

FUN DAY

SATURDAY 6TH JULY 2024

ICE LOLLIES

FACE PAINTING

CAKES

PONY RIDES

TUG OF WAR

MUSIC

GAMES

BOUNCY CASTLE

FREE PARKING

BBQ

RAFFLE AND MORE

10AM - 2PM

TEYNHAM CHURCHYARD

TEYNHAM CHURCH ME9 9ET

FREE ENTRY

BBQ

BAR OPEN

ALL WELCOME

SUMMER FETE

Sunday 7th July, 12pm - 3pm
Eastling Primary School

Tea Room. Face Painting.
 Licenced Bar. BBQ. KLUK Karate.
 The Pottery Room. The Printing Press.
 Traditional Games and Stalls.
 Faversham Gymnastics Club. Fantastic Raffle.
 Bouncy Castle and more!

Friends of Eastling School, Charity no. 1056183 friendsofeastlingschool@gmail.com
<https://www.eastling.kent.sch.uk/friends-of-eastling-school/>
 Assistance Dogs only.

Good News Parish Magazine for High Downs Parish

Serving the villages of Eastling, Otterden, Stalisfield and Throwley

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



Stalisfield Events:

Treasure Hunt -
 Saturday 20th July,
 2 - 4pm

Pick up a map from
 Stalisfield village hall
 and find the clues as you
 walk through the
 beautiful local

countryside, finishing back at the hall for
 refreshments and rewards. Long and shorter walks
 available. No booking required

Village Fête - Saturday 24th
 August, 2 - 5pm

All the fun of the fair at this traditional
 family-friendly country Fête. Splat-the-rat, human
 fruit machine, coco-lotto, competition, refreshments
 and much more.



Harvest Supper - Saturday 12th October, 7 - 10pm

JULY 2024

3rd	Otterden & Stalisfield W.I. Stalisfield Village Hall	7.30pm
6th	Benefice Fun Day Teynham Church	10am - 2pm
7th	Summer Fête Eastling Primary School	12 - 3pm
10th	Stalisfield Youth Group Stalisfield Village Hall	7 - 8.30pm
11th	Singing Kettle Song Group Newnham Village Hall	2 - 3pm
20th	Copy deadline for August Good News goodnewsmagazine@me.com	
20th	Treasure Hunt Stalisfield Village Hall	2 - 4pm
24th	Youth Group BBQ and Summer Party Stalisfield Village Hall	7 - 8.30pm

AUGUST

24th	Stalisfield Village Fête Stalisfield Hall and Green	2 - 5pm
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Message for July



In June, Year 2 at Eastling Primary School visited St Mary's Church as part of a project looking at why certain buildings are sacred. Andrew, as Churchwarden, welcomed the teacher and pupils and as well as telling them something of the history of the Church, he gave them all an opportunity to play the organ – which they thoroughly enjoyed.

Before the visit he and I were talking about why, when the first churches were planned, it was the custom to lay them out facing east. Which encouraged me to check out this fact. The Dictionary of Liturgy and Music*, which I felt to be a reliable source, states under the heading Orientation:

“The deliberate alignment of Christian worship, and the construction of places designed for Christian worship, on an eastward, oriental, axis. Though the pagan practice of facing the sunrise no doubt played a part, Christian liturgical prayer is directed to Christ, the rising sun, whose return is looked for.”

Other sources make this point in different ways including references to the altar standing at the east end of the chancel, in an area known as the sanctuary.

As often happens, when you start to research one fact you then come across a range of other interesting information. For example, that until the late Middle Ages there were no seats in the nave, although there were stone benches which went around the walls for those who were too frail to stand for a long time. As sermons got longer and longer, sometimes up to two or three hours, seating began to be required and hence the introduction of pews.

Reading about the length of sermons reminded me of something else I learned just recently.

Last year I became a Non-Executive Member of the Chapter of Canterbury Cathedral, which includes becoming a Lay Canon as part of that role at the Cathedral. I feel incredibly fortunate to not only have held this role at St Paul's Cathedral in London for nine years, but to now be associated with Canterbury's magnificent Cathedral,



much closer to home, and which has been in the background of my life, and that of my family, for many years.

I was asked if as a Member of Chapter I might consider giving a homily one Sunday in the Cathedral as part of Evensong. Unsure of what a homily entailed I was reassured to learn that these addresses are more of a personal reflection on life and faith and are a maximum of 5 minutes.

We are all blessed with amazing opportunities to learn new things. The pupils who visited Eastling Church learned something about sacred spaces – and what it is like to have a go at playing the organ.

The churches in our Benefice, whether small and perfectly formed, or on a mid to larger scale, are all wonderful buildings with their own histories and unique way of enabling us to experience God's word, and we don't need to be in a sacred building, church or Cathedral, to encounter God or be amazed by the wonder of Creation.

In the Song of Solomon in the Old Testament there are these evocative words: “For now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth, the time of singing has come and the voice of the turtle-dove is heard in our land.” (Song of Solomon 2:11-12).

The early churches were planned to face east, where the sun rises bringing light and a source of inspiration. We haven't seen much of the sun yet, but in these days when dawn comes early, heralded by bird song, new growth appears in our countryside, and we have the promise of light for longer. Our spirits are lifted, people smile more, and we feel more positive about tackling some of those problems sitting on our shoulders, and there is the continuing promise of inspiration.

**Pim Baxter
Reader**

*Paul F. Bradshaw, *The New SCM Dictionary of Liturgy and Worship*, (London: SCM Press, 2005) p.361.

July Prayer Pointers



Sundays - 14th July is Sea Sunday Pray for the Lord's blessing upon 1.89 million seafarers - men and women - who work all year round to keep our economy afloat.

Mondays - Give thanks for the work of Mission to Seafarers created in 1856 and now active in 200 ports spread across 50 countries.

Tuesdays - Pray for the families of seafarers, often apart for months on end.

Wednesdays - Give thanks for Port Chaplains, supporting and helping sea men and women.

Thursdays - Pray for all who are sick, especially those away from home.

Fridays - Give thanks for the RNLI and all the volunteers who risk their lives to save others.

Saturdays - Pray for all caught in the terror of crossing the channel in unsuitable boats.

Eastling Church Flower rota



7th & 14th July - Dorothy

21st & 28th July - Julia M

4th & 11th August - Steph

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

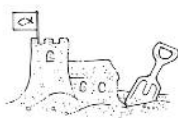


'Happy times with old songs, tea & chatter'

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Romans
loves
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asked
leaders
people
anyone

Jesus
help
invaded
friends
understand
amazed
servant
tricky

faith
believed
centurion
authority
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deserves
Capernaum
Israel

Otterden & Stalisfield W.I.

The June Meeting of Otterden & Stalisfield W.I. was an energetic one. Gary Steele came along to give us an outline of the different types of Line Dancing nowadays and then went on to get us moving to some basic dances. This was interspersed with demonstrations of more advanced dances to give us all a break. Gary teaches Line Dancing every Wednesday morning at Stalisfield Village Hall which several of our group already attend. Of course we then had beverages and cake so any calories burnt off were then replaced!

Wednesday 3rd July is our next Meeting at 7.30 p.m. when our neighbour Judith Westrup is joining us again. Previously Judith kindly gave us an art related demonstration as a self taught print maker. This month she will be talking to us about another area in her life as a Speech Therapist which is her day job. She will be explaining how therapy can help with educational needs.

Guests are always welcome to come along to try out our small informal Group. Contact Ellie on 07775 649337 or Helen Brooks on 07477 580727.

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Luke 7: 1-10, Matthew 8: 5-13

When the Romans invaded Israel, they used soldiers to keep order. For the centurion in Capernaum it was more than just a job...

The centurion had a young servant who was in great pain and dying.



When he heard that Jesus was near, he asked the town leaders to ask Jesus for help.

The Leaders told Jesus...



This man deserves your help. He loves our people.

He has even built us a meeting place!



This could have been a tricky situation, for Jews never went into the houses of non-Jews.



I will go and heal the boy.



But the centurion knew that, as a Jew, Jesus could not go into the houses of non-Jews so as Jesus got near, he sent some friends to him.



I have never met anyone in Israel with as much faith.

He says he isn't worthy enough for you to come to his house.



You may go now. What he has believed has happened.

But he says he understands authority and knows you have it. You only have to say so and his servant will be healed.



When the friends got to the house they found the servant completely healed!





Eastling Neighbourhood Watch

Village Warden 07794 010
394 or 01795 890848

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For any scam or cyber attacks or
calls please report it on
0330 123 2040

Eastling Parish Council Update from the Eastling Community Greenspace Working Group

The working group has been busy putting together draft proposals for turning the 3.5 acres of arable land opposite the Carpenters Arms into a community greenspace. They have consulted with the residents that overlook the proposed greenspace and are currently working on adding more detail and revising the proposals. It is hoped to be ready to put the proposal to a vote in the village by October of this year.

A detailed update on what has been done so far and the proposed next steps can be found on the Parish Council's website: <https://www.hugofox.com/community/eastling-parish-council-15993/eastling-community-greenspace-proposal/>

It can also be obtained by emailing Annie on jacksonandadams@gmail.com.

Further updates will be provided
as the project progresses.

Eastling Parish Council

There will be a regular
meeting of the Parish
Council
in Eastling Village Hall at
6.30pm
on Tuesday 9th July 2024.
Members of the public are
welcome to attend.

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As probably noticed the width of
the rural roads seems be shorter
with the hedges and verges
getting longer so please take care.
Some people think that they have
the ability to see around corners
and they are on a one way street
whilst driving their vehicles so
expect the unexpected.

There has been the usual amount
of scams circulating around one
comes to mind which I have had 2
calls is someone pretending to be
from your bank saying that your
account has been compromised
and monies taken and telephone
the number given. In this case the
number has the dialling code of
01795 which we know is a code
locally so please do not be taken
in and shut the call down, do not
use your phone for another
15minutes as this will put you
back to the scammers.

We are now in the period when
most break ins to properties and
outbuildings occur so please be
extra vigilant and report anything
unusual sightings.

Have a good month
Take care
Alan

Defibrillators in our Villages

Ready for anyone to use in an emergency,
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Eastling School (School days only,
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Stalisfield sited at Stalisfield
Village Hall, ME13 0JE

Throwley sited in the old
Telephone Box outside the Old
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North Downs Walk – a great day and a great result



The Rotary Club of the Weald of Kent held its annual North Downs Walk on Sunday 9th June. We enjoyed ideal walking weather, the best turnout and one of the best results in recent years.

The event is a sponsored walk in support of Cancer Research UK and of the walkers' own choice of good causes. With a variety of routes from 1 mile (fully paved, therefore suitable for wheelchairs or baby buggies) to 9 miles including a climb up the North Downs, we attracted a full range of ages and abilities of walkers, including Guides, Air Cadets, keen hikers and some family teams. Almost 400 walkers had pre-registered and downloaded sponsor forms via the Weald Rotary website and many more entered on the day, making a donation to CRUK. There were over 450 walkers in total.

Early indications, based on the pledges on walkers' sponsorship forms are that the Walk will have raised about £24,500 once Gift Aid is included, of which about two-thirds will go to CRUK and the rest to causes nominated by the walkers.

Geoff Haffenden, president of the Weald Rotary Club, said, "This is a fantastic result and a real community effort involving the walkers, volunteers, local farmers and of course our sponsor. Well done everyone who made the walk happen."

Chas Bedford, chairman of the organising committee paid tribute to the small army of volunteers who acted as route marshals, greeted walkers at checkpoints, registered walkers and sponsor forms, and



staffed the kitchen – producing 500 ploughman's lunches, strawberries and cream, and hot and cold drinks. "A lot of walkers have praised how friendly and professional our helpers were. I want to thank all of them. I also want to thank Family Funeral Service, our event sponsor, who have underwritten all our expenses, meaning that every penny raised in sponsorship has gone to the charities and not to overheads."

Rotary is committed to protecting the environment; all of the disposable lunchboxes, cups and cutlery were Vegware compostables, and were accepted by KCC for composting. Other waste was separated into categories for recycling, leaving almost no 'general waste' going to landfill.

Weald of Kent Rotary have been running the North Downs Walk since 1985, missing only 2020 due to lockdowns, and plan to continue running it as long as there are walkers. Next year will be both the 40th Walk and the 50th anniversary of the club. The provisional date is Sunday 8th June 2025.



The Plough Inn, Stalisfield;

a family run, independent, award winning pub & restaurant offering an extensive menu of both 2 AA rosette dishes and your traditional pub classics.

Mental health is so important we are offering a free tea/coffee on **Wellbeing Wednesdays** between 4.30pm & 6pm & 10% off drinks to encourage everyone out to chat with friends or make new ones.

Don't forget that we offer a **take away Fish & Chip service** Wednesdays & Thursday 5.30 - 6.45pm.

The Pride of Plough Last month's winners were James Dowson from Throwley and Tracy Dove from Stalisfield. Please don't forget to send in your nominations to:

community@theploughinnstalisfield.co.uk

Job Opportunities available for Housekeeping, Pot wash and weekend Bar/Restaurant. Email CV.

Keep up to date by following us on Facebook, Instagram or X (twitter)

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Services in our Benefice

30th June Trinity 5

2 Corinthians 8. 7 - end, Mark 5. 21 - 43

10.30am Benefice Holy Communion at
Stalisfield

7th July Trinity 6

2 Corinthians 12. 2 - 10, Mark 6. 1 - 13

Eastling 10.30am Holy Communion

Norton 10.30am Morning Worship

14th July Trinity 7

Ephesians 1. 3 - 14, Mark 6. 14 - 29

Throwley 10.30am Morning Prayer

Oare 10.30am Holy Communion

Lynsted 10.30am All Together Now

21st July Trinity 8

Ephesians 2. 11 - end, Mark 6. 30 - 34, 53 - end

Eastling 10.30am Morning Worship

Norton 10.30am Holy Communion

28th July Trinity 9

Ephesians 3. 14 - end, John 6. 1 - 21

Throwley 10.30am Holy Communion

Newnham 10.30am Morning Worship

4th August Trinity 10

Ephesians 4. 1 - 16, John 6. 24 - 35

Eastling 10.30am Holy Communion

Online Daily Worship Continues

As well as the services in our churches, the daily 9am Morning Prayer will continue via Benefice Facebook Page

<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:

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07799 538 809

High Downs Parish

Rector Revd Paula Jardine-Rose

07516 411269 paula.jardine.rose@kc-hd.org.uk

Benefice Administrator Joyce Warren

01795 521831 joyce.warren@kc-hd.org.uk

Associate Priest Reverend James (Jim) Pye

01795 890726 jim.pye@kc-hd.org.uk

Reader Caroline Ramshaw (07799 538809)

Anna Chaplain Caroline Ramshaw

AnnaChaplaincy@outlook.com

Reader Pim Baxter (07710 116269)

Church Contacts

Eastling Andrew Baxter, Warden (01795 890598)

Administrator E mail: stmaryeastling@gmail.com

Stalisfield with Otterden

Jenny King, Warden (01795 890366)

Chrissie Webster, Administrator

(07590 351977)

Throwley David Elvin, Chair of Throwley Church Council

E mail: david.j.elvin@gmail.com

High Downs Parish Safeguarding Officer

Mark Harlow (07979 864000)

E mail: mark.harlow@kc-hd.org.uk

CONTACT THE GOOD NEWS EDITOR

Hilary Harlow 01795 890338

If you would like to submit articles, or to advertise in the August 2024 magazine, send your submission by 20th July to: goodnewsmagazine@me.com.

Past and current issues of the Good News may be viewed on www.goodnews.rf.gd



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God in the Sciences

by Dr Ruth M. Bancewicz, Church Engagement Director at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion in Cambridge.

Ruth writes on the positive relationship between Science and Christian faith.

A scientist reflects on God's heart for the suffering

It's difficult as a scientist to hear information that is fascinating, but which also involves so much suffering for other people. I worked for a time in a leukaemia research lab. We had to let other people's pain drive our research without it crippling our ability to concentrate on our work. But, during lockdown, I found myself – as a biologically-educated bystander – avoiding looking into the science of COVID-19, because the reminders of its impact on people's lives were everywhere that I looked.

One of the ways I managed my own feelings during the pandemic was by digging deeper into what God has revealed to us about His character, letting that fuel my faith, my prayers, and my actions. For more academic types like myself, study – particularly of the Bible – can be one of the primary ways we connect with God and hear from Him. It's not wrong to be comforted by books, so long as the contents turn our eyes upwards and outwards.

First of all, God hears: "The Lord is close to the broken-hearted" (Psalm 34:18a). In Jesus God took on human form, and He showed us His heart for

the world. When His friend Lazarus died, He wept (John 11). God is "the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort" (2 Corinthians 1:3).

Human sin has affected the whole of creation, and I believe this is largely the direct impact of our mismanagement of creation and mistreatment of each other. COVID-19 may well be another animal's friendly virus, pushed by human activity into causing havoc in bodies where it doesn't belong.

But God's world remains good. It is still fruitful, praising Him, as Psalm 19 describes. Even pictures of a deadly virus can seem beautiful – especially to a biologist! These good things are hints of the promised "new heavens and new earth" mentioned in the New Testament. One day "creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay" (Romans 8: 21), and for everyone who follows God, "He will wipe every tear from their eyes" (Revelation 21: 4).

Behind the debates about suffering is sometimes the assumption that God doesn't care. My experience is that God does care deeply, and He invites His Church to care for those around them – especially the most vulnerable. He is with us, He hears us and grieves with us, He helps us and promises a better future.

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Ready, set, Heli Hike!

The Friars, Aylesford, Saturday 21st September, ME20 7BX
Lace up your hiking boots, **grab your friends and family**. It's time for **Heli Hike** in Kent. Hike through the countryside, stride for the skies, and support your **local air ambulance charity**.

This year, we're excited to introduce a fantastic **Heli Fun Day**.

During this event, you can meet other emergency services, have fun with your loved ones, and learn about our lifesaving work before and after your hike.

Last year, **nearly 800 people in Kent** relied on our swift care and expertise. From road collisions to cardiac arrests and strokes. When there's a **life-or-death** call, we bring specialised doctors, paramedics and treatment to the scene, fast. **And we don't stop. 24/7, 365 days a year.**

Without you, we can't keep flying/saving lives.

Sign up today on the links below!

[www.aakss.org.uk/helihikes](https://aakss.org.uk/helihikes)
<https://aakss.org.uk/events/fun-days/> or call 01634 471900

News from Citizens Advice Swale July 2024

citizens
advice

Volunteers make up around 75% of our workforce, and range from young to retired, university students, part-time workers and jobseekers.

We're forever grateful to our wonderful team who willingly give up their time and skills to ensure people in Swale can get the support they need. Their hard work, dedication and commitment is incredible. We simply couldn't do it without them.

This Volunteers' Week (3-9 June) we celebrated our amazing volunteers and the difference they make to people in our community.

Volunteering with us has proven to be a rewarding experience with many citing 'making a difference', 'boosting confidence', 'meeting new people' and 'improving job prospects' as benefits.

We're currently looking for volunteer advisers and trustees. To find out more and apply, visit <https://citizensadviceSwale.uk/volunteer/> or call us on 01795 417666. Full training is provided and travel expenses are reimbursed.

If you need to contact us for general advice, we run drop-in sessions which you can attend without an appointment:

- Monday 10am-12pm, Swale House, Sittingbourne
- Tuesday 10am-12pm, Sheppey Gateway, Sheerness (except the second Tuesday of every month, which is held at Sheerness East Working Mens Club)
- Wednesday & Friday 10am-12pm, 43 Stone Street, Faversham

Alternatively, email us at [email-general-advice@citizensadviceSwale.uk/](mailto:email-general-advice@citizensadviceSwale.uk) (Monday-Wednesday) or call Adviceline on freephone 0808 278 7979

For debt advice, request a call back from our specialist debt team at www.citizensadviceSwale.uk/debt/



White Clouds

by Audrey Keen

White clouds form pictures in the sky
You'll see them if you really try;
Ice-burys, deserts, moors and mountains,
Springs and geysers, falls and fountains.
So many scenes set in the space
That looks upon the good earth's face.



Beneath the sky

by Audrey Keen

Beneath the sky's dull coat of grey
I see the wild pink rose,
And touch the crooked stems of grass
Just where the woodbine grows.

I see the oak bough nuzzle deep
Beside her sister twin,
Warmed by the sun
Whose face by noon
Has widened to a grin.
I felt the atmosphere of love
That filtered through the wood,
Where it did truly penetrate
My soul which understood.

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Four lessons from Sport

This summer will be dominated by Sport, with everything from Euro24, through tennis, cricket and motor racing to the Olympics in Paris. Despite the wide differences in the various sports, there are four things each athlete will have in common: focus, discipline, communication and commitment. Such things guarantee success in our Christian walk, too.

Focus. What is it you want to gain, above all things? Paul said: For me to live is Christ, to die is gain. (Philippians 1:21) That sort of commitment is the Christianity that will survive any persecution and hardship.

Discipline. Just as athletes immerse themselves in everything to do with their sport, surround yourself with Christian riches that will feed your mind and spirit. Deliberately choose good Christian music, read the lives of well-known Christians, and seek

out mature Christians for friendship and even mentoring. Christianity is like sport, it flourishes best when it is enjoyed with others!

Communication. What would happen to an athlete if he or she stopped speaking to their own coach, for weeks on end? So this aspect begins with Psalm 46:10: 'Be still and know that I am God.' Fundamental to your faith is your prayer life alone with God. Jesus said 'No branch can bear fruit of itself, it must remain in the vine.' (John 15.4) The Psalms covers every aspect of our walk with God day by day – so if you don't know how to begin to pray, simply begin by praying the Psalms. And read the Bible every day. God speaks to us through the Bible and prayer – keep the lines of communication open!

Commitment. This is nothing more than the resolve to keep going, no matter what the obstacles. Paul had a driving ambition: 'That I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection,

and the fellowship of His sufferings, being made conformable unto His death. (Philippians 3:10)

And the final result of all our efforts? 'Our citizenship is in heaven....' (Philippians 3.20).



WITH ROSIE

Tuesdays - Lenham Community Centre
6:45pm

Thursdays - Stalisfield Village Hall 6:30pm

Fridays - 1st + 3rd Lenham Community
Centre 6:45pm

£7.50 per session

Get in touch for more info:
Rosiezumba2017@gmail.com
07809490982










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Kent Test Preparation

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Booster sessions

Call: Hannah 07989 253555
Email: h.uglow@googlemail.com



Picture by M.W. Stoneham



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The Band of The Brigade of Gurkhas

Queen's Gurkha Engineers Khukuri Fighting Skills
Demonstration The Old School Samba Band

Reception and Beating Retreat

In aid of the Army's national charity
The Army Benevolent Fund
At Sutton Valence School, ME17 3HH

At 6pm on Thursday, 18 July, 2024

Tickets £40. Children up to 14: £15.

Expect sparkling wine, canapés, and superb
entertainment (in the sports Hall if wet)

To book places email: cftparkinson@gmail.com
and pay by bank transfer to

ABF The Soldiers Charity at Lloyds 30-93-34 00914467

Reference: your surname and SVS. [Please do not
insert an apostrophe in the bank account name.]

Or by cheque made out to the

ABF The Soldiers Charity with your contact details to:

Lt Col Chris Parkinson Beech Tree Cottage, The Street,
Benenden, Kent, TN17 4DB

Tel: 01580 388402



CHARING & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

www.charinghistory.co.uk

PROGRAMME 2024 / 2025

September 12th 2024: Speaker - Melody Foreman
The Wreck Hunter : Battle of Britain and The Blitz

October 10th 2024: Speaker - Jennifer Godfrey
Suffragettes of Kent

November 14th 2024: Speaker - Jim Gasgoigne
The GHQ (Home Forces) Auxiliary Units (aka Churchill's
Secret Army)

December 12th 2024: Christmas Social in the Church Barn

January 9th 2025: Speaker - Len Howell
Dover Castle

February 13th 2025: Speaker - Claudia Suckling
William Morris - Craftsman, Designer and much more

March 13th 2025: Speaker - Simon Marsh
Kent & East Sussex Railway

April 10th 2025: Speaker - Sally Finn-Kelcey
Guédelon, a 'brand-new medieval' castle

May 15th 2025: Annual General Meeting in the Parish Hall



Belmont House & Gardens

What's On

Open Air Theatre 'Henry V'

Friday 12th July, 7pm

A young superstar King has ascended the English throne. When his advisors tell him the French throne is rightfully his too, Henry falls for their persuasion. An insult from the Dauphin – heir to the French throne – is enough to trigger Henry, who gathers a mighty fleet and invades France.

After defeating the French at Harfleur and Agincourt, the young King makes the old King of France swear to hand the throne to him on his death, making him King of both countries.

Please bring your own picnic blankets or low-backed seats to sit on to enjoy the performance. Picnics are welcome in the gardens. Adults: £25.00, Ages 10-18: £15.00.

Meet the Head Gardener Tour

Tuesday 16th July, 1pm

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.

Wild Box Alfresco Cocktail Making Class

Friday 26th July, 6.30-8.30pm

Join us for a summer evening of cocktail making in our beautiful gardens. Creating three seasonal cocktails with a Wild Box mixologist, you will explore the world of locally produced spirits and seasonal fruits and herbs to create delicious twists on classic cocktails.

You will learn new techniques in the art of cocktail making and leave with recipe and instruction cards so that you can recreate your drinks at home. £50.00 per person.

www.belmont-house.org



Do you like knitting?

You can help seafarers all over the world
by joining their amazing group of
knitters!

Knitted items made by you, with love helps seafarers arriving in the UK and around the world during the long, cold days and nights spent on the open seas. From woolly hats to fingerless mittens, each item of knitted clothing finds a home and the seafarers they're matched to are extremely grateful for the extra warmth!

If you would like to become a Mission to Seafarers Knitter, more details and knitting patterns are available on <https://www.missiontoseafarers.org/wp-content/uploads/Seafarers-Knitting-Patterns-Brochure-2023.pdf>

If you do not have internet access and would like the patterns and address to send finished items to, please phone Hilary (Good News Editor) on 01795 890338.



Stalisfield Youth Group!

Stalisfield Youth Group is for 11-17yr olds.

We meet on 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month, 7 - 8.30pm in the village hall.

It is free to come.

We have music, gaming, craft table tennis, table football, outside games in the Summer, craft table, tack shop (everything 10 - 50pm), free cake and drink.

We sometimes have a theme night, eg summer BBQ, karaoke pancake making or woodland walk.

It is a time when young people can relax, hang out and catch up.

We particularly welcome Year 6's in this summer term, it's a great place to meet friends if in September you are at different schools!

Upcoming Dates: *10th July *24th July BBQ/summer party * Holiday break in August

Contact Catherine 07929 928 046 or clnwood@doctors.org.uk or see our Facebook page for more details



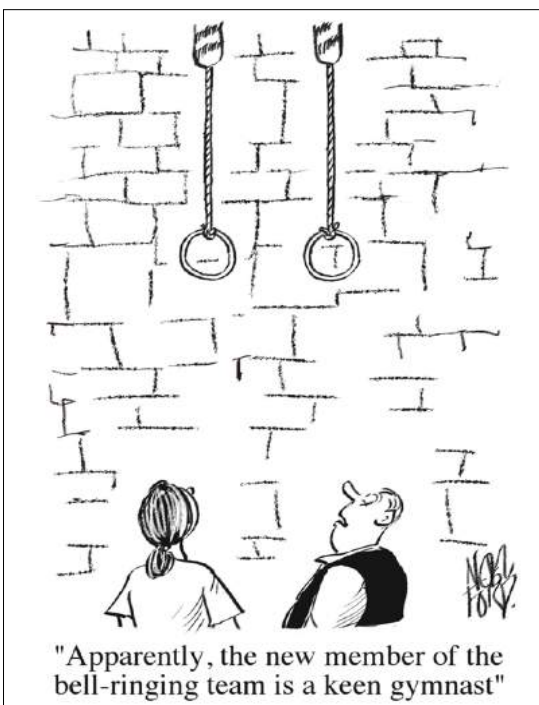
Buddies Summer Bonanza

12th July
4.30 - 6.30 pm

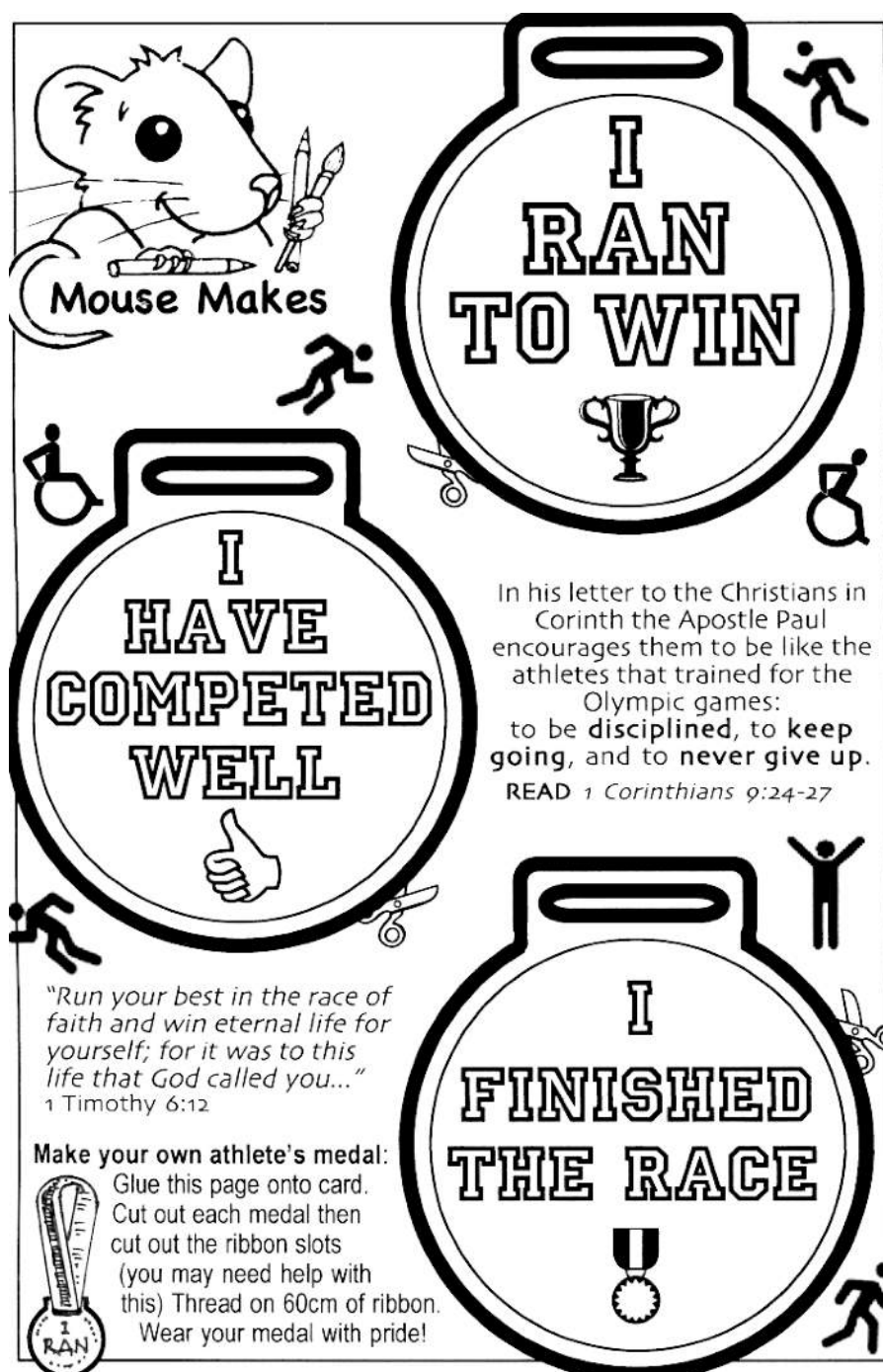
Buddies toddler group is putting on a summer art show, to raise money for new toys and equipment.

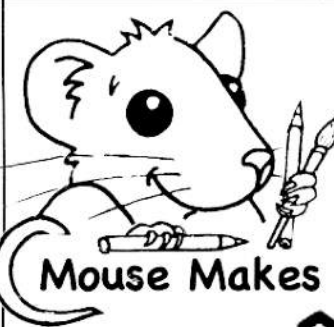
Please join us for tea and cake while you see what the little buddies have created and say good bye to those going up to reception.

Buddies toddler group meets Fridays 9-11am at Doddington Village Hall and welcomes all 0-4yrs and their carers Term time only.



"Apparently, the new member of the bell-ringing team is a keen gymnast"





Mouse Makes

I RAN TO WIN

In his letter to the Christians in Corinth the Apostle Paul encourages them to be like the athletes that trained for the Olympic games: to be disciplined, to keep going, and to never give up.
READ 1 Corinthians 9:24-27

I HAVE COMPETED WELL

"Run your best in the race of faith and win eternal life for yourself; for it was to this life that God called you..."
1 Timothy 6:12

Make your own athlete's medal:
Glue this page onto card.
Cut out each medal then cut out the ribbon slots (you may need help with this) Thread on 60cm of ribbon.
Wear your medal with pride!

I FINISHED THE RACE