

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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A FAMILY BREAK-UP?

I am not thinking now about those unhappy domestic situations that have touched some of our lives and which are the pain centres of so much mental agony in today's society. I am thinking of (the late?) British Rail. I come from a railway family - though in my case the occupation has jumped a generation. My father (now in his 95th year) spent 48 years on the footplate and saw the great changeover from steam to diesel engines. My daughter, Lorraine, is a clerical officer based at Kings Cross.

Like many others I view the current privatisation scheme, that is in the process of splintering the railway system into a variety of separate companies, with great concern and sadness. It seems to me that any organisation without a focal centre or a heartland to which it can relate and bear allegiance is in danger of falling apart at the seams. And a sense of belonging to something bigger than our own little circle of friends is of paramount importance, be it in a firm or regiment or the Church.

British Rail had its many faults, as some of us can testify from experience, but is the present carve-up the way to run a railway? Perhaps 1996 will signal whether BR is on the right lines and people like me are on the right train. What do you think?

Denys

Rev. Denys Gower, The Rectory, Teston. 812494

CALLING ALL OLDER PEOPLE

If you are an older person, or know one who has problems, you may like to know about CROP (Citizens' Rights for Older People). This is a free, confidential advocacy service for older people in the Mid Kent Health Area. They give help with the many problems which beset later life, from form filling (say, for applying for attendance and other allowances) to deciding whether to go into a residential home. They give help and advice with problems concerning banks, building societies, income tax, goods purchased and many other things and even support old folk who are suffering physical, mental or financial abuse from relations or other bodies. Their aim is to help older people to get what is rightfully theirs. Their base is at Barham Court, Teston, and their phone number is Maidstone 812228. The Project Co-ordinator is called Jan Price who promises to ring you back if she is not there when you phone or leave a message.

EVERGREENS On Tuesday, 9 January,
at Mill Cottage

YOGA

Mollie Underdown says that, because her pre-Christmas Yoga sessions were so successful, she is running some more. The first will be on Monday, 8 January, at 2.30 for beginners and over 50s. Then at 6.30 on the same day will be another session for all comers. Two days later, 10th January, there will be two sessions - 10.30am and 6.00pm, all at 1 St. Stephen's Cottages, and Mollie's phone number is 813000.

TON-UP

November
£10 Mrs R Hadley £5 Roy Wells
£5 J Eastwood
December
£10 Yvonne Martin £5 Joyce Morgan
£5 Paul Beck
Christmas Jackpot
£50 G Botten £30 D Wells
£20 Laurie Walter

ANTI-SOCIAL REPORT

The stile at the Kettle Lane end of the hard-won footpath from Charlton Lane has been smashed again. The Parish Council have had to pay for the repair with money needed elsewhere. Will whoever is doing this please stop it or the path will be lost for ever.

THE VILLAGE HALL FUND

The Parish Council have decided that the Fund's money, which has been slumbering in a not very profitable account with the Nat West Bank is to be re-invested. The sum is £10,795 and the plan is to deposit most of this with the Woolich 90 Day A/C and leave the rest in a current account.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

We are still short of a public spirited volunteer to take on the not very arduous task of village Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator. The police are very keen on the Watch scheme and have a good intelligence system to back it up. Through this system, co-ordinators are kept informed about the fight against crime on their home territory and, in their turn, the co-ordinators pass on to the police all the day to day snippets of information about unusual goings-on which, when set beside bits from other villages, create a picture which means something.

Maidstone and Malling Neighbourhood Watch won the National Neighbourhood Watch award for 1994/95. Side by side with the scheme, Community Policing is taking hold and we have actually SEEN policemen on patrol in the village. Your Parish Council have co-operated fully by paying for two mountain bikes for our two constables and, after their purchase, East Farleigh chipped in with a very generous contribution of two thirds their value. Barming, the third village with whom we share our coppers, have not, to everyone's disappointment on this side of the river, contributed. But let not this disappointment mar the good relationship which is building up and let there be soon a volunteer to carry the flag for West Farleigh, thus proving to a sceptical world that here at least, co-operation with police (seen by all to be such a desirable goal) is real.

A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

TO ALL LIFE-LINE READERS

The Last SPORTS REPORT of 1995

Once again a mixed bag of results, some good, some bad.

Farleigh's 1st XI started the month with a difficult away fixture against champions Cherry Tree; 3 - 0 down early on didn't help our cause but a spirited fight back brought us to 3 - 2 down and only a late goal from Cherry Tree killed the game off, losing 4 - 2. Next came, on paper, a harder game v Lordswood from the Kent League in the Sevenoaks Cup and, although we made them work for their victory, they eventually won 4 - 0. The following week we were due to play Staplehurst which was postponed due to a frozen pitch. So Snodland came a week later and a much needed victory, winning 4 - 2 in which stand-in goalkeeper Martyn Brinklow was inspired.

Farleigh's 2nd XI have also played three, having one match postponed. First came high flying Safeways in the Challenge Cup and, after a terrific end to end encounter, we were very unlucky to go out 3 - 2. Back to League action the following week and we visited Leeds and, after a terrible first 15 minutes, 1 - 0 down and should have been more, we suddenly found our real form, took control and eventually ran out easy 5 - 1 winners. Our last game this month saw Paddock Wood come to Farleigh in the Tunbridge Wells Cup. It was an amazing game because we soon took control and found ourselves scoring almost with ease (which very seldom happens). The final result was a 14 - 0 scoreline. This is not a missprint - fourteen nil!

Here's hoping you had a good Christmas and wish you all a very happy New Year.

Cheers

Tel

The weather in Kent has been pretty chilly of late with persistent frosts but the thermometer didn't drop as low as in Scotland where your editor and his wife spent Christmas. There, it got down to minus 20 degrees one night. That's cool.

SERVICES FOR JANUARY IN ALL THREE CHURCHES

West Farleigh

Jan	7	0800 BCP HC
		0930 JJJ
	14	1045 Coffee in ch.
		1115 Family See
	21	0930 ASB HC
	28	0930 JJJ
		1115 BCP MP

Teston

Jan	7	0945 Family See
		1830
	11	0930 ASB HC
	14	0800 BCP HC
		0945 Children's ch
		1830 BCP EP
	18	0930 ASB HC
	21	0945 Children's ch
		1830 ASB HC
	25	Conversion of
		St. Paul
		0930 ASB HC
	28	0800 BCP HC
		0945 Children's ch
		1830 BCP HC

Wateringbury

Jan	7	0930 BCP HC
	14	0930 ASB HC
	21	0800 BCP HC
		1115 Family See
	28	0930 ASB HC