

"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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TOURISTS AND MEMORIALS

Two Americans were staying in a small village deep in the heart of rural England. Sunday morning saw them among the congregation in the village church. The service was drab, uninspiring and lack-lustre. The sermon was long and boring. The hymns were miserable and the music dull. After the service the Vicar spoke to the visitors and offered to show them around the church. He pointed out various items of historic interest and then stopped before a plaque on the wall bearing a list of names. "Those are all these names?" asked one of the visitors. "Oh, these are the names of our parishioners who have died in the Services", said the Vicar. After the Vicar had departed, one tourist said to the other, "After that service I can well understand it. Let's say a prayer for those that are left."

Walking around some of our historic cathedrals and churches, a visitor from another culture and country could possibly pick up a misleading impression. So many memorials are dedicated to the great and the good of the land, sometimes in language so excessive that the persons described seem devoid of any human imperfection. To qualify for heaven, some memorials seem to give the impression that one must be of noble birth or have achieved high military rank or have been a wealthy and generous benefactor. It is some consolation to believe that heaven is full of people who have no earthly memorial apart from the love they have left in the hearts of their friends.

Denys

Rev'd Denys Gower 01622 812494.

A COFFEE MORNING

Sylvia Whittle (assisted by Pippa Wakefield) of Green Acre, Lower Road, is organising a coffee morning in aid of the charity Hearing Dogs for the Deaf, on Wednesday, 14 June from 10.30 to 12.30.

If you come you can meet the resident Hearing Dog Digby, who has undergone the £2,500 training course from the organisation which this coffee morning will help to finance. A hearing dog is a real asset as he will draw attention to the sounds around the house which it is essential to act upon and which a deaf person would otherwise miss. With the money already collected in West Farleigh five dogs have been trained and three others are in the process. Photos of the five graduates may be seen at Green Acre. It is a worthy cause so come along and enjoy the plants and cakes which will be on sale and the social chatter. This is also a bring and buy event so bring what you can, especially cakes. The coffee will be 50p a cup with biscuits.

Editor's note. Frances & I have two dogs which are both deaf from old age. We are thinking of starting up a new charity called Hearing Humans for Deaf Dogs but, although we haven't got around to organising a coffee morning yet, we are willing to run a course of instruction on how to cope with the situation.

EVERGREENS at the Good Intent on Tuesday, 13 June. In July we'll be having a trip on the Kent and E Sussex Railway. Get steamed up.

THE SUMMER BARBECUE

The garden at Fox Pitt, Shinglehorn Lane, will be open on Sunday, 2 July for a barbecue. Michael and Belinda Devonish will welcome you from 12.30pm. There will be a cake and produce stall, a raffle and pony rides, a lot of good company and plenty of food. Tickets are £5 (OAPs £4, under 12s £3) from Belinda on 820348 or Tony Walsh on 728252. You will get a good barbecue lunch with a pudding and a glass of wine or a soft drink. More wine will be on sale. The village marquee will be there to give you shelter in case it's wet. It might be a good thing to bring a chair with you. If you would like a lift, ring 813461. It will be a good party so bring your friends. Gifts for raffle prizes and the cake & produce stall would be welcome. All proceeds for church funds.

ACTION AID.

There will be a house to house collection by envelope for Action Aid between 5 and 19 June, organised by Roy Plummer. The charity works in 20 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America helping to relieve some of the ghastly conditions under which poor people exist. Help is given regardless of religion, race or politics in matters such as health, education, environmental damage, provision of water and families displaced by war. Please give generously.

A YOUTH SERVICE

There will be a special Youth Service at 6pm on Sunday, 4th June at East Farleigh Church. There will be refreshments and games. People with children at East Farleigh School may be specially interested.

The Plant Sale

The Vicar and Churchwardens, not forgetting the Treasurer (!) wish to thank all those who helped, brought plants, raffle prizes and cakes and came along to the Plant Sale at Tutsham on 21 May. Thanks are due especially to John and Sue Day for hosting this happy event in their beautiful garden. The weather was at least dry though the sun was a little mean with its warmth. Attendance was a little down on previous years but the usual party spirit was there and everyone took part with enthusiasm in all that was on offer including two raffles, cakes galore, pony rides and Splat the Rat. The treasurer reports a receipt of just over £500 on the day - a good result of hard work by so many. Thank you all very much.

SPORTS REPORT

The footballers have finished another season. The 1st XI achieved a vital point in their last match v Barming 2 - 2 to ensure Premier Division football at Elmscroft. Our 2nd XI were not so fortunate. In our last game we needed a point against Staplehurst but were unlucky to lose 3 - 1. Now we have to sweat it out until the League decides who goes up and who goes down.

Our Players' Player of the Year awards went to:-

Gary Notley 1st XI
Daren Wenham 2nd XI

Well done to you both.

Three games of cricket have been played so far, all at home, v Marden, Pombury and Southborough. Good games but not a win yet.

If there is a willing person in the village able to help umpiring or maybe to score, you will be very welcome. Free tea! Good company! Lovely scenery! What more could you want? Ring me on 745744.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS COMING TO FARLEIGH

On 23 July with our Ringstedt friends from Germany the world championship lawn mower race will take place under strict gardening rules. It will all happen on the football pitch on the Sunday afternoon. Anyone wanting more details and the chance of becoming a world champion, call me on 745744.

Cheers, Tel

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

To be held at the Tickled Trout at 7.30pm on Monday, 5 June. This is a normal, three monthly meeting which the public are invited to listen in to. Much of interest to be discussed.

MALE VOICES

Did you know there was a newly formed group of male singers in the village? Well, they're meeting for practice at 8pm on Thursday 13

SERVICES FOR JUNE IN ALL THREE CHURCHES

West Farleigh

June	4	0800 BCP HC
		0930 JJJ
	11	1115 Open air Family See on Green. In church if wet.
	18	0930 ASB HC
	25	0930 JJJ
		1115 BCP MP

Teston

June	4	0945 Family Service
		1830 ASB HC
	11	0800 BCP HC
		0945 Children's Church
		1830 BCP EP
	13	0930 ASB HC St Barnabas
	18	0945 Children's Church
		1830 ASB HC
	20	0930 ASB HC
	25	0800 BCP HC
		0945 Children's Church
		1830 BCP EP
	27	0930 ASB HC St Peter

Wateringbury

June	4	0930 BCP MP
	8	2000 Service of prayer for healing
	11	0930 ASB HC
	18	0800 BCP HC
		1115 Family Service
	25	0930 ASB HC
		1830 BCP EP Birth of St John the Baptist

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

Morning Prayer 0830 Tues to Fri
ASB shorter form. All welcome
6 - 9 June West Farleigh
13 - 16 June Wateringbury
20 - 23 June Teston
27 - 30 June West Farleigh

Benefice Holy Communion at Teston Church 0930 every Tuesday. This is a "said" quiet service and it would be good to share it with you.

Just a reminder, if I may, that Monday is my day off. Urgent business at all times, of course, but with many thanks for your kind understanding, I would like to keep this day for family & myself.

Denys Gower

ADVANCE NOTICE

The annual sponsored bike ride will take place on Saturday, 9 Sept. Friends of Kent Churches get half the sponsorship money and your own church gets the