



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Good News

Parish Magazine

January 2002

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN FAVERSHAM

Service for the

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Sunday 20th January 2002

11am St. Mary of Charity, Faversham

led by the Revd. Chris Esgate

All ages welcome.

January

Newstyle

Sunday 13th, 10.30am

Eastling Church

SPECIAL GUESTS

JON AND NIKKI KUHRT

FROM CENTRE POINT



Thank You and Welcome

The Ospringe community offers sincere thanks to Norman Pollard, who has given sterling service as a churchwarden at St. Peter & St. Paul for nearly five years. Following Norman's decision to step down during the autumn, Philip Larter was appointed to succeed him, at a Parish Meeting in November. We welcome Philip to his new responsibilities.

Thank you
 to all who contributed
 to decorating our
 churches in the benefice so
 beautifully for Christmas.
 Your work has been
 much appreciated.

8 - 13 yrs
Youth Club
 6.15pm in the Champion
 Hall, Painter's Forstal
 Friday January 4th
 Games
 Friday January 18th
 Crafts & Games

SUNDAY SCHOOLS

OSPRINGE meets in church on Sunday 13th during the 11am service and at the 11am Family service on 27th January.

PAINTER'S FORSTAL meets in the Champion Hall at 10.35 for 10.40am on Sunday 6th January and Sunday 4th February.

EASTLING meets for a party on 6th January, 9.50am in the Village Hall, then as usual on Sunday 20th January.

IT'S SNOW
JOKE!



WHERE DO SNOWMEN GO TO DANCE? TO SNOWBALLS.

WHAT DO YOU GET IS YOU CROSS A SNOWBALL WITH A SHARK? FROST BITE.

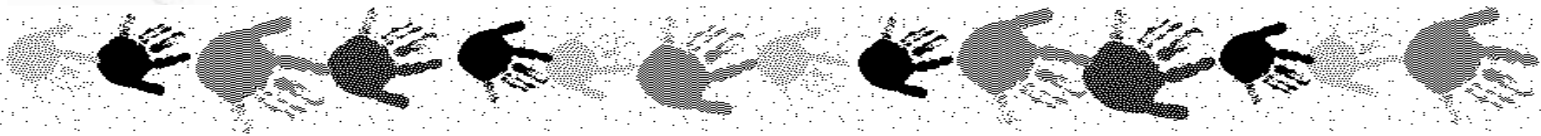
HOW DO YOU KNOW WHEN THERES A SNOWMAN IN YOUR BED? YOU WAKE UP WET.

WHAT IS AN IG? AN ESKIMO'S HOME WITHOUT A LOO.

KNOCK! KNOCK!
 WHO'S THERE?
 ESKIMO.
 ESKIMO WHO?
 ESKIMO QUESTIONS,
 I'LL TELL YOU NO LIES.



WHAT HAPPENED TO
 THE REINDEER WHO
 SWALLOWED AN OXO
 CUBE?
 HE MADE A
 LAUGHING
 STOCK OF
 HIMSELF.

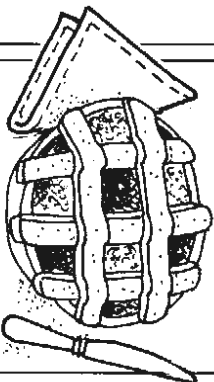


MOUSE HOLE

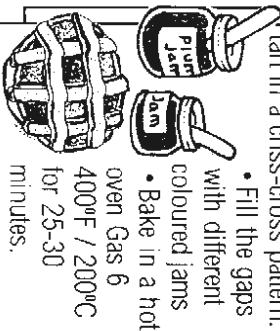
Epiphany

The time when we remember the Wise men coming to see Jesus is called 'Epiphany'.

The Victorians used to bake special tarts for Epiphany... try making one.



- Roll out homemade or shop bought Shortcrust pastry to about 4mm thick
- Cover the bottom of a 25mm pie plate with the pastry and trim the edge.
- Roll out the remaining pastry and cut into strips.
- Press the strips to the tart in a criss-cross pattern.



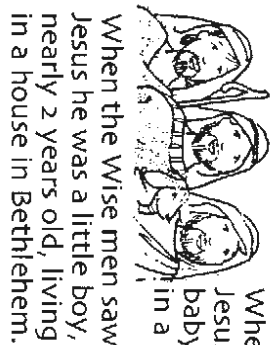
- Fill the gaps with different coloured jams
- Bake in a hot oven Gas 6, 400°F / 200°C for 25-30 minutes.

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

"On coming to the house, the Wise men saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him."



When the shepherds saw Jesus he was a new born baby lying in a manger in a stable in Bethlehem.



When the Wise men saw Jesus he was a little boy, nearly 2 years old, living in a house in Bethlehem.



What do you think Jesus was like? Do you think he could walk and talk?

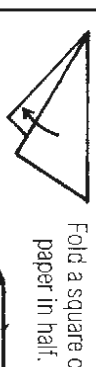
The wise men brought Jesus three presents ...what were they?



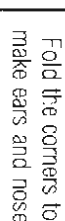
G... for the King of Kings' Jesus is God's Son

M... for death. Jesus is our Saviour

Have you written your Christmas 'THANK YOU's?



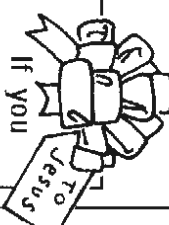
Fold a square of paper in half.



Fold the corners to make ears and nose.



Draw on 'dog' face and write inside.



If you could give Jesus a present, what would you give?

Thought for the Month

I've taken my cards down today, with mixed feelings of relief and sadness that Christmas is over again for another year. Some are beautiful and expensive, others obviously from a box of 'cheapies'. But all express human contact, the desire to 'be in touch' to some degree. The quality of the card is immaterial. I mustn't cynically judge the giver by the card - each one is equally important. Some are from friends and relatives who go back to the time when I was born, others are from recent acquaintances, but most represent solid, lasting friendships which have developed slowly and carefully over many years and which will stand the test of time. Today I am starting a new tradition - to pray over the giver of each card as I look over them before putting them away or passing them on to a charity. There are always some I can't part with.

M. Mills

I shall rejoice and give thanks for old friends - God's greatest gifts to me - and wonder how relationships will develop with my new contacts. Older friends need prayer for health and strength or the ability to endure loneliness and / or increasing disability. How circumstances can change between Christmases. I don't subscribe to the 'cards are a waste of money' philosophy. Remember Mary's alabaster jar! So many people touch my life - and a card is a tangible expression of their connection, however tenuous, with me - a reminder that friends - yes, even relatives! - are a blessed responsibility with whom I can share God's love and care.

MOTHERS' UNION NEWS

Janet McDonald and Pauline Hay (Action & Outreach) were invited to our November meeting. The topic on which they gave their talks were 'Parenting' and 'Literacy', subjects promoted by the Mothers' Union and supported by our Ospringe Deanery Festival Service in September.

Janet explained the importance of the need to teach literacy in the Third World and highlighted the things we in our country take for granted e.g. reading - books, prayers, shopping lists. She told us about the pilot-schemes being run in Rwanda, Malawi and the Sudan. These schemes have reached out to 2000 non-literate people so far. Finally, Janet read comments from people whose lives have been changed through being able to read and communicate.

'Parenting' was the topic on which Pauline talked. We listened as Pauline re-read a speech made 125 years ago by our Founder, Mary Sumner.

"What can be done to raise the nation's character? The answer is - let us appeal to the mothers of England. It is the mothers who can in great measure work the reformation of the country. Those who rock the cradle rule the world, because the mother has charge of the child for the first months and years of its life - those years are all important to the future of each child. The education and character training of a child should begin twenty-five years before his birth in the education of his parents. Be yourself what you wish your children to be. We have a great work to do for our husbands, our children, our homes and our country, and I am convinced that it would greatly help us if we could start a Mothers' Union, wherein all classes could unite in faith and prayer, to try to do this work for God."

Pauline explained the formation of 'Parenting 2000' which was in response to a research report by the National Children's Bureau (1994) 'Confident Parents - Confident Children'. She pointed out that the Mothers' Union Training Programme for volunteer parenting group facilitators is now formed and running and she would like to start a Facilitators' Course in our Canterbury Diocese. Sixteen people are needed. Should anyone like to hear more about these courses - there will be a meeting on 9th February, 2002, 9.30 a.m. - 12 noon at St. Mary Bredin Church, Canterbury. Members and Non-Members are welcome. Please also contact the Revd. Pat Pollard for further information.

Our Wave of Prayer Meeting will be on Saturday, 5th January, 2002 at 2.00 p.m. at 7 Arthur Salmon Close.

On 13th January during the 11.00 a.m. Church Service three new members will be welcomed into the Mothers' Union.

The Planning meeting will be on 30th January, 2002 at 2.00 p.m.

New members are welcome - please contact the Revd. Pat Pollard for details.

CHOIR REPORT

We will continue to have short Choir Practices before the Services, 10.15 a.m. on the 1st Sunday in January, and 10.25a.m. for 10.30 a.m. on the 2nd and 4th Sundays. We are having Choir Practices on Wednesdays, 6 to 6.45 p.m. and they are in Church in the parish room where it will be warm. After the Holiday Break we will start again on Wednesday, 9th January.

Thank you to all who gave the Choir a chance to sing all the carols we learnt. As well as the usual Sunday Services we joined in The Christmas Celebration, The Family Service, the Crib Service at Stalisfield, Carol Singing around the wards at The Cottage Hospital, a Carol Service at Carnalea and The Nine Lessons and Carols at Eastling. Some joined in the Carols by Candlelight at Whitehill Chapel too. What a splendid Benefice Christmas message! Thank you too to Freda, Don, Reg, Gill, Margaret, Carolynne, Judy, Diane, Ian, Ted, Michael, Mark and Penny for all their help as there were a lot of carols to learn!!

Jan Bullard has completed the second Choir Pew Runner. It looks great, Jan, thank you. It matches the other one with the addition of a Lancashire rose, for guess who?, and a Yorkshire rose! Jan said she enjoyed doing it especially the roses. The dedication hopefully will be in the warmer weather!

A very Happy New Year to all in our Benefice from Ospringe Choir

FROM THE ORGAN SEAT

Thank you to Gill, Freda, Don, Reg and Carolynne who helped me put on a concert playing the lovely organ at The Almshouses. We sang "O Little Town of Bethlehem", "In the Bleak Midwinter" (especially for Blanche), "Calypso Carol" (which turned out to be a favourite) and "Silent Night" (especially for the Warden, Carol) Gill sang Schubert's Ave Maria and the residents thought Gill had the sweetest voice they had ever heard. I played several pieces including extemporisations on "Mary had a baby" and "The Virgin Mary had a Baby Boy" and "Fanfare for a Bride" They were enthralled by the stories of how, when, and by whom these carols were written and of course they heard about the mice!! at Oberndorf and Ospringe!!!

It was good to have Joanne Marshall back for the vacation. She is working and playing hard at Nottingham University.

Did you see the children's book "Granny goes to Bethlehem"?

Happy New Year, Vicky Shepherd.

Ospringe People

Ospringe has again featured well in both of our local newspapers.

Did you see the photos of Mrs. Green on her 100th birthday on 15th November? I saw her in Cooksditch, smiling away among all her cards and flowers and her card from The Queen. Elsie Green nee Thurnwood was born in London but moved to Chamley Green near Guildford when she was 4. Her father was in the coal business. Elsie told me she had 5 sisters and 4 brothers. They were 1)Edward, who lived in Chamley Green all his life, where he was in the Choir and in the Church there is a plaque to him; 2)Fred; 3) John; 4) Harry; 5)our Elsie 6)Nellie; 7)Kate; 8)Dora; 9)Ethel; 10) Violet who was named after the Vicar's wife in Chamley Green and who often visited the family. 90 years old Ethel came with her daughter for Elsie's 100th party. In 1935 Elsie married Dudley Gordon Green who managed two garages in Faversham, Chapel Garage in Ospringe and the one in The Mall which now sells motorbikes. It was good to chat to her. I also chatted with Edie Dungate and told her news of you all.

Did you see Tom Nixon's piece about his visit to see The Harry Potter film? I have put it in Church.

More News: Tina Woodward (nee Rush) who married Justin in Ospringe Church and lives in Somerset, now has a lovely daughter, Olivia, who weighed 8lbs. All doing well. Nanny Rush and Tina's family were thrilled.

When we were in Vancouver we read in the local magazine, "At 1059, Mainland Street, Andrew Costen's jewellery store houses a collection of his own innovative and creative jewellery designs". Mrs. Costen was staying with him and we were able to chat to them. An excuse for another visit to see his Jewellery House!!

Gracie Jenkins celebrated her 90th birthday in style in our Parish Room. Primrose Hollamby rang round the "Young Wives", Shirley and Roy Frier decorated the room with balloons and Dorothy and John Bilcliffe brought her. You should have seen Gracie's face light up as she chatted to everyone and cut her cake. There was much laughter as we recounted our antics particularly on the Carnival floats! The next day was another party for the family and friends and neighbours. When you visit her do ask to see the photos. Thank you to everyone who came along to make Gracie's days special for her.

More about the snowdrops. Robert Bridgen is going to plant some more for me. Thank you.

Vicky Shepherd.

A TIME FOR PRAYER

Prayer Pointers

Sundays

For grace to live well in the year ahead.

Mondays

For anyone who is facing the year without hope.

Tuesdays

Churchwardens in the Benefice.

Wednesdays

The future of the hospitals in our area.

Thursdays

For honesty and integrity in the media.

Fridays

For all displaced people and refugees.

Saturdays

Christians in Pakistan and India.

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We will deliver goods free of charge

Minimum order £5

Services in our Benefice Sharing Ministry in our Parishes

6th January Epiphany

Ephesians 3. 1 - 12, Matthew 2. 1 - 12

Ospringe	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Eastling	9.50am	Sunday School (Party)
Eastling	10am	Holy Communion (CW)
Stalisfield	10am	Holy Communion (CW)
Ospringe	11am	Morning Prayer (BCP)
Whitehill Chapel	10.35am	Sunday School (All ages)
Whitehill Chapel	11am	Family Service

13th January Epiphany 2

1 Corinthians 1. 1 - 9, John 1. 29 - 42

Eastling	8am	Holy Communion(BCP)
Stalisfield	10am	Morning Prayer (BCP)
Eastling	10.30am	Newstyle
Ospringe	11am	Holy Communion (CW)
Ospringe	11am	Sunday School

20th January Epiphany 3

1 Corinthians 1. 10 - 18, Matthew 4. 12 - 23

Ospringe	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Eastling	9.50am	Sunday School
Stalisfield	10am	Holy Communion (CW)
Eastling	Combined at Stalisfield	

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

St. Mary of Charity, Faversham
11am Churches Together in Faversham Service

27th January 3rd Sunday before Lent

1 Corinthians 1. 18 - end, John 2. 1 - 11

Stalisfield	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Eastling	10am	Family Service + Baptism
Whitehill Chapel	11am	People's Choice
Ospringe	11am	Family Service + Baptism

3rd February 2nd Sunday before Lent

Romans 8. 18 - 25, Matthew 6. 25 - 34

3rd February

Presentation of Christ in the Temple

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

Ospringe	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Eastling	10am	Holy Communion (CW)
Stalisfield	10am	Holy Communion (CW)
Ospringe	11am	Morning Prayer (BCP)
Whitehill Chapel	11am	Family Service
Ospringe	3pm	Baptism

Priest in Charge Reverend Penny Fenton (01795 536366)
9 Brogdale Road, Faversham.

Curate Reverend Patricia Pollard (01795 535407)
7 Arthur Salmon Close, Faversham.

Reader Mr. Hugh Perks (01795 890603)
Weald Cottage, Kettle Hill Road, Eastling

Reader Mr. Norman Fowler (01795 890412)
in Training 4 Meesons Close, Eastling, Faversham

Methodist Minister Reverend Chris Esgate
esgate@bluecarrots.com (01795 532461)

Churchwardens

Ospringe Mr. G. Shepherd
Mr. P. Larter (01795 531044)

Eastling Mr. N. Fowler (01795 890412)
Mrs A. Cheeseman (01795 890629)

Stalisfield Mrs J. West (01795 890285)
Mrs H. Galer (01795 890780)

Steward
Whitehill Miss B. Richards (01795 532756)

Contacting the Church's staff

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

FROM THE EDITOR

If you would like to advertise in this magazine, submit articles, features or stories for publication, or would like any forthcoming events publicised, please send your magazine contribution by the 15th January to Hilary Harlow, Pinks Farm, Eastling, Faversham ME13 0BA 01795 890338 (e-mail: mharlow@talk21.com)

From the Registers

Baptisms

25th November 2001 at Eastling
JOHN Turner

23rd December 2001 at Stalisfield
SOPHIE ELIZABETH White

Funerals

29th November 2001 Burial at Eastling
William (Bill) Harold HAWKETT

14th December 2001 Burial at Love Lane
Doris SINCLAIR

Local News

New Register of Electors

The new Register of Electors, covering from 3rd December 2001 to 29th November 2002, has been published. Copies can be seen at Swale Borough Council offices and public libraries or by contacting the Parish Clerk. Changes in the arrangements for electoral registration mean that people can apply to be added to the Register as soon as they move into the area and do not have to wait until the next time it is published. Being on the Register is important as it guarantees a vote in coming elections and can be essential when dealing with financial institutions for credit cards or to obtain a loan.

Holiday Bus Times

The daytime 660 bus resume its normal timetables on Wednesday, 2nd January.

People who have used the new 345 bus which links Eastling, Painters Forstal and a number of other villages to Faversham on Friday and Saturday evenings, have been full of praise. For some youngsters it's provided an opportunity to meet up with school friends and for the adults there's the ability to have a meal and drinks in Faversham without worrying about drink-driving limits. Apart from these more obvious reasons for an evening in town, adults who fancy a swim will find the Faversham Pools have an "adults only" session every Friday from 7.45pm to 9.45pm. The bus calls at Glebe Cottages, Eastling, at 7.29pm on Fridays and Saturdays and returns from Faversham Court Street at 10.20pm or, if necessary, waits until after the film at The Royal cinema finishes. Adult return fare from Eastling is £1.80; for children and senior citizens with a bus pass it's 90p return.

Mobile Library

The KCC mobile library van will not be operating locally during the Christmas and New Year holiday period. The next scheduled visits are on Wednesday, 9th January when the van will make the following calls:

Eastling: Glebe Cottages at 1.10-1.30pm and Manor Lees senior citizens' bungalows at 1.30-1.40pm.

Otterden: Westbury Farm at 9.35-9.45am.

Stalisfield Green: Senior Citizens' Bungalows at 9.55 - 10.10am.

Users who wish to check the service during severe weather, may contact the driver on 07740 183757.

Eastling Parish Council

Next Meeting

Eastling Parish Council's next meeting is in Eastling Village Hall on Monday, 14th January at 8pm. The first 15 minutes are an open forum for villagers to raise matters of local interest or concern.

Clerk Sought

Eastling Parish Council is still looking for a new Clerk. The present Parish Clerk, Mrs Sue Parry who kindly agreed to take on the job on a "temporary" basis over 18 months ago, is stepping down because of other commitments.

The main duties of the Parish Clerk are preparing the Agenda and taking the Minutes at Council Meetings every two months. Also dealing with and circulating incoming mail and a small amount of correspondence between Meetings. It averages out at around two or three hours work per week. Some secretarial and administrative skills and access to a computer and the Internet would be helpful. Councillors have agreed the appointment will, if the applicant wishes, carry a salary, based on the number of hours worked and all out-of-pocket expenses are reimbursed.

For more details or an informal chat (without obligation, of course), please contact either Sue Parry on (01795) 890254 or Council Chairman Harold Wyld on (01795) 890413.

Season's Greetings

Parish Councillors would like to extend their Best Wishes for Christmas and the Coming Year to all Eastling residents.

Website's Seasonal Weather

Visitors to the Eastling Village web site have been fascinated to see that it's "snowing". The unusual visual effect, together with a local snow scene have been combined to give the opening page a seasonal appearance. Computer users can take a look by logging onto <http://go.to/eastling> . And even those without a computer can take a look by popping into Faversham Library where excellent new facilities enable anyone to "surf" the Internet free of charge!


Best Place for Paper

There's a much better place for all the waste paper and cardboard that accumulated over Christmas than the wheelie bin. It can be left for recycling in the skips at Eastling Village Hall. Any money raised helps to boost Village Hall funds.

Clerical/Administrative Assistant

The benefice seeks to appoint a suitable person to provide some clerical/administrative assistance to the Priest in Charge. This part-time paid post will involve 3 hours per week. Familiarity with Word and Exel would be helpful. Ability to respect confidentiality essential.

If interested, please contact The Revd. Penny Fenton (01795 536366)



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Individual, ground floor, en-suite rooms with views over the surrounding countryside. Run by the resident owners, Cliff and Dorothy Saffrey, both registered nurses. Day Care available.

Tel: 01795 520580

Diary

January 2002

5th	Wave of Prayer	2pm	7 Arthur Salmon Close
9th	Mobile Library Service resumes in Eastling/Stalisfield		
10th	Afternoon Club (Bingo)	2pm	Champion Hall
10th	History Society	8pm	Charing Parish Hall
13th	Sunday Newstyle	10.30am	Eastling Church
14th	Gardeners' Club	7.45pm	Champion Hall
14th	Eastling Parish Council	8pm	Eastling Village Hall
15th	DEADLINE for February issue of Good News		
15th	W.I.	2.15pm	Champion Hall
15th	Study group	8pm	Newhouse Farm, Eastling
20th - 27th	Week of Prayer for Christian Unity		
21st	Neame Cup Quiz	7.45pm	Champion Hall
24th	Afternoon Club (Board Games)	2pm	Champion Hall
28th	Benefice Forum	7.30pm	Ospringe Parish Room
29th	Magazine Folding	2pm	Usual venues
30th	M.U. planning meeting	2pm	Usual venue
FEB 1st	Roman Ospringe	7.30pm	Champion Hall

Ospringe Social Events

Many, many thanks to Pam and Brian Thompson for opening their home on November 21st for a Craft Day, a wonderful time was had by all. Grateful thanks to everyone who supported us. From the £300 profit, £200 was sent to the Pilgrim's Hospice and £100 to Ospringe Church. Happy New Year to everyone.

Sally (Ospringe Social Secretary).



Christmas Lunch

An excellent 3 course meal was enjoyed by the Senior Citizens in Eastling Village Hall on 5th December, prepared and cooked on the premises by Joan Webster, with soup, roast beef and a choice of desserts, followed by tea or coffee with mints. Several bottles of wine and sherry were consumed and everyone left with a great feeling of contentment, looking forward to next year's event. Thank you to all the helpers and fundraisers who made it all possible.

Norman Neaves.

Afternoon Club

Wishing everyone a Happy New Year. We start the year with the following activities for January:-

10th Bingo

24th Board Games

Both meetings 2pm in the Champion Hall.

Rodney French.

Look, and you shall see....

*The man whispered,
"God, speak to me"
And a meadowlark sang.
But the man did not hear.*



*So the man yelled "God, speak to me"
And the thunder rolled across the sky.
But the man did not listen.*

*The man looked around and said,
"God, let me see you." And a star shone brightly.
But the man did not see.*

*And, the man shouted,
"God, show me a miracle" And a baby was born.
But the man did not notice.*

*So, the man cried out in despair,
"Touch me, God, and let me know you are here!"
So God reached down and touched the man.
But the man brushed away the butterfly and walked on.*

The good news is that you are loved, and God hears you. Don't miss out on God's blessing because it isn't packaged the way that you expect.

Ospringe with Painter's Forstal W.I.



Meeting on Tuesday 15th January, 2.15pm, Champion Hall, Painter's Forstal:- 65th Birthday 'My visit to the Royal Yacht' (Mrs A Martin)

Competition: Photograph of a ship.

More details from Fav. 533756.

New members will be warmly welcomed.



Charing and District Local History Society

On Thursday 10th January at 8pm, Richard Filmer will give a talk on

Traditional Kentish Trades, Crafts and Industries

providing a glimpse of vanishing skills.

The presentation will be given in the Parish Hall, Charing.

Everyone who is interested will be welcomed at 7.45pm when the doors open.

Non-members of the society pay £1.

OSPRINGE CHURCH 200 Club

You contribute £1 a month for at least one year and you could win a prize in our monthly draw. Contact Carol or Stuart Marshall on 537873 for more details. The winning numbers for the 21st draw in December were:

1st 66 2nd 59 3rd 24

Painter's Forstal Village Committee

The Annual General Meeting will be held on March 1st at 7.30pm in the Champion Hall. Nominations for the Committee will be welcome.

B. Richards, 532756.

Canterbury College @ Eastling School :

The World of Computers right on your doorstep

Eastling School is the proud possessor of a modern dedicated Information and Communication Technology suite. Canterbury College is going to use these new facilities to provide computer training to the wider community. This is one of a number of outreach projects being rolled out by the College's Community Development Unit.

Courses will commence with computer 'Taster sessions' offered free to all adults. These will be followed by further courses as demand requires. The College plans to commence training in January. You will be able to sign up for your free place on a Taster session by calling into the School Office.

For further information, please call Canterbury College's Project Co-ordinator, Richard Jonas, on 01227 811159 or (mobile) 07762 262 528, (e-mail r.jonas@cant-col.ac.uk).



Having a Party?

Planning a Wedding?

Venue for your Club

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

For more information please contact Mary Eagleton on 890436.



Ospringe School Association

December seemed even busier than usual, if that is possible. In the first week the children had visits from the Fire Service, to talk about fire safety; WPC Jones (police schools liaison) to talk about personal safety and a theatre visit! This was followed by the OSA Christmas fair, another blockbuster event. There were lots of different stalls this year, although as usual the tombola's proved the most successful and the whole event raised £1200 for school funds. Some of this money has already been spoken for in the purchase of more guided reading books for Key Stage 1 and Story bags for class reading. The following week started with the school choir and friends carol singing around Ospringe for Demelza House. After an hour and a half's singing they returned to hot chocolate and biscuits kindly provided by the kitchen staff. Over the two nights £220 was raised. Brilliant.

It was then time for the Christmas productions. The lower juniors production was called 'Stable Manners' and portrayed the Christmas story from the point of view of some very argumentative animals, with the help of rapping angels and DJ narrator.

The infants told the story of the smallest angel and managed to travel the world in the process! Friday 14th saw a new venture for the OSA, our first fashion show. With the help of Brats Children wear, and some volunteer models (most of whom revelled in walking up the catwalk) we had an enjoyable evening and had some good sales (there are going to be a lot of children wearing similar outfits at the Christmas parties this year!) Some of the choir joined in the Christmas Celebration at Ospringe Church on Saturday 15th singing two songs from their Christmas production to rapturous applause. Then it was time for the Christmas Services, the Christmas parties and of course Christmas lunch! No wonder they were all tired.

The OSA are already planning events for 2002, these include a Bingo night in February, Wine and Wisdom in March, Race night in May, Summer Fair in June and a barn Dance/BBQ in July!

Jill Fagg



Roman Ospringe and the Secrets of Syndale

You are warmly invited to learn more about the Heritage of our parish.

Dr Wilkinson will be speaking in the Champion Hall, Painter's Forstal, on Friday 1st February, 7 for 7.30pm.

Light refreshments - More information tel: 535267.



Painter's Forstal Gardeners' Club

The Christmas Social Evening was a great success, much enjoyed by all. Monday 14th January 2002

An illustrated talk by Mr & Mrs Osbourne - 'A Butterfly and Wildlife Garden'.

Monday 21st January

Second round of the Neame Cup Quiz at home to Lower Hardres. Both meetings will be held in the Champion Hall, Painter's Forstal, 7.45 - 8pm. Further details from Faversham 533608.

