

## Painter's Forstal Youth Club

The youth club will be starting again on Friday 5th March 2004 from 7.30 - 9.30pm in Champion Hall Ages 11 - 17 years.

Open to young people within the Ospringe Parish Council Boundary. Details from Joan - 535267.

## Young People's Craft Club (Y.P.C.C.)

Fridays 5th and 19th March 6.15pm to 7.15pm in the Champion Hall.

50p each - all are welcomed. Would those coming on 5th March please wear old clothes, or have overalls, as we will be using paint.

## Knee-mail

Subj: Mums  
Date: March 2004  
From: Esther Cheesman  
To: JC@Godinheaven.com

Dear Lord God,  
Thank you for our Mums. Please help us, on Mother's Day, to show how much we appreciate them and to say thank you for all the things they do for us. Please help us to remember how lucky we are. Amen

## Children's Church

**Painter's Forstal:** 8 - 13's meet in the Champion Hall at 10.40am on 7th March and 4th April. Family services follow on at 11am.

**Ospringe:** Sunday School during 11am services on 14th and 28th March. Special Mothers' Day service is on 21st.

**Eastling:** S Club joins in the special Mothers' Day service in church, at 10am on 21st March. Youngstyle is on 28th.

## FRIENDS OF EASTLING SCHOOL

The Valentine's Disco was thoroughly enjoyed by 77 children who danced the evening away. Thank you to all the parents who helped to decorate the hall and worked hard during the evening. The Pancake Day races were hilarious and lots of pancakes, sweets and drinks were consumed!!

The WORK DAY at school will be on March 7th from 10am. Hot soup and bread will be provided for all helpers. A letter to parents, giving full details of jobs, will be sent out shortly.

A reminder of the other dates for your diaries: BARN DANCE planned for 3rd April; SCHOOL HALL opening on 30th April; AUCTION OF PROMISES on 7th May (Parents please see your letter) and the SUMMER FETE on Sunday 11th July. Details of all events to follow.

Don't forget the School will be closed for staff development on Monday 1st March.

Jill Seaman FOES Publicity 01795 890519

## PUDDLEDUCKS PLAYGROUP

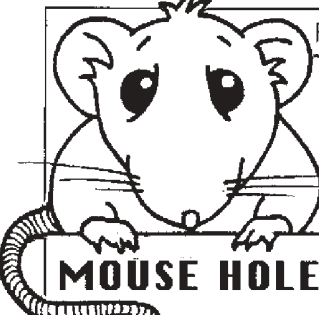
The children enjoyed helping to make pancakes with a variety of toppings. Amongst other craft activities, the children will be making Mothers' Day cards this month.

We welcome all children to join us during playgroup sessions, but children younger than 2 years old must be accompanied by an adult. The charge per session remains at £3.50 until July 2004. Please contact me for any further details.

Jill Seaman 01795 890519

What do you get if you cross a sheep with a kangaroo? A woolly jumper with pockets in it.

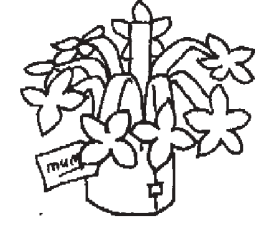
From my home in the church I learn about all sorts of things...



**MOUSE HOLE**

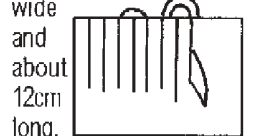
Did you know that Mothering Sunday is 21st March?

In America, in 1907, a lady called Miss Jarvis thought it would be good to have a day especially for mothers. Everyone that came to church that Sunday should wear a white carnation flower in honour of their mother.



**Flower Cards**

To make a 3D flower card cut strips, 1.5cm wide and about 12cm long, from an A4 size sheet of thin green card or thick paper.



Cut lots of large flowers from coloured paper and stick one onto the end of each strip. Curl round with the flowers facing inwards and stick. Write a message on a tag and stick to the pot.

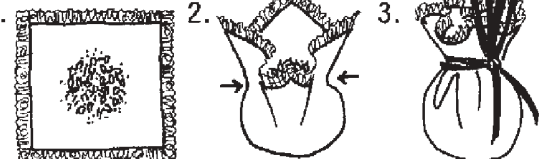
Read all about how God wants us to honour our parents in Ephesians chapter 6 verses 1 - 3


**Lovely Lavender**

Here's an easy way to make a lovely present for Mum or someone special.

**You need:**  
A bag of dried lavender  
A lacy ladies hanky  
50 mm of ribbon

1. Lay out the hanky and put 2 to 3 handfuls of lavender in the middle.
2. Gather up the corners around the lavender and secure tightly with the ribbon.
3. Finish off by tying a big bow.





**Thank you Jesus that**

loves me and cares for me.

**Amen.**

# Good News Parish Magazine

## March 2004

# FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT

1st - 14th March 2004

Most people take just seconds to choose their groceries. Yet this decision has a lasting impact on farmers and their families. Choosing food with the FAIRTRADE mark can help change lives. Across developing countries, farmers are struggling with prices at all time lows. Thousands of coffee farmers have been forced to abandon their farms in search of other work. The need for fair trade has never been greater. We can choose to make a difference. We can choose FAIRTRADE. This year marks 10 years of the FAIRTRADE Mark. A decade that has seen more and more people choosing great tasting fairtrade foods. Watch out for the FAIRTRADE mark when you go shopping.

Look for the FAIRTRADE mark on groceries in your local shops and supermarkets.



Visit the FAIRTRADE website <[www.fairtrade.org.uk](http://www.fairtrade.org.uk)>

We will have a special display of FAIRTRADE goods at **Eastling's Coffee Pop-in on Wednesday 10th March, 9 - 11am in the Village Hall.** Come and join us for a free cup of tea or coffee and other refreshments made using FAIRTRADE ingredients.

## World Day of Prayer Friday 5th March



**Services in Faversham:**  
2pm - Ospringe Church  
Speaker: Cindy Davis

8pm - St. Mary of Charity  
Speaker: Hazel Colyer

The 2004 theme is  
**'In Faith, Women Shape the Future'**  
written by women in Panama.



## Lent Lunches

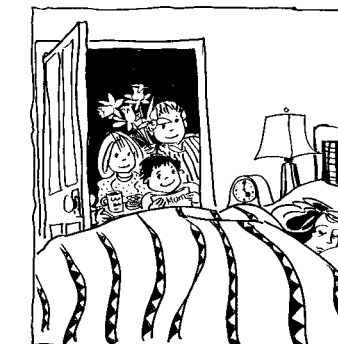
Every Friday during Lent, 27th Feb - 2nd April, 12 noon - 2pm, you can enjoy a simple lunch of homemade soup & bread, in the Alexander Centre and proceeds go to Christian Aid.

The lunches are organised by the members of different churches in Faversham and it is the turn for Ospringe Church on 19th March. Offers to help on the day, or provide some soup or donations towards food, will be gratefully received. Contact Penny 536366.

## Mothering Sunday Celebrating Mothers on 21st March

Mothers, fathers, grandparents and children, everyone will be welcome to join in the fun and celebrations at

Stalisfield Church 10am  
Eastling Church 10am  
Ospringe Church 11am



The news magazine for the combined parishes of Eastling, Ospringe, Stalisfield and Otterden.

## When Jonathan Edwards retired

This article was written by Stuart Weir of Christians in Sport.

Retirement for a sportsperson can be a traumatic experience. For many years so much of the person's own identity has come from their sporting achievements and then it all comes to an end.

At the World Track and Field Championships in Paris in August 2003, Jonathan Edwards brought down the curtain on an illustrious career. It was a career that had brought him World titles, world records and an Olympic gold medal. Perhaps the highest accolade was being called "the man who made triple jump sexy"!

However Jonathan knew it was time to call and halt and move on. The catalyst was a fall in a competition at Crystal Palace in mid August, when initially it seemed that he had sustained a serious injury. It seemed that his career had ended in that moment. However he recovered and was able to compete in the World Championships in Paris.

In the press conference where he announced his retirement, he surprised journalists with his opening words: "I would like to preface what I say with a verse from the Bible. Proverbs 16, verse 9, says: 'A man devises a plan in his heart but God directs his path'. I probably thought God had directed my path off the triple jump track at Crystal Palace two weeks ago and that was the end of my career. As I lay in the pit, that was what was going through my mind.

"I thought I had broken my ankle, ruptured my ligaments and tendons, and I could not have walked if I had wanted to. I pretty much thought that was it and here endeth my career. Then, over the next few days, something quite miraculous happened, in that my ankle was not badly hurt at all. I sit here now feeling that almost a miracle has taken place.

"I should not be here. I come back to Proverbs 16, verse 9. I had planned to carry on to the Olympics but God directed his path (for me), so I will jump here [Paris] and that will be the end of my career. I feel God has been very gracious to allow my career to end at Paris rather than on a stretcher at Crystal Palace". Sadly there was no final fanfare. He competed in the World Championships but made no real impact on the competition.

His Christianity is simple yet life-changing. He sums up what he believes like this:

"Man is sinful and separated from God and can do nothing about that and God of his own will sent his Son to die on the cross for our sins and rose again and by virtue of having faith in him we can be reconciled to God, as a gift, not something that we can earn but as a gift and then out of that gift we give our lives in service to God. My relationship with Jesus and with God is fundamental to everything I do".

Jonathan's achievements are enough to fill a book – literally\*. He has been European Champion, Commonwealth Champion, World Champion, Olympic Champion and world record holder.



One thing which has helped Jonathan throughout his career has been an ability to keep it all in perspective. He describes himself as "jumping into a sand-pit for a living!" He goes on, "I think you can get terribly serious about sport. It can become the be-all and end-all, but when you reduce it to its fundamentals, rationalise it, football is kicking around on grass, trying to stick between two posts with a net a piece of plastic with air inside it. You jump three times into a sand-pit, they measure the distance and suddenly you're famous!"

As he contemplates life after triple-jump, with an attitude of keeping his relationship with Jesus at the centre of everything whether in broadcasting, business or whatever life takes him, he can have confidence for the future.

\* A time to Jump (The authorized biography of Jonathan Edwards), Malcolm Folley, Harper Collins 2000.

## FROM THE ORGAN LOFT

I met Deborah and Lorraine Shilling's parents and they gave me news of their first grandchild. One lovely Sunday afternoon a few years ago I went to the Preston Street Church to witness Deborah marry Matthew Bevan. It was a splendid service. Now they live in Tavistock, Devon, and are part of a thriving Methodist Church there. Jacob was born on 5th October and is gorgeous. Congratulations to them.

Paul Morbeth was sitting on the seat in the Churchyard and was watching the sunset at the Winter Solstice. He noticed that there were two trees lined up with the dying sun as if those who planted them planned it. The daffodils are making a wonderful splash of colour. Spring is on its way!

It is with sadness that we record the death of Linda Richards at 56. Her friend, Ginny, went to her Service and gave the Eulogy. Ginny had been to see Linda and gave her our love from Faversham. In 1978 Linda took the Reception Class at Ospringe whilst I was on secondment and that class and their parents thanked Linda for the wonderful start she gave them. Linda and Dave produced the "Up the Creek" Pantomimes. Dave was a well respected Faversham vet and died 12 years ago at 45. Their son, Mark, died at 17, three years ago. Linda had bravely fought her cancer. Several of us went to a moving Memorial Service at Our Lady of Mount Carmel for Mark. Linda had a lovely Welsh lilt and we thank God for her life.

If you would like to come to an ORGAN CONCERT at THE ALMSHOUSES CHAPEL on Thursday, 4th March, at 3 p.m. you are welcome. Come and hear the renovated Organ played by Brian Adams of Holy Trinity, Milton, Sittingbourne, and have a cuppa afterwards in the Linda Head Room.

Seven of us from Ospringe attended the wonderful Sung Eucharist and Commissioning Service for the new M.U. Diocesan Trustee Board on Saturday, 7th February, at the Cathedral. The theme was "In Love and Service" The sun was streaming in through the South windows and gave a lovely warm glow. The Speaker was Mrs. Marigold Seager-Berry, our Provincial President on the M.U. Trustees. She started with Mary Sumner's Prayer and talked about the influence of 6 Women, Mary, Jesus' mother, Marigold's mum, Marigold's godmother, St. Bernadette and a visit to Lourdes, and lastly St. Margaret. Marigold's school was St. Margaret's and she told us of influences from her school days, and of Gladys Aylward and the work of Missionaries bringing families to God. Brenda did a great job carrying Ospringe's M.U. Banner. There were 38 banners in the procession! Our banner is kept in the Hart Chapel and depicts Mary cradling Jesus and surrounded with anemones. It is beautiful. Mary Sumner founded the M.U. in 1876 and here is her Prayer:- *"All this day O Lord, let me touch as many lives as possible for Thee; and every life I touch, do Thou by Thy spirit quicken, whether through the word I speak, the prayer I breathe, or the life I live." Amen.*

God bless, Vicky.

## CHOIR REPORT

The Women's World Day of Prayer is on Friday, 5th March, and the afternoon Service is at Ospringe at 2 p.m. Please would anyone like to be part of the Choir then? We could include an Anthem and parts for the hymns. Carol Marshall, our M.U. Branch Leader is also the Chairman of the Faversham Group of The W.W.Day of Prayer. Gill Wilson and John Blackford are singing duets too. The Speakers are rehearsing on Tuesday 2nd March at 2 p.m. so the Choir can rehearse at 3p.m. whilst the Church is warm. I have already asked a few folk when I have been out and about in Town!

During the February half term the Choir are planning to sing at The Almshouses and at Carnalea. We have sung "Make me a Light" at our Services. At Choir Practices we have sung heartily "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot" in two parts, "Brother James's Air" with the lovely descant, Hansel and Gretel's "When at Night I go to sleep" in two parts, John Rutter's "Pie Jesu", Taizé "Sing Hallelujah to the Lord" in two parts, Morecambe and Wise's "Bring me Sunshine" and The Vicar of Dibley's theme "The Lord is my Shepherd".

We are now preparing for Easter, and will be trying "All in the April Evening" and "Were you there when they crucified my Lord?"

## Welcome the Weary

Trying to decide on booking summer holidays is like choosing wallpaper. The more pages you turn over, the more difficult the decision becomes. In the days before brochures and internet existed, I would write to possible landlords, enclosing stamped envelope for reply. Later I collected replies from our doormat, read them all, and mentally selected one.

Gathering wife and kiddies together, I handed the Guest House notes around. When all had read them, I invited them to choose which they liked best. Everyone chose Mrs Thompson, up in North Wales. No one quite knew why. There was a certain warmth in the lady's reply, unlike the commercial coolness of the others.

## by Eric Green

That summer we set off in our little car. Twelve hours later, we found our destination. The kiddies were worn out. But there at her gate stood Mrs Thompson. She gathered the children and our luggage, and with her charming Welsh tongue, led us to a lovely evening meal and comfy beds. Our holiday was marvellous. We all felt as though Mrs Thompson had selected us to be her guests, rather than by our decision.

She remained a friend for life.

Driving our families through life's hazards can be tough as well. Selecting schools, jobs, colleges, life partners and houses needs not only our choices, but decisions. We 'get a hunch' that this

or that is the way we want. Sometimes it's called a 'gut feeling'. Yet God offers a much better journey. We can leave all our decisions in the hands of Jesus. His words to us offer a warm welcome, food for life and a place to rest... in His House... eternally.

Moreover as we read in John 15 v 16 You haven't chosen me; I chose you. Now there's a friend forever.

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Mobile: 07748 965830

## Mothers' Union News

As planned, at our last meeting we discussed the difficult subject of H.I.V. and Aids and I was very moved by the amount of compassion expressed by the members. I went home that day so proud of them, I was positively glowing. Some of us attended the Mothers' Union Diocesan Festival service in Canterbury Cathedral on the 7th of February. Our own Brenda Cardwell carried the Ospringe banner and she beamed with pride. Another lady, from Harbledown, commented that many years ago her mother had carried our banner at a similar service. Don't forget you are all welcome to join us.

Rev. Pat Pollard



**Sunday  
Newstyle**  
Sunday 14th March  
Eastling Church  
Guest speaker: Revd. Paul Kirby  
will talk on the theme:  
**How to stop driving  
yourself crazy.**  
Breakfast from 10am,  
service starts at 10.30am.  
All ages welcome  
Children's corner available  
Traidcraft goods on display  
& for sale.

## Prayer Pointers

- Sundays** For God's blessing on our spiritual preparation for Easter.
- Mondays** Prayer groups in the Benefice.
- Tuesdays** Lenten Activities in the area
- Wednesdays** Those working with the elderly in their own homes.
- Thursdays** Those working with young offenders.
- Fridays** For Peace in Iraq.
- Saturdays** Women at prayer worldwide.

## Services in our Benefice

### 29th February Lent 1

Ospringe 10.30 a.m. Songs of Praise with choices from around the benefice.

### Tuesday 2nd March

Whitehill Chapel 2.15 p.m. Holy Communion

### Friday 5th March

Ospringe 2 p.m. World Day of Prayer

### 7th March Lent 2

Philippians 3. 17 - 4.1, Luke 13. 31 - 35

Ospringe 8 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)  
 Eastling 10 a.m. Holy Communion (CW)  
 Stalisfield 10 a.m. Holy Communion (CW)  
 Whitehill Chapel 10.40 a.m. Sunday School (8-13s)  
 Whitehill Chapel 11 a.m. Family Service  
 Ospringe 11 a.m. Morning Prayer

### 14th March Lent 3

1 Corinthians 10. 1 - 13, Luke 13. 1 - 9

Eastling 8 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)  
 Stalisfield 10 a.m. Morning Prayer  
 Eastling 10.30 a.m. Newstyle  
 Ospringe 11 a.m. Holy Communion (CW)  
 Ospringe 11 a.m. Sunday School

### 21st March Mothering Sunday

Ospringe 8 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)  
 Eastling 10 a.m. Special Service  
 Stalisfield 10 a.m. Family Service  
 Ospringe 11 a.m. Family Service

### 28th March Lent 5

Philippians 3. 4b - 14, John 12. 1 - 8

Stalisfield 8 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)  
 Eastling 10 a.m. Young Style  
 Whitehill Chapel 11 a.m. People's Choice  
 Guest Speaker: Miss J. Charlesworth  
 Ospringe 11 a.m. Family Communion  
 Ospringe 1 p.m. Baptism

### 4th April Palm Sunday

Philippians 2. 5 - 11, Luke 22. 14 - 23. 56 or Luke 23. 1 - 49

Ospringe 8 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)  
 Eastling 10 a.m. Holy Communion (CW)  
 Stalisfield 10 a.m. Holy Communion (CW)  
 Whitehill Chapel 10.40 a.m. Sunday School (8-13s)  
 Whitehill Chapel 11 a.m. Family Service  
 Ospringe 11 a.m. Morning Prayer

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

## Sharing Ministry in our Benefice

Priest in Charge Reverend Penny Fenton (01795 536366)  
 9 Brogdale Road, Faversham. ME13 8SX

Curate Reverend Patricia Pollard (01795 535407)  
 7 Arthur Salmon Close, Faversham.

Reader Mr. Hugh Perks (01795 890603)  
 Weald Cottage, Kettle Hill Road, Eastling.

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

Methodist Minister Reverend Chris Esgate (01795 532461)  
 Chris@Esgate.plus.com

**Churchwardens**

**Ospringe** Mr. P. Larter (01795 531044)  
 Miss C. Brightman (01795 531960)

**Eastling** Mr S. Youle (01795 890368)  
 Mrs. A. Smith (01795 890469)

**Stalisfield with Otterden** Mrs. H. Galer (01795 890780)

**Whitehill**

Steward Miss. B. Richards (01795 532756)

### Contacting the Church's staff

For general enquiries and for specific enquiries about Baptisms and Weddings, please telephone Faversham 536366. If you would like the parish clergy to conduct a funeral, either in our churches or elsewhere, please ask the funeral director to make the necessary arrangements.

### April Good News

If you would like to advertise in this magazine, submit articles, features or stories for publication, or would like any forthcoming events publicised, please send your magazine contribution by the 15th March to Hilary Harlow, Pinks Farm, Eastling, Faversham ME13 0BA. Tel: 01795 890338. Where possible, please submit your entries by e-mail: h.f.harlow@talk21.com

## From the Registers

### Baptism

CHARLOTTE HANNAH Martin  
 1st February 2004 at Ospringe

### Funerals

Cecil Brian WORSLEY  
 28th January 2004 Burial at Love Lane

Ruth Ellen TAYLOR  
 30th January 2004 Funeral at Ospringe followed by Cremation at Charing

Vera Rosanna SMITH  
 5th February 2004 Burial at Love Lane

## ST. MARY'S, STALISFIELD WITH OTTERDEN ST. LAWRENCE

### RESULTS OF SURVEY AUTUMN 2003

The Parochial Church Council has now completed its study of the results from our survey. We undertook this in order to find out what the people of Stalisfield and Otterden thought about the Church, in order to help us make informed decisions.

We were very heartened to discover how interested most people were, and we had some very generous offers of help.

95 interviews were conducted, and of these 85 knew the Church, 10 did not.

66% of those who answered the questionnaire thought the existence of the Church was important, and 83% felt it had a role to play.

There were varied but consistent views as to why it is important to keep

the Church. Aspects mentioned were: historical, focal point, spiritual, to pray, ceremonial, important to children, social focus, meeting place, traditional focus, centre of the community, collective facility, religious, and needs to be there for rites of passage, such as baptisms, weddings and funerals.

In thinking about the future it has to be borne in mind that the average attendance at Sunday worship at St. Mary's is 7 (although many more attend for festivals and special occasions). There are 16 people on the Church Roll. There are 7 members of the PCC, and two of these are prepared to share one Church Warden's role - we will need a second Warden, when I retire as Church Warden on April 6th 2004.

This imposes a burden on the PCC and ideally more administrative help is needed. Someone has to open the church and prepare for services, for example.

Those of us serving at present are all of a like mind, that the Church serves an important purpose for the people and that it should continue. However, we will need to look very carefully at how this can be achieved, and encourage others from the community to share in the responsibility.

We are so VERY grateful to all those who undertook the survey and to all those who took part. Especially, I would like to thank Bridget Ruston for all her help in setting it up and helping us to evaluate the results.

Hilary Galer

## EASTLING PARISH COUNCIL

### Free Publicity

Villagers organising local events or activities can get free publicity on the official website for the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty at [www.kentdowns.org.uk](http://www.kentdowns.org.uk). For details or to provide information, contact Gill Bell on 01622 221522 or e-mail [kentdowns@kent.gov.uk](mailto:kentdowns@kent.gov.uk).

### Next Meeting

Eastling Parish Council meets in Eastling Village Hall on Monday, 8th March at 8pm. There will be the usual brief period at the start of the meeting for residents to raise matters of local interest and guest speaker Laurence Young of Swale Council will outline how the Borough Council is trying to increase parish councils' involvement in decision making and provision of services.

## OSPRINGE PARISH COUNCIL

Swale Borough Council propose to start up a paper and cardboard collection scheme in Painter's Forstal in the near future. This will only be successful if all households participate. More details to follow. The next Parish Council meeting will be held on March 10th 2004 at 7.30pm in Whitehill Chapel, Painter's Forstal. Dates for the coming year will be published soon. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

## VIRGIN VIE COSMETICS

Call Terrie on  
**01795 590410**  
 Make-up consultation £10  
 Why not treat yourself,  
 or someone special,  
 to a facial for just £12.

### Youth Identity Cards

Kent Trading Standards has asked the Parish Council to help draw attention to the Connexions Card and CitizenCard schemes which enable young people to offer proof of their age to traders sceptical that they qualify to purchase certain products. These include items like alcohol, cigarettes, fireworks, adult videos and computer games and lottery tickets. The cards also offer discounts and incentives for users. Details are on the parish noticeboard or call 01622 221016.

Stephanie lives in a village just outside Sittingbourne. Her husband works in Canterbury from Monday to Saturday, often until late evening.



Stephanie thought her second baby Chloe, would be just like Tom, her first child.

Tom was a happy baby and slept through the night from two weeks.

He is now an active 2 1/2 year old. Chloe is 5 weeks old and cries for most of the night. She has colic, during the day she is fretful, hungry, but then sick after a feed. Stephanie is very tired and tearful. She feels that she has no time to do housework, play with Tom, cook meals, or time for herself. She feels she is useless and wishes things would get better but can't see how it can change.

**Could you help someone like Stephanie?**  
 By becoming a Home-Start Sittingbourne and Sheppey volunteer and visiting a family for 2-3 hours a week, you can help and support them through the difficult

times they face. If you would like to join us as a volunteer, and would like details of our next preparation Course, please phone Tina on 01795 429007.

Taken from the Home-Start website <[www.home-start.org.uk](http://www.home-start.org.uk)>:

Home-Start is the UK's leading family support organisation.

Our approach is simple. We provide trained, parent volunteers to help any parent, with at least one child under five who is finding it hard to cope. Established in 1973, Home-Start now works alongside 21,000 families and 48,000 children each year.

Home-Start is now established in more than 320 communities across the UK, and with British Forces in Germany and Cyprus.

## Eastling Short Mat Bowls

The club held its annual General Meeting on 30th January and was attended by 17 members.

Mr Roy Piles, who chaired the meeting, was re-elected chairman by vote and also remains Club Captain. The post of Treasurer, filled by Mrs Sylvia Fowler since the club began, was taken over by Mr Mick Heath and the position of Secretary, filled by Mr Norman Fowler, also since the club began, was taken on by Mrs Eileen Piles. A small committee has been formed to make decisions on behalf of all the members. The Club are still playing League games, winning some and losing some, but learning all the time. Twelve members took part in the Swale pairs competition at Larkfield.

**The Cherries are now meeting on Wednesday afternoons from 2.30 - 4.30pm. This will continue through until spring so, if you want something to do through the winter months, come and join us in Eastling Village Hall.**

We are still holding club meetings on Friday afternoons between 2.30 and 4.30pm and again in the evening from 7.30 to 9.30pm. After the introduction with the school, we are hoping to have a youth section. We can run from 5.00 - 7.00pm, on Fridays, with a playing fee of just £1. Some of the other clubs we play against have younger members playing and they are very good. Please contact Roy Piles on 537162.

## Missing from Norton

Our male (neutered) oriental tabby cat 'Leo' absconded from Norton on Sunday 25th January and we have managed to track him into Ospringe parish. His last known position on 14th February was near Fisher Farm, Elverland, southwest of Painter's Forstal. He is distinctive in resembling a small lynx with his big ears, long snout, and mottled brown & grey body with 'tiger' striped legs (plus a loud yowl). Whilst some of you may have seen the picture we issued locally, he can also be viewed on the Rainham Cats Protection website <<http://www.rosebud3.co.uk/catsprotection>>

Please check your sheds, barns, and outbuildings where he might shelter or sleep. Leo is wary of strangers, so if you see him or know where he is, please call his worried owners Roger & Janice on (01795) 521174 - we would like him home.

Thank you in anticipation.

## Village Correspondent Needed

Readers of the "Faversham Times" local newspaper will probably have seen the weekly roundups of news from local villages. If ever you have thought this is something you could do, now is the opportunity!

The regular correspondent for the Eastling, Otterden and Stalisfield is leaving the area in March and one or more people are needed to take over the weekly job of providing text to the newspaper. If you think you could be interested for one or more of the three areas, please contact Mrs Christine Rayner, Editor, Faversham Times on 01795 475411 or e-mail [editor.ekg@kentregionalnewspapers.co.uk](mailto:editor.ekg@kentregionalnewspapers.co.uk).

# March



2004

## Diary

4th Afternoon Club	2pm	Champion Hall
4th Organ Concert	3pm	Almshouses Chapel
4th Yoga classes begin	8pm	Eastling Village Hall
5th Craft Club (Painting)	6.15pm	Champion Hall
5th Youth Club	7.30pm	Champion Hall
7th Work Day	10am	Eastling School
8th Eastling Parish Council	8pm	Eastling Village Hall
10th Fairtrade Coffee Pop-in	9 - 11am	Eastling Village Hall
10th Ospringe Parish Council	7.30pm	Whitehill Chapel
13th Concert	7.30pm	Canterbury Cathedral
16th W. I.	2.15pm	Champion Hall
18th Afternoon Club	2pm	Champion Hall
19th Craft Club	6.15pm	Champion Hall
20th Wine and Wisdom	7.30pm	Ospringe School
20th Concert	7.30pm	St. Paul's Church, Canterbury
24th Eastling Gardeners' Club	7.30pm	Eastling Village Hall

### Future Dates

3rd April Barn Dance	Eastling School
9th April Maison Dieu opens for summer season	
11th April Children's Easter Surprise	Painter's Forstal
17th April Wine and Wisdom	7.30pm Eastling V. Hall
26th April Eastling Annual Parish Meeting	
7th May Auction of Promises	Eastling School
12th June Barn Dance	Painter's Farm Barn
11th July Summer Fete	Eastling School
8th August Painter's Forstal Fete	
6th November Craft Fayre	Painter's Forstal



## Painter's Forstal Gardeners' Club

The March meetings are as follows:

**Monday 8th** - Mr Nick Robinson will give an illustrated talk on Yalding Organic Gardens - in the Champion Hall.

**Monday 15th** - Final of the Neame Cup Quiz at Selling Village Hall.

These meetings are 7.45pm for 8pm.

**Monday 29th** - Spring Show - schedules available shortly.

Further details from Fav. 533608.

## Painter's Forstal Amenities Committee

### Easter Surprise

This is for the younger members of the community and will take place on Easter Sunday afternoon, 11th April 2004.

### Fete

August 8th is the suggested date if we can get enough volunteers to help.

### Craft Fayre

We had a very successful craft exhibition last year so, this year, on 6th November, we are enlarging it to a Fayre. Owners of crafts for sale would be asked to pay 10% of their takings. Others may exhibit only, the same as last year.

### Barn Dance

Saturday 12th June at Painter's Farm Barn. More details later.

## Wine and Wisdom

Eastling Village Hall  
Saturday 17th April  
at 7.30pm

Tables of six can be booked now by phoning Norman on 890242. Tickets £4 per head. Proceeds to Eastling Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch.

## Painter's Forstal with Ospringe Women's Institute

The March meeting is on Tuesday 16th, 2.15pm in the Champion Hall, Painter's Forstal.

Mrs Page will be talking about *Dreamy, drowsy Loose*.

The competition is A pretty handkerchief, plus flower of the month. New members always welcome - phone 532756 for further details, or come along to a meeting.

## Eastling Gardeners' Club

Eastling Gardeners' Club meets on 24th March in the village hall at 7.30 p.m. when Sue Hartfree will talk on 'Plants for Problem Places'. She will also have plants for sale. Wine and nibbles after the meeting. Free to members (membership costs £5) but non-members are more than welcome at £2.50 each.

## Afternoon Club

May I have any nominations for the committee, at the A.G.M. next month, as soon as possible.

### Activities for March

March 4th Board Games  
March 18th Board Games.

Rodney French.

## YOGA

for beginners  
and all stages.

Thursday evenings 8 -9pm  
starting 4th March in  
Eastling Village Hall.

Further details from 01795 890749

## Belmont House and Gardens Teashop Vacancy - Teashop Manager

The Teashop at Belmont House provides high quality Teas to the visitors and is an important, integral, part of the attraction. The Teashop Manager is responsible not only for the administration and organisation of the Teashop but also for buying the necessary supplies and the production of the cakes and scones for the Teashop. The work will involve Fridays, weekend and Bank Holiday work during the season (April-September) and occasional days during the week depending on the number of visitors. There is the possibility of the position being expanded to include some estate administrative duties and catering during the closed season.

Applicants must have good catering and interpersonal skills as well as the ability to plan, budget and account for cash.

### Vacancy - Teashop Waiter/Waitress

The Teashop at Belmont is open from 3pm on Sat, Sun & Bank Holiday Mondays from the beginning of April until the end of September. The Job involves waiting on tables, taking payment for teas and goods bought, washing up and leaving the Teashop ready for the next day.

Applicants should have good people skills, be flexible and willing to undertake a variety of tasks.

### Vacancy - Shop/Ticket Sales

A person is required to man the shop/ticket sales position at Belmont House on Sundays from 2-5pm during the season (Apr - Sep). The job involves sale of tickets and shop goods to the general public, dealing with enquiries and balancing of the till at closing. This position is often that which has the first contact with visitors and therefore the successful applicant must present a confident outgoing and friendly personality as well as being flexible and numerate.

For further details please contact

The Administrator, Belmont House, Throwley, Faversham, Kent ME13 0HH. Tel 01795 890 202. E-Mail <[belmontadmin@btconnect.com](mailto:belmontadmin@btconnect.com)>

## The Discovery Club at Doddington

The After School club is open every day 3.15pm-5.30pm to all children aged 4-11 years. Children may attend the whole session for £5.00 or the activity club session that runs between 4.00pm-5.00pm for £2.00.

Activity clubs are: Monday: Textiles, Tuesday: Cooking, Wednesday: Drama, Thursday: Art and Craft, Friday: Games. For more information on the After School Club or to arrange a visit please phone 01795 886066 during session times.

## Having a Party? Planning a Wedding? Venue for your Club ...

Hall and smaller rooms available  
with kitchen facilities at

**Eastling Village Hall.**

For more information please  
contact Mary Eagleton on 890436.

## Whitstable Choral Society

Mozart -

Mass in C Minor

Haydn -

Nelson Mass

Conductor - David Flood.

Saturday 20th March

7.30pm in

St. Paul's Church,  
Canterbury.

Tickets: £9.50

(under 16's - £5)

01227 378100

or on the door.

The Colyer-Fergusson Concert 2004

Saturday 13th March, 7.30 p.m.

Canterbury Cathedral

The University of Kent Music Society  
Chorus and Orchestra, leader Jeremy  
Ovenden, conductor Susan Wanless.

Handel arr. Elgar

Overture in D minor

Elgar Enigma variations

Beethoven Mass in C

Tickets £20, £16, £12, £9, £6 from

Canterbury Bookings (01227 378188),

Gulbenkian Theatre (01227 769075)

*Pat Macey would  
like to thank  
everyone for their  
very kind messages  
and cards wishing  
her well.  
She hopes to be  
fully mobile very  
soon.*

