

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN FARNHAM

September 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 would very much appreciate your views on a possible new approach to heading up Churches Together in Farnham.

There is less need for the active encouragement of ecumenism now, thanks to the progress made in recent decades, but Churches Together, and specifically its chairman, still performs a useful role in providing an initial point of contact for outside bodies with Farnham's churches. Examples in recent times have been the BBC regarding the Songs of Praise service at Aldershot, Farnham Humanists regarding the hosting of election hustings, and the Town Council regarding the provision of prayers at meetings.

Michael Hall has fulfilled the role for the last six years, for which we are most grateful, but he stood down at the last AGM in October 2016 and the post has since been vacant.

It has been suggested that, instead of relying on someone to volunteer for what might threaten to be an extended period, the CTF chairmanship should rotate round churches - after the model of the presidency of the European Union. Tours might be of one-year duration, for example.

Do you think this might be a way to proceed? Please let me have your thoughts - to secretary@ct-farnham.org.uk.

Many thanks and best wishes to you all

Andrew Partridge

NOTICES

WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING TWO NEW CHURCH LEADERS NEXT MONTH – On **Saturday 7 October** the Revd Graham Culver will be inducted as Senior Minister of Farnham Baptist Church and on **Wednesday 18 October** the Revd John Morris will be inducted as Vicar of the United Benefice of the Bourne and Tilford. Our warmest welcoming greetings to them both.

TWO MAJOR FESTIVALS THIS MONTH - EACH CELEBRATING THE TALENTS OF AN ENTIRE COMMUNITY- Over the two weekends of **23/24 September** and **30 September/1 October All Saints Church, Tilford**, is staging an **EXHIBITION OF ART AND PHOTOGRAPHY** to celebrate the 150th anniversary of its consecration. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy this broad-ranging show, featuring the work of artists and photographers of all ages, from experienced professional to budding amateur, adults and also children, on any subject. The show will be open to view from **10am till 4pm** on the two Saturdays and from **11am till 4pm** on the two Sundays free of charge, with visitors assured of a warm welcome in a festival atmosphere - tea and homemade cakes available. For potential late entrants, anyone in any way associated with the Bourne or Tilford may exhibit and they have until 16th September to submit their work. Entry forms are available at All Saints and St Thomas-on-The Bourne Churches, or to download from St Thomas' website.

Celebrating another kind of local talent, an all-day MUSIC MARATHON will be taking place at **St.Mary's Church, Frensham**, on **Saturday 30 September**. Between 8.30am and 9pm a succession of singers, musicians and ringers will entertain. For a £5 ticket, come and go as you please throughout most of the day – but to enjoy the finale of the Marathon, a professional concert by Cantique, an extra £5 will be required. Starting with the St.Mary's Bellringers, then the Church Choir, the programme comprises an amazing variety of talent. This ranges from Brass Band to Cello Group, from Children's Disney Singalong to Steelpan Band and from Handbells to Piano, Guitar, Voices and more. See **DIARY** (below) for further details.

THE AGM OF CHURCHES TOGETHER IN FARNHAM is provisionally scheduled to take place on **Tuesday 10 October**. However, we are considering delaying it by a few weeks in order to give the new church leaders (see above) a chance to attend. Full details regarding the final date, time and place of the meeting will be circulated as soon as possible. We do apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

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 notice board.

Tuesday 12 September – 1.10pm – St.Andrew's Church - Music While You Munch – organ recital by Mike Smith. Bring your own lunch or sample the goodies on offer.

Tuesday 12 September - 7 for 7.30pm – St.Thomas' Church – Flower Arranging Demonstration Evening by Maggy Thomas. Cake Stall & Raffle. Tickets, in aid of Church Flower Fund, £10 (includes tea or coffee on arrival) from the St Thomas' Flower Ladies or phone 721004

Saturday 16 September – United Reformed Church and St Andrew's Church, Farnham - Come and Sing Durufle Requiem directed by David Victor Smith. Rehearsals 10am - 3.30pm at United Reformed Church; performance 5.15pm at St.Andrew's Church. Tickets £25 - contact 01252 625252

Tuesday 19 September – 11 am – St.Joan's Centre, Tilford Rd – Churches Together in Farnham Ecumenical Monthly Prayer Meeting – reflective readings, prayers and intercessions - refreshments served at the start of the meeting. Everyone welcome – just come along!

Thursday 21 September - 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.

23 / 24 September and 30 September / 1 October – All Saints Church, Tilford – Exhibition of Art and Photography in Celebration of the 150th Anniversary of its Consecration. Featuring adults' and children's work on any subject of their choice. The show will be open to all free of charge from 10am till 4pm on the two Saturdays and from 11am till 4pm on the two Sundays. Refreshments, including homemade cakes, available. See more details in **NOTICES** (above).

Saturday 23 September – 2pm till 4.30pm – St.Thomas' Church - Autumn Fayre with cream teas.

Thursday 28 September – 12.30pm – St.Thomas' Church - Eat and Speak Lunch - speaker: Michael Blower on 'The Farnham Trust'. Tickets £7 from the Parish Office.

Saturday 30 September – 8.30am till 9pm – St.Mary's Church, Frensham – MUSIC MARATHON - £5 ticket to go in an out all day, with extra £5 to pay for evening concert. PROGRAMME: 8.30am St.Mary's Bellringers; 9.00 St.Mary's School Choir; 9.15 Children's Disney singalong with Ian Chambers; 9.45 Seale Classical Guitar trio; 10.15 St.Mary's Church Choir; 10.45 Farnham Brass Band; 11.45 Edgeborough School; 12.05pm A Capella Close Harmony Male Voice group; 12.35 Ukanhop Ukelele Group; 1.05 Jane Walker – Piano; 1.35 Seale Classical Guitar Duo; 2.05 Children's Cello Group; 2.35 Morehouse School Steelpan Band; 3.05 Abi Rutherford Solo Singer; 3.20 Farnham Amateur Big Band; 3.50 Shuffletunes Choir; 4.35 Morehouse Jazz Band; 5.05 Esmond Clements Jazz Pianist; 5.35 Rowledge Handbell Ringers; 5.55 Frensham Baptists; 7.00 20th Anniversary Concert by Cantique.

Saturday 30 September 6.45pm – St.Andrew's Church - Harvest Ceilidh and Ploughman's Supper in aid of Farnham Assist - with Saxon Drain Band. Tickets priced at Adults £10, under 16's £5, family £25 from St Andrews Parish office 01252 715412 or Farnham ASSIST on 01252 717710.

Wednesday 4 October – 1pm – Farnham United Reformed Church – Music at Lunchtime series – Geoff Tuson – organ.

Saturday 7 October – 2.30pm - Farnham Baptist Church, The Hart – Welcome and Induction Service for the new Senior Minister, Revd Graham Culver.

Saturday 7 October – 7pm – St.Thomas' Church – Quiz Night with Fish and Chip Supper, Pudding Auction, Raffle and Bar. Tickets £12.50 – see St.Thomas' website for details.

Wednesday – 18 October – 7.30pm – St.Thomas-on The Bourne Church, Frensham Rd, Farnham – Service of Induction of the Revd John Morris as Vicar of the United Benefice of The Bourne and Tilford.

Friday, Saturday and Sunday 20/21/22 October – St.Mark's Church – Upper Hale – Arts at St.Mark's – a free festival of arts and music – including a concert, workshops, exhibitions, a ceilidh, and an all-sung Sunday Service (even the gospel reading) – find fuller details on the Badshot Lea and Hale Parish website.

Friday 20 October – 7pm – Alton Abbey, Abbey Road, Beech – GU34 4AP - 15th Annual Abbey Lecture - 'An Englishman in the Eastern Orthodox Melting Pot' - to be given by Dr. Nicholas Fennell Ph D, Visiting Research Fellow, University of Winchester, author of "The Russians on Athos", A teacher of Russian and French at Winchester College from 1973; and Head of Russian, he retired in 2014. To be held in the Alton Abbey church, GU34 4AP. Tickets £25 for Lecture followed by Supper, with wine. Tickets from Friends of Alton Abbey, Alton Abbey, Abbey Road, Beech, Alton, GU34 4AP. Cheques should be made payable to "Friends of Alton Abbey". Please include a SAE, and a telephone number or email, and information about dietary needs. For further information - email: friendsofaltonabbey@gmail.com or phone 01420 562126.

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.