

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

No 9 December 1975

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- Monday December 1st: Meeting of the PCC at The Old Parsonage
- Saturday/Sunday December 6/7th: North Downs Motor Club Rally. Starts 10.00pm and finishes 4.00am. The route involves West Farleigh.
- Sunday December 7th: Dedication of the 'Bob' Mannerings memorial tree.
- Wednesday December 17th: Sports Club Whist Drive: East Farleigh Hall, 7.30
- Thursday December 18th: Party night at the School, for pupils only.
- Friday December 19th: Breaking-up Day
- Sunday December 21st: For the fourteenth successive year in West Farleigh Church: Carols by Candlelight, 4.00pm
- Monday December 22nd: Sports Club Christmas Social at East Farleigh Bull
- Wednesday December 24th: Midnight Holy Communion at 11.45

## NEWS ABOUT PEOPLE

Recollections of 'Bob' Mannerings, 30 years our organist and the man who once asked "Where would I be without my music?" will be stirred at the Dedication of his churchyard memorial tree at the close of Family Service on 7th December. The Rural Dean called him "a man impossible not to love", and the tree will perpetuate his humble honesty, his fidelity to duty and his ready acceptance of personal inconvenience in the interests of the church.

Mr and Mrs Peter Baggott have been presented with a daughter, Sarah Joanne, who made her debut at 8lbs 10oz. Her first accomplishment was to render our Choirmaster a grandfather for the fourth time.

Mrs Violet Wells has just enriched The Leprosy Mission with another £25 as a result of rounding up Farleigh's many collection boxes.

Up to sixty drivers may be taking part in the North Downs Motor Rally which takes in West Farleigh on the night of December 6-7th. Life-Line's efforts to ascertain their exact route through the parish met with understandable failure, but doubtless we shall know when and where they are about. A preliminary notice took care to advise us the event has the blessing of the RAC and the Chief Constable of Kent, among others, and that everything possible was being done to ensure minimum inconvenience to the general public.

## THAT BRIDGE IS IN THE NEWS AGAIN

Local motorists have been expressing concern over what they considered to be a treacherous road surface on the temporary Teston Bridge. They claimed that when the approaches were dry, the galvanised steel plates spanning the river were sometimes damp, and that the slightest braking on account of the hump was capable of shooting a car off its course. They need worry no longer. During last month the steel plates were re-surfaced with an anti-skid material which, so far, is said to have proved satisfactory.

## NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL

It appears that Kent Education Committee have every intention of closing West Farleigh Primary School at the end of next year's summer term. When that sad day arrives many problems connected with 'moving out' will arise. Meanwhile Miss Wakofield has for disposal immediately a white-and-chromium bathroom splash-back, with swivel mirror, shelf and tooth-mug-and-brush fittings. The asking price is £6. Ring 812315 evenings.

Swimming certificates have been awarded this term as follows: Front Crawl, 30 metres: Darren Earl, Maxine Reed, Jane Underdown; Back Crawl, 30 metres, Maxine Reed, Jane Underdown.

The school drive for more and more used postage stamps announced last month is to continue non-stop until Easter, when the collection will be closed and the already "enormous" pile sent to the PDSA, to whom the stamps spell money. So before you consign your Christmas card envelopes to the waste-paper basket please tear off the stamps, leaving a half-inch margin.

#### ON THE SOCIAL SIDE OF THE SPORTS CLUB

On the first day of this month the Entertainments Committee meet to tie up final details for the two big social events close upon us. It is hoped that as many as possible will turn out for the Grand Christmas Whist Drive in the Farleighs Hall on Wednesday 17th. Chairman R L Day has been invited to act as MC... Christmas Draw tickets are now on sale from players and members right up to the big night of Monday 22nd, when the Draw will be the main event at the Christmas Social Evening and Dart Match at Farleigh Bull. The traditional hamper will be the main prize, and many other examples of seasonal fare are promised in support... Talking of darts, the club was represented in a triangular match with Marden and Staplehurst last month, and very surprisingly came out on top. Played four, won four! Enough to make the footballers envious? J.P.D.

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#### NEWS OF FARLEIGH'S FOOTBALLERS

The past month has seen a change in our fortunes. Both League and Cup victories have been obtained. Perhaps the highlight was a 2-0 win in the Kent Junior Cup against Tonbridge League side Oakwood Hospital. Goals by new boy Richard Potter and Ron Smith saw us home in a very entertaining game, marred by a cartilage injury to Ken Baines which could put him out for the rest of the season. Still, only one defeat has come our way since that game, and further progress has been made in the Kent Junior Cup at the expense of Ashford League side Charter Sports. After that, another good League win against Leybourne Grange, 2-1, with both goals coming again from Richard Potter. At last Farleigh are beginning to look forward with confidence.

Of the Reserve XI J.P.D writes: They continue their uphill struggle for recognition in the League. Undaunted by consistent defeats, their morale remains high. Some credit for this must go to skipper Jim Tapp, whose encouragement and inspiration make it all seem worth while. His report to the committee on the match against Lenham reserves is worth quoting: "A careless remark to the referee gave Lenham a free kick from which they equalised!"

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#### FIVE YEARS AGO - FANCY THAT!

"For West Farleigh the Christmas of 1970 will differ from any other. We shall be singing of shepherds watching their flocks with no shepherd of our own at the Vicarage" - From the Parish Magazine.

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#### LIFE-LINE'S THOUGHT-LINE FOR THE MONTH

To travel hopefully is a better thing than to arrive, and the true success is to labour. - Robert Louis Stevenson.

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#### IN CHURCH THIS MONTH

The Vicar writes: May I wish you all a very happy Christmas, and I do hope you will be present at some of our services listed below:

- December 7th: 8.00 Holy Communion; 10.30 Family Service and Dedication of the 'Bob' Mannerings tree.  
14th: 11.00 Matins, followed by Holy Communion; 6.30 Evensong.  
21st: 8.00 Holy Communion; 11.00 Matins; 4.00 Carols by Candlelight and Children's Offering of Toys.  
24th: Midnight Holy Communion, 11.45  
25th: 8.00 Holy Communion; 10.30 Family Service.  
28th: 11.00 Matins. No evening service.

The Vicar adds: This is an appropriate time for me to say Thank You to all those who during the past year have cared for our church; to those who have kept it clean and tidy; to those who have provided flowers, to Mrs Goodwin, who attends to the linen, and to the gentlemen who act as sidesman and vergers for our eight o'clock Holy Communion services.

Church flowers: Saturday 6th and 13th, Mr Plommer and Mr Holwell; 20th, all help please with Christmas decorating and clean-up; 27th Mrs E P Day

Church cleaning: Week of Monday 1st and 8th, Mr Plommer and Mr Holwell; Week of Monday 15th, all help please after Christmas decorating; Week of Monday 22nd, Mrs Morgan; Monday 29th, Mrs E P Day

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Life-Line, appreciative of the kind things many of them have said about it, wishes all its readers happiness at Christmas and throughout 1976.

January contributions to 4 Wrentham Cottages (01723) not later than Dec 10