

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

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## THOUGHTS FROM THE RECTORY

By the time you are reading this (if that's not assuming too much) the dust of the Christmas activities will have settled and we shall be into a new year. Apart from all the other Christmas services in the Benefice, I shall have lived through five sessions of nine lessons and carols, four Nativity plays and blessed four cribs (one of which was in a parishoner's home - not West Farleigh). It was a delight to preside at the Christmas Eve 9.30pm Eucharist and to share in the general goodwill and fellowship that always flows through the congregation at All Saints.

One of the new ventures in faith for '94 will be the setting up of the Service of Prayer for Healing. This will have its first meeting at St. John's Church, Wateringbury, on Monday, 7th March at 8pm. Please hold this service in your prayers that it may be a blessing in this Benefice.

A little later in the year I hope to be able to invite Bishop Michael Turnbull to spend a day in the Benefice, when he can meet people from all three parishes - would someone like to invite Bishop Michael to lunch? Let me know.

Thank you to those friends who so kindly gave Bileen and yours truly such lovely Christmas greeting cards. May the peace of the Lord be with us all in '94.

Yours in faith  
Denys

The Rectory, Teston, ME18 5AJ 0622 812494

## POPPY APPEAL

Vera Smith announces that the grand total collected was:-

£181.65p

She would like to thank her helpers:-

Mrs P Bissenden Mrs S Day  
Mr P Donoghue Mrs P Honeysett  
The Tickled Trout Miss A Wakefield

## RUBBISH COLLECTIONS following the holiday

The Boro Council announce that collections due until 7 January will be one day late.

e.g. collections due on 5 Jan will be made on 6 Jan. Got it?

## Ton-Up Club

December draw

£10 No. 104 Arthur Morris  
£5 No. 44 Terry Baines  
£5 No. 94 Grant Wells

Christmas Jackpot

£50 No. 40 Marilyn Newman  
£30 No. 132 Ed de Lucy  
£20 No. 99 Julian Nutley

LIFE-LINE WISHES A HAPPY  
NEW YEAR TO ONE AND ALL!

## FOOTBALL REPORT

Blue Eagles started the ball rolling for West Farleigh 1st XI this month. In very windy conditions Farleigh were 2 - 1 up at half time only for Blue Eagles to snatch two 2nd half goals. All looked lost but Martin Bromley scored a great late goal which completed a fine hat-trick. The match ended 3 - 3. Next came Edenbridge in the Sevenoaks Cup. Except for a bad five minutes in the 1st half when we conceded two bad goals, the FCN League side struggled to contain a much improving Farleigh side and with a shade better luck in the 2nd half ... but we didn't! We lost 2 - 0. Our last game before Christmas brought Maidstone Rangers to Elmscroft in very wet, windy, cold conditions - awful to watch in but great to play. Farleigh, kicking with the wind, were 2 - 1 down at half time but a tremendous display in the 2nd half brought two Farleigh goals giving us a much needed 3 - 2 victory and more reason to celebrate Christmas.

Farleigh 2nd XI have had a somewhat frustrating season so far. Although having more than their fair share of the games and playing some good football, they have lost a lot of games by the odd goal. They lost 3 - 2 to Aylesford but happier news came the following week. Farleigh progressed in the next round of the Tunbridge Wells cup, hoping to repeat their successful run last season, beating Roselawn 2 - 1. Our final game v Sutton Valence was postponed.

The Christmas Draw took place on 20th December at the East Farleigh Bull. Thank you very much to all our supporters.

I'd like to wish you a very happy and peaceful New Year.

Cheers

Tel

TREES

Life-Line readers may not all be aware that West Farleigh entered for the 1993 Trees in Your Village competition. The results were recently announced and, although we were not among the winners, a very flattering report was made by the experienced judge from the Men of the Trees who assessed our merits. He wrote of the traditional country trees which can be seen from the road in from Teston like ash, lime, holly and yew and he praised the quite exceptional large and very ancient beeches in various parts of the village. The churchyard got a special mention, especially the true English yews surrounding the church and the avenue of golden Irish yews bordering the path. The young Mount Atlas Cedar by the church door is described as a really magnificent plant and attention is drawn to a similar tree on the north side of the church. The report also pays tribute to the beautifully maintained church and churchyard.

Our thatched cricket pavilion draws the comment that such a favoured area calls for special trees. A walnut or mulberry is suggested with whitebeam or hornbeam on the north boundary.

Finally, the giant copper beech and the tulip tree at Court Lodge are mentioned with obvious admiration and the ginkgo or maidenhair tree at Smith's Croft is said to be one of the finest in the whole county.

The report is one to stir the pride of all of us who have the good fortune to live here.

A VILLAGE SIGN

On the subject of pride in the village, it has been proposed to put up a sign to proclaim our identity. Several ideas for inclusion in the design - fruit trees, the church, farm gates etc - have already been put forward but more are wanted before the final form of the sign can be decided on. All readers are invited to take a hand in this so please contact David Swan with your ideas. Ring 814445

THE PARISH COUNCIL

The Mayor of Maidstone came to the Parish Council meeting at the Tickled Trout on 6 December. He proved himself to be a jolly fellow who entertained the Council and the public with a potted history of Maidstone spiced with lollipops of hard facts. Did you know, for instance, that all the swans on the Medway belong to the Mayor? This is of concern to all citizens because all vet bills relating to swans come to the Borough Council and you and I have to pay them through the Council Tax. The Mayor also mentioned that the occupants of the six flats and four bungalows in the village which are Council property may, if they wish, transfer to a housing association.

It appears that the long standing problem of the Village Hall Fund is about to be resolved. A draft scheme has been proposed to transfer the fund

to the Parish Council as Trustees. Provided no objection is raised, the scheme will be made official by the Charity Commission. So at long last, that appears to be that and your money will rest in the safe hands of the Parish Council until some worthy use can be found for it.

Another piece of important news is that our Parish Council is to donate £300 to the Parleights Hall in East Farleigh. This was considered to be a worthy cause because the hall is used extensively by West Farleigh people, not least by the W.I.

EVERGREENS

The next tea party will be held on Tuesday, 11 January 1994, once again at Appledore, Charlton Lane, by kind permission of Helen and David Swan.

SERVICES FOR JANUARY  
IN ALL THREE CHURCHES

West Farleigh

Jan	2	0800	BCP HC
		0930	JJJ
	9	1045	Coffee in ch.
		1115	Fam Soc & Baptism
	16	0930	ASB Sung Parish Commn
	23	1115	Matins (Hugh Grainger)
	30	0930	JJJ
		1830	Evensong BCP

Teston

Jan	2	0945	Family 45
		1830	Parish Commn
	9	0800	BPC HC
		0945	Children's ch
		1830	Evensong
	16	0945	Children's ch
		1830	Parish Commn
	23	0800	BCP HC
		0945	Children's h
		1830	Evensong
	30	0945	Children's ch
		1800	Evensong

Wateringbury

Jan	2	0930	BCP Matins
	9	0930	Parish Commn
		1100	Sunday School
	16	0800	BCP HC
		1100	Family 45
	23	0930	BCP HC
		1100	Sunday School
	30	0930	BCP HC
		1100	Sunday School

Key: BCP = Book of Common Prayer  
HC = Holy Communion