

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

Editor: Jim Patch, Mill Cottage, 0622 813461

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## THOUGHTS FROM THE RECTORY

### Working the System

As I put these thoughts on paper, I realise that Eileen and I have been here just about six weeks. In a strange way it seems much longer (it will be longer by the time you read this). At all three churches and in all three parishes you have been most welcoming and friendly.

Parishes are, of course, very different and the three parishes of this Benefice all have their own identity and character. As a very green Reader, some years ago, I remember preaching a sermon in which I said the parish system was redundant. Time has proved me (not for the first or last time) to be wrong. The system is far from perfect but it does provide a network of worship and pastoral care that touches many people at many points during their lifetimes, baptisms, marriages and funerals being perhaps the main occasions when they come into contact with their parish church and its minister.

In the matter of marriage, at least one partner of the couple concerned must have a place of residence within one of our three parishes.

Baptism is the responsibility of the minister within a parish. In our three parishes there are two questions for those thinking about baptism:

1. Do you reside within the three parishes?
2. Do you live outside the three parishes yet worship regularly in one of our churches?

If the answer is 'yes' to one or both of these questions, then you will be invited to a Baptism Preparation evening where further arrangements will be made. You will also be welcome to share in our Sunday worship.

If you have made a home outside the Benefice, then your first port of call is to the minister of your new parish, although you may have family ties here.

Please speak to me. If I can help, I will.

Yours in faith

Denys

## ROMANIA AGAIN

On 2nd July Valerie Grainger will lead a group of sixth form pupils from Weald of Kent and The Judd Grammar Schools in Tonbridge on a visit to an orphanage at Movila. This is about 30 miles from the Black Sea. I went there twice last year to do work for a charity. The orphanage is for children from 6 to 16 and we will be setting up play facilities for them both indoor and out. The objective will be to set an example for the Romanian staff as well as providing British equipment.

The idea and motivation for this trip came from the senior girls at the school where Valerie teaches and was sparked off when Romanian visitors, who stayed with us last July, spoke to the Weald of Kent school about conditions in their country.

The coach, with 34 people and £3,000 worth of equipment, the product of months of intensive fund raising, will leave Tonbridge in the early hours of Friday and reach its destination some time on Monday. After four days of installation, playing and teaching it is planned to cover the 2,000 mile return journey in three days.

Hugh

IN VIEW OF the impending departure of Sue and Philip Morlock, the next Evergreens tea party will be at Mill Cottage. The date - 13 July.

## CHURCH FLOWERS

The Churchwardens are anxious to hear from anyone who would volunteer to arrange the church flowers. The rota shows blanks around the middle of July and the whole of August. Someone is needed too to take Sue Morlock's role of organising the church flower rota which she has undertaken so magnificently for many years.

ANY OFFERS, PLEASE PHONE JOHN DAY on 812650

Dorothy Reed would like to express her sincere thanks to all who helped to make the strawberry party on Saturday, 19 June, such a success. Over £4.00 will be sent to the Peggy Woods Children's Ambulance Fund.

**THE WEST FARLEIGH - RINGSTEDT TOUR**

Well, we have just finished another tour, this time our German friends coming to us. And what a week-end it was! We collected them from Heathrow lunch-time on Friday and spent the afternoon at the Walnut Tree followed by an excellent disco at Elphick's Farm to end the day.

Saturday morning we travelled to Beltring hop farm where we spent a pleasant time, taking us up to our match. I'm glad to say our beer had a worse effect on Ringstedt than ourselves and we won 4 - 1.

Special thanks to our President, Mrs Formor, who formally opened our new changing rooms just before the match.

Saturday finished with a very enjoyable karioke evening up the White House. Sunday morning came (I think) and we were guests of John Day at Tutsham where we had a tractor and trailer tour round the farm followed by a very nice bar-b-q by the river bank. Next came games on the Green and further re-fuelling by the Good Intent and, just to make sure we didn't go thirsty, we travelled to the Bull to finish the evening.

A terrific week-end! Many thanks to everyone who worked hard to make it possible. And now we look forward to another trip to Germany next year

Tel

NB One sad note. Whilst playing football a car belonging to our guests was broken into. If anyone saw anything please let us know.

Gordon & Anne Davies are, sadly, leaving the village & have a few electric appliances & pieces of furniture they would like to sell. If you want to know more give them a ring on 820632

VERA SMITH has been washing our football team's gear for 40 years! This must be before any of the present team were born or thought of. Vera is now throwing in the towel and thinks that someone else should have a chance to do this very necessary job. The team offer Vera their very sincere thanks for this astounding contribution to the club's well being. But now a successor is required. Will all volunteers please form a queue at Terry Baines's door or else give him a ring on 745744.

**HEARING DOGS FOR THE DEAF.** We thank everyone who supported the coffee morning by bringing, buying and donating. The result was £363 which completed the amount for training the 7th Hearing Dog from Kent and set us on the way to the 8th. The first two dogs from the Maidstone account to complete their training are called Flora and Gazza and are now helping to completely change the lives of their profoundly deaf owners. Thank you, everyone, for your help. Sylvia Whittle

**WANTED** Singers for the Farleighs W.I. Choir. Weekly practices starting in October - Mondays at 2.15pm at the home of Pip Wakefield, West Farleigh.

Please contact Maria Gibb on 812334 for further details. Non W.I. members welcome and you do not need to be a Kiri to Kanawa!

**SERVICES FOR JULY  
IN ALL THREE CHURCHES**

West Farleigh

July 4 0800 PBHC  
0930 JJJ  
1100 Family Service  
11 1030 Coffee in church  
1100 Family Service  
18 0930 Parish Comm  
22 2000 Special Comm Soc  
for St. Mary Magdalen Day  
25 0930 JJJ  
1100 PB Matins

Teston

July 4 0945 Fam Soc. Baptisms  
1830 Parish Comm  
11 0800 PBHC  
0945 Children's Ch  
1830 Evensong  
18 0945 Children's Ch  
1830 Parish Comm  
25 0800 PBHC  
1830 Evensong

Wateringbury

4 0930 PB Matins  
1100 Sunday School  
1400 Baptisms  
11 0930 Parish Comm  
1100 Sunday School  
18 0800 PBHC  
1100 Family Service  
1830 Evensong  
25 0930 Parish Comm  
(Baptisms)  
1100 Sunday School

**CRICKET FIXTURES**

July 3	Headcorn	(I.L.) Home	2.00	July 24	Meopham	(I.L.) Away	2.00
10	Hollingbourne	(I.L.) Home	2.00	31	Sheldwich	(I.L.) Away	2.00
17	Rumwood	(I.L.) Away	2.00				