

# CHURCHES TOGETHER IN FARNHAM

## Mid-March April 2019 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 Friends,

I wanted to take this opportunity to feedback some of the issues which came to light at the Unity Service in January. Revd John Morris asked the congregation to share their prayers and concerns for people and situations in our town. I was asked to take these prayer cards away and see if there were any common concerns which the Churches might be able to join together to address. The main concerns were supporting people with mental health issues, the environment, social justice and equality issues and supporting the Foodbank and its clients. The challenge we face as Churches together in Farnham is not just acknowledging these concerns but finding ways to act together to address these issues. From an environmental perspective, becoming an Eco Church might be one way to begin this process. If you have any other suggestions as to how we can find ways to start addressing these issues please get in touch. As Psalm 82.3 reminds us we are called to "defend the weak, and uphold the cause of the weak and the oppressed."

Every Blessing,

Hannah

### **NOTICES**

**LENT OPPORTUNITIES** – Lent is more than a time for giving up something we like! Look at individual church websites to find a variety of imaginative ways to prepare ourselves for Holy Week and Easter. These include study courses, simple Lent lunches to raise funds for charities, and Stations of the Cross devotions. For example, ministers of several denominations will take it in turns to lead a series of ecumenical services at St Mark's, Upper Hale, at midday on Fridays with delicious home-made soup to follow - and the midday music recitals and lunches for Christian Aid continue at St Thomas-on-The Bourne on Tuesdays throughout Lent. More details in [DIARY](#) (below)

**FOODBANK NEEDS YOUR HELP** – The following items are urgently wanted by Farnham foodbank: INSTANT MASH; BISCUITS; INSTANT CUSTARD; TINNED MEAT; INSTANT TEA; TINNED PEAS and TINNED CARROTS. Many churches have a box in which food donations may be left. Farnham Foodbank is also running a 'More Than Food' programme. This offers additional support alongside emergency food to help people address the underlying issues behind their crisis. The foodbank has specifically trained volunteers who can provide a six-week basic cookery, nutrition and budget management course entitled 'Eat Well Spend Less'. More information on the foodbank's website.

**SIGNPOSTS POINTS THE WAY** – The SIGNPOSTS team is currently half way through a very successful tour of local primary and middle schools, telling the Easter story in inter-active presentations. You are asked to pray for the schools, the children and staff who will be hearing the wonderful Easter story, and for the SIGNPOSTS team.

**JOIN WALK OF WITNESS** - Churches Together in Farnham's Walk of Witness will take place on **Good Friday 19 April**. All Christians are asked to join in this silent procession through the town centre, following a large wooden cross. Assemble at the top of The Hart at 11.45am. Prayers will be said at the start and more prayers together with the singing of a Good Friday hymn at the finish in St Andrew's Churchyard. Participants may like to bring a palm cross to carry.

**[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.

**Friday 22 March – 7.30pm – St Andrew's Church – Concert by the Kingsmen, former Choral Scholars of Kings College, Cambridge.** Tickets £22.50, including refreshments and a donation for Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice – available from the Parish Office.

**Friday 22 March – from 6.30pm - Alton Abbey Church – University of Winchester Music Centre presents a concert featuring their Folk Band, Folk Choir and String Gems** to offer a programme of folk and classical music. They will be joined by soloists from the ensembles to complete an evening of beautiful music with something for everyone. 6.30pm for refreshments with wine - Concert at 7.30pm. Tickets £15 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/or email address.

**Saturday 23 March – 7.30pm – St Andrew's Church – FOSTA Quiz Night with fish and chip supper – featuring Quiz master Josh Uffindell.** Tickets £10 per person (including supper) from St Andrew's Parish Office.

**Saturday 23 March – 7.30pm – Wrecclesham Parish Church - St Peter's Quiz Night** - Tickets £10 - to include a light supper - available from Vanda Bolton 712656 or Rob Durrant 717664.

**Tuesday 26 March - 12 noon – St Thomas-on-The Bourne Church – Lent Midday Music for Christian Aid followed by soup, bread and cheese lunches. Esmond Clements *piano*, Marianne Windham *double bass* and Jane McEvoy *singer*.** Free entry with retiring collection for Christian Aid.

**Saturday 30 March - 7.30pm - St Andrew's Church, Farnham – Concert by Farnham Sinfonia. Mozart's Horn Concerto, Haydn's Fire Symphony and Elgar's Serenade. Richard Watkins *horn*; Matthew Taylor *conductor*; Elizabeth Cooney *leader*.** £17.50 on door or £15 in advance Under 26 FREE. Tickets from Tilford Bach Society website.

**Saturday 30 March – 7.30pm - St Thomas-on-The Bourne - Nordic Dreams - the Spring Concert of Vox Farnham Chamber Choir.** 'Come and be transported to the Lands of the Midnight Sun.' With music by Gjeilo, Grieg, Ešenvalds and Lauridsen amongst others, there will be something for everyone. Tickets £15 (u/18s free) on the door, or £12 in advance from the Parish Office 01252 715505 or search for 'Vox Chamber Choir Farnham' on Facebook.

**Tuesday 2 April – 12 noon - St Thomas-on-The Bourne Church – Midday Music for Christian Aid followed by soup, bread and cheese lunches – Richard Lane *violin*, Muriel Phillips *piano*.** Free entry with retiring collection for Christian Aid.

**Wednesday 3 April – 2.30pm -Farnham Vineyard Church, Union Road, GU9 7PT - Farnham ASSIST Beetle Drive** – join in this fun all age game - refreshment break and storytelling by Gillian Stewart. £5 per person with prizes for the winner and most attractive beetle. Contact Farnham ASSIST on 01252 717710 to book a place.

**Thursday 4 April – 5pm - Edinburgh Woollen Mill will host a fashion show in Aid of Farnham ASSIST.** Tickets £5, with 20% off any purchases on the night. Tickets from Edinburgh Woollen Mill or Farnham ASSIST. Call 01252 717710.

**Tuesday 9 April – 12 noon - St Thomas-on-The Bourne Church – Midday Music for Christian Aid – Sylvia Ellison *oboe* and *bassoon*, Jakob Rotkoff *piano*.** Free entry with retiring collection for Christian Aid.

**Tuesday 16 April – 11am – St Joan's Centre – CTF Monthly Prayer Meeting – Reflective readings, prayers and intercessions following refreshments.** Everyone welcome – just come along!

**Tuesday 16 April – 12 noon - St Thomas-on-The Bourne Church. - Lent Midday Music for Christian Aid followed by soup, bread and cheese lunches. Nicola Sharkey *soprano*, Brian Cotterill *piano* and *organ*.** Free entry with retiring collection for Christian Aid.

**Thursday 18 April - 3pm - Farnham Methodist Church - Farnham ASSIST Silver Service for Over-Sixties** - with traditional hymns, followed by tea and cake. Contact Farnham ASSIST if transport is needed.

**Good Friday 19 April – 11.45am – The Hart, Farnham – Churches Together in Farnham Walk of Witness through the streets of the town, following a cross** – assemble at the top of the Hart for a silent procession, beginning with prayer and ending with prayer and the singing of a Good Friday hymn in the churchyard of St Andrew's Church. All Christians are asked to join in this act of witness if they are able. It is suggested that participants may like to carry a palm cross.

**Sunday 21 April - EASTER DAY - all our churches will be celebrating Christ's Resurrection.** Go to individual church websites for details.

**Saturday & Sunday 27 and 28 April – 12 noon till 5pm - Open Days at Alton Abbey -** Mosaic demonstration, beautiful stationery, Hadeel products from Palestine, secondhand Books. Entrance £3, Teas £3,.Organ and Piano Recitals at 3pm.

**Friday 3 May – 12 noon – Oak Park Golf Club, Crondall – Arctic Epic – Ladies' Lunch in aid of Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice – with guest speaker Victoria Humphries who was part of the first all-women relay expedition to the North Pole.** 20 women took part in this epic challenge in 1997, braving freezing winds, shifting ice and temperatures of nearly -50 degrees Fahrenheit, as they took on the 416 mile distance from Arctic Canada to the North Pole. Includes raffle and silent auction. £40 or £380 for a table of 10. Call Fundraising on 01252 729446 for table booking.

**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.**