



Eastling Puppet Club

Last term culminated in a very lively 'Nativity Play with a Twist', which was played with great gusto and featured a villainous Herod, a talking donkey and humorous camels, a superbly flying angel and three very modern kings, as well as gentle shepherds and landlady, and a dignified Mary and Joseph. Many thanks to Leigh and Liz for inviting us to perform at the S Club Party.

This term we shall give a performance in Whitehill Chapel, Painter's Forstal, on 1st of May.

We meet fortnightly on Saturday or Sunday afternoons in Eastling Village Hall. New members, between the ages of 9 and 16, welcome. (No previous experience needed)

Please contact Angela Cheeseman 01795 890 629 for details.

Eastling Young People's Band

A group of young people who play an instrument started to meet to play together last term. So far they have been playing recorders, but hope to branch out to play other instruments as well this term (including clarinet and saxophone).

Are you interested? Please contact Steve Youle or Angela Cheeseman 890629



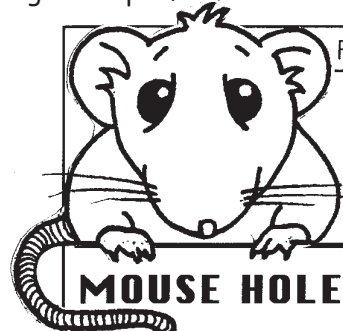
Young People's Craft Club

4th & 25th February
6.15 to 7.15pm
in the Champion Hall,
Painter's Forstal.
50p per session -
all young people invited.

Horses

On Saturday 26th of February
in the Champion Hall,
Painters Forstal at 7.30p.m.

Faversham & District Riding Club
will be showing a video of all 14 teams
who took part in the British Riding Clubs
Quadrille Selection Trials and of the Final
at Olympia. The F.D.R.C. qualified for the
final for the 5th year running with their
routine in honour of 40yrs of flying by
the Red Arrows Aerobatic Team.
Everyone welcome £2.50 per person.



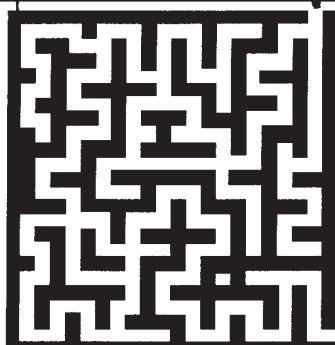
MOUSE HOLE

LOCUST LUNCH

John was Jesus' cousin, he
lived in the desert and ate
locusts and wild honey.
Eating locusts may sound
horrible to us but in some
countries people love
them. When they land
they are collected then
roasted or boiled. Some
are dried, beaten to a
powder and used like
flour to make cakes!



Can you find your way
through the crooked ways
to the straight path?



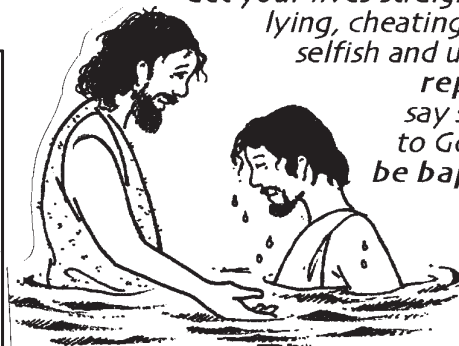
From my home in the church I learn about all sorts of things...

GET READY! GET READY!

The Prophet **John** had a message from
God for everyone who wanted to listen.

"Get ready, the **Messiah**, our **Saviour**
is coming....

*Get your lives straight, stop
lying, cheating, being
selfish and unkind...
repent,
say sorry
to God and
be baptised".*



Many people changed their ways
and came to John to be baptised

Read
John's
story in
Matthew
chapter 3

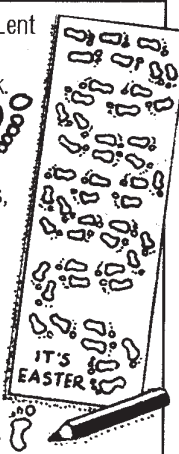
The 40 days before Easter is known as
LENT. It's a time to think and pray
'and learn more about God.

The first day of
Lent is called
ASH WEDNESDAY.
It is a day for
saying 'sorry' to
God for any
wrong things
you have said or
thought or done.



Make a Lent
calendar
bookmark.

Draw 40
footprints,
plus 7
extra
for 'Holy
Week'.
Colour
in a
footprint
each day.



IN CHRIST ALONE my hope is found
He is my light, my strength, my song.
This Cornerstone this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in All,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! Who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save.
Till on the cross, as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied-
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain.
Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me.
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me.
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand.
Till he returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand
Stuart Townend.

Jesus said "Come to me all who are
weary and burdened, and I will give
you rest."

Matthew 11. 28



A Very Special Guest

Bishop Graham Cray

comes to Ospringe Church
on Sunday 6th February.

9.30am

Morning Prayer

and

11am

OASIS

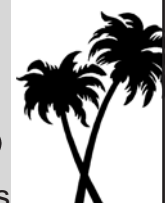
and the topic is

The Christian Life

Come and find out what it really
means to be a Christian

Everyone is welcome

Refreshments after the service



Lent 2005

begins 9th February

Ash Wednesday

Holy Communion

3pm in Ospringe Church

**Good
News**

**Parish Magazine
February 2005**

The news magazine for the combined parishes of Eastling, Ospringe, Stalisfield and Otterden

Praying in your Discouragements
Numbers 11:10-15. ‘Moses said to the Lord,...
“I am not able to carry all this people alone, the burden is too heavy for me...”

For years they had been sustained by manna from heaven, but now they longed for the fish, cucumbers and melons they had eaten in Egypt (vv.5,6). They forget how the Lord had delivered them from Pharaoh's bondage. Now they preferred Egyptian food, and the slavery that went with it, to the goodness of the Lord and his provision for them.

His frustration broke out in petulant questions to the Lord. ‘Why are you dealing so severely with me?’ ‘Why do you lay this burden on me?’ ‘Did I conceive these people?’ ‘Why am I a nursing mother to them?’ ‘Am I responsible for getting them to Egypt?’ ‘How can I provide meat for so many?’ ‘Lord, this burden is too great for me.’ ‘I’d rather die now than go on like this’ (see vv.11-15).

But God answered Moses graciously! He understood the frustration, the petulance, the lack of faith and the rebellious spirit that blamed God for it all. He provided Moses with seventy elders who eased the burden of leadership (vv.16, 17). He sent an east wind that brought quails into the camp and provided meat for them (vv.31, 32). In grace and mercy God ‘overlooked’ the faults of Moses and sent him help and refreshment.

In our deepest disappointments, God understands. In our frustrations, God is merciful. When we lash out at circumstances and even at God himself, He does not answer in kind. In our deepest discouragement, his love and grace and understanding are with us still.

By the Revd Dr Herbert McGonigle, Senior Lecturer in Historical Theology & Church History, Nazarene Theological College, Manchester.

Dear Friends,
Firstly may I wish you all a very happy New Year 2005. How time does fly! Christmas and New Year celebrations now well behind us.

On behalf of Tony Budell and all at B.H.A., I would like to thank everyone who has supported the Charity during the past year, not only just now at Christmas with the shoe box appeal, but throughout the year. Aid of all kinds keeps coming in, from all kinds of people and organisations, and we are all very grateful for the caring and generosity of so many.

We are all acutely aware of the desperate need for aid in the poorest nations in the world, and no more so than now, in the aftermath of the devastating earthquake and tsunami which has wiped out so much of S.E. Asia and left millions homeless and in great need of so many things.

The people of this country, together with so many nations of the world, have responded in our unprecedented outpouring of love and generosity.

However the needs of the orphans and the impoverished families in Chernigov continue to need our help and support as more orphanages and families seek help. The Charity goes from strength to strength, and the amount of aid being sent to the Ukraine continues to grow not only in quantity, but also in the variety of goods being donated. I hope that you will be able to support B.H.A. throughout the year, as and when you are able, and as always, I am happy to receive your donations at my home.

Your support over many years now has been marvellous. Please accept my heartfelt thanks, and may we continue in 2005 to keep on caring and helping to 'Make a difference'.

Mother Theresa said " We cannot al
do great things, but we can do smal
things with great love."

**hosted by Churches Together
in Faversham at The Abbey
School, Faversham
on Saturday 12th March
2005
9.30am to 10.00pm**

Marilyn Baker, Tracey Williamson, and their team have vast international experience of facilitating such days of ministry. Despite what most of us would consider to be prohibitive disabilities, they are marvellous witnesses to what God is able to achieve when we make available to Him, in obedience, those giftings He first made available to us.

The programme for the day includes a morning workshop - Power in Prayer, an afternoon workshop - Discovering Our Ministries, and an Evening Concert with Marilyn Baker, Nick Ash and River. For a booking form or more details about this Day of Refreshment in Faversham, please contact: Ian Willsher, for Ospringe, or Roz Graham (01795-538079) Andrew Holden (01795-533304 after 6pm) Email: ctf@favershamcommunitychurch.co.uk You can learn more about Marilyn Baker at:

Telephone 01795 532605

Have you seen the snowdrops on the bank in South Road and the beautiful display opposite Tesco by the back of Age Concern? The snowdrops were later than last year but the daffodils in places are very forward this year.

Prayer from M.U. Prayer Diary for
Epiphany, 6th January, 2005.

" Do all the good you can,
by all the means you can,
in all the ways you can,
at all the times you can,
to all the people you can,
as long as ever you can."

John Wesley.
Help us in this resolve.

I remember this was written on the wall of
Champion Hall, Painter's Forstal.

The M.U. International 'Year of the Family'
Prayer to end 2004.

Wherever we are we live in God's family, when our families are broken by circumstances and pain He reaches out to hold us in His arms, piece by piece He makes us whole again, and in His love-filled hands we are transformed.

So Lord, help us in the year ahead to build relationships on all corners of our hearts -- to be like you, to love like you, to heal brokenness and restore wholeness in families world wide. Amen.

On Tuesday, 4th January, just before the children went back to school, we did a concert for the folk and friends at The Almshouses Chapel. We called it, "Before Twelfth Night" and we were able to enjoy many carols. Vicky sang the echo for "Do you hear what I hear?" and Don did his special from Harold Darke's, "In the Bleak Midwinter". I played some of my favourite Christmas organ pieces and we all sang the traditional "In the Bleak Midwinter" for Blanche Rogers. There were about 40 there. Don and Freda presented the Warden and me with a lovely hyacinth in a vase. Thank you. Then we had their tea and special cakes and gave £60 to the Tsunami Disaster Fund. We are always well received ther. Thank you all.

Freda and Don helped me do a "Sing-a-long" at Age Concern, just before Christmas Day. Thank you Freda and Don. The Age Concern room rang with their hearty singing. We have restarted choir practices and have been invited to join with other choirs at St. Mary's for the Churches Together Service. We look forward to Bishop Graham joining us on 6th February (the anniversary of our Queen's Accession 54 years ago) and hope to sing Karl Jenkins' *Benedictus* as sung by Hayley Westenra.

Vicky Shepherd

A woman telephoned her Bank and spoke to the Accountant who looked at her holdings, "I want to make some changes," she said. The Accountant asked for more details. "Are you interested in Conversion or Redemption?" he asked. "Good heavens, came the reply. "I must have got the wrong number. I wanted the Bank of England, not the Church of England.."

<u>Sundays</u>	For a deepening of our prayer life.
<u>Mondays</u>	Anyone who may be struggling with doubts.
<u>Tuesdays</u>	Prayer and study groups in the benefice.
<u>Wednesdays</u>	Churches preparing Lent courses.
<u>Thursdays</u>	The Fire Service.
<u>Fridays</u>	Those suffering after the Tsunami.
<u>Saturdays</u>	The Church in the United States

Fr Wilfrid McGreal and Prof Robin Gill reflect on the meaning of grace in all its many aspects. The series is based on the book of the same name, already available in bookshops and publishes by SPCK, and will run for six sundays from 13th February in the Sunday programme, 6am - 8am. 96.7, 104.2, & 97.6FM - 774 & 1602AM - DAB Digital Radio
Further details in February Outlook newspaper.



At the beginning of this term, the Landlady of The Carpenters Arms, Mrs Sandra Dickers, was able to present a cheque of £245 towards the local village school. This had been raised on an evening of fireworks held at the pub last November and represented the very real support that the village locals have for the community's school.

Mr Walsh, the Headteacher of Eastling Primary was delighted to accept the cheque on behalf of the pupils, parents and staff at the school which has a roll of 90. The money is destined to purchase a new colour laser printer that will not only be used by the children of the school but the local community during the adult education classes held at the site. Photo shows Mr Walsh accepting the cheque form Mrs Dickers at The Carpenters Arms

Carol Singing

Carol singing around Painter's Forstal by the Amenities Committee and their friends, raised just over £100 for Demelza House. Thank you to all who contributed.

Carols by Candlelight

Thank you to all the young readers, you were excellent. £66.97 will be sent to the National Children's Home.

Eastling Carol Singing

Many thanks to the band of singers who braved the cold to sing carols around Eastling just before Christmas. Thank you too for the refreshments, cheer and contributions by the kind people of Eastling - we raised an amazing £80 for the Pilgrims Hospice.

Eastling Gardeners' Club

Eastling Gardeners' Club next meets on 23rd March 2005 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall for a talk by Jean Talboys on 'Managing Without Weeds' £2.50 but free to members

FRIENDS of EASTLING SCHOOL

The committee are organising a full and varied programme of events to interest all ages this term.

The Cinema Club started on Friday 21st January and showings will continue from 11th February.

We are holding a

FAMILY FILM NIGHT

on Friday 4th February at 7pm for 7.30pm start. 'Going Overboard' (15) will be shown in the school hall, while the children will see 'Let's Ruin Dad's Day' in Class 3. You will be able to book your tickets (costing £1 each) from 31st January. Tea & coffee, squash, crisps and sweets will be on sale.

PANCAKE DAY



will be celebrated on Shrove Tuesday, 8th February from 2.30pm with the customary pancake racing and hot pancakes on sale with a variety of toppings. Do join us for an afternoon of fun!!

The school **VALENTINE'S DISCO** will be held on Friday 11th February from 6.30pm to 8.30pm in the school hall. All Eastling School children, parents and families will be welcome. Tickets will be on sale from 3rd Feb and will cost £2.00 each including light refreshments. For adults only, we are hosting a

MURDER/MYSTERY EVENING

on Saturday 26th February - 7pm for 7.30pm start. Tickets will cost £5 each including food and there will be a licensed bar. There will be a raffle drawn during the event. This exciting evening is one not to miss as you try to identify the murderer while enjoying drinks and hot food. More details to follow. Please make a note of other future events: Children's Fashion Show - 6.30pm - School Hall - Tuesday 8th March Jumble Sale - 1.30pm - School Hall - Saturday 19th March Easter Egg Hunt and Raffle - School field and hall - Wednesday 23rd March Swimming Pool Party - Friday 24th June Summer Fete - Sunday 3rd July If you wish to be informed of details of all events, please email the school at Head@eastling.kent.sch.uk Jill Seaman, FOES Publicity, Tel 01795 890519 or 890252.

PUDDLEDUCKS PLAYGROUP

We're continuing to look at animals and birds this month, and making pictures using different materials and painting methods. The children will be making Valentine cards and later in the month will start making cards and gifts for Mother's Day. The Half Term break is from Monday 14th to Friday 18th February. Jill Seaman, 01795 890519

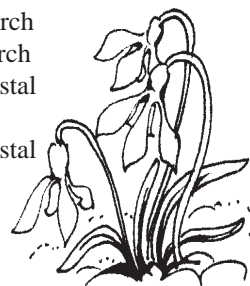
February



2005

Diary

3rd Afternoon Club (Bingo)	2pm	Champion Hall
4th Family Film Night	7pm	Eastling School Hall
8th Pancake Racing	2.30pm	Eastling School
9th Ash Wednesday Communion	3pm	Ospringle Church
11th Valentine's Disco	6.30pm	Eastling School Hall
13th Early Deadline for March Good News		Pinks Farm, Eastling
14th Gardeners' Club AGM and Slide Show	7.45pm	Champion Hall
15th Women's Institute	2.15pm	Champion Hall
17th Afternoon Club (Board Games)	2pm	Champion Hall
21st Neame Cup Quiz	7.45pm	Selling Village Hall
22nd Magazine Folding	2pm	Usual Venues
22nd Painter's Forstal AGM and Quiz	7.30pm	Champion Hall
26th Murder/Mystery Evening	7pm	Eastling School Hall
26th Riding Club Video evening	7.30pm	Champion Hall
MARCH 8th Children's Fashion Show	6.30pm	Eastling School Hall
12th Study Day and Concert	All day	Abbey School
19th Jumble Sale	1.30pm	Eastling School Hall
23rd Easter Egg hunt and raffle		Eastling School
23rd Eastling Gardeners' Club	7.30pm	Village Hall
24th Fauré Requiem		Eastling Church
25th Fauré Requiem		Lynsted Church
27th Easter Egg Nature Trail	2.30pm	Painter's Forstal
APRIL 30th Bunce Charity Outing		
MAY 2nd Boot Fair	3pm	Painter's Forstal
JUNE 24th Eastling Pool Party at Faversham		
JULY 3rd Eastling School Fete		
AUGUST 21st Painter's Forstal Fete		
NOVEMBER 12th Craft Fayre		Painter's Forstal



Bunce Charity INTERFAITH "PILGRIMAGE"
SATURDAY 30TH APRIL 2005: DAY TRIP
Young people and their families are invited to join us and visit **ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL**, a **HINDU TEMPLE**, and a **MUSLIM MOSQUE**, travelling by a coach provided by the Bunce Charity.

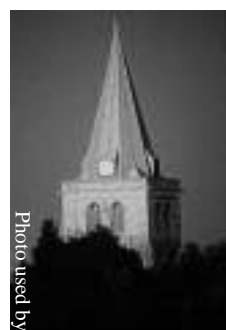


Photo used by permission: www.friendsrochestercathedral.org

We will share in simple worship and gain some understanding of what takes place there. At the cathedral, the main focus of the day, eat your own picnic lunch. Bunce Trust will pay for the children's "medieval" pilgrimage round the cathedral. Adults are asked to pay £3.00 for their own tour if they wish. Before we leave we will attend Sung Evensong together. Basic information about the faiths concerned and the day's programme will be provided for those booking, as well as suggestions for dress codes etc. A quiz for the children to complete on the day will involve us all.

ABOUT THE BUNCE TRUST AND HOW TO APPLY The Bunce Charity has funds for the Christian Education of children living in Otterden, Stalisfield and Throwley.
1. We ask children with their parents/carers, and young adults, from the villages named to please book before 1st March to ensure their priority.
2. Other families and young adults from the Benefice will be welcome to remaining places, so register your interest now.
3. Other adults from the Benefice not bringing children, will be welcome too and may use up any spare seats on the coach. Register your interest too, now. First come, first served: email, or phone, Jane Baker (Otterden) janebiztrainingnetwork@btinternet.com 01622 850686, or Angela Stoddart (Throwley) angela@cforstal.surfaid.org 01795 890210

The Afternoon Club

Activities for February 2005
3rd Bingo
17th Board Games
2pm in Champion Hall

Painter's Forstal Gardeners' Club

The February meetings are on Monday 14th - AGM followed by slides. 7.45pm in the Champion Hall Monday 21st - Third round Neame Cup Quiz away at Selling. 7.45pm for 8pm at Selling Village Hall. Further details from Faversham 533608.

Fauré Requiem 24th and 25th March

If you would like to come and sing this lovely piece, join with a group practising on Wednesday evenings, 8pm at The Barn, Barbary Farmhouse, Provender Lane, Norton. All voice parts welcome, no audition. There will be two evening performances: Maundy Thursday, 24th March at Eastling Church and Good Friday, 25th March at Lynsted. Contact Andrew Baxter 01795 890598, for more details.

Many thanks to all who joined the Christmas Choir at Eastling for the Nine Lessons and Carols. Your hard work was appreciated and enjoyed by all.

Freestyle

Sunday 13th February
10.30am
Eastling Church

Was Jesus a 'Faith Healer'?

Breakfast from 10am
All ages welcome
Children's corner available

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.

Painter's Forstal with Ospringle

Women's Institute

Tuesday 15th February
2.15pm Champion Hall
Mrs M. Webster - *The work of U.N.I.C.E.F.*

Competitions: A childhood photo and Flower of the Month

Painter's Forstal Amenities Committee Tuesday 22nd February

at 7.30pm
in the Champion Hall
A.G.M.

followed by an **Inter-family or Club Quiz** for the cup.

Do come and take part. Other events proposed for 2005

March 27th

Easter Egg Nature Trail

Start from Champion Hall at 2.30pm. 50p entrance fee. Followed by refreshments.

May 2nd

Boot Fair

Starting at 3pm on the Green (Tables only, on the green.) £5 a table - Ring 01795 532756 for further details. Young People's May Queen and retinue will be selected. Details to follow.

August 21st

Fete

We will welcome offers of help, and hope that all who worked so hard last year will be available again this year.

November 12th

Craft Fayre

As this was so successful last year, we are arranging another for 2005. Would the people who ran tables ring 01795 532756 if they can take a table (£5) again and, of course, anyone else interested.

For Sale

Packard Bell, Printer, Key board, and Monitor, all in good working order. Contact Roy Piles on 01795 537162 for more information.