

GRAPEVINE

DECEMBER 2022

EAST FARLEIGH

Merry
Christmas

CAROLS BY THE CHRISTMAS TREE



Saturday 10th December at 5pm

East Farleigh Churchyard

Come and sing carols by the Christmas tree followed by complimentary **mulled wine & mince pies** in the church.

All are welcome, so come along and share some Christmas cheer.

The lights and the refreshments will be provided by the East Farleigh Fete working party.



EAST FARLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY FOR CLERK/RFO

The current Clerk/RFO (Responsible Financial Officer) will be retiring Spring 2023 but will stay in position until a replacement is found and further, that the successor is competent in Clerk/RFO matters relating to East Farleigh. Clerking and accounts experience is preferred.

Applications should be in the form of an email with a covering letter and current CV.

Closing date for applications is 1st February 2023.

If you would like to apply for this position or require further information, please email

clerk@eastfarleigh-pc.org.uk

-CONTACTS-

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

Revd. Lorna Faulkner
Assistant Curate
01622 439304

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

Becky Parnham
Children & Families Worker
07949 646865

January Grapevine issue deadline – 18th December
beckij_richford@hotmail.com 07702 551745

Christmas is coming! People the world over will soon be celebrating this 2000 year old feast in a variety of ways – and here in the UK Christmas is traditionally celebrated as a time of joyous giving (well, yes, and eating!)

I remember learning an old folk song. I was very small. We performed it on the little stage in the assembly hall of my Primary school. Someone was definitely dressed up as a Christmas pudding.

You may know, it goes like this:

‘Christmas is coming, the goose is getting fat
Please put a penny in the poor man’s hat
If you haven’t got a penny,
A ha’penny will do
If you haven’t got a ha’penny then God bless you.’

(Apparently, the Muppets once recorded a calypso version of it with John Denver. I digress, but Google is your friend!)

The message is simple message:

If you can give a lot, give.
If you can give a little, give.
If you have nothing to give – then receive. (I am optimistic that the ‘God Bless you’ also came with the gift of a penny or a ha’penny!)

Just stop for a moment and imagine a world where we lived by those simple principles...


Many among us are approaching the winter this year with trepidation. Worrying about how to make ends meet. How will we feed the family? How will we stay warm? How many kettles can I afford to boil? All that brings enough worry in itself, let alone trying to celebrate Christmas too.

Perhaps this year, for those of us who are able, we might consider how we can extend our seasonal giving. As well as giving to friends and family, perhaps we might find it in our hearts to give a little (or even a lot!) to those for whom this is shaping up to be anything but a time of peace and joy.

Here are a just a few places to be found locally who are working to support those in need. I am sure they would be delighted to receive a gift from you. So, if you have a penny or a ha’penny to share, look them up?

Maidstone Churches Winter Shelter Home | Maidstone Churches Winter Shelter (maidstoneshelter.org.uk) Salvation Army (Maidstone | The Salvation Army) Samaritans (<https://www.samaritans.org/branches/maidstone/>) Make a Difference Maidstone (<https://www.madm.org.uk/>) The Princess Project (<https://www.princessproject.co.uk/>) British Red Cross (<https://donate.redcross.org.uk/>)

Lorna Faulkner

East Farleigh Church Services December 2022			 <p>Details of weekly Church service at 11:00 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.)</p>
Date	Time	Service	
4 th	9:30am	Morning Worship <i>David Jones</i>	
10 th	5:00pm	Carol Service <i>Lorna Faulkner</i>	
18 th	9:30am	Carols + Communion <i>Lorna Faulkner</i>	
24 th	4:00pm	Christingle <i>Becky Parnham/Lorna Faulkner</i>	

Water off a duck's back

A phrase that came to mind in a recent long journey home from holiday, driven in torrential rain.

It's generally accepted that ducks are waterproof and shed water easily, but I confess it's not something I've ever given a lot of thought to. A duck's front is waterproof too. Underneath the waterproof outer feathers is a layer of fluffy down feathers that trap air. This not only insulates their body from cold air and water and keeps them warm, but it also provides buoyancy to keep them afloat. As it will for dunnocks and doves too, should they find themselves briefly immersed!

Feathers are engineering marvels, constructed from a hollow central shaft with a vane made of barbs that zip together and repel water. As well as being tightly zipped-up, a layer of water-proofing oil is applied during the hours spent preening each day. With deft beak movements (hard to imagine with a duck's spatula-shaped bill, but not the pinpoint bill of a robin) any vanes that have become unzipped are carefully rearranged, then smeared with the oil produced from the bird's preen gland. This is located at the base of its tail, which is why they appear to be rummaging behind them, then poking amongst their breast feathers and under their wings. I dare say they have a good scratch too while they're at it as, like all animals, they will carry blood-eating parasites – and feather mites that will feed on the feathers themselves.

A word of warning, though, if you put food out to help your garden birds through the worst of winter weather. It's important that any scraps from the table (or from cooking) that have vegetable oil are avoided. As oil remains liquid it will interfere with the birds' natural preening oils. This could be fatal for a bird trying to remain dry, and therefore warm, in wet weather. Fat (such as lard or suet) remains solid so is not a risk to the birds' plumage and is loaded with calories. However, if this has come from cooked meat it is likely to carry a high concentration of salt so, as birds cannot process salt, fat straight from the roast tray should be avoided too.

The good news is garden birds love crumbled Christmas cake and pudding. So, do your waistline a favour by giving your second helping to them.

Ray Morris



BULLET POINT SUMMARY ARISING FROM EAST FARLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE OLD SCHOOL HALL, LOWER ROAD ON Tuesday 1st November 2022 @ 7.00pm

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

Crime Report <https://www.e-watch.co>:

The PCSO sent a report that there were no crimes to note for East Farleigh.

Councillors:

· There was a few parishioners who attended the meeting. There are currently two available Councillor positions.

Clerk/RFO Vacancy:

· The Clerk informed the Parish Council that she will be retiring at the end of February 2023 but will stay in position until a replacement is found and further, that the successor is competent in Clerk/RFO matters relating to East Farleigh. If you would like to apply for this position, please email clerk@eastfarleigh-pc.org.uk for further information.

Other Matters:

· **The Public Consultation re the Parish Council's scheme to refurbish the East Farleigh recreation ground Play Area in Vicarage Lane is now live on-line. Please see the EFPC Website: <https://eastfarleigh-pc.org.uk/2022/11/07/public-consultation-efpc-play-area-vicarage-lane/>**

PLEASE DO TAKE A MOMENT OF YOUR TIME TO COMPLETE THE SURVEY. THANK YOU.

· The Fete Committee confirmed that the “**Carols Around The Christmas Tree**” this year will be 10th December 2022 at East Farleigh Church. There will be complimentary mulled wine and mince pies, with treats and activities for the children. Please support your local Community and come along for some pre-Christmas festivities.

· There have been 2 anonymous letters from concerned residents received by the Clerk. The issues raised are on the Council agenda and being investigated. However, it is impossible to respond directly to any issues/correspondence without contact details. There are two major concerns for residents at the moment namely, caravans and rubbish at The Bull Inn and current construction work near Horseshoes Riding School. EFPC always take any residents' issues seriously and make every effort to investigate matters as appropriate. Any information received will be treated as confidential and the EFPC privacy policy adhered to.

Defibrillators:

· East Farleigh has two Defibrillators – a map of where these are located is available on the EFPC website:

<https://eastfarleigh-pc.org.uk/>

The two defibrillators are registered with The Circuit which alerts the emergency services when the defibrillators are utilised.

Village Speedwatch:

· Operation Scarecrow will continue with deployment of random police speed checks. This has proved successful, and further tickets/warnings have been issued by the Police. If you feel you can help with the Village Speed Watch Scheme, please contact the Clerk via email (clerk@eastfarleigh-pc.org.uk).

Flood Plan:

· There has been a deluge of rain and blocked drains/gullies lately. EFPC are dedicated to chasing up issues with KCC Highways and our village maintenance crew are out every week to assess and deal with any problems that are within their jurisdiction

· EFPC do have a Flood Plan Policy (recently updated) and this can be viewed on the EFPC Website via the following link:

<https://eastfarleigh-pc.org.uk/documents/flood-plan-updated-nov-2022/>

CONTINUED....

Highways:

Residents are reminded that there is a Public Information Notice on the EFPC Website to inform residents of the "CountryEye" app where reports can be made of fly-tipping and unsuitable HGVs using the village roads/lanes <https://countryeye.co.uk> or visit the EFPC Website: <https://eastfarleigh-pc.org.uk> for other links where village issues can be reported direct to the relevant departments.

All **Planning matters** can be viewed on-line at www.https://pa.midkent.gov.uk/online-applications/ or in the Minutes of EFPC meetings www.estfarleigh-pc.org.uk

All EFPC **Financial Matters** are reproduced in the Minutes of all EFPC monthly meetings, published online at www.eastfarleigh-pc.org.uk, Parish Notice Boards and social media.

Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/eastfarleighparishcouncil>

If you need any help or information, please contact:

Cllr Alex Fullwood (Chair) 07944 482804,

Cllr Steve Shearman (Vice-Chair) 07774 841808 or, the Parish Clerk, Desiree Home: 07999 414712: email clerk@eastfarleigh-pc.org.uk

Next EFPC Meeting: Tuesday 6th December 2022 at 7pm in the Old School Hall, Lower Road.



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High Street, Staplehurst, Kent, TN12 0AR
hello@shcchiropractic.co.uk www.shcchiropractic.co.uk

Local Yoga Classes



Thursday 6.30pm
Beginners Yoga

Thursday 7.30pm
Yin Yoga

Friday 9.15am
Morning Yoga Flow

Sunday 10am
Slow Flow Yoga

Contact Katie to book:
07871 678370
katiemurphy.yoga@gmail.com
[@katiemurphy.yoga](https://www.instagram.com/katiemurphy.yoga)



YOGA CLASS
HERE
TODAY
9.15am
katiemurphy.yoga@gmail.com
07871 678370

THE FARLEIGHS W.I NOVEMBER 2022

The November meeting saw author James Lee giving a talk on his recent book – Licking the Taliban’s Flip-Flop. James was part of the Logistics team and travelled extensively, it was interesting to get another perspective on Army life and roles within the service.

Reserve tickets for Our Open meeting on Wednesday 30th November 7pm. Tony Harris – has sold out! we look forward to seeing everyone on what should be a really enjoyable night.

Thefarleighs@wkwfi.org.uk

Our December Christmas Party meeting is a MEMBERS ONLY affair Music Games Food and Fun are planned.

January and February Meetings will be on Zoom to avoid dark nights and bad weather driving. We will be holding catch up lunch meetings on Tuesday January 17th and Tuesday 7th February - Bring your lunch and join us for Coffee and a natter.

If you are interested in meeting others, like craft or art, darts, walking or just talking- come along and join the other 200,000 women who are the W.I If would like more information on the W.I or any of our events please e-mail Thefarleighs@wkwfi.org.uk

Diane Scott- President.

The Farleighs W.I Hall – Forge Lane East Farleigh.

PPD **PACKPRO DISPLAYS LTD**

UNIT 1B & 2
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