

# Life-Line

The FREE  
monthly  
news sheet for  
West Farleigh

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

Editor: Jane Stewart, 2 Court Lodge Cottage, Lower Road, West Farleigh. Tel: 01622 812562

February 2001

No. 311

## HELP THE MOUNTIES GET THEIR MAN!

FARLEIGH folk are being asked to help a senior policeman in the Mounties track down the local Spice Girls - or boys!

John Spice, Chief Superintendent of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in Whitehorse, in the Yukon territory of Canada, was in West Farleigh recently, hot on the trail of his ancestors.

The Canadian Mountie spent some time looking around All Saints Church and the graveyard, where churchwarden John Evans was only too delighted to assist in the search.

Chief Superintendent Spice believes his grandfather lived in East Farleigh at an address along the lines of 13 Nangar (?) Cottages.....

There is a record of the marriage of a 29-year old John Spice to Eliza Hickmott in 1844 and a record of the birth of their son, also called John, baptised at All Saints Church on January 5 1845.

There are also records showing that the couple had two more sons - James in 1849 and George in 1851. However, there the trail peters out.

The Chief Superintendent had come to West Farleigh in the hope of finding his grandfather's grave, presumably dating somewhere between 1851 and 1900.

However, as anyone who has looked around the graveyard lately will appreciate, the gravestones are lain far from chronologically and some of them are badly weathered, with the wording eroded.

John Evans has been asking around the Parish for any information which may help but has so far drawn a blank.

If anyone out there can help the Mounties get their man, he - and Mr Spice - will be delighted to hear from them!

## YOUR CHANCE TO HAVE A SAY IN VILLAGE MATTERS

The Annual Meeting of West Farleigh Parish Council will take place in the Church on Monday March 5 at 7.30pm.

The agenda will be posted nearer the time but it will include the opportunity for parishioners to raise matters directly with the Parish Council. This is the one time in the year when villagers can speak up at the council meeting and everyone is welcome. One item for discussion will be the planting of new trees, following West Farleigh's recent success in the Kent Men of Trees competition.

Roy Hood from the Kent Men of the Trees presented Parish Council Chairman Don Goodwin with a lime tree for the Green on January 28 and, with spirited assistance from Councillors, it was duly planted at the southern end of the Green. The Council also received a cheque for £30 and a further gift of £25 is on its way from the Kent Messenger Group.

Both sums are to be spent on new trees for the parish so ideas for both the type of tree and their location will be very welcome.

## **PASTORAL LETTER**

There are two important dates in February: the 28<sup>th</sup> and the 14<sup>th</sup>. The first is Ash Wednesday and the second, of course, is St. Valentine's Day. Is there a link between the two? Do they have anything in common? Yes, they are both Christian festivals: they are both days that came to be important as a result of Christianity. Valentine was a Christian bishop who, in 270 AD, was beheaded by the Emperor Claudius because he would not renounce his faith. That was during the period when the Roman Emperors were much inclined to persecute the early Christians, who often suffered horrible deaths rather than give up their belief in Jesus Christ. A specific crime of Bishop Valentine was that he defied a ban by the Emperor on marriage, and carried on marrying young couples in secret. During his imprisonment, Valentine fell in love with the blind daughter of his jailer and then healed her through his great faith; before he was executed he left her a farewell message of love signed 'from your Valentine.' Hence the expression we use today. Ash Wednesday is a different kind of celebration: it marks the beginning of Lent, a time of abstinence and self-denial, a time when we remember how Jesus fasted for forty days and nights in the desert in preparation for His ministry. These two special days celebrate two of the most important features of Christianity: the first is Love and the second is Self-discipline.

*Hugh Grainger, Lay Reader*

## **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

A black Ford Fiesta XR2 was stolen and set alight using accelerant in Shinglebarn Lane on January 5. Otherwise, it was a fairly quiet month - not that we are complaining!

If you have a computer, you can join the new Neighbourhood Watch mailing list which sends out crime prevention e-mails once a week.

Subscribe simply by sending an e-mail to :  
listserv@crimeweb.org, including the subject heading: subscribe nwatch.

Don't be afraid if you are new to computers. I will be happy to give you some basic instruction and get you on-line - for free!

*Ivor Maskell.*

*NHW Co-ordinator.*

## **VACANCIES**

West Farleigh has a vacancy for a Parish Councillor. If you are interested and would like to volunteer or need more information please ring the Clerk, David Swan, on 814445 or the Chairman, Don Goodwin, on 812035.

The village is also in need of a new KM Correspondent.

Volunteers please ring 01622 695666.

## **HOUSEGROUP**

Meetings this month are on Wednesday February 14 and Wednesday February 21, starting at 8.00pm, both at Appledore, Charlton Lane. Do come and join us for a little midweek spiritual refreshment.

Also, if you are able to host a meeting we would be pleased to hear from you!

## **FARLEIGHS W.I.**

The New Year meeting was enlivened with a talk from Dorothy Gray entitled 'Hoping for a Few Laughs.'

Forthcoming events include a trip to the Hazlitt Theatre in April to see *The Mikado*, a quiz at the Farleighs Hall on April 28 and a district drama evening, again at the Farleighs Hall, on May 23.

The next meeting is on Wednesday February 14 at 7.30pm in the Farleighs Hall, when there will be some Keep Fit Fun with Helen Ball.

New members are always welcome.

## **FAITH HEALER**

No, not an alternative therapy, but the title of the latest drama production from the Mindful Theatre Company of Yalding.

The performance of Brian Friel's compelling drama, set in 1930, takes place on Saturday, February 3, at Yalding Village Hall, commencing at 7.30pm.

The Mindful Theatre Group promise a professional production - past performances have included Alan Bennett's 'Talking Heads' - and tickets are on sale from Yalding Library.

## **WASTE FREIGHTER**

The Freighter will be at the Village Green as follows:-

Sunday, February 4, from 12.45pm to 1.45pm;

Sunday, March 31, from 2.00pm to 3.15pm

## **DEADLINE**

Please submit all articles for inclusion in the March 2001 issue of Life-Line to the Editor by **February 25th**. Thank you!

## **PASTORAL LETTER**

There are two important dates in February: the 28<sup>th</sup> and the 14<sup>th</sup>. The first is Ash Wednesday and the second, of course, is St. Valentine's Day. Is there a link between the two? Do they have anything in common? Yes, they are both Christian festivals: they are both days that came to be important as a result of Christianity. Valentine was a Christian bishop who, in 270 AD, was beheaded by the Emperor Claudius because he would not renounce his faith. That was during the period when the Roman Emperors were much inclined to persecute the early Christians, who often suffered horrible deaths rather than give up their belief in Jesus Christ. A specific crime of Bishop Valentine was that he defied a ban by the Emperor on marriage, and carried on marrying young couples in secret. During his imprisonment, Valentine fell in love with the blind daughter of his jailer and then healed her through his great faith; before he was executed he left her a farewell message of love signed 'from your Valentine.' Hence the expression we use today. Ash Wednesday is a different kind of celebration: it marks the beginning of Lent, a time of abstinence and self-denial, a time when we remember how Jesus fasted for forty days and nights in the desert in preparation for His ministry. These two special days celebrate two of the most important features of Christianity: the first is Love and the second is Self-discipline.

*Hugh Grainger, Lay Reader*

## **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

A black Ford Fiesta XR2 was stolen and set alight using accelerant in Shinglebarn Lane on January 5. Otherwise, it was a fairly quiet month - not that we are complaining!

If you have a computer, you can join the new Neighbourhood Watch mailing list which sends out crime prevention e-mails once a week.

Subscribe simply by sending an e-mail to :  
listserver@crimeweb.org, including the subject heading: subscribe nwatch.

Don't be afraid if you are new to computers. I will be happy to give you some basic instruction and get you on-line - for free!

*Ivor Maskell.*

*NHW Co-ordinator.*

## **VACANCIES**

West Farleigh has a vacancy for a Parish Councillor. If you are interested and would like to volunteer or need more information please ring the Clerk, David Swan, on 814445 or the Chairman, Don Goodwin, on 812035.

The village is also in need of a new KM Correspondent.

Volunteers please ring 01622 695666.

## **HOUSEGROUP**

Meetings this month are on Wednesday February 14 and Wednesday February 21, starting at 8.00pm, both at Appledore, Charlton Lane. Do come and join us for a little midweek spiritual refreshment.

Also, if you are able to host a meeting we would be pleased to hear from you!

## **FARLEIGHS W.I.**

The New Year meeting was enlivened with a talk from Dorothy Gray entitled 'Hoping for a Few Laughs.'

Forthcoming events include a trip to the Hazlitt Theatre in April to see *The Mikado*, a quiz at the Farleighs Hall on April 28 and a district drama evening, again at the Farleighs Hall, on May 23.

The next meeting is on Wednesday February 14 at 7.30pm in the Farleighs Hall, when there will be some Keep Fit Fun with Helen Ball.

New members are always welcome.

## **FAITH HEALER**

No, not an alternative therapy, but the title of the latest drama production from the Mindful Theatre Company of Yalding.

The performance of Brian Friel's compelling drama, set in 1930, takes place on Saturday, February 3, at Yalding Village Hall, commencing at 7.30pm.

The Mindful Theatre Group promise a professional production - past performances have included Alan Bennett's 'Talking Heads' - and tickets are on sale from Yalding Library.

## **WASTE FREIGHTER**

The Freighter will be at the Village Green as follows:-

Sunday, February 4, from 12.45pm to 1.45pm;

Sunday, March 31, from 2.00pm to 3.15pm

## **DEADLINE**

Please submit all articles for inclusion in the March 2001 issue of Life-Line to the Editor by **February 25th**. Thank you!

## SPORTS REPORT

### **FOOTBALL**

A mixed bag of results again this month - both our teams are as changeable as the weather. The 1st XI started poorly, losing their Kent Junior Cup game 3-1 at home to Pembury but recovered well the following week beating Premier Division Club MPR 4-3, this time in the Challenge Cup. Finally, they lost 4-1 to Malgo in the Benevolent Cup.

The 2nd XI also started badly, going down 3-1 to Risers in the Challenge Cup and again losing the next week 4-0 at home to Hunton. Next came Jubilee Sports and a much-welcomed victory, only our second this season, with a 2-0 win.

Finally, we were very unlucky, losing 2-0 at home to Leeds after creating far more chances and playing better football than the opposition - but then, I could be a little biased!

### **CRICKET**

Our cricketers come out of hibernation on Sunday February 11 when we start our net practices at Sutton Valence School. These will take place every Sunday from then on, from 7.30-8.30pm, so any new players who want to join us will be very welcome! If you need any further information, give me a call.

### **CLUB NEWS**

Our club AGM will take place on Monday February 19 at 8pm at the Bull, East Farleigh. All members are welcome. This meeting is even more important than usual, as we are looking for a new secretary and treasurer. If any of my readers have an hour or two to spare to help the club with either of these important roles, please get in touch as soon as possible. Your club needs you!

Cheers,

Tel (M/S 745744)

### TAMBOURINES AND DRUMS.

At the Family Service in January, the young people brought along a great assortment of instruments and accompanied one of the hymns in a delightful and emphatic manner. A similar thing will be happening at the next Family Service on February 11 - so please bring your instruments!

We shall also be welcoming baby Reece Poxon with Baptism, so do come and join the celebrations.



## SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY 2001

### WEST FARLEIGH

- 4 8.00am BCP Holy Communion - Geoff Ellmore  
6.00pm Evening Alternative  
11 11.15am Baptism & Family Service - Geoff Ellmore & Hugh Grainger  
18 9.30am ASB Holy Communion - Rev Malcolm Perkins  
25 11.15am Matins - Ian Williams  
28 10am Ash Wednesday - Holy Communion with ashing

*NB: Coffee and biscuits are always served prior to the 11.15am Family Service - join us from 10.45am.*

### TESTON

- 4 9.45am Family Service - Dawn Page  
6.30pm ASB Holy Communion  
11 8.00am BCP Holy Communion  
9.45am Childrens Church  
6.30pm BCP Evensong  
18 9.45am Childrens Church  
6.30pm ASB Holy Communion  
25 8.00am BCP HC - Rev Morrell  
9.45am Childrens Church  
6.30pm BCP Evensong - Rev Ellmore

### WATERINGBURY

- 4 9.30am Matins  
11 9.30am ASB HC  
18 8am BCP Holy Communion  
11.15am Praise & Thanksgiving  
25 9.30am ASB HC

### THE INTERREGNUM

If you need assistance with arrangements for funerals, weddings, baptisms, home and hospital visits or communion during the Interregnum, please contact one of the lay ministers: Hugh Grainger 820305, Helen Swan 814445 and Ian Williams 728848.

### ASH WEDNESDAY

There will be a special service of Holy Communion and Ashing at 10.00am on Ash Wednesday, February 28.

This is an important date in the Church calendar, marking the start of Lent, and the service will be conducted by the Reverend Malcolm Perkins.