

"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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BENEFACT PILGRIMAGE

Will you share in the venture?

If you enjoy walking and you are free on Monday, 29 August (Bank Holiday), then please join in the Benefice Pilgrimage. We shall be walking from Teston Bridge to the Carmelite Friars at Aylesford. We shall follow the river path all the way apart from crossing the road in Maidstone. At the completion of the Pilgrimage we shall celebrate the Holy Communion in the Cloister Chapel at the Friars. The walk should take about 3½ hours with a stop for refreshments at the Malta Inn.

Children MUST be accompanied by an adult as the path is very narrow and high above the river in parts. No responsibility can be taken for children not so accompanied.

We leave Teston Bridge at 10am sharp, estimated time of arrival at the Friars 2.30pm. Eucharist 3pm.

I am hoping that others will drive out to Aylesford to join in the Eucharist and be kind enough to offer lifts back to the Benefice. There are lists in all three of our churches for names of people who would like to share in this venture. Speak to me for further details.

Denys

Rev. Denys Gower. Maidstone 812494.

A VILLAGE TEA PARTY

On Sunday, 4 September, there will be a tea party on the cricket field by kind permission of the Sports Club who will keep the pavillion open so that we can pop in if it rains. It all starts at 2.30 and goes on until six. No charge to go in but tea, soft drinks, cakes and delicacies and sandwiches will be on sale at bargain prices.

The church will be open with someone on hand to show you round and the organ will play.

Come and meet your friends. It will be your last chance this summer. All proceeds to the church. If you want a lift to the cricket field, ring 813461.

CYCLE RIDE

The sponsored cycle ride in aid of Kent churches will be on Saturday, 10th September. You can cycle or walk as you please, visiting as many churches in the Maidstone area as you can and the idea is that you get people to sponsor you at so much per church visited. The money you collect will be divided between the Friends of Kent Churches and your own church. It is a fun event and you can enjoy yourself. Get your sponsorship forms from Margaret Frazer on 743055.

THE CHURCH TOWER

Plans are afoot for making alterations to the room in the base of the church tower to make it suitable for looking after young children during services. Visionaries in the parish have taken a hard look at the problem and decided that there is scope for improvement with heating, draft exclusion and proper floor covering. The removal of cupboards would increase the size of the room and there is potential to make it into an attractive place where mothers could happily leave their small offspring under proper

supervision when a service was going on. Professional advice will be sought about possible alterations before any definite steps are taken, so watch out for developments.

Meanwhile, higher up the tower, the kestrel family are growing up in their slit in the wall - much to the dismay of some of our more tidy minded parishoners who don't like the mess which accumulated around the West door during the dry weather. However, the recent rain did a world of good for that problem.

Ton-Up Club

June	£10	Jack Martin
	£5	Eddie Gilbert
	£5	Emma & Rachel Wells

July	£10	Alan Godfrey
	£5	Tony Hyde
	£5	Joyce Morgan

Jackpot	£20	Joyce Morgan.
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OBITUARY

Albert Smith died, early in July, in Newton Abbott. He will be remembered in West Farleigh as a long standing member of the Sports Club of which he was a committee member from 1950 to 1980. He was Football Captain from 1950 to 1957 and treasurer from 1957 to 1980. He was made a life member of the Club in 1980.

THE COMING OF THE SIGN

SERVICES FOR AUGUST
IN ALL THREE CHURCHES

We now have a village sign. It stands proudly on a stout pole at the apex of the Green where Charlton Lane meets Ewell Lane. Painted by Clive Stevens, it depicts a farm worker (some say it's John Day) chewing a straw and contemplating a scene which includes the bridge, sheep, some well ordered fields, a thatched roof, the church and a couple of oast roundels.

Apart from announcing to the world that this is West Farleigh, the provision of the sign marks the one hundredth anniversary of the formation of the Parish Council, a body dedicated to public service.

On Sunday, 10th July, a service was held on the Green by the new sign. There were 50 people there which isn't a bad turn-out for a village where the total population is less than 400. The altar was four straw bales. Conducted by Denys Gower, the service was beautiful in its simplicity. Music was supplied by Abbie and Hannah Walsh, Sophie Barnwell and Natalie Ward playing their recorders. It was perfect in the open air and beautifully performed. Some character tooted his horn as he went by in his car. That wasn't so musical but was taken to be a token of support.

The dedication was spoken by Denys. The village congratulates Clive Stevens on his superb, historic and meaningful product.

BARBECUED

The barbecue was held happily in good weather on 3rd July at Fox Pitt. Tony Walsh and Hugh Evans, wreathed in smiles and a lot of smoke, did the cooking while Belinda Devenish looked after the trimmings and her husband Michael saw to it that all was well on the practical side. Joyce Morgan was behind the produce counter and Sue O'Donnell sold raffle tickets. The village marquee was there in all its glory, showing off its potential to prospective bidders for its purchase. The Vicar did his best to be present but had to divide his attendance into two shifts as a baptism needed his attention elsewhere in the early afternoon. The ancient mulberry tree gave willingly of its welcome shade and, as the afternoon warmed up, the sides of the marquee were removed to allow the breeze to do its cooling act.

The sun came round to the side of the house where Joyce had set up her stall and she covered up her strawberries. Then Sue removed to a shady spot the chocolates offered as raffle prizes. The pony patiently plodded through the heat giving rides to happy children.

And the church came out of it £278 better off, thanks to all the people, visible and invisible, who gave so generously of their help.

West Farleigh

Aug 7 0800 BCP HC
Rev. Patricia Westbrook
14 1045 Coffee in ch.
1115 Family See
21 0930 ASB HC Rev.
Patricia Westbrook
28 1115 BCP MP

Teston

Aug 7 1830 ASB HC Rev.
Cyril Brigland
14 0800 BCP HC Ven.
Edward Francis
1830 BCP EP
David Jones
21 1830 ASB HC Rev
Cyril Brigland
28 0800 BCP HC
1830 BCP EP

Wateringbury

Aug 7 0930 BCP MP
Alastair Byron
14 0930 ASB HC Ven
Edward Francis
21 0800 BCP HC Rev
Jeffrey Ellmore
1115 Family See
28 0930 ASB HC
1830 BCP EP

Key: BCP = Book of Comm Pryr
ASB = Alternative See Bk
HC = Holy Communion
MP = Morning Prayer
EP = Evening Prayer

MP Tuesday to Friday

23 to 26 Aug Wateringbury
30 Aug - 2 Sept Teston.

No Tuesday HC during Aug.
From Sept the 0930 Tuesday
HC will be at Teston. All
are welcome.

Denys
I now take Monday as my day
off. Contact through Church
Wardens. Urgent business only,
please.

Cricket fixtures

Aug. 6 Staplehurst (IL) Away 2.00
13 Caslte Hill Home 2.30
20 Harrietsham (IL) Home 2.00
27 Milsted (IL) Away 2.00

EVERGREENS

at the Good Intent
Tuesday 9th
August.

The FIX-IT auction at
Teston on 9 July raised
£955.50 for the church.
Teston thanks all West
Farleigh people who so
generously helped.

LIFE-LINE GIVES ADVANCE NOTICE of a special Family Service to be held on Sunday, 11 September at 11.15. It will be conducted by Hugh Grainger and will mark his return to active life after his recent serious illness. He will be heartily welcome.

The service will be to mark the commissioning of ten lay evangelists (including Sue Blade of Wateringbury) by the Bishop of Rochester, the Right Rev. Michael Turnbull, before departing for Durban. There will be similar