

# Good News Parish Magazine

High Downs Parish

Serving the villages of  
Eastling, Otterden,  
Stalisfield and Throwley

[www.goodnews.rf.gd](http://www.goodnews.rf.gd)



## Autumn Quiz Night

Presented by locally renowned Kent Quiz master - Dave Cowan

At: Stalisfield Village Hall, ME13 0JE  
On: Friday November 10th at 7 pm  
Tables of 6-8, £5 a head.

- Bring your own food & drink.
- Book early to avoid disappointment - Contact Chrissie on 07590 351977
- Please bring cash on the night for entry & the raffle



## NOVEMBER 2023

- 2nd All Souls Service  
Stalisfield Church 7.30pm
- 4th Fireworks at Eastling  
opposite the pub 7.30pm  
BBQ from 6.30pm
- 8th Arts Society lecture, Egerton  
Millennium Hall, Egerton 2.30pm
- 8th Stalisfield Youth Group  
Stalisfield Village Hall 7-8.30pm
- 9th Singing Kettle Song Group  
Newnham Village Hall 2 - 3pm
- 9th Charing History Society  
Parish Hall, Charing 7.30 for 8pm
- 10th Autumn Quiz Night  
Stalisfield Village Hall 7pm
- 12th Remembrance Service  
Throwley Church 10.40am
- 12th Choir for Carols practices begin  
Eastling Church 5 - 6pm
- 20th Copy deadline for December  
Good News
- 22nd Stalisfield Youth Group  
Stalisfield Village Hall 7-8.30pm
- 23rd Arts Society lecture, Faversham  
Alexander Centre 11am
- 24th Eat, Pray, Walk  
Doddington Church 1.30pm

## DECEMBER

- 8th & 9th Cinderella Pantomime  
Stalisfield Village Hall 7.30pm
- 10th Seniors' Christmas Party  
Stalisfield 4pm
- 13th Otterden & Stalisfield W.I.  
Stalisfield Village Hall 7.30pm
- 14th Singing Kettle Song Group  
Newnham Village Hall 2 - 3pm
- 16th Children's Christmas Party  
Stalisfield Village Hall 12.30pm



## Remembrance Service

Throwley, Eastling,  
Stalisfield and  
Otterden

**Sunday 12th November**

Throwley Churchyard at 10.40am  
The names of the fallen from our  
villages will be read out and  
wreaths laid at the war memorial,  
before we move into the church  
for the service.

## St. Mary's Church Stalisfield Service for All Souls

Thursday 2nd  
November  
7.30pm

Join with  
others in quiet  
remembrance  
of loved ones  
we see no  
longer




## Stalisfield Village Hall Presents Cinderella

A Villages' Production  
December 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm



Get ready to be whisked away on a magical Panto experience like no other! Join Cinderella on her quest to find true love. With hilarious twists, unforgettable characters, and plenty of fairy-tale magic, this year's Panto promises to be a Stalisfield sensation that'll have



you laughing, cheering, and believing in the power of dreams (and boy-wizard-fairy-god-people). Book your tickets now for the perfect start to your holiday season. Tickets £7, £4 children, from Sharon: 01795 890415 or [sharoncarter01@gmail.com](mailto:sharoncarter01@gmail.com)

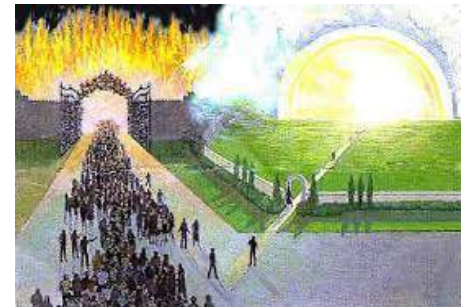
# November Message

I have recently led a school assembly about heaven and we sung a song with the words "Heaven is a wonderful place, full of His glory and grace. I'm going to see my Saviour's face 'cos heaven is a wonderful place." What do you think heaven is like? Do you think you will go there? The Bible tells us that heaven is a real place and that Jesus has gone there to prepare a place for his followers (John 14.1-3) who will live there with real bodies ( 1 Corinthians 15 ). God dwells there and there will be no more tears, death, mourning or pain, Revelation 21.3. There will be "water without cost from the spring of the water of life" Rev 21.6; no darkness because the glory of the Lord will fill everything Rev 21.23; and no sea Rev. 21.1. Whatever picture we may have of heaven will be inadequate because it is mind-blowing and beyond our comprehension. Isaiah 55 8 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord. 9 "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. I think we should accept that God loves us, wants the best for us and heaven will be more brilliant than we can begin to imagine!

A singer was asked to sing at a wedding of the daughter of a very rich man. The wedding was extravagantly beautiful, and the banquet that was to follow promised to be the same. The singer walked up to the doors of the banquet hall, and a man was there looking up peoples' names in a record book. The singer's name was not in the book, because she had not RSVP'd as she should have. She was turned away, led back to her car, and had to leave. Revelation 21. 27 *Nothing impure will ever enter heaven, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life.* None of us can claim to be completely pure all of the time, so anyone who has ever lived would make heaven impure if they went there. Except one. Jesus. He has gone through death on the cross, offering himself as a sacrifice in the place of the impure, to secure eternal life for those who trust in Him, so God sees them as perfect. John 3. 16 *For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. 18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands*

*condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.* There are two ways to live. Trusting in Jesus and being free to know God now and forever. Or not trusting in Jesus and being separated from God in this life and the next.

Jesus said in the sermon on the mount Matthew 7. 13 *"Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. 14 But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.*



Following Jesus is not easy, will be rejected by many, but is a wonderful road to travel with an incredible destination. Those who want to be with God in paradise must RSVP and God will be with them by His Spirit in their journey of trust in Jesus, as well as waiting for them in eternity. My prayer for everyone is that God will move in them so they will trust Jesus and know God through Him by the work of God's Spirit.

If you want to start that journey, to RSVP, you can pray this prayer:

Dear God. I know I am not good enough for heaven. Thank you for sending Jesus to die on the cross and take the punishment I deserve for all my wrongdoing. Forgive me for all my wrongdoing and give me your Holy Spirit so I can live for you now and into eternity. Amen.

If you do pray this it would encourage me to hear this and I would like to offer help to you in you in your new life with God.

Rev'd Jim Pye

## November Prayer Pointers

**Mondays - Remember** all who have died in service to their country.

**Tuesdays - Pray** for peace to triumph over the brutal futility of war.

**Wednesdays - Remember** all who suffer the consequences of wars and are left with traumatic injuries, mental and physical.

**Thursdays - Pray** for healing for the sick and understanding from others in their lives.

**Fridays - Remember** the devastation left when the guns and bombs cease their ruthless tirade of destruction.

**Saturdays - Pray** for those left behind to clear and rebuild.

**Sundays - Praise the Lord** for the privilege of our freedom in this country



## Otterden and Stalisfield W.I.

Our October meeting saw the very welcome return of our speaker Military Historian Andy Robertshaw, who came to show us how to research records of WWI relatives. Andy is a regular contributor to film and television and has been involved many times for the programme 'Who do you think you are?'. The National Archives are a wealth of information and armed with a few details of regiment and service numbers it is possible to research a complete service history. Andy had asked for some information from members in order to do research as a case study and was able to provide two of our group with their relatives' service history.

We are not able to hold our Wine Tasting event on 1st November as planned and are working on a replacement subject for our meeting. Our Wine tasting will take place on 13th December instead of our traditional Wreath making event, so we should have a very enjoyable evening. This meeting is only open to members and their guests but we welcome guests at any other time during the year so please contact our president Helen on 07477 580727 or secretary Ellie on 01795 892016.



# Christmas Party

The annual Stalisfield and Otterden Seniors' Christmas event will be taking place on **Sunday, 10th December from 4pm.**

Eat, drink, be merry and join in with Christmas carols. Any contributions to the usual raffle would be appreciated.

It would be great to see a few more of the "senior" guests, so send an email to Bridget at [bawithell@yahoo.com](mailto:bawithell@yahoo.com) or call her on 01795 892125.

Please note - places **MUST** be **pre-booked** with Bridget.

## Eastling Short Mat Bowls Club

We are still just about hanging on as a club and had our first league game last night 11th

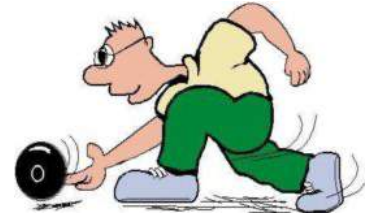
October against Lower Halstow, in the Swale League. We made a good start losing only one game, finishing with a total of 75 shots to Eastling, 32 shots to Lower Halstow.

This season the league has changed the scoring format to 3 points for a win, 2 for a draw, one point for losing, which to me does not make any sense if you lose you lose and should not get a point. (That was passed at the A.G.M.)

That out the way, we go away to Lower Halstow on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> It is going to be very difficult to win any games there as the floor is a night mare, but we're keeping our fingers crossed .

We are still looking for new players even after running for 25 years, so come along and have a go; Wednesday evenings 7 - 9pm Eastling Village Hall.

You never know, you might enjoy playing the game. Ring me Roy on 01795 537162.



### The Artists who Outwitted the Nazis

*The ingenious schemes of a group of artists during World War II proved to be a decisive factor in the Allied victory over the Nazis. They created fake tanks and depots to fool enemy reconnaissance planes and turned the front line into a real theatre of war, their artistic skills blurring fiction and reality.*



**Speaker: Matthew Wilson**

**When: 9th November 2023**

**Where: Parish Hall, Station Road**

**Time: 7.30pm doors open**

**Talk starts promptly at 8pm**



CHARING & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

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

### EASTLING VILLAGE HALL

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- Weddings



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**To book, email Annie:**

[jacksonandadams@btoopenworld.com](mailto:jacksonandadams@btoopenworld.com) 07754 114760

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

## Prayer for November 2023

Father God,

November is not many people's favourite month, unless there is a birthday or a delight in bonfires. Short days, sometimes dismal weather can lower our mood. The days of springtime optimism and summer sunshine seem a long way away, whether we look back or forward.

Help us Lord, whatever the month, whatever our circumstances, whatever our mood, to know the reality of Your presence and peace; to treasure each new day and know it is transformed by You into the most precious and beautiful gift. Help us not to waste a single one of them, Lord.

Thank You so much for November days.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

## Eastling Church Flower Rota



5th Nov - Suzie

12th - Erin & School

19th - Erin

26th - Bay - Advent Ring

3rd Dec - Mel

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

## The Two Minutes Silence

by David Pickup, a solicitor.

*Remember, O Lord, your compassion and unfailing love,  
which you have shown from long ages past.*

*Do not remember the rebellious sins of my youth.*

*Remember me in the light of your unfailing love,  
for you are merciful, O Lord. (Psalm 25:6-7)*

I love the Psalms, as they cover every emotion and religious experience, from despair to praise and from fear to rejoicing. Some say they are difficult, but life is difficult, and so the book of Psalms is great for dipping into and finding the right one for you. This one is about remembering – remembering the past failures in our lives, and dealing with them.

What do you think about during the Two Minutes' Silence on Remembrance Sunday? Perhaps you do not think about anything. I find it helpful to make an effort to think about the war dead. I used to do some research into local men who were casualties. I had some photos taken from newspapers or sent home.



These memories added some personalities and characteristics to the names on memorials.

I also think of members of my own family, who lived through the wars, and the experiences they had. Most did not go off to serve away from home, but lived through the blackouts, blitz, and evacuation and rationing. My grandfather left a photo of some comrades and had written on the back a request to 'keep this safe'. And so we have, for over one hundred years! I also remember, with thanks, the comparatively peaceful lives we have had.

There are some things we do not want to remember, usually bad things we have done or had done to us. When we turn our memories over to God, we are asking God to be merciful and loving, for although we make mistakes we can appeal to His enduring love.



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## THE ARTS SOCIETY EGERTON



The Arts Society brings people together through a shared curiosity for the arts. We meet at Egerton Millennium Hall, Elm Close TN27 9DS on the second Wednesday of each month at 2.30 p.m. (doors open from 2.00).

Our next lecture will be:

### GLORIANA: THE ART OF ELIZABETH I

presented by Siobhan Clarke

on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November at 2.30 p.m.

We will view Elizabeth's queenship through paintings. Art was a powerful device for royal magnificence and propaganda and Elizabeth knew how to use it. Our lecturer, Siobhan Clarke, worked for Historic Royal Palaces for 20 years delivering tours and lectures. She has also written several notable books on Tudor history.

Visitors are always very welcome at £6, refunded if you join. Membership costs £40. For further information please contact Christine Willis, our Membership Secretary via [cmwillis75@gmail.com](mailto:cmwillis75@gmail.com) or 01233 756377.

See also our website

[www.theartsocietyegerton.org.uk](http://www.theartsocietyegerton.org.uk)

## Christmas Trees 2023

With your great support, last year we raised £12,725. These donations are given to 44 local parish churches and 24 charities.

After a great growing season, we have again a very good selection of Christmas trees available in many varieties, shapes, colours and aromas, between 5 and 12ft in height. There will also be some up to 16ft - ideal for schools, churches, village halls and outside spaces. Plus, we will have plenty of evergreen cuttings including berried holly and ivy for Christmas decorating, and hopefully even a sprig of mistletoe nearer Christmas.

Since we started this fundraising scheme in 1990 over 30 years ago, the procedure is the same: you can visit to choose your tree from late September, and return to collect it in December, nearer Christmas.

As before, the arrangement is for you to make a donation for your tree; over half will be returned to your Parish church and the balance will go to the 24 charities. This is a great chance for you to raise funds for your Parish church and some deserving charities at the same time.

Please get in touch with us to book a time and date to come to choose your tree, by emailing, texting or phoning. (Please postpone your visit if you have covid or suspect you have it.) Email [nashsfarmhouse@btinternet.com](mailto:nashsfarmhouse@btinternet.com)

Landline 01795 532596 Peter's mobile 07910 248 308

**Many thanks for your support, Peter and Alison Howard  
Nashs Farmhouse, Luddenham, Faversham ME13 0TQ**

## Throwley Church Choir

will again be joining forces with the choir of Boughton Under Blean Church and Stuart Neame for two carol services this Christmas. The Throwley Service will be at St Michael & All Angels, Throwley, on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 6 pm and the Boughton Service will be on Christmas Eve. There will be the usual mix of well-loved carols, familiar lessons and Christmas readings and some less familiar carols to be sung by the choir. Everyone is most welcome to come and join in!

If anyone is interested in singing with us at Throwley please email [davidjelvin@gmail.com](mailto:davidjelvin@gmail.com)



### 'Happy times with old songs, tea & chatter'

Come and join us in singing for fun on Thursday afternoons:  
9<sup>th</sup> November, 14<sup>th</sup> December  
from 2pm - 3pm at Newnham  
Village Hall

£5 per person pay-as-you-go

ALL WELCOME  
suitable for dementia sufferers with their carers  
(carers attend free of charge)

Enquiries to Lissie on 07790 287878 or email  
[lissiebayford@gmail.com](mailto:lissiebayford@gmail.com)



### Eastling Christmas Choir

Come and join  
our choir for the  
Christmas Eve  
Carol service.

We will start practices  
in Eastling church,  
on Sunday evenings,  
5 - 6pm from 12<sup>th</sup>  
November.

Just come along or, for  
more information, call  
Andrew on  
01795 890598



## Sunday Services

### 2nd November All Souls

Stalisfield 7.30pm All Souls Service

### 5th November All Saints

Hebrews 12. 18 - 24, Matthew 5. 1 - 12

Eastling 10.30am Holy Communion

Norton 10.30 am Morning Worship

### 12th November Remembrance Sunday

1 Thessalonians 4. 13 - 18, Matthew 25. 1 - 13

Throwley 10.40am Remembrance

Oare 10.40am Holy Communion

### 19th November 2nd before Advent

1 Thessalonians 5. 1 - 11, Matthew 25. 14 - 30

Eastling 10.30am Morning Worship

Norton 10.30am Holy Communion

### 26th November Christ the King

Ephesians 1. 15 - 23, Matthew 25. 31 - 46

Throwley 10.30am Holy Communion

Newnham 10.30 am Morning Worship

Lynsted 10.30am Family Communion

### 3rd December Advent Sunday

1 Corinthians 1. 3 - 9, Mark 13. 24 - 37

Eastling 10.30am Holy Communion

Doddington 10.30 am Morning Worship

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## Online Daily Worship Continues

As well as the services in our churches, the daily 9am Morning Prayer at Lynsted and

**Breakthrough** on Sundays at 6pm, will continue at Lynsted and online on <https://kc-hd.org.uk>.

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

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

## High Downs Parish

Rector Interregnum

Benefice Administrator Joyce Warren

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

Associate Priest Reverend James (Jim) Pye

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

Curate Reverend Caroline Turvey

01795 886351 [caroline.turvey@kc-hd.org.uk](mailto:caroline.turvey@kc-hd.org.uk)

Reader Caroline Ramshaw (07799 538809)

Anna Chaplain Caroline Ramshaw

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

Reader Pim Baxter (07710 116269)

### Church Contacts

Eastling Andrew Baxter, Warden (01795 890598)

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

Stalisfield with Otterden

Jenny King, Warden (01795 890366)

Administrator Shirley Pritchard

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

Throwley Tim Jones, Warden

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

High Downs Parish Safeguarding Officer

Mark Harlow (07979 864000)

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## From The Registers

### Funeral

Jim Shilling

16th October 2023 at Eastling

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### CONTACT THE GOOD NEWS EDITOR

Hilary Harlow 01795 890338

If you would like to submit articles, or to advertise in the December 2023 magazine, send your submission by 20th November to: [goodnewsmagazine@me.com](mailto:goodnewsmagazine@me.com).

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

### Anna Chaplaincy

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

An Anna Chaplain can offer a listening ear and company.

Communion can be brought to you in your own home.



Contact your local Anna Chaplain on:

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

07799538809

Start at Doddington Church Car Park at 1.30pm for an easy stroll with friends, finishing at the church for refreshments and a blessing by 3.00pm

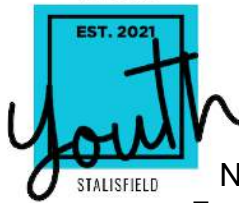
**Eat Pray Walk**  
Celebrating God's Creation

Dates:  
June 23rd  
July 28th  
August 25th  
September 22nd  
October 27th  
November 24th  
December 22nd



# FIREWORKS AT EASTLING

Opposite the Carpenters Arms  
 Saturday 4th November, 7.30pm.  
 The pub will have a  
 BBQ from 6:30pm



## Stalisfield Youth Group

November dates: 8th and 22nd  
 7 - 8.30pm at Stalisfield Village Hall  
 Free to all 11-18yr olds.

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

Any questions please contact  
 Catherine  
 07929 928 046



### Pizza Success



You will be delighted to hear that, thanks to all of you, the Eastling Pizza Festival raised £800 to support future Eastling village events. £200 will be going to Tim for his wonderful, forthcoming firework do 🎆🎆.

The Pizza Team of organisers, construction workers, box makers, the pub, the music makers and most importantly, the chefs did a brilliant job, giving up their time to make this happen and creating a great village event. Many, many thanks.

### Saying Goodbye Service



Saturday 4th  
 November, 11:30am,  
 Canterbury Cathedral

A service for those who have suffered the lost of a baby at any stage, however long ago it may have been, as well as those grieving that they are not able to have a child. A time to acknowledge and remember, whilst collectively 'saying goodbye'. This service is free to attend, and people of all faiths are welcome.

[SAYINGGOODBYE.ORG](http://SAYINGGOODBYE.ORG)

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### Annual baby and child memorial event

Sunday 26th November, 3pm  
 Canterbury Cathedral Lodge

All affected by baby or child loss within East Kent are warmly invited to attend. For more information, please contact East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust's chaplaincy office on 01843 234273 or 01843 234287.

**Mouse Makes**

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, with thanksgiving, present your \_\_\_\_\_ to God."  
*Philippians 4:6-7 NIV*

"The \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_ to all who \_\_\_\_\_ on him in \_\_\_\_\_."  
*Psalm 145:18*

"For where two or three \_\_\_\_\_ in my name, there I am with them."  
*Matthew 18:20*

SAY SORRY  
 PRAY FOR OTHERS  
 PRAY FOR YOURSELF  
 THANK GOD  
 FOR MY FAMILY  
 PRAY FOR FRIENDS  
 PRAY FOR THE NEEDY  
 PRAY FOR THE SICK  
 PRAY FOR THE CHURCH

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

NIV

Look up the Bible verses, fill in the blanks then find them in the word search

"\_\_\_\_\_ always, \_\_\_\_\_ continually, \_\_\_\_\_ in all circumstances."  
*1 Thessalonians 5:16-18*

"Therefore, \_\_\_\_\_ yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful."  
*Colossians 4:2*

"\_\_\_\_\_ your sins to one another and \_\_\_\_\_ for one another, that you may be healed."  
*James 5:16*

"\_\_\_\_\_ yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful."  
*Colossians 4:2*

"\_\_\_\_\_ yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful."  
*Colossians 4:2*

**The Plough Inn**, Stalisfield; a family run, independent, award winning

pub & restaurant offering an extensive menu of both 2 AA rosette dishes and your traditional pub classics.

**Our new opening times** for food service are now starting at 5pm with our pub classics menu & a brand new tapas style menu

**In November** we are introducing Wellbeing Wednesdays, join others at the pub from 4.30pm - 6pm & enjoy 10% off drinks & a free tea/coffee to make these cold weeks a bit brighter for us all.

**We also have** some lovely bespoke walking maps available for you to use so there's no excuses for getting out and about then back to cosy up by the open fire with a hot drink.

**Keep up to date** by following us on Facebook, Instagram or X (twitter)

Stalisfield Road, Faversham, Kent, ME13 0HY  
Tel: 01795 890 256 Email:

[info@theploughinnstalisfield.co.uk](mailto:info@theploughinnstalisfield.co.uk)



## Join us for Trees of Love 2023 to remember your loved one this festive season

Dedicate a beautiful dove to be placed on the illuminated Trees of Love, and let your memories shine throughout the festive season. Then join us for carols, mulled wine, hot chocolate and warm mince pies at our outdoor services at Pilgrims Hospices: Canterbury, Thanet and Ashford on

Saturday 2nd December, 4pm.

Alternative indoor services:

Barham Crematorium, 4.30pm

Wednesday 13th December,

Charing Crematorium, 14th, 4.30pm

[www.pilgrimshospices.org/treesoflove](http://www.pilgrimshospices.org/treesoflove)

01227 782062

## Santas on the Run!

**Sunday 10 December**

An event for

everyone. Gather your

friends, family & neighbours and step

into Christmas with Kent's biggest

Santa run! Choose from a 3k, 5k, or

**(NEW) 10k** challenge and dash your

way along Herne Bay's scenic seafront

<https://www.pilgrimshospices.org/event/santas-on-the-run-2023/>



## The Arts Society Faversham

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

**Our next lecture is on the Thursday 23 November 2023 at 11.00am on "E.H. Shepard's Christmas" by James Campbell.**

Coffee and biscuits will be served from 10.20am.

There will be the opportunity to mix with other members of the audience after the lecture and enjoy a mince pie and a glass of wine.

E H Shepard loved Christmas, and this lecture describes, including his own words much of the magic and joy of successive festive seasons, from those of his own childhood to others throughout his long life. We see a range of artistic styles from full colour images to pen-and-ink personal Christmas cards, with cartoons, drawings and watercolours, some featuring the iconic images from the Wind in the Willows (the snow in the Wild Wood...) and Winnie-the-Pooh (Pooh and Piglet from The House at Pooh Corner). Many of the images have not been published for over fifty years

Biography: *James Campbell has an MA in the History of Art, and a particular interest in the work of the artist, illustrator and cartoonist E H Shepard (1879-1976). He is currently working on a joint biography of A A Milne and E H Shepard commissioned for the centenary of the Winnie-the-Pooh books.*

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

Please note there will be no lecture in December.



## Don't blame bad dancers

Not everyone can dance. But if you are the sort who awkwardly waves your arms about and steps on people, it is not your fault - here is some comfort

It seems that the ability to move gracefully in rhythm and keep to a beat is not so much learned as inherited. In a recent study, American scientists found that the ability to stick to a rhythm is encoded for in 69 different genes.

So next time you stomp on someone on the dance floor, take heart and remember - you are probably just following in your father's footsteps.



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## 26th November: The excitement of the Sunday of Christ the King

The last Sunday in November is the last Sunday of the church year, and in some ways the most important. Why? Because everything else in the Christian year looks BACK on what happened 2000 years ago. The Sunday of Christ the King looks FORWARD to what we can expect next.... the return one day of Jesus Christ to this earth, as King of Kings.

Does the idea of Jesus of Nazareth literally returning to earth seem a bit quaint to accept, in our computerised world of e-mails and the internet? Well, that is what the Bible says will happen – *it is promised more than 250 times!*

The Bible is quite clear: the return of the Lord Jesus Christ as King of Kings will take place personally, powerfully, bodily, visibly, publicly – and INSTANTLY. (Read Matthew 24:30,31, or I Thessalonians 4:13 – 5:3.) Here are words of Jesus Himself:

*For the Son of Man in his day will be like the lightning, which flashes and lights up the sky from one end to the other. (Luke 17:24)*

This will be no local story for a BBC TV reporter to cover if he gets time. That

day he won't be interviewing the Carpenter of Nazareth, wearing Galilean homespun. Jesus will be in His incandescent brilliance as the 'Son of Man' – a bit of a challenge even for TV reporters! Certainly when Peter, James and John were witness to their familiar Master 'transfigured', as the same irradiated Person – in a dramatic preview of Christ's triumphant final rule (Luke 9:28-36), they did not feel very confident.

The martyred Stephen, about to die, had a similar glimpse: "Behold I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God" (Acts 7:56). The exiled apostle John on the island of Patmos saw the same figure: "...His face was like the sun shining in full strength" (Revelation 1:16.)

When Christ one day returns, the whole world will finally witness this same spectacle (Revelation 1:7). His return will mark the end of history, as we know it. It will inaugurate the final Judgment. It will re-unite the Lord with His Church on earth.


Jesus' return to us will bring about the new heaven and the new earth. Pain, death, persecution, privation and

sorrow will all be banished. The entire edifice of evil that has raised itself against the rule of God will be dismantled in a moment.

We have been warned all along not to place a date or a time upon the Second Coming of Christ. (Matthew 24:42-44) Sadly, many people ignore this warning and waste endless time in calculations. The way in which we should be spending our days before the end is to work, watch and witness to our Lord Jesus – whether or not ours is a world of computers, e-mail and all the rest!

In the meantime, where is Jesus now? The Bible writers tells us that Jesus has returned to the place of privilege and power, and is 'seated at the right hand' of the Father (Ephesians 1:20-21; Colossians 3:1; Hebrews 1:3), and is waiting for the Father's timing for Him to return to earth in glory (Mark 13:26-27,32), to raise the dead (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18), and give them their resurrection bodies (1 Corinthians 15:35-44).

Jesus will never be a baby again. He is now Christ the King – today, tomorrow, forever.




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## Updates from Citizens Advice Swale

Our National Consumer Campaign took place 16-22 October this year, raising people's awareness of specific consumer issues, and providing support and advice for those who need it. We were also advising consumers of their rights and how to protect themselves in the lead up to Black Friday and Cyber Monday, when looking for deals or shopping in the lead up to the festive season.

Here's a sneak peak of some of our consumer tips. For more information, follow us on Facebook and X, or visit <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/> Protect yourself when shopping online for the best deals:

- Make sure you're buying from an official website
- Confirm the return policy
- Pay by card to get extra protection if things go wrong

Have you changed your mind about something you bought? You don't have an automatic right to get your money back if there's nothing wrong with it. What you can do depends on where you bought the item and how you paid for it. It's important to check a shop's policy on returns - it can help you understand your rights if you change your mind about a product you buy.

### How can we help you?

- **General Advice:** Call Adviceline on 0808 278 7979, send an online request at <https://citizensadvice.org.uk/email-general-advice/> (Monday-Wednesday) or come to a drop-in session at Swale House, Sittingbourne on Mondays 10am-12pm, or 43 Stone Street, Faversham on Wednesdays and Fridays 10am-12pm.
- **Debt:** Request a call back at <https://citizensadvice.org.uk/debt/>
- Our services are subject to adviser availability. Please follow us on social media for up to date opening hours.

We offer free, confidential and impartial advice to people living or working in and around Faversham, Sheppey and Sittingbourne. In addition to general advice we offer specialist advice services including debt and benefits. We're an independent charity and we rely on donations and grants to make a difference to people in our community.



## In Memory of Sheila Hedges

By her sister Audrey Keen.

Sheila was born of the 23rd October 1938 at Rigshill Bungalow Otterden. She is well known for her life of hard work and devotion to her children, but will also be remembered for her kindness, generosity, readiness to help others and for being a good listener. She is now reunited with her husband Rob at Otterden. She meant so much to all of us who knew her.

God bless you Sheila.

An article featuring Sheila's early years was published in 'This England' spring 2012 under 'Memories from a Thatched Cottage'.



## Autumn Days

By Audrey Keen

If the sun is weak  
And prospects of a better day are bleak,  
Or if I see the leaves depart  
The trees defacing nature's art, I grieve  
And cannot honestly believe  
That autumn, honey coloured, tawny hued,  
Flame branched, mysteriously subdued  
Will last,  
And I am right,  
For autumn soon is past.

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## Date and Start Time

Tues 31 October 7pm  
Wed 8 November 6pm  
Mon 13 November 7pm  
Fri 24 November 6pm  
Tues 28 November 7pm

'Not suitable for the very young or those of a delicate disposition'



## Eastling

### Neighbourhood Watch

Village Warden 07794 010 394 or 01795 890848

Police 101 Emergency 999

There have been reports in local areas of persons driving around using air rifles out of vehicle windows to shoot at pheasants etc. If you hear or come across an incident please report it as it is not only barbaric but against the law.

The clocks go back an hour at the last Saturday in October so remember to alter the timers for your lights, also to leave a light on if going out.

A large quantity of garden rubbish was set on fire without the owners permission, on private land near the church, with aerosol cans being found nearby. Obviously setting fire was bad enough but using aerosol cans is positively dangerous, so whoever was responsible please act responsibly.

We have had off road bikes and even quad bikes roaming the fields so if seen please report it and, even better, where they are coming from.

Have a good month

Take care  
Alan

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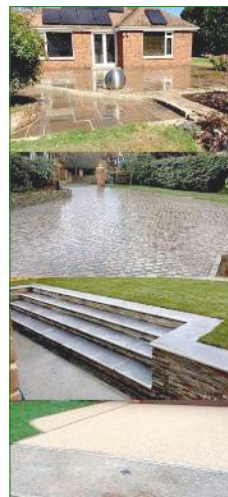
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If you are 16 or over and look after someone who could not manage without your support you are a Carer and our information and support services are for you. (You may not think of yourself as a Carer.)

This series is written by Dr Ruth M Bancewicz, who is Church Engagement Director at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion in Cambridge. Ruth writes on the positive relationship between Science and Christian faith.

## God of the mountains, God of the valleys

*Where were you when I laid the earth's foundation? Tell me, if you understand. Who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know! Who stretched a measuring line across it? On what were its footings set, or who laid its cornerstone ... The earth takes shape like clay under a seal; its features stand out like those of a garment... Have you journeyed to the springs of the sea or walked in the recesses of the deep? (Job 38:4-7, 14, 16)*

These verses from the biblical book of Job focus on the Earth, from the top of the highest mountains to the deepest valleys of the sea floor. Job used to have a very comfortable life, but lost everything: health, children, and much of his property. He can see no obvious reason for this terrible turn of events, so he demands an answer from God, asking "What have I done to You...? Why have You made me your target?"

There is no direct reply to Job's question, but instead a long conversation with his friends who assume (wrongly) that he must be being punished for doing something very bad. When God finally speaks, He draws Job's attention to his surroundings. The sun, moon and stars, the immensity of land and sea, the

creatures that inhabit them, and the processes that produce weather are a wonderful display of God's creative power. God is the origin and sustainer of all these things, and they are far beyond anything humankind could produce, fully understand or imagine – even today.

The things we do know about the processes described in Job can help us appreciate how marvellous they are. Mountains are produced by the movement of the Earth's rocky crust over great periods of time. Erosion by weathering or glaciers then grinds down those rocks to produce the mineral component of soil.

Considering the wider perspective of creation can help restore our sense of who we are, who God is, and where we fit into His purposes. God speaks to Job in the midst of his suffering, lifting his eyes to the power and creativity of his Maker. Only after this theology lesson are Job's practical needs addressed. What will life be like for us over the coming months? A constant check on our own thinking – reminding ourselves of the bigger picture of God's plans and purposes – might be just what we need to help us keep going.

*This article drew very directly on the writing of Prof Bob White in [New Daylight](#) (BRF, Sept-Dec 2020), and the input of a Bible study group based in Cambridge.*

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