

Welcome to West Farleigh's own

LIFELINE

Distributed freely in August 2017 Edition no 491
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Upcoming Events:

WHAT A SQUEEZE!

Tea for the Tower was great success. Three groups of people squeezed themselves round the very tight spiral staircase of the tower, to see the view. We squeezed in over 60 people round afternoon tea tables. The Kettle Bridge Concertinas squeezed their instruments and made very good music, joined by the Farleighs' Choir. It was good to see so many local people in church, enjoying themselves and being prepared to join in the singing. All in all, a great afternoon. Thank you to all who took part, even if it was washing up! A great start to our fundraising campaign to repair the tower. A profit of over £700 was made.

Cakes and scones waiting to be served



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New on the website

Regular events in the Farleighs are now listed. No excuse to be idle, there are an amazing number of things going on.

RIDE AND STRIDE (Another chance to raise some money for the tower)

It is to be held on Saturday 9th September and is organised by The Friends Of Kent Churches to raise funds for the upkeep of Kent's beautiful churches. You can cycle, walk, (or even run if you're feeling very fit!) to visit participating churches throughout Kent. The sponsorship money you raise will be divided equally between Friends of Kent Churches and the church or chapel of your choice. This is particularly pertinent to West Farleigh this year as our own All Saints Church is in need of repairs to the tower and we shall be applying for a grant from this very Fund. Sponsorship forms and more details are available from Sue O'Donnell (Tel. 01622 727852). Alternatively, if you would like to help but would prefer not to take part in the ride itself, stewards are also needed to offer refreshments to the riders and walkers visiting our church. If you can spare an hour or two on the day Sue would love to hear from you.

Please contact the editors if you would like an article in Lifeline or on the Website – Email editor@thefarleighs.co.uk

STOP PRESS

BEER FESTIVAL

GOOD INTENT

28th-30th July

Deadline for September issue of LIFELINE: 22nd August, 2017

FIFTY YEARS A LAY READER.

It was in 1967 that my vicar at the time asked me to become a Lay Reader: the parish was Sonning (near Reading) and the vicar's name was Robin Brutton. I did not feel I could possibly refuse; and so began 50 years of duty and obligation.



Therefore, looking back, has it been a welcome experience? Of course it has, but there have also been many occasions of great fear: one might almost say sheer panic. To stand up in front of 100 people and lead them in worship and preach, is definitely stressful, perhaps at times, even worse

No doubt many of you reading this will also have experienced times in your life when the occasion has demanded more than you felt able to give. My method was always, just before the service commenced, to ask The Almighty to strengthen His Holy Spirit in me so that I could do my very best for His sake. The words that I spoke needed to be His words: His message, rather than my own. I can honestly say that He never ever let me down.

I share this with you because I am sure that you will have experienced occasions when the daunting situation looms before you and you simply do not know how you are going to get through it. If we are Christians, then we always know that God the Father is there for us: we know this because Jesus, all through His ministry, assured us that it was so. Do we remember that God is there for us? Do we call on Him when we need Him most?

Last month I relinquished my duties as Lay Reader! Obviously there will be a few regrets, but life is a journey through which we must move with thought and prayer. New demands come our way, and we should be ready for them. I believe that the Rector is empowered to call upon my services on an occasional basis if he so wishes; so you may not entirely have seen the last of me!!

Hugh Grainger

August Services at All Saints

Sunday 6th August	8.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 13th August	11.00 am	Morning Prayer (Modern)
Sunday 20th August	9.30 am	Morning Prayer (Traditional)
Sunday 27th August	9.30 pm	Holy Communion (modern)

Rev Peter Callway, Rector: 01622 747570 Call for Baptisms, Weddings & Funerals, not Fridays

Rev David Jones, Hon. Associate Rector 01622 741474. Not Fridays

Rev Eileen Doyle, Associate Rector 01622 204241. Not Mondays and Tuesdays

Becky Parnham, Children and Families Worker 07949 646885. .

CHURCH FOR HIRE

The church is available for meetings, classes, concerts etc. There is a servery with an urn, kettle, crockery and cutlery. Tables chairs etc. Outside toilet, attached to church, no spiders! If you are interested, contact Val Grainger on 820305 or vgrainger38@btinternet.com

- 1100** Church built in early Norman style
- 1200** An altar to Our Lady was placed where the pulpit now stands.
- 1300-1400** Bigger window were installed
- 1500** The font with its carved cover was installed
- 1523** Bottom half of tower built with a £5 legacy from William Coveney.
- 1546 THE REFORMATION.** Altars screens crucifix and statues removed. A 3 tier pulpit and box pews installed.

- 1841** Top half of tower was completed.

- 1875** Major restoration costing £1.500. The Reredos, mosaics choir stalls and pews installed.
The Vestry was added and the porch rebuilt. The plaster on the ceiling removed to show the oak beams etc The gallery at the west end was removed and an organ installed in the Chancel.

- 1955** The Jacobean Box pew was moved to the back of the church.

- 2006** The organ was removed and an electronic one installed. The pews were removed, the floor carpeted. Chairs and a lectern were bought. New door curtains put up. The church was rewired and a new sound and heating system put in.



The Jacobean Font and cover.

The church was built on the site of an earlier church.
The piscina can still be seen beside the pulpit.
Some of the original Norman slit window can still be seen.
The font was moved to the front of the Nave during the reordering in 2006/7. It still has its Jacobean cover.
A gilded bronze cross was buried by the vicar at the time for safe keeping. It was not discovered until 300 years later. It is now in the British museum. A painting of it hangs in the chancel.

The base of the tower would have had a wooden top until now.

We might not have approved of all the Victorians did, but they did major work to keep the church in good order. Look at the drain pipes!
There was a barrel organ in the gallery which would have been used to play for the hymns.

This is still at the back of the Nave and used as a store.

The organ was removed as the blower box, insulated with asbestos, had contaminated it. The new electronic organ, built in a traditional style with stops etc, is far superior and has a magnificent sound. The church is now warm enough (Just) for it to be able to be used for other activities such as Pilates, Toddler group, Harvest suppers and concerts.



The piscina, which would have had the altar to Our Lady beside it.

A more detailed history of the church will shortly be posted on the village website www.thefarleighs.co.uk

The people of West Farleigh have been maintaining and improving our church for 900 years. Don't let it get neglected on our watch. There have been many baptisms, weddings and funerals of villagers in this church, it has and is playing an important role in our village, even if you do not go and worship on a Sunday. Please continue to support our fundraising ventures. We do try to make them fun and enjoyable!

ANCESTRY CORNER

We have had a request for information from Sandra, now living in Australia. We may be able to help her.

My name is **Sandra Miles (nee Nash)**. I am a descendent of Stephen NASH born 19/11/1801 in Hunton.

Stephen married Charlotte PEARSON 15/12/1823 in West Farleigh.

They had 2 children

Stephen born 18/7/1824 and Charles born 22/1/1828 both born in West Farleigh.

Stephen was deported on 3rd May 1828 on Countess of Harcourt.

I am very keen to see if there are any descendants of the children still living in West Farleigh.

My email is nevillesandramiles@nevillesandramiles.com.au

If you can help, even in a very small way, Sandra would be pleased to hear from you.

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

Although there had been 5 reported break ins and an attempted break in, with tack and garden furniture taken, the police had taken very little interest. They also took over 24 hours to investigate, an obviously stolen tractor, which had been abandoned in Small Profits Lane.

The landowners are to be asked to cut back the Willow trees by Teston Bridge to improve visibility of oncoming traffic, and to trim the Laurels on the boundary of the Thatched House. Although the trees in the Cricket field have TPOs on them, they are to be trimmed to allow the dustcart to pass down Church Lane. The planning application by Berry Gardens, to increase the site at Wares Farm Linton, has been passed. The Highways report said there would be no problem with increased traffic. However the council was worried that as 80% of the fruit was coming from abroad to be packed, there would be many more large lorries going to and from the farm, which will cause more congestion at Linton Crossroads and through our village.

Two landowners are to be asked to eradicate the Japanese Knotweed which is growing on their land.

Safety gloves are to be bought for the Litter Pickers, who do a great job of keeping our village tidy.

New picnic tables have been erected on the Green. To reduce costs, some of the parish councilors put them up themselves. There is one more to be erected.

Four villagers attended the meeting. Everyone is welcome to come along and there is an opportunity to speak if you wish.

ARCHIE A RATHER SPECIAL DOG.



David and Helen Swan have had dogs for the last 45 years. They have all been rescued and all were great company. When George died due to Lymphoma, the search was on for a replacement. We searched the web, made numerous phone calls until Viking Oak kennels said they had a Labrador type dog about 2 years old. We found this dejected, sad and shaved dog, the kennels said he knew none of the commands and they did not know if he was house trained. However there was something about him and we agreed to take him on. He gained confidence, his coat regrew and he DID know his commands.

There really was something special about him, he was so obedient, gentle and friendly, that we decided to see if he would pass the test to become a Pets As Therapy Dog. He passed with flying colours.

Archie and Helen now go into a Primary School, not local, once a week to listen to reading. The children sit on a bean bag and Archie sits right up close to them, sometimes with his head in their lap. He gives confidence to the shy, the troubled and to a child who stutters. His very presence has a very calming and reassuring effect. He has also been befriended by two pupils who were scared of dogs!

If you think your dog could do the same, or visit old folk, go to www.petsastherapy.org

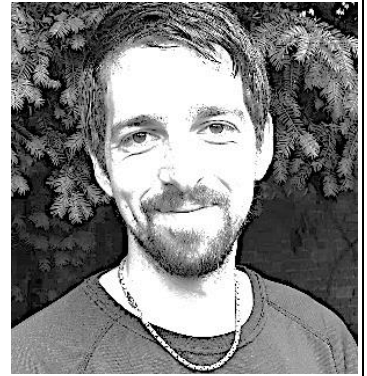
View from the Garden by Jon Fenlon

Hi everyone thank you all very much for coming to our NGS open day on the 16 July. We had a great day and raised over £2,500 for the NGS charities. We had over 300 visitors and sold a lot of tea, cake and plants.

It's that time of year when the dead heading and watering seems to take over the garden. With dead heading, doing it a little and often can go a long way.



Keep on top of the faded perennials by cutting them down when ready to allow more space for other plants to grow. It's a good time to cut lavender back once it's finished flowering, This will keep it compact.



Some pruning can be done this month if you find the time such as summer flowering shrubs, whippy growth on wisteria and climbing roses (I, personally, don't normally prune climbing roses until a lot later in the year October-December). Don't forget to collect seed when its ripe ready for sowing next year. Also if you have tender perennials try taking cuttings and growing them on ready for planting out next year.

If you have a perennial wildflower meadow in your garden now is the time to cut it down. This can be done with a strimmer or scythe. I would suggest leaving the grass on the ground for the seed to drop out, this can be aided by flicking the grass around using a hay rake or pitch fork.

if your meadow is lacking in flora once it is cut you can open the soil up with a scarification, or you could turn over the turf in the worst areas and sow the seed directly over the area. Sowing yellow rattle will reduce the vigour of the grass over time which will in turn help the other flowers establish.

Keep on top of harvesting all of your fruit and veg as a lot will be ready by this point. You can cut down herbs to get a fresh crop before winter. The tomatoes will still need feeding and also remove the lower leaves to aid ventilation and help prevent diseases.

Now is also a good time to go through bulb catalogues and get some ideas for next year. You can also take a stroll around the garden see where you have gaps or plants that are not performing and get good ideas from catalogues.




Full colour version on-line www.thefarleighs.co.uk



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DO YOU MANAGE A BUSINESS IN FARLEIGHS? THIS IS FOR YOU!

We are going to launch a business directory distributed with Lifeline **to promote local businesses**. It will come out quarterly. In addition, you will get a free listing on www.thefarleighs.co.uk with a link to your business website. **For further details, please contact Helen Kirk-Brown at helen.kirkbrown@icloud.com**

Farleigh Feathers by Ray Morris

WHERE ARE THE BIRDS?

August usually prompts the question "Where have all the garden birds gone?". To which the answer is usually "into the fields and hedgerows where there is now more food available". Our house sparrows are no exception. A few weeks ago there were daily family parties of adults feeding their newly fledged youngsters from the millet seed specially provided for them in our garden; now they are only coming in small groups, and I expect visits to get less and less frequent throughout August and September as they take advantage of the natural harvest. They'll be back in October, especially if it is cold and wet, to prepare for the winter battle against the elements. Along with most other small garden birds, less than half of this year's young will survive to breed next spring, and a good proportion of adults will also perish if it is a hard winter.



For the past six years I have been taking part in a national project to monitor the survival of adult house sparrows. It is being run by the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) and is helping our understanding of why sparrow numbers have declined so drastically in the last thirty years. Fortunately, it is starting to provide some answers that are leading to ideas for how we can protect them. The project is based at Frith Farm and the Horseshoes Riding School in Dean Street, and in Vicarage Lane, and is one of eighteen across the country. Sparrows are fitted with coloured leg-rings so they can be tracked throughout the year. Data so far show their survival compares less well in East Farleigh (and the South-East generally) with that of those nationally. Results for 'our' sparrows show that only 39% of adult males and 36% of adult females survive each year. This compares with 44% and 42% elsewhere. Although sparrows don't normally travel far from the colony they were born in, it would be interesting to know if any have been tempted by the promise of a better life in West Farleigh! If you see any of them, or would like more information, please do let me know - (01622 726164A / lepiaf@hotmail.co.uk).



A hovering Kestrel

It is no coincidence that predators also time their breeding so that there are plenty of young, naive birds around when they need extra food to feed own hungry youngsters. So now is a good time to see sparrowhawks, kestrels, buzzards and owls – all fairly common now in The Farleighs – out hunting for birds, rodents, rabbits and earthworms (the latter a favourite of buzzards and little owls). Of course, the predators' young, once fledged, are naive too and have to learn how to hunt through trial and error. So you may be lucky enough to see a young, perplexed-looking sparrowhawk sitting near your garden feeders wondering why the other birds have gone.

An extended, illustrated version of this article can be seen on www.thefarleighs.co.uk

View from the Scoreboard by Terry Baines



CRICKET: Farleigh have continued their excellent season and last month brought four victories out of four. Our first win came against Marden, followed by Kilndown, then Southborough and finally Farningham. All games, however, were close but if we continue to improve it gives us a very good chance of promotion at the end of the season. Our one and only 2nd XI friendly fixture against East Sutton was another good game and another good victory.

We are still struggling to find enough players for our Sunday fixtures, it is not too late to get involved and it would be good if we could end the season with a few more games having been played. All standards are welcome.

FOOTBALL: Training is well under way every Tuesday and Thursday evenings on the pitch at 6.30. All are welcome.

Our long awaited tour from our friends from Ringstedt takes place on the weekend of the 28th July. Many events are planned, we even get a chance to play football! Full report next month!

CLUB NEWS: Our lucky **Ton up winners for July were:**

24	Geraldine Baggott	£30
65	Stephen Norman	£20
120	John Glqwin	£10

Yours in Sport

Tel

WOULD YOU LIKE TO PLAY FRIENDLY CRICKET ON SUNDAYS?

The WF A team is looking for more cricketers. **There are no entrance requirements** except enjoyment of the game! Want to give it a go? Email or call Trevor: goldhagen.mobile@gmail.com or 07710 928382

EVERGREENS

The Evergreens went to Tenterden for a ride on the Kent and East Sussex Railway.

A cream tea was served on the train, which was much enjoyed. The train stopped at Bodium for the engine to run round and a few intrepid members went to look at the wagon that brought Dames Edith Cavell's body and the body of the unknown warrior back home. On the way back to Tenterden the members chose what they would like for lunch on our next outing on Tuesday 25th July! We are going to the Sage and Time café at Kenward House. The outings are much enjoyed as many of our members no longer drive or only go short distances.

On Tuesday 8th August we will be meeting in the WI Hall at 2.30. There will be some lighthearted quizzes. Followed, of course, by afternoon tea. If you would like to come ring Terry 814561 who will arrange a lift if required.



What a lovely evening we had being taught not only about wild flowers but also how to make a wonderful bouquet. Our speaker this month was Bek from Blooming Green Nursery in Linton, who set up their own nursery about 10 years ago with her cousin Jen. They now grow many different variety of flowers, invite customer to come, choose their own wedding bouquets or just come fill up a container to take home. It was very interesting and the

bouquet she made was put in our raffle for a member to win. We had a couple of new ladies who came to see what we have to offer in our WI and hope that we made them feel welcome so they will come back again. If you would like to come and find out what we do then please join us on a second Wednesday in the month at the Farleighs WI, Forge Lane East Farleighs or ring me Pam Lindon 01622 726337 for more information. Also anyone who wants to hire our Hall please ring Karen Malins on 01622 920258

Pam Lindon

pamlindon@btinternet.com

07711590402

Events

Date and time Event and venue

28-30 Jul	BEER FESTIVAL The Good Intent will be hosting its Annual Beer Festival this weekend. Go along and try the local beers.
29th Jul	JAZZ AT THE TRICKLED TROUT Jazz on the Terrace. 2-4-1 Cocktails!
Sun 30th Jul 10.30	BENEFICE SERVICE AT COXHEATH Everyone from all five parishes are welcome to this joint service. Even if you are not a regular church goer they will be pleased to see you.
10-3	ANTIQUES MARKET Antiques and vintage market at the Old School Hall Lower Road East Farleigh.
Sat 5th Aug	OUTDOOR CINEMA AT THE TICKLED TROUT They will be showing TOP GUN . Book on 814717
Sun 6th Aug 10-1.00	EAST FARLEIGH FARMERS MARKET Lots of great stalls, veg, meat, plants, bread, cakes, crafts, cards etc. Refreshments including Full English for £4.50. In the Old School Hall East Farleigh.
Sat 9th Sept	RIDE AND STRIDE See front page for details
Wed 20 Sept 7.30	WATERINGBURY HISTORY SOCIETY Rod le Gear will be speaking about History from the air. Visitors welcome Meet in Wateringbury Village Hall. More info from gillchartsutton@hotmail

THIEVES ABOUT

Since the theft and attempted burglaries reported at the Parish Council meeting, there has been another attempted breakin in Ewell Lane.

Please lock all doors and windows, when you go out. Don't leave tempting things visible, most thefts are opportunistic and not planned. Do not give them the opportunity!

Lastly, don't panic, our village has very little crime and is a safe place to live.

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