

# CHURCHES TOGETHER IN FARNHAM

## November 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](mailto:web@ct-farnham.org.uk)*

### **Dear Church Leaders, CTF Representatives, Associates and other Friends**

Mary has assembled below a splendidly comprehensive list of events over the period running up to Christmas - poetry, craft fairs and a Christmas tree festival, a Eucharist for peace, a ceilidh, concerts and carol services - truly something for everyone. Do check it out and see!

Right at the start of the list, on Tuesday 8th, comes a debate sponsored by Farnham Humanists on the challenging topic 'Britain is no longer a Christian country & should stop behaving as if it is'. I will be attending this; I expect the questions asked and points made will serve to indicate the sort of image the church presents to many outside it - which is not a perspective that those of us inside it often get. Although by the time you read this there will be almost no notice at all, I do suggest you consider making time to attend. I suspect it will be quite instructive.

I will be sending out an updated version of the Directory shortly, and a request for participation in a Dementia Action Alliance - so apologies in advance for further additions to your in-box!

With very best wishes

**Andrew Partridge - Secretary, Churches Together in Farnham**

## **NOTICES**

**IS THIS THE JOB FOR YOU?** St James' Church, Rowledge is seeking a Parish Administrator. "Your role will be to support our Vicar and dedicated team of volunteers by providing day-to-day administration of our parish office. You will often be the 'face' of the local church and therefore the need to work with pastoral sensitivity, prayerfulness and confidentiality are essential. You will also be a gifted administrator and team player. 15 hours per week with some flexibility. For more information, a full job description and an application form, please contact: Revd. Russ Gant (Vicar) Tel. 01252 792402; Email [vicar@stjamesrowledge.org.uk](mailto:vicar@stjamesrowledge.org.uk) . **Applications should be received by Friday 11 November.** Interviews will be held week commencing 14 November."

**PRE CHRISTMAS EVENTS FOR OVER SIXTIES** – Susie Blackwood writes that Farnham ASSIST will be holding a carol service at Farnham Baptist Church on 5 December (see **DIARY** below for details). "Anyone wanting to come to our Christmas lunch at The Gostrey Centre on Sunday 11 December must book with us by **Monday 7 December**, or the Christmas Lunch at Hale to be held at Bethel Baptist Church on Saturday 17 December, must book with us by **Tuesday 13 December** phone - 01252 717710. The usual activities of Farnham ASSIST this November include Pie and Pint; Knit 'n' Natter; Ladies Pub lunch; Understanding Computers; Silver Service; and Roast Lunches. Please do contact us if you would like to join us at an event or if you would like to volunteer, tel. 01252 717710."

**WANTED – CAROL SINGERS FOR CHRISTIAN AID** – Karen Fewster would like to hear from volunteers who can swell the number of carol singers outside Farnham United Reformed Church in South Street from 2 till 3.30pm on Saturday 10 December. That day the URC's Spire cafe will be serving home-made soup in aid of Christian Aid until 2pm, while a bucket collection outside the church will go on through the morning and afternoon. If you can sing and would like to help, please contact

Karen on 07977561567 for more information.

**[JOIN A SANTA & RUDOLPH FUN RUN FOR PHYLLIS TUCKWELL CARE](#)** - Choose from three festive family fun runs – on Sunday 27 November at the Devil's Punchbowl, Hindhead, on Saturday 10 December at Broadwater Park, Godalming, and on Sunday 11 December at Queen's Avenue Playing Fields, Aldershot. Find full details and how to register, plus more of the hospice's fund-raising events, at [www.pth.org.uk](http://www.pth.org.uk)

**[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 8 November - 1.10pm - St Andrew's Church, Farnham - Music While you Munch played by Stephen Lacey** - next in monthly series of free lunchtime organ recitals. Refreshments available or bring your own sandwiches. Free of charge but donations to a fund for development of music activities at St Andrews welcome.

**Monday 8 November - 8pm - South Farnham School – A Public Debate hosted by Farnham Humanists on the proposition: “Britain is no longer a Christian country & should stop behaving as if it is”.** 'Come and have your say' The speakers on each side will be ● The Revd Canon Dr Andrew Bishop, Anglican Chaplain of Surrey University with George Chantry, Oxford University PPE student – and ● Andrew Copson, Chief executive of the British Humanist Association with Alex Marks Healy, Guildford County School Secular Society. The chair will be taken by Anthony Kirby, History and Politics Tutor at Godalming College. Admission free - there will be a charity collection for Disability Challengers at the end. The event is open to all and Farnham Humanists have invited members of Churches Together in Farnham to attend.

**Thursday 10 November – 7.15pm – Church of the Good Shepherd, Dockenfield - WW2 'Into the Dark' Bomber Command Talk in aid of the Poppy Appeal.** The speaker will be Janet Hughes, the daughter of Reginald Wilson, who served in Bomber Command squadron and was shot down in 1944 over Berlin. Their book, 'Into the Dark' (co-written by Reg and Janet) has received wide acclaim.

**Saturday 12 November – 12.30pm – Brambleton Hall – Brambleton Christmas Fair –** hot dogs tea and coffee, tombola, raffle and stalls. Enjoy a light lunch and support the Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice.

**Saturday 12 November – 7 for 7.30pm – St Mark's Church, Upper Hale – Lest We Forget – poetry and Remembrance of the Great War** - 'Another wonderful evening from Jonathan Jones to help raise money to save Emily the pipe organ. Entrance free – donations for Emily gratefully received.'

**Saturday 12 November – 7.30pm - St Thomas-on-The Bourne Church – Farnham & Bourne Choral Society 'Eternal Light' Concert – in memory of the Choir's former Musical Director, Robin Wells.** Robin died earlier this year, having been its conductor for 47 years.. He is succeeded as Musical Director by Calum Fraser. Advance tickets £13 from 01252 721075 or £15 on the door. Go to [www.farnham-choral.org.uk](http://www.farnham-choral.org.uk) for more information.

**Sunday 13 November – 6pm - St Thomas- on-The Bourne Church - Eucharist for Peace -** Incorporating the Son of God Mass by James Whitbourn. Performed by the St Thomas' Choir & saxophonist Alastair Penman. 'All are welcome to this reflective service to conclude our Remembrance Sunday observance, remembering those who have suffered through war, and praying for the peace of the world.'

**Tuesday 15 November - 11am - St Joan's Centre, Tilford Road - Churches Together in Farnham's Monthly Prayer Meeting** - reflective readings, prayers and intercessions Refreshments served at the start of the meeting. All very welcome.

**Wednesday 16 November – 10.30am - St Andrew's Church - Bach to Baby Concert** – coffee from 10am. Tickets £10 per adult, children and babies free.

**Thursday 17 November – 3pm - Farnham Methodist Church – Farnham ASSIST Silver Service for over sixties** – followed by tea and cakes.

**Friday 18 November – 7.30pm – Vineyard Centre, Union Street, Farnham - Farnham ASSIST fund-raising Ceilidh** - cost of £12.50 includes a ploughman's supper and pudding - please bring your own drinks. Call 01252 717710 for more information or visit 7 St Georges Yard, Farnham GU9 7LW to buy tickets.

**Saturday 19 November – 11am till 1pm – St George's Church, Badshot Lea - Craft Fair –** Christmas gifts and decorations – craft demonstrations – lunches and refreshments available.

**Tuesday 22 November – 11am till 5pm – Frensham Heights School , GU10 4EA – Frensham Christmas Fair for Phyllis Tuckwell** – 40 stalls with new gifts, toys, candles, jewellery, etc.

**Friday & Saturday 25 & 26 November - 10am – 5pm – St Andrew's Church, Farnham – WINTERFEST** - A celebration of arts, crafts and hobbies - featuring demonstrations, exhibitions, free children's activities and music. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Craft items and refreshments for sale. Admission Free. All welcome.

**Saturday 26 November – 10am till 2.30pm – Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice – Phyllis Tuckwell Christmas Fayre** – 'loads of stalls to enjoy' including Christmas gifts and crafts, cake and refreshments, raffle, bric-a-brac, Christmas cards, tombola, bargain jewellery, etc. – free entry.

**Saturday 26 November – 10am till 4pm - Weydon Christian Centre, Upper Way, Farnham, GU9 8RL - 'JUST AS I AM' - a movement workshop for Advent** - led by Judith Scott, who is a member of the Christian Dance Fellowship of Britain. – No experience necessary and limited mobility is not a barrier to participation. Cost £10. To book contact Judith at purplejudith@googlemail.com .

**Saturday 3 December – 9.30am till 1.30pm - Farnham United Reformed Church – Christmas Fayre** - There will be stalls offering Christmas decorations, gold and silver goods and many other stalls, including amaryllis plants and other attractive items.

**Saturday 3 December – 10am till 12.30pm - St Thomas-on-The Bourne Church – Christmas Market in aid of Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice** – woodland Santas, tombola, stalls including bric-a-brac, books, DVDs, handbags, scarves, etc.; plus silent auction.

**Monday 5 December – 3pm – Farnham Baptist Church - Farnham ASSIST Christmas Carol Service** – followed by tea, coffee and mince pies.

**Tuesday 6 December – St Mary's Church, Quarry Street, Guildford, GU1 3UA – Christian Aid Carols by Candlelight** – an evening of carols, readings & stories from the charity's work around the world. Festive refreshments will be served. Tickets free – a collection will be taken. For more information contact Laura Mead on 0207 523 2110, email: L.Mead@christian-aid.org .

**Wednesday 7 December – 1.10pm – Farnham United Reformed Church – Music at Lunchtime -** Diana Vivian, soprano Claire Tester, piano - Diana is a well-known performer and teacher in the Farnham area. She has been a soloist with Scottish Opera and the European Chamber Opera and is in demand as guest conductor with many operatic societies.

**Friday 9 December – 3pm – St Andrew's Church, Farnham – Bach to Baby Christmas concert.** Tickets £12 per adult; children and babies free.

**Saturday and Sunday 10 and 11 December – 2 till 6pm - St Peter's Church, Wrecclesham - Christmas Tree Festival.** - No fee to take part - 'just bring along a tree no higher than 6ft, natural or made, and decorate it as your imagination takes you, perhaps to illustrate your activity or interest, or on a theme of your choosing. Lights would be lovely, but are not essential.' Refreshments provided; seasonal gifts, cards and eatables on sale. Quiz for families and a treasure hunt for children.

**Saturday 10 December – 3pm and 6.30pm - All Saint's Church, Tilford – Tilford Bach Society Carols by Candlelight.** All welcome - admission FREE. **At 3pm:** Carols by children from All Saints Infant School and Waverley Abbey Junior School; Haslemere Singing Studio; Tilford Bach Choir; Audience carols and traditional readings; Retiring collection for Shooting Star Chase Children's Hospice. **At 6-30pm:** Tilford Bach Choir; audience carols and traditional readings; Retiring collection for Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice Care. In addition to the feast of Christmas words and music, enjoy mulled wine, "naval drink" & loads of mince pies!

**Saturday 10 December – 7.30pm – Alton Abbey - Advent Concert** – 'a particularly lovely event as the atmosphere at Christmas at the Abbey is rather special'. Tickets £5 for mulled wine & nibbles after the Concert. Contact Br John OSB [guesthouse@altonabbey.com](mailto:guesthouse@altonabbey.com) . Alton Abbey, Beech, Alton, GU34 4AP. Tel. 01420 562145.

***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.***