

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

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THE EASTER SEPARATION AND CELEBRATION

Holy Week and Easter always present a busy time for Anglican clergy and, attempting, as we do here, to spread the services across three parishes is no easy task. I do hope you will find time to share in some of the services that have been arranged. On Holy Saturday, 3 April, some of us will be joining with our Roman Catholic friends at Aylesford Priory at 9pm to take part in the liturgy and to take some refreshments with them after the service. Do consider coming along. It will be a late night but well worth the effort.

One other aspect of this most important season in the life of the church, for me, is the yearly gathering of the clergy of the Diocese of Rochester in the Cathedral on Maundy Thursday morning. We re-affirm our ordination vows with our Bishops, take Holy Communion together and many of us bring back oil for Baptism or anointing the sick from this service where it has been blessed by Bishop Michael.

There is, however, a sad side to this gathering. There are some clergy who feel that they cannot take a full part in the service mainly because there are women priests present. They are fully entitled to their view but at this most important time of the Christian year when we recall Jesus laying down his life for us all and offering bread and wine to his friends for the last time it is a sadness beyond words that there is this separation at our Lord's table.

But let's concentrate on the Good News of Easter Day. "Christ is risen" "He is risen indeed". All Christians can agree on that.

Dennis Saver

THE ORGAN FUND

The fund will remain open, of course, but with only about £1,400 to go to hit the target of £25,000, you will have to hurry with your contribution of £500 (min.) to have the name of a loved one engraved on the commemoration plaque which will probably be fixed in June.

Such contributions aside, we just need one more successful function to bring the money to our target level. A village review has been discussed and various acts have been offered. The Farleighs Hall has been booked for Friday, 16 July, and the food committee is standing by. but we want a co-ordinator to chair a sub committee and bring it all together. Names and suggestions to Sue Day please on 812650.

But first the grand inaugural concert in the church on Saturday, 22 May, at 7.30pm. It will be given by Roger Sayer, organist of Rochester Cathedral. Admission will be by ticket only @ £7.50 from Joyce Morgan on 726251 after 17th April but she will take reservations now. Book early. Roger Sayer is an accomplished musician.

The ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING (APCM) will be held in the church at 8pm on Tuesday, 27 April. Everybody in the Parish will be welcome. You will hear about the very busy past year in which we acquired a new organ and new life was brought into the church by an active and dynamic junior section, the Campaigners, and how an even busier time is planned for the year ahead.

EVERGREENS Tuesday, 13th April, at Appledore, Charlton Lane, with a light hearted musical quiz. If you are retired, come and join us and if you need a lift, ring Helen on 814445.

CAMPAIGNERS

We start again after our Easter break on Thursday, 15 April, 6.45 in the church. We spent a very enjoyable evening at Tutsham Farm and learnt about lambing. We all cuddled a day old lamb!

The Campaigners paid tribute to their mothers in words, song and dance at the Mothering Sunday service and beautiful posies were given out for everyone to give to their mothers.

Campaigners is a very successful group for youngsters between 6 and 13. We have 20 plus children and four or five leaders every Thursday evening. The evening is fast and action packed with fun and games and task work and campaigns from cooking to Jesus's parables. The evening finishes with a short period of Christian teaching and worship (the epilogue). There are sometimes more people in church on a Thursday than on a Sunday!

HECTOR'S AFTER EASTER BREAK

I will not be available from Monday 5th to Sunday 11th April inclusive. If you require a priest, please contact the Revd Geoffrey Ellmore on 744737.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

There will be no three hour service in Wateringbury this year but three one hour services in each of the three churches. At West Farleigh it will be a service of contemplation led by Hugh Grainger with Philip Moore on the organ 10am.

SPORTS REPORT

West Farleigh 1st XI's four league games have not produced the upturn in fortunes we were hoping for and they now find themselves deep in relegation troubles. Defeats away to MPE 2 - 1, Headcorn 5 - 2 and Knoxbridge 4 - 1 have not helped but we did manage a marvelous 5 - 4 victory at home v Snodland and special mention to Jess Baines who scored four of our five goals.

Our 2nd XI have mirrored our 1st XI predicament and, despite winning two games, were still holding up all the others. Our only distraction is our Tun/Wells semi-final. After a very tense and entertaining game the previous round when we played Harkenbury, after ending 1 - 1 a-e-t we finally won 3 - 2 on penalties. Our successful league games were Snodland 2 - 1 and Barming 2 - 0 but defeats v Kenham 5 - 2 and Yalding 2 - 1 have ensured a real uphill struggle if either team is to survive this season from the drop. Maybe we've a job for Ron Wilkinson.

Cricket news. We'd like to hear from anyone willing to help scoring this season.

Club news. Hurry to enter a team of six for our line and Wisdom evening, Sat, 10 April, Hunton V/H 7.30 start. Get in touch on 745744. Cheers, Tel

ERIK DRAPER of the GOOD INTENT spoke his mind at the annual Parish Meeting on 1st March about the dorelict plum orchard adjacent to the Green. He didn't mince his words, using terms like eyesore and a blight. Life-Line is told that the orchard's future is in the melting pot; a tentative suggestion had been made to grub out the trees, have a big bonfire for the millennium then, at public expense, re-plant with some carefully chosen trees.

QUIZ NIGHT

Aid of World Challenge 2000 Ecuador
FRIDAY 16th APRIL 8pm
East Farleigh Church Hall
£2.50 per person. Teams of six
Prizes for Winning Team
affle, Food. Bring own drinks and
lasses. To book a table phone Abbie
lsh (who hopes to go to Ecuador) on
728252

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

We are a pretty crime free area but Life-Line was startled to learn that in 1998 there were 6 burglaries of dwellings, 12 burglaries to garages, sheds etc, 2 cars stolen, 7 cases of criminal damage and 9 thefts. To help stop all this, phone Ivor Maskell 727264 and join up with Neighbourhood Watch, also fill up and return that form he left you

SERVICES FOR APRIL IN ALL THREE CHURCHES

West Farleigh

Apr 1 2000 Vigil with HC to Midnight
2 1000 Service of contemplation
4 0930 Family HC
11 1830 Evening Alternative
18 0930 HC Alt Service Book
25 1045 Coffee in church
1115 Family HC

Teston

Apr 2 1400 Service of seven words
from the Cross Meditation
4 0945 Family HC
11 1830 Evensong
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 Book Common Prayer
0945 Children's Church
1830 Evensong
29 0930 HC Alt Service Book

Wateringbury

Apr 1 1600 Children's Stations
of the Cross
2 1200 Stations of the Cross
and Meditation
4 0800 HC Book Common Prayer
1115 Family HC
11 0930 HC Alt Service Book
18 0800 HC Book Common Prayer
0930 Family Service
25 0930 HC Alt Service Book

Morning Prayer Tuesday to Friday 0830
30 March to 2 April Teston
6 to 9 April No Morning Prayer
13 to 16 April West Farleigh
20 to 23 April Wateringbury
27 to 30 April Teston

HAPPY EASTER TO ALL LIFE-LINE READERS

THE FARLEIGHS WI is for ladies from East and West Farleigh. The next meeting is on Wednesday, 14th April at 7.30 in the Farleighs Hall, Forge Lane, East Farleigh. Mrs D White is speaking on "The Wooden Spoon". Ring Ann McNaughton on 814111 if you would like to join us. Ann will be able to introduce you to other members. We are a lively bunch with not a jam jar in sight. We are too busy line dancing, theatre going, embroidering etc.