

# Good News Parish Magazine

## High Downs Parish

*Serving the villages of  
Eastling, Otterden,  
Stalisfield and Throwley*

[www.goodnews.rf.gd](http://www.goodnews.rf.gd)



**JULY  
2023**

- 1st - 2nd Stalisfield Youth Campout  
in Teynham Church Field
- 2nd Eastling School Fête. 12 - 4pm  
Eastling School Field
- 2nd Newnham Open Gardens  
Newnham Village 1 - 6pm
- 4th Otterden & Stalisfield W.I. afternoon  
outing to Dowerry Nurseries
- 5th Otterden & Stalisfield W.I.  
Stalisfield Village Hall 7.30pm
- 9th Summer Evensong  
Wychling Church 4pm
- 12th Stalisfield Youth - Sports Activities  
Stalisfield Village Hall 7-8.30pm
- 14th Love's Labour's Lost Open air theatre  
Belmont House 7.30pm
- 15th Family Fun Day 10am - 2pm  
Teynham Church Field
- 15th Newnham Village Fête. 12 - 3pm  
George Inn, Newnham
- 20th Copy Deadline for August Good News  
[goodnewsmagazine@me.com](mailto:goodnewsmagazine@me.com)
- 26th Stalisfield Youth - BBQ & Party  
Stalisfield Village Hall 7-8.30pm
- 28th Eat, Pray, Walk  
Doddington Church 1.30pm

## AUGUST

- 13th Summer Evensong  
Wychling Church 4pm
- 25th Eat, Pray, Walk  
Doddington Church 1.30pm
- 26th Stalisfield Village Fête 2pm  
Stalisfield Hall and Green
- 27th The Wizard of Oz Open air theatre  
Belmont House 2pm



Summer Evensong  
**Wychling Church**  
4pm

9th July, 13th August  
and 10th September

\*\*\*\*\*

**Otterden Evensong**  
The summer service in Otterden  
Chapel is postponed until  
Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September at  
5 pm & will **not** be taking place  
on July 2nd.

**EASTLING SCHOOL  
SUMMER  
FETE**



**SUNDAY  
2ND JULY  
12PM-4PM**



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# July Message

I once received an e-mail written by a man with children. His mother had always been there for him and he had a high opinion of her. After she died he found this poem in her drawer.

*The time is now if you are ever going to love*

*Love me now while I can know  
The sweet and tender feelings  
Which from true affection flow*

*Love me now while I am living  
Do not wait until I am gone  
And then have it chiselled in  
marble*

*Sweet words on ice-cold stone*

*If you have tender thoughts of me  
Please let me know now  
If you wait until I am sleeping  
There will be death between us*

And I will not hear you then  
So if you love me, even a little bit  
Let me know while I am living  
So that I can treasure it  
The son was distraught and filled  
with guilt when he remembered  
how he had neglected his  
relationship with his mother. In  
contrast, she had been full of love

and unconditional acceptance. He wrote the e-mail to encourage others to appreciate their loved ones before it is too late.

Jesus stressed the importance of having a right relationship with people. He even said that it was important to put our relationship with others right *before* we worshipped God ( Matthew 5:24 ). He also said that we are to love other people as we love ourselves (Matthew 22:39 ).

All too often I discover unresolved family conflicts when I meet bereaved people to discuss funerals. In the busy world that we live in relationships can easily be sidelined. Perhaps there is someone you have had a disagreement with, or maybe you have just failed to tell someone how much you appreciate them. Can I encourage you to contact that person today, go round and see them or phone them to put your relationship on a right footing. Don't leave things until it is too late.

Yours in His service,  
Rev'd Jim Pye



## 'Wisdom & Courage'

Celebrating Women of the Bible

13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> October

Doddington Church

Times may have changed but the examples of the female Bible heroes still shine..... these women deserve more attention than they get. A weekend of celebrating inspirational women with coffee and lively talk, pictorial & liturgical dance. Further details to follow or contact [barbara7roberts@gmail.com](mailto:barbara7roberts@gmail.com) or [lissie1710@gmail.com](mailto:lissie1710@gmail.com)

## Confidence in God

Alone with none but Thee, my God,  
I journey on my way.  
What need I fear, when Thou art near  
O King of night and day?  
More safe I am within Thy hand  
Than if a host did round me stand.

By St Columba

## July

### Prayer Pointers

**Mondays** - For the stability of our world and governments at home and abroad.

**Tuesdays** - For the natural environment and the changes we need to make to counter climate change.

**Wednesdays** - For all taking exams and for children changing schools or moving to higher education.

**Thursdays** - For those seeking work and businesses seeking workers.

**Fridays** - With Sea Sunday on 9th July, please pray for the charity 'Mission to Seafarers' giving help and support to men and women working on boats around the world.

**Saturdays** - Give thanks for our homes, our families and friends.

**Sundays** - Praise God for the work of our priests and ministers and pray for our Rector, Steve as he looks ahead to his retirement.



## Eastling

### Church

### Flower Rota

2nd July - Janet & Susie

9th & 16th - Caroline T

23rd & 30th - Julia B & Marion

6th August - Pippa & Gaby

If you would like to join the flower arranging rota, please call Bay on 01795 892036.



# Announcement made in our Churches on Sunday 16th July 2023

Dear all

I wanted to share with you all an announcement that was made at all our Church services yesterday (16th July): It is very much with mixed feelings that after what will be just over 15 years in Kingsdown & Creekside and over 4½ years in High Downs that I am announcing today, my retirement from full time ministry in September. God has blessed us with so much over these years and both Jane and I will miss being here with you. However, under God, we feel it is now time for us both to be able give more to our families and all of our 11 grandchildren, none of whom were born at the time of my original licensing in Kingsdown & Creekside on 18th September 2008. My last Sunday in the Benefice will be 17th September when we will have a Benefice Service, back in Lynsted, where that first licensing took place. I am reminded at this time that we are all part of God's Church and God is faithful.

Going forwards from October the Churchwardens remain in responsible in their roles as Churchwardens and 'in charge' bearing in mind that we are all part of

one Benefice with the 2 parishes of High Downs and Kingsdown & Creekside. Both Parochial Parish Councils have appointed Lay Chairs (HD = Steve Youle, K&C=Bruce Leckie) as they do every year. Jim, whilst part-time, has a wealth of knowledge from 30 years in full-time ministry and Caroline continues in her Curacy. The Archdeacon (of Maidstone), Andrew Sewell has already spoken about his office's availability in support during the interregnum.

Archdeacon Andrew will be leading the process of preparing for, advertising for and appointing a new incumbent following my retirement.

I continue to be very grateful to our Ministry Leadership Team who take responsibility for our Services in each of our Churches and they will continue to be able to lead us in our worship as a Benefice.

With my prayers  
Steve



## All Together Now (ATN) & Lynsted Family Communion (LFC)

We have been running ATN for over a year now and are excited to have met many families from across the Benefice during this time. ATN is a service which is inclusive of all ages, especially children on the **second Sunday of each month** at Lynsted Church.

The families want church like this more often, so we're incorporating the traditional with the more modern and have created a brand new service on the **fourth Sunday of each month** as well. Families will all be together to begin with and then children have separate groups during the 'adulty' bits (their words, not mine 😊) and come together at the end for communion.

Both ATN and LFC start with coffee and chat at 10.15am and the service begins at 10.30am.

We would love to see you - if you've not been to church before, or haven't been for a really long time, give it a go. Come as you are.

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## Otterden and Stalisfield W.I.

Our Speaker this month on 7th June, was supplied by the Guide Dogs organisation, Pat Marshall. She is completely blind and was accompanied by her Guide Dog Rosie, a Labrador cross Golden Retriever, and husband Richard who live at Kennington.

Pat was an excellent Speaker, very knowledgeable on the workings of the Guide Dog organisation, particularly as she is now on her second Guide Dog. Obviously not being sighted, Pat spoke naturally and with passion from memory, with only the occasional prompt from her husband. The recipients of Guide Dogs have everything provided by the organisation, so there is no outlay for them. This is very expensive, so hence the need for considerable fundraising. During the Pandemic there were no

litters bred, no training and of course no income, so there is now a waiting list of several years for a Guide Dog. They aim to have around 500,00 dogs working this year.

The puppies are purpose bred at their Leamington Centre and at 7 weeks old, they are then placed with a Puppy Walker for basic training and socialising. At 12 to 14 months the dogs then go for their formal basic training and then onward to a hotel in Hove to finish off with Advanced training. This all takes several years, depending on the individual. Interestingly there is a 75% success rate, with the remaining 25% being rehomed with other organisations or private homes. We asked Pat to speak for 30 to 45 minutes, but she was with

us for considerably longer such was the interest shown by the ladies present!

On 4th July we have an outing organised to Downton Nursery, Hadlow near Tonbridge. At 2 p.m. we will be given a guided tour culminating with a visit to the shop followed by tea and cake. Places must be reserved.

The Meeting the following evening on 5th July at 7.30 p.m. will be a return visit from the **M e d i c a l**

Detection Dogs as it was so popular previously. It is a coincidence that the two meetings are dog themed! Both organisations were given various dates our Group had available for a speaker and they came up with consecutive months!

If you would like to join our Group please contact either Helen Brooks on 07477580727 or Ellie Cameron on 01795 892016.



### What's On at Belmont

#### Open Air Theatre: Love's Labour's Lost

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July, 7.30pm

The King and three friends take an oath dedicating themselves to a life of study, avoiding the company of women for three years.

No sooner have they made their vow, the Princess of France and her ladies-in-waiting arrive, presenting the men with a severe test of their high-minded resolve. Adults £24 and Children (10-18 years) £14

#### Meet the Head Gardener Tour

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July, 1-3pm

Join our Head Gardener, Graeme, for a walking tour around our beautiful gardens to see some of the many species of plants and trees we have at Belmont. £12.00 per person.

#### Open Air Theatre: The Wizard of Oz

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> August, 2pm

Join Dorothy on her quest to the Emerald City as she and her loyal friends: the brainless but cheeky scarecrow, the cowardly lion, and the heartless (literally!) tin man, navigate through a magical land in search of the mighty and mysterious, Wizard of Oz. Adult £15, Child/Student £12, Family £50 & Children under 3 Free.

Belmont House & Gardens, Throwley, Faversham, Kent ME13 0HH

[www.belmont-house.org](http://www.belmont-house.org)

## NEWNHAM OPEN GARDENS

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July

1 pm to 6 pm

Come and enjoy an afternoon at one of Kent's favourite Open Gardens days

*Afternoon teas from 2 pm*

- Pimm's, local cider & beers •
- Filled rolls and bagels •
- Flowers in the church •

Includes gardens not open for the June event

Entrance by programme, obtainable at any of the open gardens

Adults £5, accompanied children free

Limited free parking at Sharsted Playing Field ME9 0LQ

Proceeds to Newnham Church  
Registered Charity No. 1162554

[bruce.leckie@live.co.uk](mailto:bruce.leckie@live.co.uk) for more information



WATCH OUT FOR THE WOOLY MAMMOTH AT  
**STALISFIELD FETE!**

2PM ON SATURDAY 26TH AUGUST,

YOU MIGHT SEE THIS

STRANGE PHENOMENON ON THE GREEN!

DOG SHOW, BBQ, STALLS, GAMES, LINE DANCING,  
ICE CREAMS, TEA AND CAKE

(WITH THE PLOUGH RIGHT THERE FOR THOSE  
WANTING SOMETHING STRONGER).

COME AND JOIN US FOR A FUN AFTERNOON!  
DETAILS NEXT MONTH BUT PUT THE DATE IN YOUR  
DIARY.

**EASTLING VILLAGE HALL  
SILVER JUBILEE**

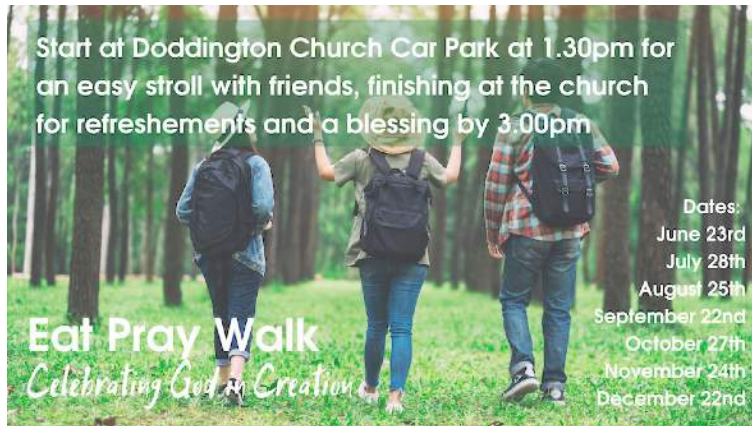
The Coronation isn't the only important celebration for 2023! September sees our much-loved Eastling Village Hall, where so many of us have had good times and exhausting exercise, reach 25 years of age. So it's time for another party.

Save the date .....

**Saturday 9th September 2023**

**2-6pm**

A free "bring and share" party will be held in the Hall. Please bring a plate (or plates!) of food for all to share and enjoy. A free drink will be provided and please bring along any other drink for yourselves. The Trustees hope to provide entertainment and also to recreate the very successful cake raffle from the Coronation party - volunteer cake makers please contact Annie on [jacksonandadams@btopenworld.com](mailto:jacksonandadams@btopenworld.com) who is also available to answer any other questions about this unmissable event!



**Eat Pray Walk**

If you enjoy a gentle stroll with friends why not join us once a month as we gather together to chat and enjoy all that is glorious in our creation. And we have tea and cake back at the church with a short time to breathe and reflect in the midst of whatever we're experiencing in our day to day lives.

**4th Friday of each month.**

Start at Doddington Church Car Park at 1.30pm (with dogs if you have them)

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**To book, email Annie:**

[jacksonandadams@btopenworld.com](mailto:jacksonandadams@btopenworld.com) 07754 114760

**See our availability here:** <https://www.eastlingvillagehall.co.uk/calendar>



**Stalisfield Village Hall Events 2023**

August 26<sup>th</sup> – Stalisfield FETE

October 7<sup>th</sup> – Harvest Supper

December 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> – Pantomime

December 10<sup>th</sup> TBC - Seniors' Christmas Meal

December 16<sup>th</sup> - Children's Christmas Party

More details on our website: <https://www.stalisfieldvillagehall.co.uk>

# Sunday Services

## 2nd July Trinity 4

Romans 6. 12 - 23, Matthew 10. 40 - 42

Eastling 10.30am Holy Communion

Norton 10.30am Morning Worship

## 9th July Trinity 5

Romans 7. 15 - 25a, Matthew 11. 16 - 19, 25 - 30

Eastling 9am Holy Communion BCP

Throwley 10.30am Morning Prayer

Lynsted 10.30am All Together Now

## 16th July Trinity 6

Romans 8. 1 - 11, Matthew 13. 1 - 9, 18 - 23

Newnham 9am Holy Communion BCP

Eastling 10.30am Morning Worship

## 23rd July Trinity 7

Romans 8. 12 - 25, Matthew 13. 24 - 30, 36 - 43

Throwley 10.30am Holy Communion

Newnham 10.30 am Morning Worship

## 30th July Trinity 8

Romans 8. 26 - 39, Matthew 13. 31 - 33, 44 - 52

Eastling 10.30am Benefice Communion

## 6th August Trinity 9 The Transfiguration

2 Peter 1. 16 - 19, Luke 9. 28 - 36

Eastling 10.30am Holy Communion

Norton 10.30am Morning Worship

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## Online Daily Worship Continues

As well as the services in our churches, the daily 9am Morning Prayer at Lynsted and Breakthrough on Sundays at 6pm, will continue and be live online on <https://kc-hd.org.uk> .

More information is updated weekly on St Mary's Eastling 'A Church Near You':

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/11982/>

### Anna Chaplaincy

Please contact our Anna Chaplain, Caroline Ramshaw, if you know of someone who is isolated, alone, or unable to attend church.

An Anna Chaplain can offer a listening ear and company.

Communion can be brought to you in your own home.



Contact your local Anna Chaplain on:  
[annachaplaincy@outlook.com](mailto:annachaplaincy@outlook.com)

07799538809

# High Downs Parish

**Rector** Reverend Canon Dr. Steve Lillicrap  
01795 522510 [steve.lillicrap@kc-hd.org.uk](mailto:steve.lillicrap@kc-hd.org.uk)

**Associate Priest** Reverend James (Jim) Pye  
01795 890726 [jim.pye@kc-hd.org.uk](mailto:jim.pye@kc-hd.org.uk)

**Curate** Reverend Caroline Turvey  
01795 886351 [caroline.turvey@kc-hd.org.uk](mailto:caroline.turvey@kc-hd.org.uk)

**Reader** Caroline Ramshaw (07799 538809)

**Anna Chaplain** Caroline Ramshaw  
[AnnaChaplaincy@outlook.com](mailto:AnnaChaplaincy@outlook.com)

**Reader** Pim Baxter (07710 116269)

### Church Contacts

**Eastling** Andrew Baxter, Warden (01795 890598)

**Administrator** E mail: [eastlingchurch@gmail.com](mailto:eastlingchurch@gmail.com)

### Stalisfield with Otterden

Jenny King, Warden (01795 890366)

**Administrator** Shirley Pritchard  
Email: [Stmarystalisfield@gmail.com](mailto:Stmarystalisfield@gmail.com)

**Throwley** Tim Jones, Warden  
Email: [timothydavid.jones@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:timothydavid.jones@yahoo.co.uk)

### High Downs Parish Safeguarding Officer

Mark Harlow (07979 864000)

**Parish Office** Email: [eastlingchurch@gmail.com](mailto:eastlingchurch@gmail.com)  
[facebook.com/highdownsbenefice](https://facebook.com/highdownsbenefice)

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## From The Registers

### Weddings

Olivia Webster and Korbinian Weikl  
3rd June 2023 at Stalisfield

Claire Worsley and Richard Sandy  
17th June 2023 at Stalisfield

Anna Clinch and Charles James  
24th June 2023 at Eastling

### Funeral

Elini Jiles  
16th June 2023 at Stalisfield

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### CONTACT THE GOOD NEWS EDITOR

Hilary Harlow 01795 890338

If you would like to submit articles, or to advertise in the August 2023 magazine, send your submission by 20th July to: [goodnewsmagazine@me.com](mailto:goodnewsmagazine@me.com).

Past and current issues of the Good News may be viewed on [www.goodnews.rf.gd](http://www.goodnews.rf.gd)



## In Mid Summer

by Audrey Keen.

The wood digests the mid summer sun,  
 And tall are the foxgloves and willow herb,  
 Busy flies frequent the humid pool  
 And bees come to the grassy ride.  
 Everywhere the sunlight  
 Warms and coaxes life,  
 And I cannot contemplate  
 A life without  
 Green fields, mysterious woods,  
 Rose hedges and a blue sky.

## Citizens Advice Swale

We've received a huge number of enquiries from local people struggling to stay on top of household bills as the cost-of-living crisis continues to make life incredibly difficult. Nationally, Citizens Advice has helped a record 94,000 people with food bank referrals and access to emergency charitable grants in the first four months of this year. That's a 178% increase on the same period in 2020.

We're forever grateful to our wonderful team of volunteers who willingly give up their time and skills to ensure people in Swale can get the support they need. We're particularly proud of the dedication they've shown during the ongoing cost-of-living crisis, when demand for our help is so high. Their hard work, dedication and commitment is incredible. We simply couldn't do it without them. To find out more about volunteering with Citizens Advice Swale, visit [www.citizensadviceswale.uk](http://www.citizensadviceswale.uk) or call 01795 417666. No experience is required, full training and support is provided for volunteer roles.

How can we help you?

citizens advice

- **General Advice:** Call Adviceline on freephone 0808 278 7979 or send an online request at <https://citizensadviceswale.uk/email-general-advice/>
- **New Universal Credit claims:** Call Help to Claim on freephone 0800 144 8444
- **Debt:** Request a call back at <https://citizensadviceswale.uk/debt/>

We offer free, confidential and impartial advice to people living or working in and around Faversham, Sheppey and Sittingbourne, and campaign on big issues affecting people's lives. Our goal is to help everyone find a way forward, whatever problem they face. In addition to general advice we offer specialist advice services including debt and benefits. We're an independent charity and we rely on donations and grants to make a difference to people in our community.




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**Save the date - Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> August 2023**  
**Join us to celebrate our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary in Stalisfield**  
**Details to follow but bands are already booked, tickets available soon**



*Richard, Marianne & Nathan*

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 Lenham Community Centre - Tuesdays 6.45 - 7.45pm  
 and Saturdays 9-10am

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## KCC Councillor's Report

In a break from tradition, I'm going to deviate from my usual county councillor column this month and write a single column as a combined borough and county councillor or 'twin hatter' (the description used in political circles). Normal service will be resumed next month.

First of all, I'd like to say a huge thank you to the residents of Boughton and Courtenay for putting your faith in me and electing me to represent you at Swale Borough Council for the next four years.

As you may be aware, shortly after the elections I was elected to be the Chair of Swale Borough Council's Environment Committee, a role which not only covers climate change and other 'green' issues, but also takes in everything from bin collections and churchyards to fly tipping and stray dogs, (and a great deal more).

After an intense first few weeks of getting to grips with the dual roles, my workload is finally beginning to settle into a routine and I'm looking forward to the coming years. I've found the culture at Swale Borough Council to be significantly more open and accessible than it is at Kent County Council. Senior officers are far easier to contact and more forthcoming with responses to questions and enquiries.

In the interest of balance, I should mention that there are a number of factors which may have contributed to this difference in culture. When I started at KCC in May 2021, we were only just coming out of the last Covid lockdown, masks were still commonplace and the induction day at County Hall still involved a fair amount of social distancing. The first two KCC

full council meetings of the new council took place at Mote Park sports centre because the council chamber at County Hall was too small to allow councillors and staff to remain safely distanced from each other.

In addition to this, in May 2021 I was entirely new to politics. I think it's safe to say I've learned more over the past two years than at any point since my mid-teens, and although I still have plenty to learn, I now know how best to get the information I need to carry out my role effectively. I have some big plans for the coming years. The biggest challenge will be finding ways to carry them out whilst working with the exceptionally tight budgets we have available.

### Faversham Household Waste Recycling Centre (Tip)

Kent County Council will be launching a consultation in mid-July to look at options relating to the Household Waste Recycling Centres across the county. Unfortunately for Faversham and Swale East, the Faversham site is currently lined up for closure in all of the very limited set of 'options' they have proposed.

My colleague Mark Hood is on a working group at KCC which has been tasked with writing the consultation document. There is cross party consensus that a significant volume of additional information needs to be made public for the consultation to be meaningful. The cabinet member for Environment at KCC has said that she would be open to alternative suggestions, but the lack of information given currently means any alternatives put forward would be largely based on guesswork.

Rich Lehmann  
[rich.lehmann@kent.gov.uk](mailto:rich.lehmann@kent.gov.uk)  
[RichLehmann@swale.gov.uk](mailto:RichLehmann@swale.gov.uk)

## Eastling

## Neighbourhood Watch



**Village Warden** 07794 010 394  
or 01795 890848

**Police 101 Emergency 999**

As I mentioned last month, please be careful driving along the country lanes as the vegetation seems to be overtaking and some drivers quite mistakenly believe they can see around the corners.

The good news is that we now have a neighbourhood police officer for our area. His name is PC Gary Morris so, if you do see him about, please say hello.

Whilst June has been a quiet month for any problems in and around the village, please report any suspicious vehicles, personnel etc so that we may keep it that way.

Finally, do not forget to keep all your gardening equipment locked away.

Have a good month  
Take Care, Alan

### Pest Control Services



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Mob: 07592511612

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[info@mandjelectricalkent.co.uk](mailto:info@mandjelectricalkent.co.uk)



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**Eastling** sited at 1 Manor Lees, the Street, Eastling. ME13 0BE

**Stalisfield** sited at Stalisfield Village Hall, ME13 0JE

**Throwley** sited in the old Telephone Box outside the Old Post Office, ME13 0HY



## St James the Great, following Him

Jesus, fresh from His baptism and fired with His new calling, bursts into Galilee. Coming upon four fishermen working on the shore of the lake, He says to them, 'Follow Me'.

Without further ado or even a second thought, they abandon what they're doing (and in the case of two of them, James and John, leave their poor old father alone in the boat with the hired crew), and set off with Jesus, they know not where. That is how Mark's Gospel records the recruitment of four of the apostles of Jesus. Talk about a sudden change of life!

All our understanding of human behaviour tells us that this is not how people normally respond to such a peremptory invitation: no questions, no explanation. Take it or leave it. Just 'Follow me'.

That however is on a superficial reading of the text. In fact, because we have four Gospels rather than just three, we know from John that one pair of brothers, James and John, and the other two called on the same day, had been disciples of John the Baptist, who had pointed Jesus out to them as the 'Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world'.

Subsequently two of them had sought Him out and spent some

time with Him in the Jordan area. This was not quite the instant 'conversion' described by Matthew and Mark, though undoubtedly it evoked an instant response.

For many of us on the journey of faith the experience of James and John - and the other two, Peter and Andrew - mirrors our own experience. First, we know about Jesus, perhaps as children at Sunday school, or later as adults. Then we begin to ask questions and look for answers. Finally, there may come a time when we hear His voice, as it were, calling us to accompany Him on a life of love, service and commitment.

For James (whose feast day falls on 25th July) this moment was to turn his whole life upside down. He became a leader of the church in Jerusalem after the resurrection and was the first apostle to be martyred, being put to the sword by Herod Agrippa in 44AD. His brother John, in contrast, lived on as a senior figure in the life of the emerging Church.

For all four who were called by the lake that day, nothing would ever be quite the same again. But then all those who set out to follow Jesus wherever He leads them are usually in for a few surprises.

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**CYCLEFEST**  
1st - 9th July 2023



**FREE EVENTS**



**Saturday 1st July 10am-2pm**  
**Community Cycling Day on Faversham Recreation Ground**  
including:

- Test ride electric bikes and electric cargo bikes from established brand TERN amongst others.
- Friendly advice on how to get started on an e-bike and how to get kids onboard.
- Dr Bike
- Family Ride around the Rec at 1pm
- NHS Health Checks
- FTC info stall
- Age UK Community Bike Rides info
- Bike jumble

**This event takes place at Faversham Recreation Ground, ME13 8EU**

**Monday 3rd July 11am**  
**Led Ride for Beginners (led by Colin Rushton)**  
Relaxed led ride for beginners and those looking to build confidence within supportive environment.  
**The ride leaves from Aldred Road, ME13 8QQ**

**Wednesday 5th July 10am-1pm**  
**She's Electric - Women and ebikes.**  
A welcoming session aimed at women and families wanting to try an ebike or electric cargo bike. Explore the possibilities of a car replacement cargo bikes in a safe space over FREE coffee and cake... and treats for the kids.  
**This event takes place at Macknade, Selling Road, ME13 8XF**  
A free event, either drop-in or email [caz@cyclechic.co.uk](mailto:caz@cyclechic.co.uk) to register your interest.

for more information:  
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## Eastling Primary School

celebrated National Outdoor Learning Day on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May. Each class worked with Wild Classroom. Acorns and Year 1 made flatbreads with honey, Year 2 cooked risotto, Willow class cooked Roman Meatballs with green vegetables and cheesy polenta mash. Oak class made a Mexican chilli.

During the day Year 1 went on a phonics scavenger hunt, explored capacity using the water tray and made Nature sun catchers using natural collected materials. Year 2 did some writing around the theme of the beach after paddling in water with pebbles, sand, seaweed and shells. They also built a Bog Baby home.

Willow class weeded and tidied Joe's garden, mixed soil, clay, wildflower seeds and water to make seed bombs to help the bee population and visited the woods to build dens and explore local wildlife. Oak class created Mayan masks and played the Mayan game Pok-a-tok.

Years 1 and 6 enjoyed Forest school sessions which were run by Out to the Woods at Admiral Woods funded by DEFRA. The children learnt about ancient woodlands and the value of them in supporting biodiversity and in mitigating climate change. They also had time to explore the environment and particularly enjoyed the hammocks.

On Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June children from the school cricket club spent the day at Canterbury Cricket Ground for the Kent Schools Day Out. The children watched the second day of the County Championship against Surrey. They also took part in a variety of cricket related activities.

The whole school enjoyed a day at Otterden on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> June. They learnt about falconry, planting, farm machinery, game keeping, camouflaging and went on a minibeast hunt.

The school has a couple of spaces available for an immediate start in Reception class. Any prospective parents looking for a Reception place for September 2023 are welcome to call the office on 01795 890252 to arrange a visit.

For further information please visit our school website where photographs and newsletters are displayed and updated regularly.

Melanie Dale, Headteacher

## Stalisfield Youth Group Summer Programme



We are having all the usual things but thought we'd have some themes over the Summer term



Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> - Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July – Campout  
Teynham church field

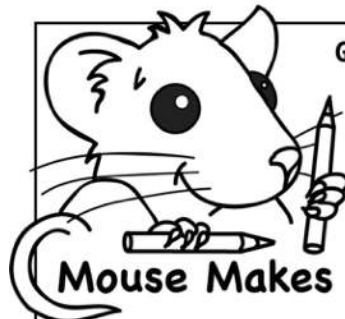
12<sup>th</sup> July – Sports activities

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July – Benefice Fun Day 10-2  
& Newnham Village Fete 12-3

26<sup>th</sup> July – Summer BBQ and Party evening

**Stalisfield Youth Group** is free to all 11-18y olds on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month 7-8.30pm at Stalisfield Village Hall. We have table tennis, craft, games, summer outdoor sports equipment, music, Wii and Xbox gaming, tuck shop and free cake!

We also welcome any Year 6 pupils during this Summer term so you can meet up with friends out of school and then continue to meet here with them next year if perhaps you go to different secondary schools  
Any questions please contact Catherine 07929928046



Where did Goliath come from?

1 Samuel 17:4

How tall was Goliath?

\_\_\_\_\_ cubits.  
1 Samuel 17:4

What was Goliath's armour made of?

1 Samuel 17:5,6

What weapons did Goliath carry?

a JAVELIN,  
a \_\_\_\_\_  
and a \_\_\_\_\_  
1 Samuel 17:45

How many stones did David take from the stream?

1 Samuel 17:40

Where did David's stone hit Goliath? On his \_\_\_\_\_

1 Samuel 17:49

**Goliath**, the champion of the Philistine army, taunted the Israelites.

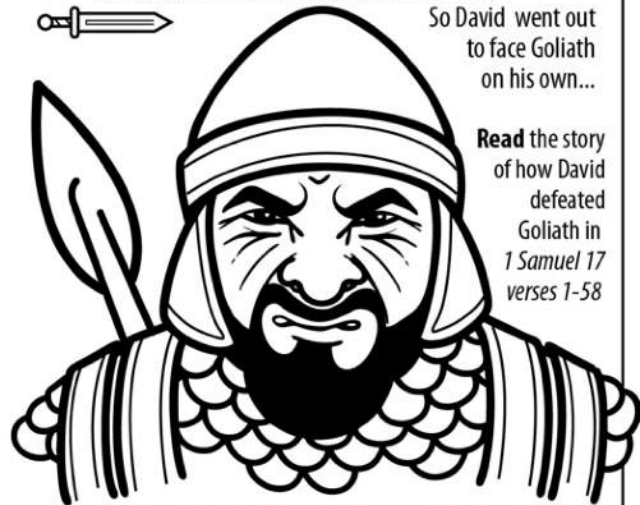
"Choose a man to fight with me and if he kills me then we will be your servants!"

The Israelites were afraid, but **David**, a shepherd boy who had come to bring food to his brothers on the battlefield said:

"The **Lord** who delivered me from the lion and bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine."

So David went out to face Goliath on his own...

Read the story of how David defeated Goliath in 1 Samuel 17 verses 1-58



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## Diabetes timebomb: NHS to offer 'soup and shakes' diet

The NHS is to roll out a 'soup and shakes' diet across the UK, aimed at the tens of thousands of patients who are fighting Type 2 diabetes.

Health officials said every part of the country will be offering the regime by next March, as the NHS tries to tackle what has been called Britain's 'diabetes timebomb'.

Pilot schemes report an average of two stone in weight loss in three months. Clinical trials seem to show that this will be enough to reverse about half of diabetes cases. The 'soups and shakes' diet is a 'total diet replacement' product, which aims to deliver 800 to 900 calories a day for 12 weeks.

Professor Jonathan Valabhji, the NHS England's national clinical director for diabetes and obesity, says: "Research is clear that weight loss, where indicated, goes a long way to helping people stay well and avoiding preventable illness, and in many cases, it can be the trigger for putting Type 2 diabetes into remission.

## The sweet smell of rain

Have you ever noticed the sweet, fresh smell after a downpour of rain? That 'smell of rain' is called petrichor, and it fascinates scientists.

It was back in 1965 that scientists first named it. Petrichor comes from the Greek for stone, 'petra', and the golden fluid flowing through the veins of the immortals, 'ichor'.

Petrichor is produced when raindrops form air pockets on the rocks and soil, and softly force the release of aromatic chemicals trapped there. The petrichor-scented compounds drift upwards into the atmosphere as a gas, like a glass of champagne.

The odour itself comes mainly from a chemical called geosmin, which is made by bacteria in soil. Geosmin is made by soil microbes, to fend off hungry worms. Geosmin is highly pungent, and even just five parts per trillion can be picked up by the human nose.



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...love the new notice board, Vicar...  
...just not quite so sure about the wording...

## Audio Bibles for people with sight loss



At the end of 2021, Torch took "a leap of faith" and ordered 1,000 Pathway audio Bible players containing the New Testament and Psalms read by the actor David Suchet.

Knowing the power of Scripture to change lives, they planned to "give these Bibles for free to anyone in the UK losing their sight. 16 months later, all of these Bible players have been sent out and the stories coming back are so amazing that Torch has ordered 1,000 more."

Gayle-Ann told us *"It is my friend...with me wherever, it is just so convenient. I have read the New Testament, but the way this is read is just easily understood"*.

Kenneth wouldn't have called himself a Christian, and hasn't

enjoyed audio books, but *'I like listening to the Pathway. I'm really listening to the New Testament now, not just odd verses. I'm realising what it all means.'*

Losing sight can be a time of real questioning and searching, so what better gift can a newly blind person receive than the Word of God?

Torch is encouraging anyone who is living with sight loss to contact them for a free audio Bible at [www.torchtrust.org/pathway](http://www.torchtrust.org/pathway), or by calling 01858 438260.

Most of the first 1,000 players were sponsored by individuals, churches or trusts. Torch is also seeking people to donate £20 to cover the cost of sending out one of the new audio Bibles.

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