

What's On

WEEKLY EVENTS:

Tuesdays

Table Tennis 7 - 9pm Stalisfield Hall

Wednesdays (Alternate)

Eastling Walkers 10.30am Call 01795 890703

Thursdays

Zumba 6.30pm Stalisfield Hall

Fridays

Yoga 9.30am Eastling Hall

Short Mat Bowls 7.30pm Eastling Hall

May



2019

Good News Parish Magazine

High Downs Parish

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

ccgi.northdowns.plus.com/goodnews

Spring Fair

Monday 6th May, 11am - 4pm



Our Spring Fair features a superb range of quality plants and herbs, garden-related gifts, artwork, textiles, jewellery and a whole host of wonderful crafted delights as well as some delicious local food and drink

£3.00 per person
and free for children under 16.

www.belmont-house.org



Come and Enjoy

Afternoon Tea

in Stalisfield Village Hall at 2.30pm
on Saturday 18th May 2019

Hope to see you there!
contact Angela Lee on 01795
890143 or angelalee@vfast.co.uk

St. Mary's Church,
Eastling

FLOWER FESTIVAL

22nd & 23rd June

11am - 5pm

MIDSUMMER CONCERT

21st June, 7.30pm

More information
inside this magazine

Change of Church Service times

Please note that from
5th May 2019, all the
mid-morning services
in our three churches
will start at 10.30am

SATURDAY 1ST JUNE

THROWLEY FETE

1PM TO 4PM

**CREAM TEAS, STALLS
THROWLEY ARMS BAR
FAMILY FUN ACTIVITIES
DOG SHOW & MUCH MORE**

7PM TO 11.30PM

**BAR AND LIVE MUSIC:
UNDER THE WOOD**

1st Otterden & Stalisfield W.I. 7.30pm
Stalisfield Village Hall

6th Spring Fair 11am - 4pm
Belmont House & Gardens

10th Annual Parish Meeting 7.30pm
Stalisfield Village Hall

12th CaféStyle 10.30am
Eastling SCHOOL Hall

15th Eastling Parish Council 6.30pm
Eastling Village Hall

15th Deadline for June copy of Good News
goodnewsmagazine@me.com

18th Afternoon Tea 2.30pm
Stalisfield Village Hall

21st Painters Forstal with Selling W.I. 2pm
Eastling Village Hall

28th Publication of June Good News

JUNE

1st Throwley Village Fête 1 - 4pm
Bar & Live Music 7 - 11.30pm
Throwley Village Green

14th W.I. Summer Quiz 7.30pm
Stalisfield Village Hall

15th Garden Safari 2pm
start from Eastling Village Hall

21st Mid-summer Concert 7.30pm
Eastling Church

22nd Flower Festival 11am - 5pm
& 23rd Eastling Church

22nd Barn Dance
Tong Green Farm, Throwley

JULY

7th School Summer Fête 12 - 3pm
Eastling School Field

AUGUST

24th Stalisfield Village Fête 2pm
Stalisfield Village Green

IT'S TIME TO TALK ABOUT



Join the Big Conversation with Pilgrims Hospices

On 18th May, Pilgrims Hospices will be hosting The Big Conversation - a mini arts festival in Canterbury at The Ann Robertson Centre from 10am to 5pm.

Looking at some of the new ways Pilgrims is bringing people together to talk about what dying means to them, the festival includes local community groups, artists, health professionals and local businesses running a series of interactive workshops and talks with information stands designed to encourage conversation around death, dying and bereavement.

The day's schedule is available on pilgrimshospices.org and will form part of a wider national programme of events for **Dying Matters Week 2019** - a national campaign which aims to help people talk more openly about and make plans for the end of life.

Every year in May, **Dying Matters.org** hosts an Awareness Week to highlight the importance of talking about dying, death and bereavement on a national scale. This year the week runs from 13th – 19th May and the theme is

Are We Ready?

For the last couple of years, Dying Matters Awareness Week has challenged us all to answer a question: **What Can You Do?** How can we help ourselves, or families and our communities face up to death and bereavement?

Such questions are best faced with the help of others, which is why we're asking 'Are We Ready?' To face death and dying is a challenge greater than any one of us can face alone, and it is the responsibility of us all. We're in this life together, so our question is asking much more of us than you might think.

- *Are We Ready to help others get their affairs in order?*
- *Are We Ready to help people we know who are caring for someone who is dying?*
- *Are We Ready to support someone who is grieving?*
- *Or even something as simple as "Are We Ready to talk about it?"*



We can only know the answer if we start to have the conversation, and those conversations don't stop in our private lives – they have to form a part of the public debate as well. Are We Ready to volunteer at a local hospice? Are We Ready to support a bereavement charity? Are We Ready to do what we can in our communities to help people be ready?

During each Awareness Week we have "themes" for each weekday. The idea behind which is that these will generate more specific conversation and give people a chance to ask questions or share things that aren't often covered in as much depth. This year, we have chosen:

Monday - Funeral costs

Tuesday - Memorialisation

Wednesday - Grieving for a pet

Thursday - Support for those who are estranged from/have no family

Friday - Diversity and inclusion at end of life

Prayer Pointers ***May 2019***

Sundays - Lord Jesus Christ, as you prepared your disciples for their lives after your death, we pray for those currently preparing for their own death.

Mondays - Bless all who are considering how to pay for a funeral; their own in the future or for a loved one.

Tuesdays - Lord God, grant insight to those seeking ways to remember and honour their loved ones.

Wednesdays - Pray for all who grieve for a pet, especially those now living on their own.

Thursdays - Holy God, grant comfort to those who mourn and find they have lost their reason for living.

Fridays - Bless those working in our hospices and all who care for the dying.

Saturdays - Lord Jesus, we give thanks for your glorious resurrection, delivering us from fears of death and hell.

Dying Matters

Let's talk about it

Eastling Church Flower Rota

May

5th - Janet

12th & 19th - Fiona & Catherine

26th - Clarissa

2nd June - Dorothy

If you would like to join the flower arranging rota, or help with the **Flower Festival on 22nd & 23rd June**, please call Bay on 01795 892036.



30th May - Ascension Day: 40 Days with the Risen Christ

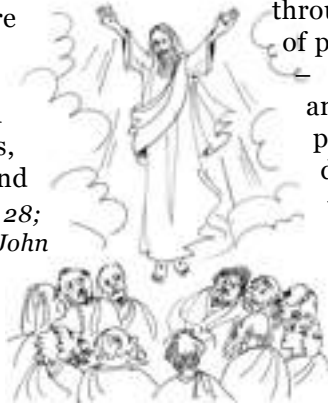
40 days after Easter comes Ascension Day. These are the 40 days during which the Risen Christ appeared again and again to His disciples, following His death and resurrection. (*Matthew 28; Mark 16; Luke 24; and John 20.*)

The Gospels give us little of Christ's teachings and deeds during those 40 days.

Jesus was seen by numerous of His 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.

Surely the most tender, moving 'farewell' in history took place on Ascension Day. Luke records the story with great poignancy: *'When Jesus had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, He lifted up His hands - and blessed them.'*

As Christmas began the story of Jesus' life on earth, so Ascension Day completes it, with His return to His Father in heaven. Jesus' last act on earth was to bless His disciples. He and they had a bond as close as



could be: they had just lived through three tumultuous years of public ministry and miracles - persecution and death - and resurrection! Just as we part from our nearest and dearest by still looking at them with love and memories in our eyes, so exactly did Jesus: *'While He was blessing them, He left them and was taken up into heaven.'* (Luke 24:50-1) He was not

forsaking them, but merely going on ahead to a kingdom which would also be theirs one day: *'I am ascending to my Father and to your Father, to my God and your God...'* (John 20:17)

The disciples were surely the most favoured folk in history. Imagine being one of the last few people on earth to be face to face with Jesus, and have Him look on you with love. No wonder then that Luke goes on: *'they worshipped Him - and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.'* (Luke 24:52,53)

No wonder they praised God! They knew they would see Jesus again one day! *'I am going to prepare a place for you... I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.'* (John 14:2,3) In the meantime, Jesus had work for them to do: to take the Gospel to every nation on earth.



SIR RONALD McINTOSH

It is with great sadness we report the death of Sir Ronald McIntosh KCB who died on April the first, in his one hundredth year. Ronnie felt passionately about Throwley Church and founded Friends of Throwley Church in 2008 to help the PCC keep the church as a living church and focal point for the village. Over the following ten years Ronnie was an excellent and inspiring chairman as the Friends went from strength to strength supporting many church fabric projects from funds raised from the ever increasing number of Friends that it has today. We were very lucky to have such an able champion for our church; in a previous role he was director general of the National Economic Development Office, or 'Neddy', he worked not only with prime ministers Edward Heath, Harold Wilson and James Callaghan, but with the major trade union leaders of the day, who wielded real power in the 1970s. *The Friends of Throwley Church*

Sheldwich Cricket Club

18

Looking for Players

The Fantasy Village Cricket played on Sheldwich Lees League Matches Throughout the Summer Competitive but Friendly Standard

Cricket

Social

Quiz Night in April Raye Night in June
Summer BBQ Club Dinner
Xmas Drinks Karting & Golf Day

Nets

20+ Season Nets Every Two in April
6.30 - 10pm @ Canterbury Academy

Cost

Membership - £20.00 (incl 16-17)
Match Fees - £5.00

Contact

Nick Collins - 0752615221
nick.sheldwich@gmail.com

Come and join a family orientated, friendly village club. We need your support.

CANCER RESEARCH UK

Rotary Club of the Weald of Kent

The Cancer Research UK North Downs Walk

Sunday 9th June 2019

Check in 8am-11am
Harrietsham Village Hall, ME17 1AP

Non-sponsored walkers welcome, suggested donation of £15.

1,3,6 or 9 mile walk

Free ploughman's, strawberries and jazz band on return.

Dogs Welcome

You can donate 50% of your sponsorship money to a cause of your choice

To register or for more information, please visit
www.wealdofkentrotary.org.uk
or call 07519520919

Find us on Facebook - Search for 'North Downs Walk'

Presented by **Family**

Cancer Research UK is a registered charity in England and Wales. 10398663, 10398663 and the logo of May 2019.

FAVERSHAM HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

PRESENTS

Philip Oostenbrink

Head Gardener, Canterbury Cathedral



"Gardens & Grounds at Canterbury Cathedral, Past and Present"

Thursday, 30 May 2019

The Assembly Rooms, Preston Street, Faversham
at 7.30 pm

Tickets £10 are available from 01795-537225 or 01227 751182



A Family run business on your door step offering job opportunities to build your career.

We are currently recruiting for casual team members - restaurant, bar, kitchen & housekeeping for our NEW bedrooms

Willingness to work is essential, experience not required, train and earn at the same time in our Family run Pub

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The Plough Inn, Stalisfield; great food and drink from the pub on your doorstep.

Our NEW bedrooms are now ready ask us to look around or visit our website for more details.

DIARY DATES

18th May - World Whisky Day

Come and choose a wee dram from our wide selection of whiskies

23rd May - Boughton Monchelsea Morris

Come and join the morris dancers from 8pm for an evening of fun entertainment

8th June - World Gin Day

It's Gin o'clock - come and tickle your taste buds with one (or more!) of our 25 UK gins and tantalizing tonics.

21st June - Chillbillies Live!

Let you hair down with the fabulous Chillbillies playing live from 8.30pm

Keep up to date by following us on **Facebook, Twitter or Instagram**

Stalisfield Road, Faversham, Kent, ME13 0HY
Tel: 01795 890 256 theploughinnstalisfield.co.uk
Email: info@theploughinnstalisfield.co.uk



Izzy's Odd Jobs

For all your general jobs:

Gardening, DIY, Cleaning, Animals (i.e. horses, dogs, cats, etc.).

If interested/have any enquiries contact me on 07455 394605.

Always happy to help.

References available on request.



THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, EASTLING

FLOWER FESTIVAL

Saturday 22nd & Sunday 23rd June

11am - 5pm

Please come and visit St. Mary's, Eastling over the Midsummer weekend.

We are decking the church with beautiful Floral Designs and Arrangements with the theme **Music**.

Delicious homemade teas will also be available during opening hours.

All proceeds go to church funds.

We are delighted to announce that roses have now been planted in commemoration of the Centenary Year of the first World War and the Eastling men who gave their lives. The all-white roses and white birch trees can be seen in the Church car park and will be a fitting memorial to all those who died in conflict, as they blossom through the summers to come.



FLORAL CONCERT

As a curtain raiser to our Flower Festival weekend the Sutton Valence Choral Society Chamber Group

will present a mixed programme of

Music for a Summer Evening

Friday 21st June

St. Mary's Church, Eastling, 7.30pm,

doors open at 7pm.

Tickets on the door: £8 per person, 14s and under £4, to include interval refreshments.

Proceeds of this concert will be shared between Eastling Church and **HearSay**; a local Charitable Trust providing counselling, help and support for children and families affected by Autistic Spectrum conditions and associated behaviours. (hearsay-trust.org.uk)



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Clean Efficient Service

Institute of Chimney Sweeps Trained and Fully Insured

Certificate Issued after Sweeping

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Visit me at www.barniessweeps.co.uk

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Services in High Downs

5th May Easter 3

Acts 9. 1-20, John 21. 1-19

Eastling 10.30 am Morning Prayer (BCP)

12th May Easter 4

Acts 9. 36 - end, John 10. 22 - 30

Eastling 10.30 am CaféStyle in the School Hall

Throwley 10.30 am Morning Prayer (BCP)

19th May Easter 5

Acts 11. 1 - 18, John 13. 31-35

Stalisfield 10.30 am Holy Communion (CW)

26th May Easter 6 Rogation Sunday

Acts 16. 9 - 15, John 14. 23 - 29 or John 5. 1 - 9

Eastling 8am Holy Communion (BCP)

Throwley 10.30am Holy Communion (CW)

2nd June Easter 7

Acts 16. 16 - 34, John 17. 20 - end

Eastling 10.30 am Morning Prayer (BCP)

(BCP) Service taken from the Book of Common Prayer, 1662.

(CW) Service follows Common Worship Liturgy, 2000.

Kingsdown and Creekside Parish

Sunday 5th May – Third Sunday of Easter

10.30am	Teynham	Benefice Holy Communion with Bishop Trevor
5.30pm	Wychling	Evensong
6.00pm	Lynsted	Breakthrough

Sunday 12th May – Fourth Sunday of Easter

9.00am	Norton	Holy Communion ext CW Trad.
9.00am	Oare	Holy Communion CW
10.30am	Lynsted	Family Service
10.30am	Newnham	Holy Communion ext CW
10.30am	Teynham	Family Service & Communion
3.30pm	Teynham	Evensong
6.00pm	Lynsted	Breakthrough

Sunday 19th May – Fifth Sunday of Easter

9.00am	Newnham	Holy Communion ext BCP
9.00am	Oare	Holy Communion ext CW
10.30am	Doddington	Family Service
10.30am	Norton	Holy Communion ext CW Trad.
10.30am	Teynham	Family Service
3.30pm	Teynham	Holy Communion ext BCP
6.00pm	Lynsted	Breakthrough

Sunday 26th May – Sixth Sunday of Easter

9.00am	Doddington	Holy Communion BCP
9.00am	Lynsted	Holy Communion ext CW
10.30am	Newnham	Family Service
10.30am	Oare	Morning Worship
10.30am	Teynham	Family Service & Communion ext
3.30pm	Teynham	Evensong
6.00pm	Lynsted	Breakthrough

Thursday 30th May – Ascension Day

8.00pm Newnham Holy Communion

High Downs Parish

Parish Office Email: eastlingchurch@gmail.com

facebook.com/highdownsbenefice

Priest in Charge Reverend Canon Steve Lilllicrap
highdownsvicar@gmail.com

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

Reader Caroline Ramshaw (01795 892088)
4 Glebe Cottages, Eastling

Churchwardens

Eastling Andrew Baxter (01795 890598)

Administrator Janet Payne
E mail: eastlingchurch@gmail.com

Stalisfield with Otterden
Jean West (01233 712270)

Administrator Sheila Moger (01233 713212)
E mail: samhawksnest@aol.com

Throwley Gaynore Moss (01795 890995)

From the Registers

Funeral

David Breaker

2nd April 2019 at Stalisfield

Sir Ronald McIntosh KCB

25th April 2019

Requiem Mass and Burial at Throwley

Midweek Groups

Tuesdays: Study group, 14th & 28th May, 9.30am
at Garden Cottage, Eastling. 01795 890368

Wednesdays: Study group, weekly, 7.30pm, 18 Beech
Close, Faversham. 01795 890338

Thursdays: Prayer group, weekly, 10.30am, Pinks Farm
Kettle Hill Road, Eastling. 01795 890338

Fridays: Study group, weekly, 10.45am, New House Farm,
Eastling. 01795 890629

You will be welcome at any of our groups.

CONTACT THE GOOD NEWS EDITOR

If you would like to advertise in the June 2019 magazine, submit articles or stories for publication, or would like any forthcoming events publicised, send your contribution by 15th May to: Hilary Harlow, Pinks Farm, Eastling, Faversham, ME13 0BA. Tel: 01795 890338. Where possible, please submit your entry by email: goodnewsmagazine@me.com

**Past and current issues of the Good News may
be viewed on [ccgi.northdowns.plus.com/
goodnews](http://ccgi.northdowns.plus.com/goodnews)**

Deanery Service

On Sunday 30th June, 10.30am, the churches of Ospringe Deanery are meeting together at St. Mary of Charity, Faversham.

As always, this offers a wonderful opportunity for members of each church community to gather for shared worship and fellowship.

This year, churches are being asked to consider the important question:

'What is your church passionate about?'

We warmly welcome you to join us on this occasion and listen to some of the views that will be given by representatives of each church within the deanery.

We hope, too, that these responses will inspire and encourage us by upholding us in our faith and witness.

If you cannot attend this service, is there something in your church that you are passionate about? As the Deanery representative for High Downs, please contact me and I will put your views forward.

For more information or assistance, please contact Mark Harlow on 01795 890338, or email goodnewsmagazine@me.com



BelmontHseGdns



Belmont House and Gardens



BELMONT HOUSE & GARDENS

SPRING FAIR

Monday 6th May, 11am - 4pm

Our Spring Fair features a superb range of quality plants and herbs, garden-related gifts, artwork, textiles, jewellery and a whole host of wonderful crafted delights as well as some delicious local food and drink. £3.00 per person and free for children under 16.

INTRODUCTION TO SCREEN PRINTING

Monday 13th May, 10am - 4pm

Learn about the basic principles of screen printing by experimenting with paper cut stencils which produce bold and effective prints.

Materials and refreshments included £50.00 pp.

HERB WALK

Wednesday 15th May, 1pm - 3pm

This relaxing walk will introduce you to different herbs used today and historically to treat illness and maintain health. It is a great way to see, smell and taste the plants in a beautiful garden setting and reconnect with nature that's right on your doorstep. £10.00 pp.

GELLI PRINTING WORKSHOP

Tuesday 28th May, 11am - 1pm

Children will learn how to layer colours and experiment with designs and textures. It promises to be creative, fun, messy and at times a tad unpredictable! Suitable for children aged 8+ £15.00 pp, all materials included.

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

OTTERDEN & STALISFIELD WI

INVITE YOU TO
**A SUMMER QUIZ
EVENING**

FRIDAY 14th JUNE 2019

7.30 PM

STALISFIELD VILLAGE HALL,
STALISFIELD GREEN.

£5 PER PERSON. TABLES OF 6.

PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN FOOD & DRINK.

Please Contact:

Julie Murray on snoadfarm@gmail.com, or Helen Brooks,
brooks.helen@btinternet.com for details.

Otterden and Stalisfield W.I.

Helen Kendall-Tobias was our Speaker in April on the subject of 'Wrinkles don't Matter.' Helen is a real life Trinny & Susannah, delving into ladies' wardrobes (at their invitation) to advise on clothes to suit the individual. Her presentation showed us fashions and make of the past to

the present day e.g. Queen Elizabeth I's face was so pockmarked that the white face make up not only evened out the variations of the colour of the skin, but also the uneven texture. Helen also informed us of the extremes that many ladies take to appear youthful for as long as possible. However, the resulting damage to skin and body tone really was horrific to see in some cases, which really shows that **wrinkles don't matter**. It is better to age gracefully and present yourself in the styles and colours that suit the individual - not being a slave to fashion or 'mutton dressed as lamb'!

The following week, four of our group attended an annual WI Home Economics day at Ditton. In the morning Alexander Hunt from Potash Farm spoke to us about the nut tree collection the farm grows and the resulting produce. It was quite amazing the facts Alexander imparted on the subject - a natural speaker. Following on, we had two cousins Bek and Jen, Florists and Flower Growers from Blooming Green, Loddington Farm, Linton speaking to us. They are both very passionate about their business and flowers generally, illustrating how to produce a hand tied bouquet during the talk. They produce pick-your-own flowers, so worth a visit. After lunch two ladies from Fresh Start for Hens entertained us. They rehome ex-commercial hens and they spoke about their worthwhile work, also covering the general care and upkeep of chickens. They had three very well behaved 'ladies' on stage to illustrate their subject too! All three talks were very varied and extremely good, so well worth the trip.

The next WI Meeting is on Wednesday 1st May at 7.30pm, Stalisfield Hall, when we will have our AGM, raffle and social time. The trip to the Gurdwara, Gravesend, has now been finalised for 7th June, which should be an interesting visit.

Please contact Ellie Cameron on 01795 892016 or Helen Brooks on 07477 580727 if you would like to join our Group.

Painters Forstal with Selling W.I.

Members had a wonderful time at their birthday meeting in April, many guests came and helped us to enjoy the afternoon. We were entertained to a demonstration of British Burlesque by Lisa ably assisted by two of our guests. I can thoroughly recommend Lisa to anyone wanting a fun time.

On 21st May we will be much more sober as we discuss the two resolutions; 'Don't fear the smear' and the Decline in rural bus services. They are both very different and should give us food for thought. Afterwards we will be entertained by members telling us about their life experiences.

Details of meetings can be had by phoning Barbara on 01795 890020 or e-mailing tombar72@hotmail.co.uk



Eastling Gardeners' Club Garden Safari

Saturday 15th June 2019

Meet at Eastling village hall at 2pm to visit Eastling Gardens, followed by tea in the village hall.

Members of the Club go free, non-members pay £4

CHARITY

BARN DANCE,

TONG GREEN

FARM

22ND JUNE.

MORE DETAILS IN THE JUNE GOOD NEWS



ANY VOLUNTEERS ?

Dorothy and Marion have decided to step down from organising the Eastling Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunch and are hoping there are people in the village who might be interested in taking it over. We have run

it for the last six years and with the sad loss of Pam Bell thought it a prudent time to hand over the reins to someone else.

This has been a wonderful Eastling tradition for years so please call Dorothy on 890144 or Marion on 890848 if you are interested in keeping this going.



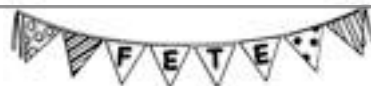
Eastling Short Mat Bowls

Good news for the Eastling Cherries; we stayed in the second division by the skin of our teeth and it was all down to the last game

between Chilham and Aylesham. The result of their game allowed us to stay in the second division by a mere 3 points.

More good news for a change, was the annual match between Tunstall and Eastling, playing for the Graham Barrow trophy. This Shield was put up in Graham's memory by his wife, to take place each year. Teams of triples, played four games and Eastling played exceptionally well and took the Trophy home, a very good win for Eastling and a good way to finish off the Short Mat competition season.

Club nights continue every Friday evening, 7.30 - 9.30pm in Eastling village hall, come along and try it out, all are welcome. Contact Roy Piles on 01795 537162.



Friends of Eastling School

Date for your diary

Summer Fête

Sunday 7th July, 12 - 3pm
on the School Field

Stalisfield HighLife

2019 Events

Afternoon Tea	18 th May
Treasure Hunt	8 th June
Film Night	19 th July - TBC
Summer Fête	24 th August
Harvest Supper	5 th October
Panto	6 th / 7 th December
Children's Party	8 th December
Seniors' Christmas Dinner	14 th December
Burns Night - TBC	25 th January 2020

EASTLING VILLAGE HALL

To book ring Hayley on
on 01795 890968

www.eastlingvillagehall.co.uk



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

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

Tony Horsfall considers the place of spiritual self-examination in our lives.

Exam time

For many children and young adults May is the time for taking exams. Most adults remember their exams all too well - sitting in the intimidating silence of the school hall waiting for the papers to be given out, and hoping you could answer the questions. Then the wonderful feeling of relief when it was all over! In the passage below the apostle Paul challenges the Corinthians to examine themselves to see if their faith is really genuine. His aim is not to pull them down in any way, but rather to use his God-given authority to build them up. He wants them to be sure of their faith.

There is a place for self-examination in the Christian life. Not for morbid introspection, but for the kind of honest heart searching that allows the Holy Spirit to reveal to us our true condition. No question is more vital than this: do I have a genuine relationship with God through faith in Jesus Christ? Everything depends on our being able to answer the question with a resounding 'YES!'



Once we are certain of this, everything else falls into place, in particular the foundational truth that Christ lives in me. If Christ lives in me, then I can allow Him to live His life in me and through me, and in this way I can become the person God wants me to be. No longer do we need to be chained to our old sinful ways of behaving. We have the power within us to live a new life and to be transformed from within.

If you are uncertain about your relationship with God, why not talk to someone in your church who can help you?

Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you—unless, of course, you fail the test? And I trust that you will discover that we have not failed the test. (2 Corinthians 13:5-6)

26th May - Augustine of Canterbury: apostle to the English

Augustine, a 6th century Italian prior, holds a unique place in British history. He became the 'apostle to the English' – although it was with great reluctance. In 596 Augustine was chosen by Pope Gregory to head a mission of monks whom he wanted to send to evangelise the Anglo-Saxons. Augustine was not a bold man, and by the time he and his band of priests reached Gaul, they wished to turn back. But Gregory would not hear of it – and bolstered their confidence by sending some more priests out to them, and by consecrating Augustine bishop. Finally, the party, now 40 in number, landed at Ebbsfleet, Kent in 597.

It would be fascinating to have a detailed description of that first meeting between Bishop Augustine and Ethelbert, powerful King of Kent. Whatever Augustine said, it must have been effective, for Ethelbert granted the 40 priests permission to stay in a house in Canterbury. He even allowed them to preach to his people, while he himself considered their message of Christianity. His wife, Bertha, was a Christian princess from Paris, but she does not seem to have played any role in the conversion of Kent.

By 601 Ethelbert and many of his people had been baptised Christians. The mission to the English was well underway. More clergy, some books, a few relics and several altar vessels arrived from Rome. At Gregory's wise urging, Augustine decided to consolidate the mission in one small area, rather than try and reach all of Kent. So Augustine stayed in Canterbury, where he built the cathedral and founded a school. He left only temporarily to establish a see in London. Also at Gregory's wise urging, Augustine did not destroy the pagan temples of the people of Kent, but only the idols in them. In this way, innocent familiar rites were taken over and used for the celebration of the Christian feasts. Meanwhile, before his death in 604, Augustine helped Ethelbert to draft the earliest Anglo-Saxon written laws to survive – and so influenced British law for centuries to come.

STALISFIELD
Annual Parish Meeting of the
Parish Council
Friday May 10th at 7.30pm
in Stalisfield Village Hall

Eastling Parish Council
The next regular meeting will be
at 6.30pm in Eastling village hall
on Wednesday 15th May.
Residents are welcome to
attend.

Eastling

Neighbourhood Watch

Village Warden
07794 010 394
or 01795 890848



Police 101 Emergency 999

Trading Standards are advising of a sharp increase in persons being conned when certain building works are carried out on their property. It starts with a small job being carried out and then the property owner is then told that more problems have been found and that for this to be completed there needs for money to be paid up front. It goes without saying that as soon as this is done the con men will be seen no more.

As the gardening season is with us please make sure that all your lawnmowers, ride ons etc are safely locked away as it is a forgone conclusion that the nasties will be around and have every wish to take them from you.

There were reports on the local radio of a large increase of attacks by dogs on sheep in the county and in some cases dogs that have been attacking the sheep being shot by farmers which they are legally entitled to do. Please keep your dogs under strict control in the vicinity of sheep and do not allow them out on their own.

Have a good month and take care
Alan

The monthly letter from Councillor Bowles is available on the Parish Council pages of eastlingvillage.co.uk

HOGBEN & PARTIS LIMITED

Independent Funeral Directors
and Memorial Suppliers

Chapels of Rest
SOLOMON'S LANE
NEWTON ROAD
FAVERSHAM
KENT ME13 8EF
TEL:Faversham 532319



Administration Office
37 STONE STREET
FAVERSHAM
KENT ME13 8PH
TEL: Faversham 532319



St Mary's Church presents...

CAFESTYLE

Sunday 12th May

10.30 - 11.30am

Eastling SCHOOL Hall

A creative time of worship:

Church in a Café setting.

worship discussion reflection
prayer fellowship

Tea, coffee & yummy nibbles will be available throughout the service, which will include sung worship, times of prayer, with opportunities for discussion & reflection, and space for the youngest & oldest to worship altogether



Help feed local people in crisis

faversham.foodbank.org.uk

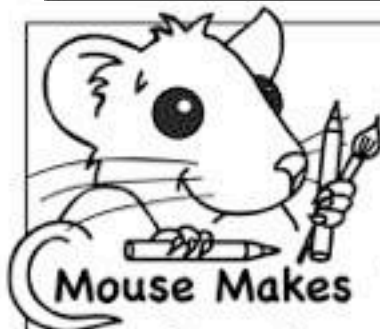
Foodbank May 2019

It has been heartening to see the bags of food for the Faversham Foodbank appear at the back of Eastling church so regularly, the staff have asked me to thank you for your continued support. They have also let us know that they have plenty of pasta, baked beans and cereals currently so please don't send those items until further notice.

Urgent items for May: Custard tinned or carton; coffee; tinned carrots; shampoo; laundry powder; size 5 and 6 nappies.



"...and then, as the organist hits us with a cool hip-hop riff, you kick off the wedding vows in a smokin' rap style..."



You may have read the Bible story of Daniel in the lions' den, but have you ever read the whole book of Daniel? Take your time and read a little each day and find out about the vegetables, the statue, the gold idol, the furnace, the tree, the writing on the wall, the lions, the four animals, the ram and the goat, and the man.

W A L L O M I S H A E L A W
D S T A T U E T R E E O L U
A H A Z A R I A H W D R L P
N P N K D R E A M G O D I R
I E I D O L D A R I U S O A
E N W R I T I N G K F D N Y
L A B C Y F U R N A C E S E
A Z M H A N A N I A H N E R
N E B U C H A D N E Z Z E R
G R E S C U E
E T R U S T
L K I N G



Ashpenaz changed Daniel and his friends names. Look up **Daniel 1:7** to see what he changed them to.

Can you find these words from the book of Daniel in the wordsearch?
KING • NEBUCHADNEZZER • DANIEL • DARIUS • ASPHENAZ
HANANIAH • MISHAEL • AZARIAH • DREAM • STATUE
IDOL • FURNACE • TREE • WRITING • WALL • LAW • LIONS
DEN • PRAYER • LORD • GOD • TRUST • RESCUE • ANGEL

NO BLUEBELL WALK THIS YEAR

With regret we have decided that there will not be an Eastling Bluebell Walk this year. It has been a struggle to organise the Bluebell Walk the past couple of years, and in the absence of volunteers to organize it we have no option but to cancel. We are sorry if people are disappointed but let us rejoice in the successes we have had in the past and be grateful for the fond memories that remain.