

S Club

on Eastling School Field
Sunday 18th May, 10am.
All primary school aged
children welcome



YOUNGSTYLE

10am in Eastling Church,
on Sunday 25th May.
All ages welcome.
Half an hour of fun, music
and teaching, followed by
refreshments.

FRIDAY GROUPS

for school years 7+
Eastling Angels
and
Boys' Cell Group
Groups run 7-8pm
on alternating Fridays -
please contact Joy Faulkner for
more information, or if you can
help, on 07999 807 519

Y - Generation

Club for Year 7+
Eastling Village Hall
Sunday Nights 6.30-8pm
Contact Joy on
07999 807 519



Craft Club

9th and 23rd
6.15 - 7.15pm
Champion Hall, Painter's Forstal.
50p a session.
Contact number 532756.

Calling all Wannabe Thespians
aged 10 to 18
**FREE DRAMA WORKSHOPS
FOLLOWED BY FAME!**
Doddington Drama Club welcome you
to 10 drama sessions leading to a role
in the Evening of Light Entertainment
on 12th July.
The sessions will run every Friday from
6 to 7.30pm at Doddington Village Hall
starting on Friday 2nd May
We are delighted to have Emily Rosen
to run these for us. She is a practicing
actress, BA Hons and qualified teacher,
who runs Daydream Creative Work-
shops.
The first session on 2nd May will be a
taster/ drama experience session.
So what are you waiting for?
Ring Nicky Lord asap 886473

NEW
Fun & Funky
FREESTYLE DANCE IDTA
Eastling Village Hall
THURSDAYS

4.15pm Juniors 5.15pm Seniors
School Years 3-6 School Years 7-11
£4.00

There will be no classes on
Thursday 1st May due to the local
elections

contact Leigh on 890 149
leigh.fitness@btinternet.com
more info visit
www.milesdanceandfitness.com

Mouse Makes
The Lost Sheep
People would come to listen
to Jesus, one day he
told this parable:
"Suppose one of you has 100
sheep and loses one of
them- what does he do?
He leaves the other 99 in
the pasture and goes looking
for the one who is
lost until he finds it. When
he finds it he is so
happy he calls his friends
and neighbours together and
says to them "I am so happy.
I found my lost sheep. Let us
celebrate!"
**Why did the man go looking
for one lost sheep?**
**What happened when he
found it?**
Jesus said "In the same way,
I tell you, there will be more
joy in heaven over one
sinner who repents than
over 99 respectable people
who do not need to repent."
Read the story in Luke 15:1-7
Jesus said:
"I am the good shepherd ...
I know my sheep and I am
willing to die for them"
John 10:14
Make shepherd and sheep finger
puppets to help you tell the story.
Glue onto stiff card, cut out and colour in.



Eastling Bluebell Walk

**May Bank Holiday:
Monday, May 5th**

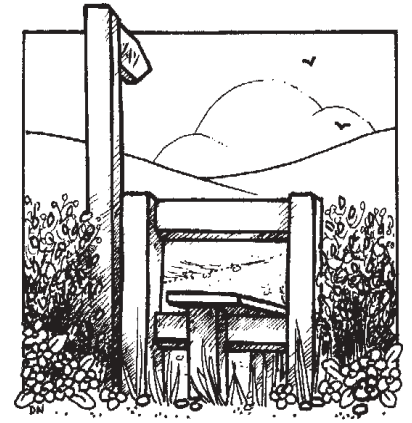
Walkers will have a
choice of three different marked
walks over approximately three, five,
and eleven miles, through the lovely
local woods of Eastling, Otterden and
Stalisfield, some routes are likely to
be quite different to last year. Maps
and nature notes will be provided.
Cost £2.50 per adult, £1 per child,
or £7 per family.
Starting point is at Eastling Village
Hall Car Park, from 11-2pm.

Eastling, Otterden and Stalisfield are
situated in an 'area of outstanding
natural beauty' on the North Downs
and the walks will go through areas
not usually open to the public.

Don't miss this chance to have
a family day out, or an exciting
route for walkers and nature
lovers. There will be orchids,
other spring flowers and bird
song and, hopefully, still some
bluebells.

You can book ahead to avoid
the queue at the start if you wish.
Further enquiries to Peter or
Angela Cheeseman on 890629.

The **Bluebell Bistro** will be
open in the Village Hall between
10.30am and 4pm. Hot or cold
lunches and light refreshments,
plus homemade puddings and
cakes.



Also **Book and DVD stall**.
If you have any books or
DVDs you no longer want,
please bring them to Pop-In,
9-11am in Eastling village hall
on Wednesdays, or call Hilary
on 890338
Proceeds from Walk, Bistro
and book stall go towards
refurbishment work in
Eastling Church.

Good News

Parish Magazine
May 2008



Christian Aid Week 2008 11th - 17th May

You can help by filling the familiar red
envelope with your gift to help many
people of different cultures and faiths
across the world.

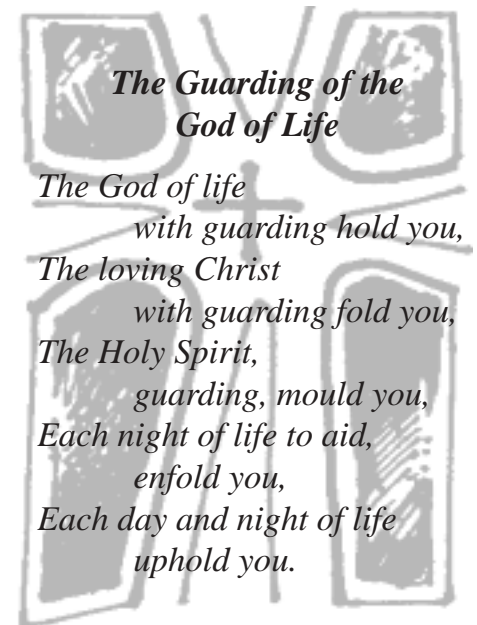
Thank you

We will not be having a house-to-house
collection but, if you live in Eastling,
Stalisfield or Otterden, you should have
a gift envelope inside this magazine.
Please make a donation and either send
it direct to Christian Aid, or drop it into
church at service times; Wednesday

Pop-In; Pinks Farm, Eastling
(through the letterbox please, not the
box on the wall); or The Rectory,
Eastling; on or before 18th May.
Find out how the money is spent on
christianaid.org.uk. A short history of
the charity is inside this magazine.

QUIZ NIGHT

On Saturday 10th May
7pm for 7.30pm in Eastling Village Hall
Tickets £5 adults £2.50 children
Bring your own refreshments
GREAT RAFFLE PRIZES
Including
LUNCH FOR TWO at READS RESTAURANT
Proceeds to Age Concern Faversham
Phone 890865 or 890855 to book



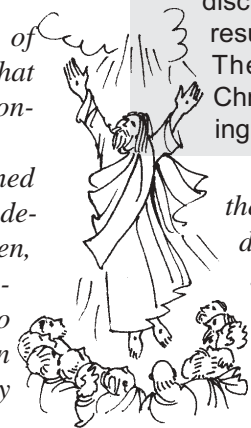
So..... what happened after Easter?



Making sense of the Ascension

Acts 1:9 After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them.... "This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way..."

If we find the ascension story of Jesus to be mysterious, think of what it must have been like for the on-looking disciples! Jesus, who had returned to them after death, was suddenly departing again - this time to heaven, a realm of mystery. But just because heaven was mysterious to them, as it is to us, does not mean it is less real than this earthly realm where we now live.



The risen Lord has a real, resurrection body, a fact which he fully impressed upon his disciples during the 40 days of his post-resurrection, pre-ascension appearances. The most obvious difference between his risen body and the mortal is seen in his now being free from the limitations of mortal existence, such as the limits of space and time. Jesus simply appeared in his risen body in

1st May is Ascension Day - Forty Days with the Risen Christ

May continues the season of Eastertide, and 40 days after Easter comes Ascension Day.

It may seem crazy to call it Eastertide when Easter is clearly over! - but these are the forty days during which the Risen Christ appeared again and again to his disciples, following his death and resurrection.

The Gospels give us little of Christ's teachings and deeds during those forty days. Jesus was

seen by numerous disciples: on the road to Emmaus, by the Sea of Galilee, in houses, etc. He strengthened and encouraged his disciples, and at last opened their eyes to all that the Scriptures had promised about the Messiah. Jesus also told them that as the Father had sent him, he was now going to send them - to all corners of the earth, as his witnesses.

More details of Christ's appearances can be found in Matthew 28; Mark 16; Luke 24; and John 20.

the closed Upper Room with the disciples. And at his ascension, Jesus left the realm of earth and entered another realm, where he now dwells in his resurrection body.

The heavenly realm is what the Bible calls "the kingdom of the heavens," and is more real than this earthly creation, which is temporal and in the process of being redeemed (Romans 8:19-21). We shouldn't think of heaven as "some place out there," which can be seen with mortal eyes, lest we be as pagan in our thinking as the Russian cosmonaut, who declared after returning from space that

he proved there is no God because he didn't see him!

But we are to live in the awareness that we belong to another realm, another kingdom not of this world, as Jesus explained to Pilate (John 18:36).

The risen Lord Jesus is alive somewhere, and even present with us through the Holy Spirit. Our calling and commission is to pray, live and serve to the end that the kingdom of God will come to earth (Matthew 6:9) and that the kingdom of the world will become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign for ever and ever" (Revelation 11:15).

family and future: 'Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father."

So you are no longer slaves, but God's children; and since you are his children, he has made you also heirs' (Galatians 4: 6,7). This means that we can now address God as father ie abba, which is Aramaic for 'daddy', the very word used by Jesus himself. We can struggle with

Pentecost was the old Jewish festival of Firstfruits, which took place at the beginning of the wheat harvest. It was exactly 50 days after the Passover, the time of Jesus' crucifixion.

A feast day to celebrate the country's wheat harvest does not sound exactly world-changing, but that year, it became one of the most important days in world history. For Pentecost was the day that Jesus sent the Holy Spirit - the day the Church was born.

Jesus had told his apostles that something big was going to happen, and that they were to wait for it in Jerusalem, instead of returning to Galilee. Jesus had plans for his apostles - but he knew they could not do the work themselves - they would need his help.

And so the apostles and disciples

We celebrate Pentecost on 11th May

waited in Jerusalem, praying together for several days. And then on that fateful morning there was suddenly the sound as of a mighty rushing wind. Tongues of flame flickered on their heads, and they began to praise God in many tongues - to the astonishment of those who heard them. The curse of Babel (Genesis 11: 1- 9) was dramatically reversed that morning.



Peter gave the first ever sermon of the Christian church that morning: proclaiming Jesus was the Messiah. His boldness in the face of possible death was in marked contrast to the man who had denied Jesus 50 days before. And 3,000 people responded, were converted, and were baptised. How's that for fast church growth!

That morning the Holy Spirit came to indwell the apostles and disciples of Jesus: and the Church was born. The Christians were suddenly full of life and power, utterly different from their former fearful selves. The change in them was permanent.

Of course Pentecost was not the first time the Holy Spirit had acted in this world. All through the Old Testament there are accounts of how God's Spirit guided people and strengthened them. But now, because of Christ's death and resurrection, he could INDWELL them. From now on, every Christian could have the confidence that Jesus was with them constantly, through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

..... and Trinity Sunday on 18th May



Trying to explain the doctrine of the Trinity has kept many a theologian busy down the centuries. One helpful picture is to imagine the sun shining in the sky. The sun itself - way out there in space - unapproachable in its fiery majesty - is the Father. The light that flows from it, and which illuminates all our lives, is the Son. The heat that flows from it, and which gives us all the energy to move and grow, is the Holy Spirit. You cannot have the sun without its light and its heat. The light and the heat are from the sun, are of the sun, and yet are also distinct in themselves, with their own roles to play.

The Bible makes clear that God is One God, who is disclosed in three persons: Father, Son (Jesus Christ) and Holy Spirit.

For example:

Deuteronomy 6:4 'Hear O Israel, The Lord our God, the Lord is one.'
Isaiah 45:22 'Turn to me and be saved... for I am God, and there is no other'

Genesis 1:1-2 'In the beginning God created.... And the Spirit of God was hovering...'

Judges 14:6 etc 'The Spirit of the Lord came upon him in power...'

John 1:1-3 'In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.'

Luke 24:49 actually manages to squeeze the whole Trinity into one sentence. Jesus tells his disciples: 'I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power (the Holy Spirit) from on high.'

In other words, the sun eternally gives off light and heat, and whenever we stand in its brilliant light, we find that the warmth soon follow

What Does the Holy Spirit Do?

Like a powerful searchlight, the aim of the Holy Spirit is to highlight Christ and enable us to live the Christian life. Therefore, it is important to ask the crucial question: what does the Holy Spirit do in our lives?

The Spirit brings us new birth into the family of God, for without him we cannot develop our relationship with God. Every person who has committed their life to Christ possesses the Holy Spirit, as

Paul says, 'if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ.' (Romans 8:9).

Primarily the Spirit assures us of God's love and acceptance in our lives, despite our fears, doubts or failures: 'God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us' (Romans 5:5). Paul expresses this in terms of our adoption as sons and our new status,



TRUSTEES OF EASTLING VILLAGE HALL Annual General Meeting held on 7th April 2008

The Chairman reported on the following:

This year the Trustees are pleased to report a continuing strong financial position with regular bookings of club meetings and many special events.

The marquee, which was purchased to enhance party and wedding facilities, was hired out on five occasions. The Trustees are pleased to note growing use of the hall for a range of clubs and activities. The youth group have greatly added to use with a holiday club, youth club and craft workshops.

Emma Walker bravely took over the role of bookings trustee at the end of 2006 and completed her year at Christmas 2007. At present the Chair is overseeing bookings but is looking for an enthusiastic volunteer.

In the summer of 2007 the Trustees were successful, on the advice of Caroline Pinchbeck, in obtaining a grant of £7,000 from the Kent Community Foundation. These funds were to establish a Rural Leaders' programme for the young people of Eastling and the surrounding area. The grant included sums to purchase catering equipment which is used by the Leaders and is available for other village events or clubs. It is hoped the Leaders' programme will continue into 2008. Sponsorship is currently being sought.

The bottle bank has added to the hall recycling efforts and whilst it does not raise income for the hall, unlike the very successful paper bins, it continues to provide a valuable village facility.

Improvements to the hall during 2007 include a new oven, a storage shelf for the marquee and the purchase of white china for dining events. The latter was purchased with the kind support of the Parish Council.

A new mini bus is to be purchased by Eastling Primary school which may be used by arrangement for village hall activities. Several Eastling residents have obtained certificates of competence to drive the bus.

The village barbeque was held on August Bank Holiday Monday 2007 with a great village turn out. It is anticipated that a spring supper will be held on 29th March 2008 and a further barbeque on the August Bank Holiday Monday.

Other issues of note include the 3.30pm bus which reversed into our porch, the repairs necessary to the marquee after another windy day and the mice that almost destroyed a 60th birthday party by timing the eating of the kitchen sink waste pipes to the party's huge wash-up session, leading to many wet feet!

The Trustees' thanks were extended to partners and friends of the Trustees who have assisted with maintenance, gardening work and the spring clean up. The Chair afforded her thanks to the Trustees for their continued enthusiasm and cheerful hard work.

The Honorary Treasurer, Alan Willson, presented the annual accounts for the year ended 31st December 2007 and highlighted the following points:

Net receipts over payments totalled £1,087 and cash funds held at 31st December totalled £14,371 of which £5,000 was set aside as a maintenance fund.

Income from lettings and weddings continued to increase.

Waste paper recycling income was at a high level at just over £1,000 for the year.

Because of increased usage of the Hall, cleaning costs had also risen.

Repairs and maintenance had increased, principally due to costs of repairs to the marquee.

Remedial works on the garden had levelled and upgraded the lawn.

Comments from the floor related to the excellent standard of cleanliness of the Hall, for which the Trustees were congratulated; maintenance requirements on the Hall, which the Trustees constantly monitored, and rates of interest being received on deposits on which point the Treasurer confirmed that investigations were being made into alternative accounts giving greater interest rates.

Trustee appointments were noted as follows:

Eastling Snooker Club	Mr. Roy Piles,
Parish Council	Mrs. Helen Higgs,
Short Mat Bowls Club	Mr. Roy Piles,
Neighbourhood Watch	Mr. Alan Willson,
Parochial Church Council	Mrs. Liz Bell,
Gardening Club	Mr. Michael Thomas,
Village representative	Dr. Julia Bailey,
Village representative	Mr. Tim Philpott,
Co-opted Trustee	Mrs. Emma Walker
Hon. Secretary	Mrs. Sue Parry
Hon. Treasurer	Mr. Alan Willson

THE CHERRIES SHORT MAT BOWLS CLUB: Mr. Piles reported on another successful year enjoyed by the Club remaining in the First Division. Three members had represented Swale in the Kent League and won all four games entered.

HEARING LOOP: In response to a question, it was confirmed that the hearing loop in the Hall operated in conjunction with use of the microphone and public address system.

Partners and Community Together

Partners and Community Together (PACT) - is all about people coming together to identify local concerns. It gives you the opportunity to influence the way your neighbourhood is managed.

Who is involved?

Everyone is welcome to PACT meetings. Representatives from Kent Police, Swale Borough Council, Swale Housing and local Parish councils will be available along with a range of community groups.

On Thursday 20th March, at the Eastling Village Hall, local residents and members of the PACT panel got together to discuss issues that affect quality of life in and across the East Downs Ward. The meeting focused on concerns that were raised from representatives from each of the villages.

What did we do?

Groups of residents and partners discussed the issues affecting the

local community and raised their concerns, issues and priorities. The meeting was open to all members of the community from the young to the elderly members to discuss in an workshop/informal manner.

What did we find out?

Many issues were raised which are important to the community across East Downs Ward. We decided to prioritise the three most important issues to act on:

- Speeding and state of rural roads
- Fly tipping in rural areas
- Nuisance youths – Painter's Forstal, Newnham/Dodddington

To find out more about PACT meetings and to get involved in future events contact PCSO Graham Maxlow on telephone number 07972004408 or 01795 433004.

Next PACT meeting:

Thursday 12th June 2008 at 7.30pm Eastling Village Hall

Prince Caspian comes to Britain

The much-loved children's story Prince Caspian, written by CS Lewis, has been made into a film by Walt Disney, and is coming your way next month.



The nationwide release of The Chronicles of Narnia - Prince Caspian will be on 27 June.

Douglas Gresham, stepson of CS Lewis, says of the story: "One of the things I love about 'Prince Caspian' is that in its illustration of a return to truth, justice and faith after a millennium of corruption, the story shows us that no matter how far we have strayed, there is always a way back, all we have to do is find it and recognise it."

'Prince Caspian' will take film-goers to new and undiscovered parts of Narnia and promises to be bigger and more spectacular than ever before. The film also sees the introduction of a whole series of new characters including Prince Caspian, who will go on to star in the next 3 chronicles.

"Prince Caspian" follows the Pevensie siblings as they are magically transported back from England to the world of Narnia, where a thrilling, perilous new adventure and an even greater test of their faith and courage awaits them. One year after the incredible

events of 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe', the Kings and Queens of Narnia find themselves back in that faraway wondrous realm, only to discover that more than 1300 years have passed in Narnian time. During their absence, the Golden Age of Narnia has become extinct, Narnia has been conquered by the Telmarines and is now under the control of the evil King Miraz, who rules the land without mercy.

The four children meet Prince Caspian: Narnia's rightful heir to the throne, who has been forced into hiding as his uncle Miraz plots to kill him in order to place his own newborn son on the throne. With the help of the kindly dwarf, a courageous talking mouse named Reepicheep, a badger named Trufflehunter and a Black Dwarf, Nikabrik, the Narnians, led by the mighty knights Peter and Caspian, embark on a remarkable journey to find Aslan, rescue Narnia from Miraz's tyrannical hold, and restore magic and glory to the land.

Eastling Neighbourhood Watch.

Contact numbers:
Parish/Village Warden Telephone 07794010394
Crimestoppers 0800 555 111 (24 hours, free and anonymous)
Sittingbourne police station 01795 477055
Emergencies or crime in progress always use 999

There have been reports of persons in our village and other localities, looking into gardens and drives etc., obviously on the lookout for garden equipment and mowers, together with any other machinery that may be about, so please be vigilant and, wherever possible, keep all your goods locked up and report any suspicious persons.

There was a spate of graffiti being sprayed on walls in Eastling and other villages over one weekend in April, the police are investigating and it has now been removed by Swale Council. Anybody with any information on this please give me a call.

A note for your diaries, there will be a PACT meeting on the 12th June at 7.30 p.m. to be held at Eastling Village Hall, where the Police, Swale Council and Kent County Council will be on hand to discuss informally any problems that we, in the East Downs Ward, would like to discuss with them.

Have a good month
Alan

Eastling Spring Supper.

On Saturday 29th March, eighty seven Eastlingers gathered in the village hall to enjoy a Spring Supper. The food was wonderful, wine flowed and, with a hard fought raffle, £300 was raised for hall funds. A big thank you for such great village support and a special thank you to Annie Mowll and Lorraine Hanney, our excellent caterers, who charged us friendship rates to ensure a good profit for the village. Julia Bailey (Chair of the Hall Trustees)

EASTLING VILLAGE HALL

To book ring Julia Bailey on 01795 890401



A beautiful hall in a lovely village location for your wedding, club, sports or meetings.

The large hall has pretty grounds, car parking, meeting rooms and fully equipped facilities for professional or self catering occasion.

Marnie Tennant After - School Education

*English * French GCSE
*Literacy * Numeracy * 11+prep
Tel: 01795 532363
email: marnie.tennant@hotmail.co.uk
Enhanced CRB check

GARDEN CLEARANCE Most jobs considered.

Mowing, strimming, Trees topped/removed
Fences and gates erected.
For a free quote call
Nick Swatland **01795 886814**
mobile 07713 766141.

Home Tutor

Fully Qualified KS2/3 Teacher
(10 years experience)

- ✓ Mathematics
- ✓ Verbal Reasoning
- ✓ Non-Verbal Reasoning
- ✓ Kent Test preparation.
- ✓ KS2 SATs preparation.
- ✓ ICT

Looking for help with your child's learning?
Free Assessment

Telephone **07834-537694**
E-mail: kevinm505@btopenworld.com


The Carpenters Arms
Eastling Kent ME13 0AZ
01795 890 234

Chef with Michelin Star experience
cooking affordable rustic country food
in historic 14thC Public House.
Home made bread, home smoked produce,
chips cooked in dripping ...

Faversham Trophies

SPORTS TROPHIES
ENGRAVING
GLASSWARE
GLASS ENGRAVING

122 St Mary's Road, Faversham, Kent. ME13 8EE

Tel (01795) 539528



Secret Gardens

Every year the Faversham Society arranges for many of the gardens in the town to be open to the public, most of which are not normally open for public viewing.

Secret Gardens in 2008 will be open from 1pm to 5pm on Saturday and Sunday, 7th/8th June, and Saturday and Sunday, 26th /27th July.

The scheme enables participants to visit more than 20 gardens in Faversham, all within easy walking distance of one another in or near the town centre.

Admission to all the properties is by programme, which includes information on each garden and a location map. The programmes, which cost £7.50 + postage, are available from the 1st May 2008 from:- Fleur de Lis Heritage Centre, 13 Preston Street, Faversham 01795 534542 .

Cathedral Open Gardens Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th June

The private gardens in the Precincts of Canterbury Cathedral will be open again this year to raise money for charity. Lunches and other refreshments will be available.

Piano and Singing Tuition Rebekah Luisse B Mus. (Hons)

Qualified teacher with over 17 years experience.
All levels from children to adults are warmly welcomed.
Call 0752 8211 849 Or email:
rluisse@gmail.com

THE PAINTER'S FORSTAL COFFEE CLUB

Come and join "The Painter's Forstal Coffee Club" at Whitehill Chapel on Wednesday 14th May at 11.00am to 12.30pm.

Freshly brewed FAIRTRADE coffee/tea will be available, as well as home-made cakes!

We are shortly to become a Fairtrade church and I hope to have 'Traidcraft' products for sale in the future.

The Chapel needs major repairs to the outside of the building which will cost in the region of £5,000. I hope that by holding a coffee morning once a month we will be able to raise a little towards the over all cost.

Please come and support your village amenity!

Many thanks
Alison Tracey



TRAIDCRAFT
Fighting poverty through trade



Does the church have a role in the life of the village today?

We are having a
Way Forward Day

at Whitehill Chapel on Sunday 8th June at 11:00am. The day will start with a short time of worship followed by a meeting where all are welcome to voice their opinions.

We will then break for a light 'bring and share' lunch.

Contact Debbie-
Debbie.hodgson@methodist.org.uk,
01795 532461

Thursday 5th June:
Chapel Anniversary at 7:30pm-
St John's, Whitstable Choir.



TIME FOR A NEW HUT?

A WOODEN building that once belonged to the Royal Flying Corps squadron based at Throwley during WWI, Stalisfield Memorial Hall – affectionately known as 'The Hut' – has served the village well over a period of almost 90 years. During that time it has been modernised, extended, re-roofed, patched up, painted and decorated as the need arose. In more recent times, a store-room was added, a path laid and new windows provided.

For some, and I certainly count myself among that number, there was a lingering desire to preserve the old Hut in its familiar and much-loved form, but there is no escaping the fact that the building continues to show its age and no matter how much cosmetic work is attempted, the Hut is showing ever increasing signs of having passed its use-by date.

Following a consultation with a structural surveyor, the Village Hall Committee has been persuaded that the way forward now is to replace it with a new wooden structure, very similar in size and structure to the

existing building, but sympathetic to the setting, sound and, furnished with modern plumbing, wiring, etc., equipped to last residents of Stalisfield through to the end of the 21st century and beyond.

The Annual Parish Meeting, in The Hut at 7.30pm on Friday 30th May, would be an ideal opportunity to for the committee to explain these plans further and to hear the views of parishioners. If we and generations to come are to continue to enjoy the use of a village hall, then we need your enthusiastic support. And if we are indeed to have a new Hut, then we will need your help to raise funds and, in time, will have to look to local people to lend a hand – skilled or otherwise.

Please come along to the meeting and let us know what YOU think.

Ian McKay, Chairman: Village Hall Committee, Stalisfield.

Sunday 11th May 2008
6:30pm

Churches Together in Faversham

Pentecost Praise

at The Meeting Place, home of Faversham Baptist Church
St Mary's Rd
incorporating
The Commissioning of
Collectors for
Christian Aid Week



Sunday Freestyle

11th May
10.30am
Eastling Church



*Come and Join the Party
RSVP!*

Worship, music, drama
and prayer.

Breakfast from 10am
All welcome



CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

11th - 17th May 2008

Here is a short summary of how Christian Aid has evolved over 60 years.

For more than 60 years, Christian Aid has fought poverty, strengthened the poor, and turned hope into action.

1940s

In the aftermath of World War II, British and Irish church leaders met, determined to do everything possible to help European refugees who had lost everything.

The name they gave themselves was Christian Reconstruction in Europe. Their purpose was not to evangelise, but to alleviate suffering for ordinary people, no matter what their faith.

Christian Reconstruction in Europe became a department of the British Council of Churches, and was eventually renamed the Department of Interchurch Aid and Refugee Service.

1950s

We began to look beyond Europe and expanded our remit to support development work in newly independent nations in Africa and Asia, and respond to emergencies worldwide. We were involved in the creation of Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) – an organisation dedicated to sending skilled volunteers to work in the developing world – and providing grants for Palestinian, Chinese and Korean refugees.

1960s

As world food shortages increased, Christian Aid began to look more deeply into the causes of poverty – not just at dealing with its symptoms. We began campaigning in earnest when we challenged the British government on its aid and trade policies in 1969.

1970s

Severe famines in Pakistan, Sudan and

Ethiopia in the 1970s prompted a huge rise in public support for aid. However, it was becoming obvious that emergency relief wasn't enough. What starving people needed was a genuine solution, not hand-outs.

We saw that it was not just an act of nature that made people poor, but political and economic decisions. Alongside traditional relief and development, we started to consider how to work for people's rights.

1980s

The 1980s saw a huge change in the way aid agencies operated. Large-scale fundraising events like Live Aid brought the troubles of the world to the public's attention as never before. More people were giving, and for the first time government funding was made available to Christian Aid.

1990s

In the 1990s Christian Aid became one of the first aid agencies to highlight 'unsexy' and complex global economic issues.

As we neared the new millennium, we were able to announce that world leaders had promised to deliver \$100 billion in debt relief after our intense campaigning as part of the Jubilee 2000 coalition.

2000s

The 21st century has brought new challenges to Christian Aid. The so-called war on terror, climate change and the increasing number of natural disasters, and the fact that almost half the world's population live on less than US\$2 a day, mean our work is needed more than ever. We now work with around 600 overseas partners across 47 countries. We are putting into practice our aim of turning hope into action.

From www.christianaid.org.uk

Patchwork and Quilting Project

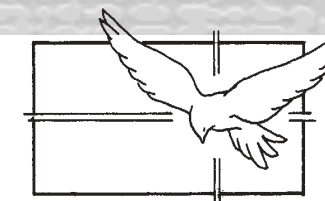
In Stalisfield Church, we need to replace the rather tired curtains either side of the altar, with new panels and hope to start this project in the autumn.

Whether you are a churchgoer or not, we need volunteers to be part of this project, even those who have not done patchwork or quilting before but would like to learn. If we have enough beginners interested, we will arrange a teaching workshop in the summer.

Please phone the number below if you would like to help make the idea a reality.

Patricia Thompson
01795 890376

Prayer Pointers May 2008



<u>Sundays</u>	The work of Christian Aid.
<u>Mondays</u>	For faith to receive the Holy Spirit.
<u>Tuesdays</u>	The people of Zimbabwe.
<u>Wednesdays</u>	Preparations for the Lambeth Conference.
<u>Thursdays</u>	New projects in our villages.
<u>Fridays</u>	Praise for the new life of Spring.
<u>Saturdays</u>	Farmers, Gardeners and all who care for the land.



FRITH FARM HOUSE
OTTERDEN, FAVERSHAM. ME13 0DD
01795 890701

enquiries@frithfarmhouse.co.uk
*Bed & Breakfast,
Self-catering Cottages*
★★★★★ *BTA Award*
Indoor Heated Swimming Pool
www.frithfarmhouse.co.uk

Services in our Churches

4th May 7th Sunday of Easter

Acts 1. 6 - 14, John 17. 1 - 11

Eastling	8 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP)
Eastling	10 a.m.	Holy Communion (CW)
Otterden	3 p.m.	Evening Prayer (BCP)

11th May Pentecost

Acts 2. 1 - 21, John 20. 19 - 23 or John 7. 37 - 39

Eastling	8 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP)
Stalisfield	10 a.m.	Holy Communion (CW)
Eastling	10.30 a.m.	Freestyle

18th May Trinity Sunday

2 Corinthians 13. 11 - end, Matthew 28. 16 - 20

Eastling	8 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP)
Eastling	10 a.m.	S Club on School Field
Stalisfield	10 a.m.	Morning Prayer (BCP)

25th May Trinity 1

1 Corinthians 3. 10 - 11, 16 - end, Matthew 5. 38 - end

Eastling	8 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP)
Eastling	10 a.m.	Youngstyle
Stalisfield	10 a.m.	Holy Communion (CW)

1st June Trinity 2

Romans 1. 16 - 17; 3. 22b - 28 [29 - 31], Matthew 7. 21 - end

Eastling	8 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP)
Eastling	10 a.m.	Holy Communion (CW)
Otterden	3 p.m.	Evening Prayer (BCP)

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

Mid Week Fellowship

Monday Prayer Group 2pm Seven Acres, Newnham Lane.
Tuesday Study Group 8pm The Barn, Pinks Farm
Thursday Prayer Group 10.15am Pinks Farm.
New members welcome at any midweek group.

Services at Whitehill Chapel

4th May	10 a.m. Brunch
	10.40 a.m. Family People's Choice
6th May	2.15 p.m. Holy Communion
25th May	11 a.m. People's Choice

For Baptisms, Weddings or Funerals at Whitehill,
please contact Revd. D. Hodgson on 01795 532461

Ministry in our Parishes

Priest in Charge
Reverend Caroline Pinchbeck (01795 890487)
The Rectory, Newnham Lane, Eastling
Faversham ME13 0AS
<caroline.pinchbeck575@btinternet.com>

Curate
Reverend Angela Cheeseman (01795 892124)
New House Farm, Eastling. ME13 0BN

Reader
Mr. Norman Fowler (01795 890412)
4 Meesons Close, Eastling.

Reader
Mr. Hugh Perks (01795 890603)
Weald Cottage, Eastling.

Church officers elected at this year's annual church meetings

Eastling

Churchwardens	Steve Youle (01795 890368)	Audrey Smith (01795 890469)
Secretary	Jimmy West (01795 890273)	
Treasurer	Liz Bell	
Deanery Synod Rep	Mark Harlow	
PCC Members	Nigel Bikerdike, Hilary Harlow, Caroline Ramshaw.	

Stalisfield with Otterden

Churchwardens	Pat Thompson (01795 890376)	Martin Beckenham (01795 892079)
Secretary	Jan Matthews (01233 713832)	
Treasurer	Steve Ruston	
Deanery Synod Rep	Sue Gaind	
PCC Members	Jane Baker, Shirley Pritchard	

Contacting the Church's staff

For general enquiries and for specific enquiries about Weddings or Baptisms please phone 01795 890487. If you would like the parish staff to conduct a funeral, either in our churches or elsewhere, please ask the funeral director to make the necessary arrangements.

From the Registers

Baptisms

Charles Alfred Robin OCHS
19th April 2008 at Eastling

Rex BAKER
20th April 2008 at Otterden

Funeral

Lilian PARTER
10th April 2008 Funeral at Eastling
followed by Cremation at Charing



My Stable Diary

My working Life with Granville Wheler.

by Audrey Keen

When I was a child, I would often come up to Otterden Place with my father and he would show me the wonderful dream world that was the walled garden. This was, of course, back in the 1950's, when red roses were growing on the wall and pink roses trailed over the ornamental archways. I remember that the lawns were immaculately cut, like velvet, edged to perfection, with red salvia and white alyssum bunched in rows beside red and pink geraniums and hydrangeas in the garden border. Together with many flowers and plants I could not identify. Many years later, when I helped the gardener in the walled garden we did our best to keep the weeds down, but the special magic encapsulated in the 1950's and before, had slipped away and it could never be the same again. This was mainly because the formal garden arrangement was of that era, with several gardeners to care for it all the time.

Granville Wheler's paternal grandmother was a brilliant water colour artist and her paintings depict the quiet peaceful times of Otterden at the turn of the 19th century,

'Soon I shall see the waking land
And smell the flowers from where I stand,
And watch with interest the changing face
Of nature in this lovely place.' A. Keen



A musical centenary

This year is the centenary of the birth of the French composer Olivier Messiaen (1908-1992), who wrote some of the most profoundly spiritual music ever composed. From 1930 until his death he was the organist at the church of La Sainte Trinité in Paris, where he was renowned for his wonderful improvisations. In his orchestral and instrumental compositions he made frequent use of bird song, and he invented a remarkable new instrument, the ondes martenot.

It was Messiaen's devout Christian faith that drove his compositional output through the years. There was no greater test of his faith than his time as a prisoner in 1941 in Stalag VIIIA, Gorlitz, Silesia, where he composed his Quartet for the End of Time. This inspiring work was written for the few instruments which were available in the camp, and at the first performance there the cellist had only three strings and the piano keys stuck.

This April I heard a superb performance of the quartet by a

French ensemble in the atmospheric crypt of Canterbury Cathedral. There was a large audience, and at the end a complete hush as the sound of the solo violin gradually died away. In Messiaen's own words, the last movement of the quartet, entitled 'Praise to the Immortality of Jesus', represents 'the ascent of man to his god, of the child of god to his father'.

I've been an admirer of Messiaen's music for years, and remember being at his 60th birthday concert in the Royal Festival Hall, when the great man himself was present. It's not always easy listening but, if you don't know it and would like a new musical experience, give it a try!

Graham Galer



BUNCE TRUST BURSARY FOR GREENBELT FESTIVAL

One free family ticket available, which covers entry to all events and use of campsite, worth about £250, for 22-25 August 2008 at Cheltenham Racecourse to join this huge famous annual Christian Festival.

Music, Visual Arts, Youth and All-age programming, Worship (including liturgies from L'Arche and Taize, and a Rock Eucharist) Talks and Young Children's events. Lots to choose from. This year's theme is 'Rising Sun' and you create your own takes on the theme. They say 'bring your imaginations to Greenbelt and we'll see what we can cook up together'.

Please apply to the Bunce Trust as soon as possible (closing date 15th May) to apply for one of the sought-after thousands of tickets. The Bunce will pay for ONE family to go, so long as the family includes at least one child (or teenager under17) and you come from one of the Bunce parishes. If you need to hire camping gear or pay for other accommodation, you'll need to pay the extra yourself, and of course, for your travel and food etc.

The lucky family will need to wait to be informed by the Bunce that they have secured the Bursary, then book their own ticket (either on line or by phone or ordinary mail). When you have the receipt, the Bunce will reimburse you the agreed amount. All we ask is that you have a great time and tell us about it when you get back!

For more information go to www.greenbelt.org.uk or phone Angela Stoddart 01795 890210. Then, to apply, contact Jane Baker, Chair Bunce Ecclesiastical Charity, Hurst Farm, Otterden 01622 858332



Springtime Evening Prayer at Otterden Chapel

The congregation braved the April shower (of snow!), to hold the first Evening Prayer of the 2008 season. Thank you to organist Graham Galer, who sent in these pictures. Hopefully the next Evening Prayer, on 4th May, will see better weather.



Thank You

A very well supported Wit & Wisdom held in the village hall on Saturday 12th April, raised £249.00 towards the Eastling Senior Citizens' fund.

Thank you to everyone who came along, donated raffle prizes or purchased tickets. We hope to do another quiz in early November - book now to be sure of a table!

Norman



PUDDLEDUCKS Parent & Toddler Group at Champion Hall, Painters Forstal The Parent & Toddler group meets on Tuesday and Friday from 9.45am to 11.25am. Do bring your toddler along to play with the equipment and perhaps take part in some craft activities. Only £1.50 which includes a snack and drink as well as free tea or coffee for parents! There will be no group from Friday 23rd May to Friday 30th May inclusive. Please phone me for details: Jill Seaman, 01795 890519, mobile 07803 141426

Eastling Short Mat Bowls

The April Good News, was very good news for the Eastling short mat bowls club, we have finished in third place in the first division winning at home to Hornhill Oaks, 9 points to 5. Then in our last game, away to Bordon who finished in top spot, we gained four points, so well done to our team. Mick and Roy did not have much luck at Strood in the finals of the pairs, but in the finals of the Kent Triples competition Mick, Chris and Roy really excelled themselves, going all the way to the semi finals, but losing out to a England Triples side; and they keep saying, 'Who is this Eastling side?' We now go on to the Swale competitions, which more or less end this season. The following is the web site for the Swale Short Mat League www.swalecvs.co.uk/bowls.htm So if any Parish magazine reader wishes to go on line, they will see how all the clubs in the Swale area are performing. The Club meets on Friday afternoons from 2.30pm to 4.30pm, and again in the evenings from 7.30pm to 9.30pm - these sessions are open to all players. New members are welcome, so if you want to see what it is all about, and want to try your hand at short mat bowls, come along and have a go. If you need any more details, please contact Roy 537162.

Painter's Forstal with Ospringe W.I.

Tuesday 20th May
2.15pm in the Champion Hall
RESOLUTIONS MEETING

Otterden W.I.

The topic for March's meeting was reflexology. Is it myth, magic or medical reality? After an interesting talk and demonstration, most members were at least convinced of the beneficial effects of a relaxing foot massage.

Don't forget that as a follow up to the April meeting on FORAGING FOR FOOD, we will be walking around Otterden on Sunday 4th May, to put our newly acquired skills into practice. This could lead to some interesting and unusual Sunday lunches! Meeting at 10:30 am at Otterden Place, cars may be parked in the field and children are welcome.

The meeting on Thursday May 29th at 7.30 pm is entitled TRAVELS WITH MY CHICKEN. We are reliably informed that this should be an amusing and entertaining talk.

New members are always welcome to our friendly, fun meetings at the Harrow Hotel, Warren Street. For more information contact Emma on 01795 892138.

Art Exhibition
24th May - 14th June
Canterbury Cathedral
'Houses of God' is the title of an exhibition and sale of paintings, bringing together 150 paintings depicting religious buildings across the world.
It is open in the Chapter House, 10am - 4pm each day, free of charge, but usual precinct charges apply.

Beautiful car for sale!

Volkswagen Polo 1.2, metallic silver, 3 years old, perfect condition with just 25,000 miles on the clock. One lady owner has kept this excellent motor in immaculate condition. Fully taxed until Feb 2009. £4,695 o.n.o. Otterden area - Please call Emma or Jane Baker 01622 858332 or 07779 096339

Eastling Gardeners' Club

Evening Visit on 15th May to
Victoriana Nursery Gardens,
Challock

Please telephone Clive Jolliffe on
890160 for further details

Stalisfield
Annual Parish Meeting
7.30pm on
Friday 30th May
in the Village Hall

Eastling Parish Council

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at 6.30pm on Wednesday 21st May, in the village hall. This will be the Annual General Meeting.



CHILDREN'S HORSE SHOW AND FUN DOG SHOW

Saturday 28th June Otterden Estate Date for your diary, Otterden Women's institute are holding an under 16 Horse/Pony show. There will be showing, jumping classes and gymkhana. There will also be a fun dog show open to all.

There will, of course, be delicious food on offer from the ladies of the Otterden W.I.

Please do come and support us.

For an entry form and if anyone would like to help please contact
Kate Connell
on 07789 013570.



BLACK LABRADOR PUPPIES FOR SALE

Loving country homes wanted for beautiful pedigree black male Labradors, from good Kentish working dogs. Available towards the end of May, wormed and with first vaccinations carried out by Lady Dane. Six weeks PetPlan insurance included. For further information and price, call 07710 116269 or 07739 403727

Afternoon Club

May activities:

8th Board Games
22nd Bingo

Meetings are held in the
Champion Hall
and start at 2pm.

New members welcome.

Coffee Pop-In



Open to all, free of charge, on Wednesdays 9 - 11am in Eastling Village Hall. Lots of toys suitable for toddlers play.

Homemade Cakes for sale on 7th May, Uniform sale on 14th, Cake and Book Sale on 4th June. Pop-In will be open on 28th May (School holiday).

FITNESS & DANCE CLASSES @ Eastling Village Hall

WEDNESDAYS

7.00pm BUMS, LEGS & TUMS

helps to tone & shape these specific areas.

8.00pm FIT DANCE

Works on aerobic fitness using fun DANCE moves. Helps to control body fat. See website for current dance style.

THURSDAYS

9.15am FITNESS PILATES

A blend of Pilates & dance exercises. Helps to develop muscle tone, balance, flexibility & relaxation.

Due to local elections, which take place on the 1st May, your Fitness Pilates Class will take place on

FRIDAY 2nd May at 9.15am

NEW

Fun & Funky

FREESTYLE DANCE IDTA

4.15pm Juniors School Years 3-6
5.15pm Seniors School Years 7-11

There will be no classes on Thursday 1st May due to the local elections

Classes £4.00 each or £7.00 for a double class on Wednesdays. For more info contact Leigh on 890 149 leigh.fitness@btinternet.com latest info visit www.milesdanceandfitness.com

FRIENDS OF EASTLING SCHOOL

What 'eggciting' models were made from Easter Egg packaging at the end of last term. Thank you to Chris and Gilly Freed for judging the competition and congratulations to all entrants and the winners. There will second hand Eastling School uniform available to purchase at very reasonable prices at the Pop-in on Wednesday 14th May, 9am - 11am in Eastling Village Hall, and a sale of books on Wednesday 4th June.

Our next event is the family **Swimming Pool Party** at Faversham Pool on Friday 13th June - 6.45pm to 8.30pm. More details to follow.

Future dates for your diary:

Summer Fete - Sunday 6th July - Eastling School

End of Term Social - Wednesday 23rd July - Eastling School

Rural Food Fair - Sunday 2nd November - Eastling School

Jill Seaman, FOES Publicity
Jill.b.s@hotmail.co.uk,
01795 890252

May



2008

2nd Pilates Fitness	9.15am	Eastling Village Hall
2nd Drama Workshop	6pm	Doddington Village Hall
4th WI Foraging Walk	10.30am	Otterden Place
5th Bluebell Walk	start 11am - 2pm	Eastling Village Hall
5th Bluebell Bistro	10.30am - 4pm	Eastling Village Hall
7th Cakes for sale at Pop-In	9 - 11am	Eastling Village Hall
8th Afternoon Club	2pm	Champion Hall
9th Craft Club	6.15pm	Champion Hall
10th Quiz Night	7.30pm	Eastling Village Hall
14th Uniform Sale at Pop-In	9-11am	Eastling Village Hall
14th Painter's Forstal Coffee Club	11am	Champion Hall
15th DEADLINE for June Good News		Pinks Farm, Eastling
15th Gardeners' visit to Victoriana Nursery Gardens, Challock		
18th Final day for Christian Aid envelope donations		
20th Painter's Forstal W.I.	2.15pm	Champion Hall
21st Parish Council AGM	6.30pm	Eastling Village Hall
22nd Afternoon Club	2pm	Champion Hall
27th Magazine Folding	2pm	Pinks Farm, Eastling
29th Otterden W.I.	7.30pm	Harrow Hotel
30th Annual Parish Meeting	7.30pm	Stalisfield Village Hall
JUNE 5th Chapel Anniversary	7.30pm	Whitehill Chapel
12th PACT Meeting	7.30pm	Eastling Village Hall
28th Horse and Dog Show		Otterden Estate
JULY 6th Summer Fete		Eastling School
NOVEMBER 2nd Rural Food Fair		Eastling School

Deadline for June Good News

If you would like to advertise in this magazine, submit articles, features or stories for publication, or would like any forthcoming events publicised, send your magazine contribution by the 15th May to Hilary Harlow, Pinks Farm, Eastling, Faversham ME13 0BA. Tel: 01795 890338. Where possible, please submit your entries by e-mail: h.f.harlow@btconnect.com

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