

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN FARNHAM

September 2015 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

Autumn approaches - and with it (on 13th October) the Annual General Meeting of Churches Together in Farnham. This will provide a good opportunity to discuss the future of Churches Together in Farnham as an entity. We would welcome any views either in advance or on the day. More details will be promulgated in the October mailing but in the meantime please note the date in your diary and please turn over in your mind what you feel the role and the functions of Churches Together in Farnham should be, and how these would be most effectively prosecuted.

With very best wishes

Andrew Partridge - Secretary, Churches Together in Farnham

NOTICES -

FREE MINDFULNESS COURSE. St Mark's Church Upper Hale, is offering a free Mindfulness Course on Tuesday Evenings, starting on 15th September. Run by Suzette Jones (Health and Well-being Advisor for the Diocese of Guildford), this course is additional to the monthly free sessions at St Mark's on the first Monday of each month and will examine the practice of Mindfulness in more detail. A flyer with fuller details is attached to the email version of this newsletter.

CWR IS HOLDING A NATIONAL WEEKEND OF PRAYER FROM 25th to 27th September. As part of this event, **Farnham Methodist Church will be open for prayer on Saturday 26th.** All are welcome.

SAFER CHILDBIRTH THANKS TO CHRISTIAN AID. *Farnham Chair Karen Fewster writes:* I have had some feedback about 2014 Christmas appeal which was in support of the work of Christian Aid in Kenya, focusing on antenatal services and reducing deaths in childbirth. In the villages where this project was based there have been no mother or baby deaths in childbirth since the project began - heartening news.

DRAMATIC ANGLE ON CLIMATE CHANGE. Karen also gives notice of a performance of 'Baked Alaska' by the Christian theatre company Riding Lights at The Church on the Heath in neighbouring Fleet on 1st October. Jointly sponsored by the host church and Christian Aid, the play takes a novel look at climate change. Go to <http://www.churchontheheath.org.uk> for details.

A CHANCE TO WALK IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JESUS CHRIST. Canon Karen Hutchinson, Vicar of The Bourne and Tilford, will be leading another pilgrimage to the Holy Land from 26th October to 3rd November **2016**. For information, brochures and booking forms email revkarenhutchinson@gmail.com or phone The Bourne Parish Office: 715505.

STILL TIME TO APPLY for Telephone Helpline Volunteers Training Course with RASASC - Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Centre (Guildford). This will be starting on Sunday 18th October. **Interviews of potential volunteers will take place on 20th & 27th September & 11th October** - numbers limited – female only. The Helpline offers listening and support for women and men who have experienced childhood or adult rape and/or sexual abuse. For more details go to <http://www.rasasc-guildford.org/> or email Vivien Sale: vivien@rasasc-guildford.org.

DIARY – Some special events in the next few weeks. Go to the CTF website www.churchestogether.org/farnham for more details of these and other church events, including posters to download for your noticeboard.

Thursday 3rd September – Winchester University – 10am to 4pm – SEEFF (South East England Faith Forum) Day Conference on Faith and Education. Keynote speaker Alan Brine (former RE lead OFSTED). Multi-faith panel and workshops. Contact elizabeth.jenkerson@btopenworld.com.

Saturday 5th September – 12 to 4pm – The Rectory, 25 Upper Hale Rd, Farnham GU9 0NX. All the Fun of the Fete – bouncy slide, games face painting, BBQ, refreshments, stalls for plants, cakes, bric a brac, tombola, toys, books, etc. Grand Draw with many prizes. 'Come for a great community event and help your local church.'

Monday 7th September – 9.30am - St Mark's Church, Upper Hale – Time to be Mindful – monthly free mindfulness sessions (on first Monday) - led by Suzette Jones, the Diocesan Health and Wellbeing Advisor.

Tuesday 8th September - 1.10 to 1.45 pm - St Andrew's Church, Farnham - Music while you Munch. Organ recital in the lunch hour; soup and rolls available or bring your own lunch. Entrance free; retiring collection.

Tuesday 8th September – 7 for 7.30pm - St Thomas-on-The Bourne Centenary Room – Demonstration of Flower Arranging by Fred Wilkinson – Director of Constance Spry & decorator for Royalty and Embassies world-wide. Cake stall and raffle. Tickets £10 (from Parish Office or St Thomas flower ladies) include tea or coffee on arrival.

Thursday 10th to Sunday 13th September – Farnham Heritage Weekend. Extensive programme of free open days, visits, tours and walks to view historic buildings. Included (among many more) are Farnham United Reformed Church, St Andrew's Church, St Thomas-on-The Bourne Church and Waverley Abbey House. Brochure and full details available on line.

Saturday 12th September – Ride and Stride for a Churches. Visit as many churches as you can to raise sponsorship money for the church of your choice and the Surrey Churches Preservation Trust. Full details on Surrey Ride and Stride website - pick up a sponsor form from church.

Saturday 12th September - 12noon to 4pm - Farnham Parish Church – St Andrew's Parish Fayre. Many attractions, stalls, music, and the opportunity for your teddy to parachute from the church tower.

Tuesday 15th September - 11am – St Joan's Centre, Tilford Road, Farnham – CTF monthly Prayer Meeting. Reflective readings, prayers and intercessions. Refreshments on arrival. All welcome – just come along!

Thursday 17th September - 3pm - Farnham Methodist Church - Farnham ASSIST'S Silver Service for older people - followed by home-made tea and cake.

Sunday 20th September – 2.45pm for 3pm start - Abbots Wood Car Park, Alice Holt – St Peter's Church Fund-Raising Challenge. Walk, toddle, scoot, cycle, run, skip or jog around the forest for an hour. Picnic tea afterwards. This is in aid of St Peter's, Wrecclesham, Restoration and Development Project. Pick up a sponsor form in church or go to parish website for more details.

Thursday 24th September - 8pm, St Andrew's church - Lecture on Faith and Science. The first of two lectures by Andrew Partridge (Lay Minister at St Andrew's and former physics tutor at Farnborough Sixth-Form College) on the relationship between faith and science. The first will be based on Genesis Chapter 1 - Creation (see details of second lecture on 8th October below).

Saturday 26th September – Farnham Methodist Church – Open for prayer as part of CWR National Prayer Weekend.

Thursday 1st October - 3pm - Farnham United Reformed Church - Farnham ASSIST celebrates the International Day of the Older Person with a Songs of Praise Service - followed by afternoon tea. Dr Terry Boyle will be the speaker and the Town Mayor Cllr Pat Frost will be there.

Saturday 3rd October – 7.30pm - St Peter's & St Paul's Church, Godalming – The Boyan Ensemble of Kiev in a programme of sacred chants and songs of the Ukraine. Well known in the Farnham area from previous tours, this is the opportunity to hear the ensemble perform this year. Tickets £18 – students and children £10 – from Michael Clarkson Webb 01252 702315 or from Record Corner, Godalming.

Thursday 8th October – 8pm – St Andrew's Church, Farnham – Second lecture on Faith and Science by Andrew Partridge – relating to Genesis chapters 2 and 3 – Adam and Eve.

Saturday 10th October – 7.30pm – St Andrew's Church, Farnham – Friends of St Andrew's Concert - featuring Farnham Brass Band and Voices Together Community Choir. Tickets (available shortly) £10 for adults, under 16s free.

Tuesday 13th October – Farnham Pentecostal Church - Churches Together in Farnham AGM. ALL WELCOME.

Friday 16th October – 7pm – Alton Abbey – Friends of Alton Abbey 13th Annual Lecture - 'Perspectives from Palestine' - to be given by Tim and Mayonne Coldicott, from Frensham. Tickets £25 to include supper with wine in the Refectory after the Lecture. Find more details via link on CTF website 'Notices' page. For more information phone: 01420 562126 or email: friendsofaltonabbey@gmail.com.

Friday 30th October – Alton Abbey – 7.30pm - 'The Abbey's Got Talent (allegedly)' – an evening of fun & frivolity produced by the monks and members of their congregation.' Tickets £15. Follow link on CTF website 'Notices' page for poster with details.

For more about these and other activities, go to the CTF website 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.