

S club for all primary school aged children on Sunday 16th January, in

> Eastling Village Hall Youngstyle

A half hour service for all young at heart Sunday 23rd January, 10am in Eastling Church

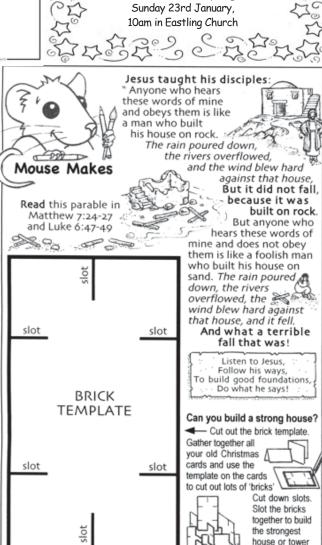


The answer to each question is the name of a person in the Bible. When you have all the answers, rearrange the first letter of each name to make the name of a saint whose festival is celebrated in January. Answers at the bottom of the page.

- He built the Ark (Genesis 6)
- Paul's assistant (Acts 19)
- Father of Jacob and Esau (Genesis 21)
- King Saul's father (1 Samuel
- Eunice's son (2 Timothy 1)
- Ruth's mother in law (Ruth)
- Laban's daughter, mother of Joseph (Genesis 29)
- Giant killed by David (1 Samuel 17)
- The first woman (Genesis 3)

Who invented the first fire place? Alfred the Grate.

Answers: 1 Noah 2 Erastus 3 Isaac 4 Kish 5 Timothy 6 Naomi 7 Rachel 8 Goliath 9 Eve. The letters spell out KENTIGERN (also known as Mungo) founder of the church at Glasgow, whose day is celebrated on 14th January.



vou can!



THANK YOU

British Humanitarian Aid thanks all the people of Eastling, especially the children, for their wonderful and generous support at the Toi(letry) Service held at Eastling Church in November. We are sure that our friends in Ukraine will be appreciative of your gifts as such items are not easily available to the people we support.

God bless you all,

David Faga



Prau with uour shoes

With the rush of Christmas almost over, we tumble into the New Year, sleep for a couple of days, take down the decorations and plod back to work, school or our normal routines. There's a pleasure about getting back to normality, but there's also the challenge of looking forward to what the

vear will bring.

Not all of us want this new year. For some of us we know it will bring separations and loss: children growing up and growing away, moving away, family and friends moving on. For some of us it brings extra work as we take on new responsibilities, study for exams, look after others. For some we have to start

again; to learn to be on our own, perhaps through moving away or the loss of those we have lived with for many years and

Just for this month, while you put on your shoes, ask God to be with you in the day ahead. To walk ahead of you, to be by your side and close behind you: to surround you with his presence. For it is his day that we are walking into and not ours. Let his will be done, and not ours.

And then as you take your shoes off, see what you can thank God for from that day together. To help to remind you, why not leave a single shoe by the main door - that might get visitors asking too.

Calling all Village Walkers

Several people have contacted me to join our village walking group and we

will set up meeting at the Carpenters in the new year. If you would like to be included, please contact me, Harry

Kyte, on 01795 890703, or email hkass@tiscali.co.uk .

The proposal would be to meet at local pubs or car parks, about 10.30am, on a mid week day and walk planned circular walks, of not too difficult terrain, with a time limit initially of two hours duration. The group could then either have a ploughman's or pub lunch, before dispersing with details of the following week's walk. The day, the duration and start times are not set in stone at this

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

What's new for 2011?

At the start of this New Year many people will be making resolutions of the things they will do, or change, or give up in the coming twelve We think about the direction of our lives and whether we are travelling in the right direction, but how often do we reflect on our relationship with God.

The Christian life is often likened to a journey and, like the travellers in



Prayer

Sunday

Monday

Pointers

January 2011

Chaucer's Canterbury Tales, it can be good to travel together to hear and learn from each others stories and

experiences. In a world increasingly hungry for hope and meaning the Christian life has so much to offer, however, the challenges of living for Christ day by day are enormous! So in 2011 the churches across the diocese will be encouraging people to look together at what it means to be a disciple of Christ. But what is discipleship?

An essential theme of the bible is that of covenant; where the living God reaches out to link irreversibly his world and his people to himself,

forever linking it, them, and us with So wherever you are on your bonds of love and affection. We see journey we invite you to join us covenant first in the great story of during this year, as individuals and creation, then Noah and the flood with the rainbow set as a sign that meaning of discipleship and how God will never forsake that which he has made. This is renewed through Abraham and Israel but A number of exciting opportunities ultimately the covenant of God's have already been arranged for love is made flesh in Jesus Christ. 2011 including: The death and resurrection of Christ shows us that covenant is not about obligation but about relationship, about living in grace and freedom, about self-sacrifice that others may live and find hope for themselves. Christ invites us and all people to enter both into the fruits of that covenant and into its

So discipleship is learning how to enter into that covenant which is God's gift to all of us. A covenant forged of God's free will and God's free love for us all that cannot be broken by human failure. It is not dependant on us being a good disciple or a good Christian. Discipleship is about learning how utterly dependent we are and are called to be upon that free grace of God. The free grace which accepts, forgives, heals, restores and empowers.

A Christmas Thank You

Yet again we say a huge Thank You to various people for the splendid Eastling church.

glory of a New Year. As the wise men brought

gifts, so may we make the gift of our life to Jesus

Give thanks for the

Tuesday For the cold, hungry or homeless.

Wednesday For Peace throughout the world.

Thursday Guide those whose

decisions affect our future.

Friday That Emmanuel will enter our hearts.

Saturday For all new born babies. responsibilities.

Christmas decorations in The wonderfully decorated tree was ready in time for the school Carol Service on 15th December, and the following Saturday the windows, pillars, candelabra and just about everywhere else, were adorned for

the special season. Over 200 people squeezed into the church for the Nine Lessons and Carols on Christmas Eve and we have to thank Andrew Baxter, organist, for his work for this special service; also Nigel and his team, for arranging the outside lighting, and those who helped light the hundreds of candles for a very special candlelit service.

communities, to explore the

Christ can transform your life.

- A chance to meet together during Lent (9 March - 16 April) to look at five themes of discipleship; Come, Follow, Learn, Change, Go.
- The Easter Monday Youth Pilgrimage to the Cathedral where young people can tell the stories of their faith journeys.
- Between Ascension Pentecost (2-12 June) creative and corporate prayer events will be taking place in the Parishes, Deanery and Diocese.
- Gathering (16-17)September) at the Cathedral will further explore discipleship and community.
- Additional resources individuals and small groups will be available through the

So why not make a resolution in 2011 to embrace God's gift of Grace and come with us on the journey at Eastling or Stalisfield Church?

Martin Beckenham

Eastling Church Flower Rota January 2011



15/16 Steph Youle 22/23 Steph Youle 29/30 Dorothy Reeve Feb 5/6 Dorothy Reeve

Eastling Neighbourhood Watch

Contact Numbers: Parish /Village Warden 07794 010394 Crimestoppers 0800 555111 Swale Police 01622 690690 Emergencies 999



No doubt we have all read about the increase in crime, that Faversham and the rural villages have suffered during the last couple of months and, I can assure, you the police have taken the appropriate action and the law courts have backed this action up. We should see a significant reduction within a short

Hopefully, we have seen the end of the major snow and I would like to thank all the people who put themselves out to help and assist all those who needed assistance during this time.

A timely reminder for everybody to keep their dogs under control, as we are soon approaching the lambing season and we do not require any problems regarding this.

There has been a good response in the village to making notes of vehicles and persons within the village, which are unusual to normal village life. I do assure that all this information is passed on to the relevant authorities.

Have a happy New Year



Joshua says he's very sorry - but it's something to do with the recent weapons procurement review.

Eastling Parish Council

The next Parish Council Meeting date is Wednesday, 12th January 2011 at 6.30pm in Eastling Village Hall. Residents are welcome to attend.

Seriously ill flu cases spark **NHS** vaccination call

People in east Kent who have been offered the flu jab and not yet been vaccinated are being urged to act following the first cases of serious illness caused by flu this winter.

The flu vaccination this winter protects against three strains of flu, including swine flu, which is expected to be the major strain circulating.

People with flu are asked to stay at home wherever possible to avoid spreading the infection. Anyone with health queries or concerns should speak to NHS Direct on 0845 4647, or visit www.nhs.uk

When practices are closed over Christmas and New Year, GP cover is provided by South East Health on 03000 24 24 24.

The Carpenters Arm

Our thanks to all of you over the last year for all your support and friendship, especially during the heavy snow when the pub was full solely of villagers.

New for 2011

2011 brings a new menu in the spring and of course the opera week-end on 19th & 20th Feb. We're also bringing in a flamenco evening in the courtyard with tapas, paella, flamenco guitar and dancing, watch this space for dates.

Guest Barman

Back by demand! Starting on 26th January with Eastling's own "Hinge & Bracket" Dates available if you fancy a go

Live Music

Thursday 6th Selkie Friday 7th Jailbird Thursday 13th Bonatunes Thursday 20th Archive Thursday 27th Vox Delux

> Happy New Year Mitch, Donna and the dogs

HEALING FROM THE INSIDE OUT

A day for yourself

with Jennifer Rees Larcombe

Saturday 26th February 2011, in Eastling Village Hall,

Jennifer Rees Larcombe has a fruitful and long-established prayer, healing, speaking and writing ministry.

Visit www.beautyfromashes.co.uk to find out more about Jennifer and her ministry.

Provisional timings are:

Registration and coffee 9.30 - 10.00 10.00 - 10.30 Welcome and worship Part one of Jennifer's talk 10.30 - 12.00 12.00 - 12.45 Lunch 12.45 - 13.00 Worship

Part two of Jennifer's talk 13.00 - 14.30

14.30 - 15.00 Tea / coffee

Healing service with the laying on of hands 15.00 - 16.00

16.00 end of day

There will be plenty of opportunities to buy books written by Jennifer, there will also be a stall run by the Sittingbourne Christian bookshop.

If you would like to reserve a place, please contact Jan Beckenham via The Rectory, Newnham Lane, Eastling, ME13 oAS. Tel: 01795 890487

Cost is £5 per person - cheques payable to Eastling PCC. Tea and coffee provided, please bring your own lunch or include £1.50 if you would like soup.

Services in our Churches

Ministry in our Parishes

2nd January The Epiphany

Ephesians 3. 1 - 12, Matthew 2. 1 - 12 8 am Holy Communion (BCP) Eastling

Eastling 10 am Benefice Service

9th January The Baptism of Christ

Acts 10 34 - 43 Matthew 3 13 - end

8 am Holy Communion (BCP) Eastling Stalisfield 10 am Holy Communion (CW)

Eastling 10.30 am Freestyle

16th January Epiphany 2

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

Eastling 8 am Holy Communion (BCP) Stalisfield 10 am Morning Prayer (BCP) Eastling 10 am Morning Prayer (BCP) Eastling 10 am S Club in Village Hall

23rd January Epiphany 3

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

8 am Holy Communion (BCP) Eastling

Eastling 10 am Youngstyle

30th January Presentation of Christ in the Temple

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

Eastling 8 am Holy Communion (BCP)

Eastling 10 am Benefice Service

6th February Fifth Sunday before Lent

1 Corinthians 2. 1 -12 [13 - end], Matthew 5. 13 - 20 8 am Holy Communion (BCP) Eastling 10 am Holy Communion (CW) Eastling

Stalisfield 10 am Morning Prayer

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

Priest Reverend Caroline Pinchbeck (01795 890487)

in The Rectory, Newnham Lane, Eastling Faversham ME13 0AS Charge

<caroline.pinchbeck575@btinternet.com>

Reverend Angela Cheeseman (01795 892124) New House Farm, Eastling ME13 0BN

Reader Norman Fowler (01795 890412)

4 Meesons Close, Eastling

Hugh Perks (01795 890603) Reader

Weald Cottage, Eastling

Churchwardens

(01795 890368) Eastling Steve Youle Audrey Smith (01795 890469)

Stalisfield with Otterden

Curate

Martin Beckenham (01795 892079)

Parish Administrator Jan Beckenham (01795 890487) eastlingchurch@googlemail.com (Monday &Friday mornings)

From the Registers

Confirmation

Laura Lloyd 5th December 2010 St Mary of Charity, Faversham

Midweek Groups

Bible study 7.30pm Pinks Farm Tuesdays Wednesdays Morning Worship

9.05 - 9.20am Eastling Church Thursday

Prayer Group 10.30am Pinks Farm All welcome.

In search of a New Year's Resolution?

As well as your New Year diet, here is another resolution for depressed, to forgive those who have harmed us, to help the year ahead. Everyone has heard of it – but who do you know that has really tried it? It is found in the Sermon on the world.

Several religions urge followers to refrain from harming others. That is a first step towards building a just society. But only Jesus said that we should live our lives actively seeking likeness! to do good to others. It is an attitude warm with generosity, So - here is a challenge for 2011: 'In everything, do to others compassion. We are to go out of our way to encourage the Law and the Prophets.' The alternative is not an option!

those in need.

To refrain from doing injustice takes strong self-control. To Mount, and is one of the most famous things that Jesus ever live caring for others takes something more - a life-attitude said. It is also without parallel in all the teachings of the of self-sacrificial love. Such love we see first in Jesus, in his death for our sins on the cross. When we follow him, our Heavenly Father wants to see his Son's characteristics grow in our lives. If we are his children, he expects a family

with kindness, brimming with quiet graciousness and what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the



OK, we got the gold. We got the frankincense. We got the myrrh. Think we should get something more practical, like nappies, maybe?

Nigel Beeton is married to a Church Warden and so he writes: "I'm aware of how hard people work at Christmas so that folk can enjoy their Carol services and special Christmas services... so January can be a time of much deserved rest for them!'

Why churchwardens love January

Hail to the Lord's anointed, Both clergyman and lay, They're seldom disappointed To get past Christmas Day! The hectic Christmas season Of service constantly -There can't be better reason To welcome January!

The Curate and the Vicar A busy schedule keep. As they rush, ever quicker -They don't get that much sleep. The overworked Churchwardens And their sidespersons team -Sure don't get time for boredom And only seldom scream!

So, when the season's over; The crib has been but by. The drapes to green changed over They breathe a heartfelt sigh! They laugh and smile with pleasure And sing a merry rhyme, But short-lived is their leisure -For soon comes Easter time!

By Nigel Beeton

From the Butler's Pantry

by Audrey Keen

From summer 1970 to May 1975 I worked in the Butler's Pantry at Otterden Place, for the Mutual Household Association.

This is one of five essays about that time, between 1959 - 1975, when Otterden Place was a residential home for elderly gentlefolk.

Breakfast at Otterden Place, 1970. It is eight o'clock on a weekday morning and the residents are preparing for their breakfast, which will be served after the gong, at nine a.m. The staff are already in the house and, in the kitchen, cook is preparing bacon and eggs yesterday it was kippers. In the butler's pantry we are toasting bread which, presently will stand in racks on the hot plate in the dining room. Next to this will be a large covered bowl of steaming porridge and hot milk: there is cold cereal if preferred, but porridge is popular today. The wonderful, unmistakable aroma of coffee, freshly made, permeates the whole of the ground floor. Together with the crisping toast, this is surely the very essence of an English breakfast time. This repast of morning juice, porridge,



something cooked, followed by toast and marmalade, and copious amounts of breakfast beverage, prepares each resident for the start of their day. We, in the butler's pantry, will clear away breakfast things, wash up, sweep, polish and clean the dining room and pantry. Then we will lay up for luncheon and open the window, letting in the fresh air to meet the wonderful smell of Min polish, just used. This ensures that the room is 'fit for a king' when it is needed next at one

Even in 1970, Otterden Place emitted a 'time gone be' ambience, it held a knowledge of yesteryear, a step into the past, and I loved it all.

'A robin probes the frosty ground And rooks fly high in whorls, And, while brown fieldfares cross the hills.

A cloud of snow unfurls.' AIK

Left out in the cold

A member of a certain church, who previously had been attending services each week, stopped going. After a few weeks, the minister decided to visit him. It was a chilly evening. The minister found the man at home alone, sitting before a blazing fire. Guessing the reason for his minister's visit, the man welcomed him warily, led him to a big chair near the fireplace and waited. The minister made himself comfortable, but said nothing. In the grave silence, he contemplated the play of the flames around the burning logs.

After some minutes, the minister took the fire tongs, carefully picked up a brightly burning ember and placed it to one side of the hearth all alone. Then he sat back in his chair, still silent. The host watched all this in quiet fascination.

As the one lone ember's flame diminished, there was a momentary glow and then its fire was no more. Soon it was cold and dead and dark. Not a word had been spoken since the initial greeting. The two men sat on in reflective silence.

A little while later, just before the minister was ready to leave, he picked up the cold, dead ember and placed it back in the middle of the fire. Immediately it began to glow once more with the light and warmth of the burning coals around it. As the minister reached the door to leave, his host said, "Thank you so much for your visit and especially for the fiery sermon. I shall be back in church next Sunday."



Stalisfield was delighted with the 2010 theatre offering staged in The Hut on Saturday 11th December. The pantomime "Peter Pan" filled the hall. Unfortunately,

audience space ran out well before the demand for tickets, Greenwood whose lighting, sound leaving many disappointed.

The lucky ones were led by the players from a relatively normal stuffy middle class family headed by a bad tempered father, into Peter Pan's "Never Never Land". With that transition the show turned into a first class frolic staged in the land of "Highly Improbable". The most unlikely mix of pirates, caricatured Red Indians, fairies and of course, a ticking crocodile, staged a convincing mayhem. The constant circulation of these groups on their impossible missions through the hall would have made the director of a French farce feel a failure. There was little surprise in the end when "Wendy" declined the invitation to remain with Peter Pan as Finally, we can only admire the intense "mother" of the children and opted for taking them home to her own understandably less than enthusiastic mother.

A formidable background team supported the on-stage performers. night contributed around £750. Without the amazing scenery, costume,



effects and makeup, the illusion could not have been maintained. The (largely) unseen scene shifters added their valuable contribution. A big "thank you" is owed to Alan and Maggie

effects and music brought a truly professional look to the superb set. The production and direction of this show fully justify three rousing cheers!

The cast justified all the weeks of dedicated rehearsal. From the fearsome Captain Hook, through Peter Pan, the Darling family, the ultimate teenager Tinkerbell, the Indians, pirates and crocodile down to the smallest fairy, each and every one played and sang brilliantly.

Good humoured joking reference to local characters and places together with traditional audience banter, kept up the pantomime atmosphere.

effort which has been put in to stage such a Village enterprise. There could be no better justification for the continuing existence of a Village Hall and to that end the net earnings on the

Rovters Affiliated

FRIENDS of EASTLING SCHOOL

Unfortunately, the Christmas Concert with Snowdown Colliery Welfare Band had to be cancelled due to the extremely cold weather! Congratulations to the winners of the Christmas Raffle drawn on Friday 17th December.

The Eastling School Children's Shopping Afternoon was a great success when the children were able to buy their presents from a superb range and have them gift- wrapped ready for Christmas.

The School Christmas Disco was cancelled because of the snow.

Thank you to everyone who has supported the school's events throughout the year.

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL!



Open Wednesdays, from 5th January onwards, 9 - 11am in Eastling Village Hall No charge, toddlers welcome. Next Cake sale on 2nd February. Books for sale most weeks. Contact number is 01795 890338.

Eastling Gardeners' Club New Year's Party

Saturday, 8th January at 7.30pm in the village hall 'Phantasmagoria' magic lantern show

followed by a buffet supper with wine. Free to members, otherwise £2.50 For further details, please contact Clive on 890160.

Otterden WI

Our next meeting will be a "Recycled Christmas Swap Shop" on Wednesday 5th January, Please bring along any unwanted Christmas aifts to swap - quests welcome, 7.30pm in Stalisfield Hall. Becky Ward. Publicity Officer.

Thank You

01795 890071

The Wit and Wisdom organised by Alan and Marian proved to be a huge success, with only 3 points separating the first three teams.

The magnificent sum of £256 was raised for the Senior Citizens' fund. Thanks to everyone for their support. Norman Neaves

Painters Forstal with Ospringe WI

Tuesday 18th January Birthday Lunch at Brook Farmhouse Contact 01795 532756 for membership details.

"Ospringe Bargain Hunt" "Yard Trail"

The Friends of Ospringe Church are organising a spring yard sale trail. This will be your golden opportunity to have a spring clean and make some money by clearing out your attic, garage and shed. In fact all those places that you keep things you will never use again. Now is the time to get them out and check them over. Your unwanted items are other people's treasure trove. You sell the items from your frontage and we will organise a list of the addresses of those taking part and provide a map to prospective buyers so they can travel around to see all the places where items are for sale.

To enter the trail just send £5 to "The Friends of Ospringe Church" c/o Whitehill House, Whitehill, Ospringe, Faversham, Kent ME13 ODN together with your name, address, & phone number.

This sale should be a cornucopia of attic treasures and will take place on Saturday 9th April 2011, between 10am. and 2pm.

Treasure maps will be available before the date so you must get your registration in no later than 21/3/11 if vou wish to be included.

Maps will be available from the Church of St Peter & St Paul Ospringe or the above address. More details next month.

Eastling Short Mat Bowls Club

In the East Kent League, we played Tyler Hill at home on 25th November, and won on both mats, scoring 48 shots to Tyler Hill's 11, giving us 6 points.



Then came our trek down to Aylesham on 8th December and played in their bowls pavilion, with mats on mats. but we soon adapted, and came away with 6 more points. The first lot of snow led to two cancellations, but after that had gone, Aylesham came to us on 16th December. With the home

advantage we won 22-12 by Mick Heath, Brian Fisher, and Chris Smith. And John Graham, Eileen and Rov Piles won 37-1

In between these games, we played Boughton in the Swale League. They played very well, taking 10 points from us, so we only came home with 4 points. We had a most successful dinner at the village hall, where 33 of us sat down to a most enjoyable meal.

Happy New Year to you all - do not sit in doors, come along and join us on Wednesday's start at 2-00 p-m to 4-00 p-m. All equipment provided, just bring flat soled shoes for you to change into.

All the best to you all Roy Piles, 01795 537162

LEIGH MILES DANCE & FITNESS

CLASSES **Eastling Village Hall**

WEDNESDAYS

7.00pm BUMS, LEGS & TUMS 8.00pm FIT DANCE

THURSDAYS 9.15am FITNESS PILATES

5pm CHILDREN'S

FREESTYLE DANCE IDTA

OTHER VENUES DAY & EVENING CLASSES AVAILABLE FOR ADULTS & CHILDREN LENHAM FAVERSHAM

www.milesdanceandfitness.com

leigh.fitness@btinternet.com 01795 890149 or 07873 431952

Charing and District Local History Society

A Happy New Year To

All Our Readers

Thursday 13th January

ROYAL VISITS TO KENT

by Colin Breed: a former DCI of Kent Police, responsible for the protection of Royal and V.I.P. visitors within the county.

To be held at 8pm in Charing Parish Hall, doors open at 7.45pm. All welcome. Visitors £2. Enquiries: Jennie Burgess (Hon Sec) 01233 714639

House / Office Cleaner Ironing / Garden Services

References available High Quality Phone Raluka 01795 537611 Mobiles: 07856 501206 or Martin: 07891 609581

Join us for SUNDAY FREESTYLE

9th January 10.30am **Eastling Church**

How Can I Forgive?

All ages welcome Breakfast from 10am

EASTLING VILLAGE HALL To book ring Julia Bailey

on 01795 890746



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

Ianuary

2011

9 - 11am Eastling Village Hall

10.30am Eastling Church

7.30pm Stalisfield Village Hall

7.30pm Eastling Village Hall

6.30pm Eastling Village Hall

9.15am Eastling Village Hall

5pm Eastling Village Hall

8pm Charing Parish Hall

and 8pm Eastling Village Hall

5th Pop-In reopens

5th Otterden WI

8th Gardeners' Party

9th Sunday Freestyle

12th Parish Council Meeting

12th Fitness Classes resume

13th Fitness Pilates resumes

13th Children's Freestyle Dance

13th Charing & District History

15th DEADLINE for February Good News 16th S Club

18th Ospringe WI Birthday Lunch

23rd Youngstyle

25th Magazine Folding

10am Eastling Village Hall Brook Farmhouse 10am Eastling Church 2pm Pinks Farm

Deadline for February 2011 Good News

If you would like to advertise in this magazine, submit articles, features or stories for publication, or would like any forthcoming events publicised, send your contribution by 15th January to Hilary Harlow, Pinks Farm, Eastling, Faversham ME13 0BA. Tel: 01795 890338. Where possible, please submit your entry by email: goodnewsmagazine@me.com Past and current issues of the Good News may be viewed on www.northdowns.plus.com/goodnews