

The
Eastry
Village News

February March
2020



Village Contacts

Ambulance, Fire, Police	999	Gas Emergency	0800 111999
Police Community Support	101	Highways Fault Reporting	03000 418181
& non-emergency Police		UK Power Network	105
PCSOs - Kerry Skirrow			
kerry.skirrow@kent.pnn.police.uk		C of E Primary School	611360
Michael Bolt		Head Teacher: Mrs Espley	
michael.bolt@kent.pnn.police.uk		PTA Treasurer: Justine Crane	
Community Warden – Karl Aylett			
07811 271299 karl.aylett@kent.gov.uk		Parish Council	
Neighbourhood Watch		www.eastrypc.co.uk	
Sheila Smith	611580	www.facebook.com/Eastrypc	
Doctors Surgery	619790	Chairman: Nick Kenton	
The Market Place, Sandwich		Vice-Chairman: Mark Jones	
Emergency out of hours	111	Clerk to Council	
		Sarah Wells	614320
Eastry Ravens F.C. – Steve Booth		(clerk@eastrypc.co.uk)	
07864 925289 email: 27srb@sky.com		3 Gore Terrace, Gore Road, Eastry,	
		Sandwich, Kent CT13 0LS	

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Young People's Contacts

YOUNG PEOPLES CLUB (next to the Gun Park)

Have fun and make friends - Admission free

Meetings: Tuesday 7pm - 9pm (Age 12-19)
 Wednesday 6pm - 8pm (Age 9-16)
 Thursday 7pm - 9pm (Age 12-19)



Contacts: Chairman Dick Laslett (07702 459332) dicklaslett@yahoo.co.uk

For party bookings or hall hire - contact Monica in Bubbles Nursery or the Chairman.

Incy Wincys

Baby and Toddler Group in the Young People's Club meet every Monday including school holidays (apart from bank holidays) 9.30am to 11.00am.

We have toys for all ages and arts and crafts and lots of music, singing and movement.
 We also provide a healthy snack for children and tea and coffee for parents.

For more info contact Sam or Ria on incywincys@hotmail.com

RAINBOWS (age 5-7) and
BROWNIES (age 7-10)

Meet on Wednesdays

GUIDES (age 10-14) and
RANGERS (age 14-18)

Meet on Fridays

Please contact us on Sandwichdivisiongg@gmail.com or via:

www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter/

10th Deal Eastry Scout Group

Group Scout Leader: Graham Baker 07837 430167 / 01304 611487

BEAVERS (5¼-8yr)

Monday 6pm - 7.15pm
Leader Elinor
 07429 294539

CUBS (8-10½yr)

Tuesday 6.30pm - 8pm
Leader Emma
 Contact Graham Baker

SCOUTS (10½ -14yr)

Wednesday 7pm - 9pm
Leader Vacant
 Contact Graham Baker

EXPLORERS (14yr+)

Meet every other Friday from 7.45pm to 9.15pm
 and focus on the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme
 Contact: Graham

FOR BOOKINGS

Contact: Marion Wanstall (617854)
 or the Group Leaders

NEW MEMBERS ARE WELCOME

Scouting is fun for adults too. If you
 would like to help then please call Graham.

Cover Picture: March Hare - Nick Smith

EVN contact details can now be found on the inside last page of this issue

Local Events

Eastry Horticultural Society

Eastry Village Hall - 7.00pm for 7.30pm start
visitors and new members are always welcome.

February 11th **Goddinton House** - Viv Hunt

March 10th **Birds of Garden & Woodland** - John Buckingham

Northbourne & Betteshanger Horticultural Society

Meeting in the Parish Hall - 7.30pm

(Mon) February 17th **Sandwich Shops Then & Now** - Nick Woodland

(Mon) March 9th **AGM** followed by a workshop on wrapping flowers and plants ready for Mothering Sunday

Dover Flower Club - held at Whitfield Village Hall starting at 7.15pm

The next meeting is on Monday 24th February. Join us for a floral demonstration by Helga Cukure titled "From my drinks cabinet" after which the arrangements will be sold off. We will be holding a competition for members and guests to bring an arrangement in a wine glass.

On Monday 24th March we will be holding a workshop, by Jenny Birch, where we will be making a willow wreath for Easter. As usual, our sales table will be open and stocked with all your flower arranging essentials and accessories.

Members FREE, Guests £8.00. We are always delighted to welcome guests and new members to our friendly club. If you are interested in joining or for more information contact: Maureen Edmond edmondrandm@talktalk.net or Janet Gray janetgray@btinternet.com

The Kent County Federation of Horticultural Societies will be holding its AGM & Flower Show at Woodnesborough Village Hall on Sunday 15th March.

The AGM will be held in the morning followed by a showing of Spring flowers from all over Kent. Visitors will be welcome between 1pm and 3pm to see the array of flowers and bulbs. Weather permitting of course!

Quiz Night in aid of the Northbourne & Betteshanger Horticultural Society will be held at the Hare & Hounds, Northbourne at 7.30pm on Friday 28th February 2020. £2.00 per person and snacks provided.

Book your table at the pub on 01304 369188

Kent Mobile Library - 0940am -10.10am
 Fridays 7th & 21st February, 6th & 20th March

BINGO in the Village Hall
 7.00pm with eyes down at 7.30pm - 15th & 29th February

BIG Breakfast in the Village Hall - 14th March - 8.30am to 12 noon.

Eastry Theatrical Company (ETC)

Workshop diary dates - March 1st, March 15th, March 29th and April 12th - *which is designed for families/parents and children of all ages*
11am to 1pm in the Village Hall

Eastry Twinning Association - Annual General Meeting

To be held in the 5 Bells Public House, The Cross, Lower Street, Eastry on Wednesday 19th February 2020 at 7.30pm - ***New members welcome.***

Ooops....!!! A certain lady member of the Twinning Association, with a limited French vocabulary, enjoyed a picnic lunch in the grounds of Chateau Long so much she wanted to offer her thanks to our hosts. She stood up and said "What a wonderful meal ...it was...(she thought) **WUNDERBAR!!!**". *Ooops!!!*

PANTOMONIUM!

A ripping good yarn by the Hare & Hounds Players on Friday 14th February 7.30pm, Saturday 15th February 3pm & 7.30pm, Sunday 16th February 3pm in the Northbourne Parish Hall, CT14 0LN. **Tickets from** the Hare & Hounds, Northbourne 01304 369188 and The Crown, Finglesham 01304 612555

Do you have time on your hands? Come and Join in!

Whether you are new to the village, recently retired or just looking for a hobby, come along to **Eastry Bowls Club** and say hello. Bowls is a great social activity - not too strenuous, plenty of fun and suitable for **ALL** ages. Even if you don't feel like playing, why not come along, say hello and support the team?
Competitive and social players welcome.

We'd love love to meet anyone who likes games, the outdoors, gardening and, of course, makers of tea and cake are always welcome.

Call Ron at Eastry Bowls Club on 01304 363926 *(more info in the next issue)*

Vacancy for a Treasurer - would you consider the part time position?

The Eastry Village News is entirely run by volunteers from the village and we are looking for someone to join the Management Committee as Treasurer. While we are very fortunate with the content of each issue we need to properly manage our finances. We are funded solely by our advertisers and as well as being involved in agreeing the content of the magazine the Treasurer will deal with invoicing the advertisers (yearly), receiving and chasing payments and keeping the books. It is not a particularly onerous job for someone good with figures but is obviously a very important part in the running of the magazine.

If you are interested please get in touch on evneditor@gmail.com or phone Brian Manton (Chairman) on 612572



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Editorial

In these days of cut backs and closures Eastry is still pretty much self-sufficient with a thriving pub, Post Office, our Church, primary school and most of the other shops and services that we need. Pity about recent cut backs in the bus services and the loss of our doctor's surgery but we are getting a Veterinary Practice soon. We also have a myriad of various and varied clubs, societies and institutions catering for all ages and interests.

Eastry is very fortunate to have the splendid Eastry Village News - a four colour 40ish page bi-monthly magazine that is free and delivered. The standard of presentation and content puts most village/parish mags and even some town magazines in the shade. In these high tech, paperless days it is somehow reassuring that EVN still has something to offer. I congratulate my predecessor Brian Manton, our hard working committee and volunteers on their diligence and careful housekeeping meaning the EVN has gone from a time of financial hardship to a time of balancing books. I'd like to thank our regular contributors for their humorous, informative and poetic pieces - long may they continue. Without the support of so many loyal, local companies who pay to advertise in the EVN there would be no EVN so I hope that all of us will support them whenever possible.

Of course Eastry does have a few constant problems; vehicles speeding through the village, inconsiderate parking, litter and the dreaded dog fouling. At the end of the day it is only a minority of people and I know the Parish Council and DDC are trying to find solutions but perhaps there are different ways to try and persuade them to change.



I am looking forward to working on many future issues of the EVN. I've some ideas to try and incorporate, just a tweak here and there. I want to introduce some humour and I cock a snook at a friend of mine who asked if taking on the editor's position leaves a vacancy for village idiot!! Perhaps we can address health issues, find out how our schoolchildren have succeeded in the world, recognise residents past and present who have left their mark on the village and I encourage all the clubs, societies and residents to offer contributions on a one off or a regular basis.

Tell us what you want from this magazine and we will try to help. Our constitution states that we "are to prepare an Eastry Village news magazine that will integrate all parts of the community" and this is something that I would like to develop and expand.

Contact me, Patrick Clarke, on evneditor@gmail.com or phone 01304 611224

Eastry Gets Modern Veterinary Practice

Since the doctors' surgery closed its doors last year there has been speculation around what would become of the building in the centre of the village. Almost a year later it has been confirmed it will reopen as a modern, fully-equipped veterinary practice.

Beacon View Vets opens for business around the end of February (exact date to be announced) and is the fulfilment of a long-held dream of founder Claire Smith, who was born in the area and now lives in Woodnesborough. Claire gained her veterinary qualifications at Cambridge University and has worked in Deal and around east Kent.

"Even as a small child I knew I wanted to be a vet," explains Claire, "and it's incredible to be able to set up a practice in the area I love and in a building that enables me to bring my ideas of a modern, customer- and animal-centred facility to life."

Claire's approach to veterinary care is founded on providing a stress-free environment for both owners and pets. Being a pet owner herself (cat Ron and horse Pingu) she understands how traumatic having an ill animal can be; so from booking an appointment, to visiting the practice or caring for a pet in the home, every element of the 'trip-to-the vet' experience has been carefully thought through.

The old surgery has undergone significant alterations to provide a theatre suite and a dental suite for routine as well as more complex operations, and there is a full range of X-ray and ultrasound equipment. The reception area will separate cats and dogs and be in line with the Fear Free principles to provide a relaxed environment for both animals and humans. As well as cats and dogs, the practice will be happy to see rabbits, ferrets, guinea pigs, rodents and more exotic species.

Claire has also thought about how she can make the practice better meet the needs of her customers. Consequently, Beacon View Vets will have a number of services unique in the area. It will open seven days a week, with standard rates applying at weekends; it will be able to accommodate pets overnight and if you work and your pet needs treatment, you can use the drop-off service - drop your animal off in the morning and pick it up after work.

Once the surgery has closed for the day you will still be able to speak to your vet about any concerns via video chat. The vet can advise on how serious a situation may be, and whether you should seek emergency care from their out-of-hours partner, or you can be reassured that no immediate action is necessary.

Providing peace of mind for customers is an important tenet of Beacon View Vet's mission, and is why Claire has developed a Complete Care Club – a monthly fee that covers all routine and preventative aspects of a pet's health with as many consultations as you want throughout the year. This means that whenever you have a concern about your pet you can visit the practice with no appointment charge.

Being situated in the heart of the village, Claire is keen to engage with Eastry residents and pet owners and is planning a number of local events for when the weather improves. There is a comprehensive website with details of the Beacon View Vets facilities at www.beaconviewvets.co.uk and you can email Claire with any questions on hello@beaconviewvets.co.uk.



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"If it weren't for the fact that the TV and the refrigerator are so far apart, some of us wouldn't get any exercise at all." - Joey Adams

Did you know the number one New Year resolution is to exercise more? For those already exercising, well-done, you are doing yourself a huge favour. But if you have rarely exercised or are wondering if it's worth even starting at this point in your life, the answer is a resounding **YES!**

We know that with age we can experience a host of ailments including loss of bone density, decrease in muscle strength, arthritis, reduction in balance and coordination, increase in blood pressure, body fat and a greater risk of stroke, heart disease and diabetes. However, the good news is we also know that regular exercise can go a long way to reducing, improving or avoiding these conditions. If you start slowly and build up the frequency and intensity of your exercise, the rewards can be great.

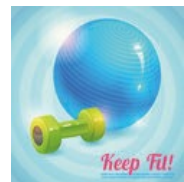
To help you maintain your exercise and stay motivated, start by finding an exercise that you enjoy and make sure it fits into your lifestyle as you are more likely to stick to it. Swimming, walking, cycling or joining a class are all great and many find exercising with friends or in a group more fun. The social element of joining a group is good for your mental health too.

There are many exercises classes, groups and facilities in the local area. From Pilates to Tai Chi and the gym to yoga, you really must find something that you enjoy. **'Active for Life'** classes are a good option. These classes are ideal for anyone who is new to exercise, has a history of high blood pressure, heart disease or arthritis. They include a thorough warm up, followed by a circuit of cardiovascular and resistance exercises, balance and coordination challenges and end with a nice cool down and a good stretch.

These classes are held in many venues across East Kent and are registered with the East Kent Exercise Referral Scheme, which means G.Ps and other health professionals can refer into them. Currently there is a class at The Sandwich Leisure Centre and four a week held in St Clement's Church Hall in Sandwich.

If you would like to know more don't hesitate to call Gemma at The Sandwich Leisure centre on 01304 614947 or Anna on 01304 614894 (St Clement's church hall)

Anna Upton - *Exercise Instructor, BA(Hons)*
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Registered with the East Kent Exercise Referral Scheme.



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Tel & fax: 01304 611362 email: eastry.fl902@nhs.net

Church Contacts

St.Mary's Parish Church www.eastrybenefice.co.uk

Clergy:

Rev. David Ridley 619619
 Rev. Sandra Marsh 612686
 Rev. Jennifer Pilcher 611472
 Rev. David Willis 611959

Bell Captain:

Mick Johnson 07773 970475

Organist:

Maureen Norman 366761

Church Wardens:

Dr. Alastair Carnegie 813120
 Jo Slater 619873

Assistant Church Wardens:

Mary Goosen 611306
 Sue Brearley 761668

Church Hall Bookings:

Bob Barwick 611420

Enquiries: *phone the office* 611323

Church Office - Tel: 611323

Benefice Office, The Church Hall, Church Street, Eastry, CT13 0HH
 Wednesdays 10.45am to 12.45am and Fridays 10am - 12noon

Benefice Website

Please visit our website: www.EWBchurches.org.uk and share your thoughts on progress so far - to the Revd. David Ridley or Michael Kinns.

The new website is being regularly updated.

NB there is also a new sub-page for "Eastry Church" on the Eastry Parish Council website which links to the benefice website.

The Church Registers- Funerals

3rd December **Shirley Chandler** (Barham)

11th December **Barry Eason** (Barham)

St Mary's Events 2020

The year is shaping up already. First information though, is that Carole Finch will be less in evidence as she will be moving away from Eastry and I take this opportunity of thanking her for the amazing amount of time, talent, generosity and energy she has devoted to our community over the last ten years at least. Many people would have taken her for granted but we should all be truly grateful. If ever there was a problem to sort out, she had the remarkable ability to come up trumps - often calling on her many local friends and contacts.

2020 is the 900th anniversary of the first stone structure at the Church and will be celebrated during the summer. A "son et lumiere" on 25th June will chart the history of Eastry Court (which is even older). In addition there will be at least one major historical talk and a folk concert - dates to be confirmed. **Alastair Carnegie**

Saturday 21st March - Quiz in the Church Hall.

We would love to see as many local citizens visiting or taking part in these events.
 Watch out for up-to-date information as the year progresses

Church Services

Sunday mornings at Eastry

Every Sunday: 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
 1st Sunday, 9.30am "Come and Praise" in the Church Hall
 1st, 2nd, and 4th Sundays, 10.30am Sung Eucharist
 3rd Sunday, 10.30am Family Communion

Evensong Services 6.30pm

2nd February, 1st March (Northbourne) 9th February, 8th March (Tilmanstone)

Wednesdays 10am Holy Communion - Eastry Church Hall. All are welcome

Special Services

Ash Wednesday 26th February at 10am in the Church

Mothering Sunday 22nd March at 10.30am in the Church

Friendship Lunches - contact 61 1400

Fridays 14th February, 13th March in the Five Bells at 12.00 noon.

Church Hall Events

Lent lunches - TBA

World Day of Prayer Friday 6th March at 2.00pm in the Church Hall

Singalong and Tea Tuesdays

25th February and 24th March in the Church Hall 2.30pm-4.00pm
 We will sing old well-known songs and enjoy a cup of tea and cake.
 There will be a raffle and everyone is welcome - contact 611400

Eastry Local Interests Group (ELIG) Meetings

No meeting in February

Thursday 26th March in the Church Hall at 7.30pm

Alastair Carnegie "900th Anniversary Celebration of Eastry Church"

Parish Council Events

CoffeeBreak - Everyone welcome - Free refreshments - Fridays 9.00am - 12 noon

Hearing Aid Clinic - 10.00am to noon - Fridays 14th February and 13th March

Rector's Letter

As we enter a new year, it is traditional to make New Year's resolutions – to make commitments which we seek to honour and keep as the year unfolds. They provide chances to put past problems behind us and look to the future with a renewed optimism seeking to embrace the opportunities it brings. Many resolutions often relate to fitness or diet, apparently gym memberships treble in January; but a new year is a good time to take stock of all aspects of our lives and make new positive changes.

As we enter 2020, there is perhaps a particular poignancy given that we begin a new decade as well as a new year (unless we take the purist view that the decade will begin in 2021!). What changes or commitments do we want to make as we start 2020 and enter this decade? Whatever our views, the issue which will be increasingly pressing upon us is that of climate change. The scientists tell us that, by the end of 2020, carbon emissions must begin to flatten out if the rise in global temperatures are to be kept below 1.5°C. Who knows what the future will bring, but I suspect that generations to come, looking back, will reflect on this decade as defining in whether or not we had been able adequately to address global warming and its associated concerns.

I am, like many, doing my bit as an individual to reduce my impact on the earth. I cycle or walk rather than drive if feasible; I keep heating down; I reuse bags, recycle plastics and try to keep waste to a minimum; I rarely fly and try to use public transport; I limit my meat consumption. I am not any great shining example, and there is much more I could and should do; but we should never underestimate the impact of our small actions. We can all play a part and we all must play a part, it really does matter.

However important our individual actions are, a much greater and more comprehensive response is necessary. I know that there are 'climate sceptics' who cast doubt on the apocalyptic scenarios being forecast by some, and that there is a danger of over-stating the dangers, but even at the more moderate end of the scale, scientists are suggesting that we are facing ecological disaster and immense human suffering if we fail to keep the rise in global temperatures below 2°C. We seem to be running out of time, and surely there has to be a huge encouragement to politicians to take the urgent steps which are needed. Dietrich Bonhoeffer, who's faith compelled him to take political action in Nazi Germany, said 'not to act is to act'. Similarly, in the face of a climate crisis, we surely have a duty to make a stand against short-sightedness and indifference, and encourage and implore those with the means to take decisive action.

As Christians we have a duty to respect and nurture God's creation: in the face of a collapse in biodiversity and man-made global warming, we cannot sit back and allow this continued game of risk with our planet's future to be unchallenged. The mantra of recent times has been 'Get Brexit done'. There is a more pressing and urgent task now which we need to 'get done', and we must not allow our Governments to be distracted.

As a small response, the Churches of Easby and Woodnesborough Benefice have started a Green Heritage Group to explore ways that as a community we can respond to some of the environmental changes we face. The Green Heritage Group meets monthly on a Sunday afternoon in the Five Bells to examine how we can act together to make a difference. Please look out for notice of future meetings and come and join us.

In the meantime, our collective mind-set must be defined by hope rather than despondency or fear.

David Ridley



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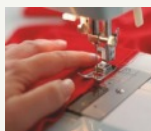
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Eastry Short Mat Bowls Club

The recently-formed Eastry Shortmat Bowls Club is searching for new recruits to bolster its numbers as they are intent on joining the Kent Shortmat Bowls Association next September and play in friendlies etc. all next winter.



The club meet every Friday evening at 7pm in the Village Hall and have about 15 current and very keen members. Some from outdoor clubs and some new to the sport who are coached by the outdoor members as Shortmat is a very different game to outdoor. There is a committee in place and the club is ready to go to the next level and join the EKSM Association but we really do need more support.

If you have experience of Shortmat, or play outdoors and would consider joining us we will welcome you with open arms. The club is friendly and sociable with refreshments available and it only costs £2.50 per session + 50p for refreshments. We will introduce a membership fee next year to accommodate joining the EKSM although the membership is yet to vote on the cost of this annual subscription.

We are ready to go on to bigger and better things although we sincerely hope that we can tempt you to join us and become a member of this new club. If you are interested please come along to the Village Hall at 7pm on a Friday or contact:

John Tyler 07968 953529 or Sue or Ian Finnis 01304 360369



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Time gentlemen please... !!!

Men's Health

It is a very sad fact that men are still dying of cancers that can be treatable if diagnosed soon enough and yet many are too embarrassed to visit a doctor to discuss "nether region" problems or do nothing in the hope it will go away.

Prostate cancer is the most common cancer in men aged 50 and over in the UK and because it develops slowly there may be no signs for many years. Prostate enlargement is common and an invariably benign part of ageing for which medication can be prescribed. The symptoms do not appear until the prostate enlarges enough to affect the tube that carries urine from the bladder and this may give you an increased need to wee, straining while you wee and a feeling that your bladder is not fully emptied. These do not mean you have prostate cancer but they **should not be ignored**. If you see blood in your wee, have pain while weeing or notice a more frequent need to go then these too need investigation.

Prostate and bladder problems **are not** something to be ashamed or embarrassed about yet not dealing with this as soon as you start to experience the symptoms can be life changing or even fatal. Treatment is improving all the time and can often be less invasive and avoid surgery if caught early enough. We are very lucky in East Kent because as well as our front line GP Services the Kent & Canterbury Hospital has an excellent Urology Department.

React and act. It may be nothing but **is ignoring the symptoms worth the gamble?**
(sources: NHS on-line)

1-1 Counselling/ Confidential/ Local

My name is Larry, I started my professional career as a Psychiatric Nurse and in the 1990's, I qualified as a Person Centred Counsellor.

For the last 19 years I have been employed in the Volunteer Sector but now I feel it is time to go it alone, so that I can offer local 1-1 sessions to clients 18 years old and over.

I can offer a friendly, safe, non-judgemental atmosphere, evenings and weekends if required.

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Has Eastry Got Talent?

Now in its 26th year and with more than 30 successful shows under its belt- including some blockbusters like 'Allo 'Allo, Alice in Eastry and many others - Eastry Theatrical Company (ETC) plans to parachute into the limelight yet again.



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This time ETC takes centre stage with four theatrical comedy workshops, running from February to April. Open to all ages, the workshops are designed to attract anyone and everyone who would like to release their inner comedy, singing or dancing skills. Or you may just want to have fun, meet new people and have a good laugh. Don't miss out! Roll up folks for our first-ever Eastry's Got Talent events.

ETC knows there is plenty of talent out there, just waiting to be unleashed and the idea is to harness it from the workshops and deliver its new stars to the next generation shows. Says chairwoman, Hannah Mitten: "ETC has always and will always need new talent. We hope our comedy workshops will provide a fun platform to meet like-minded others and a way to interact with the community. We also hope they will help to provide us with new recruits to future-proof ETC."

2020 Workshop diary dates are - March 1st, 15th, 29th and 12th April - which is specifically designed for families/parents and children of all ages. 11am to 1pm in the Village Hall.

Please note: You don't have to be a comedian or budding actor to join in. ETC is also on the immediate lookout for help backstage. Artists, sound and light operators and technicians, carpenters - anyone handy with anything from a brush to screwdriver - is called upon to keep this GREAT theatre group thriving. And if you are IT literate or know a thing or two about making videos, please speak up NOW!

ETC's shows and income help to keep our Eastry Village Hall and community alive.

PLEASE support ETC. For more information please contact Hannah at hannah.etc@hotmail.co.uk or martingbloomfield@hotmail.co.uk.






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Jessie Andrews Day

Within the road, when just a child, with hoops and tops she'd play
for seldom were there noisy cars, in Jessie Andrews day!

Just horse and cart with chestnut tail, clip clopping up the street,
proudly passing Bowmans shop which sold the village sweets.

Mr.Betts the butcher, who served nobility,
had a store down in Lower Street and cooked fine hams for tea!

Bickers was a chemist with brews to make you better,
the new Post Office sold bicycles, you couldn't post a letter.

No such thing as a new by-pass just woodlands rich and green,
wellingtonia and sycamore, the finest ever seen.

Bright street lights did not exist so people carried lamps,
and in Church Street, the old Post Office, was where you bought your stamps.

Hills was then a drapers shop and Eastry House a dwelling
where maids were sent to cook the food and grow produce used for selling.

A telephone exchange, and Sadlers shop, a church where all could pray,
and gentlemen who tipped their hats in Jessie Andrews day!

May Morris

*Jessie Andrews grew up and lived in Eastry for most of her life.
She had an excellent memory of days gone by.*

Time...

**When time has flown from my life,
like the chick leaving the comfort of the nest
I will not bemoan or anxiously stress
For as with every beginning there comes a natural end
and as the chick learns to fly I will learn to ascend**

May Morris

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In The Garden

We all know how important bees are to our garden, and how essential our gardens are to bees, so this year “Lets Bee-Friendly”. It’s a sad commentary on the declining state of nature that our gardens are proving to ‘bee’ a better habitat for bees than our countryside, so this where you can help. It doesn’t matter if you have a small garden, a patio, a large garden or no garden at all, growing flowering plants is an effective way to help Britain’s bees and other pollinating insects. (Please don’t switch off yet, we do need your help, and I’ll show you how).

Bees love plants which are rich in nectar and pollen. Nectar contains sugar for energy, while pollen contains protein and oils – all forming a balanced diet. Our gardens, (or if no garden, your pot plants) are a vital fast-food takeaway for bees and other beneficial bugs. Bees need 3 things to thrive – food, shelter and water and this is where you come in

a) Build a Bee Hotel using hollow bamboo canes, the Hotel Rooms need to be between 2 to 10mm diameter (see picture).

b) Leave a saucer or shallow tray full of water in a shady spot.

c) Grow flowering garden plants or herbs in the garden or in pots.

Different bees are active throughout the year, so you’ll need flowering plants from spring to winter so here are a few flowering plants that will give all year-round food for our precious bees



Spring: Lungwort “Pulmonaria” this is a low maintenance plant which spreads easily, and the bees really love it. (see picture)

Summer: Monarda – with tall flower heads grown as a feature plant and this will attract several species of bees and other insects.

Autumn: Sedum “Ice Plant” this is a drought-tolerant succulent plant and very popular for ‘honeybees’

Winter: Winter Aconite, with its rich pollen-bearing flowers is highly attractive to bumblebees, honeybees and spring mining bees. And don’t forget lavender which can be grown in the garden or in Pots.

Around 13 of the UK's bee species are now extinct and 35 others are under threat of extinction, so the most important thing is put away the "Bug Gun". Bee-harming pesticides and herbicides are implicated in bee decline. It's tempting to put a can of spray in your basket on a trip to the garden centre, but nature can deal with pests like aphids. Aphids make a lovely meal for insects like ladybirds, wasps, hoverflies, lacewing larvae, earwigs and various species of beetles.

So "Bee-cause" of all this, let's do our little bit to help, and then we can all enjoy our gardens,

Art.E.Choke

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for photos, experience etc see
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Dover District Council - Bin Collections 2020

Non recyclable waste *Black topped wheelie bin and Food Bin*
Tuesdays 11th, 25th February, 10th, 24th March

Recyclable Waste *Blue topped wheelie bin and Food Bin*
Plastics, tins, bottles, cardboard and green/garden waste
Tuesdays 4th, 18th February, 3rd, 17th, 31st March

Bird Watching with Big Nick

Often all anyone sees of a kingfisher is a sudden flash of electric blue as they fly away, but at Stodmarsh it is possible to get really good views although even this requires a lot of luck. On numerous occasions I have been trying to get a good photo but failed every time. Recently I was rewarded by some superb views just outside one of the hides. If you can't get to Stodmarsh keep your eyes open anywhere there is water. I've seen them on the Stour in Sandwich, Worth marshes and of course in harbours. Look for them on low branches overhanging the water or other suitable perches from where they can fish.



At Stodmarsh I was also very fortunate to see quite a rare bird - a glossy ibis. Presumed to be the same bird, it had been spotted at both Stodmarsh and Worth at different times. I saw it flying from some distance away, losing height as if to land, but I was too far away to see where. As I walked in the direction of Grove Ferry I spotted it in a nearby field. I managed a couple of photos before it flew off but this was a very fortunate encounter as they usually live in the Mediterranean region and are only occasional visitors to the UK.



Glossy Ibis



Buzzard

Nearer to home look for buzzards in the field that borders Venson Bottom - the road from Buttsole pond towards Tilmanstone. For the last few weeks there have been as many as 14 there, probably feeding on worms. They are usually very timid and will fly off if you pay any attention to them but with luck you can get some good views. This isn't the first time they have favoured this field, similar numbers were there in 2015 but I didn't notice them during the intervening years.

Well it's a new year and the days are getting longer - what will 2020 bring I wonder?

Good birding - Nick



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Fancy a **FREE** weekend break to France?

Ok, not exactly entirely free, but hopefully an eye-catching headline to persuade you to read our Twinning Association article. We have been a successful village organisation for almost 40 years with our twin town of Longpre-les Corps-Saints on the river Somme in northern France. Many great and lasting friendships have developed between our two communities and we would invite and encourage new members to join us and enjoy these enjoyable exchanges. Our membership covers a multitude of ages, interests and abilities, united by the "entente cordiale" with our French friends.

This year it is our turn to visit France over the weekend Friday 29th to Sunday 31st May 2020 and we travel by coach and ferry - the cost of which is paid by those travelling. Whilst in France we are looked after by our hosts, with all food, accommodation and entertainment provided. It is expected that, assuming you have an enjoyable weekend as we always do, that you would in turn host French visitors the following year. We hold fund raising events during the year to help fund the visits to Eastry, which many of you support - and we are very grateful for that. After our return in May 2020 we start planning the visit from our French friends to Eastry in 2021.

Membership costs £20 per person and children are free. For more information visit our website www.eastrytwinning.co.uk where you can see all the exchanges over the years. Interested? You can contact either of the people below or just turn up in person to our **AGM at the Five Bells, Eastry on Wednesday 19th February at 7.30pm.**

Best regards and "a bientot" Nick Smith (Chairman) email: nicksmith1@tinyworld.co.uk

Secretary: Peta Goldup Tel: 01304 812500 email: robin_peta@btinternet.com

Cookery Tips from Chef "Pierre Pinoir de Paree !!"



Pierre's Easy Pancakes

Prep. time; 10 minutes

Cooking time: 20 minutes

Ingredients - makes 12

100g plain flour 2 large eggs
300ml milk 1 pinch of salt
1tbsp sunflower or vegetable oil
plus a little extra for frying.

Lemon wedges, chocolate,
castor sugar etc. for
toppings after cooking

Into a bowl put the plain flour, large eggs, milk, tbsp oil and salt. Whisk to a smooth batter.

Set aside for 10 minutes to rest or cook immediately (if you can't wait!).

Carefully wipe a medium frying pan with oiled kitchen paper and set over a medium heat. When hot add a small ladle full of batter to frying pan, cook for 1 minute on each side until golden brown. Keep warm in a low oven before serving with toppings of your choice.



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Neighbourhood Watch

Whatever you received for Christmas, or even treated yourself to, it is time to protect your new presents so that if ever they are stolen you can give a good description to the Police. Small items should be photographed against a ruler or a coin and a note taken of make and description. Larger items like bikes, scooters and tools need to be invisibly marked with your postcode and preferably immobilised if stored in the garage or garden shed.

Thieves are opportunists and don't want to spend time in a property trying to steal something that is difficult to remove. Never leave door and garages unlocked as you never know who is observing what you own that could easily be stolen and sold on.

By the time you are reading this the days will be lengthening and the sun may have made a appearance. **DO NOT** answer your door to doorstep sellers or people offering garden clearance or house repairs. Good traders, people with an excellent reputation may be booked up for months ahead but will be worth waiting for. Anyone who has been troubled by doorstep sellers is requested to telephone the KCC Warden or the Police HQ at Maidstone on 101. Unless we report things the police will assume that this village is trouble free and will not spend any time here at all!

We wish everyone a happy and trouble free New Year and above all keep an eye on one another.

Sheila Smith - *Chairman Eastry NHW.*

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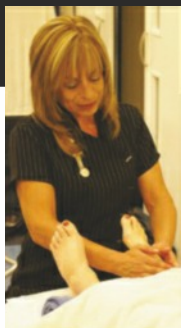
A home safety officer, with an ID card, will arrange to call on you and will carry out some simple checks around your home. They will test smoke alarms, make sure they are in the correct place, install new batteries if required - all free. If you have hearing or eyesight challenges they can install smoke alarms that flash and vibrate - also free. They can identify fire risks such as overloaded sockets, the use of candles, trip hazards. They will talk about escape routes and tell you the best options in the event of a fire.

To book call Kent Fire and Rescue Services home safety team on **0800 923 7000** and book your visit today quoting '**Hospital Two**' or book online by searching **KFRS Safe and Well**. You can also book for someone you know who would benefit from this.

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Memories of visits to Venson Farm

My mind was taken back to childhood visits when I saw the obituary for Jean Pendreich, the eldest daughter of Arthur and Alice Andrews. Venson Farm was an old fashioned, traditional farm between Eastry and Tilmanstone. My nurseryman father grew tomatoes at Betteshanger but when we visited here we encountered shire horses for ploughing, cows, pigs, chickens and barns full of feral cats and kittens.

Self sufficiency was the way of life, fruit and veg were grown around the house and orchard or gathered from the hedgerows. When we were invited to visit we took either tomatoes and cucumbers or a few tomato plants for their garden. We never returned to Betteshanger empty handed as we would often be given some home-made butter or a basin of brawn for my father - all having to be consumed fairly quickly as the only way to keep them was under gauze to let air flow through but keep the flies out!

The highlight for me was always the Christmas parties at the large kitchen table with an oil lamp hanging from a hook on the ceiling lighting up the sandwiches and the home-made jellies - beautifully displayed. Afterwards we played games like 'spin the plate', blind man's buff, pin the tail on the donkey and trying to cut up raw jelly while wearing a hat, a scarf and gloves. Their Christmas tree, not the normal Norway spruce but a young yew tree, was laden with beautiful coloured baubles, sweets and chocolates. I always wanted one of these decorations, a silver coloured circle with 'Merry Christmas' painted on it, a piece of artificial holly on the top and two long beaded strands with bells on at the bottom. I treasured it in my thought for years.

Arthur Andrews was a judge at flower shows and his father, George Andrews from Eastry, exhibited vegetables at many of the local flower shows. His name is on many Kent County cups especially for potatoes. George taught my mother, Dorothy Martin, how to best exhibit fruit and veg at flower shows but would never reveal how he prepared and cleaned his potatoes for the show bench. Almost every local village staged a flower show, either in a marquee or in the village hall and that was a big part of our social life. As children we gathered wild flowers or sewed and knitted, we played in the meadow and took part in the sideshows. Bowling for a pig - a live one in a pen!

Happy memories of a much simpler way of life now almost forgotten.

Sheila Smith (*nee Martin*)



Eastry WI wishes everyone a healthy, happy 2020

We meet for the first time in 2020 at the Village Hall on Wednesday 5th February at 7.30pm for a Quiz Night, which is always fun with Anne Oakley as our quiz mistress.

Our March meeting is on the 4th and is titled 'Easy Cake Icing'. I find that amusing as my experience of cake icing is anything but easy!

Lunch Club continues, usually on the last Wednesday of each month, and the craft group meets at the Church Hall, Church Street every Tuesday at 9.30am. Visitors are welcome to join us there. Indeed visitors are welcome to any of our monthly meetings at a nominal charge of £3.50 each and, as an annual subscription organisation, visitors can visit three times, by which time we hope they will join us as members.

Sue Hankins - President 01304 619414

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Rose Beer

Happy New Year everyone. Now we are well into 2020 I suspect that by the time this magazine drops through your letterbox our best intentioned New Year resolutions may sadly already be broken. Well not for me because I can't afford to break mine! At the end of 2019 I received a letter informing me I had been caught on camera breaking the speed limit. It was on Rheims Way dual carriageway in Canterbury where a tiny stretch is 30mph. I was keeping up with the normal flow of traffic but doing 35mph. My options were to pay a £100 fine and get two points on my licence or attend a speed awareness course, which would cost £96, but after driving "pointless" for 35 years my self pride told me to keep my licence clean and I decided to do the course.

There were 24 of us on this four hour speed awareness course at Kent & Canterbury University and although I found it tiring it was very, very informative. Anyway since then I am now obsessed with keeping to the speed limit even when there is an impatient driver on my tail in a 30mph limit trying to make me speed up. I can almost lip read them - 'slow old git!' - And I hate it but I must stick to my New Year resolution because I certainly cannot afford another £96 or £100 pounds.

As I sit here writing this I should think that 9 out of 10 vehicles that have driven past in Gore Lane are doing well over the speed limit and indeed it seems to be the same throughout most roads in the village. In perspective, my offence although it was on a dual carriageway, is still breaking the law and I accept that, I just wish it would be seen to apply or be applied to everyone!

A happy and healthy and safe driving New Year to all - Rose Beer



20 years ago we lost Mic Beer, Roses' husband, what a talent!

Courtesy of Keith Gill

Ooops....!! A much-loved and well-respected retired primary school

teacher from Glasgow recently earned some very funny looks. She had been called for jury duty on a long, slow and boring trial at Glasgow High Court. One day they were released early by the judge and she was so pleased she ran onto the steps outside the court, phoned her husband and shouted "I'm FREE!!!" *Ooops....!!!*

I also heard that while Christmas shopping recently she started feeling the quality of a coat on a mannequin until the mannequin (shopper) turned round and glared!

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World War 2 Spitfires flying again over Eastry



There is something about the sound of a Merlin engine in the Eastry sky that just makes you want to go out and look and when it's fitted inside a vintage spitfire it warms the cockles. Last summer we were blessed by regular flyovers by the two spitfires, marked with distinctive black and white invasion stripes, which fly paying passengers from Biggin Hill – MJ627 & MJ772. Both are 1943 Spitfire T9s later converted to two-seater in twin cockpits. Built in 1943 at Castle Bromwich they carry Packard Merlin 266 27 litre V12 engines with a 2 stage supercharger producing 1600bhp and they can fly up to 300mph. Both aircraft saw action towards the end of the war and are now fully restored and can be hired for flights over Kent. A pleasure to receive regular visits from these two elegant, elderly, emotive, historic ladies. Long may it continue. PC

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What is Community-Led Housing?

Community-led housing is when communities come together to develop the homes that are needed in their local community. This housing can be for rent, low cost ownership, or for sale, but it is designed to be always affordable for the community that needs it. Community-led housing can take many forms, and as such it is flexible to suit the requirements of a range of different circumstances.

Community groups with ideas for delivering community-led housing in their area, but who need some financial assistance to help get their projects started, are invited to apply for the DDC Community Housing Grants scheme.

Exciting News!

DDC have launched the new Community-led housing Funding Options webpage. The page provides further information and links to the current funding streams available from external organisations. Some of the funding streams currently available are from Community Led Homes, Power to Change and the Gregg Foundation to name but a few of the organisations offering financial support to community-led housing groups. The community housing team will be regularly updating this page with further information and funding streams as and when they become available, so watch this space for the latest funding options! To look at the new funding options page, please visit the Dover district council community led housing webpage, funding options.

Don't forget! We still have our DDC Community Led Housing Grants scheme for up to £10,000 available for anyone interested in pursuing a community led housing project in the Dover district (eligibility, terms and conditions apply). For further information about the DDC CLH grant scheme please visit the Dover district council community led housing webpage, grants.

Come and have a chat to find out more over a cuppa!

Dover District Council is committed to providing information and support for anyone who is interested in community-led housing. We are working hard to reach as many local communities across the Dover district as possible. We can host informal *drop-in* sessions, where you can come and find out about the basics of the programme. If you have a venue or regular get togethers, such as coffee mornings and you would like us to join you, please let the team know.

To find out further information on community-led housing please visit our dedicated webpage: www.dover.gov.uk/community-housing. Alternatively, you can contact a member of the team on: communityhousing@dover.gov.uk

To keep updated with the latest events, training, conferences and further community-led housing news, please sign up to Keep Me Posted e-news bulletins: www.dover.gov.uk/keepmeposted



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