

## S Club

for all primary school aged children  
on Sunday 20th September,  
10am in Eastling Village Hall

## Youngstyle

A half hour service for all  
young at heart  
Sunday 27th September,  
10am in Eastling Church



West Street  
Tickham Hunt  
Annual  
**Pimm's Ride**  
Bank Holiday  
Sunday 30th  
August 2009

Starting and finishing at Cheriton,  
Eastling, near Faversham ME13 0BN

Bring your horse on a gentle social ride  
through glorious Kent countryside lasting  
about 2 hours. All ages / abilities  
welcome.

Meet at 10.30am, move off at 11.00am.  
Fee £10 includes pre and post ride  
refreshments, including Pimm's.

(Please bring water for your horse)

Plenty of parking for boxes / trailers.

To reserve your place: 01795 890242

Hard hats must be worn. All riders take  
part at their own risk.

## Kids Club

## Craft Club

Fridays 11th and 25th  
September,  
6.15 - 7.15pm

Champion Hall, Painters Forstal.

50p per session

Contact number 532756.

## Eastling Puppet Club

Well done puppeteers for a spirited  
performance of Eastling Circus and  
Camel Race at Eastling School Fete.  
We resume the club in September.

Dates as follows:

Saturdays 19th September, 3rd October,  
Sunday 18th October, Saturday 31st  
October.

All rehearsals run 3-4pm, in Eastling Village Hall.

Performance dates to be arranged.

Children aged 9 and over welcome.

Contact number 01795 892124.



## Mouse Makes

May the  
peoples praise you,  
O God, may all the  
peoples praise you.

The land has yielded  
it's harvest; and  
God, our God has  
blessed us.

Psalm 67:6

What's in the pot of jam?

Can you find...

CHERRY • YAM • WINE • KIWI  
FIG • MELON • CHIPS • PEAR  
PLUM • LIME • APPLE • GRAPE  
PEACH • MANGO • ONION  
LYCHEE • LEMON  
ORANGE

Can you find these fruit?

PINEAPPLE • GRAPES • FIGS  
KIWI • MELON • PEACH • PIP  
CHERRY • PEAR • PLUM • LIME  
ORANGE BANANA • APRICOT  
APPLES • DATE

All good gifts around us are  
sent from heaven above,  
then thank the Lord, O thank  
the Lord for all his love.

Find these words in the haystack:

HARVEST PLOUGH FOOD  
SEED GOD WHEAT SUN  
SOIL RAIN BREAD  
SCATTER LAND SOW LOAF

# Good News

## Parish Magazine September 2009

## Stalisfield Highlife Harvest Supper

This year's Stalisfield Harvest Supper will be served  
on Saturday 26th September, in the Hut on the  
green at Stalisfield, at 7.00 for 7.30pm.

The ticket price is being held at last year's figure of  
£6, with a concessional reduction to £3 for children  
under 11 years old.

Reservations should be  
made to Ian on (01795)  
890475, or Cat on (01795)  
890298.



FRIENDS OF KENT CHURCHES  
**SPONSORED  
RIDE AND WALK**  
HELPING TO SAVE CHURCHES IN KENT



SATURDAY 12th SEPTEMBER 2009, 10AM-6PM

BICYCLE OR WALK AROUND KENT CHURCHES  
SPONSORSHIP MONEY RAISED  
WILL BE DIVIDED EQUALLY BETWEEN  
THE FRIENDS OF KENT CHURCHES AND  
THE CHURCH OR CHAPEL OF YOUR CHOICE

Eastling, Stalisfield and Whitehill will be open all day,  
with Stalisfield and Whitehill having cakes for sale.

For sponsorship forms to ride or walk for your  
church, contact:

Eastling: Audrey Smith on 890469

Stalisfield: Jane Baker on 01622 858332

Whitehill: Bobbie Richards on 532756

## Harvest Festivals

Stalisfield Church, 10 am  
Sunday 27th September

Eastling Church, 10 am  
Sunday 4th October

Whitehill Chapel, 10.40 am  
Sunday 4th October

Otterden Chapel, 3 pm  
Sunday 4th October



Gwen Sharpin, from Stalisfield,  
receiving the 'Home Care Worker South  
East' award from Ruby Wax

On the 6th of June 2009 the **Ceretas National  
Home Care Awards** presentation took place at  
the Marriott Hotel Grosvenor Square.

This is a major event and a timely reminder of the  
excellence of homecare's "unsung heroes" in  
many parts of the UK. It was a truly uplifting event  
recognising in great style the incredible  
achievements of Britain's care workers, co-  
ordinators, care managers and innovators.  
Comedienne Ruby Wax hosted the gala night  
with great passion and humour. But the real stars  
of the night were the award winners.

Gwen Sharpin of Stalisfield was winner of the  
Home Care Worker South East award. Gwen, 80  
this year, achieved her NVQ Level 2 at the age of  
76 and is one of the star workers for Meritum  
Independent Living. She loves her work and is  
brilliant at her job. After receiving the award Gwen  
said "I was astounded to win. It's unbelievable at  
my age."

*The news magazine for the combined parishes of Eastling and Stalisfield with Otterden*

## GOD IN MUSIC

### 'The trumpet will sound...and we shall be changed': Joseph Haydn

'I get up early, and as soon as I have dressed, I go down on my knees and pray God and the Blessed Virgin that I may have another successful day. Then when I've had some breakfast, I sit down at the clavier and begin my search. If I hit on an idea quickly, it goes ahead easily and without much trouble. But if I can't go on, I know that I must have forfeited God's grace by some fault of mine, and then I pray once more for grace until I feel I'm forgiven.'

Those words of the composer, Joseph Haydn, describe his daily routine of composition. The ideas must, in fact, have flowed in abundance for he composed an enormous amount of music: 104 symphonies, over 60 string quartets, over 60 piano sonatas, oratorios, 20 operas and 14 masses, and a host of other compositions besides.

Joseph Haydn was born in 1732, the son of a wheelwright in Rohrau, in eastern Austria, near the border with Hungary. From an early age he displayed a talent for music, and when he was eight years old, he became a chorister at St Stephen's Cathedral in Vienna. The regime there did not stifle his playful, adventurous spirit: on one occasion the empress Maria Theresa caught him climbing scaffolding, and in 1749 he was dismissed from the choir for cutting off a fellow-chorister's pigtail. Obligated to fend for himself, he eventually became Kapellmeister at the Esterhazy court. He was there for 24 years, 'cut off from the world' as he expressed it. Travelling to London in 1791 was a revelation for Haydn as he was feted as a renowned composer and a celebrity. In 1795 he returned to his homeland, where he was to die in 1809.

In this 200th anniversary year of his death, we give thanks for the incredible creative output of those years, written, as he expressed it in a letter to music lovers in Bergen, to provide 'a spring of rest and refreshment' to those pursued by sorrow and anxiety. 'That was a powerful motive for pressing onward.' What characterises much of Haydn's music, along with the clarity and lucidity of the lines, is its energy and zest and the abundance of jokes and surprises.

When we read of the ministry of Jesus in the Gospels, we often find him relishing jokes (the camel going through the eye of the needle, for instance) and the sparring banter that we can sense in many of his encounters. That sense of humour and the delight in dialogue abound in Haydn's works. It is there in the Joke String Quartet, where we are never quite sure if it has ended, and the Surprise Symphony, which wakes us up in the Andante, should we have nodded off, as it is there in many of his works. Look at the playful ending of the Farewell Symphony, and the stops and starts of several of the piano sonatas. They all witness to 'a fellow of infinite jest.'

I think Haydn had that sense of fun and playfulness because he realised that his life, like all lives, was lived *sub specie aeternitatis* (under the perspective of eternity). This sense of the majesty and glory of God gave perspective to his own life, for all the brilliance of his particular gifts. He delighted in humour and jokes because he knew humour always helped humanity keep a sense of proportion. It is related to humus, the soil, and to humility. Humour keeps our feet firmly on the ground, rejoicing in life and creation, but preventing us

from becoming too high and mighty. That is the playfulness of Haydn's music, which breaks down our defences and pretensions.

As we listen, we rejoice in the energy and joy of his compositions, written under the overarching perspective of divine providence. There is a story that George III said to the composer, 'Dr Haydn, you have written a great deal.' The composer modestly replied, 'Yes, Sire, a great deal more than is good.' The king rejoined, 'Oh, no, the world contradicts that.' and we, 200 years later, would agree.

### Prayer Pointers September 2009



|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| <i>Sunday</i>    | That the Holy Spirit will continue to bless and inspire us.         |
| <i>Monday</i>    | For a bountiful harvest and for those that gather it.               |
| <i>Tuesday</i>   | For families and especially those on holiday.                       |
| <i>Wednesday</i> | For those in authority especially the government.                   |
| <i>Thursday</i>  | For those suffering from conflict throughout the world.             |
| <i>Friday</i>    | For the sick, the homeless and the hungry.                          |
| <i>Saturday</i>  | For the new School year, remembering children starting new schools. |



### Eastling Church Flowers September 2009

5/6 Joan Thomas & Julia Bailey  
12/13 Steph Youle, Nerys & Emma  
19/20 Jane Hamley  
26/27 Mel Jordan  
October 3/4 Harvest Festival

### Stalisfield Harvest Festival

Sunday 27th September

If you can help decorate Stalisfield church ready for our Harvest Festival, please contact Mary Dowling, on 01795 890669.



...I take it our local supermarket has a rather good offer on tinned peas at the moment!

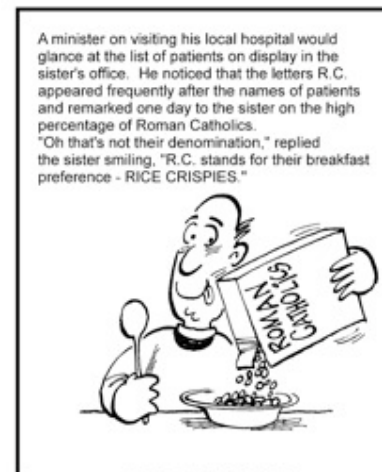
### The Rural Community Buildings Loan Fund

Previously known as the Village Hall Loan Fund, this was re-launched in April of this year. Now this scheme is open to all rural community buildings, including churches, chapels, and church halls - as long as the building is providing or intending to provide improved services for the wider community.

Any community building that needs to carry out capital works to its building, a specific project (including new build) or emergency work is eligible to apply for a loan.

It operates a flexible repayment scheme and has a total budget of £700,000. Applications can be made at anytime, and remember that alterations to listed church buildings, which would include toilets, kitchens etc, are VAT free at source.

The contract to manage the Loan Fund, funded by the Countryside Agency, was won by ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England). Revised guidelines and the application form to reflect the wider eligibility are still being finalised but in the meantime applications can be made at [http://www.acre.org.uk/communityassets\\_villagehalls\\_loanfund.htm](http://www.acre.org.uk/communityassets_villagehalls_loanfund.htm).



year. Last winter the Quaker Oats factory in Fife (which also produces Scott's Porridge Oats and the microwavable alternative Oats So Simple) had the biggest sales increase in its 110 year history - up by between 18 and 38 per cent. So - how do you cook it? In 1929 Marian McNeill produced "The One and Only Method" for making proper porridge. She decreed that coarse oats should be added to boiling water "in a steady rain from the left hand, stirring it briskly the while with the right, sunwise." In Scotland, purists decree that only salt and milk or cream should be added; the English don't care, and add sugar.

### Praise for the mighty oat!

If you want to lose weight, lower your cholesterol, lower your blood pressure, get rid of some toxins, and then increase your brain power, libido, and even life expectancy, start eating oatmeal or muesli for breakfast.

It may not sound very exciting or dramatic - you could hardly imagine James Bond tucking into a bowl of porridge in one of the films, but it seems it works. The humble oat is packed full of healthy things for us. Certainly sales have soared this past

### Eastling Neighbourhood Watch.



Contact numbers:  
Parish/Village Warden 07794 010394  
Crimestoppers 0800 555 111 (24 hours, free and anonymous)  
Sittingbourne police station 01795 477055  
Emergencies or crime in progress always use 999

#### Hare Coursing

There have been one or two instances in the local area reports of hare coursing involving various members of the community not from this area.

Should anyone see this happening, do not approach the offenders, just call either the police, or my mobile and the necessary action will be taken.

#### Dog Fouling

There have been many reports of dog fouling mainly on the footpath behind the Church leading to the woods and also along the thoroughfare between Meesons Close and Glebe Cottages. Will you please clear up any mess left by your dogs on any public footpath in the locality. We have many walkers in the area and also children like to play on the footpaths, so it is imperative to keep them clean. The Dog Warden has been informed.

#### Thank You

I would like to extend a big thank you to all the young people in the village during the school holidays, apart from a couple of instances, for their good behaviour and to the Eastling Riding Centre for all the help and assistance they have given these youngsters.

Have a good month, Alan.

### The Carpenters Arms 01795 890234

#### Pensioners Of Eastling

Every Thursday lunch, everything on the menu is ½ price.  
Keith, mild is not on the menu!

#### The Carpenters Comedy Club

##### Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September

A new idea for September, we are going to try a comedy night at "The Carps" with a view to a monthly event, starting with a comedian well known on the circuit

"Gary Chase".

Free entry

#### Live music dates

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept. Camine. Celtic sister band 8:00pm  
Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> Sept. Enigma. Jazz quartet from 4:30pm  
Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> Sept. The Fat River Band. Blue grass/ Cajun  
Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> Sept. Chris Taylors All Stars. Modern folk  
Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> Sept. The Frank Evans Band. Rock/blues

Our thanks to all of you for your continuing support in these tough times, we appreciate all your help and advice.

Mitch & Donna Spooner



### Eastling Church Harvest Flower Festival

This year, we will be running a Harvest Flower Festival at St Mary's. It would be fantastic if as many people as possible - including those not on the flower rota - could take part, be you in Eastling, Otterden or Stalisfield. Harvest is such an important time for rural communities such as ours, and it would be wonderful if we could celebrate it by getting as many people as possible involved.

We are very lucky in that Robin White, well known in the area for his fantastic floristry skills, has kindly said that he will judge the competition for us.

There will be two categories up for grabs: one for adults, being the display most reflecting harvest time; and, one for children under 16 years of age, the most colourful display.

There is no entrance fee and there will be a maximum limit of £10 that anyone can spend on a display. We will be leaving buckets of greenery in the church for those who would like to use it, and also oasis if you are feeling ambitious!

We'd ask that entrants bring their contributions to the church on the morning of Saturday, 3rd October, judging will take place that afternoon. Winners will be announced after the Sunday service, the adult being given a bottle of champagne, and the under-16 a present. If you would like to take part, please could you email Emma & Nerys at [eastlingflowergirls@googlemail.com](mailto:eastlingflowergirls@googlemail.com), or telephone them on 07940 490 896.

If you have any fresh produce - apples, tomatoes and so on - or indeed any tinned or jar food, that you could donate to those at Age Concern in Faversham, please do bring it to the Church, on or before 4th October.



## Services in our Churches

### 6th September Trinity 13

James 2. 1 - 17, Mark 7. 24 - end

Eastling 8 am Holy Communion (BCP)  
Eastling 10 am Holy Communion (CW)  
Otterden 3 pm Evening Prayer

### 13th September Trinity 14

James 3. 1 - 12, Mark 8. 27 - end

Eastling 8 am Holy Communion (BCP)  
Eastling 10.30 am Service of Healing and Blessing

### 20th September Trinity 15

James 3. 13 - 4. 3, 7, 8a, Mark 9. 30 - 37

Eastling 8 am Holy Communion (BCP)  
Stalisfield 10 am Morning Prayer (BCP)  
Eastling 10 am Morning Prayer (BCP)  
Eastling 10 am S Club in Village Hall

### 27th September Trinity 16

James 5. 13 - end, Mark 9. 38 - end

Eastling 8 am Holy Communion (BCP)  
Eastling 10 am Youngstyle  
Stalisfield 10 am Harvest Festival

### 4th October Trinity 17

Hebrews 1. 1 - 4, 2. 5 - 12, Mark 10. 2 - 16

Eastling 8 am Holy Communion (BCP)  
Eastling 10 am Harvest Festival  
Otterden 3 pm Harvest Festival

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

## Ministry in our Parishes

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

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

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

Reader  
Hugh Perks (01795 890603)  
Weald Cottage, Eastling

#### Churchwardens

Eastling  
Steve Youle (01795 890368)  
Audrey Smith (01795 890469)

#### Stalisfield with Otterden

Patricia Thompson (01795 890376)  
Martin Beckenham (01795 892079)

### Mid Week Groups

Tuesdays 7.30 pm Bible Study Pinks Farm  
Thursdays 10.15 am Prayer Meeting Pinks Farm

### Services at Whitehill Chapel

6th September 10 am Brunch  
10.40 am Family People's Choice  
13th September 11 am Morning Service  
16th September 9.30 am Prayer Meeting  
20th September 11 am Holy Communion  
27th September 11 am People's Choice

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

## Worried that your life is changing beyond recall?

A wise farmer rotates his crops: no one thing should always be grown in the same place. Change and diversity are the key to long-term health. It is the same for us: for us to be at our most productive, we must not be surprised if God suddenly rests us from 'growing corn', and gives us something else to do. Often it is something we would never imagined!

Life is lived in seasons: in each of our lives, there is a time to do this, a time to do that. Too many of us lose our sense of self-worth and direction because we don't understand when we're leaving one season and entering another in life. We struggle and want to hang on to what we had. But sometimes God wants to give us something new, to make us productive at every stage of our life. God will never put you in a place too small to grow. You may be asked to grow in ways that seem uncomfortable at first, but he is out to develop you fully, in every aspect of your being - not just the ones at which you are already good!

#### Story of the Corn

The grains of corn were planted  
Where plough and rake had been,  
And soon, through brown earth pushing  
The young green shoots were seen.  
The fields of bearded barley  
The graceful hanging oats,  
And ears of wheat packed closely,  
The cheerful reaper notes.  
He sees the cornfields waving,  
Yellow and ripe and strong,  
And so, his heart rejoicing,  
He sings his harvest song.

From a poem by K Fisher

## Otterden Chronicles

by Audrey Keen



*In the winter the wind would howl around the walls of Little Snoad*

Summer is turning to Autumn, and Christmas is something that goes on and on in time and never changes. It is dependable. It is a time for everyone. Reminiscences for all. When my generation were young children, simple things gave us pleasure. Until 1953 rationing was in force, yet I cannot remember being deprived of anything. My Christmas stockings were always full of lovely things and there was always an abundance of food and Christmas goodies. It seemed always to snow at Christmas time, though I don't suppose it did. The wind would howl around the walls of Little Snoad Cottage, but we were warm and cosy inside, and the angry, noisy weather could not reach us. We had no need of expense and large presents, such as are on offer today. But family love and real friendship were the essence of Christmas. Secure in the knowledge that all was well, safe and companionable. Sadly, as time passes, these special people

are taken from us, but their love and past loyalty can never fade. Our memory of them, and that of their time, remains within us, nothing, but nothing can take this away from us. And so they live on, in us.

'And on the morrow early,  
Birds greet a day that's new.  
Flowers open petals  
To bathe in morning dew.  
And I will pick wild strawberries,  
Smell the fresh cut grass,  
And capture every moment  
For this day, also must pass.' AIK

#### Divine Dimensions

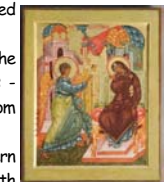
17th October - 1st November

An installation of contemporary icons will be on display at St Peter's Church, Oare, from 11am to 5pm each Wednesday to Sunday from 17 October to 1 November.

Parish priest, Revd. Carolin Clapperton said 'We hope that through art and music, people of all faiths and none will come to St Peter's and find here a place of peace, a place for prayer and quiet reflection and that the exhibition "Divine Dimensions" will indeed lead people into a sense of the divine.'

The icons are being created by leading iconographers from around the world. They will be hung on a movable screen, called an iconostasis - between the sanctuary and the nave - which has been commissioned from local craftsmen.

A series of supporting events has also been arranged including Eastern Orthodox Vespers, Gregorian Vespers, a Choral Evensong, a concert with readings of poetry, and an illustrated lecture. Details are available on [www.iconsatoare.org](http://www.iconsatoare.org)  
For more information contact: Amanda de Pulford 01795 534172



Annunciation by Trina Bradley

## Service of Healing and Blessing

Sunday 13th September  
10.30am

in Eastling Church

Guest Speaker: The Revd.

Amanda Evans,  
Chaplain to The Living Well

A quiet service with hymns and prayer,  
with the laying on of hands for healing.  
All welcome



## Back to Church Sunday

September 27th  
Why not ask a friend to join you.

#### The Back To Church Sunday Prayer

Welcoming God, thank you for today.  
Thank you for making us and loving us.  
Thank you for inviting us to know you.  
Help us to invite (*Your friend's name here*) to come to church so they can know you too.  
Please bless Back to Church Sunday and bless everyone in our church.  
Help us all to know you better.  
We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen



The Old Cottage  
3 The Street  
Eastling  
Kent ME13 0AZ

#### Bed & Breakfast in Eastling

A comfortable **Double room** with private bathroom. We also have a **Twin room** (sharing bathroom with double) so we can welcome four family members or friends.

Open all year including  
Christmas and New Year

Phone Karen on 077 47 17 80 80 or visit  
[www.eastling.org.uk/accomm/html](http://www.eastling.org.uk/accomm/html)

## Best Behaviour

school for dogs

**Exercise & Socialisation School**  
We collect your dog from your home, to run and play with other dogs in a safe secure field. Ideal for dogs that are at home all day or those who would benefit from meeting other dogs.

We return him home a tired happy dog!  
For more details contact:

Tel - 01795 531516 Mob - 07952827806  
Lynsey Hyland - Canine Hydrotherapist  
[www.bestbehaviourschoolfordogs.co.uk](http://www.bestbehaviourschoolfordogs.co.uk)

#### EASTLING PARISH COUNCIL

At the July meeting, Councillors discussed the Village website and agreed that, although some of the pages need updating, on the whole the information is good.

The village sign will be erected as soon as the crop has been harvested. The annual audit has been returned by the Audit Commission with no problems.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 16th September at 6.30pm in Eastling Village Hall. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

Jill Seaman  
Clerk to the Council

## Otterden WI

On Tuesday July 28<sup>th</sup> we welcomed new and existing members and a record number of visitors to 'A Good Read' at Stalisfield Village Hall. This was an extremely convivial evening, with wine, cheese and assorted nibbles provided by the Committee and we were delighted that so many ladies were keen to share their favourite books and authors with us and amazed as the vast range of literature discussed, from non-fiction and historical drama to personal memoirs and 'chick-lit'. What a very well-read group we are! Our Secretary, Pat Blake, is currently putting together a list of all the books and authors which will be distributed at the September meeting.

Dates for your Diary:

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September - Games and Grub meeting at Stalisfield Village Hall 7.30pm. We will be taking part in a range of entertaining games and activities, designed to enable us to all get to know each other a little better whilst having fun, AND the **WI Produce Show**. Please bring along anything you have grown in your garden or on your allotment, or any jams, preserves, chutneys, wine or anything edible/drinkable you've produced at home during the year.

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> October - Pumpkin Carving meeting at Stalisfield Village Hall 7.30pm. We're hoping that at least some members will have managed to grow pumpkins from the seeds that were handed out earlier in the year to make this annual event even more special and we all hope to remember some of the skills that we learned last year from our expert pumpkin carvers!

We are a very friendly group and new members and guests are always welcome. If you're a little shy of coming on your own, please contact us and we'll try to arrange for you to 'buddy up' with a member who lives nearby. If you would like any more details about us, or just a general chat about the WI, please don't hesitate to contact our Secretary, Pat Blake on: 01795 531266

Wendy Thomas, Publicity Officer



from John Noel Photographic Collection

## Charing and District

### Local History Society

Thursday 10th September

#### Everest Pioneer:

Sandra Noel will give a talk on **The photographs of Captain John Noel** - The work of the official photographer to the 1922 and 1924 Everest expeditions.

8pm in the Parish Hall, Charing, doors open at 7.45pm. Visitors welcome at £2. Secretary: J. Burgess 01233 714639

## Stalisfield Wild Life

The merest touch of hyperbole may have been detected from time to time in reports and announcements from Stalisfield. Rest assured that the report on the Stalisfield Frog race needs no trace of exaggeration in hailing the success of the evening.

The organization was superb. Held fittingly at Derbies Court, the Meet ran like clockwork from start to finish, with race officials and ancillary helpers fulfilling their roles perfectly. Master of Ceremonies Andrew, worked the crowd like a professional to create excitement and noise worthy of a fill-blown Derby.

The races ran under a high ceiling of giant lily pads and supersized frogspawn, all held up on an invisible filament net, to create the illusion of looking up from the bottom of a pond. The effect was amazing and fully justified the hours of work put in by its talented creator.

Supper arrived at just the right time. The fish and chip meal could not be faulted for freshness and "just cooked" condition, despite being delivered from Faversham. Over ninety race-goers were fed without a single complaint.

Thanks are due to the Bowl Inn and other local businesses for their generous sponsorships, to all those who gave their time to prepare and run the event, to Andrew and Judith for the use of their barn and, of course, to all of the ninety some people who bought tickets and gave generously on the night. The proceeds made an outstanding contribution of, close to, £1,100 towards the Village Hall rebuilding fund.

*The organizers of this event wish to give assurances that no actual frogs took part, or were harmed in any way.*

## The Painters Forstal COFFEE CLUB

The next coffee club will be on 16<sup>th</sup> September, in Whitehill Chapel, 11 am - 12.30pm. All welcome.

**Toothy grin** While working for an organization that delivers lunches to the elderly, I used to take my four-year-old daughter on my afternoon rounds. She was unfailingly intrigued by the various appliances of old age, particularly the canes, walkers and wheelchairs. One day I found her staring at a pair of false teeth soaking in a glass. As I braced myself for the inevitable barrage of questions, she merely turned and whispered, 'The tooth fairy will never believe this!'

## Eastling Gardeners' Club

meets on Thursday 22nd October at 7.30pm, in the village hall, for a talk on 'Trees and Shrubs for Small Gardens' by Paul Twyman, followed by wine and home-made nibbles. Free to members, otherwise £2.50

## Afternoon Club

September Activities: 10th and 24th Board Games. Both meetings will be held at 2pm in the Champion Hall, Painters Forstal

## Short Mat Bowls

Lower Halstow joined the Swale League last season and, like all new comers, started off in the third division. They have been around for quite a while and decided to become more competitive. So they asked if they could come to Eastling to practise. One reason being that their mats are only 40 foot long and ours are 45 foot - ours are maximum length, theirs are minimum length. We had a very enjoyable evening and they thanked us for this. Two weeks later Bredgar made a visit, they are in the second division and a lot more competitive. They brought 9 players with them, so we had three mats out. The middle mat really tests everybody with its funny quirks but, with our new thicker and faster mat, it plays very much better, but some of our players do not like playing on it. On October 7th we start Wednesday afternoon sessions again, so in the winter months when you do not know what to get up to, come along and join us. We have all the equipment, all you need to bring is flat soled shoes or slippers. You can also come on Friday afternoons, 2.30 - 4.30 or Friday evenings 7.30 - 9.30pm. All sessions in Eastling Village Hall.

## FITNESS & DANCE CLASSES

@ Eastling Village Hall

### WEDNESDAYS

**7.00pm BUMS, LEGS & TUMS**

*helps to tone & shape these specific areas.*

**8.00pm FIT DANCE**

*works on aerobic fitness, using fun DANCE moves.*

### THURSDAYS

**9.15am FITNESS PILATES**

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

Fun & Funky

**4.30pm FREESTYLE DANCE IDTA**  
school years 3 - 11

Classes £4.00 each or £7.00 for a double class on Wednesdays.

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

www.milesdanceandfitness.com

Don't forget ::::

## Painters Forstal with Ospringe WI

Tuesday 15th September 2.15pm in the Champion Hall. Pru Anderton will talk on 'My Friend Sally'. Competition: A seasonal collage (A4 sheet). **Saturday 19th Coffee Morning** Cake stall, tombola and more. 10am 12 noon in United Church Hall, Preston Street. Phone 532756 for more information.

## Stalisfield

Summer Fete at 2pm  
Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> August  
Games, stalls, prizes, fun for all the family

Its Back!!!

## Eastling Harvest Auction

at The Carpenters Arms

@ 8 pm on Friday 9th October  
Auctioneer Mr K Neaves and apprentices.



|   |            |                          |
|---|------------|--------------------------|
| 3rd Pilates Fitness Classes resume                  | 9.15am     | Eastling Village Hall    |
| 3rd Freestyle Dance Classes resume                  | 4.30pm     | Eastling Village Hall    |
| 9th Book Sale at Pop-In                             | 9 - 11am   | Eastling Village Hall    |
| 10th Afternoon Club                                 | 2pm        | Champion Hall            |
| 10th Charing History Society                        | 7.45pm     | Charing Parish Hall      |
| 11th Craft Club                                     | 6.15am     | Champion Hall            |
| 12th Sponsored Ride and Walk                        | 10am - 6pm | Kent C churches          |
| 13th Service of Healing & Blessing                  | 10.30am    | Eastling Church          |
| 15th Deadline for October Good News                 |            | Address below            |
| 15th Painters Forstal W.I.                          | 2.15pm     | Champion Hall            |
| 16th Coffee Club                                    | 11am       | Whitehill Chapel         |
| 16th Parish Council Meeting                         | 6.30pm     | Eastling Village Hall    |
| 19th Coffee Morning                                 | 10am       | United Church, Faversham |
| 19th Puppet Club                                    | 3-4pm      | Eastling Village Hall    |
| 24th Afternoon Club                                 | 2pm        | Champion Hall            |
| 24th Otterden WI                                    | 7.30pm     | Stalisfield Village Hall |
| 25th Craft Club                                     | 6.15am     | Champion Hall            |
| 26th Harvest Supper                                 | 7.30pm     | Stalisfield 'Hut'        |
| 29th Magazine Folding                               | 1.30pm     | Pinks Farm               |
| OCTOBER 3rd Harvest arrangements to Eastling Church |            |                          |
| 9th Harvest Auction                                 | 8pm        | Carpenters Arms          |
| 22nd Gardeners' Club                                | 7.30pm     | Eastling Village Hall    |
| NOVEMBER 14th Wit and Wisdom                        | 7.30pm     | Eastling Village Hall    |
| 21st Quiz Night                                     | 7.30pm     | Eastling Village Hall    |
| DECEMBER 8th Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunch       |            | Eastling Village Hall    |
| 12th Stalisfield Christmas Show                     |            | Stalisfield Village Hall |
| 19th Over 60s' Christmas Tea                        |            | Stalisfield Village Hall |

## Deadline for October Good News

If you would like to advertise in this magazine, submit articles, features or stories for publication, or would like any forthcoming events publicised, send your contribution by 15th September to Hilary Harlow, Pinks Farm, Eastling, Faversham ME13 0BA. Tel: 01795 890338. Where possible, please submit your entry by email: h.f.harlow@btconnect.com. Past and current issues of the Good News may be viewed on [www.northdowns.plus.com/goodnews](http://www.northdowns.plus.com/goodnews)

## EASTLING VILLAGE HALL

To book ring Julia Bailey  
on 01795 890746



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.