

Good News Parish Magazine

High Downs Parish

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

www.goodnews.rf.gd



MAY 2022

- 2nd Spring Fair at Belmont
Belmont, Throwley 11am - 4pm
- 4th Otterden & Stalisfield W.I.
Stalisfield Village Hall 7.30pm
- 4th Cheese and Tunes
Eastling Church 7.30pm
- 11th Egerton Arts Society Lecture
Egerton Millennium Hall 2.30pm
- 11th Youth Club - *Craft Extravaganza*
Stalisfield Village Hall 7 - 8.30pm
- 13th Eat, Pray, Walk 1.30pm
Norton Church car park
- 23rd Eastling Parish Council Meeting
Eastling Village Hall 6.30pm
- 25th Youth Club - *Wide Games*
Stalisfield Village Hall 7 - 8.30pm
- 26th Faversham Arts Society Lecture
Alexander Centre 11.00am

JUNE

- 1st Otterden & Stalisfield W.I.
Stalisfield Village Hall 7.30pm
- 2nd Stalisfield Jubilee Celebration
Stalisfield Green 1 - 4pm
- 3rd - 5th Art Exhibition and Sale
Stalisfield Church 10am
- 3rd Eastling Jubilee Celebration
Carpenters Arms from 5pm
- 4th Throwley Jubilee Fête
Throwley Forstal 1 - 5pm
- 5th Otterden Platinum Jubilee Picnic
Otterden Park 1 - 5pm
- 8th Youth Club - *Jubilee Party PLUS*
Stalisfield Village Hall 7 - 8.30pm
- 25th Charity Barn Dance
Tong Green Farm, Throwley



Cheese and Tunes

**Eastling Church
Wednesday 4th May
7.30pm**

What are your favourite hymns?

If you don't normally come to church but love belting out the old hymns, come and join us.

If you have any requests, let Gaynore know and we'll sing as many as we can:

gaynoremoss@hotmail.com



Spring Fair

Monday 2nd May, 11am - 4pm

Our Spring Fair features a superb range of quality plants, garden-related gifts, artwork, textiles, jewellery and a whole host of wonderful, crafted delights. £5.00pp and free for under 16s.



Jubilee Celebrations in our villages are featured overleaf but how about this:

Knit a corgi for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Thousands of people across the country are buying in light brown and white wool just now, in order to knit up a corgi in honour of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. It is a fun way in which anyone with knitting needles can get involved in the coming celebrations. If you google 'knitting patterns for corgis', you will find a wide variety of free patterns on offer. Knitted corgis could help decorate house windows, local shops and churches as the big day approaches.



THROWLEY JUBILEE FETE

Saturday 4th June, 1pm - 5pm

Cream teas & cakes, BBQ, stalls, Throwley Arms bar, family fun activities, dog show and much more

Throwley Forstal Green

Message from our Rector

As I write we have just celebrated Holy Week and Easter, itself. Holy Week is that week leading up to Easter which includes Maundy Thursday when Jesus shared what we know as his Last Supper with his disciples as he gave out bread saying, "This is my body given for you" and shared the cup of wine saying, "This is my blood which is shed for you."

We had a special commemoration of the Last Supper in Norton Village Hall with a lamb supper before going out into the Orchard to remember Jesus' betrayal and arrest in the Garden of Gethsemane, swapping a Bramley Apple Orchard for the Olive trees of Gethsemane.

On Good Friday itself, we spent time reflecting on Jesus dying on the Cross with a service of Stations of the Cross accompanied by specially composed piano music by Lissie Bayford. In the afternoon we spent an hour at Newnham Church hearing from the Bible and two people, one a teenager, about the meaning of Jesus dying on the cross.

On the Saturday we were in Eastling remembering that Jesus had been buried and for his followers that was a day when Jesus was absent. Then came Easter Day and our sunrise service at Wychling as we celebrated the risen Jesus and as we saw the sunrise this year - amazingly beautiful.

What a fabulous sight and what an wonderful way to celebrate Easter.

...and this year breakfast was back after a 2 year gap and we certainly enjoyed those bacon butties.

We continued through the day

with services in most of the 10 Churches in the Benefice, and yes, there were a good number of Easter eggs around to remember the empty tomb by.

Somehow Easter felt even more special this year, than it has done for a while, with the reality of Jesus' death on the Cross for each one of us and his resurrection bringing new life to us. It seems even more poignant in the midst of the changing world, the awful war in the Ukraine, but not forgetting other areas in the world where there is war.

With the difficulties many are facing, with the rising cost of living, the cost of fuel, the jumps in cost of electricity and gas, we are faced with the evil and the difficulties of the world, but in Jesus coming, dying and rising again, we can find the true hope - that there is something good and beautiful beyond the here and now.

Steve Lillicrap

P.S. Thank you to all who have responded to those in need by giving and continuing to give to the Foodbank and to those who have given to a recent appeal for first aid kits to go to Ukraine.



War in Ukraine:

Diocese in Europe and USPG launch Ukraine emergency appeal

The Church of England Diocese in Europe and USPG, the mission agency, have launched an emergency appeal to get aid to people in desperate need because of the invasion of Ukraine.

Funds raised by the appeal will support Christian charities and churches carrying out humanitarian work both in Ukraine and responding to the arrival of refugees in neighbouring countries.

Partners on the ground are providing food, medicine, shelter, care for children and people internally displaced in Ukraine. With refugees they are supplying care at the border and beyond, including attention to those from Africa and Asia as well as Ukrainians who are fleeing the war.

The appeal is for urgent help NOW, but the work will go on for many months.

The Church of England's Bishop in Europe, the Rt Revd Robert Innes says: "War is horrible. It injures, destroys, and kills in an often indiscriminate and uncontrollable way. And now, we face war in Europe.

"The people of our little church, Christ Church Kyiv, find themselves in the midst of this crisis. They are typical of so many others.

"Some have fled the city whilst others are still there; praying for their safety and for peace as they shelter as best they can. These people are our brothers and sisters. Those still in Ukraine and those who have fled need our help."

USPG's General Secretary, the Revd Duncan Dormor, adds: "Our hearts and prayers go out to the people of Ukraine. We have launched this appeal in partnership with the Diocese in Europe to stand in solidarity with the people of Ukraine and support church responses to the current crisis."

To donate to the Ukraine emergency appeal, visit <https://ukraine-emergency-appeal.raisely.com>

Prayer Pointers

May 2022

Mondays - Pray for God's peace to be a source of strength for us all.

Tuesdays - Give thanks for chaplains in armed forces and pray for their work.

Wednesdays - Pray for our local councils and their leaders to work for the good of others.

Thursdays - Give thanks for Christian charities and pray for the protection of those serving in warring countries.

Fridays - Pray for prisoners around the world, that they may enjoy freedom one day.

Saturdays - Give thanks for the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

Sundays - Rejoice that Christ lives in the hearts of all who believe in him.



Eastling Church May 2022



1st & 8th - Janet W and Susy P

15th - Suzie

22nd & 29th - Angela & Julia

5th June - Gemma

If you would like to join the flower arranging rota, please call Bay on 01795 892036.

Belmont House and Gardens



Spring Fair

Monday 2nd May, 11am - 4pm

Our Spring Fair features a superb range of quality plants, garden-related gifts, artwork, textiles, jewellery and a whole host of wonderful, crafted delights. £5.00pp and free for under 16s.

Wheat Weaving Workshop

Monday 16th May, 10.30am - 1.30pm

During this workshop you will learn a range of techniques and patterns before creating your own corn dollies to take home. All tools and materials will be provided. £45.00pp, online booking required.

Herb Walk

Wednesday 18th May, 1 - 3pm

This relaxing walk with local Herbalist, Mandy Rickard, will introduce you to some different herbs. It's a great chance to see, smell and taste the plants in a beautiful garden setting. £15.00pp, online booking required.

Teddy Bear's Picnic Theatre Show

Sunday 29th May, 11am - 2pm

Bring along your favourite bear and join us on a fun, exciting adventure to get to the Picnic on time! The show incorporates props, puppets, well-known songs and dancing, together with important educational areas such as numbers, colours and shapes.

Children aged 2+: £10.00, Adults: £7.50, Family Ticket: £30.00.

**Belmont House & Gardens, Throwley, Nr Faversham,
Kent ME13 0HH**

W: www.belmont-house.org

Otterden and Stalisfield WI

Once again we were disappointed that our planned speaker, Matthew Scott, Kent Police and Crime Commissioner, was unable to attend our meeting in April. Our secretary managed to arrange another speaker with only 3 days notice so we were very lucky to welcome Victoria Smith-Gillard to our meeting. Victoria had many years in the veterinary business but after being made redundant began looking for other options. She describes herself as an expert in dog communication and behaviour, combined with holistic therapy and massage techniques. A talk a few years ago by The Medical Detection Dogs charity had given us an insight into how dogs detect chemical changes and stress in their owners, and Victoria's methods linked into this part of a dogs behaviour.

Our next meeting on May 4th at 7.30 in Stalisfield Village Hall is our AGM when we will be voting for a new president. Ellie Cameron is standing down after 4 years, but will remain on the committee in another role. We are a very small village group and always welcome new members so if you would like to come along initially as a guest, please call Ellie on 01795 892016

THE ARTS SOCIETY EGERTON

Enjoy Arts and Culture presented by world class lecturers
FROM ERROL FLYNN TO BOTTLES OF GIN

Lecturer: Annalie Talent

WEDNESDAY 11TH MAY 2022

At 2.30 p.m.

at Egerton Millennium Hall, Elm Close, Egerton TN27 9DS



This lecture will uncover the fascinating stories behind some literary portraits of the Romantic and Victorian period. We'll look at various ways in which writers have been depicted in art, and how these likenesses have been received; both during the authors' lifetimes, and posthumously.

We will also explore the afterlives of literary portraits and their use in popular culture – from banknotes and fridge magnets, to tins of shortbread and bottles of gin.

How do writers' portraits contribute to literary fame and celebrity? Do these images affect our perception of their lives and work? And to what extent may portraits of writers be said to be fictions themselves?

Annalie Talent has worked as an educator at museums and literary houses across the UK, including the Wordsworth Trust, Wordsworth House, Jane Austen's House in Hampshire, and the Ashmolean Museum. She has won two Sandford Awards for excellence in heritage education, and has worked with the British Library, the Bodleian Library and Chawton House Library. Annalie uses her knowledge and personal experience of literary houses - and their collections - to offer a unique perspective on writers and their works.

Visitors are very welcome AT £5 (reimbursed if you become a member)

Please contact Christine Willis via cmwillis75@gmail.com or 01233 756377 for further details or visit our website at <https://theartsocietyegerton.org.uk>



"It comes to something when the state of the pound is such that we *hope* to find lots of foreign coins!"

The Revd William Mather is a retired vicar and still very active artist! He was moved to create this painting and wrote these words to accompany it.



The Pain of Ukraine

By William Mather

Ideas for paintings come in all sorts of ways. The awfulness of the Soviet

Aggression in Ukraine has been in all our thoughts and prayers. For me, it was that early image of the block of flats hit by a missile causing death, destruction and a gaping hole. With it came a reminder of Jesus on the cross and a gaping hole in His side from the soldier's spear. The two came together in my mind and so a painting idea was born. With it came thoughts of the great Spanish artist Goya and his powerful etchings 'The Disasters of War' in protest over the French invasion and occupation 1810-1820.

The Christian teaching is that Jesus died on the cross for our sin. None of us is blameless, not least the soldier with the spear or the Russians with the missile. But the poignant promise through the pain - even the pain of Ukraine - is that the message of the cross is more powerful than any tyrant. Through it comes peace in the heart that lasts for ever.

The Arts Society Faversham

Our next lecture is on the 26th May at 11.00am and is given by **David Rosier** on "**Dowager Empress Cixi**".

Coffee and biscuits will be served from 10.20am



This lecture seeks to provide a balanced insight into the life and achievements of one of the most important women in Chinese Imperial history.

From relative obscurity as a low-ranking consort we explore the events that led to her confirmation as Dowager Empress Cixi in 1861 and her strategy to preserve, then revitalise, imperial rule after a series of humiliating military defeats by Western Colonial Powers plus several brutal ethnic uprisings. We will trace the distinct cycles of Cixi's power, as Emperors came and went, whilst the Dowager Empress moved periodically from a position of influence to full authority and then into times of enforced retirement.

Looking beyond Cixi's desire to force China into the modern world we will gain an insight into her life within her beloved Summer Palace with a focus on her passion for painting, embroidery, fashion design and the extensive gardens. A location where Cixi forged some extraordinarily close relationships with

leading western women.

David Rosier is a Chartered Insurer by profession and a Fellow of the Assurance Medical Society, with extensive international experience as an author and lecturer in Medical Risk Assessment. He has in excess of 25 years of working and living in Asia. Whilst living in Hong Kong (1991-2004) he assembled a collection of approximately 700, predominately Qing Dynasty (1644-1911), Imperial and related textiles/costume accessories. Past Committee Member of the Hong Kong Textile Society and frequent speaker on Imperial Insignia and Badges of Rank.

theartsocietyfaversham.org.uk.

Come along to one lecture as a guest (£5 fee) or join for a year's lectures For further information contact us at info@theartsocietyfaversham.org.uk



Eastling Gardeners' Club

Members and friends of the Club met on 14th April for a very enjoyable talk by Kevin Tooher on trees for the smaller garden. This was followed by tea provided by the Committee members.

Sadly this was the last time that the Club will be meeting. Declining membership and increased fees for speakers have meant that the club is no longer viable.

Regards Clive

Charity Barn Dance

Tong Green Farm

Saturday 25th

June

Further details

next month.



Stalisfield Highlife **Stalisfield Village Hall**

2022

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

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Stalisfield
**Platinum Jubilee
Celebration**

on Stalisfield Green

(or in the hall if the weather doesn't
play ball!)

Thursday 2nd June, 1-4pm

Fare to Share

Please bring a plate of savoury
food - dessert will be supplied

by Izzy's Bakes

Alcoholic and non alcoholic drinks will also be provided

Back by popular demand are the band the Rockin'

Badgers to entertain us throughout the afternoon.

Look forward
to seeing you all there



Jacob King/PA Wire/PA Images

Residents of Eastling
are invited to the
**Platinum Jubilee
Celebrations**

at the Carpenters Arms, Eastling

Friday 3rd June 2022 from 5pm

To take place in the courtyard of
the Carpenters Arms

Free hog roast served from 5pm

Live music from the Rockin'

Badgers from 6pm

Own food and drink may be consumed in
the courtyard but not inside the pub.



Throwley Jubilee Fete
Saturday, 4th June 2022

1pm – 5pm

Cream teas & cakes, BBQ, stalls,
Throwley Arms bar, family fun
activities, dog show and much more

6pm – 11.30pm

Bar & live music from Under the Wood
Corinne's Creative Kitchen

**OTTERDEN
JUBILEE PICNIC**

Sunday 5th June from 1pm

join us to celebrate the Queen's 70th Jubilee
with the welcome return of
our Annual Picnic

at the Cricket Grounds within beautiful Otterden Park
Friends and family all welcome
please bring your own picnic.

Many thanks, as always, to Otterden Cricket Club and to
Julie & David Murray for the use of their field for
parking.

Contact: Julia Miller - 07796132415 (lermil06@aol.com)

St Mary's Church
Stalisfield

Art Festival

Friday June 3rd - Sunday June 5th



Art Exhibition

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5pm

St Mary's Church
Stalisfield

Art Festival

Friday June 3rd - Sunday June 5th

Art Exhibition & Sale

Friday and Saturday 10am - 5pm

Sunday 10am - 3pm

Refreshments Available

Saturday and Sunday

Still Life Drawing Class

10.30 - 12.30

Limited places £5 each class

Beginners welcome

Materials provided

Email to book:

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Church Road, Stalisfield
ME13 0JG

26th May: Where did Jesus go at the Ascension?

In Salvador Dali's picture of Jesus' ascension all you can see are his feet! As we celebrate the event this month, it prompts the question 'where did Jesus go?' Peter says Jesus 'has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand' (1 Peter 3:22). However, the New Testament tells us three things about what Jesus is doing at the Father's side.

At Pentecost Peter said that Jesus is 'exalted to the right hand of God, He has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear...' 'The Lord said to my Lord: 'Sit at my right hand'' (Acts 2: 33-4). Peter is affirming Jesus' position of authority and power at the heart of the universe. By pouring out

the gift of the Holy Spirit upon us, Jesus gives us a foretaste of the life of heaven ie eternal life, forgiveness, healing, release and God's provision for our lives.

When Stephen, the first Christian martyr, was being stoned to death by the Jewish authorities he points out, 'I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.' (Acts 7:56). Our experience of heaven is only ever partial, as we live with the reality of suffering and setbacks. However, Jesus is still on the throne! We are called to trust him daily.

The Bible also tells us that 'Christ Jesus who died....is interceding for us.' (Romans 8:34, cf Hebrews 7:25). Even when we don't know how to pray, we have the assurance that Jesus is



already praying for us! He knows our needs even better than we do ourselves, so when we feel condemned or defeated in our Christian lives, we have somebody on our side! The Ascension reminds us that the risen Jesus lives in the immediate presence of God, and both transcends and embraces our present experience. This truth lies at the heart of the *up* language used to describe the event.

'Heaven relates to earth tangentially so that the One who is in heaven can be present simultaneously anywhere and everywhere on earth: the ascension therefore means that Jesus is available, accessible, without people having to travel to a particular spot on the earth to find Him.' (Tom Wright).



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Sunday Services

1st May Easter 3

Acts 9. 1 - 6 [7 - 20], John 21. 1 - 19

Eastling 10.30am Holy Communion CW
with annual parish church meeting
Wychling 4pm Evensong

8th May Easter 4

Acts 9. 36 - 43, John 10. 22 - 30

Eastling 9am Holy Communion BCP
Throwley 10.30am Morning Prayer

15th May Easter 5

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

Eastling 10.30am Morning Worship
Lynsted 10.30am All Age Service

22nd May Easter 6

Acts 15. 9 - 15 John 15. 26-27; 16. 4b - 15

Throwley 10.30am Holy Communion
Newnham 10.30am Morning Worship

29th May Easter 7

Acts 16. 16 - 34, John 17. 20 - 26

Newnham 10.30am Benefice Communion

5th June PENTECOST

Acts 2. 1 - 21, John 14. 8 - 17 [25 - 27]

Eastling 10.30am Holy Communion CW
Throwley 10.30am Jubilee Service
Stalisfield 5.30pm Pentecostal Evening
Service

Online Daily Worship Continues

As well as the services in our churches, the daily 9am Morning Prayer at Lynsted will continue and be live online on www.kingsdowncreekside.co.uk - also on the Kingsdown and Creekside Facebook page.

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

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

New Bishop of Rochester announced

The Rt Rev Jonathan Gibbs has been announced as the next Bishop of Rochester.

It is expected that Bishop Jonathan's installation will take place sometime in September and more details will be released in due course.

You can read all about the new Bishop on www.rochester.anglican.org/ which also includes a video interview.

High Downs Parish

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

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

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

Reader Caroline Ramshaw (07799 538809)

Anna Chaplain Caroline Ramshaw
AnnaChaplaincy@outlook.com

Churchwardens

Eastling Andrew Baxter (01795 890598)

Administrator Janet Payne
E mail: eastlingchurch@gmail.com

Stalisfield with Otterden
Jenny King (01795 890366)

Administrator Shirley Pritchard
Email: Stmarystalisfield@gmail.com

Throwley Gaynore Moss (01795 890995)

Parish Office Email: eastlingchurch@gmail.com
facebook.com/highdownsbenefice

From The Registers

Funeral

David Jones
20th April 2022 at Throwley

CONTACT THE GOOD NEWS EDITOR

Hilary Harlow 01795 890338

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

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



Celebration Garden Concert

Come and celebrate 50 years of listening with the Ashford and Tenterden Samaritans.

Stroll in glorious, Godinton House gardens, then picnic while listening to Ashford Invicta Choir sing songs from the showsfrom opera to Disney!

Wednesday 22nd June - gardens open from 6pm, performance from 7pm. Tickets £15 from <https://godinton.digitickets.co.uk/>

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Benefice Prayer Walk and Pilgrimage

Friday April 29th to Sunday May 1st
2022

We will be walking over 3 days, starting and ending at St Margaret's Wychling, and visiting each Church in the Benefice including each Parish Church, and the Churches in Otterden, Luddenham and

Kingsdown. We will stop in each Church to pray together, but also we will have opportunities to pray in the midst of our walking.

We will provide transport back to the Starting Church from where we end each day.

Day 1, Friday April 29th

We start at St Margaret's Wychling at 10am and visit St Lawrence Otterden, St Mary Stalisfield, St Michael and All Angels Throwley, St Mary Eastling and end our first day at St John the Baptist Doddington.

Day 2, Saturday April 30th

We start at St John the Baptist Doddington at 10am and visit St Peter & St Paul Newnham, St Mary Norton, St Peter Oare, St Mary Luddenham and end our second day at St Mary Teynham.

Day 3, Sunday May 1st

We start at St Mary Teynham at 12.30pm, following our Morning Service(s) at 10.30am which include the service in Teynham. We then will visit St Peter & St Paul Lynsted, St Catherine Kingsdown and end our Prayer Walk and Pilgrimage back at St Margaret Wychling for Evensong at 4pm.

Please Register your interest on <https://kc-hd.org.uk/>



The Bluebells

by Audrey Keen

I have before recorded the woods with
Hyacinths blue,
The gently folded bells that coax a
Specula fragrance too.
But as I sit alone and listen to the
Wild spring sounds
I can't but record again that this
Sweet flower abounds.
And surely it is right, not wrong,
To glory at the sight
Of bluebells on a sunny bank
Which months before was white.
For winter's sombre shades are gone
Replaced by gaiety
In every woodland path or lane
Or bank that I can see.

Monthly walk, tea, cake and prayer for all ages
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1.30pm to 3.00pm

**Next time we're
at NORTON
Friday 13th May**

Eat Pray Walk *Celebrating God in creation*

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Lynsted Church**

15th May
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10.30 start

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Eastling Parish Council

Annual Parish Council Meeting
is on 23 May at 6.30pm in Eastling Village Hall.

Vacancy for Councillor

**Would you like to make a difference to your local community?
Would you like to assist in decisions that affect your community?
If so why not apply to become a Parish Councillor**

Eastling Parish Council currently has a vacancy for Parish Councillor and is looking to fill this position by co-option. We invite anyone who is interested in being considered to notify the Clerk Mrs Wendy Licence-eastlingpc@gmail.com. In particular we would like to hear of any specific skills or interests that you believe would benefit the Council. If you would like an informal discussion with any member of the Parish Council please do not hesitate to contact any Councillor or the Clerk.



Latest Report from KCC Representative – Cllr. Rich Lehmann

Following on from the piece I wrote last month about the Kent County Council Bus Consultation, I have spent a great deal of time over the past few weeks working hard to raise awareness of the threat to rural bus services.

With the help of local volunteers and parish councillors, I posted leaflets to the villages most directly affected by the proposed cuts to let residents know which routes would be affected and how they could have their say. I then held five 'drop-in' sessions in Rodmersham, Conyer, Bredgar, Newnham and Doddington to meet with concerned residents and answer their questions, and also to assist anyone requiring help in completing a consultation response.

It can be very easy to feel daunted when responding to consultation documents. They use official sounding language and questions can sometimes be written or framed in a leading way, leaving it hard to work out how to share what you want to say.

Across the five drop-in sessions I helped a total of 36 residents fill in paper consultation responses. In many cases the respondents were people who for various reasons would not have been able to complete the consultation online. Whilst I'm glad that the views of these residents will be represented, I fear that they are just the tip of the iceberg and that there are likely to be hundreds more across the

county who rely on these services but for one reason or another will have missed out on responding.

In addition to ensuring that residents' views on buses are heard, the drop-in sessions were hugely valuable for me in my growth as a councillor. I have been on a steep learning curve since last May's election, and various demanding elements of council work have meant I've not had as much time to spend in our community as I had hoped. Meeting people face to face and listening to their thoughts and concerns helps me to better understand the needs of the dozens of parishes, communities and hamlets that make up Swale East and I will be looking to hold more general drop-in sessions over the coming months. One resident whose views particularly stuck with me was a woman in her 80s who had been getting the same bus for 40 years. She explained to me how she saw the same people on the bus week in, week out, and that the bus passengers were effectively a community too.

Kent County Council have a long list of responsibilities, the first of which is "to seek to improve the lives of all residents in Kent". If they go ahead with cutting these bus services it will be a serious failure of that responsibility.

Rich Lehmann
rich.lehmann@kent.gov.uk

Eastling Neighbourhood Watch

Village Warden

07794 010 394
or 01795 890848



Police 101 Emergency 999

There has still been the constant cold telephone calling from people who are after our money, the latest being the £150 council tax credit some people will be receiving. Put the phone down on these people as the Council will either pay the money directly into your bank account if you pay by direct debit, or you must contact Swale Borough Council if paid yearly.

Another con floating about is an email from Amazon saying your account has been stopped and you should re-enter your bank details. Please delete this mail as it not legitimate.

Now that summer is arriving please keep your eyes peeled for any suspicious vehicles in and around the village as April has been very quiet and the criminals will be about looking for any quick gain.

For many years now there have been constant complaints, quite rightly so, about litter and dog droppings throughout the village, stretching from Glebe cottages right the way through to the Otterden Road including the church path footpath and other footpaths.

Good news I understand that the Parish Council has arranged for a litter bin to be installed in the village. The location of the bin is to be at the Village Hall, which I find most extraordinary as that is not near any place where there have been reports of problems throughout the years. I leave the village to make their own mind up about this.

There have been reports of persons badly misbehaving on the morning bus from Eastling to Faversham. It has been reported to the Bus company and Abbey School. If it continues the persons involved will have to make their own way to Faversham and police will be involved.

Have a good month
Take Care
Alan



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Email: h.uglow@googlemail.com

Eastling Primary School

We celebrated Science Week at the end of term three focusing on the theme of growing. The children had a fun packed week of learning including a visit from Jaws 'n' Claws and The Astrodome.

Bringing the curriculum alive is always a key focus for the teachers in their planning. Oak class were learning about Rivers and Mountains and enjoyed a very informative day visiting the River Stour in Canterbury.

It was children's mental health week in February and Miss Waugh (PSHE lead) organised a range of activities for the children including assemblies and Dress to Express themselves day. We celebrated World Book Week from Monday 28th

February. The children took part in lots of activities including online author workshops, dress up day and we had a local children's author Mrs Dickinson visit each of the classes. Birch class visited The Observatory Centre at Herstmonceux on Thursday 10th March as part of their learning on Space. On Friday 11th March there was a whole school outdoor learning day where we worked with Wild Classroom. The cooking was themed around the classes learning and included savoury pancakes, Anglo-Saxon lemon chicken, biscuits and vegetable stir fry. There was lots of other wonderful learning including visiting Eastling woods. Willow class visited Kent Life on Friday 25th March for an Anglo-Saxon Day. The children dressed up and took part in a range of workshops.

Year 6 had a successful residential trip, Monday 21st March- Friday 25th March, to PGL Marchants Hill. The week was great fun and the children will all have long lasting memories having experienced a vast array of activities including climbing, abseiling, raft building, archery and many more team building games. The children were so worn out by the busy schedule that on some mornings Mr Glazier had to wake them up. Term four ended with the traditional Easter Bonnet Parade and the Easter Egg Hunt which the FOES (Friends of Eastling School) organised.

We are looking forward to the next two terms at Eastling Primary School. There are now only a couple of spaces available at the school for an immediate start. Any prospective parents are welcome to call the office on 01795 890252 for further details. More information can be found on our school website.

HIGH DOWNS



Dates for your diaries:

11.5.22 Craft Extravaganza

25.5.22 Wide Games

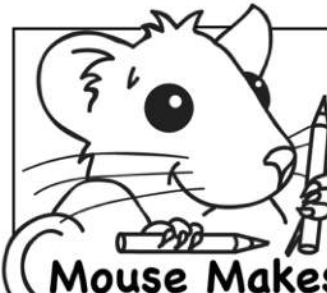
8.6.22 Jubilee Party and Father's day pressies

22.6.22 Sports Week - Bake Off prep

13.7.22 Bake Off judging

Year 6 primary school aged children welcome too. Activities include table tennis, gaming, craft, pool table, music and chill out zone, cake, tuck shop and outside activities now Spring is here!

2nd & 4th Wednesdays 7-8.30pm, free entry
contact : Clnorwood@doctors.org.uk



Mouse Makes

Jesus said,
"This, then, is how
you should pray:
Our
_____ in _____
hallowed be your

your

come,
your _____ be
done, on
_____ as it
is in _____.
Give us this day our
daily _____.
And


us our _____,
as we also have
forgiven our debtors.
And _____
us not into
temptation, but

us from the
_____ one."


**Read Matthew 6:9-13
to fill in the words.**

*"Give thanks to the
Lord for He is good,
His love endures
forever"*
Psalm 136:1


I praise you Lord for...




I thank you Lord for...



I pray for the Church and world




I pray for my family and friends




"Never stop praying."
1 Thessalonians 5:17

I am sorry for...



I ask for...



*"Do not be anxious about
anything, but in every situation,
by prayer and petition,
with thanksgiving,
present your requests to God."*
Philippians 4:6