



Help feed local people in crisis

faversham.foodbank.org.uk

Faversham Foodbank 2018

It was great to read the letter of thanks in January's Good News from the Foodbank warehouse manager letting us know how much food Eastling had donated in 2017. What an amazing total! Please keep your contributions coming.

Food list for February

Urgent items: long life fruit juice; powered drinking chocolate; squash; marmite; long life milk.



Eastling School News

Happy New Year from everyone at Eastling Primary School. The Christingle service held at St Mary's at the end of term was a wonderful afternoon of singing and a time of reflection. It was lovely to see the support from many family and friends. A collection at the end of the service for the Faversham Food Bank totalled £52.21. Thank you to all who supported this invaluable charity.

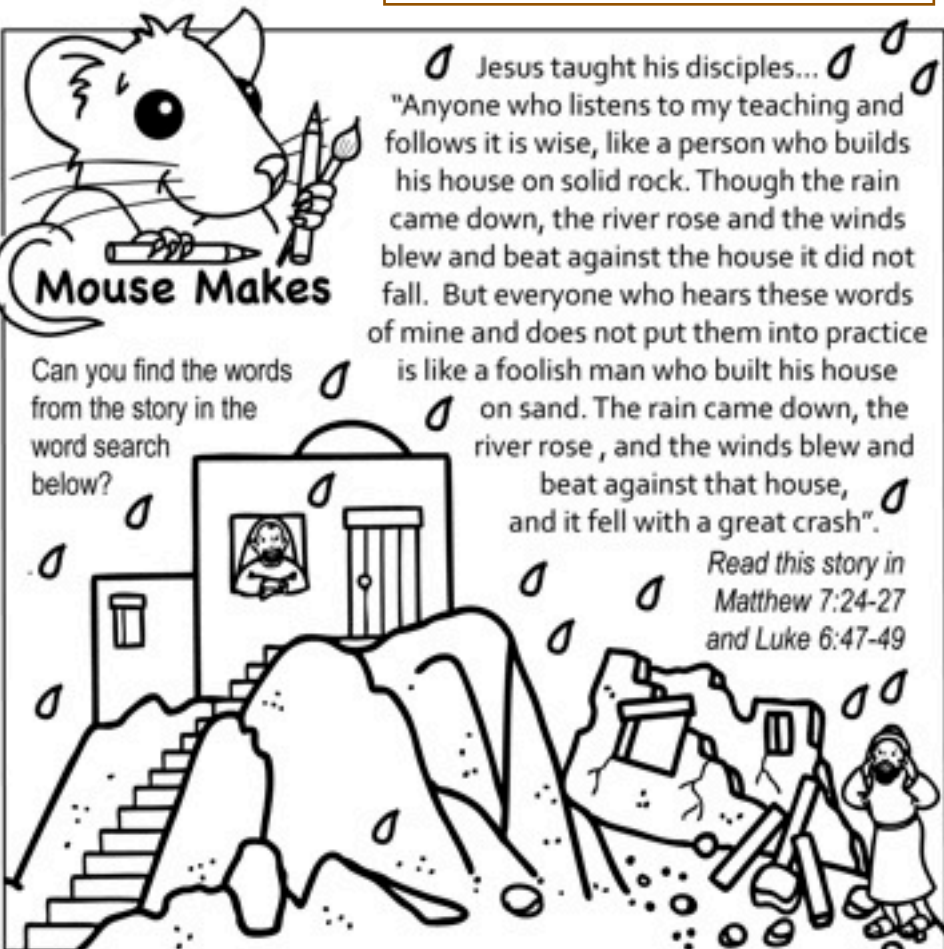
Year 5 children had a wonderful 'Mathletics' day at Highsted Grammar School at the end of term with lots of exciting and engaging activities.

The children came back to school on Thursday 4th January. Acorn class, our Reception children are continuing their weekly walks around the local environment. Willow class have started their weekly swimming sessions at Faversham Pool. They will be swimming for terms 3 and 4.

Magical Maths visited the school on 5th January demonstrating tricks and challenging the children's mathematical minds. Following on from this we now have a Magical Maths after school club. The school is now working in partnership with Premier Sports. They are providing 'Stay Active' lunchtime activities and an extremely popular Street Dance Club after school. This is in addition to working with all the children across the school teaching a wide variety of sports.

The schools new website will be online shortly and we hope to see many people visiting the site. We look forward to a wonderful 2018 at Eastling Primary School.

Melanie Dale, Headteacher.



Mouse Makes

Can you find the words from the story in the word search below?

Jesus taught his disciples...
 "Anyone who listens to my teaching and follows it is wise, like a person who builds his house on solid rock. Though the rain came down, the river rose and the winds blew and beat against the house it did not fall. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the river rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash".

Read this story in Matthew 7:24-27 and Luke 6:47-49

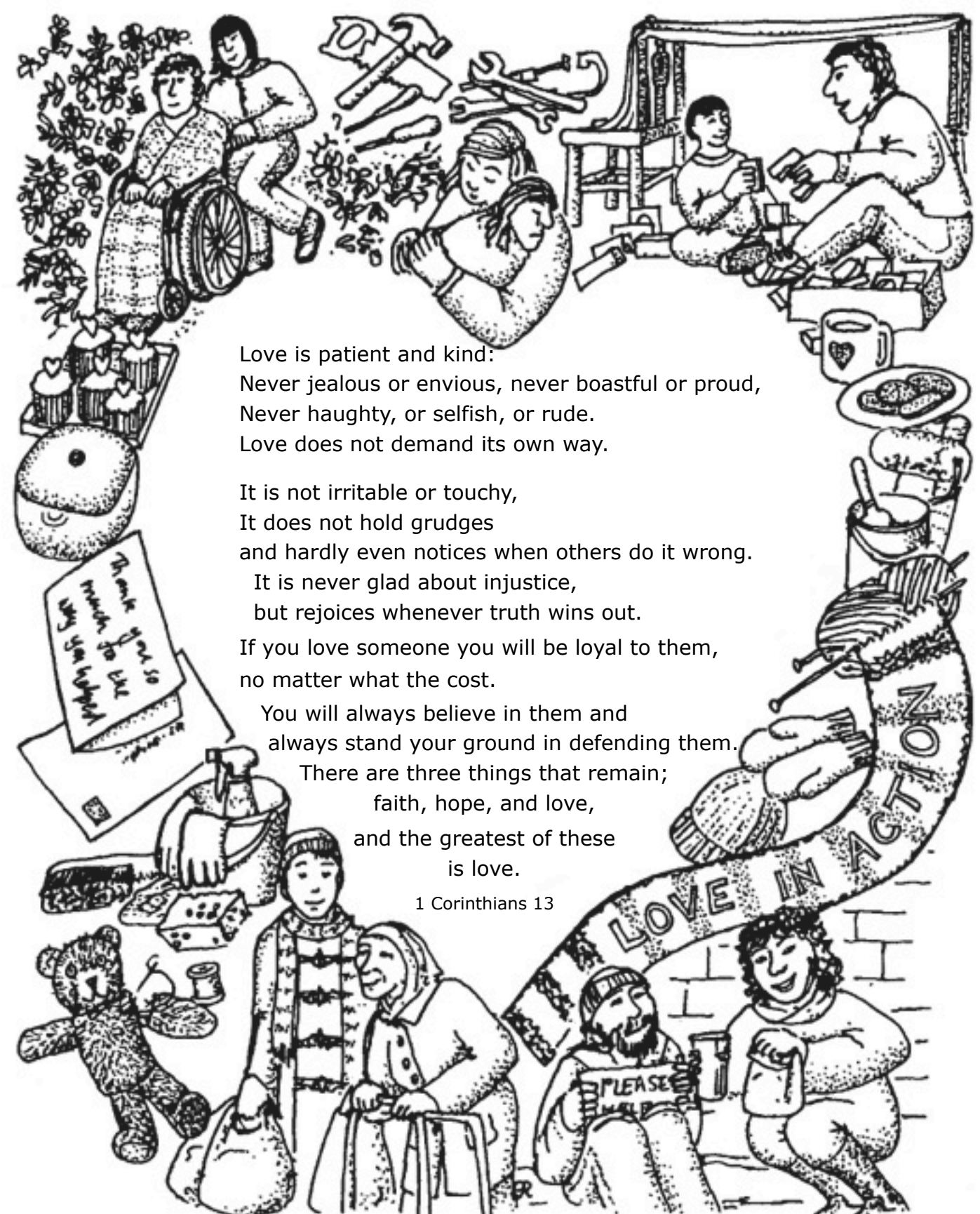
F L O O D E S T R O Y E D E S
 O W J H W A R B I F E L L F A
 B O P O I F O U N D A T I O N
 G R O U N D C I J E S U S O D
 E D U S D O K L B U R S T L M
 A S H E A R T T E W I S E I A
 S O L I D R I V E R A I N S N
 C O L L A P S E D R U I N H T

LISTEN • HEAR • JESUS • WORDS • WISE • MAN • BUILT • HOUSE • SOLID
 FOUNDATION • ROCK • RAIN • WIND • FLOOD • RIVER • BURST • FOOLISH
 SAND • GROUND • COLLAPSED • FELL • DESTROYED • RUIN



St Mary's Church presents...
CAFESTYLE
 Sunday 11th February
 10am - 11am
Eastling Village Hall
 A creative time of worship:
 Church in a Café setting.
 worship discussion reflection
 prayer fellowship

Tea, coffee & yummy nibbles will be available throughout the service, which will include sung worship, times of prayer, with opportunities for discussion & reflection, and space for the youngest & oldest to worship altogether



Love is patient and kind:
 Never jealous or envious, never boastful or proud,
 Never haughty, or selfish, or rude.
 Love does not demand its own way.

It is not irritable or touchy,
 It does not hold grudges
 and hardly even notices when others do it wrong.
 It is never glad about injustice,
 but rejoices whenever truth wins out.
 If you love someone you will be loyal to them,
 no matter what the cost.

You will always believe in them and
 always stand your ground in defending them.
 There are three things that remain;
 faith, hope, and love,
 and the greatest of these
 is love.

1 Corinthians 13

Parish Magazine February 2018
 High Downs Parish

Serving the villages of Eastling, Otterden, Stalisfield and Throwley

www.northdowns.plus.com/goodnews

The Rev Paul Hardingham considers this month's unlikely link of Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day ...

'Lenten Valentines'

During this month Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day, share the same date! It seems an odd mix, yet there is an obvious link: *love!* Lent, beginning on Ash Wednesday, is about learning how to love God more, as we give Him space in our lives. It's also an opportunity to reflect on Jesus' experience in the wilderness (Luke 4:1-13).

Jesus was led into the desert by the Spirit (1), where He was tempted by Satan, but demonstrated the path of real love. Jesus is tempted to turn stones into bread. Love gets to the heart of human need, not just satisfying physical desires. Satan tempts Jesus to worship him. However, worshipping God is the beginning of love and results in sacrificial service to meet the needs of others. Finally, He is tempted to put God to the test, by jumping off the Temple. Only real love can change hearts by practical love and care.

Lent teaches us how to live out the love of God in practice, as we follow Jesus in the way of the cross.

Valentine was Christ's follower, committed to sharing God's love with others. We know little about him, except that he was a priest who lived in the 3rd Century AD and was martyred on February 14th. Emperor Claudius felt that soldiers in the Roman Army were distracted from their duty by their wives, and so attempted to outlaw marriage. It is believed that Valentine married couples in secret. He also helped Christians in Rome during times of persecution. He demonstrated the importance of showing real love in action.

In trying to understand the meaning of her revelations from God, Julian of Norwich found:

'What, do you wish to know your Lord's meaning in this thing? Know it well, love was his meaning.'



Prayer Pointers February 2018

Sundays - Lord God, you who breathed the spirit of life within me. Help me to use my life to reflect your glory and to serve others as your son Jesus did.

Mondays - Loving God, I hear your invitation, "Come back to me". Show me the way to return. Lead me this day in good works I do in your name and send your Spirit to guide me and strengthen my faith.

Tuesdays - Father of my soul, Mother of my heart, I know your love for me is limitless beyond imagining. You care for me as a loving parent. Through my smallest Lenten sacrifices, help me to become less selfish and more aware of your ways. Guide me to seek your love.

Wednesdays - Creator of my Life, renew me: bring me to new life in you. Touch me and make me feel whole again. Help me to see your love in the passion, death and resurrection of your son. Help me to observe Lent in a way that allows me to celebrate that love.

Thursdays - God in heaven and in my life, guide me and protect me. I so often believe I can save myself and I always end in failure. Lead me with your love away from harm and guide me on the right path. May your Spirit inspire the Church and make us an instrument of your love and guidance. Thank you for your care for me.

Fridays - Merciful God, Free your Church from the sins of this world and protect us from evil we see and the evil we prefer to ignore. We need your guidance, Lord for we cannot do this alone. Only with your help can we be saved. Thank you for your desire to save us and love us.

Saturdays - God of infinite love, I thank you for this reminder of your love and your call that we be more patient, gentle and compassionate with others. Here, during Lent, I turn to you to beg for your help. Please soften my heart. Help me to let go of judging others. I ask you this, in Jesus' name.

The oldest Bible comes back to the UK

The world's oldest surviving complete Latin Bible returns to the UK this autumn. It left these shores for Rome 1302 years ago, when monks in the northeast of England sent it as a gift to Pope Gregory II.

The Codex Amiatinus was one of only three produced at the twin monasteries of Wearmouth and Jarrow. (One has since got lost, and the other survives in fragments.) It was kept safe for centuries at the Abbey of the Saviour in Monte Amiata, in Tuscany. Then in the 18th century it was sent to the Biblioteca Medicea Laurenziana, in Florence.

It is the Laurenziana which has now agreed to send it back to the UK, alongside the Lindisfarne Gospels, for its exhibition 'Anglo-Saxon Kingdoms'.

The Bible is 12 inches thick, and weighs 35kg. It contains both Old and New Testaments, and was written on 1030 leaves made from the skins of at least 515 sheep. It has been called one of the greatest treasures of Anglo-Saxon times.

The exhibition will include a number of outstanding objects, including key pieces from the Staffordshire Hoard discovered near Lichfield in 2009.

'Anglo-Saxon Kingdoms' runs from 19th October 2018 to 19th February 2019 in the British Library.



Eastling Church Flower Rota

February
4th and 11th - Bay
18th & 25th - LENT no flowers

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

From County Councillor Andrew Bowles

Green Energy to me should always be preferential to relying on Carbon Fuels or Nuclear. However, I attended a presentation on the proposed Solar Park at Nagden and Cleve Marshes held in Graveney Village Hall, the scale of the development proposed is stunning. Following that presentation Helen Whately MP and I hosted a drop-in session with residents at the Free Wheel Public House to listen to their concerns on the Solar Park proposals and indeed on any other matters. This proved very popular and we had a chance to discuss these issues face to face with many residents. Not surprisingly those who will live adjacent to the proposed Solar Park are prominent amongst those urging me to oppose but they are joined by many others who value the unique landscape. This decision will be made at Government level but I will seek to ensure all opinions are fully heard.

Since 1990 I have campaigned to secure another link between the A2 and M2 East of Sittingbourne and West of Faversham, initially to relieve congestion in Ospringe, Teynham, Lynsted, Bapchild etc. This has become ever more critical as we more fully understand the life-threatening effects of air pollution often associated with motor vehicles. As readers will know a developer has put forward a proposal which will provide such a link roughly between Bapchild on the A2 and adjacent to Kent Science Park on the M2. The downside of these proposals is the figure of 11,000 houses to be constructed to fund the infrastructure, not just the road but also new Secondary and Primary Schools, etc. However, I believe we are already being asked to build too many houses. With the Government insisting on a review of our recently approved Local Plan by 2022, including the suggestion that the revised method of assessing housing need would result in a 36% increase in the number of houses to be built annually, all your local

representatives will have to wrestle with the equation of either just saying no to Central Government and accepting the fact that they have the ability to take over our planning function and take these decisions centrally or to accept the extra housing and seek to ensure it is built in the place that will give local residents most advantage. Although we do not yet have a planning application we do have an Environmental Impact search. This means that the debate has already restarted. Not surprisingly I am being lobbied by residents of Rodmersham, Bredgar etc. opposed to the scheme in its entirety. I am also being contacted by residents of those villages along the A2 East of Sittingbourne and by residents of Sittingbourne itself who are broadly in favour of the scheme. As I say, a local Politicians life is never easy.

Flip a pancake - and help someone in debt

On Shrove Tuesday (13th February), churches, groups, families and friends across the country will be getting out their frying pans to host a Flipping Marvellous Pancake Party on behalf of the work of Christians Against Poverty.

Every pancake flipped on the night will help raise money to free desperate people from the crushing weight of debt and poverty.



If you would like to enjoy pancakes, and also help others in the process, please go to capuk.org and download the free, fun-filled resource pack. As Beth Prescott, CAP's Pancake Party President, says, 'let's make the world a batter place!'

Hope for Abandoned Dogs

Hope for Abandoned Dogs is a non-profit organisation which rescues dogs from Bosnia and finds them forever homes in the U.K.

Fosterers Needed!

We are looking for fosterers throughout the U.K. to provide a temporary home to the dogs we rescue before they find their forever families!

If you are interested in becoming a crucial part of the rescue process, please contact us!

Contact us:
Email: hopeforabandoneddogs@outlook.com
Telephone: 01795892017

At **Hope for Abandoned Dogs**, we have a group of approximately 80 dogs in our care. From stray street dogs to abused pups, our rescue in Bosnia is full. To save as many dogs as possible, space within the rescue must be made through dog adoption or foster. Without our help, hundreds of dogs are left on the streets, taken into high kill shelters or killed.

Fostering a dog can drastically change its life. Many of the dogs we protect are fearful of humans as they have never experienced the love of a family. We have found that a dog is much more likely to find its forever home if it has experience within a home and the basic training that fosterers can provide. We rely heavily on our foster network as we have no rescue facility in the U.K.

The power of fostering can be seen through the success of Sonny. Sonny is a small Border Collie cross with one eye who was rescued from a high-kill shelter in Bosnia. Prior to her six-week stay with one of our fosterers, Sonny would not let anyone touch her due to her fear of people. Through her stay with an experienced dog owner, she learned how to trust and how to love. Sonny has since been adopted and enjoys cuddles and affection from her forever family. This would not have been possible without the patience of her foster family.

Fostering is a crucial part of the rescue process. Please consider changing a life, please consider becoming a fosterer.

Eastling Neighbourhood Watch



Village Warden 07794 010 394
or 01795 890848

Police 101 Emergency 999

There have been a few reports of bogus telephone calls offering fabulous savings on your telephone bills, please be very wary of these.

Calls have been received from other outlying villages relating to vehicles going into fields during the night lamping and causing damage and annoyance. Unfortunately, due to policing restrictions, the only way to try and combat this is to keep bombarding the police on 101 until something is done to stop this happening. Potholes are a fact of life on our roads now so please take extra care driving on the country roads.

Have a good month and take care, Alan.

Services in our Churches

4th February 2nd Sunday before Lent

Colossians 1. 15-20, John 1. 1-14

Eastling 10 am Morning Prayer

Led by Norman Fowler, Preacher - Caroline Ramshaw

11th February Sunday before Lent

2 Corinthians 4. 3-6, Mark 9. 2-9

Eastling 10 am CaféStyle in the Village Hall

18th February Lent 1

1 Peter 3. 18 - end, Mark 1. 9 - 15

Stalisfield 10 am Holy Communion (CW)

Celebrant - Revd Reg Humphriss

25th February Lent 2

Romans 4. 13 - end, Mark 8. 31 - end

Eastling 8 am Holy Communion (BCP)

Celebrant - Revd Caroline Pinchbeck

Throwley 10 am Holy Communion (BCP)

4th March Lent 3

Corinthians 1. 18-25, John 2. 13-22

Eastling 10 am Morning Prayer

(BCP) Service taken from the Book of Common Prayer, 1662.

(CW) Service follows Common Worship Liturgy, 2000.

High Downs Parish

Rector	Vacant	
Parish Office	Email: eastlingchurch@gmail.com facebook.com/highdownsbenefice	
Reader	Norman Fowler	(01795 890412)
	4 Meesons Close, Eastling	
Reader	Hugh Perks	(01795 890603)
	Weald Cottage, Eastling	
Reader	Caroline Ramshaw	(01795 892088)
	4 Glebe Cottages, Eastling	

Churchwardens

Eastling	Andrew Baxter	(01795 890598)
Administrator	Janet Payne	(01795 890487)
	E mail: eastlingchurch@gmail.com	
Stalisfield with Otterden		
	Jean West	(01233 712270)
Administrator	Sheila Moger	(01233 713212)
	E mail: samhawksnest@aol.com	
Throwley	Vacant	

Midweek Groups

Tuesdays: Study group, 9.30am on 13th & 27th February at Garden Cottage, Eastling. 01795 890368

Wednesdays: Weekly study group, 7.30pm, Pinks Farm Kettle Hill Road, Eastling. 01795 890338

Thursdays: Weekly prayer group, 10.30am, Pinks Farm Kettle Hill Road, Eastling. 01795 890338

Fridays: Weekly study group, 10.45am, New House Farm, Eastling. 01795 890629

You will be welcome at any of our groups.



The Diary of Tammy the Siamese Cat by Audrey Keen

One February day, mild for the time of year, I was tucked into the grass under the hedge in the lane looking for mice when I heard a commotion behind me. My blood froze, my hackles rose and my tail furred up like a flue brush because there, coming towards me at the gallop, was Dennis the demon dog. Dennis was big, very big, and he did not like cats. I rose, back arched, put on my fiercest face and spat. Dennis was feet from me and

he stopped running, but he barked and barked, I was petrified. What to do next? I could spring at him but it might be the worse for me. Dennis was worrying at my back, he was grinning! I turned to face him with my best fight face when I heard a human voice. It was Dennis' owner calling Dennis to heel and he obeyed. My life and reputation were saved. I watched as they walked through the farmyard closing the gate behind them. I collected myself together and hurried home where my owner, sensing my mood of fright, picked me up, stroked my head and placed me on the mat before a warm fire. She hurried to fetch me some tasty biscuits and, once replete, I dozed peacefully and slept a dreamless sleep.

David Winter considers a small prefix...

Our Alongside-Helpers

There are many words in modern English that begin with the prefix 'para', but nowadays undoubtedly the best-known is 'paramedic'. We all know what they do. We've seen them in their green jackets on television, at road traffic accidents and terrorist incidents, kneeling beside the wounded and dying. We've also seen their work in many TV documentaries and dramas, so that their appearance on our door-step when we've dialled 999 is both unsurprising and welcome. Over sixty years ago during my

national service I was, I suppose, for a while a kind of proto-paramedic - I and my colleague Taffy (still a friend) were the emergency medical team on a large RAF station in Berkshire. We had had some training, but nothing like the level of today's paramedics.

The title intrigues me, because the 'para' bit always means something like 'with' or 'alongside'. Think of parallel lines, or parachute. There's an odd example in some of our more traditional hymns, where the Holy Spirit is called the 'Paraclete'.

That's taken from John's Gospel, when Jesus says He would send His followers a Helper - *paracletos*, in Greek. Split into its two parts, it simply means 'alongside helper', which is how for years I have thought of the Holy Spirit. A paramedic is literally someone who's also an 'alongside helper' at moments of great need. So green jackets with PARACLETE on their backs? There's a 'thought for the day'!

Stalisfield Highlife

A New Year's Eve to Remember (maybe!) At the last minute, we decided to organise a village New Year's Eve Party in the Village Hall. Party poppers were bought, leaflets printed and handed out at the Pantomime, and word of mouth spread as far as we could in the short time available.

I'm pleased to say that about 60 people tuned up to celebrate with friends and neighbours. We all brought our own food and drink so that no-one had to serve in the kitchen or work the bar.

With very little notice at all, 2 bands agreed to entertain us for the evening: Same Genes (Andy and Joe McCarron with guest Sax player Rhiannon) and Group Therapy (Andrew, Andy, Clive and Richard), with both bands generously giving their time to help make our first village NYE Party a success and keep it a free event. We really can't thank the bands enough for spending their Christmas break rehearsing so that they could play for us - they were both fantastic and really made the evening very enjoyable for those of us bopping about on the dance floor and tapping our feet in our seats. We held an unplanned collection in aid of MacMillan Cancer Care and raised £149.72, which is a great amount considering lots of people had no cash with them at all.

As ever with these Hall events, we are totally dependent on the willingness of a small army of volunteers who turn up to help set up before or clear up afterwards and this was no exception. Particular thanks are due to Nick who painted the most marvellous London skyline as a backdrop for the bands, Alan and Maggie for supplying Big Ben, various equipment and engineering expertise on the night and to everyone else who lifted, hung, laid, cleared, scrubbed, loaded, swept and even took away rubbish and recycling from the overflowing bins.

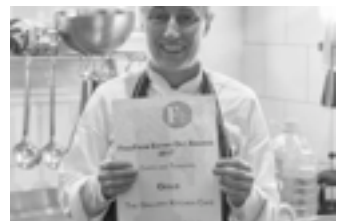
Organising this was a bit of a leap of faith, we didn't know if enough people would come, or what the atmosphere would be like; but thanks to the brilliant bands, the excellent helpers and to the splendid crowd who all turned up ready to enjoy themselves, it really was a fantastic evening with the music finally getting switched off at 2am - much to the disappointment of the remaining party-goers!

This one really was a New Year's Eve to remember (although parts of it are a little fuzzy to some of us!)

Happy New Year to all

GOLD AWARD

Congratulations are due to former Eastling resident Lorraine King. Lorraine is owner and chef at The Gallery Kitchen, Creek



alsacebaking.co.uk

Creative, specialising in gluten free and vegan food and was shortlisted for the 'Free from Eating Out Award' 2017 in the Cafés and teashops category. Happily Gallery Kitchen won a Gold award and this is a tasty snippet from the judges comments: "The cakes were seriously to die for - chocolate coconut and a gingery carrot cake - both very moist, light and extremely tasty which, considering that they were not just gluten free but dairy and egg free too, was quite a baking feat!"



A Concert by Candlelight

Saturday 17th February, 7.30pm

in the Eastern Crypt at Canterbury Cathedral

Songs by Henry Purcell and his English contemporaries, including John Blow, Pelham Humfrey, and George Jeffreys, performed by candlelight in the atmospheric setting of the twelfth-century Crypt.

This will be the debut performance of the Caroline Consort, a group of professional singers and instrumentalists founded and led by David Newsholme, Director of the Girls' Choir and Assistant Organist at Canterbury Cathedral.

Tickets £15 from 01227 787 787 canterburyticketshop.com



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KENT ME13 8PH
TEL: Faversham 532319

Eastling Gardeners' Club

Meets on Thursday, 22nd March at 7.30 p.m. in Eastling Village Hall for a talk by Don Wilks on

Garden Wildlife

Followed by wine and home-made nibbles
Annual subscriptions are due at £8 per person
Non-members pay £4 per meeting.



A Family run business on your door step offering job opportunities to build your career.

We are currently recruiting for casual kitchen wash up

Willingness to work is essential, experience not required, train and earn at the same time in our Family run Pub

Please send CV to info@theploughinnstalisfield.co.uk or pop in to see us with your CV



The Plough Inn, Stalisfield; a family run, independent, award winning pub & restaurant offering an extensive menu of restaurant quality food and pub snacks as well as a large range of unique & locally produced drinks.

February 14th, Valentine's Day - don't forget to book that special table for your loved one!

February 28th, 7pm - Wonderful Women's Wednesday, a great excuse to meet up at the pub for some food and a drink with the ladies. Pre-booking required, please call for details.

March 5th - 11th - British Pie Week, come and try a 'proper' homemade pie.

March 11th - Mothering Sunday - treat mum to lunch at ours and save her the cooking and washing up too!

March 30th - Our Easter tradition of Fish Friday blackboard.

Keep up to date by following us on **Facebook, Twitter or Instagram**
Stalisfield Road, Faversham, Kent, ME13 0HY
Tel: 01795 890 256 theploughinnstalisfield.co.uk
Email: info@theploughinnstalisfield.co.uk

Stalisfield Children's Party

This year Stalisfield Village Hall welcomed 30 children to the Christmas Party. We played games, (some of them very silly!) made Christmas cards and crackers, ate party food and best of all; Father Christmas arrived on his 'sleigh' with a huge sack of presents for the children.

The party proves that many hands make light work, with lots of people offering their services to help make the day special for the children.

We would like to thank everyone who helped organise or who joined in on the day: those who volunteered in the games, helped on craft tables,

in the secret room, serving food, setting up, clearing up, and generally joining in with whatever needed doing - there were lots and lots of you and we are very grateful for your help.

Thanks are also due to Cat for co-ordinating all the mails; Tracey for getting the food all sorted; The Plough for bringing yummy hot food for us all; Fran for painting some beautifully festive faces; Alva for organising Santa's sleigh; Graham and Nina who manage to contact Santa each year for us and persuade him to visit; Tracy who works really hard on the day and manages to herd us all together to make it such a success and of course; most of all to our wonderful children who turn up each year and join in with whatever bizarre games they are presented with.

Thank you everyone for another lovely afternoon
Su, Andy and Joe



Short Mat Bowls



We start on a sad note. With every dwindling numbers we have had to abandon Friday afternoons, we were down to only three players, but we are still continuing **Friday evenings from 7-30pm to 9-30pm**, so come along to Eastling village hall and try and boost our numbers, give it a go!

Back to our league games. We played away at Aylesham when Des, Bryan & Roy lost on their mat, on the last end, Eileen, Chris & John Graham drew, so we came home with 1 point. For our next game Aylesham came to Eastling, Des, Bryan & Roy had a very close game and won by four shots; John Hobbs, Eileen & John Graham lost, I think Aylesham went home happy. Roy continues to play for Kent, he also took part in the Domestic Singles at a new venue in Rainham, where he was runner-up on his mat and goes on to the final later in the year. All the best Roy Piles, 01795 537162

Odd Jobs & Tech Help

Reasonable rates
No job too big or too small
lots of local, satisfied customers
I can help with:
setting up new gadgets,
general odd jobs, dog walking
or anything you need help with
Contact Joe McCarron
07909806015
mccarronjd@yahoo.co.uk

HELP NEEDED

- with Horses and Animals
Weekends only, twice a day.
Ring for details:
01795 890737 / 07707 559341
No experience needed
but must be willing to learn!



Curiosity

A teacher was finishing a lesson on the joys of discovery and the importance of curiosity. 'After all,' she declared, 'Where would we be today if no one had ever been curious?'
One child quietly spoke up from the back of the room. 'In the garden of Eden?'

Windows

She texted her husband from home on a cold winter's morning: 'Windows frozen, won't open.'
He texted back: 'Gently pour some lukewarm water over it.'

She replied five minutes later: 'Computer really screwed up now.'

EASTLING VILLAGE HALL

To book ring Hayley on 01795 890968
www.eastlingvillagehall.co.uk



A beautiful hall in a lovely village location for your wedding, club, sports or meetings.
The large hall has pretty grounds, car parking, meeting rooms and fully equipped facilities for professional or self-catering occasions.

Otterden and Stalisfield W.I.

A group of over 20 ladies gathered together for our 2018 New Year meal at the Carpenters Arms, Eastling, on 10th January. The food, service and ambience were excellent and we all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves, breaking any new year resolutions in the diet department!

The Committee have now formulated the diary of events for 2018 with a Speaker or activity arranged every month, covering a range of topics, so something to suit everyone at some point. There are also ad hoc outings being arranged, at the time of writing, an evening trip to the Marlowe theatre and an afternoon visit to Doddington Place Gardens.

The next Meeting for our group is on Wednesday 7th February at Stalisfield Village Hall, starting at 7.30 p.m. The Speaker we have engaged for the evening is Victoria Golding and her talk is entitled *Around the World in your Garden*. March's Meeting also falls on the 7th of the month and Yvonne Fernando will be covering Meditation, Relaxation and Mindfulness with interactive talk, so two very different subjects.

If you would like to join our group of the WI we usually meet the first Wednesday of each month at Stalisfield Village Hall. Contact

Secretary Leslie Andrews on 01795 890581 or our President Stephanie Culver on 01795 890748. The cost of the Annual Subscription for the WI is £41, starting from the beginning of the year. This is very good value for money as it covers 11 Meetings during the course of a year, which are good social events and excellent for making new acquaintances.

Charing Local History Society Godington House

A brief history and behind the scenes look at the house and gardens - *Nick Sandford*.

Thursday 8th February in the Parish Hall, Station Road, Charing, Kent. The talk starts at 8pm, doors open at 7:30pm and visitors are welcome at £3 each.
www.charinghistory.co.uk

Bluebell Walk Leaders Required



If the Bluebell Walk is to go ahead as usual on 7th May this year, we need someone who is prepared to have a major role in the planning and organisation of the Bluebell walk this year and will assume overall responsibility in subsequent years.

We also need someone who is prepared to manage the Bluebell Bistro and refreshments side of the Bluebell Walk.

Please contact Steve Youle on 01795890368 or steve.youle@btinternet.com if you are able to help, or would like more information about what is entailed.

Painters Forstal with Selling W.I.

Twenty ladies enjoyed a lunch on Jan 16th at the new restaurant The Gunpowder Mill. Although a few teething troubles were noticed at least when the food arrived it was hot and plentiful.



In February we will be entertained by the owner of an alpaca herd which should prove to be very interesting. Most members have re-joined and I think that numbers are up to the 2017 level. New members will be very welcome on 20th at 2pm in Eastling Village Hall. More details as usual from Barbara on 01795 890020 or e-mail tombar72@hotmail.co.uk

February 2018

WEEKLY EVENTS:

Mondays	Zumba	9.30am	Stalisfield Village Hall
Tuesdays	Table Tennis	7 - 9pm	Stalisfield Village Hall
Alternate Wednesdays	Eastling Walkers	10.30am	Call 01795 892194
Thursdays	Fitness Pilates	9.15am	Eastling Village Hall
Thursdays	Zumba	6.30pm	Stalisfield Village Hall
Fridays	Short Mat Bowls	2.30pm & 7.30pm	Eastling Hall

FEBRUARY 2018

7th	Ott/den & S/field W.I.	7.30pm	Stalisfield Village Hall
8th	Charing History Society	8pm	Charing Parish Hall
11th	CaféStyle - church for all	10am	Eastling Village Hall
15th	Deadline for March Good News		Details see below
20th	P/Forstal & Selling WI	2pm	Eastling Village Hall
27th	Magazine Folding	2pm	Pinks Farm, Eastling

CONTACT THE EDITOR

If you would like to advertise in the March 2018 magazine, submit articles or stories for publication, or would like any forthcoming events publicised, send your contribution by 15th February 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