

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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No. 263 February 1997

PORTRAIT OF A CARPENTER

Very many stained glass windows portray Jesus as a king, robed and crowned, the risen Christ, triumphant over death. Very few indeed show Jesus the carpenter in his working clothes and bearing the tools of his trade. This is a little sad because the portrait of Christ as a carpenter identifies him with humankind - with those who are gainfully employed and those who are no longer able to earn the daily bread. As he laboured day by day at Nazareth, cutting and shaping the wood, his hands became strong and skilled, his eyes sharp and observant.

As a worker in wood, Jesus sanctified all human toil. When the fishermen left their nets and followed him they could see by his hands that he was not merely a man of theory and bright ideas but a man of practical action.

We are all members of a corporate society. We all have links with industry and commerce. As we accept many benefits and blessings, so we should make (or have made) our contribution to the community. In the Mission Statement of the Kent Industrial Mission, under Aims, are these words, "To affirm and celebrate the contribution, skills and potential of individuals and organisations in the world of work and unemployment." And, "To make allies in the search for justice and wholeness within urban, rural and industrial society." The words are a little stiff and formal but my guess is that the Carpenter from Nazareth would acknowledge them with a firm and loud Amen.

Denys

Rev. Denys Gower, Rector. 01622 812494.

SHOW A LITTLE INTEREST

When did you last go to church? And if you haven't been lately, why not? If you're just not interested then you ought to be.

Apart from the Sports Club and the Hearing Dogs for the Deaf coffee morning, the church is the only organisation which DOES anything for West Farleigh. Church people run the harvest supper - there's to be one this year - 13 Sept - the plant sale, the village lunch, the tea party, the Christmas fair. But maybe you don't come to church because you have better things to do on a Sunday than come to some boring old service.

OK, so what about livening up the services so that they're not boring any more? In fact, there are lively services already happening. These are the Evening Alternatives run by Alison Swan. Anything can happen at one of these and usually does. The next one is on Sunday, 23 Feb, at 6.30pm.

There are to be two meetings about all this where you can come and say what you like - hopefully with some active suggestions. The first meeting will be at Joyce Morgan's house, Hillcroft in Charlton Lane, on Monday, 24 Feb, at 8pm. The second will be at Hugh and Val Grainger's house, The Barn, Shinglebarn Lane, on Monday, 24 March, also at 8pm. Come for a chat and a free cup of coffee.

JOHN BERNHARDT died when the New Year was only just over a week old. He couldn't get around much and was fed up with losing his independence. He was probably glad to go and now he lies with Bess in the churchyard. Sympathy to Paul & Ellie & their family.

FRED PHILPOTT died a few days later. A keen supporter of our footballers, he had a heart attack on the way back from a match and died soon after in spite of being rushed to hospital. A life-long resident in the village, he and his bike will be long remembered.

The ANNUAL PARISH MEETING will be IN CHURCH on Monday, 3 March, at 7.30pm. It is hoped that someone from the Kent Twinning Association will be there to tell us what is involved in the proposal to twin West Farleigh with Ringstedt in Germany. We will also be brought up to date in all other village affairs. Come and learn and ask questions.

EVERGREENS. At Appledore, Charlton Lane, home of David and Helen Swan.
Tuesday, 11 February.

SPORTS REPORT

Not many games this month because of the snow but what games have been played have been eventful. Just after Christmas and before the snow, the 2nd XI did play on a rock hard pitch. Take-Off Sports were our opponents. Having secured two early goals, we conceded a soft goal just before half time, making it 2 - 1, then a Take-Off goal ten minutes from time looked to have spoilt Farleigh's day but two dramatic late goals meant we won 4 - 2 and sealed three much needed points. 21st Jan was our next game v Pant Arms in the Challenge Cup from Div 5; 2 - 0 up at half time, we relaxed in the 2nd & had to defend well but, although we made the game safe with a third goal ten minutes from time, Pant Arms scored a late consolation goal to make the final result 3 - 1. In another Cup game, our last this month v South Celtic from Div 3, after an even 1st half, we found ourselves 2 - 1 up but an equaliser just after the break turned out to be the only goal in the half. In the extra time we went 3 - 2 but in the last 30 seconds a tragic own goal forced a penalty shoot-out and I'm glad to say we won 4 - 3.

Our 1st XI have not fared too well, having played two and lost two! First came Blue Eagles in the League, 0 - 0 at H/T then we went into the lead straight from a Phil Curtis corner kick but it was a miserable afternoon for us & we lost 2 - 1. Finally, Shoreham in the Sevenoaks Cup. Unluckily our goalkeeper Tippe Bamrah suffered a fractured knee and eventually we lost 5 - 0.

Cricket practice starts Sunday 23 Feb 9pm Westborough Sports Centre every 2 weeks, only £1. Ring Paul Baines on 01622 720810 for details.

Tel

Ton-Up

December		Christmas Bonus	
Tony Walsh	£10	Helena Baines	£50
Trevor Fermor	£5	Paul Martin	£30
Joyce Morgan	£10	Fred Philpott	£20

MEN of the TREES

The latest report (mentioned in January's Life-Line) about our trees gives us an "A" for the trees in the churchyard and uses words like "superb" and "in good heart". Remarks about the trees elsewhere in the village were a little fainter in their praise. In fact, we were criticised for having a dead tree in Charlton Lane and others which needed attention. However, all the things complained about have been put right already and we can bask in the light of the judge's remarks that West Farleigh is a lovely spot and that she could find no un-cared-for areas. Maybe we'll win a prize next year.

A LORRY DRIVER, asking for directions in Charlton Lane, produced a delivery note for the "God Intent". He was swiftly put right and no doubt Derek and Rita forgave the sins of the invoice clerk who had nearly caused their goods to be delivered to the church.

One regards with mixed feelings the new signs about Barning Bridge being closed pending major repairs. Does this sound the death knell of the old bridge or presage the birth of a new one?

SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY
IN ALL THREE CHURCHES

West Farleigh

Feb	2	0800 BCP HC
		0915 JJJ
	9	1045 Coffee in church
		1115 Family Service
	16	0930 ASB HC
	23	0915 JJJ
		1115 MP BCP
		1830 Evening Alternative with Alison Swan

Teston

Feb	2	0945 Family Service
	9	0800 BCP HC
		0945 Children's church
		1830 BCP EP
	12	2000 Service of Ashing with HC
	13	0930 ASB HC
	16	0945 Children's church
		1830 ASB HC
	20	0930 ASB HC
	23	0800 BCP HC
		0945 Children's church
		1830 BCP HC
	27	0930 ASB HC

Wateringbury

Feb	2	0930 BCP MP
		1630 Eucharist of Candles
	6	2000 Soc of Prayer for Healg
	9	0930 ASB HC
	16	0800 BCP HC
		1115 Family Service
	23	0930 ASB HC

Key: BCP = Book of Common Prayer
ASB = Alternative ServiceBook
HC = Holy Communion
MP = Morning Prayer
EP = Evening Prayer
JJJ = Young People's Club

Morning Prayer Tues to Fri 0830
4 - 7 Feb Wateringbury
11 - 14 Feb Teston
18 - 21 Feb West Farleigh
25 - 28 Feb Wateringbury

Lent Course, Preparing for Easter Day
We will be following the Radio Kent Course and adding our own ingredients. Come to Wateringbury School, enjoy a discussion and meet some friendly people, 20 & 27 Feb and 6, 13 & 20 March, 7.45 for 8pm. A note pad, pen and Bible may come in handy.