

When is a boat like a heap of snow? When it comes a-drift.

Knock! Knock! Who's there? Eskimo. Eskimo who? Eskimo questions, I'll tell you no lies. ***** How do you make a sausage roll? Push it!

Ospringe School Association

The Christmas events were a great success. The Christmas Fair raised over £800 for the school and the Christmas productions were a delight. Unfortunately the carol singing in aid of Demelza House Hospice had to be cancelled due to bad weather, but the children did sing some carols outside school at the end of the day to the delight of waiting parents.

In the New Year the School Association are planning a Wine & Wisdom, a Race Night and, together with Teddies, a balloon race. More details will follow nearer the time.

Happy New Year and Thank You to everyone who has supported Ospringe School Association over the past year.

Jill Fagg

FRIENDS OF EASTLING SCHOOL

The committee members have had a very busy month organising the collection of Webb Ivory items and orders followed by deliveries of Christmas Trees and wreaths. A total of £70 was raised from Chocolate for Chocoholics.

Thank you all for your support of FOES fundraising by ordering goods.

The school children enjoyed purchasing gifts for their families and friends at the Shopping Afternoon - all the presents were gift wrapped for them by a team of parents.

Families enjoyed watching the school Nativity performances of 'It's a Cracker' and well done to all the children taking part. The pantomime 'Mother Goose' was received with riotous enthusiasm by all the children - quite deafening!

The school Christmas lunch on Friday 17th December was a terrific event with crackers supplied by FOES and this was followed in the evening by the Christmas Disco which was well attended by children and parents alike.

The term concluded with the Class parties, Talent Show and the Carol Service.

The Spring Term starts on Thursday 6th January.

We wish you all a Happy New Year!

Jill Seaman
FOES Publicity, Tel 01795 890519

PUDDLEDUCKS PLAYGROUP

Congratulations go to Kath Watts who won the Hamper in our Christmas Raffle and to all the other prize winners. Thank you to everyone who bought tickets - we will be purchasing some new equipment with the proceeds.

The children thoroughly enjoyed their Christmas party on the last day of term and they all went home with a little gift.

Spring Term commences on Thursday 6th January at the normal time of 9.30am.

Any enquiries to Jill Seaman, 01795 890519.



Young People's Craft Club

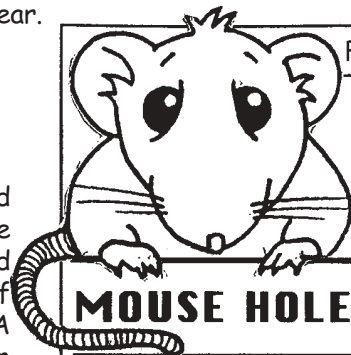
14th & 28th January

6.15 to 7.15pm

in the Champion Hall,
Painter's Forstal.

50p per session -

all young people invited.



MOUSE HOLE

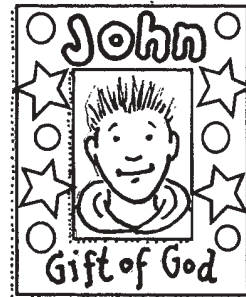
From my home in the church I learn about all sorts of things...

Eight days after he was born, Mary and Joseph named their baby with the name the angel Gabriel had given them long before he had been born.

It was a special name for a very special baby... the name

JESUS
which means
GOD IS SAVIOUR

"You are to give him the name **JESUS** because he will save his people from their sins."



Glue a photograph of yourself onto a thick sheet of card. Decorate the frame with your name and it's meaning (if you know it) and any other words you would use to describe yourself!



As you read your bible, look out for the meanings of the names in the footnotes at the bottom of each page...

What does the name **ABRAHAM** mean?

Look up

Genesis 17:5

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

Read Matthew 1:21 and Luke 2:25-38

CAN YOU FIND THESE BIBLE NAMES IN THE GRID?

JESUS
MARY • JOSEPH
ELIZABETH • JOHN
ADAM • EVE
MATTHEW • MARK
RUTH • PHOEBE
DEBORAH • NOAH
SARAH • HANNAH
PAUL • SAUL
LUKE • RAHAB
SAMUEL

JOHN means GIFT OF GOD

SARAH means PRINCESS

SAMUEL means HEART OF GOD

RUTH means FRIENDSHIP

Good News Parish Magazine

January 2004

A poem of hope for the New Year

The Peace of God

When war did cease upon the earth,
The stars looked out, the heavens rang,
The small Lord Jesus came to birth,
A lilt of peace his Mother sang.

A lilt of peace, mid snow-clad sheen,
Goodness-peace, forgiveness of sin,
Confession-peace, penitent-clean,
Peace with God and the peace within.



Peace with God and goodwill to men,
The peace of triumph on the Tree,
The rising peace that followed then,
The peace of God for you and me.

The peace of God, lake-waters by,
The peace of God, mist o'er the sea,
The peace of God, ascending high,
The peace of God, unceasingly.

- From Poems of the Western Highlanders



Informal Worship for the New Year

Freestyle

Sunday 9th January

Does God heal today?

10.30am

in Eastling Church

Something a bit different to liven up your Sunday morning.

Music, drama, poetry.

All ages welcome.

Children's corner available.

More details from 890338



OASIS

at 11am

Sunday 2nd January and special guest service

on

Sunday 6th February

Bishop Graham Cray

is the guest speaker on 6th February, and the topic is

The Christian Life

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

Everyone is welcome

and the services are

followed by refreshments.



People's Choice

at

Whitehill Chapel

9th January

10am Breakfast

followed by 10.45am

Family People's Choice led by Revd. Penny Fenton

23rd January

11am

People's Choice

led by Revd. Berryman

OASIS in OSPRINGE CHURCH every 1st Sunday

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

Message for the Month

May I take this opportunity of wishing everyone a very happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

Please don't get cynical so soon after, what I hope was a wonderful Christmas. I know that for some it will have been difficult or sad or lonely. There is always another side to the story.

When I had to go in hospital again last month, I suddenly realised I needed a new pair of pyjamas. No, I didn't need them, I wanted them to cheer me up. So off I went to Dolly Ps and saw the ideal colour, an attractive pale blue set. The top had 100% printed on it, and through my mind I thought 100% female. Well O K! I can go for that. I packed my bag and duly went into hospital. Time came to get into bed and the nurses helped me to get changed. Suddenly they giggled, 'What's funny?' I asked. 'Your pyjamas,' they replied '100% naughty.' 'Where,' I asked 'does it say naughty?' 'On the other side,' they laughed. Sure enough looking at the other side my pyjamas did say, 'naughty'. 'How appropriate,' said the nurses 'and you a priest!' 'Oh, I really didn't know,' I protested. 'You mean you didn't look at the other side. I am surprised, I thought that was what Christians were supposed to do.' I imagined this was a slight reference to turning the other cheek. So perhaps there is some good practical advice in my experience of the PJ's, not to judge something, or someone, too quickly or at least till I've looked at the whole picture.

I wonder if any of you have seen the 'Ladysmith Black Mambazo'. They appeared at the Queen's golden jubilee celebrations, also on Songs of Praise and feature on a number of CDs at the moment. There were due to appear in Chatham last month. I booked tickets and prayed that I would be able to attend. We made it. The theatre was too dark for me to read the programme, and the print was too small. The show started with about 15 young men, scruffily dressed and wearing Wellington boots tramping round the stage, bashing their wellies to a chant. Now I love the theatre and live entertainment but... I could not understand why people in the audience were cheering their approval and whooping with delight. After nearly 20 minutes a solo artist took stage and played his guitar and sang a very sad and lengthy song. I could see from Norman's face that he wasn't enjoying it any more than I was. I whispered 'Let's wait to the interval then we can disappear discreetly'. Norman later said 'I knew you didn't like it, you weren't clapping.' We left, taking our programme with us - well we had paid for it, and the tickets were not that cheap. I apologized, knowing that I had taken Norman to some pretty unusual things over the years, but, never anything like that. 'Don't worry,' he replied, quite amused that I'd got it wrong on this occasion.

When we got home I read the programme and I saw the other side. Oh! I wish I had been able to read it beforehand. What we had seen was Gumboot dancing. It originated in the goldmines of South Africa during Apartheid. Labourers worked in total darkness for months at a time, chained to their work stations and forbidden to talk to one another. The mines were filled with infected water and the workers often contracted debilitating skin diseases, resulting in lost work time. The bosses discovered that it was cheaper to provide the workers with Wellingtons rather than to drain the mines. The workers then used these boots as a method of communication, slapping their boots, stamping their feet and rattling their ankle chains. During their free time, the miners would sing and dance together remembering their families and the tradition of Gumboot dancing was born. As I read the explanation, that this is part of the traditional culture of South Africa, everything having a reason, a meaning, all the cold negative feelings evaporated, and I wished I could have gone back and watched it again. I wished I could have seen the bigger picture, the other side. It would have made so much difference. I still smile to myself when I wear those particular pyjamas and I'm still practising, not to be 100% naughty but, as I make my resolutions, to try and look at the other side.

With every blessing
Revd. Pat Pollard

Prayer Pointers January 2005

Sundays	For God's guidance throughout this year.
Mondays	Thankfulness for past blessings.
Tuesdays	For the Oasis service and all new ventures in the year ahead.
Wednesdays	Local youth work.
Thursdays	Drug addicts and those working with them.
Fridays	Victims of terrorism worldwide.
Saturdays	Christians working in television.

Mothers' Union News *(Continued inside back cover.)*

During our Annual General Meeting, held in November, we held our Election of Officers. The following were proposed and seconded:-
Branch Leader: Brenda Cardwell
Treasurer: Reg Tumber.
Secretary: Carol Dolman
Our tea ladies, June and Norma, agreed to continue providing a welcome service. We are grateful to Pam Bell for leading the prayers at the beginning of our monthly meetings and to Vicky Shepherd for arranging the hymns. "Thank you" to June Akhurst for allowing us to use her home for our meetings.
Sadly, Revd. Pat Pollard, is unable to continue as Deanery President but will, of course, continue to be a member. We would like to say "Thank you" for the leadership and support she has given us over the years.

Our "Wave of Prayer" meeting will be on Wednesday, 5th January, 2005, at 1 p.m. to 1.30 p.m. at Arthur Salmon Close. From 1st January to 5th January every year all M.U. Branches in our Diocese of Canterbury are allocated half an hour to focus on and pray for our link Dioceses around the world. Each Diocese in U.K. and Ireland has Link Dioceses across the world so everyday of the year M.U. members across the world somewhere are meeting for their Wave of Prayer to focus on their Link Dioceses. Our Links are with Cyanguu in Rwanda, Bermuda, Kebbi in Nigeria, Lesotho and Lainya in Sudan.
Carol Marshall.
Carol is soon to be inaugurated as Ospringe Deanery President, in succession to Pat.

CHOIR NOTES

I hope everyone had a good Christmas, with lots of carols to hear and sing, and that 2005 will start bright for you and continue so.

Thank you to members of the choir who sang in various venues during December. *Aled Jones eat your heart out!*

The Christmas Celebration was splendid, sharing with lots of other musicians the real Christmas message of joy, harmony, peace and bringing light to the world in the name of Jesus. The choir sang "Do you hear what I hear?" - with Mark on the keyboard, Vicky and the choir on the chancel microphone and Lauren echoing from the back of church. Vicky, Lauren, Abbey and Cassie sang a lovely soaring descant to the well-known tune of "Away in a Manger" sung by the adults of the choir, with Mark playing a rippling accompaniment on the keyboard. [I had this music at school in 1980, when we used to join in with wonderful singing programmes for schools on the radio and t.v. This one was arranged by Douglas Coombes, who was an inspiring schools' music leader. I rang the firm from whom I had the original copy way back in 1980 and a charming lady assured me they had copies at £1 each so I ordered 20! A bargain.] Lauren and Don sang the solos in Harold Darke's "In the bleak midwinter". Harold Darke, 1888 to 1976, was taught the organ by Sir Walter Parratt and Sir Charles Stanford. I have two friends who were taught the organ by Harold Darke and they tell their pupils they are "grandchildren of the great Stanford"! Lauren and Vicky sang a duet of Cesar Franck's "Panis Angelicus". Don sang a 1999 Canterbury version of "Jingle Bells". We were eclectic and sang from across the ages and styles. Thank you to all who took part and to all who helped us. We were sorry Gill was ill for the occasion as she had done all the planning and we missed her wonderful voice.

The following day we had a wonderful Communion Service with the Baptism of Justine Judith Larter. Clare and Philip were well supported by their family, friends and Bell Ringers. This time I was really able to concentrate on the words of the Holy Baptism and how meaningful they are. I have planned to sing many of our Christmas Carols at the Almshouses Chapel at 2 p.m. Tuesday, 4th January. All are welcome to join us and for tea and cakes after in the Linda Head Room. If you haven't been in the Almshouses Chapel or heard their lovely organ, do join us. Choir practices restart on Wednesday, 12th January, 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. snow and frost permitting!!

FROM THE ORGAN SEAT.

On Saturday 22nd January, Kent County Organists are meeting at The Almshouses Chapel, 2 p.m. for 2.30 p.m. Brian Adams will demonstrate the organ, Peggy Partis will talk about the Almshouses, history and present role, and I will tell members a little about the organ. At 2 p.m. there will be a cup of tea in the Linda Head Room. We move on to St. Mary of Charity for 4 p.m. There is no parking at The Almshouses, the far end of the Central Car Park is the nearest Car Park.

I was privileged to take part in the Advent Mothers' Union Service in the Quire of the Cathedral. The singing was excellent and included new and traditional Advent hymns. Brenda Cardwell has written about it for you in the M.U. notes. I was thrilled as the final voluntary was Lefébure-Wély's Sortie in E flat, the one Michael Croucher loves and which sounds like a circus! The Canterbury Diocese M.U. have adapted that as their Voluntary!! David Flood had a loud clapping for it! Do you remember David played it when he came to Ospringe and gave us an Organ Concert in 2003?

A Blessing for the Journey (by Ruth Burgess, adapted, and via my sister-in-law, Brenda and Brian, who worship at The Gordon Chapel, Fochabers in the Episcopal church in the United Diocese of Moray, Ross and Caithness)

May the joy of Christmas continue into and throughout 2005. God bless, Vicky.

*Beckon us God
With your smile of welcome
With your strong sure calling
Beckon us in the morning.
Challenge us God
With your love and justice
With your truth and travelling
Challenge us in the Noontide.
Keep us God
With your saints and angels
With your friends and children
Keep us in the evening.
Cradle us God
With your dreams and stories
With your warmth and healing
Cradle us till dawning.
May we all go in peace
for our God goes with us. AMEN.*

This was used in The Gordon Chapel as they said "Go you well" to their lovely priest who is taking on a new Ministry in the Diocese and as they celebrated their 170th Anniversary. Recently Gordon Baxter of Baxter's Foods gave a stained glass window from the Baxter family who have always worshipped there.

Do look up their website <www.gordonchapel.org.uk> It is most interesting.

Mothers' Union News *(Continued from inside front cover.)*

From our new Branch Leader:-

On Monday, 6th December, I was happy to accept an invitation from Vicky for Carol Dolman and myself to accompany her to a Service for Advent at Canterbury Cathedral with the Canterbury Diocese M.U.

As we took our seats in the Quire the lights dimmed with only the daylight peeping through the spectacular windows. We were greeted with an African Song of Welcome sung beautifully with the accompaniment of the piano and bongo drums by the very special pupils of St. Nicholas School, joined by the Orchard School. In the darkness a lighted candle shone, a sign a child would be born to become a light to the world - Jesus. As the service proceeded five candles, surrounded by a wreath of green, were lit. Canon Clare lit the central candle followed by M.U. members from across our Diocese lighting the other four. The music was arranged, played and composed by M.U. member Janet McDonald. The Homilies preceding each lighting of a candle were given by Jane Williams, the wife of the Archbishop Rowan and a theologian in her own right. The two

interpretations which spoke to me were from Mark 2 - of four men's faith and friendship lowering their paraplegic friend down to Jesus through the roof and of their untold joy when five friends walk home. Also Luke 1, the meeting of Elizabeth and Mary, each carrying babies in their wombs, one John the Baptist, the other, our Lord Jesus, and of Elizabeth's blessing and honour at Mary's visit.

We sang hymns, gifts were given depicting friendship, families, our Church and M.U. family and our love for one another after each Homily.

After the service we had lunch at Fern's joined by Vicky's friend, Jill Worgan, then went shopping, telling each other we were not going to spend too much!! All I wanted to buy was a rubber to finish my Christmas Shoe Box, but I ended up buying a blouse and a cardigan and I still haven't bought the rubber!

I had a smashing day. What made it so were the surroundings, the children singing, the warmth of feeling all around and most of all the knowledge that Jesus loves me and you! God bless, Brenda C.

Services in our Benefice

2nd January 2005 Epiphany

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

Ospringe	8 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP)
Ospringe	9.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer (BCP)
Eastling	10 a.m.	Holy Communion (CW)
Ospringe	11 a.m.	Oasis

Tuesday 4th January

Whitehill Chapel 2.15 p.m. Holy Communion

9th January Baptism of Christ

Acts 10. 34 - 43, Matthew 3. 13 - end

Eastling	8 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP)
Whitehill Chapel	10 a.m.	Breakfast followed by Family People's Choice
Stalisfield	10 a.m.	Morning Prayer (BCP)
Eastling	10.30 a.m.	Freestyle
Ospringe	11 a.m.	Holy Communion (CW)

16th January 2nd Sunday of Epiphany

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

Ospringe	8 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP)
Eastling	10 a.m.	S Club in Village Hall
Stalisfield	10 a.m.	Holy Communion (CW)
Eastling	10 a.m.	Holy Communion (CW)
Ospringe	11 a.m.	Family Service + Baptism

23rd January 3rd Sunday of Epiphany

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

Eastling	10 a.m.	Youngstyle
Whitehill Chapel	11 a.m.	People's Choice
St. Mary of Charity	11 a.m.	Service for Week of Prayer for Christian Unity with Children's Activities in QE School

30th January 4th Sunday of Epiphany

Whitehill Chapel 10.30 a.m. Joint Service

6th February Sunday next before Lent

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

Ospringe	8 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP)
Ospringe	9.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer (BCP)
Stalisfield	10 a.m.	Holy Communion (CW)
Eastling	10 a.m.	Holy Communion (CW)
Whitehill Chapel	10 a.m.	Breakfast followed by Family People's Choice
Ospringe	11 a.m.	Oasis with Bishop Graham

9th February Ash Wednesday

Ospringe 3 p.m. Holy Communion (BCP)

(BCP) Service taken from the Book of Common Prayer, 1662.
(CW) Service follows Common Worship Liturgy, 2000

Sharing Ministry in our Benefice

Priest in Charge Reverend Penny Fenton (01795 536366)
9 Brogdale Road, Faversham. ME13 8SX

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

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

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

Churchwardens

Ospringe Miss C. Brightman (01795 531960)
Mr. P. Larter (01795 531044)

Eastling Mr S. Youle (01795 890368)
Mrs. A. Smith (01795 890469)

Stalisfield with Otterden

Joint Warden Mrs. J. Baker (01622 858332)
Mrs S. Gaind (01622 858551)

Whitehill

Steward 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.

Deadline for February Good News

Please send your magazine contribution by the 15th January to Hilary Harlow, Pinks Farm, Eastling, Faversham ME13 0BA. Tel: 01795 890338. Where possible, please submit your entries by e-mail: h.f.harlow@btconnect.com

From the Registers

Baptism

JUSTINE JUDITH Larter
12th December 2004 at Ospringe

Funerals

Marjorie GREENSTREET
29th November 2004 Cremation at Bobbing

Bernard (Lou) GRAY
2nd December 2004 Cremation at Bobbing

Ellen ROBINSON
3rd December 2004 Cremation at Charing

Bessie ALLEN
6th December 2004 Cremation at Barham

Ronald Ernest (Ron) PARTRIDGE
10th December 2004 Funeral at Ospringe,
followed by cremation at Charing

Interment of Ashes

Stella Margery HANN
4th December 2004 at Ospringe

Ospringe Parish Council

An update from the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 8th December.

At the recent Kent Association of Parish Councils (KAPC) meeting a presentation was made to Joan Tovey. In recognition of the 18 years service to the Parish Council the KAPC presented her with an orchid and a garden chair. The orchid is ornamental but so life-like that one has to touch it to be sure it is not real. The garden chair was an interesting choice of gift - when does Joan ever find time to sit down? Despite retiring from the Parish Council she is still very active in lots of ventures, including the Faversham Bike ride, the Parish Design Statement, and raising funds for Faversham Football Club. Keep up the good work, Joan!

The Parish council has been in contact with KCC with a view to setting up a Parish web-site. This will be funded by the KCC, with the Parish providing local updates. More news as it becomes available.

The next Parish Council meeting is on the 12th January, to which the public are welcome to attend.

And finally.....

The Parish Council would like to wish all in the Parish a Happy New Year

Standing with the Peace-makers

British Christians are working for peace between Palestine and Israel by literally standing in the front line to show solidarity with those who are suffering on both sides.

They are taking part in the Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine and Israel (EAPPI), a joint project of Churches Together in Britain & Ireland and Christian Aid. The scheme is a response to a call made to the World Council of Churches by the Heads of Churches in Jerusalem and involves volunteers engaging in non-violent activity 'on the ground'.

This year twelve people from Britain and Ireland have joined volunteers from eight other countries to stand alongside Israelis and Palestinians who are seeking an end to the occupation of what are termed "the occupied Palestinian territories".

Some Ecumenical Accompaniers take turns in watching the gates which give farmers limited access to fields in the area. "Before we arrived," said John Lynes, "the Israeli security guards often hassled the farmers. These fields are their daily livelihood... Palestinians are glad to have the EAs with them as we certainly reduce the likelihood and level of potential violence. We also use our contacts with media and human rights organisations to share information and apply indirect pressure on the Israeli Defence Force."

Protection through presence is one of the main objectives of these brave volunteers who put themselves potentially in harm's way. They also support acts of non-violent resistance alongside Christian and Muslim Palestinians and Israeli peace activists. In addition, they engage in public policy advocacy and report violations of human rights.

"Israelis are barred from entering the Palestinian towns to see what is happening," Katharine Maycock, a former accompanier, said. "They live with the real fear that a bus may explode anywhere and at any time. They don't know that half the Palestinians live on food assistance because of imposed closures. Equally, many Palestinians are unaware that 100,000 Israeli families will soon fall under the poverty level, due to cut-backs on welfare spending. Yet the terror felt in Tel Aviv or Jerusalem is the same as that felt in the streets of Gaza, Hebron or the mud alleys of Deheishe refugee camp in Bethlehem."

Anyone wanting to have more information or make a donation should write to Laura Stagnaro, EAPPI, Freepost, Friends House, 173 Euston Road, London NW1 2YS.

Ospringe Parish Design Statement

Our Design Statement describes Ospringe Parish as it is today. It will assist in the design of future developments whether they be small extensions or large projects.

If accepted by the Borough Council, it will be used as Statutory Planning Guidance. To this end we need to consult residents living in the parish or their comments.

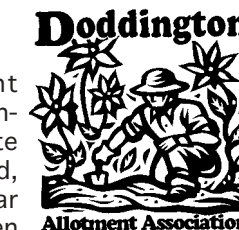
The consultation period covers six weeks, commencing Monday 13th December 2004 until Monday 24th January 2005. A copy of our draft Design Statement may be seen at:-

The Alma Public house
Cllr. Derek Macey at Pawley Farm
Cllr. Rosemary Simmons at the fruit stall Whitehill House
The Alexander Centre, Preston Street, Faversham
Faversham Library, Newton Road, Faversham
www.faversham.org/villages/ospringe.asp

Quite a few readers took the time to come along to our audio/visual presentation and gave us their comments. If, after reading the document, you would like to make comments please send them, with your name and address, to Joan Tovey at Brogdale Farmhouse, Brogdale Road, Ospringe, Faversham. ME13 8XY.

We thank you very much for your support over the last three years and take this opportunity to wish you all a Peaceful New Year.

Doddington Allotments



Doddington Allotment Association has been running a small allotment site on the Old Lenham Road, Doddington for one year now. The site has fifteen full sized plots and there are currently two plots remaining for rental.

Think you'd like an allotment?

Grow your own great-tasting food, keep fit, enjoy the outdoors and meet new people! Doddington Allotments are on an excellent, sunny site with good growing conditions and water laid on. Don't worry if you're a newcomer - there's plenty of advice available, and value-for-money seeds available through a national scheme.

Contact us

Interested? Drop by and have a look and a chat - the allotments are on the Old Lenham Road, just on the edge of the village (opposite the Mid Kent Water pumping station). Or give Richard or Kathy a call on 01795 886421, or drop a note through our door (2 West End Cottages, The Street, Doddington - the row of cottages next to the playing field).

Richard Moyse (Chair)
2 West End Cottages, The Street, Doddington.
Tel. 886421 (not after 9pm)

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SITTINGBOURNE (01795) 472040

Eastling Neighbourhood Watch.

Contact numbers:

Swale NHW office 0808 100 3308 (free)
 Crimestoppers 0800 555 111 (24 hours, free and anonymous)
 NHW liaison officer 01795 584143
 Sittingbourne police station 01795 477055
 Emergencies or crime in progress always use 999
 Kent Trading Standards 08457 585 497

Christmas is over and thoughts turn to summer holidays - and there is a telephone fraud/scam currently in operation (this applies to home and/or work telephones - landlines and mobiles). On picking up the phone you will hear a recorded message congratulating you on winning an all in trip to an exotic location. You will then be asked to press 9 to hear further details and you will be connected to a high cost premium line.

Advice is don't press 9, hang up immediately, it could cost a significant amount only to be told you are not one of the lucky winners. This advice also applies to any unsolicited calls.

Kent Trading Standards have advised us to beware of a man going door to door selling fish from the back of his van. He has been operating in the Canterbury area where he has been selling boxes of fish for £400 and targeting elderly consumers. Whilst this may

be a legitimate business there may be a problem with labelling, pricing and quantity. Information of the details of the vehicle and any description of the seller would be very helpful contact Kent Trading Standards on 08457 585 497

Eastling Neighbourhood Watch messages are also posted on the village notice boards (at the Village Hall and the Parish notice board in The Street).

Anyone in Eastling wishing to receive alert information by e-mail please send a message to <eastlingnhw@tesco.net>.

Wine and Wisdom

The Wine and Wisdom, held on Saturday 20th November in aid of the Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch, attracted 10 tables. Many thanks to all the helpers and everyone who attended, As a result, a grand total of £235.00 has been deposited in the Senior Citizens fund.



Senior Citizens CHRISTMAS LUNCH



31 Senior Citizens sat down to an excellent Christmas Lunch in Eastling Village Hall on Tuesday 7th December - thank you to Joan Webster and her helpers for providing the food.

After the meal a letter was read out from Tony and Mary O'Regan, the previous licensees of the Carpenters Arms, expressing their kind thoughts and good wishes to everyone in Eastling. As they were unable to provide the Christmas hampers this year, a cheque for £300 was enclosed to pay for the Lunch. Everyone expressed their grateful thanks to Tony and Mary for their kind thoughts and generosity. Together with the money already raised, there are now sufficient funds in the bank to guarantee Christmas Lunch 2005!

Good luck to everyone who helped and attended. Have a Happy New Year.

To the Pensioners of Eastling. This year we are not in a position to continue our practice of delivering your Christmas Hamper which, over the years, has given us much pleasure in organising. However we are in a position, thanks to the efforts of customers, staff and friends throughout the year, to be able to pay for your Christmas Luncheon and some drinks (I hope). We will be thinking of you all this Christmas and we will raise a glass to you all on the afternoon of your luncheon. CHEERS!

Do have a nice Christmas and we will remember Eastling and all the good times we have had and all the lovely people we have been so lucky to have met.

Yours truly

Tony & Mary O'Regan.



Organ Demonstration

Kent County Organists meet on Saturday, 22nd January, 2 p.m. for 2.30 p.m. to 3.45 p.m. in the Almshouses Chapel for a demonstration of the organ by Brian Adams and a short talk on the Almshouses, the Chapel and their organ. If you are interested to hear the organ do see Vicky Shepherd.



The Chapel at Faversham Almshouses.

Picture from <www.faversham.org> used with permission

Carols before Twelfth Night

Ospringle Church Choir are going to do an impromptu concert with carols at The Almshouses Chapel on Tuesday, 4th January, 2005 at 2 p.m. followed by tea and cakes in the Linda Head Room.

You are welcome to join the Residents and see our lovely Chapel and hear the organ. Vicky Shepherd.

Happy New Year to all our Readers and Contributors

Eastling Short Mat Bowls Club

The Swale short mat league is well under way now. Our game against U/K Leisure on 16th November saw their hall well ahead with all the Christmas decorations up! The match was played on a very friendly basis and it was pleasing to come away with a win and eight points. Our game at home to Rodmersham produced a very rewarding win 9 - 5 and 53 shots to 33. The long drive over to Warden Bay did not turn out in our favour as our team could not cope with the mats and playing conditions and came home with only three points.

The club's dinner, on 11th December, was attended by thirty members who thoroughly enjoyed themselves, indulging in an excellent meal by All Occasions Caterers. Our guests for the evening were Cliff and Cleone Curtis who run the Swale Short Mat Leagues and all the competitions. During the evening we had a quiz by Norman Neaves, some dancing and some very good story telling. Everybody is looking forward to next year's event all ready.

The club welcomes new members in Eastling Village Hall: Wednesdays 2.30 - 4.30pm, Fridays 2.30 - 4.30pm and 7.30 - 9.30pm.

A youth team could be run on Fridays 5-7pm, anyone interested, please call Roy on 537162.

Eastling Parish Council

The next meeting will be on 12/01/05 when the main agenda item will be the Budget for the Parish for 05/06.

Diary

4th Carol Singing	2pm Faversham Almshouses
6th Afternoon Club	2pm Champion Hall
7th Trip to Sleeping Beauty	7.30pm Marlowe Theatre
10th Gardeners' Club	7.45pm Champion Hall
12th Coffee Pop-In reopens	9 - 11am Eastling Village Hall
12th Ospringle Parish Council	7.30pm Whitehill Chapel
12th Eastling Parish Council	8pm Village Hall
14th Craft Club	6.15pm Champion Hall
15th Deadline for February magazine	
17th Gardeners' Club	7.45pm Champion Hall
18th W.I.	2.15pm Champion Hall
20th Afternoon Club	2pm Champion Hall
22nd Organ Talk	2.30pm Faversham Almshouses
25th Magazine Folding	2pm Usual Venues
28th Craft Club	6.15pm Champion Hall
FEBRUARY	
6th Bishop Graham at Oasis	11am Ospringle Church

Having a Party?

Planning a Wedding?

Venue for your Club ...

Hall and smaller rooms available with kitchen facilities at

Eastling Village Hall.

For more information please contact Mary Eagleton on 890436.



Painter's Forstal with Ospringle W.I.

January 18th Slides of Faversham and District.

Visitors are welcome.

Competition:

An old postcard/print/photo.

Flower of the month.

Painter's Forstal Village Amenities Committee

Panto Trip

to see

SLEEPING BEAUTY

At the Marlowe Theatre

Friday 7th January

7.30pm performance

Only £15 including Coach

Contact 01795 536548

to book and for all details -

Only a few seats remaining

Good news for chocolate lovers

If you love chocolate, here's an excellent excuse to eat some: recent research has found an ingredient in chocolate that can help stop persistent coughs, and lead to more effective medicines.

The study at Imperial College London found that theobromine, found in cocoa, was nearly a third more effective in stopping persistent coughs than codeine, currently considered the best cough medicine.

The researchers said the discovery could lead to more effective cough treatments. They also found that unlike standard cough treatments, theobromine caused no adverse effects on the cardiovascular or central nervous systems, such as drowsiness.

So just think - next time you have a chocolate bar, you are keeping a cough at bay!

Activities at the Afternoon Club 2005

A Happy New Year to all.

6th January Bingo

20th January Board Games

2pm in Champion Hall,

Painter's Forstal



Children's Nativity of December 5th

Members of the Craft Club and a few from Puddleducks, contributed to our morning service with a delightful Nativity scene. Jill Seaman did an excellent job as narrator, scene shift and props organiser. Thank you to all of you. I hope you enjoyed doing it as much as we enjoyed watching.

Painter's Forstal Gardeners' Club

The January meetings 2005 are on

Monday 10th

Mr Lush will give a talk on *Vegetable Culture.*

Monday 17th

Second round, Neame Cup Quiz - at home to Monkton and Monster.

Both meetings are in the Champion Hall, The Chapel at 7.45pm.

Further details from

Faversham 533608.



Coffee Pop-In

starts the new year on Wednesday 12th January Open each Wednesday during term time, 9 - 11am.

Totally free - all welcome.