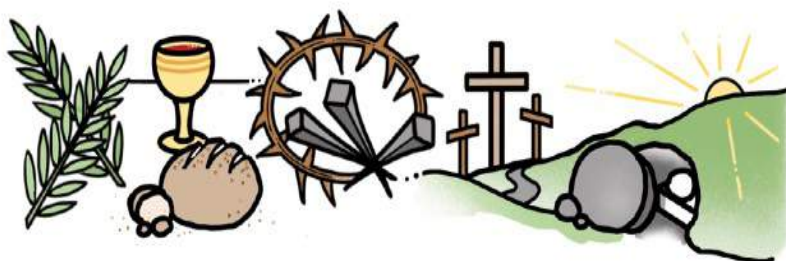


# Good News Parish Magazine

High Downs Parish

Serving the villages of  
Eastling, Otterden,  
Stalisfield and Throwley  
[www.goodnews.rf.gd](http://www.goodnews.rf.gd)



## Easter Services

### 24th March Palm Sunday

Throwley 10.30am Holy Communion  
Newnham 10.30am Morning Worship

### Monday 25th March

7.30pm Evening Prayer with Reflection, Newnham Church

### Tuesday 26th March

7.30pm Evening Prayer with Reflection, Eastling Church

### Wednesday 27th March

7.30pm Evening Prayer with Reflection, Doddington Church

### Maundy Thursday 28th March

7.30pm Last Supper and Service, Norton Church.

### Good Friday 29th March

10.30am Stations of the Cross, Doddington & Teynham Churches

2-3pm Last Hour of the Cross, Eastling Church

### 31st March Easter Day

Wychling 6.00am Sunrise Service

Teynham 10.30am Benefice Communion  
with Bishop Rose

## MARCH 2024



- 6th Otterden & Stalisfield W.I.  
Stalisfield Village Hall 7.30pm
- 9th Charing Village Walk  
from Charing Church 11.45am
- 10th Mothering Sunday Service  
Stalisfield Church 10.30am
- 13th Stalisfield Youth Group  
Stalisfield Village Hall 7 - 8.30pm
- 13th Arts Society lecture, Egerton  
Millennium Hall, Egerton 2.30pm
- 14th Charing History Society  
Parish Hall, Charing 7.30pm
- 17th Throwley Lanes Clearance  
Start from Throwley Green 11.30am
- 18th Eastling Parish Council Meeting  
Eastling Village Hall 6.30pm
- 20th Copy deadline for April Good News  
[goodnewsmagazine@me.com](mailto:goodnewsmagazine@me.com)
- 22nd Eat, Pray, Walk  
Doddington Church 1.30pm
- 27th Youth Group  
Stalisfield Village Hall 7-8.30pm
- 28th Arts Society lecture, Faversham  
Alexander Centre 11am
- 31st Clocks Go Forward



## APRIL

- 3rd Otterden & Stalisfield W.I.  
Stalisfield Village Hall 7.30pm
- 10th Stalisfield Youth Group  
Stalisfield Village Hall 7 - 8.30pm
- 11th Eastling Annual Meetings  
Eastling Village Hall 7.30pm
- 26th Quiz Night  
Stalisfield Village Hall 7pm
- 28th Bluebell Walk  
Doddington Church 2pm

## Mothering Sunday 10th March Special Services at 10.30am in Stalisfield and Teynham churches



### Thanking two kinds of Mother on 10th March

Mothering Sunday, the fourth Sunday in Lent, is the day for honouring our Mother Church, and has been celebrated since the Middle Ages.

Mothers' Day is an annual day to honour our mothers, and it began in America in May 1907. In the US, Canada, Australia and Mexico, Mothers' Day is still held in May.

In Britain, Mothers' Day is held on Mothering Sunday, so the two days are often merged in people's minds.

If you ask Google for ideas of how to be nice to your church on that day, you won't find much. But if you want to be kind to your mother that day, you will be spoilt for choice. High on all the lists are suggestions for taking her to lunch, giving flowers, a card, or paying for her to have a day doing something she loves. Whatever you choose to do, probably the best thing to give your mother must surely be yourself: some time and some love. Remind her of the funny and touching stories of your childhood and thank her for all the things that she did for you. Give her some good company and show her some gratitude. Let her know that you love her and appreciate her.

Remember that the Commandment 'Honour thy father and mother' was the first commandment that came with a promise of blessing on you, if you obey.

# March Message



March 31<sup>st</sup> 2024 will be a memorable day. Not just because I will become a state pensioner then (exactly 14 days after Steve Lillicrap!). Not just because it is a fifth Sunday of the month and we have a United Benefice Service on these Sundays. Not just because the Bishop of Dover is coming to Teynham Church for our 10.30 am Benefice Holy Communion Service. But, chiefly because it is Easter Day. The resurrection of Jesus on Easter Day was God's response to Jesus' self-sacrifice of himself on the cross. It not only gave new life to Jesus but promised new life to all who trust in Him. It opens up the way to immediate eternal life, which is a right relationship with God starting in this life and blossoming in eternity. Death is defeated. Jesus is alive, today, so we can have a relationship with Him through God's Holy Spirit. The Bible says that He is at God's right hand, praying for people, waiting to return to take

those who know and love Him to be with God forever.

You may have noticed that I started off talking about Jesus, not the Bishop of Dover. I am sure that she would agree with this. The last time she was in our Benefice was when she licensed me as Associate Priest at Newnham Church on 28<sup>th</sup> September.

The Rt Revd Rose Hudson-Wilkin, was born in Jamaica and, at age 14, felt called to serve God. She was ordained to the priesthood in 1994. After serving as an Assistant Curate and working in a diocesan role in the Midlands, she served as a priest for sixteen and a half years in Hackney, North East London. In 2007, she was appointed as a Chaplain to Her Majesty the Queen and in 2010, she became the first female Chaplain to the Speaker of the House of Commons. In that role she led prayers in the House of

Commons and provided pastoral care to MPs and staff. In November 2014, Bishop Rose became the Priest in Charge of the city Church, St Mary-at-Hill near Monument.

In 2019, Bishop Rose was given the Order of Distinction by the Jamaican Government (Rank of Commander) and was awarded an MBE in the Queen's New Year's Honours list. In November 2019, she was consecrated and installed in Canterbury Cathedral as the Bishop of Dover with the responsibility for the diocese of Canterbury for the Archbishop of Canterbury. She has a vibrant faith and is a very good speaker, so I would encourage anyone and everyone to come and worship the risen Jesus with Bishop Rose at Teynham Church. It is a large church, so there will be space for many people to come, and you will receive a warm welcome.

Rev'd Jim Pye

## *March Prayer Pointers*



**Mondays - Give thanks** for sights and sounds of our countryside in Spring and pray for people living in countries destroyed by war.

**Tuesdays - Pray** for all those working for aid agencies and give thanks for lives saved and lives changed .

**Wednesdays - Give thanks** for our Mothers and those who care for us and pray for our Lord's blessing upon them.

**Thursdays - Pray** for our clergy as they lead us through Lent towards the Easter celebrations.

**Fridays - Give thanks** for new advances in medicine and pray for those working in research for new drugs or medical techniques.

**Saturdays - Pray** for all in need of healing, physically and mentally.

**Sundays - Praise the Lord** for the Resurrection as the foundation of our faith.

## Easter Lilies in Eastling Church



31st March 2024

Contributions to the display of beautiful Easter Lilies in memory of loved ones will be gratefully received by Bay Lees.

Your contribution and the names of your loved ones can be placed in the secure postbox outside The Manor or contact Bay on 07922 484648.



## The Plough Inn, Stalisfield;

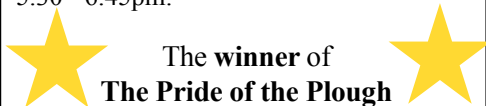
a family run, independent, award winning pub & restaurant offering an extensive menu of both 2 AA rosette dishes and your traditional pub classics.

**Tuesday** night is our curry night, authentically prepared & presented served with naan, rice & a pint for £16, don't forget to book!

Mental health is so important we are offering a free tea/coffee on Wellbeing **Wednesdays** between 4.30pm & 6pm & 10% off drinks to encourage everyone out to chat with friends or make new ones.

Tournament **Thursday** from 6pm we'll have the board games etc out for anyone who'd like a game.

Don't forget that we offer a take away Fish & Chip service Wednesdays & Thursday 5.30 - 6.45pm.



The **winner of The Pride of the Plough** was Ray & Elaine from Stalisfield, they received 2 nominations which boast their voluntary work in the village community, musically, artistically and 'unofficially' a taxi service for those who need to attend hospital and doctors appointments.

**Keep up to date** by following us on Facebook, Instagram or X (twitter) Stalisfield Road, Faversham, Kent, ME13 0HY Tel: 01795 890 256 Email: [info@theploughinnstalisfield.co.uk](mailto:info@theploughinnstalisfield.co.uk)

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## 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 or join for a year's lectures.

Our next lecture is on the **Thursday 28 March 2024** at 11.00am on "**William Hearst art collection and mansions**" by Mark Meredith.

Coffee and biscuits will be served from 10.20am.

Mark Meredith will depict the lifestyle of William Randolph Hearst. Hearst was an American newspaper publisher who had a net worth of £200 million. Hearst together with his architect Julia Morgan built/designed Hearst Castle with 165 rooms on his vast estate in San Simeon, California. He lived here from 1920s until 1947.

The lecture will describe the stunning collection of ancient and modern artworks that Hearst collected throughout his lifetime plus visit his numerous mansions.

### Biography:

Mark is a writer, the founder of HouseHistree.com, and lectures regularly at societies, festivals and clubs in both Europe and the United States. After leaving Stowe School, Mark worked for twenty years as a plumber in London. However, his real passion has always been for history, particularly the history behind houses through the characters that conjoin to create them. His special interest lies with the great American houses and their relationships with those in Europe, both socially and architecturally.

For further information contact us at [info@theartsocietyfaversham.org.uk](mailto:info@theartsocietyfaversham.org.uk).

## THE ARTS SOCIETY EGERTON

*The Arts Society brings people together through a shared curiosity for the arts*



We meet at Egerton Millennium Hall on the second Wednesday of each month at 2.30pm (doors open from 2.00). Our next lecture will be:

**Wednesday 13th March at 2.30pm**

### THE MEN WHO MADE MENSWEAR.

The story of men's tailoring over the past 200 years, told through the lives of the men who commissioned, created and wore it.

Our lecturer is **Russell Nash**, actor, writer, puppeteer and theatre maker for 15 years. He is a London Blue Badge Guide and regularly guides the major galleries and museums in London such as the National Gallery, Tate Modern and Tate Britain, and the British Museum.

Visitors are always very welcome at £6, refunded if you join. For further information please contact Christine Willis, our Membership Secretary via [cmwillis75@gmail.com](mailto:cmwillis75@gmail.com) or 01233 756377.

See also our website [www.theartsocietyegerton.org.uk](http://www.theartsocietyegerton.org.uk)

Image provided by lecturer

**SUNDAY 17TH MARCH**

# THROWLEY PARISH LANES CLEAN UP

**PLEASE COME ALONG TO THE VILLAGE GREEN AT 11.30**

**MORE INFORMATION WILL FOLLOW SHORTLY**



## Stalisfield Village Hall Quiz

Friday 26th April, 7 - 10pm

**Devious, devilish, delightful.**

Book your place or tables of up to 8.

£7.50 per person.

Booking required with Kate on 07810

721125

[katejamiesoncornhill@gmail.com](mailto:katejamiesoncornhill@gmail.com)

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See our availability here: <https://www.eastlingvillagehall.co.uk/calendar>

## CHARING & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY



### CHARING VILLAGE WALK

We are offering a free walk-about for villagers living in Charing and surrounding area to learn about this historic place.

**Saturday 9th March 2024**

Meet at the Church in Market Place, 11.45am for 12noon

**Please call Kerstin on 01233 714284**

(email: [walkabouts@charinghistory.co.uk](mailto:walkabouts@charinghistory.co.uk)) to register your interest!

[www.charinghistory.co.uk](http://www.charinghistory.co.uk)



### What Happened to Childhood? A History.

Speaker: *Hugh Cunningham*

**Thursday 14th March 2024**

**Parish Hall, Station Road, Charing**

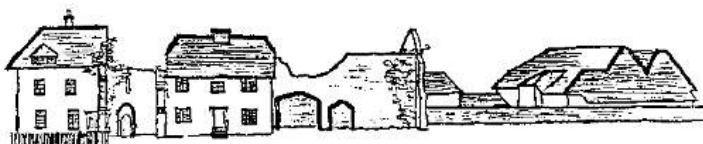
*Since the late twentieth century there has been a negative narrative of what is happening to children. People born in the middle years of the century commonly compare their own childhoods favourably to their grandchildren's. The negative narrative was preceded by a positive narrative in the 1830s in which childhood was getting better in the early years of the Industrial Revolution.*

**Time: 7.30pm doors open**

**Talk starts promptly at 8pm**

**CHARING & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY**

[www.charinghistory.co.uk](http://www.charinghistory.co.uk)



## Otterden with Stalisfield W.I.

Our Chairman organised another outing at the end of January. Several of us went along to the Marlowe Theatre in Canterbury to see Peter Pan Goes Wrong, which was very much a slapstick comedy that must have quite a following as there was a full house. The timing of the choreography was to be much admired.

The first Meeting of 2024 at the beginning of February saw the return of Leigh Miles taking us through a Bollywood dance evening, which certainly warmed up those who could take part. It was lovely to see some guests joining us too. After the compulsory tea and beverages, we discussed the Resolutions submitted this year to decide which our Group would like to support.

A very different evening is planned for March when Yvonne Fernano is returning for an evening of Meditation. Yvonne is a Neuro Linguistic Programming Life Coach who can help to make positive changes in the way our mind and body work together.

If you would like to join us, particularly if you are new to the area, please contact either Helen Brooks on 07477580727 or Ellie Cameron on 07775649337. We are a very informal group that meet the first Wednesday of each month at Stalisfield Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.



### Bluebell Walk

Sunday 28th April

2pm from Doddington Church.

Approximate 2.5 mile stroll

lead by

Richard Moyse, local flora & fauna expert.

£5 payable on the day

Tea & cake to finish



### Eat, Pray, Walk

Meeting at Doddington church

car park at 1.30pm

22nd March, 26th April,

24th May, 28th June

Further information from Lissie

Bayford [lissie1710@gmail.com](mailto:lissie1710@gmail.com)

or 07790 287878



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### Stalisfield Village Hall

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[linedancecrazyxx@aol.com](mailto:linedancecrazyxx@aol.com)

## Services in our Benefice

### 3rd March Lent 3

1 Corinthians 1. 18 - 25, John 2. 13 - 22

Eastling 10.30am Holy Communion  
with Baptism

Norton 10.30am Morning Worship

Lynsted 4pm Cornerstone

### 10th March Mothering Sunday

2 Corinthians 1. 3 - 7, Luke 2. 33 - 35

Stalisfield 10.30am Mothering Sunday  
Service

Throwley 10.30am Morning Prayer

Newnham 10.30am Holy Communion

Lynsted 10.30am All Together Now

### 17th March Lent 5

Hebrews 5. 5 - 10, John 12. 20 - 33

Eastling 10.30am Morning Worship

Norton 10.30am Holy Communion

Lynsted 4pm Cornerstone

### 24th March Palm Sunday

Psalms 118. 1-2, 19-24, Mark 11. 1 - 11

Throwley 10.30am Holy Communion

Newnham 10.30am Morning Worship

Teynham 4pm Evensong

### 28th March Maundy Thursday

Norton 7.30pm Last Supper and Service

### 29th March Good Friday

Doddington 10.30am Stations of the Cross

Eastling 2pm Last Hour of the Cross

### 31st March Easter Day

Acts 10. 34 - 43. John 20. 1 - 18

Wychling 6.00am Sunrise Service

Teynham 10.30am Benefice Communion  
with Bishop Rose

### 7th April Easter 2

Acts 4. 32 - 35, John 20.19 - 31

Eastling 10.30am Holy Communion

Norton 10.30am Morning Worship

Lynsted 6pm Cornerstone

## High Downs Parish

Rector Vacant

Benefice Administrator Joyce Warren

01795 521831 [joyce.warren@kc-hd.org.uk](mailto:joyce.warren@kc-hd.org.uk)

Associate Priest Reverend James (Jim) Pye

01795 890726 [jim.pye@kc-hd.org.uk](mailto:jim.pye@kc-hd.org.uk)

Reader Caroline Ramshaw (07799 538809)

Anna Chaplain Caroline Ramshaw

[AnnaChaplaincy@outlook.com](mailto:AnnaChaplaincy@outlook.com)

Reader Pim Baxter (07710 116269)

### Church Contacts

Eastling Andrew Baxter, Warden (01795 890598)

Administrator E mail: [stmaryeastling@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryeastling@gmail.com)

Stalisfield with Otterden

Jenny King, Warden (01795 890366)

Administrator Shirley Pritchard

Email: [Stmarystalisfield@gmail.com](mailto:Stmarystalisfield@gmail.com)

Throwley Tim Jones, Warden

Email: [timothydavid.jones@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:timothydavid.jones@yahoo.co.uk)

High Downs Parish Safeguarding Officer

Mark Harlow (07979 864000)

E mail: [mark.harlow@kc-hd.org.uk](mailto:mark.harlow@kc-hd.org.uk)

\*\*\*\*\*

### CONTACT THE GOOD NEWS EDITOR

Hilary Harlow 01795 890338

If you would like to submit articles, or to advertise in the April 2024 magazine, send your submission by 20th March to: [goodnewsmagazine@me.com](mailto:goodnewsmagazine@me.com).

Past and current issues of the Good News may be viewed on [www.goodnews.rf.gd](http://www.goodnews.rf.gd)

### Anna Chaplaincy

Please contact our Anna Chaplain, Caroline Ramshaw, if you know of someone who is isolated, alone, or unable to attend church.

An Anna Chaplain can offer a listening ear and company.

Communion can be brought to you in your own home.



Contact your local Anna Chaplain on:

[annachaplaincy@outlook.com](mailto:annachaplaincy@outlook.com)

07799538809

### Online Daily Worship Continues

As well as the services in our churches, the daily 9am Morning Prayer will continue via Benefice Facebook Page

<https://kc-hd.org.uk> .

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

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

## Updates from Citizens Advice Swale

We can all face problems that seem complicated or intimidating. At Citizens Advice Swale, we believe no one should have to face these problems without good quality, independent advice. We're here to give people the knowledge and the confidence they need to find their way forward – whoever they are, and whatever their problem.

citizens  
advice

### General advice

We offer advice on a wide range of issues including debt, benefits, housing, employment, consumer, relationships, discrimination, tax, healthcare and education.

### Specialist welfare benefits advice

Our benefit specialists have a detailed understanding of current legislation, rules and regulations, national and local practice and processes.

We can:

- Check what benefits you're entitled to and help you to apply.
- Challenge and appeal benefit award decisions and benefit overpayments.
- Help you with all types of benefit decisions including Employment and Support Allowance (ESA), Personal Independence Payments (PIP), Universal Credit, Jobseekers Allowance (JSA), housing benefit and tax credits.

### Specialist debt advice

We also offer specialist debt advice. Each year, our specialist debt team deals with over 5,000 debt issues and helps manage total indebtedness of over £3.8 million. We understand there are many reasons people get into debt. The advice we provide is non-judgmental and is focused on exploring ways to manage your finances.

#### How can we help you?

#### General Advice:

- Drop in at Swale House, Sittingbourne (Mondays, 10am-12pm), Sheppey Gateway (Tuesdays, 10am-12pm) or 43 Stone Street, Faversham (Wednesdays and Fridays, 10am-12pm).
- Call Adviceline on Freephone 0808 278 7979.
- Send an online request at <https://citizensadviceSwale.uk/email-general-advice/> (Monday-Wednesday).

#### Debt:

- Request a call back at <https://citizensadviceSwale.uk/debt/>

We're an independent charity and we rely on donations and grants to make a difference to people in our community.



## Waiting for Spring

By Audrey Keen

A path is marked between the  
yews

And so I tread upon it,

Where growing Arum, mercury  
and scuttling leaves

Move to bring life

Beside me on the wood floor.

But when I step onto the grass in  
the park,

Rooks call and blue tits squeak,

And so in truth I have music.

Yet as the trees wait for leaf

And the clouds wait for sun,

I wait also, for time to move my  
melancholy,

And when the grey aura lifts

My mood will respond

And my mind will open to receive  
the spring.

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APRIL 2024

**Pilgrims Hospices**

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Paul Hardingham considers that first Easter morning...

## Looking for the Resurrection

An old couple are driving down the motorway when the wife gets a call from their daughter. 'Mum, there's a car driving the wrong way down the motorway!' The wife warns her husband that there is a lunatic on the motorway. Her husband, clutching the wheel in terror, replies: 'One lunatic? There are dozens of them, all headed straight for us!'

What we see is determined by our perspective on life.

In the Nicene Creed we say: 'We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.' In the gospel accounts of the Resurrection, there is a lot of looking and seeing. Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Salome went early to the tomb. They saw the stone rolled aside and inside the tomb a young man dressed in white said to them:

They saw the stone rolled aside and inside the tomb a young man dressed in white said to them:



*'Don't be alarmed. You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him...He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see Him'* (Mark 16: 6,7).

Like the women we would probably have been left 'trembling and bewildered' by what we saw that morning. Had the body been taken? Was the young man an angel or deceiver? Was Jesus raised to life again, or was this an elaborate hoax?

Easter gives us a choice. We can approach life looking for disappointment, fear and despair. Or we can look for resurrection and



find not just an empty tomb, but encounter the living Christ. He continues to meet us in our daily lives bringing new hope, forgiveness of sin, healing and wholeness and the assurance of His presence through the darkest of times. God invites us to see our lives differently and look for Christ's resurrection life at work in our lives and the people around us.

### Moses and climate change

When Moses went up the mountain one day to meet with God, the Lord said he had both good news and bad news for him.

Moses asked, "What's the good news?"

God replies, "Moses, I shall visit plagues upon the Egyptians. I shall cause their rivers to run red with blood. I shall cause frogs to infest their houses, and lice to infest their bodies. I shall cause flies to swarm upon them. Their cattle shall die; boils will infect both man and beast. I shall cause hail to destroy their crops; and locusts shall devour anything green that is left in their land. Darkness will cover their land for three days and nights. I shall then lead you through the wilderness as a pillar of cloud by day, and pillar of fire by night. I shall split the waters of the sea. I shall feed you with Manna that forms upon the ground until the children of Israel reach the Land flowing with milk and honey."

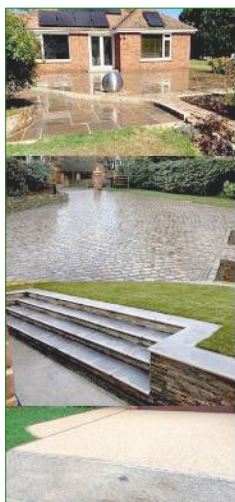


wilderness as a pillar of cloud by day, and pillar of fire by night. I shall split the waters of the sea. I shall feed you with Manna that forms upon the ground until the children of Israel reach the Land flowing with milk and honey."

Moses replied,

"That's GREAT, Lord! What could possibly be the bad news?"

"You, Moses, shall write the Environmental Impact Statement."



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## Spring Plays in Doddington Village Hall

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### Hidden Histories of the Valley

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## Crossword for Easter 2024

Bible references are taken from The New International Version

### Across

- 1 Made from the fruit of the vine, symbol of the blood of Christ (4)
- 3 'You are to set an ambush behind the city. Don't go very far from it. All of you be on — — ' (Joshua 8:4) (3,5)
- 8 Seep (4)
- 9 Celebrated by Jesus on the night of his betrayal (Luke 22:15) (8)
- 11 One of the supposed sites of Christ's burial place in Jerusalem (6,4)
- 14 'A city on a hill — be hidden' (Matthew 5:14) (6)
- 15 He inherited Elijah's mantle (2 Kings 2:12–13) (6)
- 17 Where Jesus prayed 'Not as I will, but as you will' (Matthew 26:36, 39) (10)
- 20 'Only in his home town and in his — — is a prophet without honour' (Matthew 13:57) (3,5)
- 21 Sail (anag.) (4) 22 How Jesus was punished before his crucifixion (Matthew 27:26) (8)
- 23 Eye sore (4)

### Down

- 1 Can't grow (anag.) (5,3)
- 2 A servant girl to Peter, 'You also were with that — , Jesus' (Mark 14:67) (8)
- 4 Well-being (Proverbs 3:8) (6)
- 5 Pentecostal denomination, — of God (10)
- 6 One of the 'obvious' acts of the sinful nature (Galatians 5:19, 21) (4)
- 7 'I preached that they should repent and — to God' (Acts 26:20) (4)
- 10 ' — — , the world will not see me any more, but you will see me' (John 14:19) (6,4)
- 12 He betrayed Jesus: Judas — (Luke 6:16) (8)
- 13 Jesus to Peter: ' — — of my sheep' (John 21:16) (4,4)
- 16 The centurion said, 'Surely this man was — — of God' (Mark 15:39) (3,3)
- 18 Baked bread (Mark 8:14) (4)
- 19 'Blessing and honour, glory and power, be — Him' (Handel's Messiah) (4)

ACROSS: 1, Wine. 3, The alert. 8, Ooze. 9, Passover. 11, Garden Tomb. 14, Elisha. 17, Gethsemane. 20, Own house. 21, Lisa. 22, Flogging. 23, Style.  
 DOWN: 1, Wrong act. 2, Nazarene. 4, Health. 5, Assemblies. 6, Envy. 7, Turn. 10, Before long. 12, Iscariot. 13, Take care. 16, The Son. 18, Loaf. 19, Unto.

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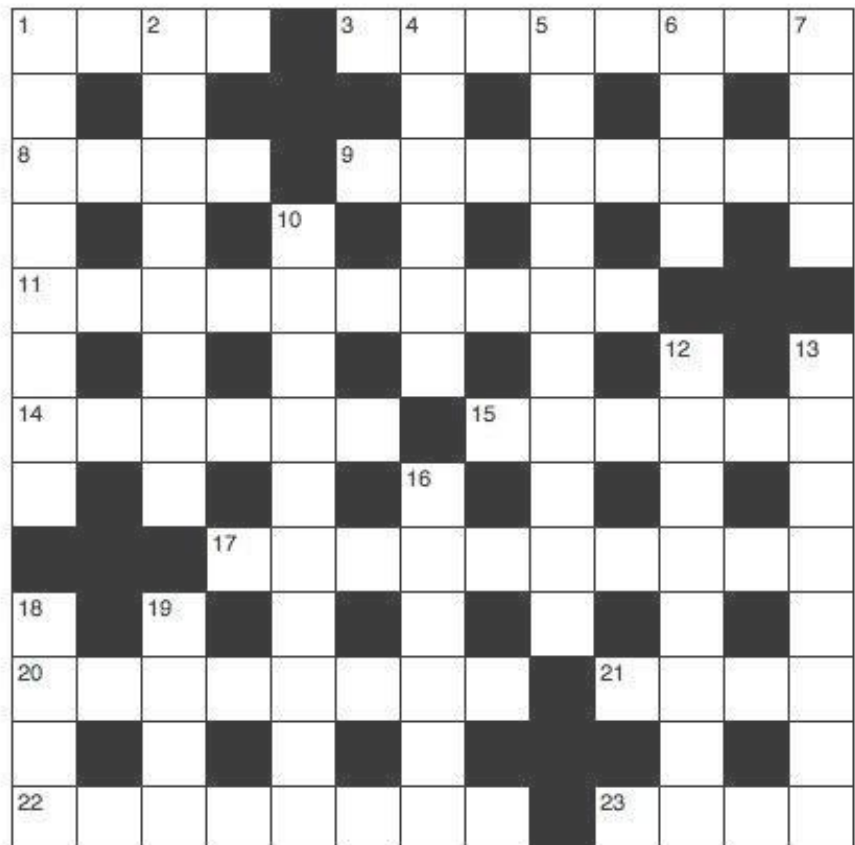
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The Revd Dr Jo White considers church gates this month...

## Reflecting Faith: Lychgates

On the moors near to where I used to live in West Yorkshire, there were a couple of large stones with crosses marked on them. Many people thought that they were boundary or marker stones, and in so far as they marked the way towards the oldest church in that area they were. To be more exact, they were on the route towards the oldest churchyard.

In ages past bodies were carried by hand, sometimes over long distances, and there were restrictions placed on where they could be laid to allow the bearers to rest. These two stones were 'resting' stones.

When a body arrived at the church for burial, it would again be put down while the administrative formalities were carried out, and again the bearers could rest. So, a resting stone was placed at the edge or start of the consecrated land around the church.

The priest conducting the funeral would meet the cortege here, not originally out of respect, but rather to receive the required legal certificate for burial before he allowed them to enter the church grounds.



The Lychgate at Stalisfield

Because of typical English weather - rain and wind - it was usually sheltered, and benches were built for the bearers. There would also be a cross within the construction to signify the start of holy land. This is what today we call the 'lych-gate'; lych coming from the anglo-saxon word *lich* or *lic*, related to the modern German word *leiche*, all meaning corpse.

Few old lychgates remain today, as many were destroyed or damaged after the Reformation, and most of those that survived were constructed of timber and have since decayed. In the eighteenth century, when the use for the resting stones and thus lychgates declined, many were removed and replaced with gates, often retaining the shelter as it continues to be a meeting place for the priest to receive funeral parties.



The Lychgate at Throwley

This month

Try and visit a lychgate this month and actually spend a few moments under its shelter. Have a think about what burdens you want to lay down. From what do you need to be sheltered?

## Eastling Neighbourhood Watch



Village Warden 07794 010 394 or 01795 890848

Police 101 Emergency 999

When the weather improves the criminals will be out and about so please make sure your sit-on and manual lawn mowers are all safely locked away after use as well as all other gardening equipment.

Generally the area has been quiet, mainly there has not been the encroachment into the fields for whatever reasons because of the wet conditions so, hopefully when it is drier it will stay the same.

Drink/drug driving in this day and age is not acceptable as too many lives are lost and injuries sustained because of selfishness by a few so please always keep this in mind.

Take Care  
Alan

### Eastling Parish Council Meeting

Monday 18th March at 6.30pm in the Committee Room, Eastling Village Hall  
Members of the public are welcome to attend

## TRUSTEES OF EASTLING VILLAGE HALL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday 11th April 2024 at 7.30pm

The Annual General Meeting of the Trustees of Eastling Village Hall will be held on Thursday 11th April 2023 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. The Village Hall meeting will be followed at 8pm by the Annual Parish meeting of Eastling Parish Council. All Eastling residents are invited to attend both meetings.

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**Throwley** sited in the old Telephone Box outside the Old Post Office, ME13 0HY

# Eastling School News

Term 4 marks the halfway point of this academic year. Our children have been very busy with their learning but also with exciting visitors, trips and themed learning weeks. Last term we had Children's Mental Health Week which took place in February. The focus was 'My Voice Matters' and there were a range of activities throughout the week including the school ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant) delivering workshops across the school and the week ending with the children and staff taking part in Dress to Express Yourself Day.

Miss Johnstone took a team of year 2/3 children to the Active 60 event at Herne Bay High School on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January. The event focused on encouraging children that ordinarily would not choose to take part in sporting activities. The activities included speed stacking and obstacle races. On Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February Miss Johnson took children from key stages 1 and 2 to a cross country competition held at Herne Bay High School. The children all completed the course with William doing particularly well achieving 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the boys Year 3/4 race. The school football team had their first win of the season on 8th February winning 5-3 against Luddenham Primary.

On Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January the school choir travelled by coach to the O2 to be part of the Young Voices 2024 concerts. The children had a truly memorable experience singing with 8000 children.

Acorn class were learning about transport and how this has had changed over time. They travelled from Eastling to Faversham on the local bus on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February. Oak class have been learning about the Tudors and on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February they visited Leeds Castle where they took part in workshops and explored the castle and grounds.

The Friends of Eastling School (FOES) organised a Quiz Night, which was a lovely evening that brought together family and friends from the community. The FOES also ended the term with a Pyjama Disco.

We only have a couple of spaces available in the school for an immediate start in Reception, Year 1 and Year 4. Any prospective parents are welcome to call the office on 01795 890252 for further details. More information can be found on our school website.




## Stalisfield Youth Group

Future dates:  
13th & 27th March in  
Stalisfield Village Hall, 7 - 8.30pm  
Free to all 11-18yr olds.

We have table tennis, craft, games, summer outdoor sports equipment, music, Wii and Xbox gaming, tuck shop and free cake!

Any questions please contact  
Catherine on 07929 928 046





### Mouse Makes

*Matthew 21:1-11*

1. Which city did Jesus ride into?
2. What did he ride on?
3. What did the crowd shout?
4. What did clothes did they put down?
7. What did they cut down to spread on the road?

*Matthew 26:17-29*

15. What feast did Jesus celebrate?
12. Who did he celebrate it with?
11. What did Jesus break to eat?



*Matthew 26:36-75*

6. What did Jesus go to do at Gethsemane?
18. Who denied Jesus?





*Matthew 26:14-16*

- 8d. Who betrayed Jesus?
10. How many silver pieces was he paid?

"I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live even though they die."  
*John 1:25*





READ the Bible passages to find the answers to the crossword clues

*Matthew 27:27-61*

17. What was Jesus' crown made of?
9. What was Jesus crucified on?
14. Who's tomb was Jesus buried in?
13. What did they wrap Jesus' body in?
16. What did they roll in front of the tomb?



*Matthew 28:1-10*

5. Who descended from heaven?
19. What had happened to Jesus?
- 8a. Mary was full of fear and ...?

