

## 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 with each class participating through singing, acting or reading. It was a very well supported service from so many family and friends. A collection at the end of the service was taken for the Faversham Food Bank. We were delighted that Macknade Fine Foods kindly donated the oranges for the Christingle service.

The children came back to school on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> January. The week beginning 7<sup>th</sup> January saw the school take part in Health Awareness Week. Fit4Kidz worked with the whole school teaching the children a fitness routine that the children could adopt as part of their daily routine. Mrs Mead, one of our parents kindly delivered First Aid Workshops to all the classes. The children learnt about CPR, putting people into the recovery position and how to help someone who is choking. Our thanks go to Mrs Mead for teaching the children such valuable skills. The junior classes had a visit from a nutritionist, Neil De Silva who taught the children about the sugar content in foods and how to improve their diet.


Miss Johnson is our new Sports leader and Oak class have been busy designing a school sports team kit. We look forward to seeing the children representing the school in increasing numbers of sports events under her lead and wearing the very smart new school sports kit.

Eastling Primary School has a wide range of extracurricular clubs including cookery, Makaton, Choir, Newspaper Club, Netball, Musical Theatre and Maths/Computing club. The school has been running a morning club since September from 8am, which provides excellent value for money for parents.

The school has a Facebook Page and Twitter Account, which ensure our events are reaching as many people as possible. In February 28 children will be taking part in Young Voices at the O<sub>2</sub> for the first time. The children have been working very hard with Mrs Hamer to learn all the songs and actions in preparation.

We do have a few spaces available across the school for an immediate start. Any prospective parents looking for a Reception place for September 2019 are welcome to call the office on 01795 890252 to arrange a visit. We look forward to a wonderful 2019 at Eastling Primary School.

Melanie Dale, Headteacher


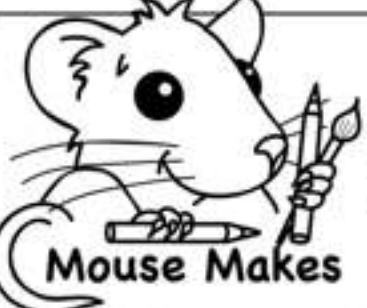


Help feed local people in crisis

**February 2019**

If you have a moment, go to the Faversham Foodbank's Facebook page. Amongst the other entries there are two notes from recipients of Foodbank help, showing how much the gifts from doners are both needed and appreciated. Thank you for your ongoing support.

**Urgent items for February:** Long life fruit juice; tinned sponge puddings; tinned custard; tinned rice pudding; shampoo; shower gel; tin openers.

**WHAT IS LOVE?**  
Cross out every other letter to find the Bible verse, then look it up.  
OHNKEWJLOSHCNP  
CGHUADPBTFEKRA  
FJOMUORD  
VWEURDSKEV  
TOEGNP

**God's love is...**  
Change each letter to the letter before it in the alphabet.  
"Hpe mpwfe uif xpsme tp nvidi  
uibu if hbwf ijt pomz tpo tp  
uibu fwfszpod xip cfmjfwft  
jo ijn nbz opu ejf cvu  
ibwf fufsobm mjgf."  
Kpio 3:16

**How does God show he loves us?**  
Look at this in a mirror!  
su rot evol zih beworls boG  
God showed his love for us  
ew tsrt oz ,bhwz eht  
etih evar tlgim  
miH rguortf  
e:A nrol t

**HOW LONG IS GOD'S LOVE?**  
Cross out all the xxx to find out!  
xxGxixvxxxtxhxaxnxkxsxxtxoxxtxhx  
exxLxoxrxdx,xfxoxrxxHxexxixxsxg  
xoxxoxdx,xxHxixsxsxxtxeaxxdx  
fxaxsxtxlloxvxeexnxndxu  
rxxexsfxoxrxxexvxxexr.  
xpxsaxxlmxx  
1x3x6:1

"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases"  
Lamentations 3:22

Feb 19 © Deborah Noble - all participump.co.uk

## What's On

### WEEKLY EVENTS:

- Tuesdays**  
Table Tennis 7 - 9pm Stalisfield Hall
- Wednesdays (Alternate)**  
Eastling Walkers 10.30am Call 01795 890703
- Thursdays**  
Zumba 6.30pm Stalisfield Hall
- Fridays**  
Yoga 9.30am Eastling Hall  
Short Mat Bowls 7.30pm Eastling Hall

## February 2019

- 6th Otterden & Stalisfield W.I. 7.30pm  
Stalisfield Village Hall
- 10th CaféStyle 10am  
Eastling Village Hall
- 14th Local History Society 8pm  
Charing Parish Hall
- 15th Deadline for March copy of Good News  
goodnewsmagazine@me.com
- 16th Throwley Valentine's Ball  
Faversham Golf Club
- 19th Painters Forstal with Selling W.I. 2.30pm  
Eastling Village Hall
- 26th March Good News Publication
- MARCH**
- 11th Priest in Charge Licensing 7pm  
Throwley Church

### It's Cold Outside

We are looking for unwanted adult size coats, jackets, jumpers, gloves, hats, scarves, blankets, sleeping bags and hot water bottles, for those sleeping rough in Canterbury.

If you have any of these which you would like to donate, please drop them off at 3 Prospect Place, Eastling, ME13 0BQ

Please leave then bagged up in the porch and we will take them to the homeless men and women in Canterbury.

Olive, Marianne and Clay.

## Good News Parish Magazine

### High Downs Parish

Serving the villages of Eastling, Otterden, Stalisfield and Throwley

[ccgi.northdowns.plus.com/goodnews](http://ccgi.northdowns.plus.com/goodnews)

### In Memory of Pam Bell

Good News Treasurer 2007 - 2018

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonour others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.

Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away.

And now these three remain:  
faith, hope and love.

But the greatest of these is love.

1 Corinthians 13

### Faversham & Villages

#### Refugee Solidarity Group

#### Urgent Appeal for Sleeping Bags and Blankets

We have been hearing from volunteers and organisations working directly with refugees on the North French Coast that police have been destroying blankets and sleeping bags to discourage settlement. Many nights night now the temperatures fall below zero, and people are at real risk.

If you have a sleeping bag or blankets in good condition please consider donating it to our group. We will see that they get to where they are needed quickly. They can be left for collection, in a marked box, at the back of Eastling church, which is open during daylight hours, on the back pew next to the Foodbank donations box. Thank you.

More news of this group's progress inside this issue.



### Be my Valentine?

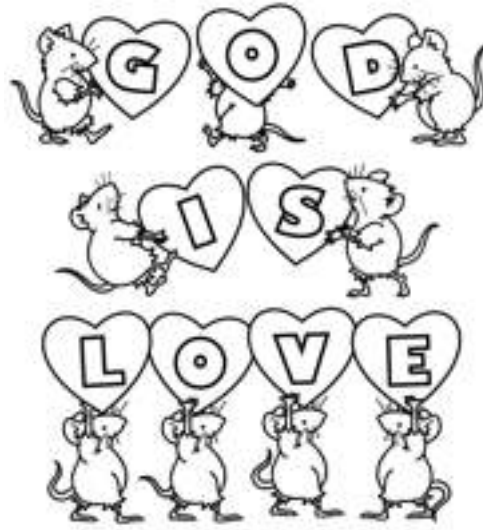
St Valentine's Day falls on 14<sup>th</sup> February and since the 18<sup>th</sup> Century has been associated with the declaration of love, albeit anonymously. Originally this might be through the offering of sweets or flowers, and now more commonly by the sending of an unsigned card.

One suggestion is that St Valentinus was a Roman Christian who performed weddings for soldiers in the Roman army, even though they were not permitted to marry. According to this story, Valentinus was sentenced to death for his offence, but during his imprisonment prayed for the blind daughter of his judge, who miraculously recovered. Before his execution he left her a note, which he signed 'Your Valentine.'

All of us long to know that we are loved by someone, but declaring our love to another is always a risky business since we may be rejected. They may consider us not attractive enough, or unsuitable in any number of other ways. The pain of unrequited love is indeed great, and so many of us hold back because of the fear of rejection.

One thing we can be sure of, however, is that we are loved by God. He loves us because He made us, and likes us as we are. He loves us because He gave His Son to die for us, and thought we were worthy of such a sacrifice. Here is One who knows everything about us and loves us just the same. His love is unchanging and unending and we need never fear His rejection.

Here is the best declaration of love ever made. God says to you, "I have loved you with an everlasting love (Jeremiah 31:3)



### High Downs Parish Future Ministry – Rev Canon Dr Steve Lillicrap to be installed as our Priest-in-Charge

Monday 11th March , 7pm in Throwley Church

When Canon Donald Lawton was the Priest-in-Charge for the High Downs Benefice it was on a House for Duty part time basis. Donald provided part time ministry in return for being provided with a fully funded house (The Eastling Rectory in Newnham Lane). Since Donald left us the Church of England has decided that House for Duty is no longer viable and that in future its equivalent is a fully funded house plus a minimum of a 20% stipend. This would mean that to recruit a new part time priest would cost at least an additional £17,123 per annum between Eastling, Stalisfield and Throwley. The High Downs Parish Church Council and the Eastling, Stalisfield and Throwley District Church Councils all agreed that this was unaffordable, and therefore we need to consider other options.

Canon Dr Steve Lillicrap, the Area Dean of the Ospringe Deanery, proposed that High Downs Parish became affiliated with the Kingsdown and Creekside Parish (Teynham, Oare, Norton, Lynsted, Doddington, Newnham and Wychling) sharing ministry with them. High Downs Parish would for

the time being remain a separate parish entity under Ecclesiastical Law. The proposal is that Steve Lillicrap becomes our Priest-in-Charge, providing leadership, chairing the High Downs PCC meetings and taking some of the services in the High Downs churches. The Rev Richard Birch has retired as a House-for-Duty part-time priest based in Doddington, and it is proposed that a replacement House plus 20% stipend part-time priest is recruited to be shared between Kingsdown and Creekside and High Downs Parish and probably located in the Eastling Rectory. This will make the Doddington Vicarage available to house a curate that Steve Lillicrap is keen to support. This proposal has been agreed by the High Downs Parish Church Council and the Eastling, Stalisfield and Throwley District Church Councils and a special church service to licence Steve Lillicrap as the Priest-in-charge of High Downs Parish will take place on Monday 11th March at 7pm in Throwley Church.

Steve Youle, Lay Chair for High Downs Parish

### Message from your County Councillor - December 2018

I am now eagerly looking forward to my "You Decide" funding event to be held at Teynham Village Hall on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> February (details below), when all Swale East residents are welcome to help decide where the money is spent.

December started very busy, the first week included an Informal Cabinet Meeting, a meeting of the Sitting-bourne Town Centre Regeneration Steering Group, a member workshop on Swale's air quality, a full day of Home to School Transport Appeal Hearings at County Hall, a joint briefing for Swale and Canterbury County Members on school attainment and future place provision, Local Action Group Meeting to allocate Grant Funding to rural businesses and finally I chaired the Kent Environment Annual Awards held this year at Broome Park, Barham. Swale organisations as well as some Swale Borough Council Officers and Departments were prominent amongst those recognised.

Later in the month were a Full Meeting of Kent County Council, a Swale Borough Council Cabinet meeting and the AGM of Thames Gateway Kent Partnership where I was re-elected as Vice Chairman. There was another Informal meeting of Swale's Cabinet, a meeting with Officers at County Hall to discuss the provision of youth services in Swale especially the Swale East Rural area which I represent. This is a matter where the delivery of the contract gives me serious concerns. I also attended a site

meeting at South Street, Boughton to review the Boundaries of the Conservation Area together with representatives of both the Parish Council and the Neighbourhood Plan Committee.

During the month of December I attended Parish Council meetings at Selling, Graveney, Sheldwich, Newnham and Lynsted. I also facilitated a site meeting at Bapchild with representatives of the Parish Council together with the Kent County Council Footpaths Officer to discuss the duration of any temporary footpath closures associated with the Stone's Farm development.

**Andrew Bowles**  
abjs@btinternet.com 07778 629 879

#### Footnote

The "You Decide" event is to allocate my Local Member Grant monies in Swale East Division. This will be held at Teynham Village Hall on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> February. Bill Ronan who has helped to organise in previous years has now left KCC. The Officer who has taken on aiding Swale Members with their Grants is Deborah Harrison. If any Parish Council, Community Group, Sports Club, etc. which serve Swale East residents require an application form she can be contacted at [deborah.harrison2@kent.gov.uk](mailto:deborah.harrison2@kent.gov.uk). Please do not omit the '2' as there are two Deborah Harrisons employed at KCC.

Tim Lenton pays tribute to Buddy Holly and friends...

#### 'The day the music died'

The day the music died – according to Don McLean in his epic song American Pie – was 60 years ago, on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 1959, when rock-

and-roll star Buddy Holly died in a plane crash in Iowa. With him were two other singers, Ritchie Valens and The Big Bopper.

Charles Hardin (Buddy) Holly, who was 22 when he died, was born in Lubbock, Texas, at the heart of America's Bible Belt, and he and his family were closely associated with the Tabernacle Baptist Church there, though he himself was seen as something of a rebel.

His style was initially influenced by gospel and country music, and he formed groups with friends from his high school. After opening for Elvis Presley in 1955, he shifted to rock and roll. With his new band, The Crickets, he achieved international success with songs such as *That'll be the Day*.

Immensely talented, he wrote, recorded and produced his own material and is often thought of as the man who defined the traditional rock-and-roll line-up of two guitars, bass and drums. He was a big influence on such major artistes as Bob Dylan, the Beatles, the Rolling Stones and Eric Clapton and was one of the first artistes inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame



### Eastling Neighbourhood Watch

Village Warden  
07794 010 394  
or 01795 890848

Police 101 Emergency 999

No doubt you have seen the flocks of sheep in the fields with their young lambs and must now emphasise the importance of keeping your dogs on a lead in the vicinity, also making sure that your dogs cannot escape out of your property to create carnage amongst the sheep. As said before the farmer has the authority to shoot any animal attacking or causing nuisance to their sheep and the owner may also face criminal charges.

Whilst there has not been too many problems in our area, please watch out for the online fraudsters also callers offering their services on the cheap - they are around.

Sadly we have lost another stalwart in the village, Pam Bell passed away recently. Pam endured her health problems with great fortitude for many years but was always cheerful and resolute, it was a pleasure to be able to call her a friend

Have a good month and take care.

Alan



### Prayer Pointers

#### February 2019



**Sundays** - Lord Jesus, light of the nations and glory of Israel, make your home among us.

**Mondays** - Go before us, Lord, in all we do and guide us with your continual help.

**Tuesdays** - Lord Jesus, place your healing touch on all who are unwell this day.

**Wednesdays** - Almighty God, may we give respect for every person and reverence for all creation.

**Thursdays** - Holy God, from the disorder of our sinful lives, set straight our hearts.

**Fridays** - Merciful God, look with mercy on those fleeing from danger, homelessness and hunger.

**Saturdays** - Lord Jesus, as you sent out your disciples, strengthen us to further Your work in our villages today.

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## Services in our Churches

### 3rd February Candlemas

1 Corinthians 13. 1-13 , Luke 4. 22 - 30

Eastling 10 am Morning Prayer (BCP)

*Led by Norman Fowler*

### 10th February 4th Sunday before Lent

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

Eastling 10 am CaféStyle in the Village Hall

Throwley 10 am Morning Prayer (BCP)

*Led by Caroline Ramshaw*

### 17th February 3rd Sunday before Lent

1 Corinthians 15. 12-20, Luke 6. 17-26

Stalisfield 10 am Holy Communion (CW)

*Celebrant - Revd. Canon Reg Humphriss*

### 24th February 2nd Sunday before Lent

Revelation 4, Luke 8. 22-25

Eastling 8am Holy Communion (BCP)

*Celebrant - tba*

Throwley 10am Holy Communion (BCP)

*Celebrant - Revd. Thomas Collett-White*

### 3rd March Sunday before Lent

2 Corinthians. 3.12- 4.2, Luke 9. 26 - 36 [37-43a]

Eastling 10 am Morning Prayer (BCP)

*Led by Caroline Ramshaw*

With the start of Lent fast approaching (6th March) here are a couple of possible guides to use.

#### At Home in Lent - an exploration of Lent through 46 objects by Gordon Giles, BRF, £8.99

The writer spends each week in a different room gleaning spiritual lessons from everyday household objects. As a result, you may discover that finding God in the normal pattern of life - even in the mundane - transforms how you approach each day. Running as a thread through it all are the seven R's of Lent: regret, repentance, resolution, recognition, reconciliation, renewal and resurrection.

#### Reconciliation: the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book 2019 by Dr Muthurai Swamy, SPCK, £9.99

What is the role that ordinary people play in conflict and division - and reconciliation? This book will help you to begin a ministry bequeathed to us by Christ Himself. It calls for stronger relationships among church members; building connections with different denominations, as well as maintaining open attitudes towards those of other religions and ideologies. The 40 meditations consider impediments to reconciliation, risking the self, the benefits of humility, self-criticism, radical openness and peace with justice. *Reconciliation* is suitable for use at weekly gatherings or for everyday devotion during Lent

## High Downs Parish

Parish Office Email: eastlingchurch@gmail.com  
facebook.com/highdownsbenevice

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  
E mail: eastlingchurch@gmail.com

**Stalisfield with Otterden**  
Jean West (01233 712270)

**Administrator** Sheila Moger (01233 713212)  
E mail: samhawksnest@aol.com

**Throwley** Contact: Maggie Scutt (01795890312)  
or Alison Young (01795 890213)

### Midweek Groups

**Tuesdays:** Study group, 12th & 26th February, 9.30am  
at Garden Cottage, Eastling. 01795 890368

**Wednesdays:** Study group, weekly, 7.30pm, 18 Beech  
Close, Faversham. 01795 890338

**Thursdays:** Prayer group, weekly, 10.30am, Pinks Farm  
Kettle Hill Road, Eastling. 01795 890338

**Fridays:** Study group, weekly, 10.45am, New House Farm,  
Eastling. 01795 890629

*You will be welcome at any of our groups.*

#### CONTACT THE GOOD NEWS EDITOR

If you would like to advertise in the March 2019 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  
ccgi.northdowns.plus.com/goodnews**

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*Rev Paul Hardingham considers the tensions that Brexit has caused.*

### Love Despite Brexit?

'Should I stay or should I go?' (The Clash). Since the Referendum in June 2016, we have seen families, our nation and Parliament divided by different opinions over Europe. But 'at the heart of the Christian message is Jesus' command to love our neighbour. This includes those with whom we agree and disagree: at home, in Europe and further afield.' (CofE Bishops, December 2018).

As we celebrate St Valentine's Day this month, how can we conduct this debate in a loving way? The Apostle Peter reminds us: 'Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honour the emperor.' (1 Peter 2:17).

*Respect everyone:* However much we may disagree with another people's perspective, we should respect them as people. This applies even if they don't respect our views!

*Love the church:* Among the family of believers there should be an even greater

respect for each other! The way we treat each other not only reveals the depth of our love; it will also cause people to glorify God and want to be part of the family.

*Fear God:* We must demonstrate our allegiance to God by putting Him first and following His leading. Of course, this doesn't stop Christians from having different opinions to each other.

*Honour those in authority:* We are called to honour those who are in authority over us 'for the Lord's sake' (13). Even when we disagree with their decisions and actions, we should keep our respect and not speak ill of them.

Peter is calling us to live with the freedom to make up our own mind on Europe, while listening to what others say (16). 'A Christian is a perfectly free lord of all, subject to none. A Christian is a perfectly dutiful servant of all, subject to all.' (Martin Luther)



Nature - to me

by Audrey Keen

As the sun is friend to me  
So is the wind and rain,  
The misty blue of fog  
And hail's pain.  
That glassy ice and white  
Whose loveliness disturbs me so,  
The cold, becoming brilliance  
Of winter snow.  
The busy breeze  
Of yet another summertide,  
Or hungry clouds of grey  
That bold storms hide behind,  
The stillness  
That engulfs this land today  
These things are friend to me  
I say.

### Faversham & Villages Refugee Solidarity Group

The Faversham & Villages Refugee Solidarity Group was set up in October 2015 to find ways for local people to support refugees fleeing war and persecution, some living in appalling conditions less than 30 miles from Kent's shores.

Six local residents met initially in the Eastling Village Hall to discuss what we could do to support vulnerable refugees. We agreed that fundraising, practical help, and increasing public awareness should form the core of our activities. As our numbers grew, we moved our monthly meetings to Faversham where many of our new members were based.

In the three years since our inception the group has held fundraising events including auctions, musical evenings, film showings and a 'good clothes' sale event, raising in excess of £20,000. These activities have been the result of the many hours put in by group members who bring a wide range of skills, creativity, commitment and dedication. This has given the group the ability to respond quickly to requests from those working directly with refugees for much needed, targeted funding. We have a stall in Faversham Market Place, usually the first Tuesday in the month, where we discuss issues relating to refugees, migrants and asylum seekers. These are complex and sometimes contentious issues and, despite some understandable concerns, most of the people we meet are generally sympathetic, compassionate and interested in what the group are doing. We share contact information, literature, meeting dates and future fundraising efforts.

We are in touch with other refugee support groups and volunteers working with refugees in Europe. Some of our group have visited the camps on the French coast. When we began, we were moved by the awful conditions in the large camp near Calais known as 'The Jungle'. Now demolished, there are still many thousands of refugees living 'rough' and in inhumane conditions along the Calais Dunkerque coast. They experience uncertainty, the worst of the weather, very little contact with their families and harassment from the French Police (who in some cases ruin sleeping bags and blankets to discourage them settling) and the authorities. Some put their lives at great risk by attempting to cross the channel drawn by the hope of uniting with family or the opportunity for a better, safer life.

The Faversham & Villages Refugee Solidarity Group work to support refugees fleeing from war, intolerance and persecution from anywhere in the world. We have successfully lobbied Swale Borough Council regarding their commitment to house ten refugee families within two years, and we are encouraged that this has already been surpassed.

Our group's meetings are the first Tuesday of the month, next is on Tuesday, February 5th, 7 p.m. at the Guildhall in Faversham Market Square. You can also access our website at Faversham and Villages Refugee Solidarity Group via [change.org](http://change.org). and join our facebook page.

Greg Gibbins

### SPRING ART & CRAFT EXHIBITION & SALE 2019 Rotary Club of the Weald of Kent

Our next Art & Craft Exhibition & Sale will be held on Saturday 13 April from 11.00 am to 6.00 pm and on Sunday 14 April from 10.00 am to 5.00 pm in the **Refectory Hall, Sutton Valence School. ME17 3HL**

**Exhibits should be delivered between 9.00am and 10.00am on Saturday morning, and unsold work to be collected on Sunday between 6 and 6.30pm.**

As before, there will be a small charge for exhibiting (see entry form) and a commission of **20%** will be taken on all hung work and browser work sales. If you wish to exhibit unframed works, these will be grouped together in browser units. **Details of entry are on the enclosed Entry Form.**

Craft tables will be available at a fee of £10 per table. There will be **no** commission taken on craft sales. There will be an admission charge of £1 for non-exhibitors, which includes a catalogue and re-entry on Sunday. Refreshments will be available, if required, at an additional cost. Our aim, as always, is to encourage local artists. All proceeds will be donated to our Club's Rotary Charities. For further information please contact Bob Taylor (01233 756379). More information can be obtained on the club's web site: [www. wealdofkentrotary.org.uk](http://www.wealdofkentrotary.org.uk) and click on Art Show.



## What a party!

For the second year running we decided to offer a free party in the village hall for New Year's Eve and happily, about 60 people turned up to celebrate with family, friends and neighbours. We all brought our own food and drink so that no-one had to serve in the kitchen. Food around the hall ranged from a few crisps and nibbles to full blown banquets - You know who you are :-)

It is prohibitively expensive to hire live entertainment for New Year's Eve, but once again 2 fantastic bands generously agreed to give their time so allowing us to keep the event free of charge for the second year running. HUGE thanks go to Same Genes (Andy and Joe McCarron) and Group Therapy (Andrew, Andy, Clive and Richard). They spent their Christmas break rehearsing so that they could play for us and both bands were absolutely fantastic making the evening very enjoyable for everyone freaking out on the dance-floor! It was a brilliant night from the first strum of guitar to the

last note played, and the dance floor remained packed from start to finish - the true measure of a good band! Well done all of you!!

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 for his Big Ben backdrop; 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, washed up, swept and even took away rubbish and recycling from the overflowing bins. You were all fantastic and very appreciated.

This was a great party because of the brilliant bands, the excellent helpers and every member of the splendid crowd who all turned up ready to enjoy themselves.

With the music finally switching off around 2am it really was a night to remember .....or not - depending on your Prosecco levels!

Happy New Year to all!



## Otterden and Stalisfield W.I.

For our first get together in the new year, a dozen of us had an informal visit to the 'More Tea Vicar' tea rooms at Challock. It was lovely to catch up with everyone and brightened up a wet, dreary January afternoon. We consumed a very welcome afternoon tea that was more than we could eat, some of us took home doggie bags!

Our first Meeting of the year at Stalisfield Village Hall on Wednesday 6th February at 7.30 pm, is entitled 'Mental Health Matters', which is in line with a WI Resolution. Yvonne Fernando, who practices at

Charing Surgery, will be giving us hints and tips to help us stay in good mental health and how to deal with stress and depression that is so often a problem at this time of year. The evening will be completed with social time with tea and cakes of course.

If you wish to join our group, you are more than welcome to come along as a guest at a cost of only £2, to try us out. We meet the first Wednesday of each month, contact either Ellie Cameron on 01795 892016 or Helen Brooks on 07477 580727.



## Charing & District Local History Society

Thursday 14th February,  
8pm in Charing Parish Hall

### William the Conqueror, Justified Invader? by James Dickinson,

We all know that William invaded England in 1066. What is less well known is that William may have had a justified claim to the English throne, this talk outlines the basis of this interesting claim. It will also cover the invasion, the battle of Hastings and the advance on London and deal briefly with William's rule and the circumstances of his death.

Doors open at 7.30pm, Visitors pay £3

### Efficient

First lady: *My husband is an efficiency expert in a large office.*

Second lady: *What does he do?*

First lady: *Well, if we women did it, they'd call it nagging.*

## Short Mat Bowls

Nothing on TV?

Come and test your skill at bowling - every Friday in Eastling village hall, 7.30 - 9.30pm.

Contact Roy on 01795 537162, we are a very friendly bunch.



### Come and give it a try.

Our competition teams have not enjoyed a good start to the new year. Both teams lost at Swalecliffe on 4th January but on 11th, at home to Sturry, Des, Bryan and Roy won a convincing 4 points. 15th January saw us away to Sturry with Des, Bryan & Roy finding form half way through the game and winning with 2 points, plus three raffle prizes. So even though we have mixed fortunes at the bowls, we can win raffles.

Coming up, we play on 25th January, top of the table Herne Bay at Home, then on 28th away to them.

Do not forget village people, we are at the Village Hall every Friday 7-30 to 9-30. If you do not use us you will lose us, and no income for the village hall.



## Painters Forstal with Selling WI

Last month 16 members enjoyed a lunch at the Carriage Restaurant at the railway inn. Highly recommended.

On 19th February, 2pm in Eastling Village Hall, we will be entertained by Wendy Kennett, thanks to Eileen. Wendy will be talking about the seasons of Autumn and Winter in Lapland.

In March we will have a talk by the Emergency Response Team who ferry our blood to those who need it. A very worthwhile job, so we hope as many people as possible will be with us on March 19th. Visitors will be very welcome to join us.

More details as usual from the president of our branch Barbara on 01795890020 or e-mail [tombar72@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:tombar72@hotmail.co.uk)

### A Big Thank You

Thank you to everyone for the donations to Demelza Hospice Care for Children in memory of dear Keith. The grand total came to £1,060.00. Best wishes to you all for 2019. God bless, Eileen Neaves, Pauline, Martin and families.



St Mary's Church presents...

**CAFESTYLE**  
Sunday 10th 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

**The Plough Inn** **The Plough Inn, Stalisfield;** great food and drink from the pub on your doorstep.

**Our NEW bedrooms are now ready** ask us to look around or visit our website for more details.

**Sunday 3rd February - Yorkshire Pudding Day**  
Enjoy a Yorkie with every roast!

**Thursday 14th February - Valentine's Night**  
Book your table early to avoid disappointment

**Tuesday 5th March - Shrove Tuesday**  
Pancakes galore - free pancake for all children under 10

**4th - 10th March - British Pie Week**  
Need we say more?

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](http://theploughinnstalisfield.co.uk)  
Email: [info@theploughinnstalisfield.co.uk](mailto:info@theploughinnstalisfield.co.uk)

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[www.eastlingvillagehall.co.uk](http://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.

**The Plough Inn** A Family run business on your door step offering job opportunities to build your career.

**We are currently recruiting for casual team members - restaurant, bar, kitchen & housekeeping for our NEW bedrooms**

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

Please send your details to [info@theploughinnstalisfield.co.uk](mailto:info@theploughinnstalisfield.co.uk) or pop in to see us with your details or CV