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

Welcome to West Farleigh's own

LIFELINE

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OLIVER MARTIN AT BADMINTON



Ollie started training this horse, Martins Irish Eddie, when it was a 3 year old. He is now 6 and the youngest horse to get to the championships at Badminton, which was a feat on its own. Everyone at Badminton had to qualify and there were 75 in the Championships. There are 3 disciplines to Eventing. The first is dressage and the lower the score the better. Then there is a course of show jumps. The objective is to "go clear". Every pole you knock down score 4 penalties, which will be added to your dressage score. Then comes the cross country which is approximately 1 mile long with about 22 solid fences. You incur penalties for refusing to go over them, 20 penalties per fence! You are allowed to wear a special watch to monitor your time going around the course. Ollie and Eddie finished with a double clear which put them in 3rd place, so had a podium finish.

Well done Ollie and Eddie, such talent. We hope you go far.

Deadline for July edition 24th June



Upcoming Events:

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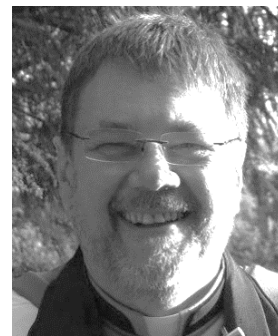
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PASTORAL LETTER

During my work as an Organisation Development Consultant prior to responding to the call to ordination, I used a number of tools and techniques to help teams and individuals to gain insight into their behaviour and attitudes so that they could maximise efficiency. One of my favourites was (and is) the Myers Briggs Type Indicator®. This 88-question psychometric instrument gave insight into preferences - about how we are energised, how we make decisions etc., and gives a four-letter code as a "Preference Type" such as INFP or ESTJ. You may have done this yourself at some point. There are several online equivalents available if interested. The point is that this gave just one insight (albeit a very well researched and accurate one) into a complex personality - yet people used it as a defining tag, saying "I am an ENFJ" for example. This is a complete misunderstanding and misuse of such a tool, and leads to many incorrect understandings and labelling of the other. The preference type does not define an individual, it merely shines a light on to one part of their nature. In the same way, I have been horrified to hear the labelling of "Remainers" or "Leavers" (or even worse "Remoaners" and "Brexiters") with respect to our views on membership of the European Union. I voted remain, but that doesn't make me a "Remainer", and certainly not a "Remoaner" - it makes me somebody who voted remain. Life is nuanced, and we seem to have lost the ability in a divided world to accept that, to see the bigger picture, to hold back on judging a person on one aspect of who they are, in their personality or their politics. I long for a kinder, gentler, more enquiring dialogue in which we respect the other's perspective and don't label them.



There is one thing that is different for me - when it comes to my faith. I do wish to be identified, to be defined by, my Christianity. It is the foundational, most important aspect of who I am. Indeed of who we are as a worshipping community who follow the teachings of Jesus Christ. To be a Christian should define everything about us, and shape everything we do. As St. Paul wrote to the church in Philippi: "Our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Saviour from there, the Lord Jesus Christ". As we await his return, I pray that we would find a way to heal division and unite our country to the benefit of all.

Many blessings,

Peter

Services at All Saints

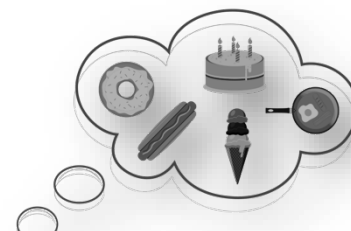
Sunday 2nd June	8.00 am	Holy Communion (Traditional)
Sunday 9th June	9.30 am	Morning Prayer (Whit Sunday)
Sunday 23rd June	9.30 am	Morning Prayer with Holy Communion
Sunday 30th June	10.30am	Benefice Service Linton, with Archdeacon Julie Conalty Followed by the Benefice picnic

NEW: FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Saturday 1st June

3pm-4.30pm in the church

MEET THE NEIGHBOURS



Enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and wonderful cake, while chatting to your neighbours.

This is for **all** the family, young and old. There will be 'age suitable' activities.

It is hoped to make this a regular event, where we can discuss topics that have a moral, ethical or current dilemma. **NO** party politics!!!

There is no right or wrong answer to many questions, but discussing them might help us to understand them better.

More info from the editors.

WELCOME TO LORNA FAULKNER

Lorna will be coming into the Benefice as a curate, in June. We hope that her family will enjoy living in Coxheath. Lorna will be coming to work alongside Peter Callway, David Jones, Eileen Doyle and the rest of the Ministry team. Her main aim is to learn from them, so that when she is ordained in September, she will have a raft of skills to take onto her first posting. Let's make her feel welcome in West Farleigh. She writes:-



My husband and I have lived in Maidstone for nearly 24 years now. Before and after bringing up our 3 sons I was a teacher in both secondary and primary schools in the area, but have spent the past 2 years training full-time for ministry at St Augustine's College of Theology in West Malling.

We have always lived near the town centre and are very much looking forward to enjoying life in a more rural part of Kent and exploring the villages we will be working with.

When our boys were little we often used to drive out to Hunton Village Hall to play in the little park and watch the cricket (one of my sons plays for Yalding now and watching Hunton play certainly

helped ignite his passion!) It is lovely to think that we now get to be part of the community we visited back then and we are very much looking forward to getting to know everyone.

VILLAGE TAKEAWAY



The Good Intent are now doing Take Away Fish and Chips, from 5-8 on Fridays. The Editor has tried them and they are very nice.

Thursday evening is Chilli Night, again eat in or take away. (untried to date!)

You can order in advance 812426

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

Villagers were welcomed to the meeting. It was pointed out that it is very helpful to the council, to know their views.

Bruce Scott was elected as Chairman with Geoff Martin as vice chairman.

Many more crimes than usual were reported along with some antisocial behaviour from outside the village.

There is still concern about the number of HGVs using our narrow roads and the amount of traffic using Teston Bridge, some drivers more courteous than others! There is to be a meeting with an official from KCC Highways to address this together with sightline obstructing parking in the lay-by and speeding on Lower Road.

The Meeting room plans are ongoing, renewing of leases and planning permission in hand.

The retrospective planning permission of River Barn, has been refused.

The clerk was thanked for all the work she does. Richard Webb was re-elected our Borough Councillor for another 4 years.

He was thanked for all he does for our village. He is a very diligent councillor and always comes to meetings when he can.

Reports from village organisations were presented in booklet form. The meeting finishes with refreshments and a chance for villagers to meet with the councillors.

There will be a Coffee Morning on Sat 15th June 10-12 at the Good Intent.

Come long and meet your councillors and your neighbours and enjoy coffee and cake.

WEST FARLEIGH IN BLOOM



First and foremost, thank you to everyone who supported the plant sale and cream teas – it was a most successful event.

There is only one month to go before the **Britain in Bloom judges come to West Farleigh on 4th July** – please get those sunflowers going! If they are in your back garden or not visible from the road please send us photos to add to our album. We appreciate your efforts in keeping front gardens looking lovely – we are sure the judges will be as impressed as they were last year – so thank you everyone.

We hope that our **Fathers Day Ramble on Sunday 16th June** will be as popular as it was last year – this year we have devised a quiz to make the walk more interesting. The route and quiz sheet is enclosed with this month's edition –

the entry fee is £1. Entries will be collected at the two main refreshment points on the day (The Green and 2 Court Lodge Cottages (along from the church)), but you can complete the quiz at any time and post your entry with £1 to 1 The Green, Charlton Lane (by the white picket fence). Closing date is Friday 21 June.

For the children we will give prizes on the day for finding a shiny stone, large leaf, pretty wild flower, something unusual like a feather or nut, and a piece of rubbish – but please don't post this through 1 The Green!!

We are looking for a graphic designer who could help us with a poster to make into an information type notice – please contact us if you know someone!

Another date for your diary: **Sunday 11 August** - we are planning a garden party with the fabulous Pete & Co to entertain us!

Our **next meeting is on Thursday 6 June at 7.30 pm at the Good Intent** – please feel free to join us and hear more about what we are doing.

IN THE GARDEN WITH JOHN FENLON

Summer is fast approaching and at Smiths Hall we are in full bloom! The garden is bursting with colour from the alliums in the white border, to the lupins in the courtyard and also the thalictrum by the pool. Its that time of year when you have to keep on top of all of the regular routine maintenance of weeding, watering, mowing and dead heading. Keeping up to date with the routine maintenance ensures your garden looks wonderful at all times.

After your lilacs have flowered it's a great time to prune them. You can prune them back a lot at this time of year because they have all year to regrow.

Now is the time to fertilise your lawn. Be careful to sprinkle on the lawn fertiliser evenly so it all grows at the same rate.

Smiths Halls open day is on the 30th June from 11am - 5pm. Please come along and support this good cause. It's a fantastic opportunity to have a look around the gardens, gain inspiration and enjoy the woodland walk. There will also be cakes and refreshments available to purchase.



West Farleigh in Bloom nestboxes – how have they done?

At the time of writing in the third week of May, the young blue tits (in one of the five nest boxes put in the strip of woodland at the junction of Lower Road and Teston Lane) are getting close to fledging. Erected a little too late in the year, we were lucky to attract a pair of blue tits so quickly. On 24th April the female was incubating a clutch of eleven eggs. By 20th May, the brood of youngsters had been whittled down to five. Of that five, four were growing well, but the fifth was markedly smaller than its nest-mates. That isn't good news if there is a shortage of food because its siblings will beg more vigorously for what is available and, as the weakest one, it will lose out. Which is probably what has happened to the other six chicks, assuming all eleven eggs hatched – we'll find out for sure when I inspect the box when the chicks have fledged. It's likely they didn't beg hard enough for the caterpillars being brought and just starved. If they die at an early stage the adults simply remove the bodies.



It's mixed news. Although not perfect, the weather hasn't been particularly cold and wet – so it's not that that has reduced their normal productivity. What, then, in a still-rural village, can have caused it? The answer is quite simple – lack of insects. They just aren't around anymore in the numbers they used to be; numbers sufficient to require drivers having to scrape a layer of dead insects off their windscreen after a couple of hours driving in the summer!

It's been calculated that a pair of insect-eating birds, in order to feed themselves and raise two broods of five chicks between May and September, requires fifty-five thousand insects.



So, the drive to make the village a riot of colour with flowers will not only improve life for us humans, but the insects the flowers will attract and sustain will actually make life possible for lots of small birds and a host of other animals. So, keep planting – but also resist cutting down the wild flowers too quickly (the ones we usually call weeds). I stopped to look at the verge on Lower Road this week because it was a riot of cow parsley, buttercups and speedwell, as well as many magnificent flowering grasses. The dandelions had finished flowering, having provided nectar for early bees, and had huge 'clocks' – seed heads full of food for seed-eating birds like goldfinches. Just what they need until the sunflowers being planted in village gardens ripen and provide winter food for them.

SARAH HUNTER raised more money at the Quiz night at the WI Hall. She also had a Tombola at the Farmers Market. She has successfully raised £2,000 towards her total of £2,980, for ACTION AGAINST HUNGER. She would be grateful for any ideas to raise the rest of the money. All suggestions to the editors.

RON TAYLOR. We are sad to report the death of Ron Taylor of Charlton Lane. He was the husband of Jacky, one of our editors.

His funeral is on 30th May at 12 noon at All Saints West Farleigh.

View from the Scoreboard by Terry Baines



FOOTBALL Just a few games to report to round off the season.

Our first XI had one remaining fixture to finish. Happily, we ended on a high, in a terrific game, we defeated Faversham 1-0.

Our second XI also finished on a high, we started with a creditable 0-0 draw with Orpington but ended with two brilliant results beating Tatsfield 2-0 and finally a 5-3 victory over champions Ide Hill. In the end both teams finished mid table, hopefully next season we can push on to greater things and maybe promotion!

CRICKET We started our season with two defeats in friendlies against East Sutton and Southborough and unfortunately losing in the first round in the National Village Cup to local rivals Linton Park, hopefully they will go on and win it. Our league began with a thumping victory for our 1st XI over Meopham, WF 224 Meopham 32. Unfortunately the following week we got a thumping from Pembury.

Our second XI meanwhile (after our opening fixture was postponed when Pembury cried off) played Marden, in a fantastic match. We scored only 112 but after some great bowling and fielding we held our opponents to 107 all out, winning by just five runs.

We are still looking for some more local talent for cricket. If you would like to give it a go please get in touch. 01622 815267. Yes, this means you!

CLUB NEWS Thanks to all who supported our recent Quiz Night, it was very enjoyable despite not being able to answer any questions.....correctly! Thanks also to Diane and Richard Ward for organizing the event, hopefully they haven't been put off doing another one in the future.

Our lucky TON UP WINNERS last month were

54 James Reid £30

9 Andy Starr £20

99 Keith Dalton £10

Yours in sport Tel 815267



Our monthly report for May

Our May meeting is about the Annual General Meeting, which is choosing our Committee to run the Institute for another year. We also have to choose a resolution for our National Federation to take forward to campaign to make a real difference. There were two to choose from "A call against the decline in local bus services" and "Don't fear the smear". They were both so important that we decided to vote for both resolutions and we have asked our representative to put these results forward for the National Federation

to work on. Later in the meeting we had two representatives from the Fire Brigade to talk to members about stay safe and well reducing your risk on fire and Show you care and help someone feel safe and well. Next month we have Gwen Godwin who will introduce singing and dancing during the June Meeting, which always makes the members feel good. If you wish to join us please ring Pam Lindon 01622726337.



Evergreens

The Evergreens were entertained by Pete and Co, playing music from the 50's and 60's, we sang along and remembered our youth!

We had an outing to Headcorn Aerodrome, and were entertained by a Spitfire landing and taking off, a light aircraft doing aerobatics and parachutists landing right on the spot.

We also had a tour of the museum. Lumps of crashed aircraft were made interesting by information about the pilots and where they landed. Tea in the café, in large mugs completed the day

On 11th June, will be visiting "Timbers", a garden in Dean Street. After a walk around the garden we will be treated to a cream tea. At the lunch meeting on 25th June, the grandson of one of our members, will be telling us about his grandfather who was a spy in the second world war. If you would like to join us ring Helen 814445 or Terry 814561. We can offer transport.

FAREWELL MALCOLM OUR POSTMAN



Malcolm has been given early retirement. So, with all the lovely comments about our Postie, Malcolm, a few of us thought it would be a nice idea to have a collection and a 'farewell and good luck' card for people to sign.

Pauline at the Good Intent has generously agreed that we can 'borrow' some of the pub area on Saturday 8th June from 10 am until midday to collect contributions. Pete, Gabby, Bernie and Mags will be up there in the hope we raise too much for any one of us to carry.

If you can't make it on the day, please put a contribution in an envelope and drop it off at the pub.

If you would like, we will transfer any message to the card.

FARLEIGHS DETECTORISTS

Hi Treasure Hunters,

Welcome to my brief monthly update. Firstly apologies due to technical problems on my side, email were not forwarded from Metal@thefarlieghs.co.uk to my email address, so please please email me again if you are interested in joining the newly inaugurated 'Farleighs Detectorists' or if you are a land owner and you would be good enough to allow the club to detect (and litter pick) your land.

News: An appropriately named gentlemen: Mr Lucking – who unearthed a £145,000 Anglo-Saxon pendant - has found more treasure dating back about 800 years. Tom Lucking's latest find saw him dig up a brooch dating back to between 1200 and 1300 in Wymondham, Norfolk in September. Very Lucking indeed!

Find of the month:

Goes to my young Nephew William. Who joined me on a hunt last week and unearthed a rare near perfect George II half Penny. Well done William.

Classified Ad:

For sale. Golden Retriever, had for nine months, has yet to retrieve gold. Should have bought a Metal Detector .

Oh Dear!! [Is that a joke? Ed]



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How's business?

Village Events

- Sat 1st June 4pm **FOOD FOR THOUGHT (SEE PAGE 2)**
- Sunday 2nd June 9am **Litter picking, meet at Good Intent, bacon butties after!**
- Thursday 6th June 7.30pm **Village in Bloom group**
Meeting at the Good Intent, new volunteers **welcome**.
- Friday 7th June 8.15pm **BACK TO THE 60s at the Good Intent**
The music you love from Pete & Co. Optional SIXTIES fancy dress. All proceeds to the Heart of Kent Hospice
- Saturday 15th June 10-12 **PARISH COUNCIL COFFEE MORNING**
- Sunday 16 June **FAMILY RAMBLE AROUND WEST FARLEIGH.**
Following the success of this event last year we are doing it again this year – with a treasure hunt and quiz this time!
- Friday 21st June 6pm **ANNUAL VILLAGE CRICKET MATCH**
President's XI against the rest! BBQ and refreshments. Don't miss it.
- Saturday 22nd June 12-3 **DANDELION TIME SUMMER EVENT**
Go along and see what they do, meet the animals enjoy a BBQ
Try out the crafts and enjoy the cake!
- Saturday 22nd June 1-5pm **EAST FARLEIGH FETE de MUSIQUE**
Five bands, Pasta bar, lots of stalls and of course, the WI tea tent
- Sunday 30th June 10.30 **BENEFICE SERVICIES AT LINTON**
With Arch deacon Julie Conalty. Followed by Benefice BBQ
- Sunday 30th June 11am – 5pm **SMITHS HALL NGS Open Garden**
The gardens of Smiths Hall will be open as part of the National Garden Scheme. Admire the 400 roses, herbaceous borders, the meadows and woods. Lots to see. Tea, homemade cake & quiche by the pool.
- Saturday 27th July 7.30pm **ALL SAINTS ANNUAL QUIZ NIGHT**
Whey-hey! Pete and Den will be in charge again! Everyone is welcome. Make up a team or turn up and we will make up a scratch team or two.



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