

Eastling School News

What an exciting March we have coming up! This starts with the visit of Catherine Spencer, the former GB Rugby captain, who led her side to victory in several six nation championships. She will put the children through their paces in a sponsored event to raise funds for the current Team GB. After this, we start a major new writing initiative with Pobble- and you can follow us on it! Pobble allows children to publish their writing online for positive feedback from their audience. The Rochester Bridge trust also visits us to help children design an animal crossing. Although our celebration of World Book day week ends with an assembly from our Tigers class on Friday 3rd March, it continues the following Friday with Top 10 children's author Edward Trayner (known as Billy Bob Buttons) running a gifted writers session on the 10th for ourselves and partner schools.

Our after school clubs and activities continue with the popular soft play on Mondays, "Magical Maths" on Thursdays and Cinema on Fridays. On Thursday 16th we have a zoological 'feel', with the science department from Highsted grammar demonstrating adaptations to life for their reptile collection.

Cubs celebrate Mothers' day with a special event on Thursday 23rd March, whilst we are doubtless going to celebrate Red Nose day on Fri 24th with a modicum of silliness and cakes! Our term ends on 31st March with the traditional FOES competition and Easter egg hunt (remember that any preschool child can take part from 2.30pm regardless of whether they will join us in September!)

Would you like to help the school? We are currently seeking community governors who might have an interest in education and would be willing to support the school within their own experience area (be it personnel, finance, development, management or strategy). Please call or email if you'd like to be involved in your community's school



Please keep giving your donations

We are so grateful for the contributions that enable us to take several bags of foodstuffs to the Foodbank each week, especially in this very cold weather. Do visit the Faversham Foodbank's facebook site periodically for extra updates on their work.

Food list for March

Urgent items: tinned fruit; tinned vegetables; tinned sponge puddings; drinking chocolate; cooking oil; shampoo

Other items:

Household cleaners



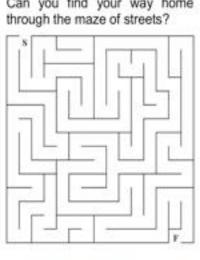
MAD MARCH GALES

The month of March has a reputation for a wild and blustery start but usually changes to much milder weather before it ends ... as the old saying goes 'March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb'.

People's homes are flooded or big trees uprooted in high winds. Even if it doesn't happen to us we see the pictures of other people's suffering in the media.

There was a time when Jesus' friends were frightened because a fierce storm blew up while they were fishing. The disciples thought their boat was going to sink and they were very frightened. You can read about it in St Mark's Gospel, chapter 4, verses 35-39.

I get frightened when the wind blows so hard that the trees bend and the lights flicker but then I remember that Jesus is with us all the time. Just as He was with the disciples in the boat. He is with us when we are afraid. Jesus gives us hope, courage and strength.



What did the north wind say to the east wind? Let's play draughts



How easy is it for wind gusts to talk to each other? It is a breeze.

What does a cloud wear under her raincoat? Thunderwear!

Good News

Parish Magazine *March 2017*

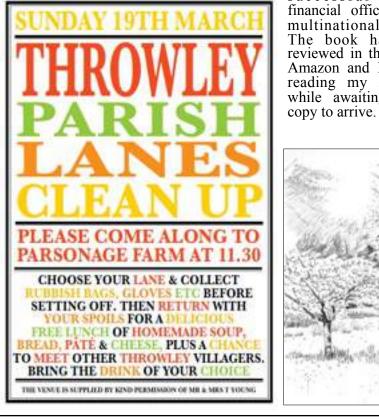




Women's World Day of Prayer Friday 3rd March

The material this year is titled 'Am I Being Unfair To You?' and has been written by women from the Philippines. The Faversham service in the Baptist church, St. Mary's Road at 2pm, followed by tea and biscuits.





The news magazine for the parishes of Eastling, Stalisfield with Otterden, and Throwley www.northdowns.plus.com/goodnews

SAFELY HOME

trussell

Can you find your way home



Mothering Sunday 26th March Service at Stalisfield Church, 3pm.

ASH WEDNESDAY 1ST MARCH HOLY COMMUNION AT 7.30PM IN **STALISFIELD CHURCH**

Lenten Book Club on Tuesdays, with soup and a sandwich at the Rectory

This year's Archbishop of Canterbury's Lenten book is Dethroning Mammon: Making Money Serve Grace, written by Justin Welby himself.

Remember that before ordination, he had a successful career as a financial officer for a large multinational corporation. The book has been well reviewed in the press and on Amazon and I have enjoyed reading my kindle sample while awaiting my ordered

You will be welcome to join us at The Rectory, from 1145 to 1315 each Tuesday of Lent, beginning Tuesday 7th March, to read a chapter of the book while we enjoy a bowl of soup and a cheese sandwich. So that we know how many soup bowls and sandwiches to put out, please register by phone (01795 890 487) or by email (donaldjlawton@gmail.com). you would like your own copy of the book, it might be easiest to purchase your choice new, cut price, kindle, directly from Eden.co.uk, Amazon or your favourite supplier.

LENT

Eastling Gardeners' Club Thursday 23rd March

'More Garden Impact for Less Effort' A talk by Alison Marsden

at 7.30pm in Eastling Village Hall, followed by wine and nibbles. Plants for Sale Annual subscriptions of £8 are due. Non-members pay £4 per meeting.

Canon's Column

Is there a crisis of 'Truth'?

A global survey published recently suggested that only 43% of people trusted the traditional media. Many of us have learned not to believe everything on the internet and we have become aware of which are the trusted resources within our own areas of interest and research and how to discriminate between trustable and not so. The American President often plays on the distrust that people have for the media, using their dissatisfaction and distrust to his advantage. One of his staff defined the President's statement about the size of a crowd as 'alternative facts'. The questioning reporter responded, "alternative facts aren't facts, they're falsehoods."

pluralistic".

or situation.

Without truth, trust disintegrates.

Truth has always been one of the

hallmarks of the Christian character

and how truth is dealt with is often

used as an important criterion for

evaluating the character of an

What are we to do with this crisis of

truth? First of all, commit to truth in

our own lives and we will have truth as

one of our character traits. Second,

patronize products, services and

organizations that exhibit the qualities

of truth in their activities, products

and dealing with the public. Thirdly,

find and discern information

resources including media that have a

clear reputation for truth and truth

telling. In terms of the internet, make

a decision to use only sites that you

have confidence in and don't view

advertisers who make untruthful

claims or the sites they advertise on.

unches

Canon Donald J. Lawton

individual or organization.

In a little over a month we will be reading the account of the arrest, trial and crucifixion of Christ on Good Friday. This year we read it from the gospel of John, chapters 18 and 19. When Pilate is faced with the pressure to condemn Jesus to death and is questioning him, he suddenly asks, "What is truth?" He is faced with the gulf between what others say about Jesus – that he deserves to die, and what he has concluded from his own examination and trial of this unsettling man who has been thrust into his court. "What truth is he to believe?"

This raises the question for us, "is there more than one truth"? and then a second question, "how can two observations of the same event or statement both be true"?

During Lent there will be a Lunch served on Fridays at Faversham Baptist Church in support of the work of Faversham Foodbank.

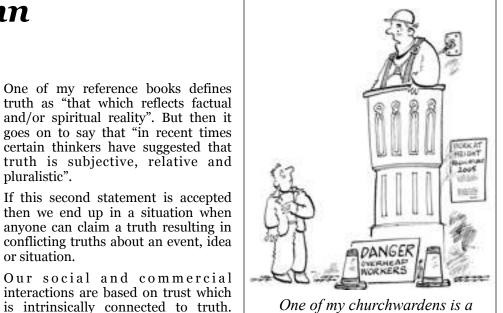
Organised by Churches Together in Faversham, the Lent Lunches start on Friday 3rd March and

continue until 7th April. Lunch will be served from 12 noon until 2pm for a suggested donation of £3 per head. Delicious homemade soup, bread and cheese is on the menu.

Lent

Each Faversham church is responsible for a Friday during Lent, and will supply the food and personnel. FBC is responsible for the first lunch on Friday 3rd March. The proceeds from the lunches are sent to the Churches Together in Faversham nominated charity for the year. This year it is Faversham Foodbank.

Why not make a weekly visit so that you can decide for yourself who makes the best soup?



One of my churchwardens is a stickler for 'Health and Safety'

Eastling Church **Bryanaina** rota Flower Rota 310:000 March 2017

March - Lent - no flowers



40 Days / 40 Voices: Join us on a journey through Lent

Each day throughout Lent, the team at the Diocese will send an email with:

- A bible reading from Luke which leads us through Jesus' journey towards Easter
- A reflection from a different member of our diocesan family

40 Days / 40 Voices gives us the opportunity to look together at each day's text with fresh eyes. Some contributors have written reflections, but there are also photos, poems, songs, conversations and videos

Sign up to receive the 40 Days / 40 Voices daily devotional email at: www.canterburydiocese.org/lent/

Canterbury Samaritans need volunteers



As a Samaritans volunteer you

have the chance to change people's lives. With our training you develop new listening and communication skills to help you do this

Volunteers are the heart of Samaritans. We welcome and value en volunteer, from all walks of life. You can make an amazing differe helping support people around the UK find their way through what is troubling them.

We need your help Join us in doing this important and fulfil work. We hold information events through the year, for more de and information please contact Jessie the.samaritans@btconnect.com and view our website Samaritans.org/canterbury

Helplines - Phone: 116 123 (free to call), email: jo@samaritans.org Visit: 32 Northgate, Canterbury CT1 1BL See our website (as above) for opening times.

Registered Charity no 1166874



Belmont House opens for a new season on Sunday 2nd April 2017

Tel: 07703 492543 natasha@acorncarriagehire.con

ISTRICT	Eastling Neighbourhood Watch Village Warden: 07794 010394 or 01795 890848
ning you will you do this.	Crimestoppers 0800 555 111 Swale Police 101 Emergency 999
d value every ng difference, ough whatever	A strong reminder that the lambing season is with us again and I cannot emphasise enough, how important it is to keep your animals, namely dogs, on a lead in the vicinity of sheep. The Farmers have the right to shoot any
and fulfilling r more details lessie at website at	animal that is causing distress to their sheep, so please respect the countryside code. There are many reports of sheds etc being broken into in local towns and villages. Please be extra vigilant and report anything suspicious in our area.
Remember the cloc go forward an hou at 2am on Sundau 26th March.	farmers will be ploughing the fields, so please take care on the roads.
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Belmont House and Gardens



BELMONT HOUSE & GARDENS

TEA ROOM STAFF VACANCY

Belmont House is looking for an enthusiastic person to join

the seasonal Tea Room team.

The Tea Room is open on Sat, Sun and Bank Holiday Mondays throughout April – Sept, from 1.00pm – 5.00pm. The work will involve serving tea, coffee, cold drinks and light refreshments along with home-made cakes to the public, experience an advantage but full training will be given.

We require two teams of two people to work alternate weekends but all the team will be expected to work full days when there is an event held, such as Woodfest. There will be opportunities to work extra hours when we are busy or to cover holidays. You will need to enjoy working with people, be able to work efficiently alongside others but use your initiative when needed! Must have own transport due to rural location.

Please contact Andrea/Danielle for a chat on administrator@belmonthouse.org or 01795 890202

Monday - Friday, 9.00am - 5.00pm.

EASTER EGG HUNT

Sunday 16th April, 12.00pm – 3.00pm

Bring the family along to Belmont this Easter and enjoy an afternoon of fun activities. Explore the gardens and search for the Easter eggs to get your very own chocolate treat. Once you have completed the trail, you will find a variety of craft activities in the Orangery.

The tearoom will be open for cream teas and homemade cakes. £5.00 per child, £1.00 per adult (all materials included).

Belmont House & Gardens, Throwley, Nr Faversham, Kent ME13 OHH

Services in our Churches The High Downs Benefice

1st March Ash Wednesday

The God who meets our needs Isaiah 58 1-12, 2 Corinthians 5. 20b-6.10, John 8. 1-11 Stalisfield 7.30 pm Holy Communion (CW)

5th March Lent 1

The God who deals with life's temptations

Genesis 2. 15-17, 3. 1-7, Romans 5. 12-19, Matthew 4. 1-11			
Eastling	8 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	
Eastling	10 am	Holy Communion (CW)	
Stalisfield	10 am	Morning Prayer (BCP)	

12th March Lent 2

The God who chooses us

Genesis 12. 1 - 4a, Romans 4. 1-5,13-17, John 3. 1 - 17 Eastling 8 am Holy Communion (BCP) 10 am CaféStyle Eastling Throwley 10 am Morning Prayer (BCP)

19th March Lent 3

The God who quenches our thirsts

Exodus 17. 1 - 7, Romans 5. 1 - 11, John 4. 5 - 42			
Eastling	8 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	
Eastling	10 am	Morning Prayer (BCP)	
Stalisfield	10 am	Holy Communion (CW)	

26th March Mothering Sunday

The God who spares our pain

1 Samuel 1.20-28, Colossians 3. 12-17, Luke 2. 33-35			
Eastling	8 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	
Throwley	10am	Holy Communion (BCP)	
Stalisfield	3pm	Mothering Sunday Service	

2nd April Lent 5

The God who brings life

Ezekiel 37. 1 - 14, Romans 8. 6 - 11, John 11. 1 - 45			
Eastling	8 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	
Eastling	10 am	Holy Communion (CW)	
Stalisfield	10 am	Morning Prayer (BCP)	

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

Rector	Revd Canon Donald J. Lawton (01795 890487) The Rectory, Newham Lane, Eastling ME13 0AS		
Reader	Norman Fowler 4 Meesons Close, Eastl	(01795 890412) ling	
Reader	Caroline Ramshaw 4 Glebe Cottages, East	(01795 892088) ling	
<u>Churchwardens</u>			
Eastling	Andrew Baxter	(01795 890598)	
Parish Administrator			
	Janet Payne	(01795 890487)	
	E mail: eastlingchurch@gmail.com		
Stalisfield with Otterden			
	Jean West	(01233 712270)	
Parish Administrator			
	Sheila Moger	(01233 713212)	
	E mail samhawksnest@aol.com		
Throwley	Vacant		

From The Registers

Baptism

Henry Joseph Tames Matilda Margaret Tames 5th February 2017 at Eastling

Midweek Groups

Tuesdays: Weekly during Lent starting 7th March Soup & sandwich at the Rectory, 11.45am - 1.15pm. 01795 890487

Tuesdays: Weekly study group, 7.30pm Pinks Farm, Kettle Hill Road, Eastling. 01795 890338

Thursdays: Weekly prayer group, 10.30am Pinks Farm Kettle Hill Road, Eastling. 01795 890338

Fridays: Weekly study group, 10.45am, New House Farm, Eastling. 01795 890629

You will be welcome at any of our groups.

Church Annual General Meetings

Eastling at the Church, after the service (about 11.00am) on Sunday 5th March.

Stalisfield at the church after the Service (about 11.00am) on Sunday 19th March.

> **Throwley** in the Church at 6.15pm on Monday 27th March.

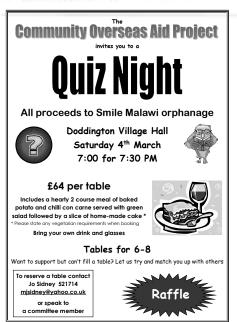
Benefice AGM Sunday 23rd April, details to follow

Memories of Eastling - Ruby Droseher (new Eyles)

Mr and Mrs Ivenon were an old angele who lived two down from us in one of the cottages in Newsham have. I used to walk to Newsham to change their library books - and they paid me a penny for doing it ! The Libraria always seened to know what sort of books they liked.

The Village Recreation Ground

Mr meeson grew hops apart from other crops. On one special occasion, it might have been a Jubilee, he donated a meadow to the village to be a Retreation ground It was mainly used for cricket and football, but once a year here was a fete. This was at the half -mile post towards Faversham



An auction with a difference,

with something for everyone to bid for - from a chauffeur driven car to Reads





Kent, Surrey & Sussex Air Ambulance

Book a talk about our life-saving work

The Kent, Surrey & Sussex Air Ambulance is inviting local groups, clubs, societies and other organisations to book a talk (free of charge) to find our more about the work of the charity.

By inviting one of our volunteer speakers to your group, you will be helping to raise awareness of

our work and therefore ensuring we can be there for those who need us, now and in the future.

For more information or to book a talk, please contact us on: 01622 833 833 talks@kssairambulance.org.uk

Kent Surrey Sussex Air Ambulance der itraning 00000 duty 20000.



of Faversham for lunch for two, works of art, jewellery, gardening services, a bespoke hat, having a portrait painted and many more items. Auctioneer Mr Peter Colmer will set aside his gavel to entertain the audience on the piano. Tickets £5.00, for entry, catalogue, glass of wine or soft drink. Available from The Hat Shop, West Street or from Sheila Mothes, sheilamothes@aol.com or 07710 928882. More details on fvrsg.wordpress.com.

COME AND JOIN OUR FUN WALK IN AID OF THE **WaterAid** CHARITY SATURDAY 22nd APRIL 2017

Walk through the beautiful Kent countryside and over the picturesque North Downs. Walk time approximately 3 hours. Tea/Comfort break after 2 hours at the Bowl Inn, Charing.

Start time will be 10.00am at The Plough Pub, Stalisfield. Please download and print an Entry Form and Rules from the Website address below, or contact Louise for details

Louise Seymour Telephone or Text: 07790 580522 Email: LCS@LifecareFitness.co.uk Website: www.LifecareFitness.co.uk/charitywalk.pdf



Email: info@theploughinnstalisfield.co.uk



Short Mat Bowls

In the East Kent League the Whitstable Pearls came to Eastling and we won on both mats gaining 6 points. Then on 6th February the Eastling Cherries went to Whitstable and after some very tight games we came home with

0 points. In the game against Aylesham Des Briggs, Bryan Searly & Roy Piles won 21 shots to 3 shots and, though the other team had a very good game and kept their shots down, we had more overall shots and we came home with 4 points, leaving them with just 2.

In the Swale league game at Eastling against Borden, Roy lost his singles but the team all played well and we gained 12 points, a very good result against them. Our next game is on Sunday 19th away to Newington; more next month.

New members are always welcome - come and give it a try on Fridays 2.30 - 4.30pm then 7.30 -9.30pm in Eastling Village Hall.

Roy Piles, 01795 537162.

Otterden & Stalisfield W.I.

Our first WI meeting for 2017, which was in February, was very interesting and great fun. Local resident, Leigh Miles gave us an excellent talk about her involvement in the entertainment world, her exciting career as a choreographer and running her dance and fitness business. The evening finished on a high after many members joined in with a few Zumba routines. Thank you Leigh for a wonderful evening.

In March, we will be having a speaker from The Dogs Trust, Canterbury. After seeing many stories reported on our local news of abandon dogs this should also be an interesting evening. DogsTrust

For information about our very friendly group please contact: Lesley Andrews (01795 890581) or Stephanie Culver (01795 890748).

> March meeting is on Wednesday 1st March in Stalisfield Village Hall at 7.30pm.

April meeting is on Wednesday 19th April in Stalisfield Village Hall at 7.30pm

The Plough Inn, Stalisfield; a family run, independent, award winning pub & restaurant offering locally sourced

food & a selection of locally produced drinks.

Currently recruiting for casual waiting staff & chefs Experience not necessary but

a good personality & willingness to work is essential !

Please send CV to info@theploughinnstalisfield.co.uk or pop in to see us.

STALISFIELD VILLAGE HALL EVENTS 2017

APRIL	Spring Quiz – Friday 7 th		
	Afternoon Tea – Sunday 30 th		
JUNE	Great get together – Saturday 17th		
JULY	Barn Dance – Saturday 22 nd		
AUGUST	Ladies Village Lunch – Friday 4 th		
Childre	n's Table Tennis (Afternoon) – Sunday 6 th		
	Village Fete – Saturday 26 th		
SEPTEMBER	Harvest Supper – Saturday 30 th		
OCTOBER	Autumn quiz – Friday 13 th		
DECEMBER	Village Panto – Friday 8th Saturday 9th		
	Children's Party – Sunday 10th		
	Seniors' Tea – Sunday 16 th		

More details on www.stalisfieldvillagehall.co.uk

Charing and District Local History Society.

On Thursday 9th March,

Invaders and Settlers in England

Imogen Corrigan - Many people over the centuries have wanted to live in and claim England as their own. We look at the great attractions of England, not just the varied and rich pastures and natural wealth but also unparalleled education, justice and hierarchy

Meetings are held in the Parish Hall, Station Road, Charing TN27 oJA. The lecture starts at 8pm. Non-members: £3 per meeting.

> Lady looking for voluntary work Dog Walking - Cleaning - Gardening in Eastling for a few hours a day. Call 01795 890196

Local Needs Housing

English Rural Housing Association, in ENGLISH RURAL partnership with Throwley Parish Council and Sheldwich, Badlesmere and Leaveland Parish

Council, will be holding a Village Information and Consultation Event on 10th April in Sheldwich Village Hall between 3pm and 7pm.

This will be a drop-in event to view and comment upon, preliminary plans of a proposed small affordable Local Needs Housing scheme at Leaveland Corner, Throwley. Staff from English Rural Housing Association and Action with Communities in Rural Kent, together with Parish Councillors, will be available to discuss the project. There will be an opportunity to make written comments and also to register an interest for one of the proposed homes.

For further information contact Alison Thompson at English Rural Housing Association – email: alison.thompson@english rural.org.uk or phone 01233 665846

Women's Institute

Painters Forstal with Selling branch meeting in Eastling Village Hall

Our March meeting is in the hall, at 2pm, on Tuesday 21st. Please arrive before that time to allow for signing in etc.

Meet the dogs! We will have our own Jane Dean who is bringing her award winning dachshund/s to tell us all about showing at Crufts.

Do join us for a fun afternoon and don't forget to rejoin if you haven't already done so. For further information call the president on 01795 890020 or email tombar72@hotmail.co.uk



THROWLEY WALKERS

Short Local Wednesday and

Friday Walks Wednesdays are usually about 2 miles long and Fridays, 3 miles. Please email me for details annhutt52@gmail.com

Eastling and Stalisfield walkers also welcome!

THROWLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Meeting of Throwley Parish Council will be at 7.30pm on Monday 27th March 2017 at Throwley Church. The order of the meeting will be;

1. The Chairwoman's Report 2. Speaker - Clive Foreman from the Fleur de Lis Museum, Faversham, on the subject of 'A Memorial for Throwlev Airfield' 3. Open Forum for Parishioners' Questions

All Residents welcome.

EASTLING VILLAGE HALL To book ring Hayley on on 01795 890968 www.eastlingvillagehall.co.uk



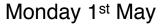
A beautiful hall in a lovely village location for your wedding, club, sports or meetings. The large hall has pretty grounds, car parking, meeting rooms and fully equipped facilities for professional or self-catering occasions.

27th 28th





BLUEBELL WALK 2017





We need helpers

in the Bluebell Bistro refreshments, Sales Desk, car park marshals and road marshals.

We would also like someone who is prepared to lead the Bluebell Walk team next year and work alongside me during the planning and delivery of the Bluebell Walk this year. Please contact Steve Youle on 01795 890368 or steve.youle@btinternet.com



WEEKLY EVENTS:

Table Tennis 7 - 9pm Stalisfield Village Hall Tuesdays Throwley Walkers 10.30am see separate ad. Wednesdays Alternate Wednesdays Eastling Walkers 10.30am Call 01795 892194 9.15am Eastling Village Hall Thursdays Fitness Pilates Fridays Throwley Walkers 10.30am Call 07948 038993 Fridays Short Mat Bowls 2.30pm & 7.30pm Eastling Hall

MARCH

12th

15th

19th

19th

21st

23rd

26th

27th

1st	Eastling Walking group 1	0.30am from	n Eastling Village Hall
1st	Ash Wednesday Service	7.30pm	Stalisfield Church
1st	Otterden & Stalisfield WI	7.30pm	Stalisfield Village Hall
3rd	World Day of Prayer service	ce 2pm	Faversham Baptist Church
5th	Eastling Church AGM	11am	Eastling Church
7th	Lenten Book Club	11.15am	The Rectory, Eastling
8th	Eastling Parish Council	6.30pm	Eastling Village Hall
9th	Charing History Society	8pm	Charing Parish Hall
12th	CaféStyle	10am	Eastling Village Hall
15th	Deadline for April Good N	lews	See below
19th	Stalisfield Church AGM	11am	Stalisfield Church
19th	Throwley lanes clear up	11.30am	Parsonage Farm, Throwley
21st	Painters Forstal W.I.	2pm	Eastling Village Hall
23rd	Gardeners' Club	7.30pm	Eastling Village Hall
26th	Mothering Sunday Service	e 3pm	Stalisfield Church
27th	Throwley Church AGM	6.15pm	Throwley Church
27th	Throwley Parish Council	7.30pm	Throwley Church
28th	Magazine Folding	2pm	Pinks Farm

FROM THE EDITOR

If you would like to advertise in the April 2017 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