

FRIENDS of EASTLING SCHOOL

The children had a great time making decorations and other Christmas activities at the Craft Club held at the end of November. The infants Nativity was delightful and thanks to parents and friends who attended and donated generously for tea and coffee before the performance. The children enjoyed the fun of buying presents at the Christmas Shopping afternoon. Many thanks to all the helpers who helped to sell items to the children and gift wrapping for them to take home.

Our next Coffee and cake sale is on Friday 11th January 2013 from 2.45pm to 3.30pm in the school hall. There will also be a good range of second hand uniform for sale.
Jill Seaman 01795 890252

A Happy New Year from all of at Eastling School!

The school comes back from the Christmas break on Tuesday 8th January after a staff training day on the 7th. Children will be arriving at school from 8.40am, ready for the new term with coats and warm clothing!

On Friday 11th January we have our first "Coffee and Cakes" session in the main hall from 2.45 through to 3.30pm, after which our popular cinema club starts. Come along for a cuppa and a chat about anything Eastling or to find out about FOES activities.

Wednesday 16th January is the last date for school applications for children who were born between 1st September 2008 and 31st August 2009. If you are finding the application process difficult, why not come into school and use our computer suite to undertake the task.

16th January 2013 is also the day of our Football match against Selling school at their ground - any spectators and supporters are always welcome.

FOES has a organisation meeting in the evening of 16th January so, if you can give us any support towards the upcoming school fete (July 14), please get in contact.

Monday 21st is the start of RSPB birdwatch week and we would be delighted if there are any villagers who would like to help children identify the native birds of the area. Please give us a call [01795 890252] if you're a keen "twitcher" who would like to share your interest with the next generation.

Are there any "Home schoolers" out there who would like to join our Guitar lessons with the Kent Music school? These would be held at the school in the early Wednesday afternoon.

A big thank you to all those villagers, parents and friends who came to see our Infant choir carol singing at The George in December - great to meet you all.

Dave Walsh



Give your young child books

Young children brought up in homes with plenty of books develop more advanced brains by their late teens, according to research. They become more adept with language and in thinking ability, with actual physical changes having taken place in their brains. As one neuroscientist at the Society for Neuroscience in New Orleans observed: "it really does support the idea that those early years are especially influential."

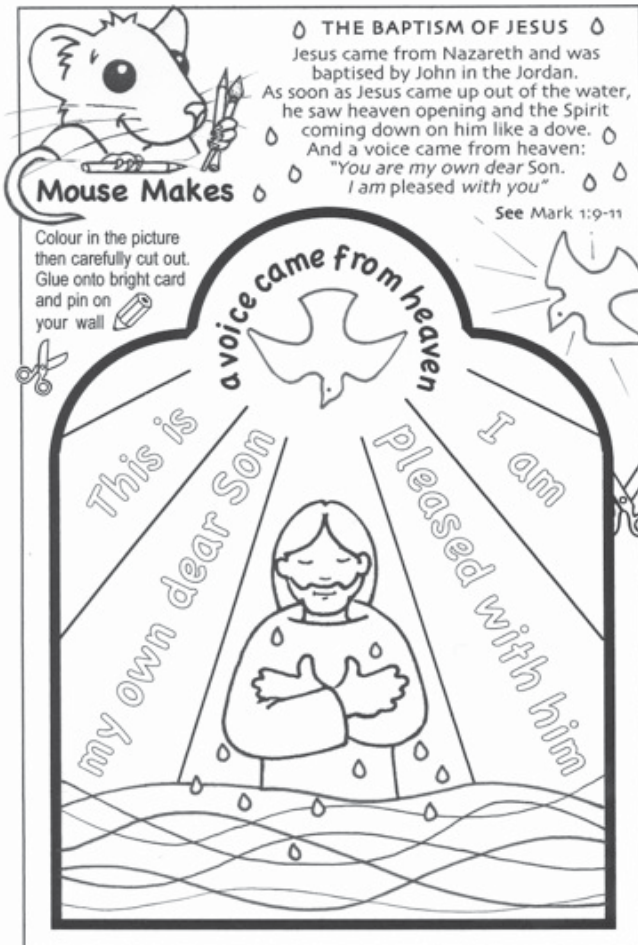
The FREE mobile library van has lots of children's book to borrow and visits Eastling, Glebe Cottages on 8th and 22nd January, 10.50 - 11.05am.

S Club

Sunday 20th January
10am in Eastling Village Hall
Open to all primary school aged children

Café Style

Sunday 27th January
10am in Eastling Village Hall
Open to all ages



An Indian Supper

Eastling Village Hall Trustees' Fundraising Event
Eastling Village Hall

Saturday 2nd February

Corinne's Creative Kitchen presents a supper of the best home-cooked Asian dishes in Kent. As seen on TV, Corinne is renowned for her quality authentic Asian cooking.

£17.50 per ticket. Bar from 7pm.

This is the Trustees' fundraising event of the year to support the upkeep of our hall. Our sincere thanks to Corinne for providing this event at a discount price to help our fundraising.

For bookings please ring Sue Parry on 01795 890254.

An invitation from
St Mary's, Eastling



10am
Sunday 27 January 2013
Eastling Village Hall

A fresh expression of worship:

Church in a Café setting.
worship discussion reflection
prayer fellowship

Tea, coffee & yummy nibbles will be available throughout the service, which will include sung worship, times of prayer, with opportunities for discussion & reflection, and space for the youngest & oldest to worship altogether

CAFÉ STYLE

Happy New Year
Good News Parish Magazine January 2013

Epiphany - the light has come!

At the start of a new year we celebrate the coming of light into our world. Epiphany asserts that Jesus came as the light foretold by Isaiah: 'Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you'. However, the prophet also reminds God's people that they are to be 'light for the Gentiles' (42:6; 49:6). How can we shine in 2013?



Rev. Paul Hardingham considers the joy of Epiphany

Shine With God's Love

'I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one: I in them and they in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me.' (John 17:22-23).

How can God's love shine through the practical love demonstrated in our community life as Christians?

Shine With God's Word

'Do everything without complaining or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe as you hold out the word of life.' (Philippians 2:14-16).

How can we make God real by holding fast to the Scriptures (both hearing and doing the Word) in our daily discipleship?

Shine With Good Works

'You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.' (Matthew 5:14-16).

How can we be a real influence for Christ in the places where we live and work in the coming year?

The news magazine for the parishes of Eastling, Stalifield with Otterden, and Throwley



It is that time of year when we make New Year resolutions, but do we know why we do or how this started?

A New Year's resolution is a promise we make to improve something about ourselves; whether to stop a bad habit or to set a personal goal. Some want to stop smoking, lose weight, try to be less stressed, to try and learn a new skill (like juggling), break a world record or just spend more time on ourselves.

At the start of each year the ancient Babylonians made promises to their gods that they would return borrowed objects and pay their debts. The Romans began each year by making promises to the god Janus, for whom the month of January is named. In the Medieval era, the knights took the "peacock vow" at the end of the Christmas season each year to re-affirm their commitment to chivalry.

So setting New Year's resolutions isn't a new thing, but still 88% don't manage to keep to their resolutions. A key element to a New Year's resolution, that sets it apart from other resolutions, is that it is made in anticipation of the New Year and new beginnings. People committing themselves to a New Year's resolution generally plan to do so for the whole following year. This lifestyle change is generally interpreted as advantageous, but we can feel we have let ourselves down when we realise we haven't managed to keep them.

Last month we celebrated the birth of Jesus Christ, the biggest new beginning for Christians. Most people see Easter as being the time of new beginnings and new life symbolised by the giving and

receiving of Easter eggs. Christmas was when Jesus came to earth, to teach us about God. Jesus' arrival over 2000 years ago was a significant new beginning - to the shepherds in their fields and to the magi who travelled to the stable to worship the son of God. That tiny babe brought hope to our world and an opportunity for a new beginning for all of us. By accepting Christ into your life you are assured of forgiveness of all your sins and eternal life, what better beginning do you need? We may feel we let ourselves down but Jesus will never let us down; all you need to do is open your hearts and lives to Christ, start with a new beginning, become a new you.

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come."

As you decide on your New Year's resolutions and what you want to improve about yourselves, perhaps this is the time for you to accept Jesus into your life and start your life with a new beginning.

Heavenly Father open the hearts and minds of those who read these words, help them to accept your Son into their lives, that their lives may start anew. Help their faith grow so that your love for them will flow through them. Amen.

Caroline Ramshaw.

Diamond Jubilee: 1953: YEAR OF DESTINY by David Winter

Those who can remember the post-War era will probably remember, as I do, the particular relief that was afforded by the promise of the Coronation in 1953. Our young Queen had come to the throne the previous year, on the death of her greatly-loved father. Now she was to be enthroned, with suitable splendour, in Westminster Abbey by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Fisher.

Sixty years ago the country was slowly emerging from the years of austerity that had followed the hardships of war. In the six years since she and Prince Philip were married, huge changes had taken place, perhaps the most notable the establishment of the National Health Service, a splendid product of Lord Beveridge's great 'Plan' for social reform. Food rationing was being phased out, but there were still shortages. National Service continued, so that 18 year old young men were called up for two years in the Forces. There was a fullblown war, involving British troops in a United Nations force, in Korea. Britain was officially at peace, but our big cities were still pock-marked with bomb-sites from the blitz.

As we have seen, the marriage of Philip and Elizabeth had been a wonderful event, bringing colour and excitement to what was in truth a fairly grim setting. Mind you, those of us who were young didn't see it like that - I was at school in London at the time, and life seemed quite exciting! But for older people, many of whom had suffered hardship and even bereavement in the years of war, the Coronation in 1953 promised a genuine vision of hope for the future. Our young queen and her handsome prince would surely be the harbingers of a new age of hope.



So the preparations were laid. An important one for most people was to get access to a television set. At the time television, while edging its way into public consciousness, was essentially a rich person's toy. Sets were prohibitively expensive. However, help was at hand in the shape of a new industry, led by Radio Rentals. If you couldn't afford to buy a set, why not hire one, at a few shillings a week? Other people, as my family did, made arrangements well in advance to watch the occasion. About fourteen of us planned to cram into a neighbour's living room around a television set with a screen not much bigger than a piece of foolscap paper! But - this above all - we would actually watch the Queen being crowned, something ordinary people had never been able to do in our nation's long history.

The service was memorable - specially composed music, all the pomp and pageantry of a great national occasion, foreign royals and heads of state processing through London's streets and, strikingly, Prince Philip's elderly mother, by now the head of a Greek Order of nuns, moving with quiet dignity down the aisle of the abbey in her white robes. Most of us had never seen anything like it before. We sensed it was more than simply an 'event' but the beginning of a new era. What we didn't know, of course, was that Elizabeth would still be our monarch sixty years later, with Philip still at her side.

Trustees of Eastling Village Hall

The Trustees of Eastling Village Hall have a vacancy for a member to represent the village. This vacancy has been brought about by the resignation of Steph Youle who so ably represented village interests on the Trustees for the last three years. The Trustees would like to record their grateful thanks to Steph for her valuable contribution - she will be missed.

So would you like to become involved with the Trustees and be a voice for the village in their discussions. The Trustees are made up of two elected village representatives plus representatives of user groups (Eastling Parish Council, Eastling Parochial Church Council, Snooker Club, Neighbourhood Watch, Gardening Club, Short Mat Bowls Club). It is not an onerous role - we are a fun group who meet every other month (not including the Chair's Christmas drinks at the Carpenters!) Our role is to manage the running of the Hall, keeping it in good repair and financially sound. We all get stuck in from time to time for practical tasks, like a spring clean or gardening session and if you have any particular skills (decorating, handyman, electrician etc.) these are bound to come in useful. The criteria for applying is that you should live in the village and be over 18 years of age; you cannot become a member if you are:

- an adjudged bankrupt;
- making a "composition or arrangement" with creditors or
- convicted for dishonesty or deception.

If you are interested, please contact Sue on 890254 in the first instance. If we have more than one expression of interest, it may be necessary to go through some kind of election process.

Sue Parry
Hon Sec to the Trustees



...I have reason to believe sir may be carrying illegally acquired lead from a church roof...

Scrap Metal Dealers Bill passes its third reading in the House of Commons.

The Church Buildings Council has welcomed the recent Third Reading, in the Commons, of Scrap Metal Dealers Bill. It has now cleared all its hurdles in the House of Commons. MP Richard Ottaway's Private Member's Bill is considered vital to provide effective regulation of the scrap metal trade and will effectively reduce incidences of metal theft by taking away the incentive of easy cash that fuels this crime. The Bill has a wide definition of a scrap dealer and will include itinerant collectors and smelting yards. Under current regulations these operations can trade for cash and, if this can continue, it will undermine the impact of cashless trade elsewhere. The Bill now goes to the House of Lords, making it more likely the reforms will become law.

Eastling Neighbourhood Watch

Contact Numbers:
Parish /Village Warden 0779 401 0394
Crimestoppers 0800 555 111
Swale Police 101 Emergency 999



Please be aware of large holes that may appear in the fields for no apparent reason. These are being caused by the wetness of the fields causing the earth to cave in to underground workings that may have been there for many years.

There have been a couple of serious incidents in the village during the last couple of weeks: The first one was a vehicle parked late at night at the Water pumping station with several persons acting suspiciously nearby. The police were called but the people had disappeared before they arrived, so please stay alert and report any suspicious activity.

There was also a report of 3 persons purportedly cleaning windows for an elderly, vulnerable couple in the village. When checked upon they were taking advantage of the couple and charged them £60 for a job which normally the local window cleaner does for £6. They were requested to leave the area and the police were called. Always say no to cold callers of this kind and, if in doubt, call the police or ring me.

Should you have callers at the door you are not sure of just say no and close the door, if you are indulged in conversation and might be interested tell them to hold on a moment, close your door and make sure your back door is locked, do not take chances and always report the incident.

Have a Happy New Year and be alert.
Alan

Ian Lancaster Window Cleaner *

Local - Professional - Long established (40yrs+)
Reliable - Insured - 10 vans covering all areas
Experienced uniformed operatives

Call NOW for your fixed written quotation:
01795 430208 or 07952 813636

www.ianlancaster.co.uk



01795 890234

Welcome to 2013

Our thanks to all of you for all of your support, friendship and custom not only for the last year but for the four years we have been at The Carps.

You have made us feel very welcome and made this a remarkable place to both live and work.
Here's to making 2013 another fantastic year in this wonderful village

We have lots lined up for this coming year including another opera week-end, murder mystery dinner, Corinne's amazing curry night, a smaller Feasting held in the car park with our favourite bands and we are continuing our Wednesday 2-4-1 offer and the quiz night on the first Thursday of the month.

Tapas Tuesday

Throughout January Tuesday nights are tapas nights, with all of the classic Spanish dishes and a few less conventional ones as well!

Live Music

Our live music program begins in February with;
Friday 1st Cultured pearl Friday 8th Dos Tortillas
Friday 15th The Slug Pixies Friday 22nd Under the wood

Finally may I say what a pleasure and honour it was to provide the pensioners Christmas lunch at the village hall. Closing speeches by Norman and Alan ended the day perfectly, particularly our warden's advice on answering calls to your door.

"When you're being chatted up at the front, make sure you don't leave your back door open"
Wise words indeed Mr Willson

Mitch, Donna and the dogs

Services in our Churches

6th January 2013 Epiphany

Ephesians 3.1 - 12, Matthew 2.1 - 12

Eastling 8 am Holy Communion (BCP)
 Throwley 10 am Benefice Epiphany Service

13th January Baptism of Christ

Acts 8.14 - 17, Luke 3.15 - 17, 21, 22

Eastling 8 am Holy Communion (BCP)
 Stalisfield 10 am Holy Communion (CW)
 Throwley 10 am Holy Communion (CW)
 Eastling 10.30 am Sunday Freestyle

20th January Epiphany 2

1 Corinthians 12.1 - 11, John 2.1 - 11

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

27th January Epiphany 3

1 Corinthians 12.12 - 31a, Luke 4.14 - 21

Eastling 8 am Holy Communion (BCP)
 Eastling 10 am Café Style in Village Hall
 Stalisfield 10 am Holy Communion (CW)
 Throwley 10 am Holy Communion (BCP)

3rd February Candlemas

Hebrews 2.14 - 18, Luke 2.22 - 40

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

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

Ministry in our Parishes

Priest in Charge Vacant

Non Stipendiary Minister with Permission To Officiate
 Reverend Angela Cheeseman (01795 892124)
 New House Farm, Eastling ME13 0BN

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

Reader Hugh Perks (01795 890603)
 Weald Cottage, Eastling

Churchwardens

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

Parish Administrator
 Janet Payne (01795 890487)
 E mail: eastlingchurch@gmail.com

Stalisfield with Otterden

Jean West (01233 712270)
 Gillian Wallace (01233 714904)
 Martin Beckenham (01795 892079)

Parish Administrator
 Sheila Moger (01233 713212)
 E mail samhawsnest@aol.com

Throwley Barbara Elliott (01795 890020)
 Maggie Scutt (01795 890312)

Midweek Groups

Tuesdays: monthly Study Group - 10am on 15th January
 at Garden Cottage, Newnham Lane.

Tuesdays: weekly Study Group 7.30pm Pinks Farm

Thursdays: weekly Prayer Group 10.30am Pinks Farm
 with Benefice group on 10th January.

You will be welcome at any of our groups.

People and Places from the Past by Dorothy Murray

Otterden School was built in 1860 for 50 children, in the centre of the parish. The land was given by the Wheeler family, and donations were also given. Local people helped by picking up flints from the fields for building materials.



The headmaster Mr Boorman, lived in the Schoolhouse and in 1880 the average attendance was 30 pupils, walking from all over the parish. Water was drawn up daily from a well by 2 pupils. Attendances were very low in bad weather, also in the late summer when children were needed to help with haymaking, hop

hear the children singing and inspect the girls' needlework, also a frequent visitor the Reverend Paxton, Rector of Otterden.

Half-day holidays were given for the Archbishop's Enthronement and for the Consecration of Stalisfield Vicarage Chapel in 1881, and a whole day's holiday for Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee festivities in 1887. For the Coronation of King George V on 22nd June 1911, the children were given a whole week's holiday. In 1890 the trustees of the Worshipful Company of Leathersellers visited the school, having previously donated money for the school building, and gave each child one shilling



picking and fruit picking. Sometimes the School Inspector called at homes of absent pupils, but found nobody at home. Mrs Wheeler would occasionally to

and sixpence in new coins. In 1893, parents were entertained with a concert by the pupils in the Parish Room, beside the Rectory.

The school leaving age was 14, when most girls went into service and the boys entered a trade or worked on on farms. In 1911, two boys aged 14, were sent to sea for training on H.M.S. Arethusa.

In the Great War of 1914 - 18, children were encouraged to gather conkers from the horse chestnut trees which were used in the making of munitions, this resulted in some lateness owing to carrying the heavy bags. Schools were paid 7/6d per sack of conkers. Of the pupils, one boy was very late for school as he had helped his father drive sheep from Snoad Farm to Lenham market and a girl living at Rhode Farm rode her pony to school each day.

Attendances dwindled in the early 1900s and the school closed in 1922.



Bunce Ecclesiastical Charity

The charity was set up by Alderman James Bunce around 200 years ago, who left a trust fund in his Will with the aim to instruct the children of Otterden in the Christian faith according to the Church of England. Sometime, between 1960's - 1980's, the charity became dormant. In 1988 the Charity Commission asked the Parochial Church

Councils of both Stalisfield with Otterden and Throwley to appoint four Trustees to revive the Bunce Ecclesiastical Charity.

Due to the quirks of parliament and the Church of England, the Trust was enlarged to include the children of the parishes of Stalisfield and Throwley.

Over the past 20 years the Trustees have given grants to both Eastling and Sheldwich schools which allowed them visits to Rochester and Canterbury Cathedrals, supplied them with Christian literature and materials for religious teaching, as well as presenting every school leaver with a bible.

Other grants have also been given to children and young people within the parishes enabling them to expand their religious education through reading materials, workshops, Sunday schools, Christian educational trips and many other things.

The Trustees are pleased to receive requests for funding providing they fit the remit of the charity.

If you have any ideas which you feel would be suitable to the aims of the charity and would like them to be considered, please send your request in writing to the following Trustee:

Jane Baker,
 Bunce Ecclesiastical Charity Trustee - Chairman,
 10 Mendfield Street, Faversham ME13 7JY

A Bible quiz - of sorts!

Q. What kind of man was Boaz before he married?

A. *Ruthless*

Q. What do they call pastors in Germany?

A. *German Shepherds.*

Q. Who was the greatest financier in the Bible?

A. *Noah. He was floating his stock while everyone else was in liquidation.*

Q. What was the greatest female financier in the Bible?

A. *Pharaoh's daughter. She went down to the bank of the Nile and drew out a little prophet.*

Q. What excuse did Adam give to his children as to why he no longer lived in Eden?

A. *Your mother ate us out of house and home.*

Q. What's the phone number of the Garden of Eden?

A. *ADAM-8-1-2*



The Stalisfield Dramatic Society opened its season to a capacity audience thanks to its reputation achieved over the years and the diligence of Judith at the box office.

Every expectation for the performance was met or exceeded in Jessica's adaptation of the story of Dick Whittington. The plot unfolded from a reasonably conventional beginning to end in a reasonably anticipated way.

In between, Dick Whittington suffered experiences calling for the most vivid imagination including a stormy sea crossing to the Sultanate of Sheppey. This brilliant enactment was realistic enough to make even the audience feel queasy. A consequential ship wreck led to an underwater scene and eventually to the transfer of the ship's complement to the island, where Dick obtained the promise of a fortune for eliminating the very rats which he had brought over in his ship.

Stalisfield Limelight - The Pantomime

Suffice it to say that his fortune evaporated on return to the mainland as the Sultan's treasury had long been empty.

The performance followed the best traditions of pantomime including exaggerated characterizations, audience responses, satire and the lampooning of public figures. Somehow Boris Johnson turned up as the chairman of the Hall Committee.

From the smallest of ratlets to the most flamboyant of principal characters each participant created an entirely believable and entertaining role whilst the musical content was carried effortlessly by the voices of the performers. The visible content of the show was most ably backed by the support crew who created and changed the stage to suit every scene. Equipment provided by Alan and Maggie

for lighting and sound together with the illusions created by props and Kay and Nick's superb scenery contributed heavily to artistic success.

In addition to the visible participants, this production was a tribute to the weeks of effort invested by Cat as director, by Rob as production co-ordinator and by the unbelievable talent of the creators of the fantastic animal and other costumes.

Receipts from box office and bar approximated a healthy £1,000 but the success of the production is best measured by the enthusiasm of all who took part in a substantial commitment of time and effort and in the magnificent support from the village for both performances.

This year's pantomime was dedicated to the memory of Gwen Sharpin whose memorable performances will be much missed.



VOLUNTEER GUIDES REQUIRED

All the tours at Belmont House are led by an experienced volunteer guide. From time to time we do have vacancies and seek to recruit new members to join our team. If you feel that you would like to be considered when vacancies occur, please ask our Administrator Andrea Davies or one of our guides for further details.

What would this commitment as a guide involve?

During the course of the six month season (Apr - Sept) at weekends and Bank Holidays we take approximately one hundred tours, and around the same number for mid-week tours. An average group group is fifteen visitors. Our guides need to be available up to three times a month for periods of around two hours.

If you feel that you might like to be considered for training as a guide and live within a short distance of Belmont, we would, when a vacancy occurs, be pleased to invite you for a short probationary period when you would accompany several of our guides on their tours to understand what is involved.

if you are then comfortable, and we are confident in you, the next step is to join our team on a permanent basis.

All you need is confidence, a good clear voice, plus a degree of humour, stamina and patience!

Belmont House & Gardens, Throwley, Faversham ME13 0HH
T: 01795 890202 or email: administrator@belmont-house.org



GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR KENT LOCAL HISTORY PROJECTS

March 31st 2013 is the latest date by which applications for grants from the Kent Archaeological Society's Allen Grove Local History Fund can be accepted.

The grants are awarded annually to encourage interest in Kent's local history. Sums of up to £500 (or more for 'exceptional projects') are available to help cover the cost of research, publications, exhibitions and other projects.

Individuals, groups, organizations and students can download application forms from www.kentarchaeology.org.uk or obtain one by sending a s.a.e. to the KAS's Hon. General Secretary, Peter Stutchbury, at Lympne Hall, Lympne, Hythe, CT21 4LQ.

Allen Grove was one of the county's most eminent historians of his generation. He was Curator of Maidstone Museum from 1948 to 1975, Hon. Curator of the KAS for 26 years (and its President in 1987/88) and Chairman of the Kent History Federation for eight years.

When he died in 1990 he left £26,000 from the proceeds of the sale of his house to the KAS, with instructions that the society should invest the legacy and distribute the interest in ways that would promote the enjoyment of Kent's local history.

The first grants were made in 1994. Since then more than £28,000 has been awarded, mainly to support the publication of books and booklets but also for displays in heritage centres, oral history projects, and establishing archives and research centres.



Eastling Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunch 2012

Thank you to Norman and Marina for organising another successful Christmas lunch, we all enjoyed the food and the company.



Hope Springs for Christmas in Stalisfield

Everyone in Stalisfield has fingers overlapped and superglued together. The reason? Lisa, our Fairy St. Mary godmother, received a hint that the Funding Committee of The Big Lottery Fund had shown favour towards our village hall second stage submission.

This means that we are cleared to making the third and final submission next July followed by a decision in October.

The cup is still not close to the lip and there's many a slip, but there's no harm in wishing Lisa a steady untrembling hand. The rest of us can shake as much as we like.

Stalisfield Highlife

Over 60s' Christmas Tea 2012

A general outbreak of malaise in Stalisfield resulted in a severe diminution in the numbers attending the annual Over 60s' Christmas celebration. Many familiar faces were missing.

Nevertheless a good atmosphere was generated in the cheerfully decorated hall by the ones who could attend, with the help of superb food and afterwards by the singing of carols led by Ray and Elaine. Ian acted as spokesman on behalf of the guests in thanking those members of the Hall Committee responsible for food procurement and preparation and in wishing for the speedy recovery of absent villagers. Everyone went home replete and bearing a Christmas gift.

We are grateful to The Roger Paine Trust and to the Linda Hogan Community Fund for substantial contributions towards the cost of this community function.

Stalisfield OAPs Christmas Party from the 1980s.

Who do you recognize?

Photo from Audrey Keen



Walk yourself healthy in 2013

Walking every day can halve the risk of a stroke, but only if you step up the pace, according to a recent study. A spokesperson from the British Heart Foundation explains: "It is only physical activities which leave us feeling warm or breathing more heavily that are good for our health."

The Eastling Walking Group welcomes all to join them on Wednesday mornings. Next walk is on 9th January, call Harry on 01795 890703 for further details.

Pantomime

Peter Pan

Arden Theatre, Leslie Smith Drive, Faversham

3rd - 5th and 10th - 11th January

The Arden Theatre's panto this year is "Peter Pan", an ideal after-Christmas show for all the family. Tickets, at £6 for adults and £5 concessionary, are available from The Sweet Scene, Preston Street, Faversham, or by phone from Printshop during office hours on 01795 531600.

7.45pm, with 2.30pm

matinees on 5th & 12th January
Contact: Mary Caryer, 01795 531600



Eastling Short Mat Bowls

On November 30th the Cherries played away to Whitstable in the East Kent League. Des Briggs, Bryan Searly and Roy Piles won 9; Mick Heath, Eileen Piles and Chris Smith lost on their mat, but the team won on overall shots and got two more points producing a 4 points - 2 win, very good away from home.

On the 2nd December Mick Heath, Des Briggs and Chris Smith played in the Oysters Cup, at the Bysingwood community centre, an annual event where all East Kent clubs enter one team. We were not disappointed with this Eastling team which finished runners up in the final.

At home to Whitstable on December 2nd, our team won on both mats, 27 shots to 20, 6 points to nil. The club held its Annual Dinner in the Village Hall, all said what a very good meal, and a very enjoyable evening.

On December 14th Bredgar came to us. All the team played well, winning 14 points to Nil. No more games now until the new year when Roy is then playing for Kent on January 5th and 6th.

New members always welcome, so don't forget Wednesday and Friday afternoons, and again Friday evenings; ring Roy for more information on 01795 537162.

Happy New Year to you all.

Eastling Gardeners' Club

holds its **New Year's Party**

on Saturday, 12th January in Eastling Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. There will be a 'magic lantern show' followed by a buffet meal with wine. Free to members, non-members £2.50

Charing and District Local History Society

Thursday 10th January 7.45 for 8pm

Charing Parish Hall **The Origin and History of Nursery Rhymes**

Dr John Reuther
Visitors welcome - £3

The Painters Forstal COFFEE CLUB

Join us in Whitehill Chapel, 23rd January,

11 am - 12.30pm.
All welcome.



JANUARY 2013

5th Coffee and Cakes	2.45pm	Eastling School
8th Mobile Library	10.50am	Glebe Cottages
9th Parish Council meeting	6.30pm	Eastling Village Hall
9th Zumba Classes resume	7pm	Eastling Village Hall
10th Fitness Pilates resumes	9.15am	Eastling Village Hall
10th Benefice Prayer Group	10.30am	Pinks Farm
10th Local History Society	7.45pm	Charing Parish Hall
12th Gardeners' Party	7.30pm	Eastling Village Hall
15th Monthly Study Group	10am	Garden Cottage
15th Deadline for February Good News		See below
20th S Club	10am	Eastling Village Hall
22nd Mobile Library	10.50am	Glebe Cottages
23rd Coffee Club	11am	Whitehill Chapel
27th Café Church	10am	Eastling Village Hall
29th Magazine Folding	2pm	Pinks Farm
FEBRUARY 2nd Indian Supper	from 7pm	Eastling Village Hall

Deadline for the February Good News will be 15th January

If you would like to advertise in this magazine, submit articles 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



Eastling Village Hall

WEDNESDAYS

7.00pm ZUMBA®
From 9th January 2013

THURSDAYS

9.15am FITNESS PILATES
From 10th January 2013

OTHER VENUES

DAY & EVENING CLASSES
FAVERSHAM TEYNHAM

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