

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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TURNING POINTS

September - one of the turning points of the year. There is a certain sadness about September. It looks back to summer as the leaves, with a yellow tinge, signal the steady approach of autumn. There may be more days of sunshine before the trees stand naked and we begin to put on warmer clothes. Yet the year is moving on and we reflect upon all the things we didn't get round to doing and the places we never found time to visit.

September, then, a good time to think about starting something new, joining an evening class or taking up a fresh hobby. Maybe this September will be a turning point in your life.

Not a bad time, either, to remember the turning points in our lives. Decisions we made, people we met, jobs we took on or turned down. Loved ones who died and new lives appearing among our families and friends.

This year some of my friends made the decision to work towards confirmation. And that decision will become a reality in Rochester Cathedral on Sunday, 16th November. I think I can guarantee that this will be a turning point in their lives. A moving on from one phase of life to another. Who knows (apart from God) where this will lead?

What have been the turning points in your life? We all have them. Sometimes they are very clear and obvious, sometimes they happen almost without us noticing them. Coming to this Benefice of three churches was certainly one of the turning points in my life and this September I give thanks for all the blessings that have come my way since that point of turning.

Denys

Revd Denys Gower 01622 812494

EVERGREENS

9th September at Mill House, the home of Stuart and Irene Dyer. Any OAPs who have not joined us before would be very welcome. Ring 813461 for a lift.

HAVE A GO AT MORRIS DANCING.

More sociable than table tennis, more exciting than bridge, more English than line dancing and it gets you fit. Kettle Bridge Clogs are looking for new dancers for their 1998 season. We would also love to hear from bass brass or woodwind players. We are holding a barn dance in Coxheath Village Hall on Saturday, 27 Sept. The band will be Peeping Tom from Coventry. Details from Sandy on 01622 721778.

THE HARVEST SUPPER

Nettlestead Village Hall is again the venue for the Harvest Supper on Saturday, 13 September. £5 (or £3 if you're under 10) will buy you a ticket for a good meal, a drink on arrival (buck's fizz or sherry), a glass of wine with the meal, entertainment, a sing-song and some good company. Soft drinks if you want. There will be a raffle with some good prizes and it all starts at 6.45 and the meal will be served at 7.15.

Come and have a good time. It's two years since we had a Harvest Supper so let's make the most of it. To get to Nettlestead Village Hall you go through Wateringbury and it's about half a mile past the station on the left.

A SPOT OF HISTORY

A reminder of war-time comradeship surfaced recently when Mrs Bygrave of West Malling wrote to the Rector enclosing a list of names. She explained that during WWII money used to be collected by the people of West Farleigh and sent to those from the village who were serving in the forces. The list of names was a list of those who had gratefully received these gifts and had written to express their thanks. The letters themselves had been gathered together in a folio by the Vicar's wife, Lady Lucy Bentinck, and are now in the County archives. The folio was found by Mrs Bygrave among the effects of her late husband who was an antique dealer. The list of names contains several who are still resident like George Reffell and Roly Day. Copies are available from your editor on 813461.

ALPHA

East Farleigh group of parishes are running an Alpha course on Tuesday evenings starting October. They have extended an invitation to anyone in West Farleigh who would like to join them. Alpha is an informal ten week course to discuss, learn and explore the foundations of Christian faith. It is for everyone, both Christian and enquirer. It starts on 7 October with a meal, 7pm. Helen has application forms. 01622 814445.

THE EVENING ALTERNATIVE Will be in West Farleigh Church on 14 September at 6pm. The theme is "IS GOD YOUR FUTURE?" Music, games, multi media, coffee & biscuits. Be there & bring your friends.

SPORTS REPORT

ALISON

What a week-end! Our friends from Ringstedt began their visit on 1st August and, after an initial cooling off at the Bull, joined up at Tutsham for one of our best dances of the year when Ian Payne converted a motley crew of singers, dancers and musicians into a cabaret and I realised I couldn't give up the day job.

Football on Saturday morning resulted in a score of 5 - 5. Entertaining stuff unless you were a goalkeeper. At the Lawnmower World Championships on the Green, Matt Smith, against fierce international competition, retained the trophy he won last year and then in the evening at the Fire Station a German Oom Fah night made sure we didn't get out of practice at drinking.

Sunday was spent very enjoyably at Keith and Sue's house in Collier Street with a barbecue, piano smashing and "net ball" between English girls and German lads. St Trinian's have nothing on our girls.

On Monday we went to the White House then ten pin bowling and then they had to go home. Special thanks to Ian Payne, Peter Baggott, Graham & Graig Judge, Frank Underdown & all helpers. I'll report on events in the real world next month. Football Season starts on 13 Sept.

Cheers
Tel

SILENCE DESCENDS ON THE ORGAN

It's a good thing Sue Morlock left her piano behind in the church when she moved away, otherwise we'd be without music. The organ must not be used because some dangerous asbestos has been found in the blower box and has got to be removed - a task which is so delicate it almost requires an armed guard while it is being done. Philip Moore, of course, does a super job with the piano but it will be disappointing for the couples concerned if the organ is not repaired in time for their forthcoming weddings.

MONEY With so many functions being organised in aid of church funds, one can't be blamed for wondering what happens to all the money. Now is your chance to find out. Come to a meeting to be addressed by Canon Brian Simmons at Teston Village Hall on Tuesday, 7 October at 8pm. There will be cheese and wine so rough numbers must be known in advance. Please let your editor know on 013461.

EDGES & HEDGES Readers may have noticed the untidy appearance of the hedge along Lower Road. What happened was that someone complained to the Borough Council that the hedge had become overgrown and someone in the Borough Council had it cut back - with the unhappy result we can now see. It was all a mistake because the Parish Council like to arrange hedge cutting by our own reliable contractors. So if any public spirited resident wishes to comment about the village environment, will they please complain to the Parish Council, not the Borough, and a proper job will be arranged.

ANOTHER CAR has been brought to the village and set on fire. The chosen spot was the field of rhubarb off Mill Lane. Patiently the police have had it removed but when is this sort of thing going to stop?

SERVICES FOR SEPTEMBER IN ALL THREE CHURCHES

West Farleigh

Sept 7 0800 HC Bk Common Prayer
0915 JJJ Children's Club
14 1045 Coffee in church
1115 Family Service
1800 The Evening Alternative
21 0930 HC Alt Service Book
28 0915 JJJ Children's Club
1115 Matins Bk Common Prayer

Teston

Sept 4 0930 HC Alt Service Book
7 1830 HC Alt Service Book
11 0930 HC Alt Service Book
14 0800 HC Bk Common Prayer
1830 Evensong. Bk Common Prayer
18 0930 HC Alt Service Book
21 0945 Children's Church
1830 HC Alt Service Book
25 0930 HC Alt Service Book
28 0800 HC Bk Common Prayer
0945 Children's Church
1830 Evensong. Bk Common Prayer

Wateringbury

Sept 7 0930 Matins. Bk Common Prayer
14 0930 HC Alt Service Book
21 0800 HC Bk Common Prayer
1115 Family Service
28 0930 HC Alt Service Book

Morning Prayer Tues to Fri 0830

2 to 5 Sept West Farleigh
10 (Wed) to 12 Sept Wateringbury
16 to 19 Sept Teston
23 to 26 Sept West Farleigh

CRICKET MIXTURES September

6th Tonbridge Home 2.00
13th Leeds & Broomfield Home 1.30
20th Farleigh Bull Home 1.30
27th Linton Park Home 1.30

THE NEXT BROADCAST about West Farleigh by your editor to the startled population will be on Radio Kent, 10 Sept 11.10am.