

West Farleigh's own

# LIFE-LINE

Editors: Tim & Christine Hill of School House, Lower Road.

Email: timhill@clh34.freemove.co.uk

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*A Lifeline is of no use without a means of propelling it to where it's needed.*



Illustration of All Saints' after Harold Harbour.

## LOCAL BODIES PLAN BIG EXPANSION IN VILLAGE ACTIVITIES IN 2009-10

The P.C.C., the Parish Council and the Sports Club have been conferring lately on how better to organise village social and fund-raising activities with the aim of creating a more lively scenario in the years ahead. Each of these bodies needs to raise funds (in the case of the Parish Council it would probably be its proxy, the Village Hall Committee) and it is generally agreed that some bigger, more exciting events organised together are probably better than too many small ones. Discussions are only in their earliest stages but it is hoped that a fete will take place this summer—at a date to be fixed in July – as a curtain raiser for a major event with a gymkhana and many other entertainments in 2010. It would remind longer-standing villagers of the big events of the 1970s.

Meanwhile, the following dates for your diary have been pencilled in:

**SUNDAY MAY 17th Plant Fayre plus Open Gardens (under the N.G.Scheme) at Smith's Hall**

**FRIDAY JUNE 19th Cricket Match with Barbecue**

**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 26th Harvest Supper & Quiz (Harvest Festival on the September 27th.)**

In the more immediate future the church has a dual celebration on **Mothering Sunday, March 22nd**. 11am at All Saints and 7.30 pm at the White House. The message for all these events is "participate".

West Farleigh and our neighbouring Parishes have a new Police Community Support Officer, and her name is **Joanne Watts**. So it's farewell to Hannah, who has moved to a new post, and a hearty welcome to Joanne.

These two chaps are new to the village. They are Dexter cattle belonging to David Duce. They can be seen enjoying the plentiful grass along the footpath linking Ewell Lane with Yalding Hill. The breed is famous for its small size and docility, and, as it is of Irish origin, perhaps they are not too put out by the wet weather we are having lately. Late last year there was also a formidable black bull in Paynes' field on Lower Rd— it reminded me of Spain momentarily, but, presumably having done his duty, the bull soon disappeared—before I plucked up courage to take a photograph. Incidentally, David Duce has volunteered to replace two dodgy stiles on the footpath, but as he doesn't own the land his offer has been refused by the authorities (not our own P.C.). -Ed



Next Deadline: February 23rd 2009

Dear Friends,

'Are you going to be ashed?' I recall the moment well when in my first year with the brothers at St. Michael's, Ash Wednesday loomed and the beginning of Lent was heralded by this ancient custom, a tradition unknown to me having come from a very middle of the road Anglican upbringing. I did recall the phrase 'sackcloth and ashes' which I later discovered comes from Daniel chapter 9:

'And I set my face unto the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplications, with fasting, and sackcloth and ashes'

An ancient Hebrew custom thus it was to wear sackcloth dusted with or accompanied by ashes as a sign of humbleness and contrition. No sackcloth at St. Michael's House but plenty of ash.

Many years have passed since those days of discovery and in some churches I too have 'ashed' people – so that those who know not this practice sometimes give a peculiar sideways look to folk emerging from church with that distinctive dirty mark on their foreheads, and wonder if they forgot to look in the bathroom mirror that day. So I guess this year it's a trip to Mary's house and her fireplace which has accumulated much ash from her wood burning over Winter, and collect a container full for the Ash Wednesday service - though in truth the ash is supposed to come from the burnt Palm Crosses of the previous year. It requires a lot of crosses to even make a decent pile of ash – I tried it once and failed. Perhaps this year I will put my little collection of Palm Crosses in Mary's fire.

So Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent and the road towards Holy Week, Good Friday and Easter. I often wonder if people do stick to 'giving things up for Lent'. A brother at St. Michael's would say to us students: 'take on something – don't give something up'. In retrospect it was a sensible suggestion, though I cannot recall now taking on something else, but I do remember how many years ago I gave up sugar in my tea and coffee and have never returned to it since.

Lent is an old Anglo-Saxon word: 'Lencten' meaning 'Spring'. It doesn't feel much like Spring at present, though the snowdrops are starting to edge their way up through the soil in the Rectory garden. It'll be awhile yet. The fog lingers and clings around the village and only a few days ago the Christmas Carol verse seemed so true: 'Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone'.

'Put some more water out for the birds' I'm reminded. It still freezes solid every time, though the bird seeds and nuts are always welcomed by the blackbirds and robins.

So we will make our way to church on Ash Wednesday and, armed with Mary's fireplace offerings, will perform the ancient custom once more as we are reminded of our own need for contrition, knowing that our Heavenly Father is all too willing and ready to give us His forgiveness and blessing.

With prayers as Lent approaches (Ash Wednesday February 25<sup>th</sup>).

**Peter & Diana**

*(Written in the style of 'A word from Wormingford' a weekly column in Church Times)*

#### Carol Services 2008

About 30 adults and 15 children crowded into the traditionally decorated White House pub on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30 pm for what has now become the annual Carol Service. The five Lessons telling the Christmas story were read by pub regulars and their families and all joined in the traditional carols with the first verse of *Once in Royal David's City* being sung by Ellie and of *Silent Night* by Daisy Andrews. The service was led by Hugh Grainger with the church organist, Philip Moore, playing the keyboard. Services were held in the White House when the church was closed for reordering in 2006 and regular services have continued to be held there. The atmosphere was relaxed and the children held lighted Christingles during the singing of *Silent Night*. All were lit and extinguished without mishap despite the enthusiasm of the children!

The second Carol Service was on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 4.00 pm when about 100 people of all ages filled All Saints Church almost to capacity. All window sills and ledges were lit by candles and the service began with a procession of candles carried by children present at the service. The new stage, adapted by Mick Merritt to fit into the chancel arch, meant that everybody could see the band and readers. The church was candle lit while Catherine and Lauren Hunter sang the first verse of *Once in Royal David's City*. Members of village groups including the Parish Council, the Sports Club, Seekers Children's club and the W.I. as well as members of the normal congregation, read the seven Lessons. The East Peckham Silver Band provided lively accompaniment to the carols, with Philip Moore accompanying the children for two of them on the organ. During a band item the children took the Nativity figures to the altar where the stable scene was recreated. After the service everyone enjoyed a glass of wine or fruit juice with a mince pie or two. The band have been booked to play again at next year's Carol Service on 13<sup>th</sup> December, once again at 4.00 pm.

Val Grainger

Here's a welcome to the Kirk family who are living at Chequers Cottage—and soon in the rather elegant conversion of the coach house adjacent. We hope they enjoy their new life in the village!

With increased car park charges in Maidstone expected soon—and charges being imposed quite justifiably on Sundays – the recent improvement in our rail facilities is very welcome (if beautifully timed to chime in with the economic downturn). In particular the car park at East Farleigh is now smooth and welcoming and free. Use is recommended before the cash-strapped railways realise they could impose charges. The improvements have been facilitated by the Community Rail Partnership. We know of one couple who used the railway to get from Yalding as far as Strood just before Christmas, then walked across the bridge to Rochester Cathedral in order to attend one of the carol services there. Green and convenient!

**PARISH COUNCIL. Here are extracts from the (Draft) Minutes of the Council Meeting which took place on Monday 19th January 2009 at All Saints Church**

- **Police Business—New PCSO** Nicola Morris, the PCSO, introduced **Joanne Watts**, the replacement for Hannah Percival who has transferred to another unit, and explained they wanted to maintain a good working relationship with the Parish Council. The Council raised the issues of speeding and HGVs on Teston Bridge and requested any available assistance on these issues. PCSO Joanne Watts reported two crimes since the last meeting, being one incident of theft and one of attempted theft.
- **Charlton Lane – Erosion of Highway**—Members noted the response from Highways regarding the repair to the eroded corner on Charlton Lane, and it was agreed to have a site meeting with Highways to discuss this issue and Teston Lane.
- **Community Centre**—A parishioner expressed concerns about the size of the new centre and expressed his desire to improve the facilities on the current football field rather than use the planned facilities further up the Lane. Following discussion the Council confirmed that parishioners would be consulted on requirements for the new Centre once the land had been secured. It was agreed to appoint Councillors Scott and Morgan as the two Parish Councillors to sign the lease.
- **Play Area Repairs**—Members considered quotations received for the repair to the Play Equipment and resolved to accept the quotation from Park Leisure at £1200.
- **Village Green: Land** – Members discussed the disputed parcel of land adjacent to the triangular section of the village green. Cllr. Merritt had obtained three old Ordnance Survey maps that showed the land as being Village Green. It was agreed to try and register the land accordingly.
- **Village Green: Posts**— The ongoing problem of maintenance of the wooden posts was discussed and it was agreed to replace the wooden posts with concrete ones at the corners of the Village Green.
- **Parking Problems in Charlton Lane** – Following reports of problems on football days with inconsiderate parking, members of the West Farleigh Sports Club attended the meeting. Various points were discussed and the Sports Club assured the Council it would do what it could to alleviate the problems. There followed an explanation of proposals for parking on the cricket field to increase parking for the Church and the club.
- **Litter/ Salt Bins** — Members noted MBC have confirmed the litter bin outside the **Good Intent** will be re-instated; that the litter bin outside **Oliver North House** is the responsibility of SITA; that Highways has provided two new salt bins at the top of Charlton Lane. Members agreed a salt bin is also required at the bottom of Charlton Lane and the Clerk was asked to contact Highways to get Charlton Lane on the gritting schedules.
- **Parish Fete**— Councillor Hards reported the Church had approached the Parish Council regarding a Parish Fete. Members agreed to offer their full support to the event.
- **PLANNING MATTERS Enforcement.** – Members considered the letter from MBC regarding enforcement issues and it was resolved to discuss any Enforcement issues in closed session, that is without members of the press or public in attendance.
- **FINANCE 2009/10 Budget and Parish Precept**— Members noted the Concurrent Functions grant for 2009/10 will be £4500 and discussed a budget paper produced by the clerk and it was agreed to set a Precept of £9500 which will increase the approximate charge for a band D property to £44.29—an increase of £7.68 per annum.  
(There is an increase for all council tax bands of 21% -Ed.)
- **Donations to Voluntary Organisations**— Members considered requests for financial contributions and resolved that a donation of £500 is made to **Evergreens** in recognition of the excellent work the organisation does for the Parish.
- **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** The next full Council Meeting is on Monday 16th March at All Saints Church - All are welcome.



To the right is a picture of the fine new village finger post on the Green, erected in wintry weather by Parish Councillors. The carpentry was the responsibility of Councillor Brian Merritt and saved taxpayers a considerable sum.

Seekers ended 2008 with a very enjoyable carol singing evening round the village. It was a bitterly cold, but amazingly bright moonlit evening and at times Liv thought her lips might be permanently frozen to her instrument. The children and parents who came enjoyed the singing and the giving of cards and chocolates to the residents, and the hot chocolate and mince pies in the church afterwards were very welcome – many thanks to Becky's dad.

The first meeting of 2009 saw us making bird feeders. This followed a request by some residents in Charlton Lane in response to our desire for the children to give something to the community. Thanks to Becky for hours of sawing out in the cold! We welcome any further ideas for community projects for the children.

To celebrate 2009, the Year of the Child, we shall be taking the children to Angelfest, a children's festival being held at Aylesford Priory on 6<sup>th</sup> June, organised by Rochester Diocesan Board of Education, Youth for Christ, Scripture Union and Medway Youth Services.

We are currently planning our end of term service for Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> Feb. at 6.30 pm. We very much hope that this will become a regular family service for the church, and, as with all our services, everyone is very welcome.

New children are always welcome at Seekers - please contact me on 728252

Sue Walsby

## EVERGREENS

The Evergreens enjoyed their Christmas lunch at the Horseshoes. They were made very welcome and there was a good menu to choose from. They went home with gifts of Christmas puddings.

In January we had a very pleasant and sociable afternoon playing a game of Reminiscing!

Our February meeting will be at Sundowner Charlton Lane, the home of Anne and Graeme McNaughton, 2.30 until 4.30 pm.

We have been given a grant by our local borough councillors for which we are very grateful and we will be organising an outing, probably to see a London show. If you are retired you are welcome to come along and join us.

Ring Terry Ayears 814561 for more information or a lift.

Helen Swan

## CRIME WARNING—Theft of Heating Oil.

One of the incidents reported by the PCSOs was of an attempted fuel theft from a central heating oil tank. The national press too reported a big increase in this crime because of the value of oil fuel recently (though it has now fallen). While it is hard to recommend particular action—chaining up valves might lead to violence by the thieves and consequent spillage—householders with oil tanks are advised to be as vigilant as possible. -Ed

### 'Known Unto God'

All day Coffee Morning at 23 Bensted Close Hunton  
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Thursday 12th February and Tuesday 10th March

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For more information please contact :Kay Mason on:  
07921122802 or 01622 820488 - email: Kaysey61@yahoo.com

### Churches Together in Maidstone

Forum Meeting on **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February**  
7.30 pm for 7.45 pm

**"Drink, Drugs and Jesus"**

**40 years of the KENWARD TRUST**

Talk by Tony Williams and others on the Trust's work and  
vision at the Salvation Army, Union St. Maidstone

## FIVE PARISHES MENS GROUP

A Happy New Year to you all. Just to let you know our plans for 2009. Our first two meetings this year are:

**Friday January 30<sup>th</sup>** Kick Start - Programme discussion and social evening

7.30 for 8 pm until 9 30 pm at the Function Room **The Bull Pub, Lower Road, East Farleigh.**

**Saturday February 21<sup>st</sup>** Mens breakfast at **The Ridge Golf Club, East Sutton** 8 am to 10 am with guest speaker -

Please note that date and invite your friends/neighbours

[http://www.theridgegolfclub.co.uk/location\\_and\\_directions.html](http://www.theridgegolfclub.co.uk/location_and_directions.html)

Further details of this year's proposed programme will be available at our meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup> January. If you need any more information or require help with transport then please let me or Jonathan know.

Mike Marsh Jonathan Barnes (organisers)

Tel 01622 745702 or 07734 336339

**West Farleigh****All Saints, Church Lane**

1st February	8.00 am	Holy Communion
8th February	11.00 am	Morning Prayer
15th February	9.30 am	Holy Communion
22nd February	11.00 am	Matins (modern)
Ash Wednesday		
25th February	7.30 pm	Holy Communion for the Benefice

**East Farleigh**

1st February	9.30 am	Holy Communion
8th February	8.00 am	Holy Communion
	11.00 am	Family Service
15th February	9.30 am	Holy Communion
22nd February	8.00 am	Holy Communion
	9.30 am	Matins

**Hunton**

1st February	11.00 am	Family Service
8th February	9.30 am	Holy Communion
15th February	11.00 am	Morning Prayer
22nd February	9.30 am	Holy Communion

**Coxheath**

1st February	11.00 am	Holy Communion
8th February	9.30 am.	Morning Prayer
15th February	11.00 am	Holy Communion
22nd February	11.00 am	Family Service

**Linton**

1st February	9.30 am	Holy Communion
8th February	9.30 am	Holy Communion
15th February	8.00 am	Holy Communion
	11.00 am	Family Service
22nd February	9.30 am	Holy Communion

**Clergy Contact Numbers:**

Contact Peter Walker for Baptisms, Thanksgivings, Weddings and Funerals

Rev. Peter Walker at the Rectory 01622 747570

Rev. David Jones 01622 741474

**N.B. Peter's day off is Monday; David's is Friday.**

It's not often that the old Jacobite toast to the mole can be heard nowadays—after all it's 300 years since King William's horse tripped on a molehill leading to the monarch's death. But molehills still do get cursed for their unsightliness or for the inconvenience they pose to mowing machinery. What then of the seldom seen but almost ubiquitous little insectivore which causes the trouble?

It is some years since I saw a live one, though I have recently seen soil moving at the top of a molehill as the industrious creature shovels it up. Instead, most summers I find dead ones on the tracks in Quarry Wood, for it seems to be at that season that the young mole wanders out in search of adventure (and a new home) and often finds it too much. They are said to be unpalatable to many predators, which may account for their bodies being left to lie. Their skin is famously smooth and velvety and used to be sewn—by the dozens—into moleskin trousers which were so hard-wearing that they are recorded by such writers as D.H. Lawrence as the daily work-wear of miners. The fur is very short and lies in any direction which accounts for its attractiveness as a "fabric". Moles are perhaps even more at home in woodlands than in fields, although their molehills are there less obvious. In frosty weather they dig deeper, which means that more molehills, being the spoil of their new tunnels, appear. Clearly any creature which can mound up earth on the scale a mole achieves is immensely strong in relation to its 100 gram weight, and the front paws are built like great clawed paddles to suit their task. Once I saw a live mole emerge from the side of a wide flooded ditch. Without hesitation, it swam swiftly and powerfully across the water and tunnelled into the opposite bank, oblivious to my presence.

Moles are not slow and staid in their underground movements. Rather they hurry along their network of tunnels searching for food. Indeed, their tunnels are not hiding places, but a vast trap into which their main food, earthworms, tumbles, along with beetles and other bugs. Sensitive to the vibrations and noise caused by a worm which accidentally emerges into the space of a tunnel, the mole hurries round to kill and eat it. Thus moles kill the beneficial worms, but themselves move tons of soil, aerating it and adding to its fertility. Moreover, it is more likely that worms control mole numbers through their availability as food than that they are controlled by moles. © Tim Hill

**Michael Charles Pisani Baines 1927–2008 R. I.P.**

Michael (Mike) Baines lived in West Farleigh from 1967 to the mid 1980s, becoming very much a local figure. With his wife he kept the village shop—now Rose Cottage—from 1967-74. He was Chairman of the Sports Club and was extremely well known about the village, as his family still is today. Educated at Christ's Hospital, he joined the army at the end of World War II, and served in Egypt and Palestine. He converted to Roman Catholicism around this time. After the army he turned to agriculture, living here in West Farleigh and raising, with Eileen, three boys. As he had been a scrum half and wicket-keeper batsman (and much later an umpire with fading eyesight!), there was no chance of his not making sport a major part of their lives too. He also became manager of the Unigate Dairy in Headcorn, growing vegetables and looking after his neighbours in his spare time. He is remembered by many as an all-round good egg, gentlemanly, hard-working and involved. He "always had a smile for those who passed his way." We extend our sympathy to his family.

(A Memorial Service was held in All Saints on January 6th last, and this note is based on the homily by Paul Baines delivered then)

The weather has been causing a few problems with fixtures, and the players have braved some freezing conditions.



The u8's have played three games since the start of December. The team are working well together, developing some good skills. All show great commitment and all players are contributing to the team. In the last three games they have scored 9 goals and conceded 3.

The u9's have played just two games in the last two months and unfortunately lost 3-0 in both games.

The u10's have been the busiest, playing 5 matches resulting in 2 wins, 1 draw and 1 defeat in the league, and losing their cup game against Rye Bay.

The club is still looking for new players for the development squad and u7's. If you know of any children in class R, 1 and 2 who want to play football please contact Ian Wratten on 01622 746138.

### Farleighs History Society

The Farleighs' History Society have four talks arranged for 2009, with the first being on **Thursday March 12th**. This will be at the Bull, Lower Road, East Farleigh at 7.30 pm. Graham Johnson will be giving the second part of his illustrated talk on the Medway - 'From Teston to the Thames Estuary'. Members enjoyed his talk last year "From the Source of the Medway to Teston", and he has agreed to return this year to complete the final part of the journey.

The dates for our other meetings are

**Thursday 4th June** when Lee Ault will give a talk on 'Ration Fashion' with clothes and accessories of the 1940's  
**Thursday 10th September** 'Cornells of Maidstone 1796 - 2008' a talk by David Taylor

**Thursday 3rd December** 'The Medway's Maritime History', a talk by Clive Powell with Christmas Quiz and Social. As our visit to Boughton Monchelsea Place in 2008 was so enjoyable, we are arranging a summer visit this year to a local place of interest and details of this will be given nearer the time.

Entry remains the same at £2.50 on the door and annual membership £8.00 with everyone welcome.

I thought it might be helpful to have details for the whole year so that you will be able to plan ahead. Any queries, please contact me by e mail ([jenniferfinch@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jenniferfinch@hotmail.co.uk)) or on 01622 726312

Jennifer Finch

### 2009 The Farleighs WI 90th Birthday Celebrations

A foggy evening did not deter Farleighs WI members from turning up for the New Year meeting and enjoying a social get-together.

President Helen Swan outlined a busy year with celebrations including a concert party on 8th July in Edwardian dress and a river cruise on the Kentish Lady on 17th July.

Choir practices will soon resume following the successful debut of the choir at the carol service under the leadership of Lynne Seeley.

A Dabble Day at which several crafts will be taught, a guided bird walk, a Burns Night Supper, a quiz night, not forgetting fortnightly walks, art classes, line dancing —there is something for everyone!

Linda Whiffen, a Voluntary Service Organiser will be the speaker on 11th February at 7.30 p.m. in The Farleighs WI Hall. Visitors and new members will be welcome.

Pam Clark Maidstone 726919

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**FOOTBALL** : Games have been at a premium last month with only a handful of matches played, falling foul of the weather. Our 1st XI played just two games but with contrasting results. First we visited top of the table Wateringbury. After soaking up early pressure and with new signing keeper Ashley Brooker in fine form it was going to be our day, running out 6-1 winners—probably our best performance to date. Our next match was probably our worst! Travelling to lowly Eccles Reserves, although we arrived we never turned up! We went down 8-2!

Our 2nd XI are playing some good stuff at the moment but not getting the results they deserve. We lost 5-1 to The Risers in the cup but the game was a lot closer than the result suggests. Next came Thurnham in a tight encounter. It could have gone either way but ended up a 2-2 draw. Finally it was top of the table Regal and if you blinked you would have missed the first goal timed at 35 seconds—unfortunately it was against us! After that shocking start Farleigh rallied and were unlucky not to score, eventually losing 2-0, with their second goal coming 10 minutes before full time.

**CRICKET** : Our net practice begins on Monday 8th February 7- 8 pm at Sutton Valance school. Anyone would be more than welcome. Our A.G.M. will be on Thursday 12th February at All Saints Church West Farleigh, once again the more the merrier—8 pm start.

**CLUB NEWS** : Many thanks to all those who supported our Christmas raffle; it was one of our best for many years. (Sorry if you weren't a winner!) Also *Tel's Trees* (Xmas) went well. Here's hoping your needles didn't drop! ...and in hope of seeing you next year.

Yours in sport

**Tel** 01622 745744

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#### **Ton up Club Winners December**

1st prize -£25 Tel Baines

2nd prize- £15 Vivian Jones

3rd prize -£10 Colin Shorter

#### **Christmas Bonus**

£50 Ellie Bernhardt

£30 Roy Malthouse

£20 Peter Baggott

#### **January winners**

1st prize - £25 Ian Prideaux

2nd prize -£15 Brenda Day

3rd prize £10 Brian Aiston

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#### **White House News**

Last year was a very busy one at the White House with many different events taking place and lots of money being raised for Age Concern and to provide Christmas hampers for local senior citizens. Activities included a sumptuous paella feast on our Spanish evening, a challenging quiz, a sponsored walk, a bit of culture with our Art Exhibition and our famous meat raffle. In all, these events raised the incredible sum of £2217.10 for the charity. Music nights, such as the brilliant Annie Love with her "War Birds" theme in November and The Booze Brothers on Christmas Eve (when the pub was packed, raising the terrific sum of £220 for the Old Folk) also made it a successful year.

Looking ahead, we will be seeing Annie Love again in the summer and our quizzes and walks are being planned as this goes to print. Mustn't forget to mention that West Farleigh Church is holding a special Mothering Sunday service on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March at 7.30 pm.. The first May bank holiday will see our regular spring plant sale with lots of wonderful garden bargains.

We are particularly pleased to be the home of The White House Ladies darts team and host an impressive four Petanque teams. We are grateful for the continued support of our regulars and look forward to seeing new faces and making new friends in the months ahead.

Jan Morris and the White House Team

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#### **Church Carol Singing**

**£100.00 was raised for Demelza House Children's Hospice** when a dozen or more people from All Saints Church went carol singing round the local pubs on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December. Customers joined in the singing, with particularly good volume at the Walnut Tree, East Farleigh where West Farleigh Sports Club was holding its annual Christmas meeting. This brought the total collected for charity in the Christmas period to just under £300.00 as £185.00 was raised at the two Carol Services when the offertories were shared between Demelza House and Leukaemia Research.

Val Grainger

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**The Bulky Refuse Freighter** will next be by the Green on 21st February, from 9.30 – 11.00 a.m.

We understand that the frequency of freighter visits is to be reduced as an economy measure.

Ed.