

*"Some sort of periodical is an essential life-line in a village such as ours"*

No 21 December 1976

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- Monday December 6th: Parish Council Meeting at Court Lodge, 8.00pm  
Tuesday December 7th: Public Presentation of the proposed main drainage scheme for West Farleigh; 7.30pm in East Farleigh WI Hall.  
Monday December 13th: Farleigh Ladies Club Party at No 1 St Stephens Cotts.  
Tuesday December 14th: Sports Club Christmas Whist Drive, 7.30 East Farleigh WI Hall.  
Sunday December 19th: 'Carols by Candlelight' in the church at 4.0pm  
Monday December 20th: Sports Club Xmas Social at East Farleigh Bull, 7.30  
Friday December 24th: Midnight Holy Communion, 11.45pm

## NEWS ABOUT PEOPLE

"From this isle set in a sapphire sea - except when the strong sou-westerly blow - where the famous cattle are protected from the same sou-westerly with sacking coats and are tethered to their daily ration of pasture, and where never a sheep is to be seen, we send love and good wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all our friends in West Farleigh. My sincere thanks, too, for all the letters, flowers and kind thoughts which gave me so much pleasure during my long stay in hospital".

That message from Jersey is signed Audrey and Frank Hunter, and was written for Life-Line on 18th October. Five weeks later the desperately unlucky Mrs Hunter was plunged yet again into agonising pain, and underwent an emergency operation for the removal of a diseased section of the hip bone she broke last winter. Many months on crutches will ensue.

Many in West Farleigh still remember with affection Mrs Marjorie Cheeseman, who, with her husband, lost her heart to a pink-washed cottage on the Dorset-Devon border five years ago. She has been, and still is, seriously ill. Of this Life-Line knew nothing until Mrs Wells made mention of it in a letter last month. "We would all like to think", Mrs Wells wrote, "she would read in the news-letter that we are all pleased she is getting better slowly". And so she shall, Mrs Wells, and indeed we are! Mr David Cheeseman confirms an improvement in the paralysis which struck its first blow last summer.

Mrs Reid-Marr is progressing after a spell in hospital following the bursting of a blood vessel in her brain.

The loyal collection service rendered over the years to The Leprosy Mission by Mrs Violet Wells has resulted in the dispatch to them of another cheque for £25, - this from supporters in Tecton as well as West Farleigh. And thanks are due, writes Miss Wakefield, to Box Collectors Mesd Forrest, Roffell, Simmonds, Walter and Wells - and to all subscribers - for a total of £12.20 sent last month to USPG (United Societies for the Propagation of the Gospel) Mrs Vera Smith reports a Poppy Day total of £24.37 (1975, £23.38)

A golden conifer recently planted towards the north-east corner of the churchyard perpetuates the memory of the late George Evan Thomas, father of Mrs F W Belcher JP of East Farleigh. He was a frequent visitor to our church, which he loved for its family associations, and was much respected for his readiness to help anyone who sought his advice in either of the two Farleighs.

The churchyard is the subject of a plea from Mr 'Bill' Philpott, its groundsman who, according to the BKV judges keeps it 'nearly perfect'. Will the people who 'do' the church flowers please open up the refuse bag and set it in position before they throw down their rubbish? He is tired of having to pick it all up and start again.

Life-Line rarely succeeds in being so provocative as to induce a Letter to the Editor, but our paragraph last month on the Church Quota has brought a lively and enlightening letter from Mr Graham Phillips, Rochester Diocesan Secretary. We hope to publish it in full next month.

The Ladies Club wish to publicise their thanks to Mrs Baines for judging their cookery competition, and to Mr Baines for an interesting talk about wills.

## NO JUBILATION FOR THE JUBILEE

"It suggests West Farleigh doesn't care whether anything is done or not". So said the Chairman (Mr E P Day JP) opening last month's meeting called to discuss how the village should celebrate the Queen's Jubilee next June. Only nine people heard him say it. The proceedings were all over in an hour, after a resolution to call another meeting at The Good Intent for Monday 10th January at 8.0pm, in the hope of "getting a little more success". In the meantime the possibility of participation in East Farleigh's programme is to be explored.

---

## NEWS FROM THE COUNCILS

Main Drainage The letter from the Borough to all property owners concerned will probably have arrived before this issue of Life-Line. A public presentation of 'the Farleighs scheme' by the Borough officers has been arranged for 7.30pm on Tuesday 7th December in East Farleigh WI Hall. Everybody who is interested is invited. After the presentation time will be available for both general and private questions to the officers.

The West Farleigh section of the proposed scheme is as follows:- Farleigh Green, down Charlton Lane to Lower Road. A spur to take in Holly Villas. At Lower Road the drain will turn east to St Helens Corner, then down St Helens Lane to Barming Bridge, where it will join the main sewer. Spurs at St Helens Corner will take in the bottom of Kettle Lane and a hundred yards of Lower Road towards East Farleigh. Ewell Lane, the Vale and the Choquers-Toston Bridge area are not included on grounds of cost effectiveness.

Public Appeal The public appeal concerning the mooring of boats and construction of landing stages upstream from Toston Bridge took place last month. The appeal was limited to the Enforcement Notice relating to the Bailiff's boat. The Secretary of State's decision will be made known shortly.

River Safety The proposal to notify each pen on the river by giving it a name or number has been deferred by the Council on grounds of cost.

Conservation areas The Planning Committee have set up a working party to review all conservation areas in the Borough. This review will cover the agricultural land between our present conservation boundary and the Medway.

School Management KCC Education Department have asked the Department of Education and Science to vary the constitution of the Managing Board of East Farleigh Primary School so that one of the three minor authority appointees may represent jointly the East and West Farleigh Parish Councils. For information, there are in addition six managers appointed by the major authority - the KCC. All Managers are serving a three-year period expiring in 1977, when they will be re-appointed or replaced for successive four-year periods, coinciding with the County Council's elections. Next one, May 1977. P.H.T.R.

---

## NEWS FROM THE SPORTS CLUB

The First team's ascent of the Division 3 table has been sure and steady. Beginning with a 2-0 win over MALGO (C Smith and T Baines scoring) they followed with a 1-0 win over Addington (T Baines). Cup games and rain interrupted their league progress, but not their winning streak. Coombe Reserves succumbed 4-2 in the Challoner Cup (K Baines, G Wells, S Sanger and M Back). Our Reserves have fared well, too, with a 3-2 win over Leybourne, but rain and a cup bye have cut down their matches to a minimum. K.B.

---

## IN CHURCH THIS MONTH

Sunday December 5th: Holy Communion 8.00am Family Service 10.30  
At 6.30: Maidstone Inter-Church Choral Fellowship singing works by Mendelssohn, with hymns for the congregation.

Sunday Dec 12th: Matins 11.00 Evening Service 6.30

Sunday Dec 19th: Holy Communion 8.00 Matins 11.00  
Carols by Candlelight 4.00pm

Christmas Eve: Midnight Holy Communion 11.45pm

Christmas Day: Holy Communion 8.00 10.30 Family Service

Sunday Dec 26th: Matins 11.00 No evening service

Church flowers: Saturday Dec 4th, Mr Plommer and Mr Holwell; Dec 11th, ditto; Dec 18th, Mrs Devenish; Week of Mon Dec 20th, all help with Christmas decorations welcome on any day, but please notify Mrs Morgan first at Hillcroft (26251)

Church cleaning: Week of Monday Dec 6th, Mr Plommer and Mr Holwell; Dec 13th, Mrs Devenish; Dec 27th, Mrs J P Day