

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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RESOLUTIONS FOR 98?

Are you the kind of person who makes New Year Resolutions? If so, what form will they take? Give up smoking? (Mark Twain said this was very easy, he'd done it hundreds of times). Be on time or even arrive before time? Give politicians the benefit of the doubt? Be polite to people trying to sell you windows or kitchens? To take time to listen to and attempt to understand the other person's point of view? If you are such a person, beware of making too long a list - twelve months is a long time to keep to your good intentions.

A friend once asked me what resolutions I was making for the New Year. I explained that I never worked that way. The response was that that was probably because I didn't want to feel guilty when I broke the resolutions. The friend was probably right but there is little point in setting up targets that you know to be out of your range. I'm sure we could all make the effort to achieve a little more, help a little more, give a little more in '98. We all have the ability to add something positive and helpful into the society of which we are a part.

Those of us who have a strong connexion to our Parish Church know that '98 will be another testing year on the financial front. There are many hopeful signs to be thankful for, especially the work among our young people and the fact that the church has a service every Sunday - so far! As I see it there are two major ways to secure the future for our church. The need to build up our finances is obvious. Do you pay tax? Do you covenant to your Parish Church? It is quite painless. Can you give a little more in '98? But, just as important, your presence in church on a more regular basis would be so very welcome. Can we resolve together to take up these two facts of life and make 1998 a year that All Saints can give thanks for?

Denys

CAMPAIGNERS

There is to be a new club for children aged 5 to 11 in West Farleigh called the Campaigners. The first meeting will be in the church on Thursday, 8th January, 6.45 to 8.15 and after that every Thursday evening in the church at the same time. It will be 50p each a meeting but this will be good value for money because Campaigners are a big organisation with 600 groups and a lot of experience in running children's clubs. There will be badges to work for in 36 different skills from cooking to computing. There will be games and activities, all with a Christian basis including songs of praise.

Please note that this is in place of the 3Js and there will be no children's club on Sundays any more. But please continue to bring the children to Family Services. The next one will be on Sunday 11th January, starting at 10.45 with coffee in church.

You can get all your questions answered about Campaigners from Helen Swan on 814445 or Tony Walsh on 728252.

A WHIST DRIVE HAS BEEN ARRANGED for Saturday, 31st January at Appledore, Charlton Lane, 7.00 for 7.15 start - prompt! All welcome. Helen and David would be grateful if you would let them know if you are coming. They need to count the chairs. Give a ring on 814445.

EVERGREENS At Mill Cottage, Tuesday, 13th January. Back to the old tea, sandwiches and cakes routine. All OAPs welcome.

CAROL SINGING ROUND THE PUBS on Friday, 19th December, was a great success but with a snag. It started with a swing at the Tickled Trout where a party of 40 diners joined in and gave a flying start to the collection before the carollers proceeded to the other pubs and were given a great welcome at each. The collection came to £82 for Demelza House and the organ fund.

The snag was that Val Barnwell discovered the next morning that all her Christmas shopping had been stolen from the boot of her car which hadn't been fastened down properly. In the midst of all the good will of Christmas there were these unspeakable villains snooping round and ready to take advantage of honest folk's mistakes. WATCH OUT! THEY'RE ABOUT!

In spite of it all, A HAPPY NEW YEAR to all readers.

EVENING ALTERNATIVE The next service in this series for the young at heart will be at East Farleigh Church at 6.00pm on Sunday 11th January.

JOHN ZYGMONT of Teston announces that his Post Office will remain open on Wednesday afternoons henceforth until 5.00pm.

OUR DOUGHTY Parish Clerk, David Swan, having emerged triumphantly from a nasty bout of serious unwellness, feels himself sufficiently fit to resume once more the duties of office and will be officiating at a meeting of the Parish Council at the Tickled Trout on Monday, 12 January at 7.30. The village juddered to a halt (nearly) during his absence and there will be many folk both within and without West Farleigh who will welcome his return to health. He is not quite 100% yet but Life-Line and all the rest of his friends wish him a smooth run on the remaining part of his journey back to full capacity.

As to the meeting (postponed from 1 December for the reasons set out above), it is guaranteed not to be long and tiresome so do come along and see what 1998 has in store.

FOOTBALL REPORT Goals galore last month! Hopefully Santa may have brought us a defender or two - or a goalkeeper! Farleigh 1st XI started well with a tricky away fixture against Ightham in the Sevenoaks Cup which we won 2 - 1 but followed up a week later with a 5 - 1 away defeat to MPK in the League. The two other Saturdays before Christmas were "free".

Our 2nd XI have been like my gutter recently - leaking a lot. Our League game at home to Larkfield produced no fewer than 12 goals and we went down 8 - 4. The next week wasn't much better, losing 5 - 1 to Div 4 side Lenham in the Cup. Next week we progressed to the next round of the T/Wells Cup without kicking a ball. Dowgate arrived with only 6 players, thus conceding the game. At least I didn't let any goals in! Lastly this month, back to normal, Snodland away in the Cup, 4 - 0 up in the 2nd half, we finished normal time 5 - 5. After extra time the score remained the same and we came away 4 - 3 victors in a nerve tingling penalty shoot-out. If your heart's dodgy or your nerves frayed after the mother-in-law's Christmas visit, don't come and watch us, it will only make it worse!

Wishing my reader a very happy and peaceful New Year.

**SERVICES FOR JANUARY
IN ALL THREE CHURCHES**

West Farleigh

Jan	4	0800	HC Bk Common Prayer
	11	1045	Coffee in church 1115 Family Service
	18	0930	HC Alt Service Book
	25	1115	Matins

Teston

Jan	4	0945	Family Service
	8	0930	HC Alt Service Book
	11	0800	HC Book Common Prayer 1830 Evensong Bk Cmn Prayer
	15	0930	HC Alt Service Book
	18	0945	Children's Church 1830 HC Alt Service Book
	22	0930	HC Alt Service Book
	25	0800	HC Bk Common Prayer 0945 Children's Church 1830 HC Alt Service Book
	29	0930	HC Alt Service Book

Wateringbury

Jan	4	0930	Matins Bk Cmn Prayer
	11	0930	HC Alt Service Book
	18	0800	HC Book Common Prayer 1115 Family Service
	25	0930	HC Alt Service Book

THANK YOU

Very many thanks to those friends at All Saints who were kind enough to send us Christmas cards. They are very much appreciated. We wish you all a peaceful and interesting New Year in 1998.

Eileen and Denys Gower, The Rectory

Cheers

Tel

THE GREEN Opinion about the children's play equipment on the Green continues to be divided, especially in the matter of the goal posts. Letters to the Parish Council have complained about misuse of the equipment by persons rather too large in body (though not in brain) to be described as children. These young people cause concern to residents around the Green by rowdily abusing the swings, roundabout and goal posts after dark, practising not only their agility and football skills but also their extensive knowledge of the colourful but less acceptable flights of the English language, having first got in the mood with readily available stimulants.

The Parish Council attitude to this is that most of the time the Green and its play equipment is properly used by children, often with their parents standing by and it is right that the facilities should be there, close to where the children live, to give them a safe, open space in which to play. The only item of equipment really in dispute is the goal posts but the Council agreed that this should remain in position at least until the Annual Parish Meeting in March when residents would be able to speak their thoughts in public and, hopefully, reach a conclusion.

Your editor's next little broadcast on Radio Kent will be on Wednesday, 28 Jan about ten past eleven.