

CHURCHES TOGETHER

IN FARNHAM

July 2017 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

I am going to do no more in this introductory letter than to highlight two items in the Notices below.

Firstly, many congratulations to June Trantom and Farnham ASSIST on their Queen's Award!

Secondly - 'The Gathering' is almost here! It will send a powerful message to the town about the nature of the Christian faith. I do hope that as many as possible of us can be part of it. I am looking forward to being reminded of God's mighty work in our community here in Farnham and being encouraged to press on to what lies ahead.

With very best wishes to you all

Andrew Partridge

NOTICES

WHY ALL WHO CAN SHOULD BE AT GOSTREY MEADOW THIS SUNDAY 9 JULY -FOR "THE GATHERING" – 'It's not a joint service, or a mission, or a festival, but simply an outdoor gathering of Christians to celebrate Jesus.'

Refreshments will be served from 10.15am, then from 11am to 12 noon will be the main event - a mixture of songs, stories and inspirational reflections about Jesus Christ and just how relevant he is for Farnham. Several Farnham churches have stopped their services and others will come on after their services. Everyone is welcome. After the celebration all will join in the Big Picnic from 12 noon to 1.30pm (bring your own). Between 11am and 12 noon there will be a fun kids programme in the Vineyard Centre for children in school years R to 6. If you would like your child to attend, please pre-register on **FCCT** website.

Bring a rug or chair to sit on, as well as a picnic. There will be flags, balloons, bouncy castles & ice creams; a tea tent; displays about inter-church projects in our town and how to get involved; networking with people to talk to about new possible projects for the town; opportunity to get to know other Christians and an update on forthcoming 'Love in Action' prayer events. This ecumenical gathering has been arranged by Farnham Christian Community Trust. Farnham Council's Music in the Park will follow at 2pm for those who wish to make a day of it.

AWARD-WINNING FARNHAM ASSIST IS APPEALING FOR MUSICIANS! Firstly, we offer ASSIST our heartiest congratulations on winning the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service. This is the highest award for volunteer groups across the UK. It is given for outstanding achievement by groups who volunteer their own time to enhance and improve the lives of others. You can read about this and a Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace on the CTF website.

Secondly, a few musicians who can spare an afternoon are wanted. Susie Blackwood writes: Farnham ASSIST is hosting a garden party on 19 August at Waverley Abbey House. Unfortunately our musicians have let us down and we wondered whether there would be any musicians in your congregations that would like to perform classical or light jazz music for us? We can provide travel cost re-imburement and a cream tea.' If you can help, phone ASSIST on 01252 717710.

GREAT RESPONSE TO CHRISTIAN AID WEEK - Karen Fewster writes: 'The money has now been collected in and counted. Thanks to the generosity of the people of Farnham and the surrounding villages we have raised just over £18,500 during the week.

'These donations ensure that Christian Aid can continue its work offering vital assistance to refugees, while also working to eradicate extreme poverty, fight injustice, demand changes to the way tax is paid in poor countries (and at home) and highlighting the effects of climate change on agriculture and the wider world.

'I would like to say a very big thank you to everyone who gave so generously and a special thank you to the fantastic volunteers who faced very wet conditions out on the streets of Farnham delivering and collecting envelopes and on the streets of Farnham on a very wet Saturday.

'A big thank you too to all who organised events and to all who attended them and gave so generously.

'Thank you on behalf of Christian Aid.'

ST THOMAS-ON-THE BOURNE CHOIR GOING ON TOUR TO BELGIUM – On this year's summer tour, between 26 and 29 August, this renowned choir will be performing at a Concert in St Baaf's Cathedral in Gwent, singing at morning Mass in St Michael & St Gulder's Cathedral in Brussels and also in an afternoon concert in the same cathedral and finally in Brugge with a concert at the Cathedral of St Salvatore.

150TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATED WITH FLOWERS – All Saints Church, Tilford, welcomed numerous visitors from near and far to a delightful flower festival to mark the 150th Anniversary of its consecration. Read all about it and see pictures of some of the beautiful floral decorations on the CTF website.

WORKAHOLICS ANONYMOUS - Diana Farnham writes: 'We would appreciate your help in "getting the word out" that there is an ongoing, active, UK-based fellowship of Workaholics Anonymous in Farnham, Surrey. "Workaholics Anonymous" is a Twelve Step, self-help program based on the successful recovery program of Alcoholics Anonymous (AA). Its purpose is to help those who suffer from compulsive work behaviours, including not only job-related activity, but, also, other types of workaholism, including compulsive "busyness," morbid worry about self-worth, and work aversion. Founded in the USA in 1983, Workaholics Anonymous (WA) is open to everyone who wishes to stop working compulsively and desires support for becoming a "human being" instead of a "human doing." The principle of anonymity is strictly observed, and there are no dues or fees for attending meetings.

'A WA group meets every Monday evening at 7.45pm at the Quaker Meeting House, 36 Tilford Road, Farnham GU9 8DL. For more information, call Paul on: 07811 086770 or email Diana via: WA12steps@gmx.com. Find more information and links of the CTF Website.

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY - **The AGM of Churches Together in Farnham will take place on Tuesday 10 October.**

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.**

Saturday 8 July – Tilford Village Green – Tilford Fete on theme 'Around the World' – opening parade at 1pm, dance displays, dog show, pub tug of war, family challenge, etc, etc. Raft Race at 5pm. Gardening Club Flower Show in Tilford Institute.

Saturday 8 July – 7.30pm - St Thomas-on-The Bourne Church – Vox Chamber Choir Summer Concert of Folksongs and Fun' - Tickets £12 on the door, under 18s free.

Sunday 9 July – 11am -Gostrey Meadow – The Gathering – 'Simply celebrating Jesus outdoors' - See full details in **NOTICES** above. Refreshments served from 10.15am.

Tuesday 11 July - Tuesday – 1.10pm - St Andrew's Church - Music While You Munch Organ Recital by Martin Barnes - enjoy listening to the music while eating your lunch. There is no charge for these concerts. Home-made soup with rolls are normally on offer, in addition to tea or coffee. Donations to a fund for development of music activities at St Andrews welcome.

Friday 14 July - 7.30pm - St Andrew's Church - Bastille Day Organ Concert with Geoffrey Coffin.

Retiring collection (suggested donation £10). A mixture of choral and organ music followed by cheese and wine.

Saturday 15 July - from 10am to 12 noon – St Peter's Church, Wrecclesham - A Quiet Morning 'This will be a very special morning in our beautiful church building. Take time out of your busy lives to experience a couple of hours of reflection and prayer. Led by Sandy, who is an experienced Spiritual Prayer guide, we will be looking at how God has been gently transforming lives throughout the ages. And how the Holy Spirit is continuing that work today.'

Saturday 15 July – 12.30 till 5pm - The Bourne Green - The Bourne Show and Plant Sale - This traditional village show, which has taken place on the Bourne Green, Lower Bourne in Farnham for nearly 70 years, provides a great afternoon out for all the family and raises money for local charities and good causes – many attractions.

Saturday 15 July 2017 – 7.30pm - St Peter's Wrecclesham - The Vivaldi Singers will present Schubert & Friends - an evening of great music with Pimms and Strawberries! Tickets £15. Students/Under 16 £5 from www.vivaldisingers.com.

Tuesday 18 July – 11am – St Joan's Centre – Tilford Road – Churches Together Ecumenical Prayer Meeting – refreshments, followed by meditative readings, prayers and intercessions. All welcome, just come along.

Wednesday 19 July– 10.30am - St Andrew's Church - Bach to Baby – Around the World on 47 Strings - featuring Tomos Xerri, harp Concert – ticket £10 adult with children. Coffee served from 10am.

Thursday 20 July - 3pm - Farnham Methodist Church - Farnham ASSIST Silver Service for Over Sixties - followed by home-made cakes and tea. Contact Farnham ASSIST for help with transport.

[More about these and other activities on the CTF website at](http://www.churchestogether.org/farnham/)

<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.