

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN FARNHAM

August 2016 E-News

Please publicise the items below - and forward to editors for inclusion in church magazines, newsletters and service sheets. Also let us know about YOUR forthcoming events and activities - email to web@ct-farnham.org.uk

Dear Church Leaders, CTF Representatives, Associates and other Friends

First of all - a hearty welcome on behalf of us all to Russ Gant, the new vicar of Rowledge! We hope you and your family settle in quickly and thoroughly enjoy your new role and life in Rowledge. And I hope all other addressees have a good summer and manage a bit of a break somewhere along the way.

Mary Clarke is away in Wales at present so I am sending this out on her behalf - I hope without too many address-list glitches and other IT problems. Apologies in advance if there are any!

With very best wishes to you all.

Andrew Partridge - Secretary, Churches Together in Farnham

NOTICES -

TWO FARNHAM CHURCHES IN UNITY TALKS - Farnham Methodist Church and Farnham United Reformed Church have started discussions to examine the possibility of uniting their two Farnham churches. In a joint statement they say: "The two churches, which are both located in South Street, Farnham, have enjoyed a very friendly relationship stretching over many decades. They have frequently shared services and exchanged preachers as well as having joint Sunday Schools and social activities in earlier years.

"The discussions taking place between the churches are without prejudice to any of the obvious questions that arise, such as the premises that will be used, which denomination will provide a minister etc. The form of worship of the two churches is very similar, but the historical backgrounds are somewhat different and many matters need full discussion within the membership of each church.

"Rev Conrad Hicks, the Minister of Farnham Methodist Church, stated: 'Our two churches have worked well together for many years. Exploring the possibility of becoming one church witnesses to the spirit of unity and co-operation that is at the heart of our faith'.

"Rev Michael Hopkins, Minister of the Farnham URC said: 'I am delighted that we're exploring new ways of partnership in the mission we share in Farnham town centre, and look forward to whatever the future may hold'.

"Similar local unions between churches took place in Godalming in 1977, and Camberley in 1990."

ECUMENICAL PILGRIMAGE FOR PEACE – Starting on Saturday 13th August and finishing on Sunday 28th August, an ecumenical pilgrimage will be wending its way from Winchester to Canterbury. Walking an average of 15 miles a day, the pilgrims will spend each night at a church, a school or a community hall. Following footpaths as far as possible, their route lies a little to the south of Farnham, with participants due to spend a night at Hindhead on the way from Alton, before continuing to their next overnight stop at Cranleigh. The theme of the pilgrimage is 'Walking a Prayer for Peace'. Your prayers for the pilgrimage are invited. The event has been organised by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Arundel and Brighton.

MANY CHURCHES WILL BE WELCOMING VISITORS DURING HERITAGE WEEKEND – Between 8 and 11 September a number of churches and other Christian establishments and historic sites around Farnham will be laying on a special welcome to visitors. Look on line for a veritable treasure trove of these and other fascinating places you are invited to visit free of charge.

RIDE & STRIDE FOR YOUR CHURCH – On 10 September, our opportunity to join in or support this annual event to raise money for our own and other churches in the county via sponsorship for the

Surrey Churches Preservation Trust. Cyclists or walkers can plan their own route to visit churches and chapels in Surrey from a list of participating places of worship. More details available on line or from churches.

INSTALLATION OF THE NEW RECTOR OF FARNHAM - The Rector-to-be of Farnham, David Uffindell, moves in to the Rectory on 15th August but remains working at Holy Trinity, Sunningdale, until 4th September. He is then leading a pilgrimage to the Holy Land 13th - 23rd September before formally being installed in Farnham on Thursday 29th September at 7:30 p.m.

HAVE YOU PUT THIS DATE IN YOUR DIARY? – Churches Together in Farnham's 2016 AGM will be on **Wednesday 12 October at Farnham Pentecostal Church.**

DIARY - Some special events in the next few weeks. Go to the CTF website via link below for more details of these and other church events, including posters to download for your noticeboard.

Tuesday – 9 August - 1.10pm- St Andrew's Church, Farnham - Music While you Munch - the next in series of free organ concerts. This month's organist is John Purver from Alresford. Refreshments available or bring your own sandwiches.

Tuesday 16 August – 11am – CTF Ecumenical Prayer Meeting will be a summer special, held at Vine Cottage, 19 Mount Pleasant, Farnham, GU9 7AA – reflective readings, prayers and intercessions, followed by bring-and-share lunch. All very welcome.

Thursday 18 August - 3pm - Farnham Methodist Church - Farnham ASSIST Silver Service – with traditional hymns and prayers for over sixties - followed by home-made cakes and tea provided by the church. Contact Farnham ASSIST if transport is needed.

Thursday 18 August – 4pm - Farnham Cricket Club, Folly Hill - Phyllis Tuckwell Charity Cricket Match - Bridges Estate Agents are holding a Charity 20:20 Cricket Match between Bridges and Phyllis Tuckwell. All proceeds to the Hospice. Entry is free. The celebrations will continue afterwards with a prize-giving, drinks and a buffet at Borelli's Wine Bar, in Farnham.

Saturday 3 September – from 12 noon – in the Rectory Garden, 25 , Upper Hale Road – Badshot Lea and Hale Parish Fete – Stalls, bouncy castle, BBQ and other refreshments – 'that quintessentially English feel and is great fun'.

Saturday 10 September - St Andrew's Church, Farnham – Annual Parish Fayre - Stalls, parachuting teddies from the church tower, bbq, lunches and teas in church, Mr.Giant entertains, beer tent.

Saturday 10 September - 7.30pm - St Thomas-on-The Bourne Church – Music Recital - Sonatas by Gabriel Fauré and César Franck, and pieces by Richard Strauss, John Williams and Fritz Kreisler. Performed by David Barlen (Piano) Karen Glen (Piano) Richard Lane (Violin) Kate Mill (French Horn) and Muriel Phillips (Piano). Free admission, collection in aid of St Thomas'. Refreshments available during intermission.

Saturday 17 September - 7.30pm - Alton Abbey – 'Not All About Pooh' - Susan Morris and Alfred Bradley present a talk with readings about A.A.Milne. Tickets £15 for the evening, to include wine and finger food in the Cloister Garden, available from: "Tickets", Friends of Alton Abbey, Alton Abbey, Beech, Alton, GU34 4AP Cheques should be made payable to "Friends of Alton Abbey". Please include a SAE, a telephone number, and an email address if possible. For further information - email: friendsofaltonabbey@gmail.com 01420 562126 Friends of Alton (Abbey, Alton Abbey, Abbey Road, Beech, Alton, Hants, GU34 4AP.

More about these and other activities on the CTF website at

<http://www.churchestogether.org/farnham/>

where you will also find links to our member churches' and associates' individual websites, with details of services and other activities.