

# CHURCHES TOGETHER IN FARNHAM

## MID-OCTOBER NOVEMBER 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 know that many of us would not say that going to an AGM is our idea of a good night out but I am always encouraged when I attend the Churches Together AGM to hear how God is at work in our town. We are very fortunate that in Farnham Christians of various denominations can put aside any underlying theological differences and work together and pray together for the good of the gospel and in an effort to bring the kingdom of God nearer. As Psalm 133 reminds us, "Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers and sisters dwell in unity!"

It has been a pleasure to be the chair of Churches Together for the last year and I would like to thank the small but dedicated steering committee who serve churches together in Farnham. As we think towards the future, I would ask if others might put their hands up to join the steering committee so that the good work of Churches Together may continue for many years to come.

Every Blessing,

Hannah

(The Revd Hannah Moore – Chair of Churches Together in Farnham)

### **NOTICES**

**LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!** **The Annual General Meeting of Churches Together in Farnham will be held at St Mark's Church, Upper Hale, on Thursday 24 October at 7.30pm.** This is our once-a-year opportunity to share news of all that is going on in our churches and associate organisations - and it always proves an eye opener! Importantly, we will also be electing our next chair person, who can come either from the clergy or the laity. Under the scheme agreed last year the 2019/20 candidate will be nominated by the **Roman Catholic** community. The Revd Michael Hopkins will be updating us on progress with the exciting Pilgrim project at the former URC and Methodist Churches. Do please come to the meeting and encourage others to be there as well - all are welcome! Following the business we will have plenty of time to enjoy the fellowship of old and new friends over a glass of wine and tasty bites. *Agenda on CTF website.*

**DON'T MISS FARNHAM ARTISAN MARKET!** - 'Do come along to start your Christmas shopping at this atmospheric event,' writes Susie Blackwood. 'Farnham ASSIST will be running this fundraising event at **Farnham Vineyard Centre on Saturday 2 November from 10am till 4pm** with all proceeds helping the charity serving the older residents of Farnham. There will be soup and cake plus refreshments served throughout the day, the local Farnham Vineyard community choir will be performing at 1pm plus creative workshops; mini fabric wreath making workshop for children at 2pm, leather bracelet/keyring/bookmark and angel tree decoration for adults at 10:30am can be booked online at Eventbrite, or call 01252 717710, or email: [susie.blackwood@farnham-assist.org.uk](mailto:susie.blackwood@farnham-assist.org.uk).'

**SIGNPOSTS REQUESTS YOUR PRAYERS** – Juliet Greene writes: 'The SIGNPOSTS team is getting ready for the Christmas presentations. We shall be visiting 14 different Primary Schools in Farnham and Rowledge area between 25 November and 13 December presenting the Christmas story in dramatic form. We have one presentation for the Infant classes and one for the Junior classes. We encourage the children to join in – e.g. walking to Bethlehem, joining in with the shepherds and the angels - and we always end with a special song. The staff are always encouraging and the children love to join in! I shall be making a complete timetable which I shall take to each church with a request for prayer during those weeks, so I hope that we can all join in praying for the team, the children and the staff please.'

**[ST JOHN'S TO HOST FARNHAM REMEMBRANCE FESTIVAL](#)** - This year St John's Church, Hale, takes centre stage in Farnham's Remembrance commemorations, when on the evening of **Saturday, 9 November at 7.30pm** it becomes the venue for the **Farnham Festival of Remembrance**, a military and musical spectacular which will pay tribute to the service men and women of the country's armed forces. In the presence of the Mayor and with the guidance of the Royal British Legion, the evening will feature a wide range of musical talent, including Farnham Brass Band and the musicians of the TS Swiftsure Sea Cadets Band. There will be a parade, a concert and a short service and all three of the armed forces will be represented by the Princess of Wales Army Reserve Regiment, Sea Cadets, Army Cadets and Air Cadets, along with the civilian services including the British Red Cross, St John Ambulance, Scouts and Girl Guides as well as some of the local schools. For more information email [admin@badshotleaandhale.org](mailto:admin@badshotleaandhale.org)

**[ST JAMES 150TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS ABOUT TO BEGIN](#)** – A year-long programme to mark the 150th anniversary of the completion of St James' Church and the creation of Rowledge as a parish begins on **30 November in Rowledge Village Hall at 7.15pm**. The opening event will be a talk on the parish and its church by local historian Roy Waight with launch of a photographic history – tickets £15 from Hands The Butcher, or see parish website. Celebrations continue with a Christmas Tree Festival in December and on through 2020 with a full programme, including a flower festival and the opportunity to 'dance the night away' at a Village Ball.

**[ST MARY'S CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL](#)** – Looking ahead, St Mary's Church, Frensham, will be in festive spirit over the weekend of **7 and 8 December**. As well as a display of Christmas Trees, we are promised musical performances, bell-ringing demonstrations, carols by candlelight, and a family Christingle Service, plus seasonal stalls, refreshments and light lunches. More details on Frensham Parish Website and in next month's E-News.

**[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.**

**Wednesday 23 October – 10.30am – St Martin's Church – [Macmillan Coffee Morning](#)**. 'Come and support us in raising funds for Macmillan Cancer Support as part of the world's biggest coffee morning.'

**Thursday 24 October – 7.30pm – St Mark's Church, Upper Hale – [CTF AGM](#)** - All are welcome. See [NOTICES](#) (above) for more details.

**Saturday 26 October – 10.30am till 4.30pm and Sunday 27 – from 2 till 4.30pm – St Peter's Church, Wrecclesham – [Jigsaw Puzzle Festival](#)** – lots of made up puzzles on display and lots to buy; refreshments; raffle; entry free.

**Saturday 26 October – 7.30pm – St Mary's Church, Frensham – [Waverley Singers Concert](#)**. Back from their successful tour of Slovakia and Austria, the choir presents a programme of French music. For tickets and more details go to Waverley Singers website.

**Saturday 26 October – 7.30pm – St Andrew's Church, Farnham – [Tilford Bach Society Concert by City Bach Collective](#)** – The Music of J. S. Bach's Lutheran Vespers. See TBS website.

**Saturday & Sunday 2 and 3 November – All Souls/All Saints – [Special Services in many churches](#)** (check their websites for details). **[Services to remember loved ones who have died, with an opportunity to light candles in their memory](#)** at St John's, Hale, on Saturday, 2 November at 3pm, at St Mark's, Upper Hale, on Sunday, 3 November at 11am, and at St George's, Badshot Lea, on Sunday, 3 November at 3pm.

**Saturday 2 November – 10am till 4pm – Farnham Vineyard Church, Union Rd, GU9 7PT – [Farnham Artisan Market for FARNHAM ASSIST](#)** – Arts and crafts, local produce, gifts, soup lunches, tea and cake, tasty treats, Workshops (pre-booked), live choir and music. See fuller details in [NOTICES](#) (above).

**Saturday 2 November – 7.30pm – St Thomas-on-The Bourne Church – [Farnham and Bourne Choral Society's Autumn Concert](#)**. Choir and soloists with Orchestra. Includes works by Handel and Mozart. Go to the society's website for tickets and more details.

**Saturday 9 November – 7.30pm – St John’s Church, Hale – Festival of Remembrance** – military and musical spectacular – free with charity donations. See [NOTICES](#) (above) for details.

**Sunday 10 November – Remembrance Sunday** – commemoration of the fallen at churches and war memorials throughout the area.

**Saturday 16 November – 1pm till 6pm – Gostrey Meadow, Farnham – Christmas Lights Switch-on Town Event.** The festivities include a live Nativity, Santa’s Grotto, live music from local schools, theatre groups and children’s rides.

**Tuesday 19 November – 11 am – St Joan’s Centre, Tilford Rd – CTF Ecumenical Prayer Meeting** – starting with refreshments, reflective readings, prayers and intercessions. Everyone welcome! – just come along and join us.

**Saturday 23 November – 7.30pm St Andrew’s Church, Farnham - Alton-based choir Luminosa Voices will perform Handel’s scintillating and much-loved Messiah.** The choir, led by its Artistic Director Rebekah Abbott, will be accompanied by the Surrey Chamber Players, performing as an ensemble, authentic to the Baroque period and reflecting earlier performances of Messiah. Soloists include Michaela Parry (Contralto), Ed Hughes (Tenor) and Ben Cooper (Bass) of the Glyndebourne Opera Company. Enjoy a glass of mulled wine, served during the interval. A retiring collection will be taken for Cystic Fibrosis at Frimley Park (CF@FP), the choir’s charity for 2019. Thanks to the sponsorship of BaByliss, tickets are priced at £15. Tickets on sale at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/luminosamusic](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/luminosamusic) and at local venues in Farnham. More information can be found on the choir’s website [www.luminosamusic.com](http://www.luminosamusic.com)

**Saturday 23 November – 7.30pm – St Thomas-on-The Bourne Church – How can I keep from singing? - VOX Farnham Chamber Choir** - with some inspiring music including a Bach motet and pieces honouring St Cecilia, patron saint of music. Tickets £16 (under 18s free) on the door or £13 in advance from Parish Office (01252 715505) or contact [voxchamberchoir@outlook.com](mailto:voxchamberchoir@outlook.com) .

**Saturday 23 November – 6pm – St Mary’s Church, Frensham – Vivaldi Singers Concert** – Second of two concerts performing music through the ages – Beethoven to modern day. Tickets Full Price £10, Students/Under 16s £5, Under 5s Free. See Vivaldi Singers website.

**Saturday 30 November – 7.15pm – Rowledge Village Hall – Talk on the History of the Parish of Rowledge and its Church by local historian Roy Waight.** This is the opening event of a year of celebrations to mark the 150th Birthday of St James and the formation of the Parish of Rowledge – see [NOTICES](#) (above). Tickets £15 from Hands The Butcher.

**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.**