

Good News Parish Magazine

High Downs Parish

*Serving the villages of
Eastling, Otterden,
Stalisfield and Throwley*

www.goodnews.rf.gd

LENT 2022

ASH WEDNESDAY

Holy Communion in Newnham Church
7.30pm on 2nd March 2022

Lent Course

The Mysteries of God with topics of "The mystery of good & evil" "The mystery of love & sacrifice" "The mystery of sin, suffering & hope"

Mondays from 28th February at Doddington Vicarage 8 - 9:30 p.m.

Wednesdays from 9th March at Lynsted Church 2 - 3:30 p.m. and Zoom online 7:30 - 9 p.m.

Please book your place online by going to www.kingsdowncreekside.co.uk and click on a direct link to book or email steve.lillicrap@kc-hd.org.uk or telephone 01795 522510

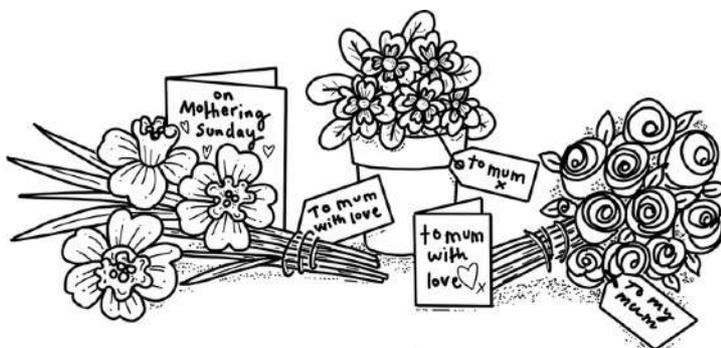


At Stalisfield Village Hall

Friday 11th March , 7pm

Contact Kate Jamieson: katejamiesoncornhill@gmail.com
to book a table of 6, or to join another table.

Bring your own food and drink and exercise the old grey matter! £5 per person



Mothering Sunday Service

10.30am on 27th March in
Stalisfield Church

All Welcome

A chance to bring the whole family

MARCH 2022



- 1st Shrove Tuesday
Pancakes for Tea!
- 2nd Otterden & Stalisfield W.I.
Stalisfield Village Hall 7.30pm
- 2nd Ash Wednesday Service
Newnham Church 7.30pm
- 9th Egerton Arts Society Lecture
Egerton Millennium Hall 2.30pm
- 9th Youth Club - *Festival of Colour*
Stalisfield Village Hall 7 - 8.30pm
- 10th Charing Local History Society
Charing Parish Hall 8.00pm
- 11th Eat, Pray, Walk 1.30pm
Doddington Church car park
- 11th Spring Quiz
Stalisfield Village Hall 7.30pm
- 23rd Youth Club - *Karaoke and Cooking*
Stalisfield Village Hall 7 - 8.30pm
- 24th Faversham Arts Society Lecture
Alexander Centre 11.00am
- 27th Mothering Sunday Service
Stalisfield Church 10.30am
- 28th Bidding opens in the
FVRSG Auction of Curiosities
- 28th Eastling Parish Council
Eastling Village Hall 6.30pm

APRIL

- 4th Eastling PC and Hall Annual Meetings
Eastling Village Hall 7.30pm
- 6th Otterden & Stalisfield W.I.
Stalisfield Village Hall 7.30pm
- 13th Youth Club - *Easter fun & chocolate*
Stalisfield Village Hall 7 - 8.30pm
- 14th Gardeners' Club
Eastling Village Hall 2.00pm

Message for the month

I read about a tribe in Africa that worships the number zero. Is nothing sacred?

I've recently been studying worship in the Bible and would like to share a few things with you. The Greek and Hebrew words for worship literally mean "to kiss the hand of or prostrate oneself in homage to one who is superior". It is an acknowledgement of God's glory, that He fully deserves our allegiance and devotion. Psalm 95, verse 6, describes the act of Biblical worship with two pictures. Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker;

Jesus said how we should approach worship in John 4. 24 *God is spirit, and his worshippers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.*"

Worshipping in Spirit is to be led by God the Holy Spirit, enlivening our spirit. As every believer has the Holy Spirit this means that some worship should involve Christians coming together with a Spirit led, worshipful attitude. This should be balanced by the truth, which is Jesus (John 14.6) and found in the Bible. Someone suggested that worship solely in the Spirit leads to anarchy and worship solely in the truth leads to legalism.

There are different ways to worship, thank God! Some prefer modern songs, others hymns Ancient and Modern. Some prefer a relaxed order of service, some the Book of Common Prayer. There is a danger of what we use to worship God becoming what we worship, which is idolatry and contrary to the second commandment. When I was at theological college, weekday chapel services were Book of Common Prayer one week and Alternative Service Book the

other. One student who had never encountered the BCP and found it difficult to get used to said, "I am not going to let the devil win and stop me worshipping!" He was prepared to look beyond his own preferences to worship God with his brothers and sisters. Worship should not be conducted because we like it, though it is great and easier when we do, but so God will like it. Psalm 149.4, refers to public worship and says that "God takes delight in His people"

Corporate, public worship is a small but important part of worship. Our whole lives are to be an act of worship. "And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him."

Romans 12.1 As you get out of bed on a Monday morning (and the next six days), encouraged, equipped and empowered by corporate worship the Sunday before, consciously devote your whole life to the praise and service of God in a way that pleases Him. Yours in His worship and service,

Jim Pye

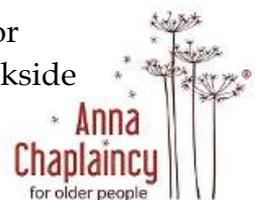


I would like to say a big thank you to all those who attended my Commissioning Service last month or who emailed me with their support. There were so many people who attended and am grateful that you all came. The service was really powerful and I felt God's presence.

As I have previously explained Anna Chaplaincy is a specialised ministry for the elderly, those with a large, little or no faith. If you know of anyone who would benefit from a listening ear, from a friendly face or who used to attend church who would benefit from receiving Home Communion please email me at AnnaChaplaincy@outlook.com

God bless

Caroline Ramshaw
Anna Chaplain for
Kingsdown, Creekside
and High Downs



Prayer Pointers

March 2022



Mondays - Pray for God's Holy Spirit to strengthen us in times of doubt.

Tuesdays - Give thanks for God's forgiveness when we confess to temptation.

Wednesdays - Pray for spiritual peace and confidence to trust in God's calling upon us.

Thursdays - Give thanks that God's love can bring us peace even in difficult times.

Fridays - Pray for those living in anguish or pain that they may know God's comfort.

Saturdays - Give thanks that, through Jesus Christ, God knows our emotions, challenges and temptations.

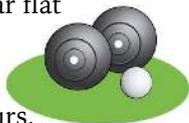
Sundays - Pray for Mothers across the world and give thanks for their loving care.

Short Mat Bowls

Now open on Wednesday evenings in Eastling Village Hall, 7 - 9pm.

New members are very welcome, equipment is provided, all we ask is for you to wear flat soled shoes.

Membership fee is £5.00 and we charge £2.00 for the 2 hours.



Come along and have a go, contact Roy Piles on 537162.

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Stalisfield Highlife

Stalisfield Village Hall

Revised Dates
2022

- 11th March Quiz
- 2nd June Platinum Jubilee Celebration
- 16th July Treasure Hunt
- 27th August Village Fete
- 8th October Harvest Supper
- 9th & 10th Dec Pantomime
- 17th Dec Children's Christmas Party
- 18th Dec Seniors' Christmas Dinner

Eastling Gardeners' Club

The next meeting will be on **Thursday, 14th April at 2 p.m.** in Eastling village hall.



Kevin Toher will talk on 'Trees for the smaller garden'

The talk will be followed by afternoon tea. Subscriptions will be due at £10 per person. Non-members pay £5 per meeting.



Date for your Diary

THROWLEY SUMMER FETE

Saturday 4th June

Traditional Village Fête, 1 - 5pm

Throwley Forstal Green



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**MAD MEN AND ARTISTS:
HOW THE ADVERTISING
INDUSTRY EXPLOITED
FINE ART**

Presented by Tony Rawlins
**WEDNESDAY 9TH MARCH
2022**

At 2.30 p.m.

at THE MILLENNIUM HALL,
ELM CLOSE, EGERTON
TN27 9DS

Fine art has provided advertisers and their agencies with a great deal of material for their creative campaigns. Tony Rawlins describes some of the processes by which advertisements are created and why the works of Leonardo da Vinci, Raphael and Michelangelo have been a rich source of their visuals

Tony Rawlins graduated through a training system to become an account director at the J. Walter Thompson. He subsequently worked in a number of agencies before setting up his own. He remains a consultant to the industry.

Visitors are very welcome AT £5 (reimbursed if you become a member) Please contact Christine Willis via cmwillis75@gmail.com or 01233 756377 for further details or visit our website at <https://theartsocietyegerton.org.uk>

Image supplied by Lecturer



The fan-heater under the cassock idea proved not to be such a good one

Otterden and Stalisfield W.I.

Helen Tobias-Kendall returned to speak to our group for the third time at our February Meeting. Helen is an excellent Speaker, so held everyone's attention for the duration of her talk, which this time was entitled 'Princesses and Pearls'. To commence, she dispelled the myth that pearls are initially created by a grain of sand within the oyster. Apparently, pearls are created from a virus within the mollusc. Also, it is not just oysters that create pearls, but a number of other crustacea can produce these gems. The size, shape and colour depends on the outward appearance of each oyster. Pearls are living objects that need to be worn and not shut away in their protective boxes in drawers. Ideally they need to be restrung every two years and the wearer does need to be aware that pearls can absorb smells, such as smoke and cooking.

The talk concluded with Helen giving her opinion on individual Member's pearls that had been brought along, whether they be real, cultured or fake.

Our Meeting on Wednesday 2nd March will be The Bra Boss of Kent, Johanna van Blommenstein. The fit of a bra is a subject that will affect every woman, from everyday wear to specialised bras for those that are post operation. Please bring your friends and neighbours for what promises to be an informative evening. W.I. Members are free and Guests are £3 with beverages and cake to finish off the evening.

Otterden and Stalisfield W.I. generally meet the first Wednesday of each month at 7.30 p.m at Stalisfield Village Hall. Please contact our President Ellie Cameron on 01795 892016 if you wish to join us.

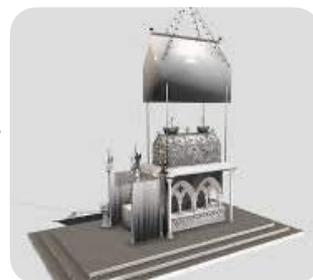


CHARING & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

www.charinghistory.co.uk

BECKET'S SHRINE?

A consideration of what Becket's shrine might originally have looked like to medieval pilgrims arriving in Canterbury. David gives a comprehensive picture drawn from pictorial suggestions and eyewitness accounts.



Speaker: *David Chance* When: 10th March 2022

Where: Parish Hall, Station Road

Time: 7.30pm doors open. Talk starts promptly at 8pm

FVRSG - Faversham and Villages Solidarity Group

In 2015 a group of people met in Eastling Village Hall on a freezing cold winter's night to discuss what we could do to help those refugees stuck in Calais and from that first meeting FVRSG was created. Now, 7 years later, we are a group of 30+ members and many more supporters and have achieved charitable status. Our aim throughout these years has been to work for justice and the relief of suffering for children, women and men who seek refuge from war, oppression and climate catastrophe.

We achieve this by raising money from events and from our stall in the Market Place every first Saturday in the month. We enjoy talking to people and listening to their views too as we try to dispel some of the worst myths about refugees that have been allowed to flourish. All the money raised is sent to frontline charities including small independent ones such as

Collective Aid, Calais Food Collective, Women and Children's Centre in Dunkirk, the Echo Library in Greece and Safe Passage. In the last few months we sent both money and goods to the newly arrived refugees housed in Canterbury hotels and charities on the ground in Afghanistan. We meet monthly, currently still on Zoom, and invite speakers in the field to our meetings on alternate months.

Obviously, in the last two years fundraising has been more difficult because of COVID restrictions so our newest event is an online auction - A Cabinet of Curiosities. Do have a look at the notice below that provides all the relevant details. I know I have had great fun searching for suitable items, surprising myself with what I could find hidden at the back of cupboards or tucked away in a corner!

Steph Youle

AUCTION OF CURIOSITIES

DEAR FRIENDS OF FVRSG,

We cordially invite you to take part in our upcoming online auction, A Cabinet of Curiosities

We are amassing a collection of unusual and intriguing items - some collectible or decorative and others quirky with an interesting story to tell...

We hope you will join us in our first big fundraiser of 2022. Every penny collected goes towards the justice and relief of refugees.

Have an item to donate? Please send us an email: favrsg@gmail.com

KEY DATES:

MONDAY 21ST MARCH - THE AUCTION WEBSITE GOES LIVE

MONDAY 28TH MARCH - BIDDING OPENS

SUNDAY 3RD APRIL - LAST DAY OF BIDDING!

Auction Website: www.jumblebee.co.uk/fvrsg

With Thanks

Faversham and Villages Refugee Solidarity Group

www.fvrsg.wordpress.com

Charity number: 1180448

Bob Dylan – 60 years on since his debut album

By Tim Lenton

Sixty years ago, on 19th March 1962, the American folk-rock singer Bob Dylan released his debut album, *Bob Dylan*. It contained only two original songs, the other 11 being mostly folk covers and partial rewrites, but his huge talent was already apparent. He came from northern Minnesota, but no-one could have guessed where he was going.

Dylan's great inspiration was Woody Guthrie, a folk singer and spokesman for the poor who was dying in the early 60s of Huntington's Chorea. Dylan visited him in hospital, and his first album contained a tribute to

him, called 'Song to Woody'.

That album did not make a huge splash, but the follow-up, *The Freewheelin' Bob Dylan*, released in May 1963 and containing all Dylan's own songs, was a huge success – the first of many. He quickly transformed himself from a first-rank folk singer to a singer-songwriter of huge versatility, outraging many of his original fans by 'going electric' at the Newport Folk Festival two years later.

A motorcycle accident in the mid-60s stopped Dylan in his tracks, and made him rethink the direction he was going – now married and starting a family. But he had a huge following, and everything he

produced was snatched up. He combined imaginative, poetic lyrics with attractive melodies, and his singing, though criticised by some, was notable for its innovative but perfect timing, copied by many.

In the late 1970s and early 1980s Dylan shocked his fans by producing three explicitly Christian albums following an experience where, he said, "Jesus put His hand on me". For a while he would play nothing else, but his output became wider again after *Infidels* (1983). Though he has produced (for him) indifferent albums, he continues – especially in recent years – to come out with breath-taking masterpieces. He is 81 this year.



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The Canterbury Committee of the
 World Day of Prayer invites you to join
 them in the Eastern Crypt of the
 Cathedral on Friday 4 March at 11am.
 This year, the service has been
 prepared by the women of England,
 Wales and Northern Ireland with the
 theme of God's Promise, found in the
 book of Jeremiah:
"I know the plans I have for you".
 The service celebrating the
 International World Day of Prayer is
 open to everyone

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Eastling Church
March 2022
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EASTLING

Annual General Meeting of the
Village Hall Trustees
Annual Parish Meeting of the
Parish Council

These two meetings will take place in the village hall on Monday 4th April 2022; the Trustees meeting at 7.30pm and the Annual Parish Meeting at 8.00pm. Please come along to support these two local organisations and raise any comments and queries.

Both meetings are open to all.

Eastling Parish Council

The next Parish Council meeting will be on
Monday 28th March
at 6.30pm
in the Village Hall.

Eastling Neighbourhood Watch

Village Warden

07794 010 394
or 01795 890848



Police 101 Emergency 999

Figures issued recently show that the problem of dog thefts is still quite prevalent so please keep your dog under your control, either in your property or on exercise and make sure that the microchip is up to date.

We are coming into the middle of the lambing season so please keep your dogs under strict control in the vicinity of sheep.

There are still reports of hare coursing around our area so if seen please report it.

By the time you read this hopefully the recent storms would have abated but I would like to thank all the people who were involved in keeping the roads open and our area safe.

There are reports locally of people calling and requesting scrap metal, please report this to the police with a vehicle registration number if possible.

Have a good month
Take care
Alan

Solicitor David Pickup considers your options if your name is brought into disrepute.

A good name

A good name is more desirable than great riches... (Proverbs 22:1-3)

Supposing someone is accused of a serious crime and arrested by the police but not charged. They may eventually be found not guilty in a court or not even charged at all. A relative of the alleged victim is angry that the police have not done what they were expecting, and they start spreading allegations on social media. We live in a world where news and rumours travel quickly where public comments can be made and not easily withdrawn.

What can you do if you are the victim of untrue allegations and accusations? A defamatory statement is an untrue statement to a third party which causes serious harm to reputation. If it is defamatory then you could claim compensation in court. This is usually only an option for very rich people, as cases like this are not straightforward.

There is a phrase about washing dirty laundry, and also there is one about no smoke without fire. Lots of people must have regretted going to court because their action has just led to more bad publicity.

If you consider taking legal action, keep records of what was said or posted by whom and when. You will need evidence to do anything. If there are untrue or abusive messages on social media, complain to that organisation and ask them to take them down.

Think carefully about what your social media presence is, and check your privacy settings. Ask a friend to search for you and see how much private information they can find on you. It surprises me how many people put holiday and children's family photos online for everyone to see. As always this is a light-hearted introduction to a complicated and serious issue. Please always get proper advice.



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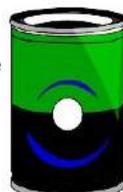
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Most of our agencies are working remotely so reply calls may be made from a withheld number. Please try and apply for a voucher the day before you visit us.

News from our M.P.

Latest letter from Helen Whately
M.P. for Faversham
is available to view on the
Eastling Parish Council website:
www.eastlingvillage.co.uk

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Sunday Services

subject to Covid restrictions and
ministry team availability

2nd March Ash Wednesday

Newnham 7.30pm Holy Communion

6th March Lent 1

Romans 10. 8b - 13, Luke 4. 1 - 13

Eastling 10.30am Holy Communion CW

Norton 10.30am Morning Worship

13th March Lent 2

Philippians 3. 17 - 4. 1, Luke 13. 31 - 35

Eastling 9am Holy Communion BCP

Throwley 10.30am Morning Prayer

20th March Lent 3

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

Newnham 9am Holy Communion BCP

Eastling 10.30am Morning Worship

Lynsted 10.30am All Age Service

27th March Mothering Sunday

1 Samuel 1.20 - 28. John 19. 25 - 27

Throwley 10.30am Holy Communion

Stalisfield 10.30am Mothering Sunday
Service

3rd April Lent 5

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

Eastling 10.30am Holy Communion CW

Norton 10.30am Morning Worship

Online Daily Worship Continues

As well as the services in our churches, the daily 9am Morning Prayer at Lynsted will continue and be live online on www.kingsdowncreekside.co.uk - also on the YouTube Channel 'Breakthrough at Lynsted'.

More information is updated weekly on St Mary's Eastling 'A Church Near You':

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/11982/>

New services:

9am Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion

2nd Sundays at Eastling

and 3rd Sundays at Newnham

High Downs Parish

Rector Reverend Canon Dr. Steve Lillicrap
01795 522510 steve.lillicrap@kc-hd.org.uk

Associate Priest Reverend James (Jim) Pye
01795 890726 jim.pye@kc-hd.org.uk

Curate Reverend Caroline Turvey
01795 886351 caroline.turvey@kc-hd.org.uk

Reader Caroline Ramshaw (07799 538809)

Anna Chaplain Caroline Ramshaw
AnnaChaplaincy@outlook.com

Churchwardens

Eastling Andrew Baxter (01795 890598)

Administrator Janet Payne
E mail: eastlingchurch@gmail.com

Stalisfield with Otterden
Jenny King (01795 890366)

Administrator Shirley Pritchard
Email: Stmarystalisfield@gmail.com

Throwley Gaynore Moss (01795 890995)

Parish Office Email: eastlingchurch@gmail.com
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CONTACT THE GOOD NEWS EDITOR

Hilary Harlow 01795 890338

If you would like to submit articles, or to advertise in the April 2022 magazine, send your submission by 20th March to: goodnewsmagazine@me.com.

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

All Together Now

Time together in church for all ages

Lynsted Church

10.15 for coffee
10.30 start

3rd Sunday each month:

20th March
17th April - Easter Sunday with Easter egg hunt
15th May - followed by b.y.o. picnic lunch
19th June
16th July - family fun day - Teynham church
17th July - at Teynham Church with Holy Communion





The Arts Society Faversham

We run regular monthly lectures on the fourth Thursday at the Alexander Centre, Faversham. Subjects cover all aspects of the Arts in its widest sense and are given by experts in their chosen field and include university lecturers, broadcasters and tour guides. Come along to a lecture as a guest (£5 fee) or join for a year's lectures.

**Our next lecture is on the 24 March at 11.00am and is by
Dr Nicholas Watkins on**

**“Francis Bacon, Ben Nicholson and Graham Sutherland
and the revival of Post WWII Painting.”**

Coffee and biscuits will be served from 10.20am

Nothing illustrates more graphically the vast differences of approach between the post-war generation than the contrast between the styles - and life styles - of Ben Nicholson (1894-1982) and the younger Francis Bacon (1909-1992): the former all lightness, rational, ordered, serene and contemplative; the latter all darkness, outrageously unconventional and violent. At the same time, Graham Sutherland's combination of surrealist fantasy and stark realism and apocalyptic themes had enormous appeal. The lecture examines the main themes influences and impact of this outstandingly talented generation.

Nicholas Watkins studied in Florence, Vienna and at the Courtauld Institute of Art. Art historian, author, critic, exhibition curator, lecturer, his numerous publications include Matisse (1984); Bonnard (1994); Behind the Mirror, Aimé Maeght and his Artists, Bonnard, Matisse, Miró, Calder, Giacometti, Braque (Royal Academy of Arts 2008-9) and he lectures extensively to universities, museums, galleries, National Gallery and Royal Academy.

Details of past and future lectures can be found on our website
theartssocietyfaversham.org.uk.

For further information contact us at
info@theartssocietyfaversham.org.uk



The Grey Owl

By Audrey Keen

A grey owl woke me in the night
He called from a tree nearby,
The sky in part was growing light
The moon in the heavens was high.
The owl called out on a ghostly note
And trembled an eerie sound,

As he swivelled his head in a round about way
Then looked upon the ground.
But from the corner of his round eye
He thought he spied a mouse
That scuttled along a tunnel of leaves
Until it reached the house.
The owl, inquisitive, waited on
The homely broad oak bough
And moved his head from side to side
Where had his meal gone now?
All thoughts of going too-whit, too-whoop
We're far removed from his mind,
He reached down onto his feathered chest
Then drew his head from behind,
He wriggled his face in a comical way
And turned himself to the sky
Opened his mouth, drew in a breath
And then let out a cry.
The sound he made was desperate,
Baleful and pained with woe,
So he shuffled his feathers, spread out his wings,
For him it was time to go.

**The Cancer Research UK
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 **Choice of 1,3,6 or 9 miles** 
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MAKE A WILL MONTH
APRIL-MAY 2022





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In April and May firms across east Kent will be kindly donating their time and expertise for free to write Wills in return for a donation to Pilgrims Hospices.

Find out more:
01227 782062
pilgrimshospices.org/makeawill

27th March:

Mothering Sunday & Mother Church

The Fourth Sunday in Lent was called 'Mid-Lent' or 'Refreshment Sunday', when the rigors of Lent were relaxed more than was normal for a feast day. It is called Mothering Sunday as a reference to the Epistle reading for the Day (Galatians 4:21-31). The Lenten Epistles follow from each other with teaching about our life as Christians and how we are to follow Christ.

On Mid-Lent Sunday the Epistle talks of bondage and freedom; the bondage of the Law and the Old Covenant as compared to the freedom in Christ, "the promised one", and the New Covenant. Verse 26 reads "But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all." We gain our freedom from Christ and, as it was seen before the Reformation, the Church.

Thus, Mothering Sunday is about the freedom that we gain through the promise of Jesus Christ delivered through our Mother the Church. People were encouraged to go to their 'Mother Church' (their home church or their home Cathedral) to worship and give thanks. Hence apprentices, and others, went home for the weekend and often brought gifts (or accumulated pay) home to their family.

On the other hand, Mother's Day is a secular festival invented in 1904 and is celebrated on the 2nd Sunday in May in most countries in the world. The UK seems to be the exception. In recent years Mothering Sunday has been hijacked to take the place of a special, secular day to give thanks for our mothers.

Have you done something which haunts you?

Which makes you feel restless and defensive, every time you think of it? Why not deal with it this month, and put it behind you? Whatever your mistake has been, consider what the Bible has to say to you:

'I have not come to call the virtuous but sinners to repentance' (said Jesus). (Luke 5.32)

'Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and He will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon. (Isaiah 55.7)

'Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing.' (Joel 2:12-13)

God is inviting you to come to Him this Ash Wednesday, 2nd March.

What a wonderful offer!

Make the most of it and remember how the prodigal son was welcomed back by his compassionate father.

Monthly walk, tea, cake and prayer for all ages
Start and finish in Doddington Church Car Park
1.30pm to 3.00pm



Dates
11th Feb
11th March
8th April
13th May
10th June
8th July

Eat Pray Walk *Celebrating God in creation*




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The story of the yellow ribbons

We are loved with everlasting love! One of the greatest and most comforting doctrines taught in the Bible is the love of God for His people. In the Law and in the Prophets; in the poetical and historical books; in Gospels and Letters – all agree to tell us what God said to His people through Jeremiah. “I have loved you with an everlasting love” (Jeremiah 31:3).

It was that love that moved the Father to send His Son into the world (John 3:16). Paul writes glowingly of “that great love with which He loved us” (Ephesians 2:4). John emphasises the same great truth in a magnificent creed of just three words: ‘God is love’ (1 John 4:8). Quite simply there is nothing in all creation more reassuring, more comforting, more encouraging, more uplifting than to know that God loves us. And we can go further and put it in personal terms as Paul did. ‘He loved me and gave Himself for me’ (Galations 2:21).

How can we illustrate the illimitable love of God? One such illustration was told by the Rev John Wilbur Chapman of Indiana, an ordained Presbyterian minister who in 1893 went into full-time evangelistic ministry.

One evening Chapman was travelling by train in a rural part of Kansas. The other passenger in the carriage was a young man who kept glancing out the window and then covering his face with his hands. Chapman asked if he could help.

The young man confessed that many years before he had run away from home and ‘sown his wild oats.’ He had not written to his parents at all, until a few weeks before, telling them that he would be travelling on this train. At a certain point it passed very close to his home. In the letter he had begged his parents’ forgiveness and asked if they wanted him to come home. If so, they were to tie a yellow ribbon on the old apple

tree that grew right beside the railway lines.

“Sir,” he said to Chapman, “the train will soon pass my home but I’m afraid to look. If there’s a yellow ribbon on the tree, I’ll get off at the next station and go home. If there’s no ribbon, I’ll just travel on. But I’m too afraid to look out for the tree.” So Chapman offered to look for him.

“You can open your eyes now,” he said a few minutes later. The returning prodigal looked at Chapman with tears and quivering lips. ‘All is well,’ said the evangelist. ‘There is a yellow ribbon on the apple tree. In fact, there’s far more than one. Every branch is hanging with yellow ribbons, scores and scores of them. Your parents love you that much, they want you to come home.’

If parents can love their wayward children like that, how much greater is the love of God! Truly, we are loved with everlasting love.

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Dates:

- 26.1.22 Stone painting
- 9.2.22 Mental health awareness week
- 23.2.22 Pancakes
- 9.3.22 Festival of colour, spring and new life
- 23.3.22 Karaoke talent and cooking for Mothering Sunday
- 13.4.22 Easter fun and chocolate
- 27.4.22 Earth day - love our planet
- 11.5.22 Craft extravaganza
- 25.5.22 Wide games
- 8.6.22 Jubilee party and Father's Day pressies
- 22.6.22 Sports week - Bake off Prep
- 13.7.22 Bake Off judging
- 27.7.22 Commonwealth Olympics
- 24.8.22 Youth Fest
- 25.8.22 Youth Fest and BBQ
- 26.8.22 Youth Fest with Lynsted Youth

Easy tip to help your children sleep better

Get them to turn off their phones by 7pm. When children use their phones later in the evening, the exposure to the radio frequency electromagnetic fields can disturb their ability to go to sleep.

The study was carried out by the Barcelona Institute for Global Health. It was based on the phone and sleeping habits of nine to twelve-year-olds.

Nigel Beeton writes: *"One thing that never seems to improve as we get older is the deepening mystery of the power that computers have over us, and the utter confusion that results when they do something that we don't expect!"*

The Computer Swallowed Grandad!

The computer swallowed Grandad!
Yes! Honestly! It's true!
He pressed Control and Enter -
And disappeared from view!

It devoured him completely
The thought just makes me squirm!
He must have caught a virus
Or been swallowed by a worm!

I've searched through the recycle bin
And files of every kind;
I've even searched the internet
But nothing did I find.

I went to Mr Google
My searches to refine
His reply was in the negative,
'Nothing found' was Google's line.

So, if inside your inbox
My Grandad you should see -
Please copy, scan, and paste him
And send him back to me!

By Nigel Beeton

GOOD FRUIT OR BAD FRUIT?
Jesus said:
"No good tree does not produce bad fruit, nor does a bad tree produce good fruit. Each tree is known by its own fruit...
...Good people bring good things out of the good they stored in their hearts. But evil people bring evil things out of the evil they stored in their hearts. People speak the things that are in their hearts."
- Luke 6: 43-45

During LENT ask God to help you through His Holy Spirit to turn your hate to **love**, your impatience to **patience** and your unkindness to **kindness**, so we can be like a good tree that grows good fruit.

READ
Luke 6: 27-45

How did Jesus say we should treat others?
Look up Luke 6:31

Do
to everyone who asks you Luke 6:30
for those who are cruel to you Luke 6:28
to those that hate you Luke 6:27
and you will be forgiven Luke 6:37

Find these words from **Luke 6** in the word search above.
GOOD • BAD • FRUIT • TREE • HEART • EVIL • EACH • OWN • STORED
PRODUCE • BRING • SPEAK • REPENT • FORGIVE • LOVE • BLESS • PRAY • GIVE