

Life-Line

The given-away Monthly News Sheet for West Farleigh

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

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LOOKING FOR PROOF

"I don't believe it!" That exclamation is often heard on the lips of Victor Meldrew, that unhappy gentleman in the TV programme One Foot in the Grave. Thomas, one of Jesus's friends, said very much the same thing when the other disciples told him that Jesus had survived death and had appeared to them. "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were and put my hand into his side, I will not believe." (John 20:25)

The main source of belief for the Christian is found, of course, in the Gospels. There are four sketches of the life, ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus. They do not fit neatly over each other and the events and characters do not always match up in the narratives. So how can we believe them? They were written by very different people at different times in different places from the reflections and memories of people who witnessed at first hand the life and ministry of Jesus. Belief is passed on from one generation to another but it is not always neatly gift wrapped.

If Jesus ever wrote anything it has never been discovered but we discover the person of Jesus through the writings of others. In discovering Jesus we discover something about the nature of God and His relationship to us. The Gospels cannot prove the presence of God like a mathematical formula but, if you want proof that Jesus knew a great deal about our human condition and our need of God's presence in our lives, read Matthew, Chapter 5, verses 1 to 12. When you have read it, I wonder, will you say, "I don't believe it!"

Yours in faith,

Denys Gower

OUR VERY OWN POLICEMEN

A few days ago George Merritt was looking out of the front window of his house in Rookery Row when he saw two policemen walking along Charlton Lane. He was so astonished that, when he had picked himself up off the floor, he at once rang your editor because here, indeed, was an item of news for Life-Line. On the same day Roly Day who, like his brother Peter, now lives in Charlton Lane, witnessed a similar event, to wit, two policemen in conversation with the Parish Clerk, David Swan. In his usual public spirited manner, Roly asked David what the charge was and whether he needed any assistance with bail. But nothing exciting had happened. It was simply a routine visit by

CHILDREN'S ROOM

The conversion of the room in the base of the church tower into a children's room is all planned and ready to go. All we are waiting for now is permission from the Bishop or, in ecclesiastical jargon, a faculty. One of the first things to be done will be the provision of adequate heating and lighting and, to this end, quotes have been invited from electrical men in the neighbourhood. Meantime, equipment is being sought, ready for the opening. One function of the room will be as a creche where children can be looked after during services so toys of the non-noisy sort will be wanted. Other desirable objects are bean bags for sitting on and any other items appropriate to a nursery. All gifts welcome to Helen and Alison Swan, Appledore, Charlton Lane.

And while on the subject of children's things, David Swan had a conference on the Green on 10 October with officials from Maidstone to consider the replacement of the play equipment there because it is getting a little elderly. We await the result of the meeting with interest.

EVERGREENS.

Mill House, where Stuart and Irene Dyer live, Tuesday, 10th November.

MAJOR REFUSE

The bulky rubbish collection lorry or, to give it its fancy modern name, the Civic Amenity Freighter, will be at the Green on Sunday, 12 November from 10.00 to 10.45. It will be there again in the New Year on Wednesday, 3 January, from 10.45 to noon.

CONFIRMATION SERVICE We have candidates from Teston and West Farleigh going forward for confirmation on Sunday, 19 November 6.30pm in Rochester Cathedral by Bishop Brian of Tonbridge. Please remember Janet Henderson, Margaret Mc Manus, Alison Swan and Thomas Saunders in your prayers. It would be very supportive if a good number of friends from the Benefice were able to be present to see the candidates confirmed.

Denys Gower

There will be a WHIST DRIVE on Saturday, 18th Nov 6.45 for 7.00 at Appledore, Charlton Lane.

MOLLIE UNDERDOWN announces that she will be running YOGA classes at her home, 1 St. Stephens Cottages, on Wednesday evenings. Ring her on 813000 to book your place. Mollie taught Yoga for six years in the past and has now come back to it. Starting 8 November she is running a special five week stress management course to enable us to cope more effectively with Christmas.

FINDING GOD IN THE FAST LANE TO CHRISTMAS A short series of reflections as we approach Christmas through Advent starting at 8pm on Thursdays 23 and 30 November & 7 & 14 December, all at Teston Village Hall. Come and prepare in peace for celebration of Christ's birth. You will be very welcome.

Denys Gower

A YALE-TYPE KEY has been found in Kettle Lane, made in Italy and marked YA85. David Swan has it.

THE VEXED QUESTION of what is going to happen to Barming Bridge is to get a further airing when the Barming Bridge Action Group meet West Farleigh Parish Councillors on the bridge itself on 31 October.

TON-UP DRAW

Sept: £10 Mrs J Botten	Oct: £10 Paul Baines
£5 Mrs J Morgan	£5 E Gilbert
£5 Mrs Shirley Day	£5 Diane Baines

Bonus Draw £20 Laurie Walter

SPORTS REPORT

Farleigh's 1st XI, after an indifferent start, have now gone three games without defeat. An early cup exit, losing disappointingly to Loose Rangers after being 1 - 0 up. Next came newly promoted Larkfield and at one stage being 3 - 0 down, fought back well and finished 4 - 4, equalising with almost the last kick of the game. The following week came the 7oaks Cup, a difficult away trip to darkest Orpington and, after being 1 - 0 down, two goals in the last ten minutes saw Farleigh through 2 - 1. Our last game this month was Loose Rangers in the League, picking up a useful away point 2 - 2.

Like the 1st XI, Farleigh 2nd have improved steadily during the month. We also were out of the cup early, losing at home to Knoxbridge 4 - 0. Next came Safeways who had not lost for 27 games but we put a stop to that, playing terrific and finishing 2 - 0 winners. However, the next week came Safeways again and another great game but unluckily losing 1 - 0. Finally, Farleigh scored 16! I'm not talking about the cricket team. We beat Virgin Atlantic 16 - 0 but it was a friendly and it was good shooting practice. Race Night Friday 17 Nov. Please come if you possibly can.

Cheers, Tel.

SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER IN ALL THREE CHURCHES

West Farleigh

Nov	1	1100 ASB HC
		All Saints Day
	5	0800 BCP HC
		0930 JJJ
	12	1045 Act of Remembrance
	19	0930 ASB HC
	26	0930 JJJ
		1115 BCP MP

Teston

Nov	2	2000 Service of prayer Healing. Commemoration of all souls.
	5	0945 Fam Toy See
		1830 ASB HC
	9	0930 ASB HC
	12	0945 Children's Ch
		1045 Act of Remembrance at War Memorial.
		1830 BCP EP
	16	0930 ASB HC
	19	0945 Children's Ch
		1830 ASB HC
	23	0930 ASB HC
	26	0800 BCP HC
		0945 Children's Ch
		1830 BCP EP

Wateringbury

Nov	5	0930 BCP MP
	12	1045 Act of Remembrance
	19	0800 BCP HC
		1115 Fam toy See
	26	0930 ASB HC
	30	1100 BCP HC

Morning Prayer Tue - Fri 0830
31 Oct - 3 Nov Teston
7 - 10 Nov West Farleigh
14 - 17 Nov Wateringbury
21 - 24 Nov Teston
28 Nov - 1 Dec W. Farleigh

This month's SERVICE OF PRAYER FOR HEALING takes place at Teston Church 8pm Thurs 2 Nov. this is also COMMEMORATION OF ALL SOULS so we will combine prayers for healing with the remembrance of those who have died. If you would like the names of your family or friends who have died read out at this service, please give them to one of your Churchwardens, typed or in block letters. All are welcome at the service.