

Eastling School News

The run up to Easter has begun with all our after school clubs busy so that children can enjoy the extra activities. This season is when new places for September 2014 are allocated to new parents (3rd March) - if you come across (or even know!) families with school age children, please recommend us - we do try very hard to ensure places at Eastling for any children who wish to come and we know that sometimes parents from slightly further afield think that they will be out of our catchment area. This isn't the case!

For our current pupils we have a wide range of exciting events planned including pancake racing on shrove Tuesday (4th March), a visit to Canterbury Cathedral on 6th March

and a special Barnabas Trust led "Why Narnia?" thought day on 18th

March. Tigers class have adopted their namesake from the local Canterbury reserve and are due to visit as a reward for their hard work.

The school continues its strong musical traditions with Kent Music Show "Bach to the future" on the 10th and a performance at the recorder festival later on in the month. On 7th March, our Tigers Class will be presenting an assembly of their work for parents and friends of the school.

Our school library is proving very popular and is open to all family siblings. We will be celebrating National Book day with author Stewart Ross, our own events on Friday 7th March plus the provision of vouchers that allow children to buy the specially produced books for free.

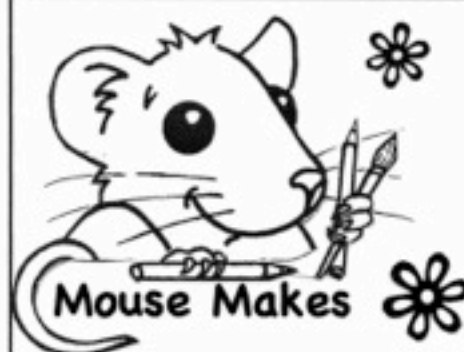
Watch out for our young cyclists receiving training on The Street between the 19-21st March as they ensure that their bicycle skills are up to scratch (as is their bike!) ready for possible transport over the summer months and beyond.

As part of our Sports Provision we continue our specialist sports clubs on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings and have organised an evening of adrenaline sports (climbing, abseiling, archery, zip wires, high ropes etc) at a centre in Ashford on 25th March. Did you know that our KS2 football team has now triumphed twice at local school cluster tournaments? Lions Class continue their swimming sessions at the Faversham pool, made available (and economical) by the school's ownership of

two minibuses (thanks to the generous donations and fund raising of our Friends group (FOES). Sports Relief 2014 takes place on 21st March and we hope our school council will support with some wacky sports ideas! The Friends of Eastling School (FOES) are organising a "Breakfast event" on Tuesday 11th March and they hope as many parents as possible will attend. They also have a Committee meeting on the 13th March at which the continuing preparations for the FOES Fete will feature - if you have any contacts that may be able to provide prizes or support, please let us know - our community really depends on the support of well-wishers.

YoungStyle

Sunday 23rd March
10am in
Eastling Church
Jesus -
Light of the world
Half an hour of fun
and worship, followed
by refreshments
All welcome



The 4th Sunday in Lent is celebrated as **Mothering Sunday**. Originally families would get together for a special service at the 'mother' church, often at the local cathedral.

Today Mothering Sunday is celebrated as a family day, a time to say 'thank you' to our mothers and to all who look after us.

There are many wonderful Mothers in the Bible, look up the Bible verses and find out who they are....

Matt 1:16 M _ _ _
Num 26:59 _ O _ _ _ _
Luke 1:57-60 _ _ _ _ _ T _
1 Sam 1:20 _ _ _ _ _ H _
Genesis 4:1 _ _ E _ _
Gen 25:21-26 R _ _ _ _ _
Gen 21:1-2 S _ _ _ _ _

A bookmark gift for Mother's Day. Cut out the bookmark above, glue onto card and colour in.

Mar14 @deborahnoble @parishpump.co.uk

Good News Parish Magazine March 2014



Shake out your Bible
and join in the

Lenten Program

This year in our Lenten program, we will be looking at the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus from the perspective of the early Church, by looking at the first two chapters of the book of Acts.



This is our story

There will be four study groups in the benefice and we hope that people will feel free to attend the group that is most convenient for them.



Tuesday mornings, 10.00
at Garden Cottage,

Newnham Lane, Eastling. Led by Steve Youle, beginning March 11th. Call 01795 890368.

Tuesday evenings, 7.30 at Pinks Farm Kettle Hill Rd. Eastling. Leadership will be shared among those who routinely lead the bible study, beginning March 11th. Call 01795 890338.

Thursday evenings, 7.30 at Bells Forstal Farm Kitchen, hosted by Maggie Scutt and led by Canon Lawton, beginning 6th March. Call 01795 890487.

Friday mornings, 11.00 at 6 Kettle Hill, Eastling. Hosted by Philippa Wigdahl and led by Angela Cheeseman, beginning 7th March. Call 07780 661275

Stalisfield Shines Through

Stalisfield Village Hall has been awarded Hallmark Level 1 Accreditation. Hallmark accreditation provides recognition of good practice and fulfils a commitment made in our lottery application. 'Hallmark' is a quality standards scheme for village halls which is administered nationally by Action with Communities in Rural England (ACRE) and at a local level by Action with Communities in Rural Kent (ACRK). The team of members of the Hall committee headed by Anna, achieved accreditation after independent assessment from ACRK's representatives. A final sparkling performance by Anna and Rose for the visiting assessors ensured success.



Ash Wednesday, 5th March

Holy Communion, 7.30pm
Throwley Church
All welcome.

Sunday 30th March is Mothering Sunday

As this will be a fifth Sunday of the month, we will have a combined benefice wide service at Eastling Church at 10a.m.



This service will be a child friendly service with flowers for all mothers, with a theme of *Mothers and my faith*.

Our special speaker for that day will be our Archdeacon, the Venerable Stephen Taylor. Plan to come and stay for fellowship and a visit with the Archdeacon and also honour our mothers.



Don't forget
the clocks go forward an hour
at 1am on Sunday 30th March.
Sorry Mums - that's goodbye
to your extra hour in bed!

Stalisfield Archive

A trawl through minutes of committee meetings long passed turned up one or two interesting snippets. The record is incomplete but one conclusion of interest was that the prime source of funding in the 50s was the holding of whist drives. Even the coronation in 1953 was celebrated by a whist drive.

A second revelation was that the committee even then concluded that the hall needed to be rebuilt. To this end the sum of £30 was raised. There is no record of what happened next but we have probably set the all time record time for a fund drive.

The news magazine for the parishes of Eastling, Stalisfield with Otterden, and Throwley

Canon’s Column

I can remember being in Vancouver, Canada, one November many years ago during my years serving in the Canadian Forces; it had been raining every day since I had been there. I had remarked to someone that I now knew why we wore green uniforms, they didn’t show the mold. One person told me not to worry until I saw the zoo animals being loaded onto the ferry!

As I have watched the news on TV and read the papers, I have wondered about the terrible floods and the amazing storm damage. For those of us here, away from the 20 – 30 metre waves crashing down on beaches and cliffs, the stories and photographs are arresting and awe inspiring. For those involved it is truly awful and soul damaging.

A couple of weeks ago there was an article, in a weekend paper, about the discovery of a record of a world destroying flood in some ancient writings found in the Middle East. The Ark which is reported to have saved the animals, two by two, was round and considerably different from that described as Noah’s in the Genesis account. But so many details are similar, much of the story the same – a story of salvation from a flood of such magnitude that people saw it as world destroying.

If we were caught in the midst of the Somerset levels flood, without modern

communication, without an overview of the whole situation the way we can now, through modern media, would we think that this was a world destroying flood? And when we blame it all on man made climate change, are we not echoing the simple teller of the first oral accounts of the Noah sagas and blaming the flooding on human wickedness?

In the midst of all of these disasters, the story of Noah as it appears in several cultures, is not only an account of a disaster but is the saga of a salvation, of a goodness coming out of the bad.

Could the people of the time, Noah and his group, see the salvation when they were caught in the midst of the problem? We will never know if he fully understood what he was doing in the building of the ark. But out of that came the means of salvation for Noah and his family and a representative collection of the animals.

What about for us now in the midst of all the ramifications of our British winter of 2013/14? Are we able to see the salvation that will come out of all of this? Will it bring a new order with us all working together? How are we going to change to bring about a new order in

our land where floods will not ravage and waves will not destroy?

One of the earliest symbols of salvation and the resurrection is the phoenix, the magical bird that resurrects from the ashes of its own fiery death. One of the most common symbols of peace is the dove with a leaf in its beak. It was a sign of the land emerging from the flood and a symbol of restoration and peace for Noah.

The Noah sagas tell us about renewal and restoration after a great calamity. They also tell us about the human condition, for even after the flood to destroy all evil, Noah gets drunk and causes problems for his family.

The Noah sagas remind us that there is life beyond disasters, beyond what we are facing; they tell us that we have things to do in facing and dealing with the disaster (his building of the ark) and that working together is part of the process (the inclusion of Noah’s family).

As we face the present situation, there is hope, there will be a future and we have a role to play in that future. The reality is also there that we will sometimes make a mistake in the process. How are we as Christians going to be involved in helping in this situation?

Donald Lawton

Lay Canon at St Paul’s Cathedral

I wanted to thank everyone for their kind messages following my appointment as a Lay Canon at St Paul’s.

Some of you have asked how this came about and I thought the following might be helpful. Last year I took part in a Consultation Group to help the Cathedral look at the vision and strategy for their Welcome, Worship and Community. I was subsequently approached to consider whether I might join them in a governance role as a Lay Canon and was interviewed by members of Chapter and then in January by the Bishop of London. The role, which will be in addition to my job at the National Portrait Gallery, is for three years and the involvement, which is similar to being a trustee, will be twice a month for formal

meetings and then various services and events at the Cathedral. I am delighted to have been given this exciting opportunity and both Andrew and the Director at the National Portrait Gallery have been incredibly supportive. My installation is on Tuesday 4 March as part of Evensong and I am very pleased that a number of family and friends will be there to support me.

Pim Baxter

Eastling Church

March 2014 Flower Rota

2nd Steph Youle
9th March - 13th April
LENT - no Flowers

Caroline Ramshaw, from Eastling, is training to be a Reader in the Church of England. The training runs over several years and, as part of the course, Caroline has to write an article for our parish magazine as a synopsis of an assignment.

Service Patterns in Eastling.

Back in 1938 there were two services held every Sunday; morning service at 11am and evening prayer at 6.30pm. Services in 1977 included an early morning Holy Communion at 8am, a service at 11am which, once a month, was a family service, and a 6.30pm evening prayer. There was also a mid-week service held at 9.30am on a Wednesday, however the numbers attending never got higher than ten. This service stopped completely at the beginning of 1983 due to diminishing numbers but was re-introduced in 2011, especially aimed at parents dropping children off at the village school opposite. This did not last long due to lack of attendance, those attending usually being the Officiant and a church warden.

Through the 1980s services were very much the same, with a few changes made by different incumbents. In 1985, when a lively and energetic priest joined the parish with many ideas and much enthusiasm, services changed to include a more contemporary service and also included a children’s monthly service. These changes were met with some scepticism from many of the small congregation but word spread about this dynamic new priest and numbers were quadrupled in no time and the people’s many fears were unfounded.

Services currently start weekly at 8am with Book of Common Prayer Eucharist, the 10am service varies from week to week. The first Sunday of the month is Holy Communion using the Common Worship liturgy; the second is Freestyle, a more contemporary service using an overhead to allow hands to be free to praise God; the third Sunday is Morning Prayer using the Book of Common

Prayer and the fourth Sunday is the half hour children’s service called Youngstyle, which is led by various members of the youth team. Once every three months Youngstyle is replaced by a café style church led by a team of enthusiastic members of the church. When there is a fifth Sunday in the month this is usually a benefice service held within one of the churches of the benefice.

One thing I found lacking were resources and openness about personal prayer life and the importance for a Christian to develop this. The introduction of the 1662 prayer book was to encourage daily prayer, although currently most Christians only encounter this on a Sunday morning, there is little encouragement today for there to be a pattern of daily prayer. On the weekly service sheet there were guidelines available or prayer pointers to assist with personal prayer. New Christians and some experienced Christians would benefit from having resources or an opportunity to meet with others to find out more about daily prayer. Although the home groups have opportunity to discuss the bible and its meaning as a group, again there is no opportunity to discuss or learn about individual private prayer time and no importance is given on this either. A booklet on the importance of daily individual prayer time containing suggestions on how this can be accomplished by the individual; this leaflet could then be given to those newly confirmed within our churches to assist them in starting this daily practice. Having daily quiet time renews our understanding, allows God time to talk to us and can strengthen our faith; surely an important concept for churches to promote.

Caroline Ramshaw

INTERESTING, REWARDING, CHALLENGING

Red Cross Fire Emergency Support Service (FESS)

FESS - the British Red Cross volunteer fire emergency support service, operates in conjunction with Kent Fire & Rescue Service supporting those affected by fire, during and in the immediate aftermath. Working with a specially adapted vehicle volunteers respond much the same as a fire crew (without blue lights and sirens) to provide immediate refuge and assistance to those displaced by a fire incident; the assistance can vary from a cup of tea, emergency clothing, liaising with other agencies for on-going help, even taking initial care of pets.

Would you be interested in becoming part of a FESS team based at Gravesend, Maidstone or Thanet? What’s needed? Good interpersonal skills, diplomacy, communication and teamwork skills, a willingness to work voluntary ‘on call’ shifts’ and able to get to the respective base within 25 minutes and undertake necessary training. Further information on FESS and many other volunteering opportunities with British Red Cross please go to the web site: www.redcross.org.uk or contact hbright@redcross.org.uk or call 01622 625111



EASTLING share a CURRY NIGHT



Friday 16th May, 7pm
Eastling Village Hall
£2 per head, Indian dress optional
Cook a curry and come along and share your gastronomic expertise.
Free Curry Spice mix and full instructions to make your curry are provided as part of your ticket purchase.
Tickets are sold on a first come first served basis and are based on a table for 6 to 10.
Each table has to elect someone or more from their party to cook a curry or two to bring along to this wonderful event.
Don’t forget your favourite Indian relishes, condiments and drinks. Bring along knives, forks, plates and glasses for your table.
* Prize for best dressed table. *
All the curries will be available for all the guests to try out and enjoy.
Apply for your tickets and obtain your curry spice mix from John: sailingdays@btinternet.com.
We have 16 curry spice mixes to give away so be quick and reserve your table today.
All proceeds for the Eastling Village Hall fund

Eastling Neighbourhood Watch

Warden 07794 010394 or 01795 890848
Crimestoppers 0800 555 111
Swale Police 101
Emergency 999



In recent weeks there has been three vehicles abandoned and set on fire in the vicinity of Otterden Road, Otterden . These vehicles have obviously been used previously in a criminal nature and if any person has any information relating to these incidents please contact the police.
As I think we all know the condition of the roads in our area which has been caused by the adverse weather that we have experienced over the last few months and it is recommended that drivers keep their speed down in our country lanes as the potholes can cause severe damage to your vehicle. The pot holes or any other road damage can be reported on the Kent County Council website.
The lambing season is now with us and a reminder that all dogs must be kept on a lead or kept away from the sheep and I will reiterate that a farmers are within the law to shoot a dog if it is found to be worrying or attacking their sheep.
It is requested that parents who drive to or pick up their siblings from Eastling School drive that extra bit slowly through the village as some children do walk to school and as we have no pavements around the school have to walk in the road and need that extra protection will give.
Have a good month
Take care, Alan.

Prayer Pointers

March 2014

Sundays	For the Anglican Church throughout the world.
Mondays	For the hungry and the sick.
Tuesdays	For those who are still affected by the flooding.
Wednesdays	For young people in our parishes.
Thursdays	Those who provide our food.
Fridays	For our spiritual needs in Lent.
Saturdays	For those affected by conflict.

BELMONT HOUSE & GARDENS



WEDNESDAY HOUSE TOURS

April to September 2014, 11.00am & 1.00pm

This year, from April to September, we will be open every Wednesday for House Tours. There will be guided tours at 11.00am and 1.00pm. Our tearoom will also be open tempting, you with our mouth-watering homemade cakes, afternoon tea and light lunches from 12.00pm.

Adult £8.00, Concession £7.00 and Children £5.00

SPECIAL OFFER

On the **third** Wednesday of every month from April to September, please come and enjoy a guided house and garden tour, all for the price of £12.00 per person.

Your day will begin at 10.00am with our Head Gardener, Graeme, who will guide you around our grounds. There will be an hour's break for lunch; delicious light lunches are available from our tearoom or you may like to bring along your own picnic. The guided house tour will start at 1.00pm and will finish at approximately 3.00pm.

Please visit our website or call for more details.

**Belmont House & Gardens,
Throwley, Nr Faversham, Kent ME13 0HH
Tel: 01795 890202 www.belmont-house.org**

Painters Forstal with Selling W.I.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 18th March, 2.15pm - 4pm at Champion Hall, Painter's Forstal.

Simon Thorpe will be giving an entertaining talk and, this month, husbands and friends will be welcome too. Please ring Bobbie on 01795 532756 or email patyounger@sky.com .

Craft Club

Our March meeting will be on Wednesday 19th at 11.15am - 1.15pm in the Small Room of Champion Hall, Painter's Forstal.

Please come along and join us. Cost of session is £3 with refreshments and home made cake. For further information call Pat on 01795 539629.

The Rotary Club of the Weald of Kent

SPRING ART EXHIBITION



At Sutton Valence School
Pictures and Crafts on exhibition
and for sale

Saturday 29th March 11am - 6pm

Sunday 30th March 10am to 5pm

Entrance £1 at the door - Refreshments will be available

All proceeds go to Rotary Charities

For further information call:

Derek Lamb (01622 890650

Or Bob Taylor (01233 756379)

Or visit: www.wealdofkentrotary.org.uk

Charing and District Local History Society

Thursday 13th March

in Charing Parish Hall:

Norman Hopkins will talk on

THE ENGLISH BIBLE:

The amazing story of the history and influence of the English Bible. A powerpoint presentation with bible exhibits.

Doors open 7.45pm for 8pm

start. Visitors welcome at £3.

Enquiries: Jennie Burgess 01233 714639.

*Get those little grey cells
working at a*

QUIZ

*in Eastling Village Hall
on Saturday 5th April at
7.30pm.*

*£5 per head - teams of 6/8
In aid of Village Hall funds*

*Bring your own drink and
nibbles*

*Please call Sue on
890254 to book.*

The Painters Forstal COFFEE CLUB



Join us in Whitehill Chapel,
11 am - 12.30pm on 26th March.
All welcome.

NEED A BABYSITTER?

Reasonable rates, reliable service.

References available.

Alice Whitehead 07834 258307

Local Lady offers
Household Cleaning
Friendly and reliable
References available
01795 532627

Eastling Gardeners' Club

Eastling Gardeners' Club meets on Thursday, 13th March at 7.30p.m. in the village hall for a talk by Malcolm Withnall - 'Pruning of Garden Fruit Trees and Shrubs'

Followed by wine and homemade nibbles. Also plants for sale

Members are free, guests pay £3.

Enquires: Clive Jolliffe, 01795 890160

Otterden & Stalisfield W.I.

Our last meeting was at the Harrow, which ended up being a social event, as the speaker couldn't make it at the last minute. The March meeting is a Theatre visit and April's will be a bluebell walk with pub drink to follow, to celebrate one of our lady's birthday.

New members always welcome, contact Kim on 01795 890691.



'Singing for the Soul'

on Wednesday afternoons from
1.45 to 3.00pm at Newnham Village Hall.

There will be 5 sessions from 5th March but you can join at any time. No previous experience needed. Simple songs and chants to lift the spirits and soothe the soul. Cost is £3.50 per session (includes tea & biscuits). For more information please contact: Lis Bayford on 01795 886392 music@cantiana.co.uk

EASTLING VILLAGE HALL

To book ring Julia Bailey
on 01795 890401



A beautiful hall in a lovely village location for your wedding, club, sports or meetings. The large hall has pretty grounds, car parking, meeting rooms and fully equipped facilities for professional or self-catering occasions.



The Bluebell Walk

will be on Bank Holiday

Monday 5th May

from Eastling Village Hall.

If you can help with the walk please contact Harry on 01795 890703.

Hilary does not want to be in charge of all the refreshments this year and needs a new team to cover the hot food side; **please** call me on 01795 890338 if you would like to part of this and we'll arrange a meeting to work through all it involves.



2014

4th Mobile Library	10.50 - 11.05am	Glebe Cottages
5th Ash Wednesday Service	7.30pm	Throwley Church
6th Mobile Library	11.55am - 12.10pm	Throwley Forstal Green
6th Weekly Lent Group starts	7.30pm	Bells Forstal Farm
7th Weekly Lent Group starts	11am	6 Kettle Hill, Eastling
7th World Day of Prayer Service	2pm	Gospel Mission, Faversham
7th Farewell to the old Hall	7.30pm	Stalisfield Village Hall
9th FreeStyle	10.30am	Eastling Church
11th FOES Breakfast event		Eastling School
11th Weekly Lent Group starts	10am	Garden Cottage, Eastling
11th Weekly Lent Group starts	7.30pm	Pinks Farm, Eastling
12th Parish Council meeting	6.30pm	Eastling Village Hall
13th Gardeners' Club	7.30pm	Eastling Village Hall
13th History Society	7.45pm	Charing Parish Hall
15th Deadline for April Good News		See below
15th Hall clear out	10am	Eastling Village Hall
18th Mobile Library	10.50 - 11.05am	Glebe Cottages
18th Painters Forstal W.I.	2.15pm	Champion Hall
19th Craft Club	11.15am	Champion Hall
20th Mobile Library	11.55am - 12.10pm	Throwley Forstal Green
23rd YoungStyle	10am	Eastling Church
25th Magazine Folding	2pm	Pinks Farm
26th Coffee Club	11am	Champion Hall
30th Mothering Sunday Service	10am	Eastling Church
APRIL 5th Quiz Night	7.30pm	Eastling Village Hall

Deadline for the April Good News will be 15th March

If you would like to advertise in this magazine, submit articles or stories for publication, or would like any forthcoming events publicised, send your contribution by 15th March to: Hilary Harlow, Pinks Farm, Eastling, Faversham, ME13 0BA. Tel: 01795 890338. Where possible, please submit your entry by email: goodnewsmagazine@me.com

Past and current issues of the Good News may be viewed on www.northdowns.plus.com/goodnews

Eastling Short Mat Bowls

We are a friendly club and looking for more players to come and learn the skill of short mat bowls, join us in Eastling village hall on Fridays, either 2.30 - 4.30pm or evenings 7.30 - 9.30pm.

Contact Roy on 01795 537162.

Our competition team, the Eastling Cherries, played a Swale league match away at

Newington on 9th February; Roy played the singles and lost by one shot, but in all the other games we went down heavily against very strong opponents and came home without a single point! This leaves us bottom of the first division.

Tuesday 11th February saw Chilham come to Eastling for a East Kent league fixture. Des Briggs, Bryan Searly & Roy Piles won 14 shots to 11, but on the other mat Mick Heath, Eileen Piles & Chris Smith lost 14 shots to 11, so the match was drawn 3 points each. I hope to have a better report next month.

Roy Piles.



Fairtrade Fair

Saturday 1st March
2014
10am -3pm

St. Peter's Methodist
Church Hall, Canterbury *

Fair Trade stalls &
refreshments *

10am: Visit by the Lord
Mayor and
musical entertainment
by children from
St. Peter's Methodist
Primary School
and St. Stephen's
Infants' School

*

12 noon - 2pm:
Homemade soup lunches