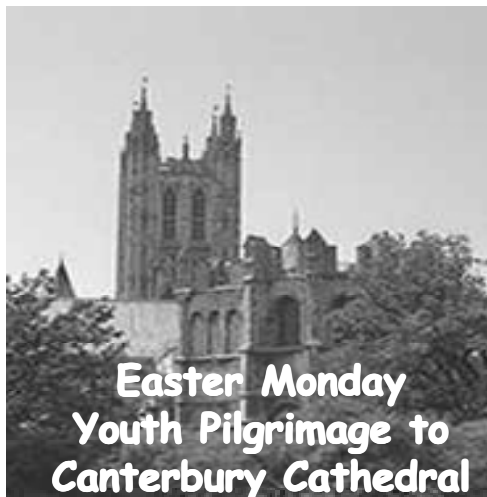


There will be another Bluebell Walk through the beautiful woods of Eastling, Otterden and Stalisfield this year, following a very successful event last year. Some of the walks are through land not normally open to the public. Three routes of varying lengths, from 3 to 9 miles, will be marked out. Maps are provided, plus nature notes, and map-reading is not essential.



Young People's Craft Club

4th & 18th March
6.15 to 7.15pm
in the Champion Hall,
Painter's Forstal.
50p per session -
all young people invited.



Easter Monday Youth Pilgrimage to Canterbury Cathedral

This year the format for the Easter Monday Youth Pilgrimage is changing. Pilgrims will congregate in Dane John Gardens and then walk in procession to the Cathedral where there will be a short welcoming act of worship followed by activities, lunch and then the main service of celebration.

More details in the March Outlook newspaper available in our churches or contact Sarah Lucas on 01227 459401, <slucas@diocant.org> for a Pilgrim's pack.

Eastling Bluebell Walk: Sunday April 24th

All the walks will start from Eastling Village Hall, from 11am to 2pm. Home-made teas will be available at the village hall until 4pm. The cost of the walk, plus nature notes, will be £2 per adult, 50p per child. Family rate £4. Money raised will go towards kitchen and toilet facilities for Eastling Church.



Each route will be slightly different from last year. The walk is being held one week earlier (it was held on May 2nd last year) so there may be a difference in the flora for this reason also. Please keep dogs on a lead and walk in single file over ploughed fields.

Tickets may be bought on the day, but to avoid a hold-up at the start, tickets may be ordered from Angela Cheeseman at New House Farm Eastling.

Further enquiries to: Jill Seaman 01795 890 519, or Peter and Angela Cheeseman 01795 890 629.

MOUSE HOLE

As Christians, we use the **cross** as a symbol of our faith...

Greek Cross

Latin Cross

The eight points on the **Maltese** cross remind us of the eight 'blessings' of Jesus in Matthew 5.

The circle on the **Celtic** cross is a picture of God's never ending love.

The **Russian** Orthodox cross has a cross bar where the notice 'King of the Jews' was nailed.

The lower bar is the foot rest and points to the good and bad thieves.
Read Luke 23:26-43

+THE CROSS+
is a symbol of **DEATH**
It reminds us how Jesus was put to death by being nailed to a cross.

+THE CROSS+
is a symbol of **LIFE**
It reminds us that Jesus has **risen** from the dead and is **alive** with God in heaven.

+THE CROSS+
is a symbol of **LOVE**
It reminds us God **loves** us so much that through his son Jesus we can become God's children too.

HAPPY EASTER!

"God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life." John 3 verse 16

Criss-Cross Pictures

Cross stitch is a popular form of stitching on canvas. Pictures and patterns are made by stitching lots of small x shaped stitches. Look out for an easy x stitch kit and have a go!

If you don't like stitching draw 'cross stitch' patterns and pictures onto graph paper. x



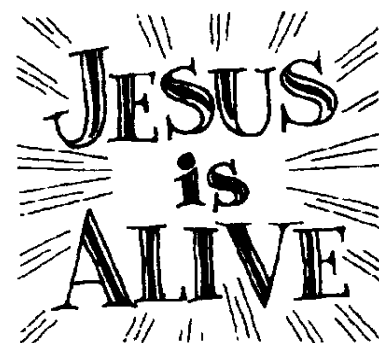
Services for Holy Week Palm Sunday, 20th March

8am Holy Communion at Ospringe
10am Holy Communion at Eastling
10am Holy Communion at Stalisfield
11am Family Service at Ospringe



Good Friday

Faversham Procession and Service
Procession from United Church at 10.30 a.m.
Service in the Market Place at 10.45 a.m.
12 noon Devotional Service at Eastling



Memorial Lilies at Easter

If anyone would like to contribute towards the Memorial Lilies on Easter Day in our churches, would they contact the names below with their donation and the names they would like commemorated. It would be helpful if we know as early as possible how much money we have to spend. If we can buy in good time, the price may be around £3.50 for each lily - in Holy Week the price goes up.

A list of names will be displayed in each Church

Ospringe -	Norma Curling	01795 532630.
Eastling -	Pippa West	01795 890273.
Stalisfield -	Vera Eckley	01233 712944.



Good News

Parish Magazine March 2005



Mothering Sunday 6th March

Everyone welcome at these **special services** with children's presentation of gifts for Mothers:

10am at Stalisfield
10.30am at Eastling
11am at Ospringe

Whitehill Chapel offers Brunch at 10am, followed at 10.40am, by a Special Mothering Sunday Family Choice, led by Miss Rachel Barker.



Maundy Thursday

3pm Holy Communion at Ospringe
8pm Fauré Requiem at Eastling



Easter Day

8am Holy Communion at Ospringe
10am Family Communion at Eastling
10am Holy Communion at Stalisfield
11am Family Communion at Ospringe

THE MAISON DIEU in OSPRINGE

The 2005 season for the Maison Dieu commences on Good Friday, 25th March, when the Museum will be open. Every Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holiday until the end of October, visitors will be welcome from 2 - 5 p.m. This is a very special year, celebrating the 10th Anniversary of the re-opening of the building under the care of local trustees. It is hoped that, during the coming months, a number of events will be organised. Please watch this space!

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

“People Like Us”

Thief on the Cross:
Luke 23: 32-43

Luke's account of the crucifixion emphasises the mocking of the crowd, 'If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself' (35,37,39). In their view a Messiah does not hang on a cross and suffer. In considering the man who was crucified with Jesus, we are also confronted with the issue of how Jesus secures salvation for us.

One Criminal's Taunts

The words of one of those crucified with Jesus reflected the crowd's taunts: 'Aren't you the Christ? Save yourself and us.' He highlights the question of Jesus' identity: how can he save others, when he cannot save himself from death? And yet, unlike his companion, he failed to see that the cross itself is the means of salvation.

* What kind of Messiah was Jesus?

One Criminal's Faith

The other criminal's response in his last moments is a moving expression of faith. When challenging the other man, he spoke of the utter injustice of the crucifixion: 'this man has done nothing wrong.' He perceived the truth that Jesus' death was on behalf of all people. In a wonderful picture of grace, 'remember me', he confessed his guilt and secured Jesus' forgiveness and mercy.

* In what ways have we experienced God's grace?

The Messiah's Promise

In reply, Jesus promised the man life from the moment of death; 'Today you will be with me in paradise.' Jesus used the picture of a walled garden to help the man understand his promise of protection and security in God's love and acceptance eternally.

* If you were to die tonight, how confident would you be of being with Jesus?

Christ died once for the sins of all us guilty sinners, although he himself was innocent of any sin at any time, that he might bring us safely home to God.
(1 Peter 3:18)

Thank you

Thank you to all those who sent flowers, donations and cards on the recent death of my Mum, Win Davies.

Your messages of support and prayers have helped me through a difficult time.

A special "Thank You" to Penny for a moving Service.

Donations for the Pilgrims Hospice to date are over £300.

God bless,
Pam Thompson and family.

Prayer Pointers

March 2005

- Sundays That our use of Lent may lead to a joyous Easter.
- Monday's Those recently bereaved.
- Tuesday's Holy Week and Easter worship.
- Wednesday's For all confirmation candidates.
- Thursday's For honesty and integrity in the election campaign.
- Friday's For all aid workers.
- Saturday's For those celebrating Easter in non Christian countries.

Sunday Freestyle

13th March, 10.30am
Eastling Church
FORGIVENESS
Breakfast from 10am
All welcome

OSPRINGE CHOIR NOTES

It is the run-up to Easter and we look forward to Stainer's Crucifixion and Fauré's Requiem. We were delighted to take part in the Churches Together Service at St. Mary of Charity. Five of us sang with the choir. Unfortunately Bishop Graham arrived too late for our fine Morning Prayer on 6th February. Tom and Megan were brilliant in THE interview of The Transfiguration; Tom as Peter and Megan as the interviewer for 'Radio Ospringe'. We inaugurated our retyped new Morning Prayer Books, for which Victoria Ralph has designed a superb cover. Thank you to Gilbert and Vicky who spent days working on them and to Victoria for her design skills. Penny we shall have to have a "dedication"! Bishop Graham was also brilliant at Oasis which followed. Three Services at Ospringe that morning! Mr. Shepherd has composed some excellent words to a Scottish tune, Highland Cathedral, based on The Beatitudes. Mark Cheesman has composed a Celtic hymn accompaniment for it which is excellent, thank you Mark. The Choir learnt the tune quickly and are sure the congregation will too. We are keen to sing it for you all as soon as possible. Mr. Shepherd kept humming this tune and the words came to him on one of his walks.

FROM THE ORGAN SEAT

In 2006 Faversham Choral are celebrating their 40 years. I well remember Fred Ash who helped to found it. He introduced me to Kent County Organists and was always encouraging me with my organ playing. It was a great honour to be asked to play for his funeral. Sometime in the late 70s Ospringe and Preston Choirs sang The Crucifixion at St. Catherine's. Fred was the organist for this and he was a delight with whom to work, a real gentleman too. Have you any memories of the early days of Faversham Choral? If so their Committee would be pleased to know. On Saturday, 19th March, at All Saints Whitstable, Faversham Choral are inviting everyone to Come and Sing Stainer's Crucifixion (see separate notice). We are wondering which daffodil will come into flower first as the buds are through in the churchyard. There have been some wonderful snowdrops flowering on several graves and three clumps under the tree at the East End. They remind me that God keeps His promise to send the Seasons every year. When I go to practise there are often folk sitting on the seats by the new memorial tablets in the churchyard. It is a splendid quiet spot in which to sit and often catches the sun. A stone in memory of Major and Mrs. Simmons has recently been added with the quotation "to the green fields beyond". Major Simmons served with the Royal Tank Regiment. Their flag is brown (representing "through mud", red ("through blood") and green ("to the green fields beyond"). The Royal Tank Regiment won the Battle of Cambrai (in Northern France) on 21st November, 1917 and it was at this battle that tanks were first used. The first prototype had been tried out in Chatham. Cambric Cloth comes from Cambrai. Their Regimental March is "My Boy Willie". Last Saturday, 12th February, I went with Kent County Organists to St. Margaret's, Lee, very near to Blackheath Common. It has recently been beautifully restored and they have restored the wonderful Victorian decorations. Clever lighting has made it much brighter. They have made several recesses into rooms, added a red carpet and made a tasteful sweep into a spacious crypt. There are 8 beautiful frescoes almost in the

Stainer's Crucifixion

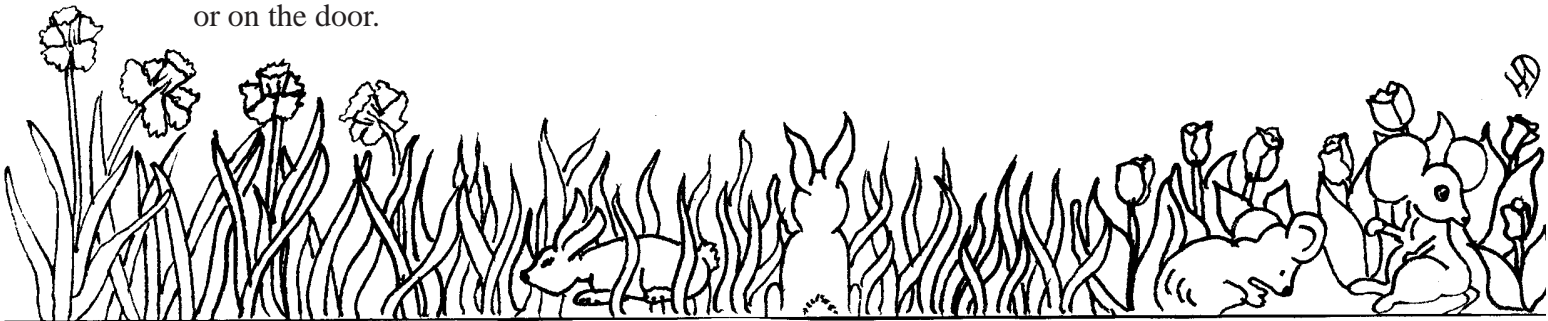
Hosted by
Faversham Choral Society
Saturday 19th March 2005
All Saints' Church,
Church Street, Whitstable
Peter Litman is conducting,
Michael Cooke is the organist;
Graham Cooper will sing Bass
and Dirk Riezebos Tenor.
Rehearsal 2.30pm
Performance 7pm
Tickets £5 singers (includes tea)
£3 performance.
Under 16s free to sing & £2 for the tea.
For further information contact
01795 538882 or 890566.

pre-Raphaelite style too. Their 3 manual organ is well used and the organist, Andrew Scott is also the tuner for Harrison's. This church replaced a decaying one in 1841 and Samuel Sebastian Wesley gave the opening recital in 1842. In 1927 the organ was rebuilt for £3,450 and today after its recent restoration is valued at £350,000. Edmund Halley, of 'Halley's comet' who was Astronomer Royal, is buried in their old churchyard. I saw this memorial wall tablet there and was moved by it. In memory of MARIA, wife of John Henry Bolton of Lincoln's Inn and Lee Park. Tender, affectionate and unselfish, zealously devoted to her mission of wife and mother replete with unostentatious piety, endowed with sparkling wit and humour, and versed in that literature which calls forth all that is good and excellent in human nature. She was an ornament to her sex and the delight of all who approached her. "Age could not wither nor custom stale her infinite variety" She died deeply lamented 14th October, 1864.



Happy Easter! Do join us for our annual Easter Egg Hunt in Church after the Easter Sunday Service.
God bless, Vicky.

Whitstable & District Choral Society present
Mozart's Requiem and Rossini's Stabat Mater
Saturday 12th March, 2005
7 30 pm in
St. Peter's Church, Whitstable
Tickets at £9.50 (under 16s £5) available from society members or on the door.



So, what is Easter all about?

Easter is the most important festival in the Christian calendar. It is the commemoration of Jesus' death and his rising from the dead, also known as the resurrection. It comes at the end of Lent. The week leading up to it is called Holy Week.

Palm Sunday is the first day of Holy Week and celebrates Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem riding on a donkey. Crowds of people came out of the city to greet him, throwing down palm branches on the road. Our churches give out small crosses made from palm leaves, as a reminder of Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem and his death on the cross.

On Maundy Thursday we remember when Jesus ate the Passover meal with his disciples, breaking bread and drinking wine, which is now known as the Last Supper. Since then this meal has been symbolically re-enacted by many Christians as a way of drawing closer to God. This is called the Eucharist, which means 'thanksgiving'. It is a reminder that Jesus sacrificed his life for mankind.

The Bible tells us that, later that night, Jesus was betrayed by Judas Iscariot. After his arrest, Jesus was brought before the Jewish high priests who found him guilty of blasphemy because he called himself the Son of God. They handed him over to the Roman governor, Pontius Pilate.

As was the custom at the time of the Feast of Passover, Pilate gave the crowds the choice as to which of two prisoners should be freed: Jesus, or Barabbas, a notorious criminal. Ironically, the the same crowd who had welcomed Jesus with palm branches a few days earlier now chose Barrabas to be released, and Pilate condemned Jesus to death by crucifixion.

On Good Friday, many churches have a time of devotion, meditating on the events leading up to Christ's death: his interrogation, flogging, the mocking by the Roman soldiers, and his journey with the cross to Golgotha, the place of his death. Finally he was stripped naked and nailed to the cross, where he hung in agony for three hours, jeered at by the crowds, before he died. This is the day when people traditionally eat hot cross buns, because the cross on the bun is a reminder of the cross Jesus died on, and a reminder of that Jesus died to save us all.

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Word Search

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Anagram



Spot

10 DIFFERENCES

Between the

Butterflies

Bunny

Cards

Chocolates

Cross

Easter

Eggs

Flowers

Lent

Love

Mothers Day

Easter Sunday marks Jesus' resurrection. The Bible tells us that Mary Magdalene went to the tomb, followed later by some of Jesus' disciples. They discovered Jesus' body had gone and that the tomb was empty. Jesus then appeared to Mary and many of his disciples, speaking with them on separate occasions during the following forty days. As he left them for the last time, Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit so the disciples would know God would never leave them. He then ascended into heaven. The Church celebrates this on Ascension day.

Where are the accounts of Easter in the Bible?
The account of the Easter story can be read in Mark, Chapters 14 to 16, or Luke, Chapters 22 to 24, and elements of it can be found in the other gospels too. Many of the events in the Easter story are foretold in the Old Testament in Isaiah chapter 53.

Why does the date of Easter change from year to year?
The date of Easter Sunday varies from year to year because it is based on the lunar calendar. It is celebrated on the first Sunday after the full moon, on or after March 21st.

Painter's Forstal Amenities Committee

March 27th
Easter Egg Nature Trail
Start from Champion Hall at 2.30pm. 50p entrance fee. Followed by refreshments.

May 2nd
Boot Fair
Starting at 3pm on the Green (Tables only, on the green.)
£5 a table - Ring 01795 532756 for further details. Young People's May Queen and retinue will be selected. Details to follow.

August 21st
Fete
We will welcome offers of help, and hope that all who worked so hard last year will be available again this year.

November 12th
Craft Fayre
As this was so successful last year, we are arranging another for 2005. Would the people who ran tables ring 01795 532756 if they can take a table (£5) again and, of course, anyone else interested.

Painter's Forstal Gardeners' Club
Monday 14th March
Slides by Mr John Clarke, in the Champion Hall at 7.45pm.
Monday 21st March
Final Neame Cup Quiz at Sheldwich, 7.45pm
Monday 4th April
Spring Show in the Champion Hall
Staging 7 - 7.30pm, judging 7.45pm. Schedules are now available from Noreen or John Clarke.
Saturday 21st May
Annual Coffee Morning - more details later.
For further information on any of the above dates, please telephone 533608.

Eastling Short Mat Bowls Club

Since my last report we have had two teams play in the Boughton Triples Competition on Sunday 9th January. Team 'A': Nev and Nancy Taylor with Nellie Potter and team 'B': Brian Fisher, Norman Neaves and John Graham. They thoroughly enjoyed the day but did not come away with any medals. They would like to thank the Boughton ladies for a very enjoyable meal. Our last game in 2004 was against Bysingwood where we came away with only four points, but our game with Borden at home was a great success winning 14 points to nil and 83 shots to 20. Tunstall on 4th February proved to be a big challenge away from home. We started off well winning three games before tea break, but lost the triples and fours and came away with 6 points. The Cherries Wednesday afternoon play starts at 2.30pm. We still have club meetings on Fridays; afternoons from 2.30 - 4.30pm and evenings 7.30 - 9.30pm.

New members are welcome. If you want to see what it is all about, come along and have a look, all ages welcome. We would like to run a youth team from 5 - 7pm on a Friday with a small playing fee. Some of the other clubs we play against have younger members playing. Please contact Roy Piles on 01795 537162.



ATTENTION CRICKET ENTHUSIASTS!

Would you like to be involved in friendly village cricket at a fabulous rural setting with a great family atmosphere? - If so read on.

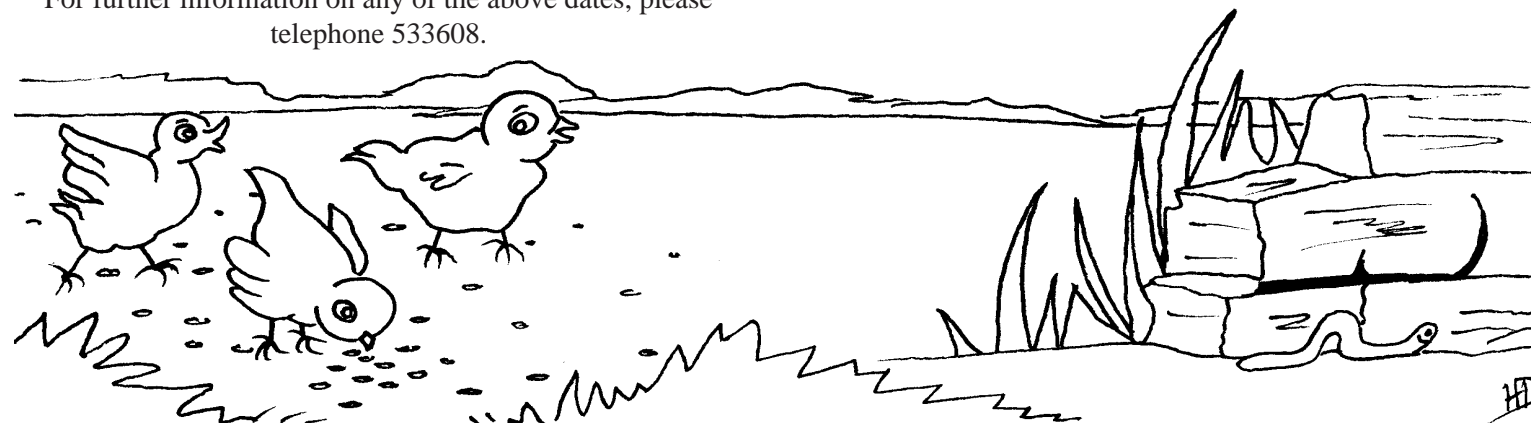
Otterden Cricket Club

are looking for a few more cricket enthusiasts to share this wonderful opportunity - players, umpires, scorer, or simply interested spectators - all are very welcome. The club plays mainly home games in Otterden on Saturday afternoons in the Summer. These are held in a beautiful, tranquil setting on the square adjacent to Otterden Place and chapel. The playing standard is friendly, yet competitive, for teenagers to grandfathers alike.



Membership comprises keen local sportsmen from Otterden and other local communities such as Eastling, Doddington, Painter's Forstal, Selling, Westwell, Blean and Sittingbourne. The club has a great family atmosphere with splendid teas prepared for players, spectators and friends alike, from 4.30-5.00pm - visitors are very welcome. Other social activities include an annual club dinner for players, partners and friends, an annual novices 'learn to fly fish' day, plus clay pigeon shooting. The club is run on a voluntary basis in a relaxed fashion and we are keen for others in the local community to benefit from this traditional village experience.

If you would like to learn more, please contact those below, or visit us - first home game is April 30th. Alternatively, spread the word!
Vice Captain/Secretary: Dominic Evans - tel. (01795) 890142
Captain/Team Manager: Roger Hamilton - tel (01227) 455384



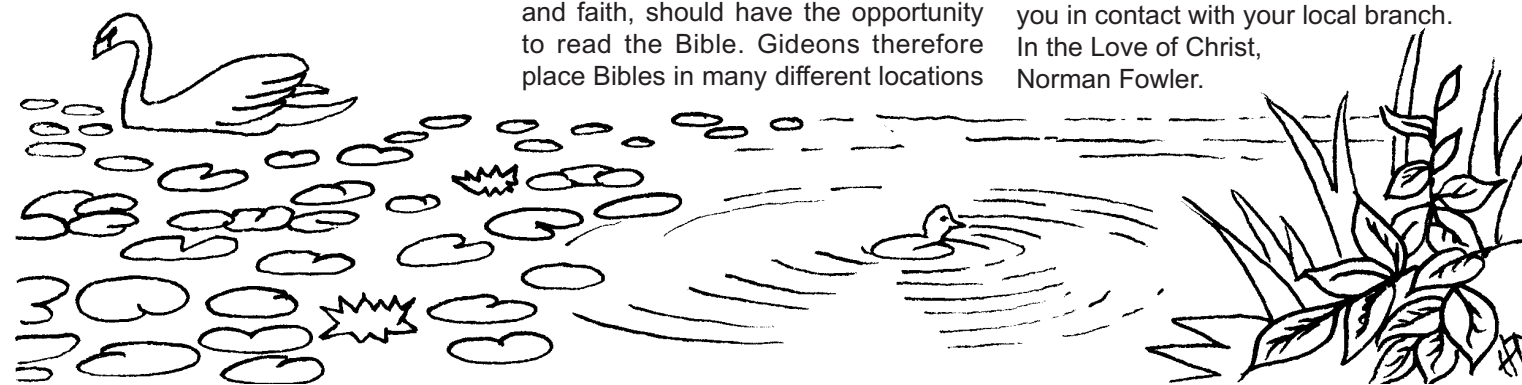
God does wonderful things

It's some years since I became a Gideon. Some may say it was by chance but I believe it was by design, God's design. It all started just over six years ago. I can remember it as though it were yesterday. The surgeon said in a matter of fact way, "You have a malignant tumour and if it is not immediately removed by surgery, it will kill you." This was so unreal, I thought he was talking to somebody behind me. But then the awful truth began to sink in. On the evening before the operation day I was terrified and almost walked out of the hospital to go home with my wife Sylvia, at the end of visiting hours. When she left I sank to a new low. I could not believe that this was happening to me. I had been a practising Christian for about forty years. "Why me?" I kept thinking. "What happens if it all goes wrong? How will I die? What will happen to Sylvi and my family?" Frankly I was in a mess. I hadn't forgotten my faith and I tried to pray. It didn't seem to feel right at first. Then I spotted the little blue Gideon Bible placed in a holder fixed to the bedside cabinet. I grabbed it and began to read; anything, I don't remember what, but the words were encouraging and I began to pray. I had never prayed like that before. I read and prayed into the night then fell asleep and woke as I was being prepared for surgery.

The operation was a success and, whilst I appreciate that the cancer could return, I take nothing away from the skill of the surgeons and nurses who were superb, but I am sure that this was outside normal human control. I was, and still am, greatly indebted to the Gideon who placed that Bible.

I didn't talk too much about my experience because nobody wants to admit to weakness by being afraid. However, about a year later a good friend said to me, without provocation, "Have you ever considered becoming a Gideon?" At that time I wasn't sure who or what Gideons were. Being a relatively strong Anglican I have always been cautious of little known Christian organizations. I said I would think about it, but inwardly my heart jumped at it and within a few months I became Gideon. Why is it so important that we should make the word of God more readily available to everybody? It's a well known fact that in this country fewer people attend worship compared with a few years ago and there is less emphasis on teaching the Christian faith in schools to allow more teaching on other faiths. Whilst the majority believe in the existence of God, few own a Bible and if they do, only a minority regularly read it. Strange it may seem, I welcome the current approach to religious education because it gives young minds a sense that there is more to life than just living and dying. Seeing God from different views gives a stronger faith later in life. Christianity is the only faith that demonstrated a loving God reaching out to us, through Jesus Christ. The coming of Jesus at Christmas changed our understanding of God for ever. That's what much of the Bible is all about. However, because of ignorance, there is a lot of misunderstanding and exaggerated criticism about the Christian faith resulting in apathy. That is why Gideons believe that everybody, regardless of nationality, existing belief and faith, should have the opportunity to read the Bible. Gideons therefore place Bibles in many different locations

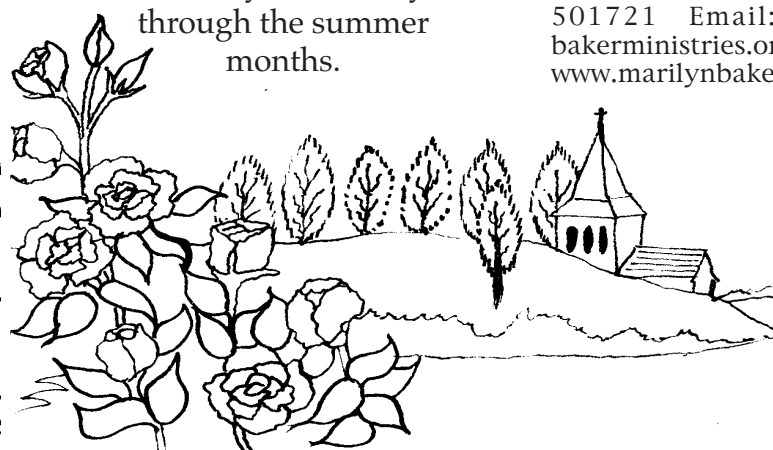
such as hotels, motels, schools, hospitals, residential homes, hostels, dentists' and doctors' surgeries, prisons, police stations, ambulance stations and even in undertakers' chapels of rest. They are placed wherever Gideons believe the Bible will be respected and perhaps read. At the last count, this is done in 179 countries throughout the world. Gideon Bibles are the New International Version and used by all Christian denominations. The Gideons International is an association of professional and business men, drawn from all Christian denominations; like Methodists, Baptists, United Reform, The Church of England and many others. The Gideon ministry is placing and presenting God's Word (The Bible) in the main stream of life. Gideons provide their own expenses for administration, travelling and subsistence, but the cost of purchasing the Bibles that are given away is met by donations provided by Friends of the Gideons and others. Every penny given is used for the purchase of Bibles. Being a Gideon is a really rewarding ministry. Feed back is provided by those who have found Jesus Christ through receiving, or even finding, a Gideon Bible and reading it, sometimes in extraordinary circumstances. We are delighted when this happens, but we always remember that the glory belongs to our Lord, Jesus Christ. If you feel that you would like to help in this rewarding ministry, either as a Gideon or Friend of the Gideons, please contact me on 01795 890412, or The Gideons International, Western House, Georges Street, Lutterworth, Leicestershire LE17 4EE. E-mail <hq@gideons.org.uk> or visit the web-site <www.gideons.org.uk>. They will put you in contact with your local branch. In the Love of Christ, Norman Fowler.



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Tel: Faversham 533243

Syndale Park
Day Nursery

Ospringe, Faversham
Tel (01795) 597625
www.syndalepark.com

World Day of Prayer
Friday 4th March



Services in Faversham:
2pm - Our Lady of Mount
Carmel, Tanners Street

8pm - St. Mary Magdalene,
Davington

The 2005 theme is
'Let Our Light Shine'
written by Christian women
in Poland.
Refreshments after the services.
All welcome.

Evening Prayer
in Otterden Chapel

As the Easter hope completes
the spring awakening at the end
of March, the new season of
Evening Prayer in Otterden
Chapel starts on 3rd April.
The services begin at 3pm and
continue every 1st Sunday
through the summer
months.

A DAY
OF REFRESHMENT
with
Marilyn Baker
Ministries
hosted by
Churches Together in
Faversham at
The Abbey School
on Saturday 12th
March 9.30am to
10.00pm

Marilyn Baker, Tracy Williamson, and their team have vast international experience of facilitating such days of ministry. Despite what most of us would consider to be prohibitive disabilities, they are marvellous witnesses to what God is able to achieve when we make available to Him, in obedience, those giftings He first made available to us.

The programme for the day includes a morning workshop - Power in Prayer, an afternoon workshop - Discovering Our Ministries, and an Evening Concert, starting at 7pm, with Marilyn Baker, Nick Ash and River. Booking forms are available in our churches or contact Roz Graham (01795-538079) or Andrew Holden (01795-533304 after 6pm) Email: ctf@favershamcommunitychurch.co.uk Please book before 7th March.

You can learn more about Marilyn Baker at: Marilyn Baker Ministries, PO Box 639, Taunton, Somerset TA3 5WG Tel: 08707 501720 Fax: 08707 501721 Email: ruth@marilyn-bakerministries.org www.marilynbakerministries.org



Lent Lunches

On Fridays 26th Feb, 5th, 12th & 19th March, 12 noon - 2pm, you can enjoy a simple lunch of homemade soup & bread, in the Alexander Centre organised by the members of different churches in Faversham. Proceeds go to Christian Aid.

Ospringe Church

Ospringe is not required to provide a Lent Lunch this year but so many people have asked about helping that I have decided that we will have a "work-in" at Ospringe on Saturday 19th March from 10am - 2pm. In exchange for only one hour of work we will provide a bowl of delicious homemade soup and a roll. Bring your own cheese!

If you have ever sat in
Church thinking
"Why don't they do something about that?"
Now is your chance
to do it!



Offers of help with annual/biennial chores, to be done either inside or outside the building, will be gratefully received, as will offers of soup (1litre / 2 pints) and washing up. Please contact Carolynne by Friday 11th March if you would like to help: Tel 01795 531960 or e-mail: carolynnemb@tiscali.co.uk . Carolynne Brightman, Church Warden

Church Annual Meetings 2005
Open to all parishioners and church members.
Ospringe 8pm 21st March in the Parish Room.
Stalisfield 7.30pm 5th April in Stalisfield Church.
Eastling 11am 17th April in Eastling Church (following the 10am service).

Services in our Benefice

27th February Lent 3

Eastling	10 a.m.	Youngstyle
Whitehill Chapel	11 a.m.	People's Choice
Ospringe	11 a.m.	Family Communion
Ospringe	11 a.m.	Sunday School

Tuesday 1st March

Whitehill Chapel	2.15 p.m.	Holy Communion
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6th March Mothering Sunday

Ospringe	8 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP)
Stalisfield	10 a.m.	Special Service
Eastling	10.30 a.m.	Special Service
Whitehill Chapel	10 a.m.	Breakfast followed by
	10.40 a.m.	Family People's Choice
Ospringe	11 a.m.	Special Service

13th March Lent 5

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

20th March Palm Sunday

Philippians 2. 5 - 11, Matthew 27. 11 - 54

Ospringe	8 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP)
Eastling	10 a.m.	S Club in Village Hall
Stalisfield	10 a.m.	Holy Communion (CW)
Eastling	10 a.m.	Holy Communion (CW)
Ospringe	11 a.m.	Family Service

24th March Maundy Thursday

Ospringe	3 p.m.	Holy Communion (BCP)
Eastling	8 p.m.	Fauré Requiem

25th March Good Friday

Eastling	12 noon	Devotional Service
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27th March Easter Day

Ospringe	8 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP)
Stalisfield	10 a.m.	Holy Communion (CW)
Eastling	10 a.m.	Family Communion
Whitehill Chapel	11 a.m.	People's Choice
		Guest Speaker: Mr G. Gibbens
Ospringe	11 a.m.	Family Communion
Ospringe	11 a.m.	Sunday School

3rd April Easter 2

1 Peter 1. 17 - 23, Luke 24. 13 - 35

Ospringe	8 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP)
Ospringe	9.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer (BCP)
Eastling	10 a.m.	Holy Communion (CW)
Whitehill Chapel	10 a.m.	Breakfast followed by
	10.40 a.m.	Family People's Choice
Ospringe	11 a.m.	Oasis
Otterden	3 p.m.	Evening Prayer (BCP)

Sharing Ministry in our Benefice

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

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

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

Stalisfield with Otterden
Joint Warden Mrs. J. Baker (01622 858332)
Mrs S. Gaind (01622 858551)

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@btconnect.com

From the Registers

Funerals

George Patrick BENSTED
Cremation at Falconwood on 3rd February 2005

Edith BLACKMAN
Cremation at Barham on 11th February 2005

Mary COLE
Funeral at Charing Church, followed by
Cremation at Charing on 11th February 2005

John Edmund Charles CLINCH
Funeral and burial at Ospringe on
18th February 2005

Interment of Ashes

Maureen Sheila FREAK
at Love Lane Cemetery on 2nd February 2005

IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY BOOKED PLEASE DO SO NOW!!! (in the first week of booking, last month, about a quarter of the seats were taken)

Young people and their families are invited to visit ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL, a HINDU TEMPLE, and a MUSLIM MOSQUE, travelling by a coach provided by the Bunce Charity. We will share in simple worship and gain some understanding of what takes place in these places.

At the cathedral, the main focus of the day, have your own picnic lunch. Bunce Trust will pay for the children's 'medieval' pilgrimage round the cathedral. (Adults are asked to pay £3.00 for their own tour if they wish). Before we leave we will attend Sung Evensong together.

Bunce Charity INTERFAITH 'PILGRIMAGE' SATURDAY 30TH APRIL 2005

Basic information about the faiths concerned and the day's programme will be provided for those booking, as well as suggestions for dress codes etc. A quiz for the children to complete on the day will involve us all.

ABOUT THE BUNCE TRUST AND HOW TO APPLY

The Bunce Charity has funds for the Christian Education of children living in Otterden, Stalisfield and Throwley.

We ask children with their parents/carers, and young adults, from the villages named to please book.

Other families and young adults from the Benefice will be welcome to remaining places, so register your interest now.

Other adults from the Benefice not bringing children, will be welcome too and may use up any spare seats on the coach. Register your interest too, now.

First come, first served: email, or phone, Jane Baker (Otterden) mail to: janebiztrainingnetwork@btinternet.com 01622 850686, or Angela Stoddart (Throwley) mail to: angela@cforstal.surfaid.org 01795 890210

Kent County Council Trading Standards is warning consumers about a 'parcel collection' leaflet that have been dropped through letterboxes in some areas. The leaflet suggests that there is a parcel waiting to be collected and asks consumers to telephone an 090 number to make delivery arrangements. However, the caller is actually given details about entering a 'Win a Bar in Majorca' Prize draw. There is no package and calls are charged at £1.50 per minute. Kent County Council Trading Standards advises consumers to remember that 090 numbers are charged at premium rates and calls may last several minutes.

On the morning of 25 January an Eastling resident answered the door to a 'youth' purporting to be getting sponsors for a run in Faversham in aid of the fire brigade. Being suspicious the resident asked what they were collecting for and he said 'helicopters'. The resident phoned the Faversham Fire station who denied all knowledge of this, and reported it to the police. Any similar incidents should be passed to the police at Sittingbourne.

Eastling Neighbourhood Watch.

Contact numbers:
Swale NHW office 0808 100 3308 (free)
Crimestoppers 0800 555 111 (24 hours, free and anonymous)
NHW liaison officer 01795 584143
Sittingbourne police station 01795 477055
Emergencies or crime in progress always use 999
Kent Trading Standards 08457 585 497

Trading Standards also warn of a company who are making contact with residents saying that they are from a fire & security business. They offer to take photos of jewellery and other valuable items. This is so that you have photographic evidence of them in the event of them being taken. Trading Standards and the police warn against using traders of this type. It is a good idea to have photographs taken, but it is advisable to do this yourself.

Eastling Neighbourhood Watch messages are also posted on the village notice boards (at the Village Hall and the Parish notice board in The Street). Anyone in Eastling wishing to receive alert information by e-mail please send a message to eastlingnhw@tesco.net

Fairtrade Fortnight 1st - 13th March 2005

WATCH OUT on the supermarket shelves for goods displaying the Fairtrade mark.
Help fight poverty through trade.
Traidcraft stalls at Coffee Pop-In on 2nd March,
Marilyn Baker Day on 12th, Freestyle on 13th.



Ospringe Parish Council

Next meeting Wednesday 9th March, 7.30pm in Whitehill Chapel, Painter's Forstal. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

Eastling Parish Council

The next regular meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Wednesday 16th March 2005 at 8pm in the Village Hall. Apart from the normal business to be transacted, Dr. Julia Bailey will address the Council and answer any queries relating to the progress being made by the Eastling Design Statement Committee.

The annual public meetings of the Village Hall Trustees and the Parish Council will take place on 11th April 2005, when both parties will report on the progress that has been made during the year.

Mike Thomas has assumed the role of Parish Clerk. He may be contacted at Briar Cottage, Newnham Lane or on 01795 890614 before 6pm.

LICENSED BY SWALE BOROUGH COUNCIL

ALLPORT CARS

OUR BUSINESS IS PICKING UP



SPECIALISING IN
AIRPORTS &
LONG DISTANCE
TRAVEL WITH
COMPETITIVE
PRICES

01795 539 888
0 772 0 597 700

Friends of Eastling School

What a busy month we've had with events during February - the Film Night was enjoyed by the families, and the children had great fun tossing pancakes in the races on the field, with lots of pancakes cooked and consumed on Shrove Tuesday. The non-uniform day raised £136 for the Tsunami appeal. The Valentine's Disco was well attended by parents and children alike. The hall looked lovely decorated with the hearts made by the children.

Events for March:

Children's Fashion Show is on Tuesday 8th March at 6.30pm in the School Hall. The children will act as models for a range of good quality and reasonably priced clothes. There will be an entrance fee of £1.00 per adult, tea/ coffee and soft drinks will be available. A raffle will be drawn during the evening.

Our JUMBLE SALE will be on Saturday 19th March at 1.30pm in the School Hall. Any jumble can be brought to the FOES shed any afternoon during the week commencing 14th March. Please phone if you need any items collecting. Raffle tickets for the EASTER EGG draw will be sent home on 16th March and will be on sale in the school office. The school children's Easter Egg Hunt will take place on the last day of term - Wednesday 23rd March.

Please make a note of future events:
Swimming Pool Party at Faversham Pool - Friday 24th June.

Summer Fete - Sunday 3rd July - The theme will be 1945 (the end of 2nd World War). Any company wishing to take advertising space in the programme should contact the school office.

Jill Seaman
FOES Publicity, Tel 01795 890519

Ospringe School Association

The OSA committee is now in full flow to bring you lots of different fun and fundraising events over the coming year. We start with a Wine & Wisdom "with at difference" on Saturday 5th March, 7.30 for a 8pm start. The difference is - bring your own wine (or any other alcoholic drink you want), soft drinks, ploughmans will be provided and tables can be booked by calling the school office on 532004.

The Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be on again, courtesy of Andy and Sue Shepherd. This is a great fun event for all ages and will be held at 10am on March 26th (Easter Saturday)

The Fun continues after Easter when the school joins with Teddies Nursery to hold a Balloon Release. This event is part of a series of events being held by Teddies to raise money for a new roof. More details about this next month.

On **7th May** we hope to hold a **Race Night** and the Summer Fair will be on Saturday June 18th. Hope to see a lot of you there!

Jill Fagg

PUDDLEDUCKS PLAYGROUP

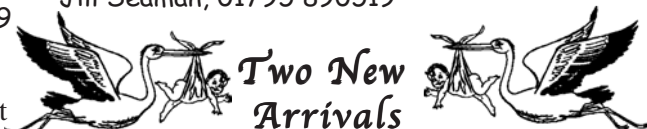
At the beginning of the month we will be making Mother's Day cards and gifts. We will be looking at Spring and the children will be making flower pictures. The children will be making Easter nests and cards later in the month.

We will be holding an

Easter Draw and Coffee Morning

on the last day of term - **Tuesday 22nd March.**

Please do support us as we are fundraising for our insurance premium due in April. We will also be having a sponsored obstacle course on April 15th - more details to follow. Jill Seaman, 01795 890519



We welcome Grace Louise Wilson
and Archie Edward Risdon

to Eastling. Both bouncing bundles of joy delivered on the 3rd February at the same hospital. Was this a cunning plan of the mothers, Rachel and Sarah to spend more time together, or clearly another master stroke by Nick and Jonathan to save on the cost of future children's parties?!
A big thank you for all the best wishes and gifts, from the delighted parents.

St. Augustine's Methodist Circuit has organised a **Tour of the Circuit** on **Saturday 9th April.**

This includes a **'Bring and Buy' Auction** and a Traidcraft Stall at Whitehill Chapel, Painter's Forstal, starting at 11am. Proceeds to Christian Aid. All are welcome to either bring an item for auction or to come and buy.

Wine and Wisdom Saturday 2nd April at 7.30pm

We are holding another Wine and Wisdom on the above date in aid of the Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunch. The usual format applies, tables of six at £4.00 per head can be booked by phoning me, Norman, on 890242.

Please book early!

March



2005

2nd FairTrade Coffee Pop-In	9 - 11am	Eastling Village Hall
3rd Afternoon Club (Bingo)	2pm	Champion Hall
5th Wine & Wisdom	7.30 for a 8pm start	Ospringe School
8th Children's Fashion Show	6.30pm	Eastling School Hall
9th Red Nose Coffee Pop-In	9 - 11am	Eastling Village Hall
9th Ospringe Parish Council	7.30pm	Whitehill Chapel
12th Study Day and Concert	All day	Abbey School
14th Gardeners' Club (Slides)	7.45pm	Champion Hall
15th Women's Institute	2.15pm	Champion Hall
15th Deadline for April Good News		Pinks Farm, Eastling
16th Eastling Parish Council	8pm	Eastling Village Hall
17th Afternoon Club (Board Games)	2pm	Champion Hall
19th 'Work In'	10am - 2pm	Ospringe Church
19th Jumble Sale	1.30pm	Eastling School Hall
19th Stainer's Crucifixion	2.30pm for singers' rehearsals,	
	7pm for performance	All Saints, Church Street, Whitstable
22nd Easter Draw & Coffee Morning	9.30am	Champion Hall
23rd Easter Egg hunt and raffle		Eastling School
23rd Eastling Gardeners' Club	7.30pm	Village Hall
24th Fauré Requiem	8pm	Eastling Church
25th Museum Summer season	2-5pm	Maison Dieu
25th Fauré Requiem	8pm	Lynsted Church
26th Easter Egg Hunt	10am	Ospringe School
27th Easter Egg Nature Trail	2.30pm	Painter's Forstal
29th Magazine Folding	2pm	Ospringe Church & Pinks Farm

APRIL

2nd Wine & Wisdom	7.30pm	Eastling Village Hall
4th Gardeners' Spring Show	7.45pm	Champion Hall
9th Bring & Buy Auction	11am	Champion Hall
9/10th Young Artist Exhibition		Sutton Valence School
11th Hall Trust AGM	7.30pm	Eastling Village Hall
16th Spring Supper	7pm	Eastling Village Hall
24th Bluebell Walk	Start between 11am and 2pm	Eastling Village Hall
30th Bunce Charity Outing		
MAY 2nd Boot Fair	3pm	Painter's Forstal
7th Race Night		Ospringe School
JUNE 18th Summer Fair		Ospringe School
24th Eastling Pool Party at		Faversham Pools
JULY 3rd Eastling School Fete		
AUGUST 21st Painter's Forstal Fete		
NOVEMBER 12th Craft Fayre		Painter's Forstal

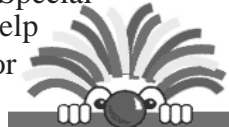


March Coffee Pop-In

2nd - Cakes for sale. Traidcraft goods for sale and/or order. Jill Seaman will have a good range of 'Chocolates for Chocoholics' for sale for Mothering Sunday and will take orders for Easter (deadline for Easter orders is 7th March).

9th - Comic Relief Special - come along and help

us raise funds for Comic Relief.



Pop-In is open every Wednesday 9-11am, during term time, in Eastling Village Hall.

Fauré's Requiem
Maundy Thursday, 24th March
8pm in Eastling Church
Good Friday, 25th March
8pm in Lynsted Church
All welcome.

Eastling Village Hall Contact Alteration

The new contact for booking Eastling Village Hall is Mr Tony Stephens, Phone 01795 890010

EASTLING VILLAGE HALL TRUST

Now's your chance to get involved and have a say in the running of Eastling Village Hall!

At the Trust's Annual General Meeting at 7.30 p.m. on Monday, 11th April 2005 in the Village Hall, nominations will be considered for election of two 'village representatives' to serve as Trustees. Nominees must be 18 years of age or over. Nomination forms (to be returned by 8th April) and further details are available from the Trust Secretary, Sue Parry at Magnolia Cottage, Newnham Lane, Eastling (tel: 890254).

Even if Trusteeship doesn't appeal, the Trustees are always looking for additional helpers. If you have a few hours to spare to do a bit of gardening or decorating at the Hall, please give Sue a ring.

Afternoon Club

Activities for March
3rd Bingo
17th Board Games
2pm in the Champion Hall.

Painter's Forstal with Ospringe Women's Institute

Tuesday 15th March

Talk: The Story of English Cheese - Mr D March

Competition: Three cheese scones plus Flower of the month
2.15pm Champion Hall



Eastling Gardeners' Club

Eastling Gardeners' Club next meets on 23rd March 2005 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall for a talk by Jean Talboys on **'Managing Without Weeds'** £2.50 but free to members



SPRING SUPPER

Cast off those winter blues at Eastling Village Hall on Saturday 16th April
7pm for 7.30pm
Tickets £8 each

Make up a table with your friends (funds raised in aid of the Hall)
Call Sue on 890254 to book Beer, wine and soft drinks on sale After Supper entertainment!

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 Mr Tony Stephens on 890010.

The Rotary Club of the Weald of Kent SPRING ART EXHIBITION at Sutton Valence School

Pictures and crafts on exhibition and for sale Including a Young Artist Exhibition
Saturday 9th April from 2pm to 6pm
Sunday 10th April 10am to 3pm
Entrance £3.50 on the door, including refreshments

All proceeds go to the club's TSUNAMI APPEAL

For further information call:
Robert Taylor (01233 756379)
or Neil Wye (01622 891225)