

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

Special Sports Club Supplement  
With No. 24 March 1977

## SUCCESS STORY FROM THE CHAIRMAN

For the first time in its lifetime Life-Line is able to number the Chairman of West Farleigh Sports Club among its contributors. This, with the addition of a comprehensive Who's Who of club officers for 1977-78 bearing the familiar initials J P D and accounting their praiseworthy performances in '76-77, is good reason for another Supplement. Without it much would have been cut drastically.

## "FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH"

The Chairman writes:

It is never practical nor profitable to look back too far and for too long. Always the next move in the game becomes the pre-occupying thought. This was never more true, at least for several years, than in the case of our two football sides.

The first team have gone from strength to strength, and to quote our captain, Grant Wells, "there isn't a side in our league that has improved so much".

Having won our last two league games - Hollingbourne 4-1 (Nick Murphy, Ken Baines, Stephen Sanger and Micky Back), and Frittenden 2-1 (Godfrey Reid-Marr and Neil Crichton), we gained victory in the quarter final of the Challenge Cup against United Banks from Division Two. The score was 3-2 (Ken Baines, Terry Baines penalty and an own goal). From that you have proof enough of real team effort. Consistently good work by Bob Underdown in goal, and "great stuff" (captain's words) by way of support from the back four have indeed made this a notable season.

We were expecting a hard semi-final in the Kent Junior Cup, and we went down 3-0 to Howard de Walden. However, we are still semi-finalists in the Challenge Cup, and this game will be played at home on March 5th or 12th against Larkfield.

The outcome of the successes recorded above is that we are third in the league and still have a chance of ending even higher at the end of the season.

Having dealt at some length with our first team, it must not be forgotten that our Reserve side are also having a very good season. This month the match story runs like this: Being beaten by Castle Sports 7-1 (John Connolly), winning against Ulcombe 4-2 (Ian Hubble two, Bob Wood and Peter Baggott), and losing to Offham 4-1 (Graham Crouch) and Hollingbourne 5-1 (Graham Crouch). We now have more points than we mustered in the whole of last season. Congratulations to both teams!

As if conscious of all the foregoing being of interest primarily to those to whom following football, local or national, is a weekly recreation, the Chairman adds a postscript of wider appeal:

## "HOW PLEASANT IT WOULD BE!"

Funds and how to raise them are something we are always discussing. Higher costs of equipment, repairs, insurances, referees' fees, affiliation fees - these are only some of the items which have not escaped the latest inflation. How pleasant it would be to look ahead with the knowledge that a regular income is assured!

Then comes the Chairman's paragraph which really should have headline priority:

We now hope to start a "100 Club". Its members would be people sufficiently interested in the sports of West Farleigh to lend a subscribing hand.

The allotment would be 100 10p shares, and each week there would be a draw for £5. More than one share could be taken up if desired.

The Chairman ends with a question: Would everyone interested please make contact with any Committee member?

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## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- Monday March 7th: Jubilee money-raiser: Beetle Drive at The Good Intent at 8.00pm. Tracey Crittenden will welcome anyone of any age out for an evening's fun. Her first one (February 7th) raised £7.50
- Tuesday March 8th: Annual Meeting of the Sports Club cricket section: East Farleigh Bull, 8.00pm
- Monday March 14th: Farleigh Ladies Club 'at home' in The Good Intent, 8.00pm, to meet the men they will meet on the football pitch.
- Friday March 18th: Jubilee money-raiser: A Tramp Supper at The Good Intent. Tickets 50p. 8.00pm, supper served from 9.00
- Tuesday March 22: Jubilee money-raiser: Whist Drive at West Farleigh Hall, 7.30. Tickets 30p to include raffle and refreshments.
- Tuesday April 5th: Annual Parochial Meeting - to be held in the church for the first time. Coffee at 7.0pm Meeting 7.30
- Saturday Apr 9th: Jubilee money-raiser: Disco with Bar: East Farleigh Hall 7.00 - 11.45. Tickets £1 including refreshments. Orange City Sound.
- Sunday April 17: Farleigh Ladies Club versus Farleigh men on the football pitch. A Jubilee money-raiser; kick-off probably 3.0pm

## TESTON LEVEL CROSSING GOING AUTOMATIC?

British Rail have applied to the Secretary of State for Transport for permission to instal electric lifting barriers and traffic lights at Teston Crossing. The equipment will be operated from Watlington signal box with the aid of closed-circuit television. This proposal means that the crossing would become unmanned. The Borough Council, although approving the plan, have asked the Safety Committee to look at the project in detail, with particular regard for the number of children who use the crossing in summertime. This piece of news, which may horrify some and delight others, marks the return to these pages of Cmdr Rees following his orthopaedic operation. Will it, we wonder, create as big a furore as the proposal to build the Bailey bridge?

## CRICKET PAVILION GOING MULTI-PURPOSE?

That the cricket pavilion may not for long remain as we know it today, its function limited to The Summer Game, is suggested from two sources this month. 'J P D' (also making a welcome to these pages) reports views in cricket circles that it should be developed into a club headquarters, and Cmdr Rees writes: There is a recommendation before Council that the cricket pavilion be used as a polling station for all future elections. And he adds: Access over grass may need temporary paving, and lighting and heating will have to be provided'.

## 78% VOTE FOR MAIN DRAINAGE

More than 78% of the properties affected by the proposed main drainage have been committed for connection. This is a significant vote of confidence in the scheme, and I have little doubt that the Borough Health Committee will support it at its meeting on April 4th. Later in the month the scheme will come before the Policy and Finance Committee for approval. But public money is very tight. Every single additional commitment will have to persuade them to approve. If you have not yet committed yourself, please give further thought to this matter. P H

## NEWS ABOUT PEOPLE

Sympathy has been prevalent for Mr Edward Hughes and his family following the death of his wife, Ethel Rose, at the age of 75. Mrs Hughes came to live in West Farleigh in 1935, and she was a resident in St Helens Lane for longer than anyone who survives her there. Eighteen months ago she recovered from a serious illness, and was able to resume her lively interest in the church. She will be remembered with affection. "One of the nicest people" said one parishioner. "Always cheerful, always ready with a happy word. Her favourite saying was 'we mustn't complain'".

## NEWS ABOUT PEOPLE (contd)

A parish welcome for Mr and Mrs Rowntree and their two sons who have settled in the bungalow at the old mill. They found West Farleigh via Manchester, Wolverhampton and Holland.

The Ladies Club have every reason to be pleased with the result of their dance last month. 100 tickets printed, 91 sold. Clear profit £41

## PATTERN OF JUBILEE BEGINS TO EMERGE

Readers of this issue who began at the beginning and reviewed the forthcoming events will have correctly formed the impression that West Farleigh, after a deplorable show of indifference when the first meeting was called, is now getting into the spirit of Jubilee. Quite rightly, present thoughts of the committee are concentrated on means of bringing in the money in order to celebrate the day at all. As a result we are confronted with a variety of events, ranging from a Beetle Drive in The Good Intent to a Whist Drive in West Farleigh Hall. Indeed, no fewer than five attractions are planned between now and mid-April, and by then there will remain less than two months to the great day. All five occasions promise good fun, but the football match promised for Sunday April 17th with the two sexes in opposition may well eclipse them all for hilarity. It has been referred to by a mere man as the ladies' mad match, but maybe the men who regard football as essentially a man's game may get a surprise.

The menu for the Tramp's Supper in The Good Intent on Friday March 18th is one persistently suggested without success for Harvest Supper, - Bangers and Mash and Beans. It should go down well, and so should the competition with prizes for the best-dressed man, the best-dressed woman and the best-dressed child under 15.

Mrs Norman's consent to the use of her home for the Whist Drive on Tuesday 22nd March has caused the organisers, Mr and Mrs Filmer and Mrs Baines, to feel deeply appreciative, well aware as they are of the upheaval any event of this kind involves. Local whist lovers are bound to be equally grateful. Donations of prizes would be welcome, especially from new givers.

Keeping pace with these moves to raise capital has been the work of launching the raffle. All this is in the hands of Mr Holwell.

Of Celebration Day itself, little can yet be written. But Mr Brian Merritt, in talking to Life-Line, did let it be known that the major part of the programme will be held on the village green, that there will be a bonfire, and lighting-up time will be 9.30. "What we want now", he added, "is to start hearing from people who would like to do something to help or offer a suggestion".

## 'JOB CREATION' BY THE RIVER

Kent County Council have provision in their estimates for the repair of the Medway towpath. It will be asking the Manpower Services Committee (Ministry of Labour) for these repairs to be carried out in the Government's Job Creation programme, and it is hoped the work will be completed by the end of spring. P R

## IN CHURCH THIS MONTH

Sunday March 6th: 8.00am Holy Communion 10.30 Family Service  
13th: 11.00 Matins 6.30 Evensong  
20th: Mothering Sunday: 8.00am Holy Communion; Service at 11.00  
27th: 11.00 Matins 6.30 Holy Communion

Church cleaning and flowers: Volunteers wanted for week commencing Monday 28th and onwards. Please ring Mrs Morgan (26251)

Two refuse bins are now installed in the churchyard with plastic bags. Mrs Morgan pleads with gravetenders and flower arrangers to fill one at a time.

## BIG BILL AHEAD FOR THE CHURCH

While this issue was being typed, the Parochial Church Council were deliberating the best course of action consequent upon an electrician's report that the wiring of the heating circuits are in a dangerous condition. Of course the installation has many years of service to its credit, and the ultimate breakdown of insulation is common to all old buildings. In the case of the church, it will mean a three-figure bill which somehow will have to be met. Damage to the roof in the recent near-hurricane - already repaired - will mean another unwelcome call for the church cheque book.

Contributions for the April issue should be telephoned not later than March 19 and after 8.00pm. Advance the date two days if posting. Maidstone 812730