

GRAPEVINE

MAY 2021

EAST FARLEIGH



Farleigh's WI April Report

We had an excellent speaker in April, Martin Heard, talking about The Bayeux Tapestry, based in France. He described every part of the very long tapestry and he made it very interesting. He spoke about the people shown and why they were included, describing every event that was happening in this tapestry, I am sure I speak for every one of the members it would be good to have a trip to see the tapestry. We are hoping to open the Hall to members in July, fingers crossed that the Government allows us to meet indoors again.

Next month we have a very interesting lady, Elaine, who is going to give us a Qigong taster session, all we need is a chair. We are doing gentle warmups and then move into some lovely flowing movements, sounds very different but looking forward to it.

We are now booking the hall for hirers and if you are interested then please contact thefarleighswihall@gmail.com and we will get in touch.

MAKE A CHANGE BECOME A COUNCILLOR

WHAT DO LOCAL COUNCILS DO?

Your local council has overall responsibility for the wellbeing of your local community. Their work falls into three main categories:

- Delivery of services;
- Improve quality of life for residents;
- Give communities a democratic voice.

BECOMING A LOCAL COUNCILLOR

As a local councillor you can become a voice for your community and make real change. Councillors are community leaders and represent the interests of the communities they serve.

Local councillors have three main responsibilities:

- Decision-making;
- Monitoring;
- Getting involved locally.

GETTING ELECTED

To stand for election to a local council you must be:

- a UK or Commonwealth citizen; or be a citizen of the Republic of Ireland; or be a citizen of another Member State of the European Union;
- at least 18 years old;
- an elector of the local council; or in the past 12 months occupied land or other premises in the area the local council serves (as owner or tenant); or work in the area local council serves (as your principal or only place of work); or live within three miles of the local council boundary.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED, CONTACT THE COUNCIL ON:

email: clerk@eastfarleigh-pc.org.uk

www.nalc.gov.uk/elections



CALLING ALL COMMUNITY HEROES

-CONTACTS-

Revd. Peter Callway, Rector
Thanksgivings, Weddings & Funerals
01622 747570 *Unavailable Fridays*

Revd. Lorna Faulkner
Assistant Curate
01622 439304

Revd. David Jones, Hon Associate Rector
01622 741474
Unavailable Fridays

George Moore, Church Warden
01622 204874
george-n-pat@blueyonder.co.uk

June Grapevine issue deadline – 18th May
beckii_richford@hotmail.com 07702 551745

Becky Parnham
Children & Families Worker
07949 646865

2021 Census - Who's moved on?

Our household showed no change, apart from the lodgers. The garden ones, that is.

Every year, from April through to July, I count the adult starlings in my garden to find out what proportion have survived from last year. It's part of a national research project run by the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) to find what needs to be done to slow the decline of Europe's starlings. I do this by catching them in traps baited with mealworms. The birds are sexed, aged, measured and weighed - a sort of 'well starling' check at the clinic - their ring number recorded, and then sent on their way. Often to be caught again the next day because they can't say no an easy mealworm. Anyone who likes graphs can see the results of the national study here: <https://www.bto.org/our-science/projects/ringing/surveys/ras/results>

But it's not just starlings I catch. It's the breeding season and all our local birds are struggling to meet the demand for wriggly titbits to be shoved unceremoniously into the gapes of their squawking nestlings. Blackbirds, dunnocks and, especially robins are regularly caught too, so I'm able to carry out a kind of annual census of my other garden birds as well.

In the first ten days of April this year, I have already caught ten different robins. Garden robins are a problem to keep count of because they all look the same. Even in the breeding season you can only identify their sex if you have them in the hand - females shed breast feathers to help line the nest, and develop an area of skin engorged with blood vessels, called a brood patch, to help them incubate the eggs. Blowing gently on the tummy, therefore, parts their feathers and reveals all.

We rarely see more than two or three robins at a time in the garden, so we naturally assume they are 'our' regular robins. They are very territorial, so that's why we only usually see two at a time. But they aren't always the same birds. In our case, the eight extra birds caught so far will be from neighbours' gardens or local hedgerows, all prepared to make an undercover foray into another pair's territory for the abundance of mealworms on offer.

Of the ten caught to date, eight already had rings so I know when they were first caught and, in some cases, when they were hatched. One of those, I can say with absolute certainty, is a male that will celebrate his eighth birthday this spring. I also know he has been re-trapped in my garden every year since he was hatched. So does that make him one of 'our' pair of robins? I don't know, because the other seven (between two and five years old) have also been re-trapped in most years.

It does make him an old bird though. The longest lived robin (established from ringing records) is only a few months older. Around sixty percent of those hatched die in their first year, and life expectancy of those that survive is about two years. So he's done extremely well.

I'm pretty confident that our(?) old fella won't appear on the 2025 census, but fingers crossed he makes it to next spring. It'll be a good reason to raise a glass if he does!

Ray Morris

**East Farleigh Church Services
May 2021**



**Details of weekly Church service at
10.30 Sunday mornings:**

Computer, tablet or smartphone:
<http://bit.ly/UnitedBenefice>

By 'phone
Dial 0203 051 2874
Enter 185124308#
Enter #
**(Cost of a call is standard cost to a
geographic number.)**

Date	Time	Service
16 th	9:30 am	<i>Holy Communion Lorna Faulkner</i>
23 rd	8:00 am	<i>Holy Communion Peter Callway</i>

Following our break for Easter, we will restart our study groups on 27th April, Tuesday afternoons at 2.30 and Wednesday evenings at 7.30. We will run for five weeks, take a break for the half term week, and then run another five weeks to the end of term.

Please do let me know if you would like to attend. Even if you've never done anything like this before, do consider it. The groups are online, using Zoom, and are quite informal and with no pressure to say anything if you choose not to! We usually have some sort of input – a short video for example, a Bible reading and then a discussion about points raised and our shared understanding of the issue.

When we have an idea of numbers, I will organise the number of groups.

Peter Callway

I started writing this letter on the morning of Friday April 10th with thoughts of focusing on the forthcoming local elections on May 6th. I wasn't doing too well, mainly I thought because I was writing long hand, my computer having broken down the week before. I was awaiting the arrival of a replacement part which should arrive on the following Monday and then all would be well. My solution when making little progress with a letter was to go and do something physical. So off I went to find a spade for a little digging! Suitably renewed and full of ideas I returned to the letter to find that the news was breaking about the death of the Duke of Edinburgh. Oh blow! Should I start again or try to twist my thoughts to fit in with the latest news? The answer was no, I'd try the other distraction, have a cup of coffee!!!!

Then out of the blue came a phone call. My computer was ready to collect, it had been repaired and was working again. Things were looking up. With a computer I could change anything I wrote in a moment and thoughts could flow and could be instantly discarded or amended. So off to collect the repaired computer and back for lunch. A short rest as I reflected on the morning and the news. Then through the letter box arrived the latest copy of the Hunton Herald with the obituary of Councillor Gary Thomas on the front. By now my mind was in a blur. Perhaps another excuse to put off the moment and to look for another activity to help focus my thoughts? But no, we were still in the season of Easter and an idea grew. The connection with all these events, the thoughts for the day could be summed up in three words - Service, Dedication and Commitment.

We owe a great deal to people who serve us in so many ways. People who give up their time and energy and dedicate their lives to make life better for others. Those who by their commitment to ideas and ideals strive to bring light into our world that can appear so dark at times. So much of life is supported by the many millions of people who volunteer. Our hospitals, schools, local and national government and many in the emergency services depend on the service, energy and dedication of people. For Christians, the life of Christ whose death and resurrection at Easter gives us all the prime example for how life should be lived.

So, go out on May 6th and vote and show your support for a group of people who offer their service, dedicate and who are committed to serving others.

David Jones

**BULLET POINT SUMMARY ARISING FROM EAST FARLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING HELD ONLINE via 'ZOOM' Meeting ID 980 9622 5849**

On Tuesday 6th April 2021 @ 7.15pm

Please note that these bullet points (taken from the minutes) are not yet approved by Council when published in The Grapevine.

Reported Crimes for East Farleigh taken from www.ewatch.co

- Between 12:01am on Sunday 21st of February and 2:20pm on Friday 26th of February in Lower Road. Somebody broke into a garage at a residential property. They damaged a door to get inside. They do not appear to have taken anything.
Crime Report No. 46/3210
- On Friday 2nd of April between 12:01am and 11:59pm in Dean Street. Somebody has attempted to break into outbuildings, by smashing windows to get inside.

There was no monthly police report for East Farleigh.

For more information about policing in your area, visit: www.kent.police.uk

To report a non-urgent crime online, visit: www.kent.police.uk/contactus

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

- Under local Government guidelines, all meetings will be conducted on-line until such time as normal meetings may resume– the link will be posted on the Agendas where appropriate – Agendas are published on the East Farleigh Parish Website & Face Book, village notice boards and social media. There is now the possibility of “face to face” meetings being held but at this present time, EFPC are awaiting Government clarification.

AGENDA ITEMS & MATTERS RAISED

- **East Farleigh Parish Website:** The new Parish Council Website is now live. The new website address is: www.eastfarleigh-pc.org.uk Please do check it out and let us know your thoughts on the new style/content 😊
- **Review of Planning Committee:** All Planning Committee items (incl. planning applications, enforcement issues, planning appeals etc.) can be viewed on the Planning Committee Agendas/Minutes which are published on the East Farleigh Parish Website, Notice Boards and other social media.
- **New Councillor Canvassing/Elections:** **There are no plans to postpone the Elections again this year – scheduled for 6th May.** There are four uncontested Candidates for East Farleigh Parish Council. However, there are still places for Councillors to be co-opted onto the Parish Council. If you are interested, please contact the Clerk for more information; clerk@eastfarleigh-pc.org.uk
- **Review of Parish Council Annual Procedural Documentation:** It was unanimously AGREED that the Section 101 Powers of Delegation (Extraordinary Meeting 25th March 2020) be approved for duration of the pandemic or as the new Council (when declared) see fit. Further, the EFPC Statement of Internal Control and Risk Assessment were also reviewed and approved for another year (or as the new Council, when in situ, see fit).
- **Annual Parish Meeting (APM):** The APM was brought forward to Tuesday 30th March 2021 and held on-line via Zoom. This went well and several reports were received from local organisations and representatives. Some representatives attended and read out their reports. These, and other reports from non-attendees, were circulated.
- **Annual Meeting (of the Parish Council) (AM):** This is a set date after Elections (meeting must be 4-14 days after Elections) – Elections this year are on 6th May so the Annual Meeting date has been scheduled for Tuesday 18th May 2021 at 7.15pm (on-line or venue to be advised).
- **Speedwatch:**
 - i) This went ahead with the first deployment date possible following easing of COVID restrictions - 16 vehicles were recorded doing in excess of 35mph. These were logged and reported to the police. Speedwatch was hindered by vehicles parking on the corner of Kilnbridge Drive and there have been complaints about alleged illegal “corner” parking at this location. EFPC will ask the police to investigate. Also, a proposal to replace/re-site the bollards on this particular

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corner was put forward and agreed it should be on the Agenda when the new Parish Council is in place. The SID's (speed indicator devices) have been updated and upgraded and are working well.

- ii) The new Police Speed Check scheme (Operation Scarecrow) has been very successful – on the first deployment, 3 tickets were issued in Lower Road and 4 tickets issued in Dean Street. Further, a good quantity of warnings were issued. Further deployments will continue as scheduled.

- **Highways**

- i) Councillors met with Highways this month to resolve several issues around East Farleigh: A good outcome was achieved with Highways agreeing to 8 new speed surveys. All matters on the HIP (Highways Improvement Plan) were updated.
- ii) It was reported that a Councillor has been lobbied regards traffic waiting for the East Farleigh level crossing to open who are not switching off their engines. The traffic backs up Station Hill and it was proposed that more signs are needed before the bridge. It was AGREED to carry this forward for the new Parish Council to investigate. However, it was noted that there is pollution monitoring at this location and the Clerk will chase for the Diffusion Tube reports.

- **Village Pavements:** It was noted that works have been carried out to keep the pavements clear for pedestrians with more works to be done. A reminder to all landowners that vegetation growing from their land which overhang public pavements/footpaths, is their responsibility and such vegetation should be cut back regularly.
- **Public Footpaths:** It was reported that the bank is eroding on KM42 and the PROW Officer will be investigating the problem. KM32/33; Councillors are aware that this footpath has been illegally closed/blocked. The signs are NOT official. PROW have been informed and will expedite the matter.
- **Vicarage Lane Play Area:** It was agreed to accept Pearsons Landscapes quote to carry out all repairs necessary to the play area and they will be instructed accordingly.
- **Village Fete:** It was confirmed that there will be no Village Fete until 2022.
- **Correspondence:** The Parish Council acknowledged receipt of messages of “Thanks” from recent recipients of Section 137 annual donations to local charities and organisations.
- **Parish Council Financial Matters:**
The Monthly Financial Reports were presented to Councillors.

All monthly Parish Council Financial reports/matters are published within the Minutes of Meetings (EFPC Website, Notice Boards and other social media sites). Other Financial matters can be found on the Parish Website under the heading “Publication Scheme – What we spend and how we spend it”

www.eastfarleigh-pc.org.uk

COVID-19 UPDATES

Please see the East Farleigh Parish Council website for further updates/information regards the easing of Lockdown.

For further information on COVID, please see the following Government website link:

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

- A reminder that the Local Community Help Group is still assisting people. All information and telephone numbers are on the Parish Website and Notice Boards.
- If you require help, please contact:
East Farleigh Parish Council Cllr Glyn Charlton (Chairman): 07768 352414
East Farleigh Parish Clerk, Desiree: 07999 414712

The next Monthly Parish Council meeting will be the ANNUAL MEETING on Tuesday 18th May 2021 at 7.15pm (on-line or venue to be advised)



Local Yoga Classes

Tuesday 9.30am
Seasonal Yoga Flow (Zoom)

Friday 10.30am
Seasonal Yoga Flow (In Studio & Zoom)

Tuesday 7.30pm
Yin Yoga (Zoom)

Book here:
<https://app.ubindi.com/Katie.Murphy.9020>
Or contact Katie on:
07871 678370
www.lovebreatheyoga.co.uk

