

GRAPEVINE

JULY 2021

EAST FARLEIGH



FARLEIGHS WI

My last report as I will be stepping down in July.

This month at the Farleighs WI we had an event from our Head Office where we went on a walk, treasurer hunt. You could choose between a 3 mile or 5 miles.

The weather was kind to us, although we did get caught in a heavy shower once. We managed to find nearly all the clues so turned out to be a good day. At our monthly meeting we had all the news and what events are coming up in the future. Then we had a fun quiz to get all our grey matter working. It is now the time for me to stand down as the

President for the Farleighs WI. I have enjoyed my time with the members but now I need to give way to someone else with new ideas to take the Farleighs forward.

Pam

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)

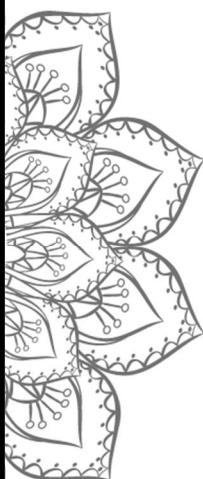
Book here:

<https://app.ubindi.com/Katie.Murphy.9020>

Or contact Katie on:

07871 678370

www.lovebreatheyoga.co.uk



-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

August Grapevine issue deadline – 18th July
beckii_richford@hotmail.com 07702 551745

Becky Parnham
Children & Families Worker
07949 646865

Dear Friends,

I am writing this letter on 11th June. By the time you read it we will all know whether the lockdown was eased on 21st June; whether it has been extended; whether we can holiday in certain countries; whether a third wave is here. So much uncertainty at present!

I want to take you back to another time of great uncertainty, the Second World War. On the wall of a concentration camp a prisoner scratched these words:

I believe in the sun even when it is not shining.
I believe in love even when I feel it not.
I believe in God even when He is silent.

Such powerful words! This person has had their freedom, their friends and the people they love taken away in the most dreadful of circumstances. We can't compare ourselves to this horror but this might be a little bit how the last year has seemed for us in that we have not had the freedom to go where we want when we want; no meeting up with friends; many of us losing loved ones. There was something that the prisoner was sure of in the midst of all their loss – that even if they couldn't hear God they had the faith to know He was there with them.


Many years ago I wrote a song with the words:

Oh my God, where are you now? I'm so frightened and so full of doubt.
Oh my God, are you there? When I'm discouraged I need to feel your love....

It wasn't a great song but it shows that although I believed in God He was silent for me at that time. Faith can be a bumpy road but hang on in there because God loves you!

If you would like some encouragement with a moment of peace then the composer Kim André Arnesen has written a beautiful song using the concentration camp words. Head over to YouTube and search for 'Even when He is silent.' There are several versions – a particularly good one is by Sofia Vokalensemble. Here's the link <https://youtu.be/3vp1WJN5WSg> - enjoy the music and enjoy the certainty that God is there for us all, even when we can't hear Him!

Blessings to you all,
Sue

East Farleigh Church Services July 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	
18 th	9:30am	<i>Holy Communion Lorna Faulkner</i>	
25 th	8:00am	<i>Holy Communion Peter Callway</i>	

Outfoxed

Few garden birdwatchers view starlings with equanimity. They are either the bird feeder bully boys, throwing their weight about (all 75g of it) and making life difficult for smaller birds, or the gorgeously coloured rainbow-reflecting beauties strutting their stuff on the lawn. In the garden they make up for their lack of manners at the bird table by removing leatherjackets from the lawn; no need to buy plastic grass, or drown it in insecticide in pursuit of a golf-green lawn. The main culprit that causes the dead grass patches is the larva of the crane fly (the daddy long legs – their larvae live in the soil and feed on the grass roots) happens to be the starlings' favoured food. They make a far more eco-friendly solution than the expensive chemicals from a garden centre.

Few human beings can watch a swirling, contorting starling murmuration without some feeling of awe and wonder either. And justifiably so. It seems the birds achieve this amazing feat by each of them being aware of, and interacting with, just seven other individuals in a murmuration of tens of thousands. This 'rule of seven' has been used to create computer animations for films and the 'swarm theory' based on it could well help improve safety of self-drive cars when they arrive.

But why are our starlings disappearing (as they have done at an alarming rate) and what can we do about it? One thing conservationists need to know is how long adult starlings live. For this reason I, along with another twenty or so bird ringers across the country, attempt to retrap as many adult starlings as we can during the breeding season each year to ascertain this. The starlings' less than endearing table manners ensure they grab the food used to bait traps set to catch them. They aren't harmed by this. Indeed, after being ringed, measured and weighed, they often go straight back to their unfinished meal in the trap as soon as I release them.

It sounds easy, but the pursuit of scientific knowledge in my garden this summer has been frustrated by an equally 'love 'em or hate 'em' garden visitor – a fox. A pair have raised a litter of at least two cubs nearby and make daily visits to check the food left over from the avian smorgasbord usually on offer. But they have also taken to hoovering up the food I put out especially to tempt the starlings within range of a spring-loaded net. Annoying as this is, I can't help admiring the confidence (and wariness) of the dog fox responsible. While my human intelligence lends itself to trapping starlings it is insufficient to outwit our daily vulpine visitor. Having risen at the crack of dawn to catch these birds for my scientific endeavours, I am forced to confess over breakfast that my data gathering has been minimal. Outfoxed again!



Ray Morris

**BULLET POINT SUMMARY ARISING FROM EAST FARLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING HELD ONLINE via 'ZOOM' Meeting ID 960 0022 1575**

On Tuesday 1st June 2021 @ 7.00pm

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

POLICE REPORT EAST FARLEIGH – MAY 2021

No report received for June 2021 because of PCSO handover to new PSCO

Information provided by: PCSO Megan MacLeod

CRIMES OF NOTE:

None

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR AND OTHER INCIDENTS OF NOTE:

Loose horse Pleasant Valley 01/05/2021

Abandoned vehicle Lower Road 09/05/2021

Dog loose Station Road 28/05/2021

Nuisance vehicles Homelands Farm 03/01/2021

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

- In line with the Government Guidelines for the easing of COVID restrictions, the Parish Council Monthly Meetings will resume in the Old School Hall (OSH), Lower Road under the rules for “Business & Activities”. Anyone attending will be required to wear masks when indoors, sanitise hands on entry to the hall (or re-entry if leaving and returning). Toilet facilities are limited and are included in the Risk Assessment carried out by the Owners of the hall. Numbers in the OSH will be restricted to allow for social distancing. There is also an online link to meetings.
- Cllr John Wilson (Chairman) Welcomed newly elected County Councillor Simon Webb to the meeting.

AGENDA ITEMS & MATTERS RAISED

- **Review of Planning Matters:** All planning items (incl. planning applications, enforcement issues, planning appeals etc.) can be viewed on the Agendas/Minutes which are published on the East Farleigh Parish Website, Notice Boards and other social media.
- **Annual Meeting of the Parish Council:** The Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 18th May 2021 were approved as a true and accurate record.
- **Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council:**
 - i) The planting of a rose bush in memory of Postman, Paul Dunmill, is still ongoing as it has been noted that a “Cultivation Licence” is required to plant KCC Highways verges. This is being investigated and it was agreed that this will not set a precedent for future requests and, any such requests, will be carefully considered on an individual basis.
 - ii) Cllr DH will investigate additional signs for Station Hill requesting stationery traffic to “Turn off Engines”.
 - iii) The Clerk will order more hand sanitiser for the EF Flood Pod.
 - iv) Kilnbridge parking issues; ongoing.
- **Allocation of Portfolios:** The newly elected East Farleigh Parish Council AGREED the following;
 - i) Footpaths: Councillors will monitor those public footpaths nearest to their home address.
 - ii) Car Park/Rec Ground: Cllrs Steve Shearman and Adam Palmer will monitor these and the Clerk will liaise between Car Park Attendant and Council.
 - iii) Defibrillator: Cllr David Hussein will take responsibility for checking these and delegating to another Councillor if he is away.
 - iv) Flood Plan: This has been updated and the Flood Wardens are Cllrs John Wilson and David Hussein. In addition, Perry O’Callaghan.

It was noted that some roads are crumbling along the edges and, it was agreed that anyone noticing such matters should firstly, use the KCC Highways on-line Portal to report highways problems and then to notify the EFPC Working Party Group and the EFPC Clerk.

- i) Speedwatch: Peter Beasley will continue to head up the Speedwatch Team and other “speeding” issues, including the Police Speed Check Scheme. Separately, Cllr Alex Fullwood will continue to head up the Lorry Watch Scheme.
- ii) Pearsons Contractors; It was agreed that Cllr Steve Shearman will carry out random checks on contracted village works to ensure all works are attended to according to the contract. The Clerk will continue to be the liaison between Pearsons and EFPC.
- **Parish Councillors’ Matters:**
 - i) Cllr John Wilson reported that he has been elected as KALC Maidstone representative on the Maidstone Joint Transportation Board and the KALC/MBC Borough Council Liaison Group.
 - ii) Information has been received regards a seminar on Electric Car Charging Points in local areas. The Chairman will attend the seminar and report back to the Parish Council.
- **Correspondence:** A resident has informed EFPC that there is coppicing occurring on the land known as “Hamlet Wood”. There are concerns that this is happening without due consideration for wildlife and nesting birds. It was agreed that this will be reported to the relevant authorities.
- **Finance:** 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

For further information on COVID, please see the following Government website link:
<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

- If you require help, please contact:
East Farleigh Parish Council Cllr John Wilson (Chairman): 07967 967960
East Farleigh Parish Council Cllr Alex Fullwood (Vice-Chair) 07944 482804
East Farleigh Parish Clerk, Desiree: 07999 414712

The next Monthly Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 6th July 2021 at 7.00pm in the Old School Hall and on-line (Zoom meeting link will be published at the top of the Meeting Agenda).