

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

Editor: Jim Patch, Mill Cottage, 01622 813461

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## DIVIDED WE STAND

Some traditions are worth holding on to if they bring people together in a shared experience of worship or social life. And I am among those who are greatly pleased that Bishop Michael Nazir-Ali has continued the practice of inviting all his clergy to an annual service on Maundy Thursday morning, just as Bishop Michael Turnbull, his predecessor did. In this service the clergy are invited to renew their ordination vows, oils for anointing at Baptism and for anointing the unwell, are blest, and we conclude with the Holy Communion.

On Maundy Thursday this year the nave of the cathedral was well filled with robed clergy supporting their new Bishop and sharing in this solemn yet joyful act of worship. Sadly, not everyone felt able to participate to the full, for I noticed some of my colleagues sitting at the back of the cathedral, not robed, making the point that, although they were there in body, their heart and soul were not in union with their brothers and sisters in Christ. The ordination of women to the priesthood is now a fact of church life, yet there are still some who would turn the clock back to an all male priesthood given half a chance. However, one of the strengths of the Church of England is its ability to embrace many traditions and theological view-points, as the appointment of David Hope, Bishop of London, to be Archbishop of York underlines. The fact that we now have two Archbishops holding rather different views on the nature of ministry shows that, although we may be divided on this issue, we can still stand together as friends of JESUS.

Denys Gower

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

## THE PLANT SALE

The garden at Tutsham Hall will again be the venue for the annual Plant Sale. The date is 21 May, a Sunday, the time 2pm and the entrance fee £1 (50p OAPs and Children). All proceeds to the church.

Remember this is very much a bring and buy sale. Bring whatever you might have to donate preferably during the morning but you would be welcome any time. Raffle prizes will also be gratefully received. The stalls will offer bedding plants, herbaceous plants, vegetables, produce, cakes. There will be pony rides and a children's corner and two raffles - the general one and one for a cake - and, of course, teas. Come and meet your neighbours for a chat and a get-together. The Vicar has arranged for good weather but, in the unlikely event of a failure in this respect, a barn will be available.

## TESCO

Are again giving away computer vouchers. If you are not collecting these for yourself, pick them up anyway and give them to East Farleigh School who will make very good use of them indeed. You can either give them direct to the school or to Sue or Tony Walsh, 8 Charlton Lane, phone 728252.

## Ten-Up Club. April draw

£10 D Horton £5 Ginard Britcher  
£5 Mark Hatcher

Spring Jackpot £20 Geraldine Baggott

## RENT-A-GRAN REQUIRED

HELP! Laura, aged 7-going-on-17, lives in West Farleigh and needs a surrogate Gran.

Her own grandparents are 300 miles away and she needs someone, preferably mobile, who is prepared to not just babysit once or twice a month, but someone who can be called on at short notice to (occasionally) meet her from school (Yalding) and keep her company over tea-time. She may need to spend the whole day with you sometimes during school holidays.

Laura is lively and loves other children - any children - and will

cheerfully leave you in peace for hours while she plays outdoors getting muddy. However, when she is indoors she likes to be kept busy and is fond of grown-ups who can play Scrabble or Monopoly.

Perhaps your own grandchildren live a long way off, or perhaps you are widowed and would appreciate the company. Perhaps you are a housewife whose children have grown up. If you would like a part-time extension to your family, please ring 812562. An appropriate fee will be paid to the right person.

Jane Stewart

Evergreens - 9th May - Mill House

## A BAPTISM REUNION

The family service on 14 May will be a special one. All are invited, of course, but a special invitation is extended to all those who were baptised in All Saints Church, West Farleigh, in the last five years. It is a baptism reunion to demonstrate the continuing caring role of the church in the community. Bring the children along and renew your knowledge of what the church is all about. The service is at 1115 - all very friendly and informal. During the service there will be four baptisms, introducing four new members to the church.

## Football report

Only two 1st XI fixtures to report on this month, leaving just Wednesday night as our last game of the season. First of our two games was old rivals Staplehurst away. Having played in mud baths last month, this pitch resembled the Sahara Desert which made ball control difficult - a skill we normally have problems with on a good day! Having said that, a terrific game but goalless, still a much needed point. Our 2nd game was title-chasing Cherry Tree but this seemed to inspire us and produced one of our best all round performances. In the first half we should have been more than the one goal up, scored by Chris Bills, but the 2nd half was not of the same standard. We never looked like losing until we conceded a goal 15 minutes from time and then a real choker, losing a second with only four minutes to go. Still, a great effort.

Farleigh's 2nd XI have picked up points but not enough to clear ourselves away from relegation trouble, so much so that Saturday's 'double header' v fellow strugglers Staplehurst will almost certainly decide who stays up or down. We started well enough beating Payless 2 - 1 and a draw v Thurnham looked to be pulling us to safety but other results went against us. Then came Ditton, losing 4 - 0 and a disappointing 3 - 2 defeat by Take Off Sports. So support would be appreciated to help the team stay up. Next month will tidy up the football season and cricket will be upon us. Any cricketers willing to play for your local club, please contact Paul Baines on 720810.

Be in touch

Tel

## Forthcoming Attractions

On Saturday, 3 June, there will be a pilgrimage to Aylesford Priory. Time and place of starting is yet to be worked out so call Denys on 812494 for details. A party of the fit and healthy will walk all the way with a stop for refreshment. The less fit go by car and all meet at 3pm in the Cloisters at the Friars for Communion.

The next village event after the Plant Sale will be a barbecue on 2 July at Fox Pitt by kind permission of Michael and Belinda Devenish.

Then Tea on the cricket field on 10 September. Details later but the church will be open with guides present. There is also talk of a flower festival. The Harvest Supper has been booked for 23 September. If you would like to help with the arrangements, phone Hugh Grainger on 820305.

## SERVICES FOR MAY IN ALL THREE CHURCHES

### West Farleigh

May	7	0800 BCP HC
		0930 JJJ
	11	2000 Service of prayer for healing
	14	1115 Special Family Sce with Baptisms
	21	0930 ASB HC Rogation
	28	0930 JJJ
		1115 Family Service

### Teston

May	2	0930 ASB HC Rev G Ellmore
	7	0945 Fam. Sce. Baptism
		1830 Thanksgiving VE Day
	9	0930 ASB HC
	14	0800 BCP HC
		0945 Children's Church
		1830 BCP EP
	16	0930 ASB HC
	21	0945 Children's Church
		1830 ASB HC
	23	0930 ASB HC
	28	0800 BCP HC
		0945 Children's Church
		1830 BCP EP
	30	0930 ASB HC

### Wateringbury

May	7	0930 BCP MP
		1100 Thanksgiving VE Day
		1500 Baptism
	14	0930 ASB HC
	21	0800 BCP HC Rogation
		1115 Family Service
	25	0800 BCP HC Ascension Day
	28	0930 ASB HC
		1830 BCP EP

Key: BCP = Book of Common Prayer  
ASB = Alternative Sce Book  
HC = Holy Communion  
MP = Morning Prayer  
EP = Evening Prayer  
JJJ = Children's Sunday Club

Morning Prayer 0830 Tues to Fri

ASB shorter form

2 - 4 May (not Friday) Wateringbury

9 - 12 May Teston

16 - 19 May West Farleigh

23 - 26 May Wateringbury

30 May - 2 June Teston

Please let me know of anyone who would appreciate a visit from the Parish Priest or someone (not necessarily C of E) who would like to receive Holy Communion at home.

Denys Gower

THE CHOIR CONCERT in the church on Saturday, 29 April, was superb, a landmark in the old church's history, and followed by wonderful hospitality at seven generous houses in the village. Many thanks to all