

the service, which will include sung worship.

times of prayer, with opportunities for



Although we often think of foodbanks providing particularly for families it is sad to discover how many single people, including the elderly, need to access such help. many of the clients are signposted to the Foodbank by their doctors, headteachers, social workers, and Citizens Advice Bureau.

Food list for July

Urgent items: breakfast cereal, coffee; tinned vegetables, toilet rolls; tinned fruit; squash; children's age 6+ toothbrushes.





BIBLE BOOKS

youngest & oldest to worship altogeth

Can you unscramble these letters to find books in the Bible?

- 1. ashjou
- 2. imythot
- 3. hurt
- 4. kuel
- 5. brosprev
- 6. tonslaminate
- 7. chaimal
- 8. there:
- 9. chainstroin
- 10. himereaj



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

Which Bible character had no parents?

Joshua, son of Nun.

Answers: 1.Joshua 2.Timothy 3.Ruth 4.Luke 5.Proverbs 6.Lamentations 7.Malachi 8.Esther 9.Corinthians 10.Jeremiah



Good News Magazine July 2017

High Downs Parish

Serving the villages of Eastling, Otterden, Stalisfield and Throwley

www.northdowns.plus.com/goodnews

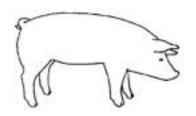
Stalisfield Life Saving

Stalisfield Medical

A free defibrillator course will be held on Saturday 8th July at 10am at the Village Hall for all residents of Stalisfield and Otterden, please register with Tracy on 0771 736 7936,

tracy@stalisfieldvillagehall.co.uk to book your place.

Stalisfield has a defibrillator, this course will give you confidence that you will be able to use it to save someone's life.



Village Hog Roast at The Carpenters Arms,

22nd July, 5.00pm.

Every resident of Eastling is invited to a hog roast at The Carpenters Arms on Saturday 22nd of July at 5.00pm onwards, kindly hosted by Mark and his team.

Delicious food and great company in beautiful surroundings - you couldn't ask for more!

The Hog Roast is free to all Eastling residents and we welcome your support in making it a special day.



Stalisfield Highlife

Barn Dance with Fish & Chip Supper

Saturday 22nd July 7.30pm

Stalisfield Village Hall

Tickets going fast - contact Cat on 01795 890298, email: cat@stalisfieldvillagehall.co.uk



No dogs allowed - sorry.

Hosted by Friends of Eastling School

The Future for our Churches

As you may know, following the retirement of Donald Lawton, the **Benefice** of High Downs, comprising the parish churches of Eastling, Stalisfield with Otterden and Throwley, has now become High Downs **Parish** and, as such, is in an *interregnum* — the terminology that the Church uses to describe the position when a priest leaves and before another takes over.

The churchwardens of the individual churches and the High Downs Parochial Church Council (PCC) are responsible for maintaining the church life of the Parish for as long as this period exists. In our case this is likely to be for many months.

The churchwardens have the responsibility:

- To provide for the services of worship and the continuation of the pastoral care of the church
- To pay all the costs involved in these church services
- To take care of the Rectory

To this end, the churchwardens are simplifying the service rota across the Parish so that each church has a Holy Communion on one Sunday in the month; there may be other services as well. Whilst this does mean that you may not be able to worship in your village church each week, you will be able, should you wish, to travel to one of the other churches.

The churchwardens are fortunate that we have been able to get some help from other clergy in the area which means that we are able to provide services across the Parish until the end of August. We are currently working on the period from September to the end of the year. It is hoped that we may be able to offer an 08.00 Holy Communion in Eastling on the 4th Sunday of each month. Further updates will follow in the Good News..

The Diocese has decided that the Rectory will be rented for a period of up to a year. This is being done on a commercial basis through estate agents Hobbs Parker. The good news is that the Parish will receive a share of the rental income.

Individual giving is of critical importance during these times and your continued financial support, whether you give in an envelope scheme, in the collection plate or by donations through standing orders, is very much appreciated. All donations can attract Gift Aid, which means that your gifts are worth an extra 25 pence in every pound donated, if you are a UK tax payer. Your offerings will continue to be treated as gifts to your own church as at present.

As the co-ordinating Churchwarden, please contact Andrew Baxter on 890598 or by email – afbaxter47@gmail.com if you would like any further information. Alternatively, your own churchwarden will be able to help.

Congratulations, keep moving.

There were so many graduates waiting to receive their degrees that day, that speed was of the essence. Presenting their diplomas, therefore, the Chancellor simply smiled and said: "Congratulations, keep moving."

It's actually good advice for all of life, and for your Christian life as well.

If you've discovered the reality of God's love for yourself, you deserve congratulations, for in a very real sense, *you have arrived...*but keep moving! - there is so much *more* that God has in store for you! Paul in 2 Timothy says "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. *Now there is in store for me* the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day...."

So, wherever *you* have reached in your own faith pilgrimage, congratulations, but keep moving!



As we relax on our Danube and Rhine cruise after those last hectic two weeks in Eastling and High Downs Parish, Norma and I have had time to reflect upon your friendship, support and appreciation of our time with you. Thank you for your generous gift and the pictures of the churches. Thank you as well for your special words and cards, we have felt richly blessed by your friendship and by the ways in which we were included in the community. So many of you have shared with us special aspects of our friendship. Thank you.

My last service was especially meaningful for Norma as she had been so blessed by her involvement in the Faversham Community Choir with director, Lis Bayford. In all of our travels we have found a wonderful community of friendship and support within the church communities we have been involved with. From its very beginning, the Christian church has been a place of acceptance where newcomers have been welcomed into the family where we share essential values and faith in common.

Blessings to you all. Canon Donald J. Lawton

Eastling Church Flower Rota July 2017

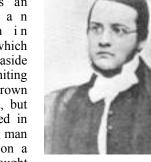
2nd & 9th - Clive Jolliffe 16th & 23rd - Steph Youle & Sylvia Fowler

FLOWER

30th - Trisha Smith August 6th - Joan Thomas & Julia Bailey With Sea Sunday (9th July) in mind, and also people's holidays on water, this seemed a good hymn to offer for July

The story behind the hymn: Eternal Father Strong to Save

The author of these words, William Whiting, was an A n g l i c a n clergyman in Winchester, which is hardly a seaside town. Yet Whiting had not only grown up by the sea, but had nearly died in it. As a young man he had been on a ship that got caught



in a violent storm, and afterwards he felt certain it was only God who had saved the ship from sinking that night.

Some years later, as headmaster of the Winchester College Choristers' School, Whiting was approached by a student in distress. The student was due to sail to the USA, and was simply terrified at the thought of 3000 miles of ocean. To try and reassure the student, Whiting decided to share his experience. And so he wrote this poem, basing the description of the power and fury of the sea on Psalm 107.

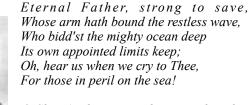
It is not known if it helped the nervous student or not, but within a year the poem had become a hymn, and sailed into the influential first edition of Hymns Ancient and Modern of 1861.

Another Anglican clergyman, John B Dykes, wrote the music for it. He was already a successful composer, with 300 hymns to his name. Dykes named this tune 'Melita', after an old name for Malta, where St Paul was once shipwrecked. Whiting released two more versions of the lyrics, in 1869 and in 1874.

During the rest of the 19th century the hymn became a favourite with the Royal Navy and the United States Navy. Other Services adapted it, including the Royal Marines, the Royal Air Force, the British Army, and the United States Coast Guard. Above all, it became known as the Royal Navy Hymn.

Well into the 20th century, it was the favourite hymn of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who had served as Secretary of the Navy during the Second World War. In 1963 *Eternal Father* was played by the Navy Band, as President John F. Kennedy's body was carried up the steps of the U.S. Capitol to lie in state. (Kennedy had been a PT boat commander in World War II.)

More recently, *Eternal Father* made a 'guest appearance' in the Hollywood blockbuster *Titanic*, and is also often chosen by ship's chaplains for use in civilian services at sea.



O Christ! Whose voice the waters heard And hushed their raging at Thy word, Who walked'st on the foaming deep, And calm amidst its rage didst sleep; Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee, For those in peril on the sea!

Most Holy Spirit! Who didst brood Upon the chaos dark and rude, And bid its angry tumult cease, And give, for wild confusion, peace; Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee, For those in peril on the sea!

O Trinity of love and power!
Our brethren shield in danger's hour;
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,
Protect them wheresoe'er they go;
Thus evermore shall rise to Thee
Glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

Eastling Neighbourhood Watch

Village Warden: 07794

010394 or 01795 890848

Crimestoppers 0800 555 111 Swale Police 101 Emergency 999

Reports of shed and outbuilding breakins in Faversham and surrounding areas are coming in quite regularly, so please ensure that security on your property is at its best.

With the warm weather that we have experienced lately, please remember to close windows and doors before leaving home as the nasties will take advantage of any opportunity that is offered to them.

As is well known, a tree came down and blocked the road at the junction of Kettle Hill Road. I would like to express my thanks to the support given firstly from Belmont and then by tree surgeons supplied by Shepherd Neame.

Have a good month Take Care Alan

A Message from your County Councillor

May was a very busy month, I extended last month's report to include the County Council Results. Since then we have had the first meeting of the new County Council. We have also had Swale Borough Council's Mayor Making. The new Mayor is Councillor Colin Prescott who represents the East Downs Ward of Swale Borough Council, eight very scattered rural Parishes.

There have been many training days and half days at County Hall, essential for new Members but equally useful for those of us returning. As well as the general Induction Day, I have attended sessions on the Code of Conduct and our responsibilities as County Councillors as Corporate Parents.

After my annual meeting with the County Leader, and having declined two job offers, I was able to secure the continued Chairmanship of the Regulation Committee. I shall also continue on the Growth, Economic Development and Communities Cabinet Committee. The former has responsibility for approving or otherwise new and diverted footpaths, applications for new Village Greens and oversees action against illegal waste sites etc., a big issue in this Division. The latter acts as a sounding board for Policy Development to the Cabinet Members of both Growth, Economic Development and Transport and for Communities.

I will continue as a Member of the Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee, vital at this time of proposed changes within the Health Service Committee. I also have Membership of two smaller Committees which meet less often, the Electoral and Boundary Review Committee, which could suddenly become busy if the new Government goes ahead with the review of Parliamentary Boundaries, and the Kent Flood Risk Management Committee. Outside of County Hall I will continue to represent the County on the Environment Agency Regional Flood and Coastal Committee and the Kent and Essex Inshore Fisheries Authority as well as continuing as a Trustee of the Bensted's Charity in Faversham.

During this period, I have attended Parish Councils at Norton and at Ospringe (both Annual Parish Meetings) and at Teynham and at Hernhill, plus a special Planning Committee of Selling Parish Council. Other meetings attended include Chairing a meeting of the Borough's WW1 Steering Group, the Kent & Medway Economic Partnership Board (a joint private/public sector board) and a meeting of Graveney School Governors.

Outside of Local Government I enjoyed two Brilliant Saturday afternoons at Hernhill and Throwley Fetes respectively. I also supported the Soldiers, Sailors and Air Forces Association Coffee Morning at Belmont House.

A real highlight on Friday 2nd June was an all day Conference on World War 1 and Africa. It was educational, at times entertaining and also emotionally draining. Serious papers presented by academics interspersed with poetry and African drumming.

Andrew Bowles



Services in our Churches

2nd July Trinity 3

Genesis 22. 1-14, Romans 6.12-23, Matthew 10.40-42 10 am Morning Prayer (BCP) Led by Reader - Norman Fowler

9th July Trinity 4

Genesis 24.34-38, 42-49, 58-67, Romans 7.15-25a, Matthew 11.16-19, 25-30

10 am CaféStyle in the Village Hall Eastling Throwley 10 am Holy Communion (BCP)

Celebrant - Revd. T. Collett-White

Otterden 3 pm Evening Prayer (BCP) Led by Reader - Norman Fowler

16th July Trinity 5

Genesis 25.19-34, Romans 8.1-11, Matthew 13.1-9,18-23 Stalisfield 10am Holy Communion (CW) Celebrant - Revd. Penny Fenton

23rd July Trinity 6

Genesis 28. 10-19a, Romans 8.12-25, Matthew 13.24-30, 36-43 10 am Holy Communion (BCP) Eastling Celebrant - Revd Richard Birch

30th July Trinity 7

Genesis 29. 15-28, Romans 8.26-39, Matthew 13.31-33,44-52 No Service

6th August Trinity 8

Genesis 32. 22-31, Romans 9.1-5, Matthew 14.13-21 10 am Morning Prayer (BCP)

Led by Reader - Norman Fowler

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

High Downs Parish

Rector Vacant

Parish Office The Rectory, Newham Lane, Eastling ME13 0AS

(01795 890487)

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

Churchwardens

(01795 890598) **Eastling** Andrew Baxter

Parish Administrator

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

Stalisfield with Otterden

(01233712270)Jean West Parish Administrator

Sheila Moger (01233713212)E mail: samhawksnest@aol.com

Throwley Deni Martin Email: throwleychurchwarden@mail.com

From The Registers

Wedding

Sarah Elizabeth Bell and Matthew James Attwood 17th June 2017 at Eastling

Midweek Groups

Tuesdays: Study group, 9.30am on 11th & 25th July at Garden Cottage, Eastling. 01795 890368

Tuesdays: Weekly study group, 7.30pm Pinks Farm, Kettle Hill Road, Eastling. 01795 890338

Thursdays: Weekly prayer group, 10.30am Pinks Farm Kettle Hill Road, Eastling. 01795 890338

Fridays: Weekly study group, 10.45am, New House Farm, Eastling. 01795 890629

You will be welcome at any of our groups.

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- Tanking of Cellars
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Canon's Column

I was recently talking to a retired prison chaplain about her experience of interfaith ministry. She recounted her brief discussion with an islamic prisoner who had just received word about the death of his uncle and who was very upset because, being incarcerated, he could not attend to all of the arrangements that were the responsibility of the nearest male relative. On informing the Imam on the chaplaincy team, of the man's emotional situation, she was told that this was the "will of God " and it was not a pastoral concern for him.

The recent apartment fire in London with its terrible loss of life and the tragic consequences for so many people could be easily dismissed as "God's will". Our current society should not accept the simple statement of "God's will", nor should we use such an excuse to not do anything.

Fortunately the churches, represented very ably on TV by the local Regional Dean, and some mosques and synagogues, were at the forefront of meeting immediate and short term needs of the building's inhabitants and have assisted in providing leadership and organization for the massive demonstration of public support to the residents in their time of need. That is part of the role of the Church, to reach out and demonstrate the presence and love of God to people in need.

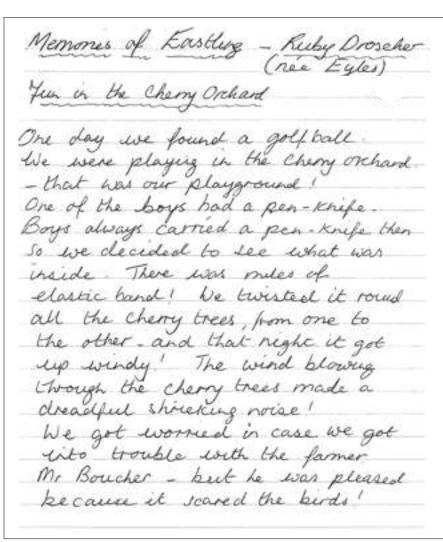
But I want to discuss briefly something of the concept of the "will of God". The controversial British theologian, Leslie Weatherhead, once wrote about the "will of God" under three headings: Intentional, Circumstantial, and Ultimate. From scriptures such as Hebrews 13:20-21, and 1 Timothy 2:3-4, we can easily understand that God's ultimate will is for all people to live in peace and harmony with each other and creation, and come into a living relationship with Him. The intentional will of God is that people follow his guide lines and live moral, righteous lives that will fulfill his ultimate will for us.

This brings us to the circumstantial "will of God". If his intention is that people follow his guidelines, then disregarding his intensions brings about some consequences. The disregard of the law of gravity is the most obvious example of this concept. Any disregard of rules, guidelines or principles that contribute to the benefit of others is a disregard of the intentional will of God and the consequences of such could be described as the circumstantial will of God.

The full circumstances of the London apartment building fire will probably never be completely known but already various problems relating to building materials, and economics in construction and maintenance, are being suggested as contributing to the disaster. It has never been the intentional will of God that people should suffer from these types of disasters, but it often becomes obvious that the circumstances contributing to the disaster, and its suffering, are related to the disregard or denial of the intentional will of God. Humanity ends up suffering because others have thwarted or disregarded the intentional or ultimate will of God.

Blessings

Donald J. Lawton





Garage Sale

8th & 9th July 10am - 3pm Wilgate Green Hill, Throwley - next to Faversham Golf Club Follow the signs Garden tools, compost bins, furniture, bric a brac, books, toys - everything 01795 890547



Eastling Village Hall THURSDAYS 9.15am FITNESS PILATES



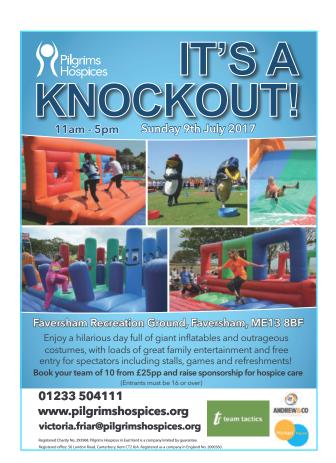
DAY & EVENING ZUMBA classes in

FAVERSHAM TEYNHAM





"How thoughtful, wearing something all the wedding guests could shelter under in case of rain.



Otterden and Stalisfield W.I.

Our Speaker for the June meeting was Melanie Gibbon-Barton who gave an enthusiastic, professional talk on Three Woman, One Man - Glamour, Wealth & Heartbreak. The subjects were 3 famous people whose lives became intertwined - very intriguing and thought provoking.

The following week a group of us visited the beautiful Salutation Gardens in Sandwich. We were treated to a guided tour by the Assistant Head Gardener who was entertaining and informative, then finished off the afternoon with tea and cake.

On Wednesday 5th July at 7.30pm in Stalisfield Village Hall, we have invited Fran Bennett to speak and demonstrate on the subject of Tai Chi. We will also have the opportunity to join in too!

For information about our very friendly group please contact: Lesley Andrews (01795 890581) or Stephanie Culver (01795 890748).







BELMONT HOUSE & GARDENS

NGS OPEN GARDEN WEEKEND

Saturday 1st & 2nd July, 12 – 5pm

Belmont is pleased to be supporting the work of the National Garden Scheme. the tearoom will be open from 12.00pm serving delicious homemade cakes and cream teas.

Admission £4.00, child £2.00. (All proceeds will be donated to NGS)

OPEN AIR THEATRE PERFORMANCE OF HAMLET

Friday 7th July, 7.15pm

Hamlet is a young man with everything going for him. A wealthy prince, living the good life overseas. But when word reaches him that his father is dead, his world starts to fall apart.

Adults £20.00. children (10-18yrs)£10, Under 10's free. Please bring your own rugs or low-backed seating (and brollies as the rain will not stop play!) To book your tickets call the box office 01634 338338

SPOON CARVING WORKSHOP

Tuesday 18th July, 10.30am – 4pm

Phil from Badger Bushcraft will demonstrate how to get the best results from the tools. You will learn to safely and confidently perfect your techniques and, by the end of the day, take home your very own spoon, hopefully having some fun along the way too! Refreshments will be provided throughout the day. £40.00 pp. To book please call 01795 890228 or email: events@belmont-house.org

> Belmont House & Gardens, Throwley, Nr Faversham, Kent ME13 oHH



It has been another lovely few months down at the gardens at Charing Surgery. The wallflowers and bulbs in particular have given a great display. Since our last update, we were absolutely delighted to have been contacted by a couple who are moving abroad, and kindly offered us a wonderful greenhouse in perfect condition. This means that we can begin another small project whereby the group can grow seeds and take cuttings, giving us the ability to produce our own plants for the seasons.

We are keen to upcycle where we can. So with spring cleaning and decluttering being on a lot of people's minds, we are wondering if there may be other things out there that we could put to good use in the coming year? We are particularly looking for the following; hand forks, trowels, border forks, border spades, loppers, secateurs and weeding trugs. Surplus herbaceous plants are always welcome for the woodland area, and if anyone has any spare greenhouse staging, that too could be put to good

Later in the year, we will be use. looking for a five bar gate and a few tons of gravel, does anyone have any suggestions on the best buys for these

We have been pleased to welcome new members to the group over the last few weeks, but more new members are welcome at any time, just turn up on a Tuesday between 9-12. You do not need to commit to every Tuesday, or to stay for the whole session.

Since the gardens at the surgery have been developed, we have been delighted with the amount of pleasure they clearly give to patients and visitors, either walking through or coming to the surgery. We are very pleased to receive their encouraging remarks and contributions of plants. The group does have some running costs such as insurance, training etc so any financial donations would also be greatly appreciated.

For enquiries about donations, or becoming a member of the group, please call Jo on 01233713582

FANTASTIC

Thank you to everyone who made the Garden Party at Eastling Manor on June 11th such a wonderful occasion. We raised the magnificent sum of £1365.00.

Special thanks to John as Bay Lees, for loaning us their beautiful garden for the day, and to Graeme, head gardener from Belmont, for the stunning array of donated plants.

Most importantly thank you to everybody who contributed the most wonderful cakes, scones, sandwiches and more for the Tea Party, also the wonderful band of men who helped set up and take down and the volunteers press ganged on the day.

Thank you also to the Doddington Ukelele Band and Faversham Community Choir for entertaining us.

We would like to have a special mention for our long suffering husbands Gordon, Alan and Colin whose support on both days of the weekend and manning the teas, bar and gate was invaluable and so much appreciated.

Dorothy, Marion and Pam

Eastling Seniors' Christmas Lunch Committee

Painters Forstal with Selling W.I.

Our July meeting on the 18th will see us being informed about Colour and Style by Sheila from Broadale. This should be quite an exciting meeting as I am sure that many like me are getting it all wrong!

Then our meeting in August will be held in the garden of one of our members. Let's hope the fine weather lasts.

Further information from Barbara on 01795 890020 or tombar72@hotmail.co.uk

JULY



Stalisfield and Otterden

Ladies' Pot Luck

Lunch

Friday 4th August, 1pm in

Stalisfield Village Hall

Enjoy great food and even

better company.

All ladies are welcome.

Contact Tracy on 0771 736 7936

or email: tracy@

stalisfieldvillagehall.co.uk to

confirm your attendance.

Thank You

On 29th May in Tong Lane 2 dogs attacked our black and white cat called Noah, the owner of these dogs walked off leaving him badly injured.

To the kind resident, Alan and a neighbour a very big THANK YOU for all your help that day. Thanks to all of you we found Noah and, despite all of his injuries, he has made a great recovery.

We are truly grateful.

Mark, Lyn, India and Stefan (& Noah).

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self-catering occasions.

WEEKLY EVENTS:

Mondays Zumba 9.30am Stalisfield Village Hall **Table Tennis** 7 - 9pm Stalisfield Village Hall Tuesdays Alternate Wednesdays Eastling Walkers 10.30am Call 01795 892194 Thursdays Fitness Pilates 9.15am Eastling Village Hall 6.30pm Stalisfield Village Hall Thursdays Zumba Short Mat Bowls 2.30pm & 7.30pm Eastling Hall Fridays

JULY

2nd Eastling School Fête 12 - 3pm 5th Ott/den & S/field W.I. 7.30pm 8th Defibrillator instruction 10am 9th CaféStyle 10am 15th Deadline for August Good News 18th Painters Forstal W.I. 22nd Hog Roast 5pm 22nd Barn Dance 7.30pm 25th Magazine Folding AUGUST 4th Ladies' Lunch 1pm

Eastling School Field Stalisfield Village Hall Stalisfield Village Hall Eastling Village Hall See below Eastling Village Hall Carpenters Arms Stalisfield Village Hall

Pinks Farm, Eastling

Stalisfield Village Hall

CONTACT THE EDITOR

If you would like to advertise in the August 2017 magazine, submit articles or stories for publication, or would like any forthcoming events publicised, send your contribution by 15th July 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