

1st Otterden & Stalisfield W.I. Stalisfield Village Hall

7.30pm

4th & 5th Harvest Flower Festival Eastling Church

5th Harvest Thanksgiving

Eastling Church 10.30am

8th Egerton Arts Society

Egerton Millennium Hall 2.30pm

8th Youth Group

Stalisfield Village Hall 7 - 8.30pm

9th Stalisfield Crib league begins

The Plough 7.30pm

9th History Society meeting

Charing Parish Hall 7.30 for 8pm

12th Harvest Thanksgiving

Stalisfield Church 10.30am

13th & 27th Faversham Foodbank
Eastling Village Hall 1.30 - 3.30pm

15th Mid-week Holy Communion

Wychling Church 11am

16th Harvest Auction

Carpenters Arms 7 for 7.30pm

18th Craft Fair

Stalisfield Village Hall 1.30 - 4pm

20th Copy deadline for November 2025

Good News: goodnewsmagazine@me.com

23rd Stalisfield Parish Council

Stalisfield Village Hall 7.30pm

NOVEMBER 2nd All Souls Service Stalisfield Church 4pm

ansheid Church

## Good News Parish Magazine

for High Downs Parish

Serving the villages of Eastling, Otterden, Stalisfield and Throwley

www.goodnews.rf.gd



# Flower Festival For Harvest

St. Mary, Eastling

Saturday 4th October 11am - 5pm Sunday 5th October 11.30am - 5pm

Delicious homemade cakes and teas served 2pm - 5pm

Free entry but donations will go to St. Mary's church funds.

#### Eastling Harvest Thanksgiving Sunday 5th October

Communion Service at 10.30am With refreshments after the service. Everyone Welcome

#### Stalisfield Harvest Thanksgiving Sunday 12th October

Family Service at 10.30am Refreshments after the service. Everyone Welcome





# HARVEST AUCTION at the CARPENTERS ARMS

Thursday 16th October, 7pm for 7.3opm start. See centre pages for more information.

## St. Mary's Church Stalisfield

#### **Service for All Souls**

Sunday 2nd November, 4pm

Join with others in quiet remembrance of loved ones we see no longer



#### THROWLEY VILLAGE PAST & PRESENT

A new book about this fascinating village. See centre pages for more information.

#### Dear friends

I've been noticing lately the number of times I use the word 'hope'. My messages and emails are full of it!

'Hope you're well?' 'I hope you have a good holiday' 'I hope the weather holds' 'Hope to see you soon' and so on. I use that word 'hope' so often; the same word for small things and also for enormous things 'I hope Russia stops bombing Ukraine', 'I hope we can reduce greenhouse gases' What do we actually mean when we say 'I hope?' Is hope just wishful thinking which can feel rather pathetic, or is it a persistent cheery optimism which can be really irritating!? In the Bible, the writer Paul says: 'May the God of hope fill

you with all joy and peace by your faith in him, until by the power of the Holy Spirit, you overflow with hope' (Romans 15:13)

And the spirituality writer Christopher Chapman says hope is 'the creative, purposeful presence of God within 'what is' It is inspired vision and imagination. It is a verb as much as a feeling – 'I hope' as an action'

When we think of hope as action it can become something real and tangible. It is often borne out of great adversity and against the backdrop of a darkening world. Examples through history abound but here are a few: the beautiful playground and library built at the Southport Primary School whose two small girls were killed last year demonstrates hope in action. Another example is the orphaned children in World War 2 refugee camps who were traumatised by fear of starvation and were given a piece of bread to sleep with at night to remind them that they had eaten that day and would be able to eat again tomorrow - hope in action. Our own group of churches runs GrowBaby, a baby bank for children from 0-5 which is open monthly at Lynsted Church. The team of volunteers are able to gift, completely free of charge, clothing and nappies etc which have all been donated. Last month GrowBaby supported 30 families amongst whom there were some people in

truly desperate need.
Again, this is hope in action, looking at the needs of the most vulnerable people in our communities and bringing them good news.

Hope in action is often found on the margins of life, quietly bubbling away until it overflows into an unstoppable force for good. Hope in action formed the earthly ministry of Jesus and it remains Christ's call to every age. If we don't name ourselves as Christian or even as someone who is particularly hopeful, let's not forget that God has a history of using unlikely people and unlikely places to bring in the good news! The invitation and challenge to us in this darkening world is to nurture through faith, the flickering flame of hope in our hearts and to look for where we could share that light of hope as individuals and as communities of faith.

With love & light and the blessings of Christ Lissie Bayford Authorised Lay Minister & Spiritual Director

#### Gracious God, we live in Hope and pray for ...

Sundays - Young Christians standing firm in their faith.

Mondays - A peaceful end to the wars raging across our world.

**Tuesdays** - Greater respect for the resources you give us on our planet.

Wednesdays - All who are hungry, homeless or persecuted.

**Thursdays** - Those who give their time and money to help others.

Fridays - All who are in need of your healing touch.

**Saturdays** - Your Holy Spirit to light a flame in our hearts and unveil your Word to all we love.

# Eastling Church Flower Rota



October 4th/5th Harvest Flower Festival 19th & 19th - Marion & Julia B

26th - Suzie

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

Our doughty band of volunteers kicked things off early setting up gazebos and stalls, and raising bunting on the green. Unlike last year, the rain stayed off for the whole day and we even had intermittent sunshine.

There had been a tremendous response to our calls for donations, so the stalls were laden with goodies. We didn't let the hosepipe ban spoil our fun ... some new attractions



#### This year's Stalisfield Fête was an enormous success.

were added to our old favourites, ranging from badge making to a fire engine tour and a tank tour.

Whilst proud pooches paraded at the dog show, ice-creams, chocolate, burgers, sausages and tea and cake were all consumed by their human staff. The fête closed with lots of children's races and a couple of tank rides.

We had a lot of fun and raised a fantastic sum for the Village Hall - The WI even sold out of cakes for the first time ever! ... What more could we have asked for!

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed.

#### GEORGIA STIRLING LORD

Child, Young Person & Family Psychotherapist



07930 318379 georgia@stirlinglord.com Based in Wye, Kent





#### Bespoke Interiors

Reupholstery ~ Curtains ~ Blinds ~ Soft Furnishings ~ Headboards Footstools ~ Ottomans ~ Window Seats ~ Poles ~ Tracks ~ Braids ~ Trims Contact us now for a friendly, no obligation discussion t. 07966 968503 e. nt interiors2025@outlook.com Find us on Instagram & Facebook



#### Your Local Village Chimney Sweep

Professional & Reliable Stoves & Open Fires Camera Inspections & Re ropes

Member of the Institute of Chimney Sweeps Fully Insured, Certificates issued after every sweep

2 Kettle Hill Eastling Kent ME13 0BB

Call Mat - 07748 912530 01795 890904



info@northdownsgas.co.uk **©** 07969 084 665



# **Chimney Guy**

**National Association of Chimney Sweeps** 

Chimney/Flue Sweeping **CCTV Surveys - competitive rates** 



01795 892119

coligi30@gmail.com Email:

NACS Qualified / Fully Insured / Certificates Issued



Bespoke Later Life Support

Website: www.nplh.uk Email: info@nplh.uk

01795 597983

#### **Exceptional quality** companionship and care at home



Local area service Personalised approach Dementia expertise **Professionally trained** 

Been putting off writing or updating your Will? Next month the charity Will Aid's 'Make a Will Month' will offer an opportunity to put your affairs in order, secure your loved one's future and give to charities helping those in need. Participating solicitors are inviting people to contact them to book appointments for November, when they will prepare basic Wills without charging their normal fee. All that they will ask in return is that clients consider making a voluntary donation to Will Aid.

#### Time to make your Will?

The suggested donation is just £120 for a single Will, or £200 for a pair of mirror Wills.

The money raised is shared by nine UK charities: namely ActionAid, Age UK, British Red Cross, Christian Aid, Crisis, NSPCC, SCIAF (Scotland) and Trocaire (N. Ireland).

As many as half of all UK adults in the UK don't have a Will. They have not made any legally valid provision for what they would like

to happen after their death. This can lead to a great deal of stress and uncertainty, as well as financial hardship, for those left behind. Even if you have a Will, it is important to keep it up to date. Experts recommend routinely reviewing a Will every three to five years, and making a new Will as soon as significant family changes occur.

More details at https:// www.willaid.org.uk/register. Please book early as solicitors tend to fill their appointments very quickly.



- Emergency locksmith services
- UPVC window & door repair specialist
- Lock changes and security upgrades
- Emergency burglary repairs Misted window replacement
- . Doors and windows that won't open or close

Contact us today for a free no obligation quote



T: 01622 535460 M mike.wright@lockfit.co.uk









## Paul **TANN**

All aspects of groundwork undertaken Driveway renovation including Resin Patio's and Paving

**Foundations** 

Drainage

Fencing

Stonework

No obligation free estimates Marshall's approved contractor

Call t: 01795 890292 m: 07873 965231

paultann.co.uk 👩 paultannltd





RELIABLE & PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AT REALISTIC PRICES BY CERTIFIED ENGINEERS **WE COME TO YOU!** 

JKF Computer Services, Est 2000

- PC Repairs, Upgrades & Rebuilds
- Virus Detection and Removal
- PC's Built To Your Specification
- On- Site or Workshop Repairs
- Computer Installation & Maintenance
- Spyware Detection & Removal
- Collect and Return Service as needed
- Data Recovery and Backup
- Hardware & Software Troubleshooting Small Business or Home Networks

CALL US ON 01795 531623 or 01227 290131 / Mobile 07880 602823

## **Tutoring**

Kent Test Preparation

Primary Key Stage 1 and 2 Booster sessions

Call: Hannah 07989 253555 Email: h.uglow@googlemail.com





01227 751130 Showroom Open Mon-Sat 9am-5pm

We specialise in the design, supply and installation of complete kitchens, bedrooms and bathrooms. Our fully managed service includes all the skilled trades right through to

final decorating. Discover more at

www.roots.uk

Vine Farm, Boughton-under-Blean, Faversham, ME13 9AB

#### Otterden & Stalisfield W.I.

Otterden & Stalisfield W.I. welcomed Andy Thomas who came along to talk to us on the subject of 'Lewes Bonfire Night Capital of the World'. He is an excellent, professional Speaker outlining interesting facts on the town of Lewes, surrounded by hills built into the slopes either side of the Ouse Valley. An ancient, beautiful area, it



includes Anne of Cleves House, the Castle and Barbican House Museum to name but a couple of places worth visiting. The main part of the talk covered the annual Bonfire on 5th November. There are 7 Societies involved, attracting large crowds each year as it is

such a spectacular event, started in 1863 and televised every year. Andy illustrated the evening with his wonderful slides that he had taken over a number of years. It certainly motivated some of us to visit the area.

The outing for September was to Lenham, with a short walking tour by historian Henny Shotter, who visited us at the end of 2024. Henry supplied facts of Lenham, buildings that we just walk past when shopping. It was fascinating to hear that there were 3 Saxon Warriors, 2 men and a woman with sword and shield, buried under the Warrior Pharmacy, hence its name. The mounting steps outside the church are a listed building and the remnant of the Workhouse Mortuary can still be located just off The Square on Faversham Road, amongst many other interesting facts.

On the 18th October we are holding our Craft Fair at Stalisfield Village Hall from 13.30 to 16.00. It is free admission with a hall full of crafts and produce to purchase, particularly with Christmas approaching. Of course there will be refreshments provided by our W.I. Group as well.

Going into October, the Meeting on Wednesday 1st, we will be hosting Jan Napper from Simply Chocolate, Whitstable, who will bе giving u s demonstration with tasters! Please join us at Stalisfield Village Hall, ME13 OHY at 7.30 p.m. Guests are always welcome at a cost of £5 including homemade refreshments. Contact our President Helen Brooks on 07477 580727 or Secretary Ellie Cameron on 07775 649337.

# DISCOVER THE HISTORY OF THROWLEY VILLAGE PAST & PRESENT



Whether you're a life long resident, new to the parish, or your ancestors came from Throwley, this book is a treasure trove of the people, places and events that shaped the village for over 500 years.

Only £10 on collection or £11.80 including P&P. All proceeds will go to the Friends of Throwley Church to help them create a village community space in the village church.Email: friendsofthrowley@gmail.com to order your copy.







**Wanted** 

Stalisfield Crib League starts again on THURSDAY 9th October. We would welcome new players.

We meet at the Plough on alternate Thursdays at 7.30 pm throughout the winter with a break over Christmas.

Contact Jayne for further details: 07951 411337





#### **Harvest Auction** at the Carpenters Arms

Thursday 16th October: 7pm for 7.30pm start

Please drop off any non-perishable auction items at the pub in the week before the event, during opening hours. Perishable items can be dropped off on the day.

Please bring some cash, particularly pound coins as the auctioneer might need to fine you

All proceeds to go to charities/good causes with a local connection (to be decided)

Don't miss this fun evening!



#### THE ARTS SOCIETY EGERTON

Wednesday 8th October at 2.30pm in Egerton Millennium Hall, Elm Close TN27 9DS

King and Collector- Henry VIII and the Art of **Kingship** 

Our lecturer Siobhan Clarke has worked for Historic Royal Palaces for 20 years.

Visitors are always very welcome at £8 (just turn up and pay on the door), refunded if you join. Membership costs £45 for 10 lectures. For further information please contact Christine Willis, our Membership Secretary via cmwillis75@gmail.com or 01233 756377.

Visit our website www.theartssocietyegerton.org.uk



Image provided by lecturer

#### William Harrison of Harrietsham - Clipper Ship Captain

The story of William Harrison born in a village in Kent in 1833 who went to sea aged 17 and became a master mariner aged 27. The talk covers the research done to uncover William's incredible but tragic

story including his early life, his family and his career and voyages at sea. In doing so the talk highlights the many different ways in which anyone interested can unearth similar stories using archives and records including those available online.

Speaker: Stuart Bligh

Thursday 9th October 2025 in the Parish Hall, Charing Doors open at 7.30pm, Talk starts prompt at 8pm



#### CHARING AND DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Member free - Guests £3. Membership from £10/year



#### Together in Boots

Join us for a monthly mindful walk through woodland

Leaving Doddington Church at 2pm and returning for tea & cake at 2.45pm

Humans and well-behaved dogs all welcome



On Fridays 26th September, 24th October, 28th November,

Enquiries to Lissie on 07790 287878 lissie1710@gmail.com

#### **EASTLING VILLAGE HALL**

A large hall in a lovely village location.

Ideal for: Clubs, Fitness groups Parties & Weddings



We have pretty grounds and a lawn with room for a marquee; a large car park, fully equipped kitchen and a meeting room available for separate hire.

#### To book, email Annie:

jacksonandadams@btopenworld.com 07754 114670

See our availability here: https:// www.eastlingvillagehall.co.uk/calendar



#### Ostier at Faversham Golf Club Restaurant

Open to the public for breakfast and lunch everyday from 9am.

Private events at FGC individually tailored & catered for.

Bookings now being taken for Sunday Lunch and Christmas.

To reserve please call 01795 890561 option 1. FGC, Belmont Park, Throwley Road, ME13 OHB





# **Garden Services**

#### **Year Round Horticultural Care**

Local RHS qualified gardener

- **❖** Planting advice. Containers & baskets. Rotovating. Pruning. Hedge trimming.
- **Professional lawn care:** Scarifying, turfing, aerating and treatments.
- Organic and wildlife friendly approach!



Phone or Text Mike on: 07746 220 998

Email:michaelratcliff80@gmail.com

# hvistmas At

Chalk Stream Trout Graylax, Pickled Cucumber & Soda Bread Chorizo Scotch Egg & Piccalilli Pumpkin & Sage Soup Prawn Cocktail

#### Main Course

Roast Turkey & All The Trimmings Beef Bourguignon & Mustard Mash Salmon En Croute & Dill Caper Sauce Potato Pithivier & Mushroom Truffle Sauce (All mains are served with seasonal vegetables)

Christmas Pudding & Custard Chocolate Marquise, Cherry & Almonds Clementine Sorbet & Lime Shortbread Cheese, Membrillo & Crackers (£3 Supplement) 2 courses 27.50 / 3 courses 32.50





#### As you tidy your garden for winter...

Gardens are preparing to go to sleep, but next Spring will soon be here. So why not consider some changes now:

- ~ Install a water butt now, to store up the winter rain for the Spring.
- ~ Reduce the hard standing in your garden. Instead, let rain soak into the soil, rather than go down a drain.
- ~ Plant something tall to create shade in your garden next year – the soil will remain wetter.
- ~ Put in more plants the more you have, the more protection they give the ground. Try to use native species, as your local wildlife depends on them.
- ~ Consider adding a pond it will be a great boost to your local wildlife!

#### Christina's Mobile Hairdressing

Weddings & special occasions catered for

30+ years experience

Mob: 07894 524166

Email: Christinanorcott@gmail.com A stylist who cares

# Plough Inn

Offering lunch & dinner Wednesday to Saturday and amazing Sunday Roast at our family run, independent pub & restaurant, with an extensive menu boasting pub classics and 2 AA rosette specials.

We also offer a Take Away Menu Wednesday - Friday from 5 - 7pm - preorder required; please call 01795 890256

Celebrating or holding a special event? We offer buffet, afternoon tea and sit down

**Keep up to date** by following us on Facebook, Instagram or X (twitter)

Stalisfield Road, Faversham, Kent, ME13 0HY

Tel: 01795 890 256 Email: info@theploughinnstalisfield.co.uk

#### **Christmas Events:**

Sustainable Festive Wreath making at The Plough with

Suzannasflowers. Contact Suzanna, suzannasflowers25@gmail.com for more or even create your own. Option then to

details. Join a session 10th/11th December make a Christmas party of it with lunch or dinner at the Pub.



Address: Faversham Wellbeing, 3 Jubilee Way, Faversham. ME13 8GD

Email: gemma@favershamfeet.co.uk Website: favershamfeet.co.uk

Telephone: 07598 817692





Family run business 25 years experience www.masterfloors.co.uk

## Services in our Benefice

#### 5<sup>th</sup> October Trinity 16

2 Timothy 1. 1 - 14, Luke 17. 5 - 10
Eastling 10.30am Harvest Communion
Teynham 10.30am Morning Worship

#### 12<sup>th</sup> October Trinity 17

2 Timothy 2. 8 - 15, Luke 17. 11 - 19 Stalisfield 10.30am Harvest Festival Throwley 10.30am Morning Prayer Oare 10.30am Holy Communion

#### 15th October Wednesday

Wychling 11am Holy Communion

#### 19<sup>th</sup> October Trinity 18

2 Timothy 3. 14 - 4. 5, Luke 18. 1 - 8

Eastling 10.30am Morning Worship Norton 10.30am Holy Communion

#### 28<sup>th</sup> October Trinity 19

2 Timothy 4.6-8, 16-18, Luke 18. 9 - 14 Throwley 10.30am Holy Communion Newnham 10.30am Morning Worship

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> November All Saints

#### Online Daily Worship Continues

9am Morning Prayer every day on the Benefice Facebook Page via https://kc-hd.org.uk.

More information is updated weekly on St Mary's Eastling 'A Church Near You': https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/11982/

#### **Anna Chaplaincy**

Please contact our Anna Chaplain, Caroline Ramshaw, if you know of someone who is isolated, alone or unable to attend church.

An Anna Chaplain can offer a listening ear and company. Communion can be brought to you in your own home.







Contact your local Anna Chaplain on: ramshawcaroline@gmail.com 07799 538 809

### High Downs Parish

**Rector** Revd Paula Jardine-Rose

07516 411269 paula.jardine.rose@kc-hd.org.uk

**Parish Administrator** Joyce Warren

01795 521831 joyce.warren@kc-hd.org.uk

Associate Priest Reverend James (Jim) Pye

01795 890726 jim.pye@kc-hd.org.uk

**Reader** Caroline Ramshaw (07799 538809)

Anna Chaplain Caroline Ramshaw

ramshawcaroline@gmail.com

**Reader** Pim Baxter (07710 116269)

#### **Church Contacts**

**Eastling** Andrew Baxter, Warden (07749 403727)

**Administrator** E mail: stmaryeastling@gmail.com

#### Stalisfield with Otterden

Jenny King, Warden (01795 890366)

Chrissie Webster, Administrator

(07590 351977)

**Throwley** David Elvin, Warden (07973 837122)

E mail: david.j.elvin@gmail.com

#### **High Downs Parish Safeguarding Officer**

Mark Harlow (07979 864000)

E mail: mark.harlow@kc-hd.org.uk

\*\*\*\*\*

#### From The Registers

**Baptism** 

Henry James Murray 7th September 2025 at Otterden

Wedding

Allison Franks and Ross Peters 30th August 2025 at Throwley

\*\*\*\*\*

#### CONTACT THE GOOD NEWS EDITOR

Hilary Harlow 01795 890338

If you would like to submit articles, or to advertise in the November 2025 magazine, send your submission by 20th October to: goodnewsmagazine@me.com.

Past and current issues of the Good News may be viewed on **www.goodnews.rf.gd** 

\*\*\*\*\*\*

#### Bible Study Group

Doddington Vicarage, 7.30 - 9pm On Wednesdays October 1st, 8th & 15th.

Studying "Acts for Everyone"

Please email me jim.pye@kc-hd.org.uk or ring 01795 890726 if you would like to attend.

#### **News from Citizens Advice Swale**

#### Ticket refunds for cancelled events

You may have seen stories in the news about people being left out of pocket if pre-booked events are cancelled at the last minute. How can you get a refund if this happens to you? You won't be entitled to a refund if you change your mind about going or realise you can't go anymore - but if an event is cancelled, your refund rights will depend on how you bought the ticket. If you bought your ticket from an official seller and the organiser cancels or reschedules the event, you should get a refund. If you're having no luck getting a refund, check to see if the seller is a member of the Society of Ticket Agents and Retailers (STAR). If they are, you can use STAR's complaints procedure. STAR members should receive a refund at face value if the event is cancelled and the organiser has agreed to refunds.

You'll probably only get the face value of the ticket back - the amount printed on it. Some sellers might refund postage if the event is cancelled before the tickets are sent. If you had to pay any booking or card fees, you might not get those back.

If the official seller isn't a member of STAR, you may be able to get your money back another way, such as through your credit card company. If you bought your ticket from a ticket-reselling website, refunds will depend on the site's terms and conditions.

If you bought from a private seller and the event is cancelled or rescheduled then it is unlikely you will be able to recover your money, but we still recommend you contact the seller.

Be aware of scams. If your event is cancelled and people or companies get in touch to offer their services to try to recover money on your behalf, be alert and make sure that you're looking out for the signs of a potential scam.

How can we help you?

#### **Drop-in sessions (no appointment necessary)**

Monday: 10am-12pm: Swale House, Sittingbourne

**Tuesday**: 10am-12pm: Sheppey Gateway, Sheerness (except the second Tuesday of every month, which is held at Sheerness East

Working Mens Club)

**Tuesday**: 11.30am-1.30pm: Murston Family Hub, Tonge Road **Wednesday**: 10am-12pm, 43 Stone Street, Faversham

Thursday: 10am-12pm, West Faversham Community Centre

Friday: 10am-12pm, 43 Stone Street, Faversham

#### Telephone advice

Call Adviceline on freephone 0808 278 7979 (Mon-Fri 10am-3.30pm) **Email advice** 

Contact us online at <a href="https://www.citizensadviceswale.uk/email-general-advice">www.citizensadviceswale.uk/email-general-advice</a> (Monday-Wednesday)

**Debt advice.** Request a call back from our specialist money advice team at www.citizensadviceswale.uk/debt

To stay up to date with our opening times, please visit <a href="https://www.citizensadviceswale.uk">www.citizensadviceswale.uk</a> or follow us on Facebook.



citizens advice

#### From a Friendly Place

by Audrey Keen

Carefully the clouds move Picking their way, Softened by the blue And the golden sun that shines today.

Strong is the chant of the pheasant

Who presently walks alone,
He glides into the autumn trees
His reasons are unknown.
Pretty the beech leaves
Of yellow and brown,
Good is the earth they salute,
Though when these stand
Stark and unkept
My passion will still be acute.
But the timely presence of colour
On all I see just here,
Plus the comforting sound
Of the rooks that abound
Make this too a place most dear.

#### Pest Control Services >

Rats, Mice, Wasps and
Bee Swarms removed
Discreet & Prompt Service
Local Tradesman
Contact Andy Pink
01622 884774 / 07761 559 744





#### Being a pastor in the Ukraine

Pastors in the Ukraine are continuing to minister to their beleaguered congregations, bringing comfort and hope into the most frightening and desperate war-torn situations.

So says Transform Europe Network, a Christian ministry which serves alongside indigenous Christians in Eastern Europe and the Balkans. In a recent report, it gives an update from one of its partners on the ground:

"Pastor Evgeniy serves in the wartorn Kherson region of southeastern Ukraine. Since 2022, he and a small group of volunteers have brought food, comfort, and hope to people living amid the destruction.

"Evgeniy and his team recently came to a village that had been shelled. One family's home was reduced to rubble, and their vital documents were buried. The team arrived in bright, civilian clothing, deliberately chosen to identify them as volunteers, not military. As they began to pull back the rubble, they remained calm, focussing on their priority to help the family escape.

"40 minutes later, the volunteers heard and saw a reconnaissance drone circling above them. They couldn't tell who it belonged to, but its presence was ominous. Then came a different sound — sharper, lower, and closer. A small military

drone was heading straight for them. In a moment that could only be described as divine intervention, the drone clipped a tree branch and crashed to the ground next to the team's car.

"The team cautiously approached the drone, still twitching and sparking. Minutes later, a second drone appeared. It aimed for the fallen drone, possibly to trigger an explosion by striking the first. But it too missed its target—crashing about six meters from the car, hitting a nearby concrete wall rather than the group. No one was injured.

"But the volunteers knew then that they were under attack. They gathered their tools, helped the family into the vehicle, and drove away. Just seconds after they left, a third drone struck — right where their car had been parked moments before. The resulting explosion could have easily taken their lives. But once again, by what they all believe was God's hand, they were spared.

"Reflecting on the events, Pastor Evgeniy was asked if he ever felt hatred or the desire for revenge. His answer was quiet, but unshakable

'No. I just understand. I understand the pain. I understand the fear. But if we don't bring light into this darkness, who will?'

"For Evgeniy, war is not a reason to harden the heart—it's a call to deeper compassion. Even as drones

fly overhead and homes crumble, he continues his ministry, bringing food, prayer, and humanity into places others flee from.

"This is what faith looks like in the ruins. It looks like a small group in bright vests, carrying hope into danger. It looks like a pastor who chooses grace over vengeance. And it looks like a God who protects, even when the bombs fall close."

Since the talks involving the US and a possible ceasefire, the local leaders testify that instead of deescalation, they've experienced a significant rise in attacks and shelling.

Transform Europe Network (TEN) asks Christians in the UK:

Please pray for pastors and church teams, exhausted by serving many people on the frontline.

Pray for those who are confused, discouraged and angry, even with each other. Pray for healing and comfort from the Holy Spirit. Churches in Ukraine do all they can to reconcile local people, but it is getting harder and harder.

Mothers are afraid that their teenage sons will be taken away for conscription, which has become increasingly aggressive. This also causes men to run away from home and so many families are fractured and deeply stressed as the war grinds on.

More details at: https://ten-uk.org

#### Plasterer P. Hadley

## All aspects of plastering covered 20 years experience

- Ceilings or Walls, Old or New
- Lime Plastering & Heritage Work
- Plaster Boarding
- Over skimming of Artex
- Tilino
- Painting and Decorating
- Property maintenance

No job too Large or Small Friendly Clean and Reliable Service For a no obligation free estimate or advice call Paul on

07740 530426

#### A D Pink Electrical

All types of domestic electrical installations undertaken
From full rewires to single sockets, fault finding.

Garden and security lighting Fully Qualified and Insured NICEIC Part P Domestic Installer

Tel 07761 559744

Email: andypink1@aol.com









## NEW FOODBANK LOCATION!

#### EASTLING VILLAGE HALL, KETTLE HILL ROAD, ME13 OBA

#### STARTING MONDAY, 15 SEPTEMBER

#### **Every two weeks**

1.30pm to 3.30pm Monday, 15 and 29 September; 13 and 27 October; 10 and 24 November; 8 and 22 December.

If you are struggling financially, we're here to help.

If you have any questions, please call our answerphone: 0793 872 0604

Our main Foodbank centre continues every Wednesday and Friday, 1.30-4pm, Gospel Mission, Tanners Street, Faversham ME13 7JL



Charity registration number 1185413



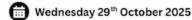
Faversham Foodbank will also accept donations of food at the hall during the above open hours,

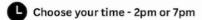
OR they can be left on the back pews in Eastling Church, open every day 9am - 4pm.



# Mature Drivers & Passenger Course

Aimed at drivers over 55, topics include: general health, fatigue, alcohol, hazard awareness, crash causation and speed limits







Sign up at Faversham Town Hall or use the code below





#### Stalisfield Parish Council

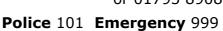
The Parish Council Meeting will be held on Thursday 23rd October at 7.30pm in Stalisfield Village Hall.

All are welcome to attend.

#### **Eastling Neighbourhood Watch**

Village Warden 07794 010 394

or 01795 890848



For any cyber attacks or scam calls please report it on: 0330 123 2040

There have been a couple of serious anti-social behaviour problems within the local area recently which has meant a show of police to have the problems rectified. Hopefully this is the end of these problems but, should they be reoccurring, do not hesitate to contact the police.

The charity tractor run through the villages was great to see. I sincerely hope that a great deal was raised and congratulate the organisers and the drivers for putting on an excellent show.

Remember to alter your clocks etc on October 26th as the dark nights will be approaching. Please make sure all the lights on your vehicles are working, no one-eyed monsters please.



The hare coursers are still around so if seen please report where they were seen to The police.

Have a good month Take care, Alan

# Defibrillators in our Villages

Ready for anyone to use in an emergency, please find the nearest to you:

**Eastling** sited at 1 Manor Lees, the Street, Eastling. ME13 0BE

**Eastling School** (School days only, 8am - 4.30pm) sited in the corridor of Main Building, ME13 0BA

**Stalisfield** sited at Stalisfield Village Hall, ME13 0HY

**Throwley** sited in the old Telephone Box outside the Old Post Office, ME13 0PJ





Three little boys were bragging about how tough they were. "I'm so tough," said the first boy, "that I can wear out a pair of shoes in a week."

"Well," said the second little boy, "I'm so tough, I can wear out a pair of jeans in a day."

"That's nothing," said the third boy. "When I visit my grandma and grandpa, I can wear them out in just one hour."



## Resources for holding a Christian Halloween 'Light Party'

Do you have children wanting a Halloween party this autumn? Why not offer instead a Light Party on the same night? They can still dress up in costumes, but the emphasis of the party will be far more positive.

For resources, visit the Eden website at: <a href="https://www.eden.co.uk/halloween-light-party-resources">https://www.eden.co.uk/halloween-light-party-resources</a>. It offers light party resources, Christian gifts, tracts and crafts for every light party, outreach events and to share with trick-or-treaters.



# Saying Goodbye Remembrance Service

Saturday 4th October, 11am, Canterbury Cathedral

A service for anyone who has lost a baby in pregnancy, at birth or in early years, whether the loss was yesterday or 80 years ago.

This event is also for those grieving that they have never been able to have a child.

SAYING GOODBYE.ORG
A division of Mariposa
International



# Youth Group in Stalisfield

for 11-17yr olds.

We meet on Wednesdays, usually twice a month, 7 - 8.30pm in the village hall AND it is free to come.

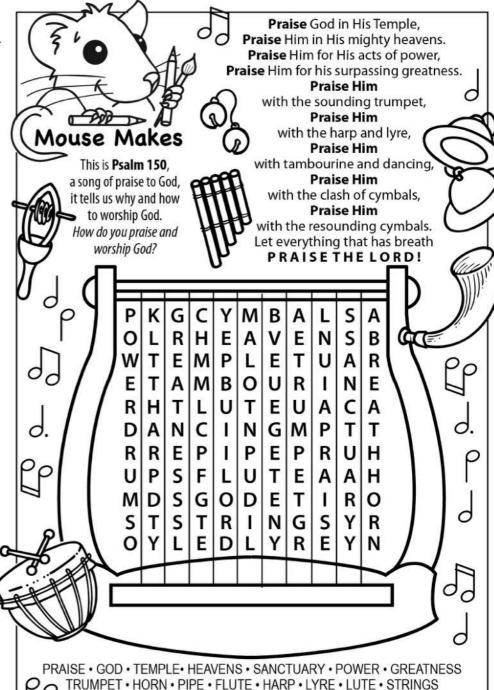
We have music, gaming, craft, table tennis, table football, outside games, craft table, tuck shop (everything 10 - 50p), free cake and drink.

Wednesday 8th October

New Members

Wednesday 8th October

W Contact Catherine 07929 928 046 or clnorwood@doctors.org.uk or see our Facebook page for more details.



TAMBOURINE • DANCING • CYMBALS • DRUMS • BREATH • LORD