

# 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"

Editor: Jim Patch, Mill Cottage. 01622 813461

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## LAUGHTER IN CHURCH?

A Rector was annoyed because a certain member of the congregation always fell asleep as soon as he began his sermon. One Sunday morning the Rector decided to take some counter action. As the man snoozed away, in a whisper, the Rector asked the congregation, "All who want to go to Heaven please rise". Everyone stood up except the snorer. Then he whispered, "Be seated". Then in a loud voice he thundered, "All who want to go to the devil stand up!" Waking with alarm, the sleeping man leapt to his feet. He observed the Rector standing in the pulpit in front of him. "Well sir", said the startled man, "I don't know what we have just voted on but it looks like you and me are the only ones for it."

I've heard it said, "You don't go to church to enjoy yourself". I do NOT subscribe to that view at all. Yes, you can sit through a sleep-inducing sermon (I've probably produced a few myself) and some of our hymns are enough to "cheer the heart of a hedgehog", as my grandmother used to say, but I'm sure that God likes to hear laughter in church and to see people enjoying themselves in His name. Do you think those twelve disciples would have followed Jesus if membership of His party involved unpaid misery? At the beginning of the thanksgiving prayer at Holy Communion the priest says "Lift up your hearts". All reply, "We lift them to the Lord". Nothing downcast or miserable about that.

Denys Gower Rector

## THE BARBECUE

Come to the summer barbecue at Court Lodge, Lower Road, on Sunday, 4th July, Noon to 2pm, £6 or, for under 12s, £3 including a glass of wine or a soft drink. More on sale by the bottle or glass. Cakes and produce are requested for sale on the stall also raffle prizes. Bring them on the day. There will be a marquee. Tickets from Huw, 812222, Val, 820602, Penny, 813597 or Belinda, 820348. If you would like a lift, mention it when ordering tickets. Bring a chair. Your best armchair will do. All prophets to the church.

## THE REVUE

The other great event this month is the Revue with local talent followed by a ploughman's supper and a bar open all evening from 7.30 to 11.30. It will all happen on Friday, 16th July, at the WI Hall, East Farleigh, near The Bull. It will cost you £7.50 or, for under 12s, £5. This is the first venture of this kind for West Farleigh. It will all be very light hearted and good fun.

PHILIP MOORE (our organist) and his wife Kathleen announce the birth on 19 June of their granddaughter Rebecca Jane. Proud parents Helen & Stuart Elliott live in Bangor, North Wales.

## YOU ARE INVITED

To join our Parochial Church Council in church from 8pm onwards to meet the Revd. Canon Paul Wright as we consider with him the possible re-ordering of All Saints Church. How can the building be adapted for use in the 21st Century without losing its character and beauty? Should it be an all purpose building for all ages, available for both worship and social events? Come along on Tuesday, 20th July and give some thought on the future of our church at West Farleigh.

D V Gower

## Editorial note:-

I don't know at this stage any details of what is proposed but it sounds as if this could involve the most revolutionary transformation in our church in the whole of its 900 year history. It is something which concerns everyone in the village and it is to be hoped that enough interest is generated to bring about a very lively meeting indeed.

## BULK WASTE

There will be a waste freighter at the Green on Sunday, 18 July from 1.00 to 2.00pm. Also on Saturday 4 September from 7.45 to 8.45am.

## EVERGREENS

Mill House, Tutsham Farm, the home of Stuart and Irene Dyer, Tuesday, 13th July, for the next meeting.

With Denys and Eileen Gower last month we went to Maycotts in Matfield where Debbie Jolley, garden designer, lives. We looked for inspiration in a walk round the garden then enjoyed our tea and cakes.

## SPORTS REPORT

No luck so far for our cricketers. All our games last month (Milsted, Headcorn, Bearsted and Linden Park) ended in defeat but we avoided defeat v Shipborne as it was rained off! Good news - the spirit is still good - still out-drink the opposition in the pub afterwards and hopefully soon we'll record our first league win of the season.

It has been requested to print forthcoming fixtures so if I remember I'll do it every month. Your support might just inspire us into winning.

## JULY

3rd Meopham (Home) 10th Horton Kirby (Away)  
17th Staplehurst (Home) 24th Marden (Away)  
31st Horsmonden (Home) All 2pm start

Does anyone know where we can buy a flag? Our Club flag has, like me, seen better days and needs to be replaced (also like me!). We have just finished our first ever boot fair down by Teston Bridge. Many thanks to all who supported it. A very successful and interesting event. Our next social event will be our summer dance when we entertain our Ringstedt friends from Germany. Get your tickets early £7.50 including fish & chips. 30th July, Tutsham Farm.

Cheers Tel

**NEW BUS** As anticipated in the May Life-Line there is to be a new Saturday bus service starting 10th July leaving Charlton Lane at 0936 and going via Coxheath and Chart Sutton to Headcorn. Return buses come through Coxheath at 1249 and 1519. The service is numbered K3, the same as the one which runs on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. You can get full details from Nu Venture on 882288.

## CAMPAIGNERS

Nineteen of us with suitable adult help spent an enjoyable week-end at Soraces, the home of the Passmores in Barming, a super site on the edge of an orchard. We are very grateful to the Passmores. We hiked to the site via Kettle Bridge in rain and arrived wet, but the tents had already been put up. We were grateful for this and to the Coxheath Guides for the loan of the tents. It stopped raining after supper and we all dried out round the camp fire. everyone was extremely well behaved and had a great time with wide games, our new parachute, singing round the camp fire, midnight feasts and an early morning dip in the Passmore's swimming pool. The week-end was enjoyed by all including the leaders and helpers, much to their surprise and we are already planning next year's camp.

We are having a short service on Thursday, 15th July at 6.45pm as this is the last meeting of the term. We would be very pleased if you would come and share in our celebration.

## TWINNING

On Sunday, 1st August, a church service on the Green and a signing ceremony to finalise the twinning are planned with our twins who will be over from Ringstedt. John Day, Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council, and Jack Martin, Chairman of the Sports Club, will sign on behalf of the village.

SERVICES FOR JULY  
IN ALL THREE CHURCHESWest Farleigh

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

Teston

July	1	0930	HC Alt Service Book
	4	0945	Blessing of pets on Green. Family Service
	7	1830	HC Alt Service Book
	8	0930	HC Alt Service Book
	11	0800	HC Book Common Prayer
		0945	Children's Church
		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
		1830	Evensong
	29	0930	HC Alt Service Book

Wateringbury

July	4	0930	Matins
	11	0930	HC Alt Service Book
	18	0800	HC Book Common Prayer
		1115	Family Service
	22	1100	School Thanksgiving
	25	0930	HC Alt Service Book

Morning Prayer Tuesday to Friday 0830  
6 to 9 July West Farleigh  
13 to 16 July Wateringbury  
20 to 23 July Teston  
27 to 30 July West Farleigh

Home visits for a chat, a prayer or for Holy Communion. Contact me or any of our lay ministers. I will be glad to come and see you.  
01622 812494. Denys Gower

THE TEAR-OFF SLIPS with the May Life-Line have been raining down on David Swan, Parish Clerk, to claim the promised millennium mugs, over 40 of them. The children now await their mugs with excited anticipation. With so few being made they will certainly in course of time become collectors' items.