

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

West Farleigh's own

# LIFE-LINE

Editors: Tim & Christine Hill and Emily Hunter.

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"Surely a leash or a restraint can sometimes be a life-line." -Anon 2015.

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Illustration of All Saints' after Harold Harbour.

## Speed Limits on the B2010 through the Farleighs

The Kent Highways Department has advised Roy Plommer (who headed the campaign for lower limits) that the planning has been done, the measurements have been taken and soon all will be ready for the erection of 30 and 40 mph signs along Lower Road. The official notice of the new measures is expected to be posted in about two weeks. (See also the Minutes of the Annual Village Meeting on page 4).

## Friends organise events in aid of All Saints Church.

The regular concert by the acclaimed **Dr Jazz** combo and the **Annual Plant Sale** each added to the life of the village when they were held during the early days of June. They successfully raised impressive similar sums for All Saints—£348 and £365 respectively. Many thanks to the Friends and all who helped by selling tickets, arranging refreshments, manning stands, and indeed allowing the Plant Sale to attach itself to the main event at Smith's Hall

*"If you go down to the woods today,*

*You'd better go in disguise.....*

*Today's the day the teddy bears have  
their picnic!"*

For "woods" read "church", for the next teddy bears' picnic is at **All Saints on Sunday July 12th from 3 till 5 pm.**

All the best teddy bear owners are sure to be there!

There will be prizes for the best dressed teddies (and perhaps for the best disguise?) Bring your own picnic. Fun and games for all the family. Come and join in the excitement!

For more information contact Becky Parnham on 07949 646565 or [beckythecat@btopenworld.com](mailto:beckythecat@btopenworld.com).

Becky is also the lead for the proposed Toddler Group which is scheduled for Friday Afternoons, starting on September 11th 2015.

*P.S This practically life-size ted was pictured at the Demelza charity shop in Maidstone. It is being sold by the charity to the highest bid. Some lucky (and strong) child may get to lift this monster. Eds*



Deadline for August Life-Line is July 26th 2015

This month's pastoral letter comes from Judith Barnes, Pastoral Assistant

### Abide with Me

Watching the FA Cup Final, I was struck by the enthusiasm of that huge crowd as they joined the 'fans choir' to sing 'Abide With Me.' It is the favourite hymn of Queen Elizabeth, it has been sung on sinking ships, at major sporting events and at the passing of loved ones. Hymns are a powerful way to draw near to God, and I began to wonder what the story was behind this great hymn and why it continues to be so popular. The hymn was written by Henry Francis Lyte 1793-1847. He, with his wife Ann, was a faithful pastor in Brixham in Devon. He worked tirelessly ministering to his parish, caring for his family and writing poems and hymns, including 'Praise my Soul the King of Heaven'. In 1844 he was diagnosed with TB and his health began to decline. On September 4th 1847 he gave his farewell message in his church, went for a walk along the beach, then retired to his study and penned 'Abide With Me.' A few days later he died and his last words were *Joy and Peace*. The music was composed by William Monk, Choir Master at York Minster, and was played at the memorial service. As He often does, God took a sad ending of a life and made something of lasting worth.

The opening words of the hymn were taken from the story of the Emmaus road at the end of Luke's gospel. That first Sunday morning, following Jesus' crucifixion, two disciples were walking home. They had heard reports from the women of an empty tomb, but could not believe it. The risen Lord Jesus joined them on the road, but because of their grief and despair they did not recognise Him. He spoke to them on the way, and comforted them, and when they arrived home, they asked Him simply, 'stay with us', or as it is put in the old version, 'abide with us'. It was only then that they recognised Him.

Maybe you are going through a tough time right now. Try giving Jesus the invitation to walk the road with you, and stay with you. Perhaps you could use the words of this great hymn as your prayer.

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;  
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide;  
When other helpers fail, and comforts flee,  
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

I need thy presence every passing hour;  
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's power?  
Who like Thyself my guide and stay can be?  
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.

I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless;  
Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness;  
Where is death's sting? Where grave, thy victory?  
I triumph still, if Thou abide with me.

Judith Barnes

**Send us your Billions?** The news that the Houses of Parliament need funds for essential repairs in a range from £3 to £7 billion (depending on how the programme is organised) came as a surprise. How can £6,000,000,000 (say) really be needed? And yet this figure represents just 10,000 people, on the "coal face" and in the backroom, at £60,000 p.a., working on a vast project for 10 years. Big numbers these are, but, given that all the on-costs of employment have to be taken into account (and an allowance made for materials), it can be seen that the frightening figure is not baseless. Moreover, who would say that the visible manifestation of the British constitution is not worth preserving?

Think laterally, though, and note that the dear old Church of England maintains umpteen cathedrals and about 18,000 parish churches. 13,000 of these are medieval, along with nearly all the cathedrals, and so are probably five times as ancient on average as the merely Victorian Houses of Parliament. How on earth does the church manage it? Some help comes from the government, through English Heritage, but the conjuring up of the vast funds required to keep these buildings standing defies explanation, by me at any rate. Maybe essential repairs are not actually being carried out, or perhaps the church achieves better value repairs than the government can. The funds cannot all come from the pockets of the increasingly meagre congregations, can they? We do need to preserve these "icons" of our civilisation, so give support when you can. After all, these buildings are not just concentrated in London as parliament is.....

T.H.

THE **BIG** DIOCESAN DAY OUT.

SUNDAY 19th JULY 2015 1 –7 PM

The Rochester Diocese has organised a fun day out for all the church family. It's at Leybourne Castle and has loads of activities and attractions. For the more serious-minded there will be an address by the Dean of Jerusalem. You need to take a little money (for an entry donation) and to buy a burger at the BBQ, and it's recommended you take a chair! We also suggest you make a booking (with sarahcabella@rochester.anglican.org or 01634 560024) and that you get directions, for Leybourne Castle is tucked away and difficult to find. **Singers are required for a special choir** which will sing on the occasion. All voices (and ages) are welcome. For further details please contact the Revd Dylan Turner – dylan.turner@cantab.net or the Revd Alison Letschka—acletschka@yahoo.co.uk We understand an across-the-diocese choir has never been formed before, so it should be an interesting experience. The first rehearsal is 30th June, so hurry!

## FireWorks

Anyone who has been in town recently may have been surprised to see scaffolding erected around The Works, or what is left of it. This is due to a fire which engulfed the building in the early hours of Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June and left a crumbling wreck in its place a few hours later. Ironically, the fire was spotted by passing firefighters who had responded to several car fires in Buckland and Somerfield Road just before. In total, it took 90 firefighters to tackle the blaze that brought the bookshop to the ground.

It was concluded that the fire was suspicious and therefore, the police began to search for the arsonist. The suspect, Adam Stajer, has been remanded in custody, and will remain there until a hearing on July 3 at Maidstone Crown Court.

Now begins the long and arduous process of reconstructing not just The Works, but the surrounding shops such as Thomson and Hotter, who were also damaged during the fire. Crimes like this seem so pointless, but I suppose we should thank our lucky stars that no one was injured.

The Works is going to be shut down for a fair amount of time. Therefore, if you are looking for cut price books, I would suggest going online as being your best bet.



## On a Lighter Note...

Anyone passing the corner of Woodville Road and Upper Stone Street may have seen the newly constructed "Fridgehenge". The structure was built by two colleagues; Kevin Wildeman and Paul Stone, and around 20 people actually celebrated the Summer Solstice there this year. It may not have the historical significance of the real thing, but it has certainly grabbed everyone's attention.

## A Younger Perspective...

Due to the fact that I have three beautiful black Labradors myself, the issue I am about to discuss really disgusts me. The Yulin Dog Meat Festival is an annual occurrence in China and is a barbaric and cruel event, which capitalises on the torture and murder of thousands of dogs. These dogs are strays taken off the street and others are kidnapped from people's homes. Without going into too much detail for fear of being too graphic, these dogs are subjected to incredible amounts of pain, before they are served up to waiting customers on a plate. There is no way we would allow this to happen in our country, so why is it happening over there? Why is no one standing up to these people? The simple answer to this question is that they are standing up to them, but nothing is happening. Despite the international outcry about the festival, the local government in Yulin say that they cannot stop the businesses from preparing the meat, going as far as to say that the businesses were "legitimate". In fact, it has been reported that business is only getting better for the meat traders as the controversy continues.

Celebrities such as Leona Lewis and Ricky Gervais have denounced the festival, and Ian Somerhalder has even used his Facebook page to encourage his fans to donate to the cause. This money would help local groups to intercept trucks crammed with dogs headed to slaughter and shut down intensive dog meat farms among so much more. In addition to this, a petition has been created which has already been signed by over three million people who want the festival to be stopped. I have included a link to the petition at the bottom and I would be so grateful if you could spare the time to sign it. Just type it into your web browser and it will take two minutes!

I know a lot of people in this village have dogs, and can therefore understand the heartbreak that many citizens of Yulin and the surrounding area are experiencing due to the abduction of their pets. However, even if you don't own a dog, anyone could understand that what is happening there is wrong and needs to be stopped.

<https://t.co/Q7u12toNOG>

Emily Hunter



## WEST FARLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL:

Here are extracts from the draft minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 18th May at The Good Intent, West Farleigh

**PRESENT:** Cllrs B Scott (Chairman), Cllrs B Merritt, G Martin, L Johnson, H Swan, C Stockwell, County Cllr P Stockall (from 7.20 pm), Borough Cllr R Webb and Mrs A Broadhurst, Clerk Plus: Five parishioners were present.

Cllr Scott announced that Julie King had resigned from the Parish Council and thanked her for the work she had completed whilst being a councillor. Julie is to continue as representative for Village Charities on behalf of the Parish Council.

**Election of Officers: Chairman:** Cllr Scott was nominated by Cllr Stockwell and seconded by Cllr Martin. There being no other nominations and all Members being in agreement, Cllr Scott was duly elected as Chairman for the forthcoming year and completed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office. Cllr Merritt was duly elected **Vice Chairman** for the forthcoming year.

**HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATH MATTERS:** Cllr Scott reported that the yellow lines required on Teston Lane have now been completed. Cllr Martin reported that the hedge along Smiths Hill has still not been cut. The Clerk offered to chase this outstanding job. Cllr Merritt raised concerns at the amount of HGV lorries which are travelling along Smiths Hill toward Coxheath, especially around 7 o'clock in the morning. There was a brief discussion relating to the lorry watch scheme in Yalding and Cllr Stockwell offered to bring this up as an item at the next KALC meeting. It was also noted that there are two large potholes heading towards the Thatched House.

**Footpath KM21** Cllr Martin reported that both the gate and stile have now been delivered and it was agreed that the Parish Council will arrange a working party to install them as soon as possible

**Borough Councillor Report:** Cllr Richard Webb reported on the new makeup of the Borough Council, following the recent elections, adding that the Annual Meeting is to be held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> May when a new Mayor will be chosen. Cllr Swan reported that the hedges by Dawson Cottages have now been cut back.

Cllr Stockwell reported on a bin on the green which is unsightly. After brief discussion, the Clerk offered to contact MBC to see whether they can replace the bin or repair the current one.

Cllr Merritt reported that a new tree has now been planted on the green; it is a Filbert nut tree. Cllr Merritt raised concerns with an Oak tree on the green as it is half dead and needs to be removed. After brief discussion it was proposed by Cllr Merritt to obtain quotes from a tree surgeon. Cllr Merritt reported that he has now repaired the bench by Smiths Hill

Cllr Martin reported on the recent Planning Committee meeting where Warnhams Farm had been discussed. Many of the facts included in the report from the Planning Officer were incorrect and the view of the Planning Committee was that the application should be approved at the next meeting, after further information is obtained.

**Clerk's Reports** The Clerk reported that the end of year audit had been completed with no issues found. The Clerk also reported on an email which had been received from a resident who would like to have a bench or tree in memory of her husband. After brief discussion Councillors agreed that the tree which will replace the Oak on the Green could be suitable.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** The next full Council meeting will now be held on the altered date of **Monday 13th July 2015 at 7.30 pm at The Good Intent.**

Here are extracts from the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting which followed on the above meeting.

**INTRODUCTION BY CHAIRMAN:** Cllr Scott welcomed all present. Eight more parishioners had joined the meeting. He went on to explain that a booklet was available which contained the Parish Council's and Village Organisation's reports.

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD on 19<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2014:** These were proposed as accurate by Cllr Stockwell, seconded by Cllr Martin; with all in favour. The Chairman signed the official copy of the Minutes.

**GUEST SPEAKER – TESSA O'SULLIVAN FROM ACTION WITH COMMUNITIES IN RURAL KENT (ACRK)** Tessa O'Sullivan spoke about how ACRK can assist villages with looking into Local Needs Housing. She explained the process which included completing a village-wide survey in the first instance. The housing would be for people with a local connection and, if a need was identified, any development would usually contain 6-8 housings. Any housing development properties could not be sold on the open housing market. An exceptional site is found for the development, usually agricultural land which would not receive planning permission for any building. Another option was a Community Land Trust and Tessa stated that she may be arranging a county-wide meeting on this topic, which the Parish Council would be welcome to attend. Afterwards, there was a general discussion regarding Local Needs Housing, with Chart Sutton & Sutton Valence being highlighted as having had these properties built. County Cllr Stockwell suggested that the Parish Council speak to both Parishes to see if they had been straightforward to set up or whether they had encountered any problems. Tessa O'Sullivan informed the Councillors that she had a link to a short video which explained about Local Needs Housing and it was agreed that this would be circulated to Councillors. The Clerk reminded all Councillors that, at the March meeting, they had agreed to decide whether to join ACRK as a member to progress with a Local Housing Needs Survey. The annual subscription was £35.00. It was proposed by Cllr Stockwell to join and this was seconded by Cllr Swan, with all in favour.

**COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT – County Councillor Stockell** had circulated a report for the Annual Meeting and spoke briefly on some of the main points. These included: The challenges seen with trying to reduce the spending budgets, with £300 million saved over the past three years and a further £250 m to be saved over the next three. Whilst making the necessary savings, KCC have managed to protect front line services, the new 16+ student pass, members' grants for local projects, and saved the Community Warden service. KCC received £8 million from the Ministry of Transport following the devastating floods the previous year and also to repair the potholes around the County. Children Services have been a top priority, following a poor Ofsted report three years ago, with huge improvements being seen since then.

County Cllr Stockell reported that the speed limit reduction scheme in West Farleigh is now on the system and that she has part-funded the project. Cllr Scott thanked County Cllr Stockell for all her assistance over the past year.

**BOROUGH COUNCILLOR REPORT – Borough Cllr Webb** introduced himself as a new Borough Councillor, following the recent elections. He reported on the new makeup of the Borough Council, adding that the Annual Meeting is to be held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> May when a new Mayor will be chosen.

### VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS' REPORTS

Cllr Scott reminded all present that a booklet had been produced with reports from the village organisations for residents to take away with them to read. The formal part of the meeting concluded at 9.10 pm followed by refreshments.

*We add an illustration of Cllr. Merritt's Filbert tree (right) See page 8 for a note on the new Mayor. -Eds*



## Church Services

### West Farleigh All Saints, Church Lane

July 5th	8.00 a.m.	Holy Communion Rev. Eileen Doyle
July 12th	11.00 a.m.	Morning Prayer (mod.) David Barnes
July 19th	9.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer (trad.) Rev. Peter Callway
July 26th	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion (mod.) Rev. Eileen Doyle

### East Farleigh

July 5th	9.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer
July 12th	8.00 a.m.	Holy Communion
	11.00 a.m.	Family Service
July 19th	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
July 26th	8.00 a.m.	Holy Communion

### Hunton

July 5th	11.00 a.m.	Family Service
July 12th	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
July 19th	11.00 a.m.	Morning Prayer
July 26th	11.00 a.m.	Holy Communion

### Coxheath

July 5th	11.00 a.m.	Holy Communion
July 12th	11.00 a.m.	Morning Prayer
July 19th	11.00 a.m.	Holy Communion
July 26th	11.00 a.m.	Family Service

### Linton

July 5th	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
July 12th	9.30 a.m.	Family Service
July 19th	8.00 a.m.	Holy Communion
July 26th	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion

### Clergy Contact Numbers:

Rev. Peter Callway 01622 747570

Contact Rev. Callway for Baptisms, Thanksgivings, Weddings and Funerals. N.B. Peter's day off is Friday.

Peter's email address is: peter@callways.co.uk

### Self Supporting Ministers:

Rev. David Jones 01622 741474

Rev. Eileen Doyle 01622 204241

Children's & Families' Worker Becky Parnham 07949 646865

**East Farleigh has a Compline Service on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 6.45 pm. i.e. July 7th next.**

All Saints was pleased to welcome the ladies of West Malling's Baptist Oasis group when they paid a visit to the church on Monday 22nd June.

### Nature Notes: A Farewell to Local Surveying

For the last eleven years I have, each spring, made two trips to the east of Leeds Castle to count the birds. It has been a contribution to the British Trust for Ornithology's breeding bird survey. I have been feeling a little bit nostalgic about it on the assumption that I will not be doing it again, as we plan to move away from Kent. The nostalgia is not just a matter of that, however, but more a lament for some of the birds that were present in numbers even ten years ago, but are not there, or are much scarcer, now.

The survey involves a double-crossing of what's called a "tetrad" - a one kilometre square, as conveniently marked on the O.S. map. The one on the Leeds estate is a varied and interesting square, with lots of pasture, plenty of woodland, most of which is mature coniferous plantation (but leavened with deciduous copses and numerous hedgerow trees) some carefully farmed arable land, and, perhaps most significantly, the infant river Len meandering across it, at times swelling out into swampy ponds. These have lately become invaded by alder and willow trees so that they have become almost like an English mangrove swamp. Thus the first change in the birdlife to mention is that the waterfowl that used to live there — Mute Swan, Canada Goose, Tufted Duck, Shelduck and most of the Mallard, have gone. That many of these had come in the first place from the wildfowl collection at the castle itself—a mile to the west—and that the estate was kept, did not bother me on the count. On the other hand, the overgrown ponds appeal greatly to the exotic Mandarin Duck, which continues to thrive there.

A glance over the records of a decade or so ago gives a list of birds of the countryside in general that have now disappeared, or become so rare that they no longer figure in the count. Cuckoo (always easy to detect if it's about) Grey Partridge, Turtle Dove, Willow Warbler, House Martin, Linnet—all have not been found in the last 5 or more years. Fortunately, some of these losses have been balanced by gains, most obviously among the raptors, with the Buzzard now easy to find, and the Sparrowhawk more common than when the estate was kept. The Stock Dove is much increased, and, of late, the Yellowhammer has made a welcome return to the best kept hedgerow.

It almost goes without saying that some of my fondest memories have been of the surprises: something unusual turns up most years. One morning I watched a small flock of finch-type birds fly across and settle in the pine plantation. Closer examination showed them to be Crossbills, dangling from the cones left from the previous year. Then, in two recent years Kingfishers have flashed up and down the Len. No doubt they are around for most of the year, but seeing them on a survey is always a chancy business. Finally, on our very latest trip, we stumbled upon a magnificent Marsh Orchid, never seen before, in the increasingly neglected—that is to say less grazed—pasture. Its rich purple spike managed to tower above the grass. Who is to say what my successor, as surveyor, will find there? ©Tim Hill



### The Farleigh's W.I. News and Events: Diane Scott writes:

This month has been extremely busy for our members. Margaret Perkins and Helen Swan attended the Centenary Garden Party at Buckingham Palace and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Twenty four members attended the live broadcast at the Great Danes Hotel in Maidstone for the Centenary A.G.M. at the Albert Hall. With over 200 local W.I. members singing, along with the Queen, Princess Anne and the Countess of Wessex, this was a truly special occasion. Our June speaker Anna Astie gave us an interesting talk on World War II from a woman's perspective. Propaganda, Hygiene and Health - we all came away better informed. Broadstairs Dickens festival is our yearly 'bucket and spade' trip - enjoyed by all.

We are busy planning for the refreshment stall at East Farleigh Village Fete on 27th June - lets hope the weather is fine. If you would like to see what else happens at The Farleighs W.I. come along as a guest for the evening. You do not have to be able to bake, sing, dance or craft, but if you want to socialise, make new friends and learn something new please come and join us.

The WI meets every 2nd Wednesday at 7pm at the WI hall in Forge Lane, East Farleigh. If you would like more information about any of the above, please contact me, Diane Scott 01622 814476. D.S.

**Beacon Men** Our event on **Saturday July 4th** is a Life Discovery Action Day at a Surrey based outdoor activity centre at Broadbridge Heath near Horsham. This will be an all day event.

*What is it?* A day of action -packed activities, food followed by evening meal and a talk. Activities include Quad Biking, Karting, 4x4 Jeeps, Dirt buggies, kayaking and jet ski experience.

*What does it cost?* For Beacon Men the suggested cost is £38 per person. This includes all activities, safety brief, lunch, dinner and refreshments. Really good value. Transport will arranged in cars when numbers are finalised. Hurry, as places have been going fast. Subsidies can be available for any guests you bring. Please consider inviting your mates. Full information about Life Discovery is on the web site.

To secure a place for the event please let Mike Marsh have a £20 deposit ( cheques payable to Beacon Men) as soon as possible. [mhmarsh73@btinternet.com](mailto:mhmarsh73@btinternet.com) 07595 428639 88 Stockett Lane, Coxheath ME17 4PY *Are you up for it?* Mike Marsh

**EVERGREENS** In June we held a Games Day at home on our regular date (2nd Tuesday of the month) but no less than 26 of us went "away" by coach on Thursday 18th. Our destination was Crowborough, where we were the guests of Crowborough Darby & Joan Club. We were royally entertained by them and by the Brick Lane Music Hall, who gave us an hour and a half of unadulterated and (perhaps) nostalgic fun. On the way back we called at Nottcutts, Pembury, for tea and perhaps a bit of shopping. It was a splendid day out that was enjoyed by all. Contact Terry (814561) if you would like to join us at any of our gatherings. Lifts can be arranged. Terry.Ayears.



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([tim\\_and\\_chris@btinternet.com](mailto:tim_and_chris@btinternet.com)) for further information.

Life-Line is delivered by volunteers. If you would like to make a contribution in this way, please contact the editors. We are looking for reserve distributors, and someone to take on the small round in Hunt Street would be welcomed in particular.



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## Sports Report :

**Football:** Not much football is being played at the moment and the only news is that our 1st XI have been elected to the county league next season. Let's hope this will be a new and exciting beginning for our club. Meanwhile our 2nd XI remains in the Maidstone league.

Also next month on 24th- 27th July we welcome our friends from Ringstedt for their bi-annual tour. Hopefully we have the necessary itinerary arranged to have another successful and enjoyable weekend.

**Cricket:** We have had a fantastic start to the season in our new league and I am pleased to report on another successful month.. However it did not begin well. We lost our first game of the season away to Withyham, but three consecutive victories have left Farleigh top of the league. These wins came against Horsmonden, Cudham Wyse and Hadlow. It is still early days, but this is a very encouraging start. We have had two friendlies against East Sutton and the Mote, which we lost, but these were very close games.

Yours in sport

Tel (815267)

I have a Welsh Dresser looking for a good home. If you are interested - no charge! and I can deliver within reason.

Please get in touch.

**Club News:** This month our lucky Ton-up winners were

£30 Rosy Crouch

£20 Alan Godfrey

£10 Katie Smith

## Dandelion Time

### Brush up your Shakespeare .....

Dandelion Time is pleased to be hosting **The Changeling Theatre** on its lawns at *Elmscroft*, Charlton Lane, again this year on Sunday July 19th. The play is **"The Two Gentlemen of Verona"**. Tickets are £19 per adult and £10 for children under 16, and are available from 01622 814001. You are recommended to bring your own chair and rug. Food will be available from the barbecue and drinks from the bar. Enjoy a cultural evening and support this West Farleigh based charity. Gates open at 4 p.m. and the performance begins at 5 p.m.



Anyes

**The New Mayor of Maidstone**, elected on May 23rd, is **Cllr. Daniel Moriarty**, who was born in Maidstone of Irish extraction. For a West Farleigh connection, look no further than the fact that aged 15 he started work at **Balston's** Springfield Mill and stayed in the industry for 35 years. His niece Shirley will be the borough's Mayoress during her uncle's period of office.

## Gardens Open: each of these is open for charity

**Smith's Hall** again opens its garden under the N.G.S. on Sunday **July 5th**, from 11 to 5 pm. It is hoped that the weather will be better than on last the occasion in June and that record numbers will attend to enjoy this fine garden.

**Heart of Kent Hospice.** On Saturday **July 11th** the hospice is opening its own garden at Preston Hall Aylesford from 10—4 pm. Suggested donation for entrance is £4. Development work is going on nearby and perhaps this opening will afford an opportunity for a look at what's going on.

**Heart of Kent Hospice :** The hospice is also running a **Childrens' Supper Club - Every Friday 4 -6 pm.** in the Heart of Flavour Café Bar, 13 King Street, Maidstone ME14 1BA

Why not treat the kids to a three course meal and receive a free glass of wine for mum or dad (because you deserve it!) The cost with wine (or any alternative drink) is £6.50 or £5.50 without free drink. All proceeds to Heart of Kent Hospice.

Dorothy Gorman

## East Farleigh Farmers' Market .

The next East Farleigh Farmers' Market will be held on Sunday 5th July from 10 am to 1 pm in the Old School Hall and Car Park, Lower Road. A wide range of stalls offering top quality local produce and crafts will be available for you to enjoy.

This month sees the return of Galex Gardens, selling fabulous metal garden sculptures at affordable prices.

Now is the time for the last asparagus, the peak of local strawberries and delicious raspberries. Kenward Trust will have fresh cut garden flowers.

Hot drinks and home-made cakes are served in Mandy's kitchen. All profits from stall charges, after deduction of running costs, are donated to Kent charities. Last month's profit of £80 has been donated to the Kenward Trust in recognition of their support of East Farleigh village activities, including this year's Fete.

For further information please contact 01622 726164.

Sue Morris