

Ospringe School Race Night Friday 14th March

Sorry for the lack of news last month, however now lots of plans have been made and the year is looking really exciting. The highlight of 2003 will definitely be Ospringe's first FIREWORK DISPLAY...join us on the 8th November for the best show in town!



However before that there are lots of other events for your delight and delectation. Friday March 14th is the date for another extremely enjoyable Race Night. Buy your horse and saddle up and come and join the fun. Horses will be on sale after school at the school gate from Monday 3rd March. Term ends on 11th April, but no Easter holidays would be complete without the annual "Easter Egg Hunt" and decorated egg competition. Come along on Saturday 12th at 10.00 and hunt away, clues for younger and older children. A more thoughtful time can be had on Saturday 17th May when our regular quiz masters will lead us in another "Wine & Wisdom", the Summer Fair will be held on Saturday 14th June and there will be another Fashion Show on Friday 4th July. Details of these events will be given nearer the time.

Thank you to every one who participated in fundraising over the last year. As well as supporting the school in small ways, such as helping with the cost of transport and children's christmas parties, the OSA has just purchased some fantastic new gym equipment for the children (replacing equipment bought by the School Association over 30 years ago!). We are now looking to help with lighting and curtains for the hall and a drum kit for the orchestra. So please support future events (and there are a lot of those!)

Jill Fagg

Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday 12th April
10am



Young Church

Whitehill Chapel

There will be no over 8yr's meeting on Sunday 2nd March at 10.40am. Younger children will go out during the 11 a.m. Family Service.

Ospringe Church

Sunday School on 9th March & 23rd March at 11am during part of the communion services. 16th March Family Service.

Eastling

16th March 5 Club, 10 a.m. in the Village Hall
23rd March Young Style 10 a.m. in church

Club 8 - 13

Champion Hall
50p per session

Friday 7th March 6 to 7 p.m.
Friday 21st March 6.15 - 7.15 p.m.

Churches Together in Faversham Lent Lunches

Proceeds to Christian Aid
12 noon - 2pm, Alexander Centre, Faversham
Every Friday during Lent, starting 7th March
Everyone welcome.

Ospringe will be organising the lunch on 7th March, offers of help to Ospringe churchwardens or Penny, please. Soup makers - now's your chance! Donations towards other food items will be gratefully received and offers of help on the day most welcome.

Good News

Parish Magazine March 2003

Ash Wednesday, 5th March, Services: 3pm at Ospringe, 7.30pm at Eastling

One Saturday morning six year old Ben decided to make breakfast for his parents. He wanted to make pancakes. So he found a big bowl and spoon, pulled a chair to the counter, opened the cupboard and pulled out the heavy flour canister, spilling it on the floor. He scooped some of the flour into the bowl with his hands, mixed in most of a cup of milk, a couple of eggs and added some sugar, leaving a floury trail on the floor which by now had a few tracks left by his kitten. Ben was covered with flour and getting frustrated. He wanted this to be something very good for Mum and Dad, but it was getting very - well, floury. He didn't know what to do next, whether to put it all into the oven or on the stove and he didn't know how the stove worked! Suddenly he saw his kitten licking from the bowl of mix. He rushed to push her away, and knocked the rest of the eggs to the floor. The family dog ambled in and began helping himself to this raw omelette. Frantically Ben tried to clean up this monumental mess but slipped on the eggs, getting his pyjamas white and sticky.



Just then he saw Dad standing at the door. Big tears welled up in Ben's eyes. All he'd wanted to do was something good, but he'd made a terrible mess. He was sure a scolding was coming, maybe even a spanking. But his father just watched him for a moment, and then softly asked: "Ben, what are you doing?" Ben stammered an explanation as the kitten licked eagerly around the top of the milk bottle and the dog sampled the eggshells. Then, walking through the mess, his father picked up his crying son, and hugged him, getting his own pyjamas white and sticky in the process. That's how God deals with us. We try to do something good in life, but it can often turn into a mess. Our marriage gets all sticky or we insult a friend, or we can't stand our job, or our health goes sour. Sometimes we just stand there in tears because we can't think of anything else to do. That's when God picks us up and loves us and forgives us, even though some of our mess gets all over him. But just because we might mess up, we shouldn't stop trying to 'make pancakes' for God or for others. Sooner or later we'll get it right, and then they'll be glad we tried... "!!!"

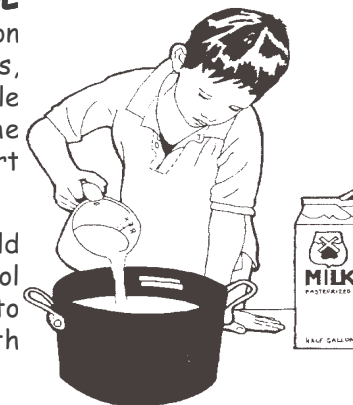
Making Pancakes

FRIENDS OF EASTLING SCHOOL

We will be celebrating Shrove Tuesday on 4th March with freshly made Pancakes, sweets, biscuits and tea or coffee on sale from 2.45pm and a Pancake Race in the School playground. Do come along to support us and to join in the fun!

Don't forget our JUMBLE SALE to be held on Saturday 22nd March at 1pm in the School Hall. Please start sorting out your jumble to be brought to school from Monday 10th March.

Jill Seaman, tel: 01795 890519



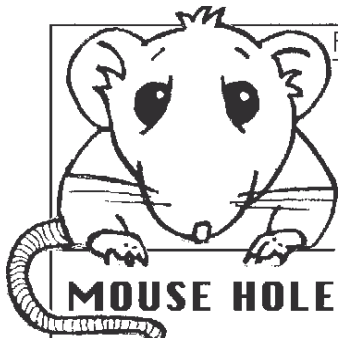
PUDDLEDUCKS PLAYGROUP

We will be making pancakes on Shrove Tuesday and the children will be making red noses for Comic Relief when we will be asking for donations of coins to make a snail trail.

We are still collecting any aluminium cans for recycling which can be brought to playgroup or to Eastling School.

Any enquires to Jill Seaman, 01795 890519.

From my home in the church I learn about all sorts of things...



MOUSE HOLE

Paper Rainbows

Cut eight 10cm x 10cm squares of paper, one each of these colours:

- red
- orange
- yellow
- dark green
- bright green
- bright blue
- dark blue
- violet

x8

1. Fold each square in half.

2. Fold the top right corner to the centre.

3. Fold the left corner up to make

4. Glue the pointed end of one folded square into the triangular 'pocket' of the next in colour order as above. Hang up.

It rained... and it rained... and it rained... and it rained... for 40 days and 40 nights it rained... until a great flood covered the earth.

Why did God flood the earth? See Genesis 6:12,13

Only Noah, his family and two of every living creature were still alive, safe in the great ark that God had instructed Noah to build.

Why did God save Noah? See Genesis 7:1

When the flood went down Noah came out of the ark, praised God and built an altar to the Lord.

And God made a promise: "I have set a rainbow in the clouds and it will be a sign... Never again will the waters become a flood to destroy all life"

Read Noah's story in Genesis chapters 6 to 9

Make a Rainbow

Set a mirror in a bowl of water [as picture]. Shine a torch through the water at the mirror and rainbow will appear on the ceiling!

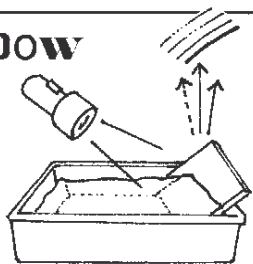




Photo: Vicky Shepherd

Bishop Graham came to Ospringe Church on 16th February to confirm eight candidates: Liz and Sarah Bell, Joanne Fagg, Alexander and Olivia Hamilton-Jones, Megan and Victoria Ralph and Daniel Matera.

Prayer Pointers

- Sundays That Lent may be a time of spiritual refreshment.
- Mondays Those facing difficult family decisions.
- Tuesdays Lenten activities in the Benefice.
- Wednesdays The work of Churches Together in Faversham and the Women's World Day of Prayer.
- Thursdays For all who work in the media.
- Fridays For peace in the Middle East.
- Saturdays For persecuted Christians.



Mothers' Union News
30th March 2003
 Services in our churches
 Ospringe 10.30 a.m.
 Eastling 10.30 a.m.
 Stalisfield 3.00 p.m.

Mothers' Union News

In January we held our annual Wave of Prayer service in which we joined the Mothers' Union Worldwide and followed a set service of prayers, hymns, lighting of candles and the placing of flags on a map indicating our links with the dioceses of Lesotho, Bermuda, Cyangugu, the Philipinnes, Kebbi and Lainya (our new link in the Sudan).

We continued the meeting with a short quiz and some amusing anecdotes. The Revd. Pat Pollard read the poem - How Do You Live Your Dash?

Anyone wishing to come along to our meetings, please ring the Revd. Pat Pollard (535407).

Carol Marshall

How Do You Live Your Dash?

*I read of a man who stood to speak
at the funeral of a friend.*

*He referred to the dates on her tombstone
from the beginning - to the end.*

*He noted that first came her date of birth
and spoke the following date with tears.
But he said what mattered most of all
was the dash between those years
(1934-1998).*

*For that dash represents all the time
that she spent alive on earth -
And now only those who loved her
know what that little line is worth.*

*For it matters not, how much we own,
the cars - the house - the cash,
What matters is how we live and love
and how we spend our dash.*

*So think about this long and hard -
are there things you'd like to change?
For you never know how much time is left,
that can still be rearranged.*

*If we could just slow down enough
to consider what's true and real,
And always try to understand
the way other people feel.*

*And be less quick to anger,
and show appreciation more
And love the people in our lives
like we've never loved before.*

*If we treat each other with respect,
and more often wear a smile -
Remembering that this special dash
might only last a little while.*

*So, when your eulogy is being read
with your life's actions to rehash -
Would you be proud of the things they say
about how you spent your dash?*

Author Unknown

CHOIR REPORT

We welcome into the Choir Alex and Vicky Brenchley. They have picked up very quickly how to read the music, follow the conductor and join in the fun of singing. We are enjoying singing *Lord I want to be a Christian*; the African *Your will be done*; *A Prayer to St. Richard*, which Andrew Baxter taught us; *Panis Angelicus* in two parts; Psalm 24 to a lovely chant by J. Barnby; *Swing low sweet chariot*; Howard Goodall's *The Lord's my shepherd*; *Doh a deer*; *Bring me sunshine* in two parts; *All the nations of the earth*; *Pie Jesu*; *When I'm 64/74*; *Joshua fought the battle of Jericho*; as well as our two sight reading exercises and the hymns and worship songs which are chosen for the services. Quite an eclectic range!

We celebrated Don's special birthday after choir practice with a song, cake, candles and apple juice. We are looking forward to the Confirmation and the visit of Bishop Graham and to singing at The Almshouses Chapel and Carnalea during half term. Congratulations to all eight candidates and to our two Choir members, Megan and Joanne. Unfortunately many of the youngsters had suffered from the "bugs" and we are pleased to see them restored to their smiling selves. Roll on Spring!

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FROM THE ORGAN LOFT.

I had the privilege to play for the funeral of Hugh Curling. It was a fine Service and I was grateful for the support of the band of singers in the Choir Stalls. The dignified music of Elgar's "Chanson de Nuit" greeted the coffin and we sang the hymns, "Praise my soul" and "The day Thou gavest". We said farewell to Hugh with Elgar's "Nimrod" and when everyone came back into Church we enjoyed the chatter in our beautifully warm church to Elgar's "Land of hope and glory" and his "Chanson de Matin". I was delighted to have the opportunity and purpose to practise the pieces, to learn "Chanson de Nuit" and to have the congregation and Choir to sing "Praise my soul" with "full throttle". Hugh gave me wise counsel and loved to "pull my leg". He acted as a referee for me for my Headship at Hempstead and I was thrilled he and Norma came to visit the school. When I became a Trustee of The Faversham Municipal Charities he rang to congratulate me and we had a good chat about it. Hugh was Chairman for several years.

A school friend, who lives in Rotterdam, sent me a piece from her Family History magazine about the Bing/Byng grave in Ospringe Churchyard. It is the polished pink granite one opposite the new flat stone memorials. Thomas Byng, 1790 to 1881, was a moderately well off farmer

and grazier and died at Whitehill House. Emily his wife, 1809 to 1892, their daughter, Evangeline, and her husband Thomas are in the tomb too. The inscription on Emily's tomb stone includes

*In my hand no price I bring
Simply to Thy cross I cling.*

Evangeline was a Sunday School teacher. Evangeline died in 1892. Emily and Evangeline died at Whitehill House. The Bing family had a history of being Church wardens. There is also a memorial tablet in Whitehill Chapel. Anyone visiting the Champion Hall will have seen it above the doorway.

I like these two reflections from this month's "New Daylight", Bible Reading Fellowship:

"To be angry with God doesn't mean we have stopped believing in Him" and "At least bear patiently, if thou canst not joyfully", Thomas a Kempis. God bless, Vicky Shepherd.

OSPRINGE NEWS

Charlie Douglas was born to Zoe and Adam Stembridge on 19th January at 11.07 p.m. weighing 7lbs 9ozs. A brother for Lara. Congratulations. The electricity was "off" for Lara's christening so I could not play the organ for them! Fortunately it was the summer and an unfortunate power cut!

Kent Sinfonia Concert
 St Mary of Charity, 8 p.m.
 Friday, 7th March.

Concert with Robert Turrell conducting, and Robin Michael as Cello Soloist. Buy 3 tickets in advance and get 1 extra FREE. Tickets from: Barley Mow, 6 Court Street, Faversham. tel 01795 532903

Whitstable Choral Society
 Poulenc - Gloria
 Puccini - Messa di Gloria
 on Saturday 22nd March, 7.30 p.m.
 at St. Bartholomew's Church,
 Herne Bay
 Tickets: £9.50, on the door,
 Tel:01227 275482
 or from Hilary on 890338

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Faversham Choral Society
 Haydn's "The Creation"
 at St. Mary of Charity on
 Saturday, 29th March, at 7.30 p.m.
 Tickets £7.00 (which includes a
 glass of wine), from Wyn's Florist
 (538882) under 16's free.

Saturday, 12th April,
 at St. Paul's Canterbury,
COME AND SING
 John Stainer's
THE CRUCIFIXION
 with Faversham Choral.
 Rehearsal 2.30 p.m. and Performance
 7 p.m. Cost £5 and tea included.
 Anyone who like to borrow a copy
 please ask Vicky.
 Audience tickets are £3 each.

Welcome to Archbishop Rowan
 Sunday 2nd March
 3 p.m. in Canterbury Cathedral
 All welcome, no tickets required.

Services in our Parishes

2nd March Sunday before Lent

2 Corinthians 4. 3 - 6, Mark 9. 2 - 9

Ospringe	8 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP)
Eastling	10 a.m.	Holy Communion (CW)
Stalisfield	10 a.m.	Holy Communion (CW)
Whitehill Chapel	11 a.m.	Family Service
Ospringe	11 a.m.	Morning Prayer

Tuesday 4th March

Whitehill Chapel	2.15 p.m.	Holy Communion
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5th March Ash Wednesday

Ospringe	3 p.m.	Holy Communion (BCP)
Eastling	7.30 p.m.	Holy Communion (CW)

9th March 1st Sunday of Lent

1 Peter 3. 18 - 22, Mark 1. 9 - 15

Eastling	8 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP)
Stalisfield	10 a.m.	Morning Prayer
Eastling	10.30 a.m.	Sunday Newstyle
Ospringe	11 a.m.	Holy Communion (CW)
Ospringe	11 a.m.	Sunday School

16th March 2nd Sunday of Lent

Romans 4. 13 - 25, Mark 8. 31 - 38

Ospringe	8 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP)
Eastling	10 a.m.	Holy Communion (CW)
Eastling	10 a.m.	S Club
Stalisfield	10 a.m.	Holy Communion (CW)
Ospringe	11 a.m.	Family Service + Baptism

23rd March 3rd Sunday of Lent

1 Corinthians 1. 18 - 25, John 2. 13 - 22

Stalisfield	8 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP)
Eastling	10 a.m.	Young Style
Whitehill Chapel	11 a.m.	People's Choice
Ospringe	11 a.m.	Family Communion
Ospringe	11 a.m.	Sunday School

30th March Mothering Sunday

Ospringe	10.30 a.m.	Special Service
Eastling	10.30 a.m.	Special Service
Stalisfield	3.00 p.m.	Special Service

Tuesday 1st April

Whitehill Chapel	2.15 p.m.	Holy Communion
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6th April 5th Sunday of Lent

Hebrews 5. 5 - 10, John 12. 20 - 33

Ospringe	8 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP)
Eastling	10 a.m.	Holy Communion (CW)
Stalisfield	10 a.m.	Holy Communion (CW)
Whitehill Chapel	10.40 a.m.	Young Church (over 8's)
		Younger Children during the service
Whitehill Chapel	11 a.m.	Family Service
Ospringe	11 a.m.	Morning Prayer

Sharing Ministry in our Benefice

Priest in Charge Curate Reverend Penny Fenton (01795 536366)
9 Brogdale Road, Faversham. ME13 8SX
Reverend Patricia Pollard (01795 535407)
7 Arthur Salmon Close, Faversham.

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

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

Methodist Minister Reverend Chris Esgate (01795 532461)
Chris@Esgate.plus.com

Churchwardens

Ospringe Mr. G. Shepherd
Mr. P. Larter (01795 531044)

Eastling Mr S. Youle (01795 890368)
Mrs. A. Smith (01795 890469)

Stalisfield with Otterden Mrs. J. West (01795 890285)
Mrs. H. Galer (01795 890780)

Whitehill Steward Miss. B. Richards (01795 532756)

Contacting the Church's staff

For general enquiries and for specific enquiries about Baptisms and Weddings, please telephone Faversham 536366. If you would like the parish clergy to conduct a funeral, either in our churches or elsewhere, please ask the funeral director to make the necessary arrangements.

From the Registers

Funeral

Clarice Evelyn Maud FOWLE
Cremation at Charing on 4th February 2003

Diary

March 2003

1st Book Sale	10 a.m.	Champion Hall
1st Wine & Wisdom	7.30p.m.	Eastling Village Hall
4th Pancake Sale and Race	2.45 p.m.	Eastling School
6th Afternoon Club (Bingo)	2 p.m.	Champion Hall
7th Women's World Day of Prayer	2 p.m.	Baptist Church
	8 p.m.	Our Lady of Mt Carmel, Tanner Street
7th Weekly Lent Lunches start	12 noon	Alexander Centre
7th Painter's Forstal Amenities AGM	7.30 p.m.	Champion Hall
10th Village Green and Parish Council Meeting	7.30 p.m.	Eastling Village Hall
10th Painter's Forstal Gardeners'	7.45 p.m.	Champion Hall
12th Ospringe Parish Council	7.30 p.m.	Whitehill Chapel
13th Charing History Society	7.45 p.m.	Charing Parish Hall
14th Race Night	7.30 p.m.	Ospringe School
16th Eastling Church. AGM	11.05 a.m.	Eastling Church
18th Women's Institute	2.15 p.m.	Champion Hall
19th Eastling Gardeners'	7.30pm	Eastling Village Hall
20th Afternoon Club (Board Games)	2 p.m.	Champion Hall
22nd Jumble Sale	1 p.m.	Eastling School Hall
24th Ospringe Church AG	8 p.m.	Ospringe Church
25th Magazine Folding	2 p.m.	Ususal Venues
31st Gardeners' Spring Show	7 p.m.	Champion Hall
APRIL 8th Stalisfield Church AGM	7.30 p.m.	Stalisfield Church
12th Wine and Wisdom	7.30 p.m.	Eastling Village Hall

EASTLING PARISH COUNCIL

Village Green - Support It or Lose It!

Eastling Parish Councillors are calling a Special Meeting on Monday, 10th March at which all villagers in favour of creating a Village Green are being asked to show their support and to help form a Steering Committee to prepare detailed plans for the open space and its future management.

In the poll of all residents in October, 63% said they were in favour of a Green. Now, though, there needs to be a willingness for villagers to get involved in the practical aspects of seeing the project through to completion. Without a clear demonstration of support and agreement by just a few to serve on a Steering Committee, there is a danger that the opportunity to create a Green will be lost forever.

The Meeting on Monday 10th March is at 7.30pm (NOT 7.45pm as previously published) in Eastling Village Hall. It should not last more than an hour. It will be followed by the regular Parish Council meeting - starting about 8.15pm - which, as usual, is open to those villagers who wish to stay and hear the proceedings.

Council Tax

Eastling's parish precept for the year April 2003 to March 2004 has been set at £2,633. It will mean a Council Tax levy of £17 for an "average" band D property. Parish Councillors agreed the figures when finalising their budget for the coming financial year at their January meeting.

Footpaths and Hedges

Eastling Parish Councillors have contacted the Harris Estate to draw attention to continuing problems with delayed reinstatement of several local footpaths following ploughing and ask for urgent attention to hedge cutting in The Street. Villagers will be pleased to note the latter has been swiftly dealt with. The estate has now provided estimates for the cost of introducing kissing gates to ease access for walkers at two stiles in the valley near Kettle Hill. Parish Councillors will be considering whether to help to pay towards this when they meet on 10th March.

Magistrates Court

Concerns raised by Cllr Jimmy West at plans to move Magistrates Court hearings from Sittingbourne to Medway and Canterbury Eastling have been followed up by Eastling Parish Councillors. It is feared such a move would lead to closure of the Sittingbourne court-house and considerable inconvenience and extra costs for Eastling residents needing to attend the courts. The Parish Clerk has made the Council's views known to the Lord Chancellor's Department in London and other relevant bodies.

Roads

A renewed call by Eastling Parish Councillors for resurfacing and white lining of the Eastling to Faversham road has produced an assurance from Swale Highways Unit that works are to be included in their programme for the next 12 months.

It is believed the road has not been resurfaced during the past 20 years. In the view of Councillors, it is now in a very poor state. Despite patching and filling of potholes, it is becoming unacceptable and in danger of accelerating deterioration.

The Parish Council's perseverance in pressing for a solution to flooding at double bends on the Eastling Road to the north of the village earned a "bouquet" from local resident Nick Wilson during the public forum session at January's Council Meeting. Clearance of blocked drains by Swale Highways Unit had proved successful and had, he suggested, saved serious problems for road users during the recent extremely heavy rains. He was sure villagers would wish to join him in thanking the Parish Council for its attention to the matter.

Do You Know the Value of Advice?

Would you like to do something that would make a real difference, not just to your life, but to other people's lives too?

The Citizens Advice Bureau needs volunteers to serve as advisors and clerical staff. All you need to volunteer with us is a minimum 6 hours per week. You would be amazed at the difference that can make. Nearly 80% of CAB staff are volunteers and we urgently need your help.

As a volunteer advisor you would receive training in a nationally recognised qualification in advice and information work - FREE. That means you could use the CAB as a stepping stone towards a new career or even as a way to get back into work after a break.

If you have retired you could really enjoy taking a totally new direction in your life. Even if you feel that advice work is not for you, there are a number of other rôles in the CAB that you would enjoy.

Last year Faversham CAB helped over three and a half thousand local people with a whole range of issues, from welfare benefits to consumer problems, relationship difficulties and housing issues. We couldn't do this without your help and many people couldn't have managed in 2002 without us.

If you want to know more about how to volunteer at Faversham CAB, please contact us on 01795 537101 for a chat, or drop in to our office at 43 Stone Street, Faversham ME13 8PH.



OSPRINGE PARISH COUNCIL

The next Parish Council Meeting will be on Wednesday 12th March 2003 at 7.30pm in Whitehill Chapel, Painter's Forstal. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

Jill Seaman
Clerk to the Council

April 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, please send your magazine contribution by the 15th March to Hilary Harlow, Pinks Farm, Eastling, Faversham ME13 0BA. Tel: 01795 890338. Where possible, please submit your entries by e-mail: h.f.harlow@talk21.com

Stalisfield and Otterden Report

Quiz Night

They did it again! Our quiz master created the liveliest of atmospheres and strained our brains with a mixture of questions ranging from erudite to popular with everything else in between.

The hut was full to capacity with a good humoured audience, mildly competitive but certainly intent on having an enjoyable time. There were inter-round 'fun' prizes to reward outstanding performance - good or bad. Final scores were close and tie-break questions were needed at the end to decide which of two tables went home with a case of six bottles of wine.

Ian McKay and Nick Swatland certainly deserved our thanks for such an entertaining evening. In the heat of the moment, they promised more this year. We shall hold them to it!

Although fund raising is rarely the object of our functions, it is good to report that the proceeds made a healthy contribution towards our budget. Many thanks to everyone who attended and thanks to 'Good News' for cover page billing.

A Plea

As a convenience, we borrowed wine glasses from The Bowl inn and not all of them were there at the end of the evening. In the rush to clear up, we speculate that a few were inadvertently packed with the remnants of bits and pieces of refreshments.

Please check to see whether you the odd glass, bearing the Excise mark which identifies a pub glass. If you do find any, ring 01795 890475 or 01233 712893 to arrange collection.

Village Hall Committee

Our committee could do with a few new faces. The demands are not in the least bit arduous, so, if you could spare the odd hour occasionally to add your ideas to our modest programme, you will be very welcome to join us. Ring 01795 890475 (Ian) or 01233 712893 (Roy) for your 'Welcome Pack'.

Electric Organ

We have quite splendid electric organ which is looking for a good home. The instrument is a CRUMAR 2003 model, occupying about the space of an upright piano. It has a double keyboard, all the usual features and comes complete with organ stool. Interested parties should telephone 01795 890475 (Ian) or 01795 890287 (Mick). A contribution to the hall funds would be appreciated.

Hall Bookings

Brenda Newman is no longer acting as bookings co-ordinator for the Stalisfield hall. Roy Okell on 01233 712893 is now maintaining the register and will be happy

to take your booking. The 'hut' is well able to host your function, providing kitchen and toilet facilities, tables and chairs and a small stage. Charges are amazingly cheap at £5 an hour for the whole thing. We are grateful, in addition, if you pay for electricity used. As an added service, we also lend out tables and chairs at a modest charge.

Book Sale

Saturday 1st March
The Champion Hall
Painter's Forstal
10.00 a.m.

Good quality second hand books wanted, please - we will collect. Proceeds towards our Parish Design Statement production. PLEASE COME ALONG AND SUPPORT US.

Info from Joan on 01795 535267

Thank you from British Humanitarian Aid.

Dear Friends,

Once again we had a marvellous response to the Christmas Aid Appeal, with support and gifts coming in from the Benefice Churches and also from most of the churches in Faversham. Many schools in the area also responded most generously, with the children involved in filling shoe boxes for needy children in another land. Other organizations and individuals also supported the appeal most generously.

Every year we seem to gain more support and this year was no exception, due in large part to the publicity in the local newspapers. I think that the feature on keeping warm in winter really touched people and many gifts of underwear, socks, hats, scarves and gloves were received, to go to the orphanages and street children in the Ukraine.

Since Christmas the aid continues to arrive and the collection is mounting up yet again, awaiting Tony to collect. As I have said many times, the need for aid is ongoing and I am very willing to receive it here at 130 Athelstan Road. So anything you have that you think may be useful, please do give me a call.

On behalf of Tony and Valerie Budell, please accept our most grateful thanks for all your kindness and generosity.

We in this country are so blessed and, as God blesses us, so we are able to bless others, especially when we know there is so much need in the world. We may feel helpless at times, and that there is little we can do to help, but the little we are able to do really can, and does, make a difference.

We very much hope for your continued support in 2003.

*With my thanks and love to you all,
God Bless,*

Pam Clark

HELP IN HOUSE NEEDED AT OTTERDEN

One or two mornings a week

Please call 01795
890548

Thank you

to everyone who has sent in donations towards the cost of printing this magazine.

Although our Advertisers pay most of the cost, we rely on your donations to top up our funds.

Also, to all who send in their news, thank you. We couldn't be a news magazine without your help.



Charing and District Local History Society

on Thursday 13th March at 8 p.m.

Julia Page will give a talk on:
Portraits and Historical Research
-What portraits can reveal.

The presentation will be given in the Parish Hall, Charing and everyone who is interested will be welcomed when the doors open at 7.45 p.m. Non-members of the Society pay £1.

Eastling Gardeners' Club

The next meeting is on Wednesday, 19th March at 7.30 pm in Eastling Village Hall. David Carey from Hadlow College will be talking on 'Wildlife and the Garden' and this will be followed by wine and cheese. Free to members, non-members £2.

BELMONT HOUSE AND GARDENS

Person required to run Ticket Sales and Shop

Sundays 2pm - 5pm

April - September

For further details please contact the Administrator

01795 890 202

Afternoon Club

Our first outing of the year has been booked for May 16th.

Details to follow.

Activities for March:

March 6th - Bingo

March 20th - Board Games

The Annual General Meeting
of the
Otterden Parish Meeting

will be held on
Wednesday 16th April
at Otterden Place
starting at 7.30pm.

Wine and Wisdom

Eastling Village Hall
Saturday 12th April
7.30pm

A Wine and Wisdom is being arranged for Saturday 12th April in Eastling Village Hall at 7.30pm. Tables of six at £4.00 per person (this will include your wine and nibbles) can be booked by phoning Norman on 890242. All proceeds will go towards the village hall funds and the Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch

OSPRINGE 200 CLUB DRAW

The winning numbers for the 35th draw in February were:

1st: 54 2nd: 63 3rd: 17

Unfortunately, due to local regulations we are unable to continue for more than three years, therefore the 200 Club will cease after the last draw in March, 2003.

Thank you for your support.
Stuart & Carol Marshall

Having a Party?

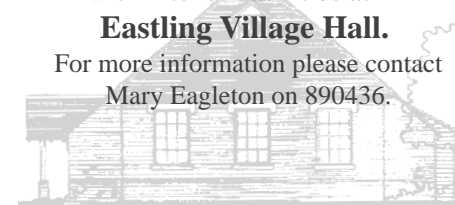
Planning a Wedding?

Venue for your Club

Hall and smaller rooms available
with kitchen facilities at

Eastling Village Hall.

For more information please contact
Mary Eagleton on 890436.



Painter's Forstal with Ospringe Women's Institute

The March meeting is on Tuesday
18th, 2.15 p.m. in the Champion
Hall.

Talk: *Gardening can be fun* -
Mr Lush.

Competition: *Photo of your garden
plus Flower of the month.*

Also Federation Annual Council
Meeting, Tuesday 25th March at the
Winter Gardens, Margate.

New members welcome, phone
533756 for more details.

Women's World Day of Prayer

Friday 7th March 2003

Services this year are prepared by
the women of the Lebanon.

"Holy Spirit, Fill Us"

There are two opportunities for people
to attend the services in Faversham:

2pm at the Baptist Church
in St. Mary's Road

8pm at Our Lady of Mount Carmel
in Tanner Street.

All ages welcome, men as well as women.
Refreshments served after each service.
Crèche available at the 2pm service.

Painter's Forstal Amenities Committee.

The A.G.M. will take place on 7th March
2003, at 7.30 p.m. in the Champion Hall. Do
come along and give suggestions for events
you would like in the coming year.

Followed by an intergroup fun quiz. Enter
as a family, group of friends or as members
of organisations using the Champion Hall.

Early Notice

Whitehill Chapel Anniversary Concert

Wednesday 4th June

at 7.30pm

All are welcome.

Painter's Forstal Gardeners' Club

Meetings for March are as follows:

Monday 10th: A talk on vegetables,
in the Champion hall at 7.45 p.m.

Monday 17th: Neame Cup Quiz
Final at Minster - more details on the
10th.

Monday 31st: Spring Show in the
Champion Hall - Schedules now
available from John and Noreen.

Staging 7 p.m., Judging 7.45 p.m.

Dates for your diary:

Evening Outing - Monday 19th May
Coffee Morning - Saturday 31st May
Subscriptions are now due, £1.50 per
member. New members welcome.

Further information from
Faversham 533608

