

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

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THOUGHTS FROM THE RECTORY

JESUS: DEAD OR ALIVE?

On the wall of my study there hangs a carving in wood of Jesus bearing his cross and talking to the women of Jerusalem. It was presented to me when I left All Saints' Church, Northfleet, last year at Easter. It is part of a set of Stations of the Cross. The Stations, that can be either pictures or carvings, depict the trial, the walk to the hill of Calvary and the execution of Jesus - the story in visual form of our Lord's suffering and humiliation.

Some sets of Stations do not include a Resurrection scene. I made sure that our Stations at Perry Street concluded with a Resurrection, for that is what our faith is founded upon. We do not worship a dead religious leader, but a living Lord who shares to the full in our pains, our frustrations, our hopes and our joys.

"Alleluia! Christ is Risen." "He is Risen Indeed. Alleluia!"

Denys Gower

Rev'd Denys Gower, The Rectory, Teston.
0622 812494.

CENSUS INFORMATION

A booklet has been prepared by the Borough Council from all those forms we filled up for the 1991 census. In this booklet you can read some fascinating facts about how we live. It was found, for instance, that rather more than one third of West Farleigh people rent their houses or flats and the rest are owner occupiers. There were 136,209 people in the borough of Maidstone as a whole including 430 in West Farleigh. But, whereas the Borough population had increased by 5.4% since 1981, the number of people in West Farleigh had gone down by 6.1%. It is also revealed that nearly half the households in West Farleigh own two or more cars whereas 17% have no car at all.

If all these statistics turn you on, you can go to the Directorate of Planning and Development and wallow in an unlimited quantity of the stuff - FREE!

THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Come to the Annual Parish Meeting on Monday, 7 March, at 7.30pm at the Good Intent. This is the meeting where you can air your views about village affairs and address your grievances (or praises) direct to your elected councillors. It is always a friendly gathering and one at which you can feel at home. You may also learn a thing or two about your village and its small part in making the world go round.

YOU MAY ALSO BE INTERESTED in another meeting arranged by the sonorously named Police and Community Consultative Group. This will be at East Malling Institute, Mill Street, East Malling, on Monday, 14 March at 7.30pm. Local issues will be discussed and senior Police Officers will be there with other high ranking officials.

EVERGREENS Tuesday, 8th March at
TUTSHAM HALL

by kind invitation from John & Sue Day.

RUBBISH SKIP, Green, Tues, 29 March

WORK WITH A DIFFERENCE

Jean-Paul Jacques of Mill Cottages has just returned from an exciting trip to Florida. He was one of a party (24 of them including three lecturers) from the Mid Kent College on a Leisure and Tourism course.

They flew to Orlando and there followed a full and exhausting couple of weeks of visits, lectures and learning how the Americans do it. They went behind the scenes at Disney World and Sea World and were present when some astronauts departed from this world in a shuttle launched from Cape Canaveral. They were given tours of Orlando International Airport, Silver Springs, Universal Studios and MGM Studios. They also saw Central Florida State University and many other places, learning all the time. They returned, exhausted but happy, to face a barrage of tests and projects designed to find out how much had sunk in - which goes to show that pleasure is a serious business.

of a cup run, Farleigh 1st XI only played two games last month. First came Snodland, a good side, but Farleigh had no trouble making them look even better by trailing 4 - 0 at half time and, in spite of a much better spirited effort after the break, eventually losing 6 - 3. Loose Rangers came next, 2nd in the League, and I'm happy to report our third win of the season, 1 - 0, surprisingly doing the double over Loose. The winner came half way through the second half by Jim O'Friel. Five games left, the first against Barming 5th March, Elmscroft 2.30. Local Derby, so come early!

Farleigh 2nd XI, due to so many injuries, have struggled to keep a balanced side and have also found it hard to find the net. Rumour has it that Neil Crichton will soon be getting a call! Our first opponents were Sutton Valence with a 0 - 0 result. However, the following week things didn't go quite so well, losing 4 - 0 to Marden. Aylesford came next and another unfortunate one goal defeat, 3 - 2, with their winning goal coming right on full time.

Good news to end on, Hollingbourne were the visitors and, inspired by the large number of home fans including a rare but welcome appearance of our Chairman and his sheep, Farleigh clinched a much deserved and long awaited victory, winning 2 - 0; goals in each half from Steve Golding and Andy Douglas.

Club news: Our next social event is a Wine and Wisdom evening (the wisdom bit I'm going to leave out!), 16th April 8pm Hunton Village Hall. Please support your local club.

Be in touch. Cheers,

Tel

THE VILLAGE CHURCH - A REMINDER

People have worshipped in All Saints Church, West Farleigh for over 900 years. Many villagers, even if they don't worship regularly, have close church connexions because they were baptised or married there or have loved ones buried in the churchyard - or maybe all three!

Recent publicity about the Church of England centrally suggests that some country churches might have to close. This is NOT being suggested for our church but it is important that we make sure it remains part of village life for generations to come.

The papers have been full of talk about how much has been lost from disasterous investments but locally church finances are run economically and efficiently. One important source of income is covenanting. This means that the church can recover the tax paid on regular donations so a payment of £10 becomes £12.50 and so on. Covenants can easily be made in a variety of ways and all villagers are asked to think about how much the church means to them - literally. If you feel you would like to contribute in this way, give Stuart Dyer a ring on 812268 - he would be delighted to hear from you! Or come along to the Annual Church Meeting on 12th April at 8pm in the church and look at the accounts for yourself.

STEPPING STONES HOUSE GROUP

8th March Bible study. St. Mark's Gospel
22nd March Discussion about different Christian beliefs. Both meetings at 8pm at Jan Foggetters, 288 Old Road, Wateringbury
Call Jan on 812842 or Helen on 814445.

West Farleigh

Mar	6	0800 PBHC
		0930 JJJ
	13	1045 Coffee in ch.
		1115 Family Service
	20	0930 Parish Commn
	22	0930 Weekly Euch'st
	27	Palm Sunday
		0930 JJJ
		1115 Matins
	31	Maundy Thursday
		2000 Liturgy of day
		Washing of feet
		Night Watch
Apr	1	Good Friday
		2000 At the foot of
		the Cross
	3	Easter Day
		0930 Family Commn

Teston

Mar	6	0945 Family Service
		1830 Parish Commn
	13	0800 PBHC
		1830 Evensong
	15	0930 Weekly Euch'st
	20	1830 Parish Commn
	27	0800 PBHC
		1830 Evensong
	28	2000 The preparat'n
		Readings, prayers &
		Music for Holy Week
	30	2000 Compline Can't

Wateringbury

Mar	6	0930 Matins
	7	2000 Service of
		Prayer for healing
	8	0930 Weekly Euch'st
	13	0930 Parish Commn
	20	0800 PBHC
		1115 Family Service
	27	0845 Meet in car Pk
		0915 Process to ch.
		0930 Parish Commn
		1830 Evensong
	29	0930 Weekly Euch'st
		2000 Stations/Cross
Apr	1	Good Friday
		Noon to 1500
		Three Hour Devotion
	3	0930 PBHC

Morning Prayer 0830

28 Feb - 3 Mar	W. Farleigh
7 - 10 Mar	Wateringbury
14 - 17 Mar	Teston
21 - 24 Mar	W. Farleigh
28 - 31 Mar	Wateringbury

Ton-Up Club January

£10	Reg Venner
£5	Don Goodwin
£5	Mrs Diane Baines
	February
£10	Stephen Back
£5	Mrs G Martin
£5	Paul Martin