

# The Eastry Village News

June/ July 2019



## Village Contacts

### Ambulance, Fire, Police

999

### Non-emergency Police

101

### Community Warden

Karl Aylett 07811 271299

karl.aylett@kent.gov.uk

### Gas Emergency

0800 111999

### Highways Fault Reporting

03000 418181

### Doctors Surgery

619790

### Emergency out of hours:

111

### Parish Council

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

[www.facebook.com/EastryPC](http://www.facebook.com/EastryPC)

**Chairman:** Nick Kenton

**Vice-Chairman:** Annie Wiles

### Police Community Support - tel 101

**PCSOs** Kerry Skirrow

kerry.skirrow@kent.pnn.police.uk

Michael Bolt

michael.bolt@kent.pnn.police.uk

### Neighbourhood Watch

611580 Sheila Smith

### UK Power Network

105

### C of E Primary School

611360

**Head Teacher:** Tim Halling

**PTA Treasurer:** Mrs Karen Rang

### Clerk to Council

614320 Sarah Wells

([clerk@eastrypc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@eastrypc.co.uk))

3 Gore Terrace, Gore Road

Eastry, CT13 0LS

### Eastry Ravens Football Club

Steve Booth 07864 925289 email [27srb@sky.com](mailto:27srb@sky.com)

### Village News

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Hard copies (c1930-2006) - Sandwich Guildhall Archives.

To view/study contact Town Clerk's Office 617197

**Village Diary** - kept at the Post Office, for all village organisations' fixtures, events & meetings.

**Village Hall Bookings** - Booking Clerk 614054

**Village Forum** - [www.facebook.com/eastryvillageforum](http://www.facebook.com/eastryvillageforum)

**Welcome Pack** - information for people new to Eastry

Rosemary Barwick 611420

## Young People's Contacts

### Young People's 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.

Also we provide a healthy snack for children and tea and coffee for parents.

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

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Rainbows	Brownies	Guides
Meet on Mondays	Meet on Wednesdays	Meet on Fridays
Contact Ginny Harvey on 611183	Contact Linda Clarke on 614553	Contact Jooles George on 813752

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### 10th DEAL EASTRY SCOUT GROUP

**Group Scout Leader: Graham Baker 07837 430167 / 01304 611487**

#### **BEAVERS (5¾-8yr)**

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.

## Local Events

### Eastry Horticultural Society

Eastry Village Hall 7.00 to 7.30 start, Visitors and new members are always welcome

**June 11th** Neglected Garden Restoration

**July 9th** Seals , seascapes and other wildlife

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### Eastry Primary School

**Friday 21st June.** A Family Barn Dance

**Wednesday 26th June.** A Summer Fair

Please look out for posters around the village for further details.

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**Eastry & District Open Group (EDOG)** in the Church Hall at 7.30pm

Literally - anyone is welcome.

**Monday 17th June and Monday 15th July**

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**Eastry Local Interests Group (ELIG)** at Eastry Church Hall

No meeting in June

**July 4th at 1.30pm.** A St. Peters Village Tour (Broadstairs) has been arranged for ELIG members (free) and guests (£4). Refreshments available for £1. Arrange your own transport to Broadstairs.

Costumed characters (volunteers) will bring the past back to life. Each group of 10 people will have their own guide, and the tour distance is about a mile with many short stops.

Contact Carole Finch (611847) / Mike Kinns (611400) if you are coming.

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### Northbourne & Betteshanger Horticultural Society

2nd Monday of the month, 7.30 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

**10th June** "Dungeness and Lydden - Why it is so special". Mrs Val Vile, a volunteer with the RSPB

**8th July** Mrs Carol Evans - a practical guide to the domestic classes at the next flower show on the 7th September.

**Friday 21st June** Quiz Night at the Hare & Hounds, Northbourne, start time is 7.30pm. Quiz master John Skelton. All proceeds going to the Horticultural Society



# CORNERS

## Holiday Club



**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> July to Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> August 2019**

**10 am till 3 pm**

**Northbourne Parish Hall**

Children from 5 years

**Places limited - Advanced booking is a must to avoid disappointment**

For information please contact Revd. Sandra Marsh on  
01304 612686 or email [revsandramarsh@btinternet.com](mailto:revsandramarsh@btinternet.com)

Organised under the auspices of Northbourne PCC

## Eastry Horticultural Society Summer Show

Saturday 22nd June 2019

Entries are members only but open for public viewing 2.00 pm to 4.00pm.



## Eastry Cricket Club

Saturdays

Sundays

1st June	Egerton	Home	2.00pm
8th June	Great Chart	Away	2.00pm
15th June	Stowting	Home	2.00pm
22nd June	Town Malling	Home	1.30pm
29th June	Foxbury Exiles	Home	2.00pm
6th July	Great Chart	Home	2.00pm
13th July	Teston	Away	2.00pm
20th July	Hawkinge	Home	2.00pm
27th July	East Sutton	Away	2.00pm

2nd June	Broadstairs	Away	2.00pm
9th June	Boughton & Eastwell	Home	2.00pm
16th June	Wingham	Home	2.00pm
23rd June	Three Horseshoes	Home	2.00pm
30th June	Old Gravenians	Away	2.00pm
7th July	Dover Cosmos	Away	2.00pm
16th July	Nelson	TBC	2.00pm
21st July	Timanstone Ravens	Away	2.00pm
28th July	6 a Side	Home	10.00am

## Tilmanstone Village Market Tilmanstone Village Hall

First Saturday of the month 10.00am - 11.00am Admission 20p

### Village Hall Events

**Bingo** - Saturdays 1<sup>st</sup> June and 13<sup>th</sup> July  
Doors open 7.00pm, eyes down 7.30pm  
Entry including Banger's & Chips etc is £3.50.

**Kent Mobile Library Service** 9.40am - 10.10am

Friday 14th, 28th June; 12th, 26th July

**Coffee Break** Everyone welcome - Free refreshments

Fridays 9.00am-12noon

**Hearing Aid Clinic** 10.00am - noon

Fridays 14th June 12th July

## Disclaimer

The Editor reserves the right to cut, edit or refuse to publish any contributions and does not necessarily agree with opinions expressed in published articles. All advertisements in the magazine are inserted in good faith, but the magazine committee accepts no responsibility for any statement made by the advertisers; nor endorses the products or services offered.

## St Mary's Events

**The Teddy Bears Picnic** and Zip Line off the Church Tower is back by popular demand from 2.30 - 4pm on Sunday June 30th.

This is a free event for local children and their friends and families. There will be a raffle and refreshments will be available for children. Bring a Teddy or Doll to experience the ride of a lifetime!

**The Jazz evening** returns again after last year's wonderful event. Sunday June 30th 6pm to 8pm on The Green in Church Street. The popular Shawcross Jazz Band will play their usual mix of lively jazz. This is open to all. No ticket required, but there will be a great raffle.

Bring your own chairs, picnics etc. Pimms etc will be available to purchase, as last year.

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## St Mary's Garden Fete

The fete will be held on Saturday July 20th 2.00pm to 5.00pm in the gardens of The Aumbry in Church Street (by kind permission of George Mathison).

It will feature stalls, a children's play area, a magician, live music, refreshments etc.

Any offers of donations please contact:

Children's toys etc.      Larry or Bob Wheatley 612155

Bric a Brac, Jewellery      Alastair Carnegie 813120

More information from Carole Finch on 611847.

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## National Flower Arranging Day

The National Flower Arranging Day was held on Friday 3rd May.

In Eastry a small table decoration was taken to the Bakers Dozen on the Parade. No sooner had it been placed on a coffee table with a card saying "Please take me home" when a lady parked her electric buggy and came in to buy her bread. "Can I really take this home" she exclaimed, so she put the flowers in her shopping bag and was so delighted.

It was lovely to see this ladies face and bring her some unexpected pleasure.

**Sheila Smith** - Dover Flower Club.

## Primary School Head Teacher Retires

The children, parents, Governors and staff at Eastry Church of England Primary school recently gathered together to say farewell to their Head Teacher, Tim Halling on his retirement. Tim had lead the school for 14 years and during that time it was awarded and maintained both Ofsted and Church Inspection Outstanding Status.

At a celebration party, The Chair of Governors, Dave Sugden thanked Tim for his commitment and recalled the happy atmosphere that Tim had created from the first days that he had led the school.

The Deputy Head Teacher, John O’Gorman also thanked Tim for his outstanding service and said “Tim sees a child’s education as more than just testing and results. Things like the wider curriculum, child welfare, well-being and ensuring that the children are motivated and happy at school, are as important to him as a score at the end of a key stage.



*Tim Halling holding entry to the Easter Egg Decorating Competition named “Good bye Mr Halling”*

Tim has done so much to develop the positive, caring Christian ethos that is Eastry School. The children genuinely love coming to this school because of the caring, wonderful vibes that permeate this place.”

During Tim Halling’s time as Head Teacher, Eastry Primary School has seen many improvements not only to teaching standards but to its facilities. Classrooms have been extended and improved and a new meeting room developed along with additional facilities for the children to enjoy outside such as play equipment and a wild flower garden named Marchbank’s Meadow. It was not an easy decision for Tim Halling to take early retirement but he is looking forward to relaxing and enjoying quality time with his family.

The staff and pupils will miss him greatly and his departure has left a big void but the school is looking forward to a new era on the firm foundations that Tim has laid.

**Tracey Thomas**



## Church Contacts

### St Mary's Parish Church

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

#### Clergy:

Revd. David Ridley	619619
Revd. Sandra Marsh	612686
Revd. Jennifer Pilcher	611472
Revd. 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
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#### Enquiries:

Please phone the office 611323

## Church Office

**Benefice Office**, The Church Hall, Church Street, Eastry, CT13 0HH

Wednesdays 10.45am to 12.45am and Fridays 10am - 12noon

Tel 611323 e-mail - [eastry.benefice@gmail.com](mailto:eastry.benefice@gmail.com)

During out-of-office hours a message can be left.

## Benefice Website

Please visit our website: [www.EWBchurches.org.uk](http://www.EWBchurches.org.uk)

Find us on Facebook at: [www.facebook.com/EWBchurches](https://www.facebook.com/EWBchurches)

## Friday Friendship Lunch Club

Fridays 14th June, 12th July in the Church Hall at 12 Noon.

Contact 611400

## The Church Registers

**Baptism:** 26th April Paul Cooper

**Funeral:** 12th May Oliver Waghorn

## **Church Services**

### **Sunday mornings at Eastry**

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

### **Evensong Services 6.30pm**

2nd June, 7th July (Northbourne)  
9th June, 14th July (Tilmanstone)

### **Wednesdays**

10.00am Holy Communion Eastry Church Hall - all are welcome

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## **Special Services**

### **Sunday 23rd June**

6.30pm Celtic Service at Tilmanstone

### **Sunday 28th July**

6.30pm Taize Service at Eastry

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## **Sing Along and Tea**

**Tuesdays 25th June, 23rd July** - Church Hall 2.30 - 4.00pm  
We will sing old well-known songs and enjoy a cup of tea and cake.  
There will be a raffle, everyone is welcome. **CONTACT 611400**

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The front cover picture of Church Street was taken from the Church tower  
by Nick Smith

## St Mary's Church 900th Anniversary

We have it on the good authority of a previous member of the congregation, the late Dr Charles Coulson (a medieval historian of international stature), that the first stone structure of St Mary's Church in Eastry was started in 1120. Prior to that there was a wooden structure close to Eastry Court which itself was mentioned in the Domesday Book in 1085. In the following 200 years the church developed its current size and appearance.



Bells were added in the 1600's. Pews were first installed in about 1700 and replaced with the current pews in 1853. In the Victorian era there was much development and enrichment of the internal appearance, most of which is still evident today. Many developments have happened in the last several years and the old lead roof covering over the side aisles will be finally replaced with Zinc this summer.

2020 is therefore the 900th anniversary of this wonderful building which has been the focus for so many important events over so many years.

St Mary's remains an active church community serving the village of Eastry and the surrounding area. The Church itself is freely open each and every day and many people visit it for their own peace and quiet.

We feel that this anniversary is a cause for celebration, not only by the church but by the whole village.

We want this to be a village celebration and to have a legacy. Apart from the church community (who are of course involved in so many other aspects of village life), we want to actively include all the citizens of Eastry. So, the Parish Council, the Twinning Association, the Primary School, the Five Bells, the Theatrical Company, the Horticultural Society, the WI, the Guides, Brownies, Scouts, Cubs etc., local artists and musicians, local sports groups, local businesses, and any other group I may have forgotten will be contacted for their ideas (or should contact me direct!). We have already made a start with an initial steering group and have plans (in their infancy) which may run all year but will have a particular focus in June and July 2020. If anybody would like to contact me about this then please feel free to use [amcarnegie@hotmail.com](mailto:amcarnegie@hotmail.com).

**Dr Alastair Carnegie**

## Rector's Letter

The subject of my letter last month was that of hope – a major, if not defining theme of Easter which celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ. There are countless examples of enduring hope and resilience in individual lives, even through the most extraordinary adversity - and we can only marvel at the strength of the human spirit.

But all this has to be placed in the context of recent reports which warn of impending chaos and destruction on an apocalyptic scale. Whilst there are still climate change sceptics, it is undeniable that there is an unprecedented consensus among scientists about the fact of global warming and that this is directly related to human activity. Climate science is inevitably inexact and there are of course statistical quirks which can be cited by those who wish to question the emerging consensus; but these voices are becoming ever more an unconvincing minority. It is now difficult to challenge the conclusion that our planet is warming, that the warming is being driven by the burning of fossil fuels and other human activity and that the consequences are immensely concerning. It seems that whatever we do now, there are going to be serious impacts this century and well beyond, which we shall have to live with.

And alongside the impending crisis that is global warming is the growing concern about diminishing biodiversity. The report, published in May, of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, sponsored by the UN, claims that a million species of animals and plants are threatened with extinction; three-quarters of the world's land and two-thirds of its marine environments have been "significantly altered" by human action; urban areas have doubled in size in just the past 30 years; more than 85% of wetlands have been lost; more than 90% of ocean fish stocks are being harvested at or above sustainable levels; and in the last 50 years the number of wild animals have fallen by 85%. We are not merely losing some interesting species, we are endangering the eco-systems necessary for human existence. Sir Robert Watson, who chairs the report writing body writes: 'We are eroding the very foundations of our economies, livelihoods, food security, health, and quality of life worldwide.'

But what to do?

From a Christian perspective, there are two principles which may help and inform us.

First, it is a conviction that our planet and all its resources are a gift from God; they are given to us both to enjoy, but also to steward – to look after and nurture. So it is not about being miserable, we are to live life to the full – but in doing so we have a responsibility to use what we have wisely and to care for it and respect it.

Second, in teaching about the Kingdom of God, Jesus (and later St Paul in his letters) speak about a radical inclusivity where everyone, indeed every created thing, is of ultimate worth and value. No one, nothing created, is outside the love of God and all living things deserves our respect. This demands that we drastically reassess the way that our actions impact upon others and upon the whole natural world. It also challenges us to focus on our self-serving interests which so often put our own needs and desires before the well-being of others. The fact that, over the last three or four decades, we have not adequately addressed the major issues facing us is testament to this failing.

So where is the hope?

The hope surely is in us, and we can all make a difference; the hope is in our young people who are demanding change. There are encouraging signs: people are walking and cycling or using public transport instead of their cars; people are eating less meat; people are much more aware of waste and the need to recycle; people are turning their thermostats down and insulating their houses.

As Jesus spoke about God's Kingdom, he also spoke of the empowering Holy Spirit encouraging us to discover a new reality based upon justice and peace. It is this gift which we celebrate on Pentecost Sunday - 9 June this year. Perhaps there is a growing new realisation that rampant consumption is no longer sustainable; perhaps, inspired by the Holy Spirit, we are at the point where there can be a real paradigm shift in our thinking and our behaviour which will put the well-being of all creation before our immediate desires.

There is hope, there is cause for optimism, but we need to act.

**David Ridley**

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## **Dover District Council - Bin Collections**

**Non-recyclable Waste** Black-wheeled Bin & Food

Tuesdays 4th, 18th June; 2nd, 16th, 30th July

**Recyclable Waste** Blue-wheeled Bin (Plastics, Tins, Bottles),  
Cardboard, Green-waste & Food

Tuesdays 11th, 25th June; 9th, 23rd July

The green bags that are used for the garden waste collection are available from Age Concern in Sandwich - cost £4.





The 8th May 1945 was the day peace emerged after nearly six years of war, so the 75th anniversary on 8th May 2020 represents an important milestone in our history.

National celebration, **VE Day 75**, will cover the weekend of 8th to 10th May 2020, and will be an international celebration of peace – a time to remember, reflect and pay tribute to the millions who played such a vital part in achieving it.

This includes the Armed Forces personnel from many countries who gave their lives, and those who returned home injured in body and mind; the hard-working women and men who kept the factories, mines, shipyards and farms operating throughout the years of turmoil; the ARP wardens, police officers, doctors, nurses, firemen, local defence volunteers and many others who put their lives on hold to safeguard the home front.

The official, exclusive charity for **VE Day 75** is SSAFA, the Armed Forces Charity, which also supports the Merchant Navy.

The planned activities over the weekend are as follows:

- The Playing of Battle's O'er & VE 75 Years
- The Nation's Toast to the Heroes of WW2
- The Cry for Peace, around the World
- Churches & cathedrals Ringing out for Peace
- Street parties and parties in pubs, clubs, hotels, on town and village greens and in halls etc
- Services of commemoration and celebration in churches, including the reading of the Tribute to the Millions and the playing of the Last Post

If you would like to be involved in joining a working group to organise events in Eastry, please contact Sarah Wells, Clerk to the Parish Council on 01304 614320 or [clerk@eastrypc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@eastrypc.co.uk)

## Parish Council Vacancies

Following the recent Parish Council elections, there remains three vacant seats on Eastry Parish Council.

- *Do you want to serve your Community?*
- *Do you have time or expertise which could benefit your Community?*
- *Do you want to make a difference to all those around you?*
- *Are you concerned about your local area?*
- *Do you want to represent the views of local people?*

**If you would like to make a difference, and be involved in shaping the future of your local Community, why not step forward and apply to become an Eastry Parish Councillor?**

Eastry Parish Council meet 11 times a year, normally on the first Monday of the Month (accept in May, when it's the 2nd Monday). If you are interested please email the Clerk to the Parish Council on [clerk@eastrypc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@eastrypc.co.uk) for an application form and eligibility form. Or you can download these from the Parish Council website at [www.eastrypc.co.uk](http://www.eastrypc.co.uk)

**To qualify to become a Parish Councillor a person must** \*be a British subject over 18 years old \*be listed on the current electoral role \*live in Eastry, or within 3 miles of its boundary, or occupy as owner/tenant any land/premises therein or have a principal place of work within the Parish \*must not be disqualified from holding office as a Councillor.

## In The Garden

It is a shame that for various reasons over the past few years, several flower plants have dropped out of favour, for various reasons.

Dahlias (earwig problems), fuchsias (vine weevils), lily (lily beetle), hosta's (snails & slugs), lily of the valley (growing conditions), delphiniums (snails & slugs), chrysanthemum's (difficult to spell!) and roses (blackspot & aphids).



Well I'm pleased to say that Roses are making a come-back. Lots of new breeds are now disease resistant, and with good garden care, they will give you years of pleasure. There are roses for all conditions and positions in the garden.

There are climbing roses, hybrid tea (bush), floribunda (multi-flowering), patio, ground cover, standard, miniature and roses that will form a hedge. Some roses are grown for their fragrance, such as the "McCartney Rose", "Double Delight", "Gertrude Jekyll", and many more (if you would like a list, just contact me).

There are 'named' roses for everyone and every occasion, 'Adams Rose', 'Charlotte', 'Grace', 'Lovely Lady', 'Mamma Mia', 'Mum in a Million', 'My Lovely Mum', 'Birthday Boy', 'Tom Tom', 'Buxom Beauty', 'Friends Forever', 'Together Forever', and the list goes on and on. There are also child friendly roses which have no thorns.

Roses can be grown under glass, in tubs or containers and of course in the open ground. If grown in containers it's nice if you also plant a few spring flowering bulbs and some trailing plants around the edges, also each year remove the top 3-5cm of soil from the top and replace with new fresh compost.

Roses (like me) enjoy being fed, as they make heavy demands on the reserves of plant food in the soil or potting compost. They appreciate their first feed just before the leaves are fully open, and again when the buds are just showing colour, and finally after flowering, but it's not advisable to feed after the end of July, otherwise this will encourage soft growth, which could be damaged by an early frost.

It would be nice if all the other flower plants mentioned above, could make a come-back.

Just a Brambling House update. All the containers and pots are now full up with colourful plants and are looking good. The new crown of rhubarb in the new "Vegetable Garden" has taken root and all other vegetables

are coming along nicely. I'm trying a dwarf runner bean this year called "Hestia" which can be grown in pots. I'll let you know in due course how productive it is. The new "Beach Garden" looks lovely with all the grasses and other sea-side plants, in fact, everything is looking lovely.



The new "Rose Garden" is full of colour, so thank you, everyone who donated a rose.

Whilst sitting in your garden, enjoying the sun, here's a little quiz for you. Who had hits with the following rose related songs? As some songs have been sung by various artists, so along with the song title, I've given you the initials of the singer that I'm looking for.

- a) "Rose Garden" (I never promised you a.....) (L.A.) 1970
- b) "Roses are Red" (My Love) (B.V.) 1962 & (J.R.)
- c) "Rose Marie" (S.W.) 1954
- d) "Paper Roses" (M.O.) 1973
- e) "The Yellow Rose of (in) Texas" (G.A.) 1933, (M.M.) 1955
- f) "Bed of Roses" (B.J.) 1992
- g) "Rambling Rose" N.K.C.
- h) "Give My Love To Rose" (J.C.) 1957 & (B.S.) 2002
- i) "Yellow Roses" (D.P.) 1989

(Answers to the quiz are on page19)

So, if you decide to plant a rose, try the quiz or have a go at creating a "Beach Garden", enjoy your gardening.

All the best from, Art E. Choke and my new friend Q. Cumber

**Art E. Choke**



### Meetings:

Wednesday June 5th – Quiz Night

Wednesday July 3rd – Mercy Ships – Gehad Hornsey

On April 13th several weeks of planning, cooking and crafting came together when we put together our exhibit for our WI Group competition at Ash Village Hall, the theme was 'Colours of Spring'. It was all worthwhile when we won first prize, it's a while since we did that!

We had to have three cookery items, one of which could be a preserve, two craft items, and a floral arrangement.

My thanks go to Vera Hunt, Ann Fordham, Carole Willis, Janet Bradley, and Gill Bull who pulled out all the stops and a huge thank you to Anne Oakley who organized it all.

She now has the responsibility of keeping the silver platter shiny and bright.



Anne will also be organizing our quiz night at the June meeting, it's always a fun night and is not taken too seriously, although if chocolate is amongst the prizes all that might change!

Our July meeting is about Mercy ships - In low-income and lower-middle-income countries, nine out of ten people have no access to basic surgical care. Mercy Ships charity hospital ships sail directly to these people to offer the medical care they need – for free.

As always we welcome visitors to our meetings,

**Sue Hankins** President



## St Matthew's Fair

In 1447, in the reign of Henry VI, Eastry was granted royal permission to hold an annual fair on 21st September, the feast day of St Matthew the Apostle.

I have long felt that we should revive this ancient custom, but with a modern twist. It was my intention to bring together an informal steering group of like-minded individuals and village organisation to oversee the project and maybe raise some money for local charities. However, although there were a few encouraging voices, the necessary support never materialised.

In recent years other local villages have organised fairs based on *village safaris* which feature garage sales or perhaps front garden sales. Contributions from village organisations and businesses could add to the occasion so that people could *make a day of it*.

Therefore, as I intend to have garage sale myself on Saturday, 21st September, 2019, I thought that, through the pages of Eastry Village News, it may be possible to recruit a few more households who want to have a clear-out of stuff that's too good for the tip.

Consequently, if you would like to hold a garage or front garden sale on the same day, let the Editor know by the 30th June and your details (address and hours open) will be included in the August/September issue of EVN.

**Terry James**

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Answers to the Quiz on page 17:

- a) Lynn Anderson
- b) Bobby Vinton & Jim Reeves
- c) Slim Whitman
- d) Marie Osmond
- e) Gene Autrey & Mitch Miller
- f) Bon Jovi
- g) Nat King Cole
- h) Johnny Cash & Bruce Springsteen
- i) Dolly Parton

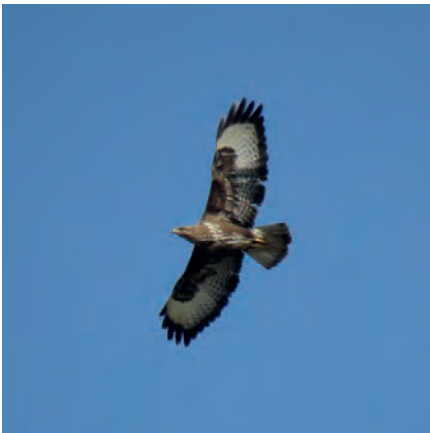
## Bird Watching with Big Nick

Many of the resident birds have by now had young and are quite likely to be on a second clutch of eggs. People often ask what to do when they see a young bird on the ground, so here is the advice from the RSPB. "Removal of a fledgling from the wild has to be a very last resort." There are circumstances where it may be appropriate to move a fledgling - but further information can be found on the RSPB website.

### Raptors

Many of you may have noticed an increase in the number of buzzards around the village and neighbouring countryside; a couple of birds seem to be resident around Brook Street. Whilst gardening one day I suddenly became aware of a number of herring gulls making a commotion above me and when I looked up two buzzards were drifting overhead, being harassed by the screaming gulls. I now use the noise of the gulls as a prompt to look up, and almost every time it is because of a large raptor passing overhead.

At Easter, four or possibly five red kites floated north overhead; this also got the gulls screaming – taking off from village rooftops to intercept the birds. Many of our birds of prey have made a bit of a recovery in recent years. Red kites have been seen locally on numerous occasions in the last few years – something I couldn't have imagined 10 years ago. And peregrine falcons are again cruising along the cliff tops of Thanet and Dover, as well as on tall buildings like Canterbury Cathedral or the Discovery Park.



A buzzard at Knowlton



A Red kite being mobbed by a crow at Rowling.

This time of year you may be lucky enough to spot a hobby, about kestrel size with long pointed wings, reminiscent of a giant swift, they hunt dragonflies and small birds like swallows and martins. They can arrive in Kent in quite good numbers in early May and then disperse around the country.



Peregrine falcon on the cliffs



A hobby at Stodmarsh



Kestrel at Sandwich Bay



Sparrowhawk over  
our garden

Both the kestrel and sparrowhawk are found locally. The kestrel is a familiar sight as it hovers alongside busy roads, while the sparrowhawk can be harder to see. Unliked by some because it may be found terrorising the garden birds around feeders – the seed attracts the small birds and they in turn attract the sparrowhawk – that's how nature works, and as long as it is in balance, it works well. I have yet to get a really decent picture of a sparrowhawk, but one day I'll get lucky.

**Nick**



## Neighbourhood Watch

Eastry residents have been very prompt to report anything suspicious in the village. A cold caller claiming to be an expert in gas and electricity has been door knocking after dark. This is not acceptable, the man was of Asian appearance wearing a yellow beanie hat. Under no circumstances admit cold callers into the house and also make sure that the back door is locked as it could be a distraction burglary.

The young doorstep sellers are out and about again with the sob story that they have just left the military and need cash to fund further education. The goods on offer are not cheap and can be purchased in our own village shops. Ignore so called identity cards they are meaningless. Don't believe the tale of what your next door neighbour has purchased, they will say anything to make a sale. Another resident has had trouble from doorstep hedge trimmers who tried to tell her that her shrubs were impeding the flow of traffic. These are opportunists and not bona fide council staff. Do not accept quotes on the doorstep, explain that you need three quotes for the work and in any case vegetation should not be pruned while the birds are nesting.

The black and white flat decked lorry is cruising around the streets again looking for metal waste products. Whilst looking for skips the driver and his companion are studying every front garden and driveway so keep all of your belongings under lock and key. Lock and chain garden mechanical tools. Ask Karl our KCC Warden about property marking so that if stolen goods are recovered the police can find the rightful owner.

Thefts from cars are very popular so take everything of any value indoors with you. Even an empty bag could attract the attention of a passing thief, you may know that the bag is empty but the thief does not.

A resident has reported a man in his 40's or 50's taking videos of gardens. This occurred in the area of the footpath from Mill Lane to the Gun Park. Please report any further sightings, the description given was of a man with short dark hair and beard and wearing a dark grey jumper and black coat.

Stay vigilant.

**Sheila Smith**

Chair Neighbourhood Watch.

## Local Developments



There have been recent announcements that Hadlow College (which owns the Country and Business Parks at Betteshanger) is in financial difficulties. As this issue of the EVN goes to press it, was confirmed that the High Court has declared Hadlow College insolvent because of its inability to repay its debts, which include re-payment of £0.5m which was given towards the proposed Kent Mining Museum at Betteshanger.

The decision has been taken to sell the Betteshanger site in its entirety. The College is currently in discussion with interested parties and the intention is to find a new owner.

A deadline of 31st July has been set. Beyond that date, they are unable to confirm what the future holds but the intention is for the Park to remain open and operations to continue under a new owner.

Proposed location  
of the “New Town”



It has been in the news that the developer, Quinn Estates, plans to build 3,750 homes on green belt land between Northbourne and Betteshanger. The new town would have an estimated population of 14,000 people compared to that of Eastry which has about 2,500 residents.

In 2017, planning permission was given to build a centre for healthcare businesses at the Business Park which was expected to create 700 jobs by 2020. It must also be in doubt whether this will now go ahead and raises even more concern where people from the new town would be able to find jobs in the locality.

The loss of leisure facilities and jobs close to Eastry coupled with a major increase in housing is worrying for our residents and we will have to watch developments closely.

**Brian Manton, Editor**



## **My Trilogy of Funny Stories (all misunderstood)**

### **Story 1**

Every week my friend, whose name is also Rose, meet up in Deal for a cup of coffee and a natter. We are often joined by a few other friends, including Brian. Now Brian loves goose eggs and because he no longer drives every week, I go along to the farm shop and buy two goose eggs and take them to him. As much as he really enjoys them, his grumble is always the same, he wishes he had an egg cup big enough. We tell him to no avail to use a beaker or a teacup but no, according to him they would taste even better from an egg cup. I searched everywhere for one, my daughter-in-law looked on line, but no luck. However a couple of weeks ago he was having the same whinge to his son who apparently tapped away on his phone and told Brian he had found a goose egg cup and it was to be delivered the next day - yippee!! However asking him a couple of days later whether it had arrived I could tell by his face that it was a sore subject. Yes it had arrived - a normal size little egg cup with a picture of a goose on the side of it!

### **Story 2**

Another dear friend of mine needed to have a minor op and was sent to a clinic in Wye. When her stitches needed to be removed she had to go locally, the nurse enquired while removing the stitches where she had had it done. "Wye" replied my friend, oh it's just that they've done a good job. "Wye" my friend repeated again - oh I just wondered the nurse said again .....

### **Story 3**

When I was in hospital recently the woman in the next bed and myself were moaning about things that we didn't feel were quite right. At that time a nurse from the men's ward next to us came stomping through the ward carrying a blood pressure kit and at the same time complaining "that's all I need, Reggie Sheens gone and died on me". How unprofessional I said to the woman in the next bed, she wants reporting. However a couple of minutes later she returned saying everything was now sorted - what she had actually said was "the ruddy machine had died on her" not Reggie Sheen" - oh dear.

PS Since writing my friend Brian is the proud owner of a proper goose egg cup. My good friend hasn't had to go back to the clinic - Wye - because she hasn't and as for me I am trying my hardest to open my ears more before my mouth!

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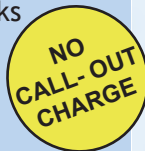
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