

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

No. 215 February 1993

WHAT ABOUT THESE FAMILY SERVICES, THEN?

"Half an hour! That's a very short time for a service, isn't it? I thought they were supposed to run for an hour."

"Well, it all depends on what you want a service to do. If it gives you what you expect of it in half an hour, why prolong it for an hour?"

"I see. So what is one of these services supposed to provide, then?"

Different people have different needs. Some some like the music and singing. Some like meeting their friends. Some like the memories ..."

"But I can meet my friends in the pub and they have music and singing there too. I can go to places which bring back memories without having to go to a church service."

"Yes, but I was going on to say that probably the most important reason for going to church is that a service will enable you to draw a little closer to God."

"Sounds a bit arrogant to me. How can half an hour in an old church make any difference to me and God?"

"Well you see, we all need God sometime. Most people seem to like him at their weddings. Nearly everyone needs him at times of death or bereavement. So it can help a great deal if you learn a bit about him before you need him".

"I see. Well, I suppose that half an hour a month isn't much to ask. When did you say this family service is?"

"On the second Sunday every month at 11am. But I forgot to tell you, we always try and get to church about a quarter to eleven for a cup of coffee and a chat."

"So you mean it is really three quarters of an hour?"

"Well, you could come at 11 and miss the sociable bit, but we think that meeting each other is as important as worshipping together."

Hugh

Discussion Group

The term "discussion group" sounds a bit daunting but the little group who meet monthly (more or less) at the White House are not in the least off-putting. Come and see for yourself on Tuesday, 9th Feb, at 8pm and have a chat about everything and nothing over a quiet drink.

THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

At the Good Intent on Monday, 1st March, at 7.30pm, the Annual Parish Meeting will take place. This is the time when you can air all your grievances and tell your troubles to the people you elected to deal with them. Matters needing a higher authority will be dealt with by County Councillor Wilf Shilling and Borough Councillor Peter Craven. Also, if they can be spared from their duties, the local Law, namely PCs Mark Wells and Nick Sparks should be there.

Parishoners may like to know that this meeting will be the 99th Annual Parish Meeting. Parish Councils were first set up in 1894, by Act of Parliament. Before that, all parish business was conducted by church officials and it had been thus since our ancient village church was new.

Ten-up Club, January

£10	Zoe Martin
£5	Colin Watson
£5	Mrs Botton.

THER WILL BE A SKIP
ON THE GREEN
ON 14th FEBRUARY

(A gesture by our romantic
Borough Council
for Valentine's Day.)

EVERGREENS

Maria Gibb will be hostessing the next tea party at her bungalow in Charlton Lane. Busy lady that she is, she has to fit this in with her other engagements and has asked that the tea party be held on Monday, 8 February, instead of the usual Tuesday. She will be showing us a video.

FLOWERS

Once again an appeal goes out for flower arrangers. All who enter our church are impressed with the splendid displays of flowers which delight the eye and soothe the nerves. If you would like to join the happy band who produce these visions, put your name on a list which will be displayed in the church porch. Please don't think you have to be an expert. If you like flowers you will be most welcome and a willingness to help is all that is required. The displays will be suspended for Lent.

LENT PROGRAMME On Ash Wednesday there will be an 8pm communion service at Wateringbury church to which communicants in West Farleigh are warmly invited.

We shall again be joining with Wateringbury and Teston for this year's Lent groups. Commencing 4th March, Thursday, we shall meet at 1, Lodge Close, Wateringbury, for about 1½ hours on Thursday evenings at 7.45. We propose first to listen to the weekly talk on the radio and then discuss it led by Alastair Byron and myself. Do join us! Even if you are unable to come to more than one meeting, it will be lovely to see you there. For further information, please contact me on 820305 or the Churchwardens. Hugh Grainger

FOOTWAY BETWEEN CHARLTON AND KETTLE LANES

Hopefully some resolution is in sight. The use of the footway was discontinued last April with the change of farm tenancy. Following earlier appeals last year and a petition in December to the Parish Council, a number of suggestions to facilitate the re-opening have been made by the Parish Council. These have included help with the cost of stiles and fencing. The Chairman of the Parish Council, Don Goodwin, has spoken to the owners, agents and new tenant. The concern of these people is to preserve the benefit of the footway for local residents whilst ensuring that the land can be properly farmed and kept free from dumping and vandalism.

It was not possible to visit every house in the village but, of those approached, all signed the petition with one exception for personal reasons. It appears that people can personally testify to the use of the footway by local residents for over 80 years.

Discussions are continuing between the parties and an amicably acceptable agreement seems possible if one or two outstanding issues can be resolved.

The latest situation will be reported to the Annual Parish Meeting on 1st March at 7.30pm in the Good Intent (see overleaf). Do come along if you would like to and make your views known.

SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY
IN ALL THREE CHURCHES

West Farleigh

Feb 7 0800 PBHC Rev Caley
0930 Choir Club
14 1030 Coffee in ch.
1100 Fam Service
21 0930 Parish Commn
Archdeacon P Mallett
21 2000 Ash Wedsday
Parish Commn
in WATERINGBURY
28 0930 Choir Club
1100 Matins
Hugh Grainger

Teston

Feb 7 0945 Family 45
1830 Parish Commn
14 0800 PBHC
0945 Children's ch
1830 Evensong
21 0945 Children's ch
1830 Parish Commn
28 0800 PBHC
0945 Children's ch
1830 Evensong

Wateringbury

Feb 7 0930 PB Matins
14 0930 Parish Commn
1100 Sunday School
21 0800 PBHC
1100 Family 45
24 2000 Ash Wednesday
Parish Commn
28 0930 Parish Commn
1100 Sunday School
March 4 Lent Group meeting,
1, Lodge Close, 1945

FOOTBALL REPORT

Too much Christmas pudding, the verdict after this month's 1st XI fixtures, although we ran it off just in time to proceed into the cup. We re-started our League programme on the 9th v Maidstone Rangers but ended up on the wrong end of a 5 - 3 scoreline. The following week came Loose Rangers: we prevented many of their chances but also found the net hard to find and lost 2 - 0! The good news is we're in the Group "A" Challenge Cup semi-final (2legs!), having beaten Snodland 2 - 1. Both goals came in the first half from Julian Nutley. Hopefully this has given the team a lift and slowed the rapid decline in our recent League results.

Unlike the 1st XI, the 2nd XI didn't have too much Christmas pudding as their steady progress shows. First came Maidstone Hospitals. Having beaten them 7 - 0 earlier this season, it looked an easy fixture. Oh no! Bad thinking! Come half time we were 3 - 0 down but in a terrific 2nd half we clawed our way back and drew 3 - 3. Next came Rosedene (Tun/Wells cup) but even after extra time the final result was 1 - 1 (can you resist the replay?). Next Addington, back in the League, and a 5 - 1 win enabled us to keep the pressure on the top sides and, let's hope, come April, we'll be sitting on top! Your support would be appreciated; another plug as I haven't mentioned it for a couple of months.

Be in touch.

Tel

P.S. We do not charge for admission.

LIFE-LINE LEARNS THAT THE CHOIR, THE CHOIR CLUB & THE YOUNG BELL RINGERS were all taken on an outing to the bowling in the Pentagon Centre in Chatham. This was an expression of appreciation for what they do for the village. What, indeed, would the village do without the traditional sound of the churchbells, without the Choir to lead our singing and without the promise