signs for Meesons Close and repairs to damage on the Eastling Road junction with North Eastling Lane. They are also asking Swale Council to clear soil and flint debris, built up over recent months, from a number of local lanes.

### Broadband by Summer?

News that the Eastling 890\*\*\* exchange will be upgraded to provide Broadband Internet connections later this year has been welcomed by Eastling parish councillors. BT says the faster service should be available by 5 May.

### Parish Plan

All Eastling parish voters are asked to take part an exciting opportunity to plan the future of our village. Look for the voting form and return it, completed, by February 14th to one of the addresses listed on the form. If you have not received a form but feel sure you are an Eastling voter please ring Mike Thomas on 890614.

## OSPRINGE PARISH COUNCIL

The next meeting will be held on March 10th 2004 at 7.30pm in Whitehill Chapel, Painter's Forstal. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Victim Support and the Witness Service are looking for volunteers to provide emotional and practical support to people in your local community, either by visiting them at home following a crime, or by supporting witnesses attending a local court. Volunteer office support and fundraisers also welcome. Full training given and expenses paid. For more details on this rewarding work, please telephone 01233 647253.



If you are a victim of crime and could use some help call the support line: 0845 30 30 900

## Stalisfield Cricket Club

After the inclusion in last month's Good News of a past Eastling Cricket team, Norman Neaves felt sure readers would be interested in the team which represented Stalisfield over 50 years ago.

Standing: (From left to right) Bill Hawke, Stewart Neaves, Norman Neaves, Dudley Payne, Joe Mills, Ray Qusted, Snowy Feakins, Clarence Barwick, Don Hann, Alf Lockyer.  
Front Row: Bill Lloyd, John Mallion, Bill Crawley.



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**FRIENDS OF EASTLING SCHOOL**

Thank you to everyone who supported our fundraising events last term. We have now planned an exiting programme for the Spring Term.

The School VALENTINE DISCO will be held on Friday 13th February in the Champion Hall, Painter's Forstal from 6.30pm to 8.30pm. Tickets will be on sale from 2nd February.

PANCAKE RACES will be held on Friday 20th February starting at 2.30pm in the School Playground with, of course, hot pancakes to buy as well as drinks and sweets. This will be great fun for children and parents alike!

Other dates for your diary are: WORK DAY at school on March 7th; BARN DANCE planned for 3rd April; SCHOOL HALL opening on 30th April; AUCTION OF PROMISES to take place on 7th May and the SUMMER FETE on Sunday 11th July. Details of all events to follow.

Don't forget the School will be closed for half term from 23rd to 27th February.  
Jill Seaman FOES Publicity  
01795 890519

**Ospringe School Association News February 2004**

A quiet month, however planning is going ahead for some busy times ahead.

The first event is a Wine & Wisdom on 20th March, and a family bingo night and Race Night are also being planned, although dates are not yet confirmed.

Thanks to the fireworks night and the Christmas Fair the school is able to purchase 2 more interactive whiteboards, only three more to go and the whole school will be equipped!

The building work continues, the children are quite enjoying the chaos, but I don't think the same can be said for the staff! However it is looking splendid (from the outside) and we all await the "grand opening" with anticipation!

Jill Fagg

**Doddington Buddies**  
Parent and Toddler Group

We meet every Thursday, during school term time, 1.30pm - 3.00pm at Doddington School Hall. All Babies and Children aged 0-4 years with their carers are very welcome. Come for a cuppa and a chat while the children play. For further information please contact Amanda Tel: 01795 886277.



**February**



**Afternoon Club**

Best wishes to Mrs P. Macey for a swift recovery after her hip operation.

Activities for February  
5th Board Games  
19th Bingo  
in the Champion Hall, 2pm.

**PUDDLEDUCKS PLAYGROUP**

The older children are working hard on their letters and colours, and all the children enjoy the role play and various craft work as well as playing with the toys. We will be making Valentine cards this month. We break for half term from Monday 23rd to Friday 27th



February inclusive. We have a few vacancies for children aged 2 1/2 to 5 years. Please contact me for details.  
Jill Seaman  
01795 890519

**Painter's Forstal Gardeners' Club**

The A.G.M. will take place on Monday 9th February, 7.45pm SHARP.

Third round of the Neame Cup Quiz is on Monday 16th February, 7.45pm for 8pm, when the match is against Selling at home.

Both meetings will be in the Champion Hall, Painter's Forstal. Further details from Faversham 533608.

**Sunday Newstyle**

Sunday 8th February  
Eastling Church  
Guest speaker: Revd. Gill Mack will talk on the theme:  
*How to keep the peace with your parents.*

Breakfast from 10am, service starts at 10.30am. All ages welcome  
Children's corner available



**Eastling Gardeners' Club**

24th March Eastling Gardeners' Club meets at 7.30pm in the Village Hall when Sue Hartfree will talk on 'Plants for Problem Areas'.



**Songs of Praise**  
Sunday 29th February  
10.30am in Ospringe Church

All ages welcome.  
Hymns chosen by people around the benefice.

**Having a Party? Planning a Wedding? Venue for your Club ...**

Hall and smaller rooms available with kitchen facilities at  
**Eastling Village Hall.**

For more information please contact Mary Eagleton on 890436.

**The Wine and Wisdom** held in Eastling Village Hall on 22nd November was well supported. A generous donation to cover the cost of the hall left the organisers with a profit of £210. This was divided equally between the Village Hall funds and the Senior Citizens' Christmas fund. Thank you to everyone who supported and donated raffle prizes on the night.



**The Eastling Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunch**

was very well attended with our numbers gradually increasing year by year. Joan Webster and her helpers provided us with an excellent meal and all the festive drink was generously provided courtesy Tony and Mary of the Carpenters Arms. Marina and Norman were presented with a fine basket of flowers for their help in organising the event.

*(Apologies for not including this in last month's Good News - Hilary)*

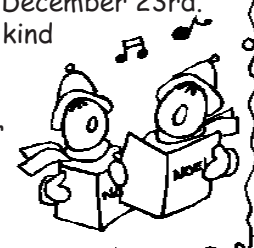
**Yuletide Flower Festival of Carols**

We hope all those who came to the December flower festival in Eastling Church enjoyed their visit.

Thanks to everyone's generosity the marvellous total, of the three day festival and Saturday night concert, was £1,500. Our three guest charities, Pilgrims Hospice, Demelza House and Canterbury Open Centre, each received £200.

**Eastling Carol Singing**

Many thanks to the band of 14 children and adults who braved the cold and dark to go carol singing around Eastling (including a lovely warm-up in the Carpenters Arms) on December 23rd. Thank you too to the kind householders (and publicans) who filled our collection box for the Pilgrims Hospice.  
Angela Cheeseman.



**Painter's Forstal Amenities Committee**

Annual General Meeting  
Tuesday 17th February, 7.30pm in the Champion Hall.  
This will be followed by an inter-group quiz for the cup. Groups can be families, friends, or 'club' members. We ask all who are interested in the programme of events for the year to come and put forward your suggestions, with offers of help to run them!

**Easter Surprise**

This is for the younger members of the community and will take place on Easter Sunday afternoon, 11th April 2004.

**Fete**

August 8th is the suggested date if we can get enough volunteers to help.

**Craft Fayre**

We had a very successful craft exhibition last year so, this year, on 6th November, we are enlarging it to a Fayre. Owners of crafts for sale would be asked to pay 10% of their takings. Others may exhibit only, the same as last year.

**Barn Dance**

Saturday 12th June at Painter's Farm Barn. More details later.

**Diary**

**February 2004**

|                                                           |         |                  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------|------------------|
| 5th Afternoon Club                                        | 2pm     | Champion Hall    |
| 6th Craft Club                                            | 6.15pm  | Champion Hall    |
| 9th Gardeners' Club                                       | 7.45pm  | Champion Hall    |
| 10th Ospringe Parish Council                              | 7.30pm  | Whitehill Chapel |
| 13th School Valentine Disco                               | 6.30pm  | Champion Hall    |
| 14th Deadline for return of Eastling Parish Plan papers   |         |                  |
| 15th Deadline for items to be included in March Good News |         |                  |
| 16th Neame Cup Quiz                                       | 7.45pm  | Champion Hall    |
| 17th W. I.                                                | 2.15pm  | Champion Hall    |
| 17th P. Forstal AGM & Quiz                                | 7.30pm  | Champion Hall    |
| 19th Afternoon Club                                       | 2pm     | Champion Hall    |
| 20th Pancake Races                                        | 2.30pm  | Eastling School  |
| 20th Quiz Night                                           | 7.30pm  | Stalisfield Hall |
| 24th Magazine Folding                                     | 2pm     | Usual Venues     |
| 28th Afternoon of Prayer from                             | 2pm     | Ospringe Church  |
| 29th Songs of Praise                                      | 10.30am | Ospringe Church  |

**Future Dates**

|                                           |                       |
|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 7th March Work Day                        | Eastling School       |
| 20th March Wine and Wisdom                | Ospringe School       |
| 24th March Plants for problem areas       | Eastling Village Hall |
| 3rd April Barn Dance                      | Eastling School       |
| 11th April Children's Easter Surprise     | Painter's Forstal     |
| 26th April Eastling Annual Parish Meeting |                       |
| 7th May Auction of Promises               | Eastling School       |
| 12th June Barn Dance                      | Painter's Farm Barn   |
| 11th July Summer Fete                     | Eastling School       |
| 8th August Painter's Forstal Fete         |                       |
| 6th November Craft Fayre                  | Painter's Forstal     |

**Belmont House and Gardens Teashop**

**Vacancy - Teashop Manager**

The Teashop at Belmont House provides high quality Teas to the visitors and is an important, integral, part of the attraction. The Teashop Manager is responsible not only for the administration and organisation of the Teashop but also for buying the necessary supplies and the production of the cakes and scones for the Teashop. The work will involve Fridays, weekend and Bank Holiday work during the season (April-September) and occasional days during the week depending on the number of visitors. There is the possibility of the position being expanded to include some estate administrative duties and catering during the closed season.

Applicants must have good catering and interpersonal skills as well as the ability to plan, budget and account for cash.

For further details please contact

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