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March 2017











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Cover: Stoke Poges Memorial Gardens

Photo © Jessica Houdret

# farnhamsmagazine

#### sharing life in our community

THE FARNHAMS MAGAZINE is published by Farnham Royal Parochial Church Council. It is produced quarterly in March, June, September and December and contains village, church and council news. If you have any comments or contributions, as an individual, an organisation or a business, the Editors will be delighted to hear from you.

THE FARNHAMS MAGAZINE aims to be inclusive of all views and organisations. Views expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the editorial board. Please note that it is the responsibility of people sending in images to the magazine to ensure that parental permission is obtained for the use of images of under 18's. Farnham Royal PCC cannot accept responsibility for such provided images printed in good faith which do not conform to best practice in this area.

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#### **Contributions and Copy Dates**

Copy date for the next, June, issue of the Farnhams Magazine, is 18th April.

All articles and photographs for the June edition should be sent to: Jenny Harper-Jones 01753 643872 jennyhj@gmx.com

#### To Advertise in the Farnhams Magazine

All advertising space is now sold until September 2017. Should you wish to advertise for the year from December 2017 until September 2018, Please contact our Advertising Manager, Peter Lidstone, on 0773 6168185, peter\_lidstone@tiscali.co.uk. Advertising is accepted on an annual basis, for 4 issues, and must be paid for in full before the first copy date.

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# Editorial

I have frequently asked readers to let me know if they have ideas, suggestions, or items they would like to see included in the magazine – so it was gratifying when at the magazine party two people eventually obliged by requesting a new list of local organisations and contacts. We will do our best to supply one next time, with the help of one of our Parish Councillors, who has promised to send a contacts list for inclusion.

As you must know if you have read my editorial message in the last issue, or indeed have seen the notices in the Farnhams Magazines going back to last June, we are still seeking someone to join the editorial team. This is now urgent, if the magazine is to continue, as my own writing projects demand that the September issue will be my last. I do hope that there is someone out there somewhere who would like to step forward to help with this highly enjoyable, creative and involving task. It would be sad to see this long standing publication disappear for lack of an extra editor.

Meanwhile, I hope you find something to interest, inform or entertain in our current spring edition.

## Jessica

Lead Editor

# JOIN THE EDITORIAL TEAM

#### A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE OUR COMMUNITY

The Farnhams Magazine is seeking another Editor to help with the production of this valued community resource. This will be for a maximum 2-year period, with a small honorarium to cover expenses. If you like putting words together, have some knowledge of how to use a computer, an interest in community matters, and could spare just a little of your time, then you might be the ideal person to keep the magazine alive.

If you would like to give it a try, or to find out more, please contact the Revd. Graham Saunders, magazine Chairman, 01753 643233, revghs@gmail.com – or me, Jessica Houdret 01753 643610, jehoudret@btinternet.com.



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# Rector's Letter: 'Only Connect!'

#### **Dear Friends**

**How much do we listen?** As it has been suggested, we have two ears and only one mouth for a reason! But listening must surely go beyond the words we hear to understanding deeper truths about people and their circumstances. Recent seismic political events suggest that we have a problem listening to people who think differently from ourselves. Some sociologists suggest that there are serious disconnections building in our society.

I recall the novelist E. M. Forster, best remembered for his novels reflecting class difference and hypocrisy in early 20th-century British society. His novel 'Howard's End' is a story about the social, economic and philosophical forces evident after the First World War when people focused on personal gain and status. The key character in the novel is Margaret Schlegel who cares much about personal relations. She wants people to forget 'class' and just treat each other with dignity. She repeats her mantra "only connect", longing for people to reach out to each other. She wants people to communicate with each other, looking beyond the superficial barriers, such as class and gender.

**How much do we listen?** What we understand is processed through our personalities. We hear the words and then we interpret what we hear to bring understanding. Naturally some of us must work harder than others to work out the deeper truths about what we hear. Are we quicker to speak than hear? Are we quick to take offence before we understand? Do we only listen to people we agree with? Do we ever stop to think why people think differently from ourselves?

I believe that Jesus' teaching calls us to listen and have compassion on ourselves and others. At the end of the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37) Jesus said: "You go and do the same!" When we truly 'connect' with each other, life gets better. Then we overlook what we consider unworthy and treat each other with the respect and dignity we all deserve.

'Only connect! That was the whole of her sermon. Only connect the prose and the passion, and both will be exalted, and human love will be seen at its height. Live in fragments no longer. Only connect, and the beast and the monk, robbed of the isolation that is life to either, will die.'

From Howard's End by E. M. Forster

With every blessing for 2017





## Parish Patch

# FRPC Parish Council for The Farnhams

Parish Council Chairman, **Trevor Clapp**, covers issues of importance in the daily life of our community

2017 will be another exciting year for us in the parish of Farnham Royal. We will continue to see budget cuts requiring us to take on more of the work that was originally carried out by the County Council. Whilst It is important that we make our feelings known to both District and County Councils it is equally important that we don't just moan but get on and do something about it.

#### **Planning**

I was rather surprised at how little response there was to my suggestion about the designation of conservation areas. Presumably the majority are happy with the status quo and embrace the sometimes hideous developments that we see happening around us.

The Parish Council supported the residents and the District Council in fighting the appeal at Scopello which may have been determined by the time you read this. This is a good example of how residents can have their case supported and we thank our District Councillors for listening to us. As a reminder, if you are concerned about planning applications near to you, objections from 10 or more will bring the matter in front of a hearing of the planning committee.

#### **Neighbourhood Plan**

We would also like to thank our District Councillors for listening to us in the arguments that we made in respect of the green belt release for development. Since we will see no significant areas in our parish released from the green belt, we will not



proceed with producing a neighbourhood plan, as there will be little development to control other than that on brownfield sites. But it was quite clear from the parish plan consultation that the majority accepted the need to intensify developments in the villages and of course this is likely to continue. So if you have other views and feel that the cost and effort of producing a neighbourhood plan would help us respond to applications, such as the retirement and care home schemes, we would like to hear from you.

Regarding the applications for an 80-bed care home and a 19-appartment retirement accommodation, the latter, on the Phil Whitaker site, has been refused, although we expect the application to have been re-submitted by the time this magazine is in print. [This Phil Whitaker application is the one I confused with Kingsway Garage (Wright First Time), which of course remains open for business. Please see the apology for this confusion on page 12]

The proposed care home application, on the Haymill Garage site, has been revised by the developers in discussion with the Parish Council. Whilst we are not happy that the District planners were not prepared to meet us to discuss this, some headway has been made with the developers.





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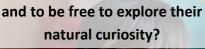
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#### **New Councillor**

We welcome Marilyn Rolfe to the Parish Council and I am sure many of you are aware of the sterling job Marilyn has been doing in running the Farnham Common Village Hall. It is nice to have another lady on the team.

#### Money

The precept has not been set as I write, but my supposition is that it will have to be raised to take account of works needed to bring up to standard the footways and hedging which have been left unattended by the County Council for years. These works will be rolled out over the next few years, budgets allowing.

#### **Road repairs**

The breath we have been holding for the footway repairs in Mayflower Way should by now have been exhaled. We continue to put pressure on the County Council's highways department to prioritise works in the most needed areas.

#### **Defibrillators**

The two new defibrillators should now be installed, one in Farnham Common and one in Farnham Royal. We are thankful to all involved in making this happen.

#### **Kingsway Green**

We thank Vicky Thompson for heading up the group developing proposals for Kingsway Green and I am sure she would love to hear from you if you can be of assistance.

#### **Burnham Beeches**

I have been approached by a few people relaying their recent experiences whilst walking in Burnham Beeches. These relate to changes that have occurred since the dog control order has been put in place. We are interested to have a fuller picture of our residents' thoughts so if you have anything you would like to share with us you know how to get in touch.

#### **Unitary authority**

The proposals are on the table for the replacement of the five district and the county bodies with unitary authority/ies. The parish would prefer a direct relationship to be retained with South Bucks District Council as they have historic knowledge of the workings of the parish. At this stage this is only an application to government and there will be many changes along the way.

#### Traffic issues in the Farnhams

Residents can make a real difference to the issue of speeding. In response to a request from a resident, two of our local PCSOs were willing to attend and carry out an operation, with that resident in attendance, to check on speeding issues. For half an hour one morning in early January they attended Park Road, Farnham Royal, with a portable speed indicator device. A total of 169 vehicles passed through travelling from Stoke Poges. 29 vehicles were travelling over the 30 mph speed limit, the highest recorded was 42 mph.

We have in the past invited residents who are willing to make a difference to consider becoming Police Support Volunteers. This would lead to them being trained to operate speed devices and issue letters to those breaking the law, leading to a direct approach from the police in due course. We have had two or three expressions of interest so far. If you are interested please contact the clerk for more information.

That is it, as we stride forward into the many political changes that 2017 will bring. If there is one thing that I can ask of all of you, that is by all means have a moan or make a complaint or bring something to our attention, but at the same time it would be really good to see more of our residents prepared to get involved in trying to solve whatever the problem might be.



The Parish Council would like to see Kingsway Green redesigned as an amenity space for all our residents and a show piece welcoming visitors to the village.

If you have any ideas, or would like to join the working group – please let us know.

#### RIGHT SECOND TIME

We would like to apologise to 'Wright First Time' Kingsway Garage for any confusion which might have arisen from a report in the Parish Patch in the last issue of the magazine.

Reference to the refusal of planning permission for retirement accommodation on the Kingsway Garage site was meant to refer to the Phil Whitaker garage site application and not Wright First Time, Kingsway Garage, which continues in business as usual.





# Burnham Beeches Bulletin

Senior Ranger, **Chris Morris**, tells us about the ancient pollards for which the Beeches are famous, how they came about and what is being done to preserve them today.

It is sometimes so easy to take for granted the magnificent, ancient, historical, sculptural, living relics that are the outstanding pollards for which Burnham Beeches is so well known, but to do so would be an act of great folly. Significant in centuries past for their economic and social values, as well as for their amazing presence in the landscape, their magnetism



continues to draw many thousands of people to visit and walk amongst them. They are also of considerable ecological significance because of the many rare species that live in, on and around them. All of this because, in the case of the Beeches, people had a need for firewood.

Decades of cutting the trees to harvest wood, and allowing them to regrow for a future crop in 15-20 years, has not only extended their lives by at least double, it has made the trees grow into the fantastic shapes we see today.

When the trees were first cut 400-500 years ago, they were cut above head height to prevent the livestock that were allowed to graze beneath them from reaching the tender new shoots, which they may well have found more palatable than the heathy vegetation on the forest floor. Each harvest of wood not only brought re-invigoration to the tree by stimulating it to throw out lots of young shoots, but it also created new wounds and exposed wood; these have, hundreds of years later, become the cracks, crevices and hollows that provide fantastic habitat for species like tawny owls and bats, as well as the many species of tiny invertebrates which rely on dead and rotting wood to lay their eggs.

Unfortunately for the pollards, as more modern, less labour intensive fuels like coal, oil and gas began to be used for heating the home and cooking, the need for firewood diminished and people stopped cutting the trees. By the time the City of London bought Burnham Beeches in 1880, cutting the old trees had already lapsed for many decades. Grazing also declined in the same period, stopping around 100 years ago.

Ancient pollards

Without regular cutting and grazing young trees began to grow around the pollards, competing with them for light and space and forcing their increasingly top heavy crowns ever higher in search of light. Ultimately there is only so much weight that an ancient, hollow trunk can bear and gradually the more vulnerable trees began to lose limbs or even collapse entirely. The number of ancient pollards on the site has declined from around 2000 in 1880 to just over 400 today.

The cultural and ecological importance of these trees only began to be fully recognised in the 1980's, but there were no books available at the time to guide woodland managers on the best way to prevent further decline of the ancient tree like ours and to stimulate new young growth from them. It therefore took the team at the Beeches some years of experimentation, cutting young trees to see how they responded, working out how much of the young woodland needed to be cleared to give enough light and space whilst avoiding over exposure to wind and sun, and learning how much weight can be removed from a veteran tree without over stressing and killing it, to arrive at a successful formula.

Today the Rangers manage about forty of the ancient pollards each year, starting in autumn by clearing birch and other young trees in a 'halo' around the veteran, before returning in January to work on the tree itself. It is then cut back enough to reduce any risk of loss to wind, whilst ensuring that enough young vigorous growth remains to allow the tree to continue to thrive. The management work carried out by the team today is not so much re-pollarding; rather it is part of a long and steady process of reducing weight from the trees to keep them alive for as long as possible. It is likely that many of the old trees may never be at a point where we could claim to be 'pollarding' in the true sense of the word.

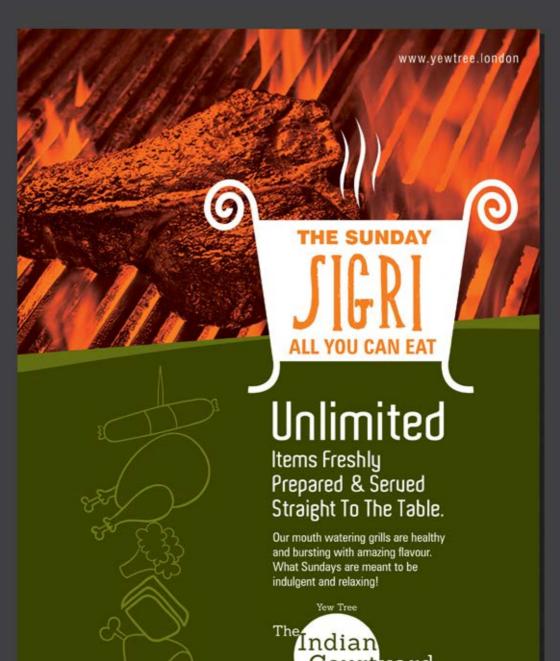
Pollarding has not ceased at Burnham Beeches, however, far from it. Whilst working around the old trees, the team are always on the lookout for suitable young beech and oak which have the potential to become the ancient pollards of the future; we have created just over 700 young pollards to date and these are cut every ten years or so, as would have been the case historically. The only problem we have is we will have to wait about 500 years before we see them at their best!

Senior Ranger, Jake Slattery.



The majority of work on the ancient pollards is now done from a remote mobile elevated platform.





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# Farnhams Magazine Party

Early in the new year contributors, former distributors and friends of the magazine were invited to a buffet lunch in the Brian Jubb Hall, in appreciation of their support and to celebrate the success of the new-style magazine.

For the 40 staunch supporters who came it was a great opportunity to meet up and discuss the magazine, what people were looking for, and its new format. Ideas and suggestions were put forward, with local issues very much to the forefront of what is wanted.

It was gratifying for the Editors, Jessica and Jenny, to find that there was huge enthusiasm for the magazine, which has been well received in its new all-colour form.

It also has a much wider circulation with the magazine being delivered professionally to all the homes in the Farnhams area, and to surgeries, estate agents, the library and churches. That is now four times annually of 4,000 copies each time, 16,000 copies a year instead of the 9,000 produced annually in the past.

Its success can also be measured by the eagerness of advertisers to take space – fully sold for the year, and already building a waiting list for the next year's spaces.

The Rev Graham Saunders, chairman of the magazine committee, congratulated the business manager for working out a viable plan, the advertising manager, the capable treasurer and distribution manager for their hard work and dedication.

He was particularly grateful to Jessica Houdret, who has masterminded the changes in style and content to make it a magazine of which to be proud, and to Jenny Harper-Jones for her near 40 years service to the magazine. He emphasised, however, that there is a need for more help on the editorial side and expressed his hope that the right people would come forward to fulfil this role.



Angie (left at front) and Hicks (centre), of our printers Ignite Print, joined our celebration.

# Irish Dancing

A Farnhams based dance school, Céim Óir, run by **Hilary Joyce-Owens**, has won a string of awards in Irish Dance competitions worldwide.

Our villages are buzzing to the successes of local resident Hilary Joyce-Owen's Irish Dance School, and the string of awards Hilary's girls have won, and the fun they have can be seen on her website www.ceimoir.com.

Hilary started dancing as a small child in Galway, Ireland, only coming to London in 1989 and starting her dance school in 1992. She moved to Farnham Common in 2005, with husband Barry Owen, who manages his own function band, so our village hall became one of her dance school venues.

As a school they have won every major solo and team title there is to win, including Regionals, Great Britain, British National, All Scotland, American National, All Ireland - and the ever sought after World titles. To be this good they need a top-notch teaching team, and this includes Marie Duffy-Pask (Choreographer to Michael Flatley for twenty years) and former pupils Kerry Cooney, Lucy English, Stephanie O'Flaherty and former dancer Karen Nutley.

Some pupils have performed at the Royal Albert Hall for Royalty, and some in West End shows, with six going to India to perform for the launch of a new Multicultural TV Channel. At the Qualifying Oireachtas in November, school dancers had huge successes winning 4 solo titles and 5 team titles, plus 10 appearances on the podiums!

We wish them luck as 21 solo qualifiers and 6 teams go off to Dublin for the world championships 2017 over the Easter week.

So whether you want to dance for fun, keep fit or have visions of becoming the next world champion, it seems Farnham Common Village Hall and Céim Óir Dance School is the place for you.

Classes are at Farnham Common Village Hall on Wednesday afternoons at 3.45 pm for all ages from 4 years old to adulthood. Other dance venues include Chalfont St. Peter and Amersham as well as further afield, including London.

Hilary Joyce-Owens, centre back row, with dance students, teaching assistants and trophies.







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# Farnham Royal School

Deputy Head Teacher, **Sally Deacon**, tell us about the exciting activities the children have enjoyed, including a trip to the Tower of London and learning about Indian culture and clothes.

The Autumn Term has been both busy and extremely eventful with children continuing to enjoy the topic based curriculum. They have attended trips or been provided with in-school workshops from external companies.

Lower key stage 2 have been learning about the key events from British History, culminating in an exciting trip to the Tower of London. The children thoroughly enjoyed looking at everything that could be fitted in to the brief visit, from the White Tower with the Armoury, the site of the scaffold where people like Anne Boleyn lost their head and of course the Crown Jewels themselves!

Key stage1 have been discovering climates and habitats from different countries. This included a guest speaker from ZooLab who brought in a range of animals from various countries for the children to hold, explore and discuss. The children particularly enjoyed the opportunity to get up close and personal to animals that they had not seen or heard of before.

As part of Year 2's topic 'From England to India', they thoroughly enjoyed a day where they were able to take part in activities that they had been learning about in class. The children tried on beautiful Indian clothing, including bindis, saris and kurtas and some had mehndi on their hands. They had a great time dancing to Indian music and the mango lassi that they made was delicious! The children also heard some traditional Indian stories whilst relaxing in the library.

In addition to this, the children in Key Stage One performed "A Wriggly Nativity" - an exciting re-



A hand decorated with mehndi (henna)

telling of the Nativity story from the perspective of some very excited and wriggly children. The Year Two children worked very hard to learn their lines and really impressed in their roles as animals, shepherds, stars, angels and wise men. Year One formed part of the choir and sang the show's songs and traditional carols beautifully. All parents, staff and the rest of the school thoroughly enjoyed the performance.

Our Year 6 football team have played two more matches against other schools and have continued to improve. Eight children from Year 3 and Year 4 represented our school in a multi-skills sports festival at Halton Sports Club where they competed in tennis, football, hockey and running events.

The Third Age Lunch was once again a roaring success, with the Year 6 pupils enthusiastically chatting and making sure the visitors had yet another amazing Christmas lunch experience at St Mary's school.

# Farnham Common School

Alison Fischer, Head Teacher, tells us about Farnham Common Infants School Travel Award

Farnham Common Infant School has always had an emphasis on educating children about their environment, with Forest School, Eco Awards, Recycling and Travel Planning. We were delighted when our work was recognised by Buckinghamshire's 'Travel Planning and Sustainable Travel for Schools', who congratulated us for being nominated for a 'Modeshift STARS School of the Region Award'.



In these awards there are seven different categories in which schools can be nominated, and the regional winners in each category were announced at the 2016 East & South East Conference which took place in London.

It was with much delight that the school was announced as the winner in the category of: Reducing Car Use in the South East Region. The school was commended for:

"... embedding active and sustainable travel into the school ethos and reducing car use by organising a range of initiatives and campaigns. Organising pedestrian skills, scooter and cycle training, has helped to give the children and their parents the confidence to walk, scoot and cycle to school."

As with all things it is the contribution of our volunteers, staff, parents, governors and children that enable us to take part in these initiatives, so a BIG thank you goes to them all.



# Hedgerley Scouts Remembrance Day

Parade

1st Hedgerley Scouts, Cubs and Beavers joined together for the Remembrance Day Parade and Service on Sunday, 13th November last year. Patrol Leader, Niamh Kidd, who led the parade, describes the proceedings.



We paraded down from the Memorial Hall to Saint Mary's Church in Hedgerley with members of the local community with three flags, one for Beavers, one for Cubs and one for Scouts, and I led the parade with a poppy wreath.

As we arrived at the church, we lined up along the path as everyone came for the service

When the service started I hung the wreath on the memorial, on the wall, and then we had the two minutes silence. Afterwards we sang hymns.

At the end of the service we went outside to pay our respects to the new memorial outside the church in memory of Private C.W Bowden. He was buried in the churchyard and died on 19th December 1916, only aged 24.

At the end of the service we paraded back down to the Memorial hall.

A big thanks to all of the locals and Scouts, Cubs and Beavers who attended the service.

Hedgerley Scouts lined up along the path to the Church.



Memorial to Private C.W. Bowden.



# Hedgerley Scouts Christmas Party

Patrol Leader, **Matthew Blakemore**, describes the hard work and organization that went into making the Scouts' Christmas party for senior citizens a great success.

On Saturday December 3rd 2016, the Scouts held a party for the senior citizens of Hedgerley and Farnham Common. There would be fun, there would be singing and best of all they would have a great time.

But before we get to that we are going to go back to Friday January 2nd when a few Scouts gathered at the Scout hut to prepare it for the following day. They arrived at the hut in Hedgerley and got straight to work. The hall was decorated with holly and baubles, a Christmas tree and tinsel and slowly the hall became a Christmas work of art. Then they left the hall to sleep until the next day.

The big day finally arrived and all the Scouts welcomed the senior citizens with great delight. Some went to collect them from their houses and some collected coats. All the guests were impressed, but there was still more to come, once everyone had sat down and was comfy with drinks and their friends. The Scouts appeared once again to give people their food. They had turkey and ham with roast potatoes and Yorkshires which all looked very nice. The guests talked and laughed, telling stories of the year and what was still to come. The Scouts came and went clearing up and bringing more food and drink, making sure everybody was happy.

But the party was not over, there was more still to come. Entertainment, carol songs and even a visit from a special quest.

So the Scouts returned for one last time to entertain the guests and say good bye. They started off with their funny skits, one losing a coin and one forgetting a parachute. After this they sang some carols and wished the guests a very Happy Christmas. But there was one last treat fo them to see - a visit from Santa who gave presents to all.

And with that it was all over! The people went home and are waiting for next year, when it will all start again.



# **JAWS**



All change on the JAWS column as we say goodbye and thank you to **Johnny Ball** and welcome to **Philip Savage**, a 25-year veteran of Jaws and the current social secretary. Here, Philip takes a look at recent activities and outlines what is coming up.

We at Jaws are really looking forward to spring and shacking off this winter weather. Getting up and out for our Sunday morning exercise is so much easier when the sun is shining and the winter coat is left on the hook. Here's a look back at our events and activities from the last edition of the Farnhams Magazine.

#### The Walking Weekend

The 2016 walking weekend saw around 26 Jaws members and friends set off to Cricket St Thomas for our annual Walking Weekend in September. Most would recognise our hotel as the home of Audrey fforbes-Hamilton from the TV series 'To The Manor Born' or possibly as 'Crinkley Bottom' a theme park created by Noel Edmonds around the Mr Blobby character. Now it is a Warners Mansion Hotel ideally situated for walking in the beautiful county of Somerset.

# Annual General Meeting and Dinner Dance

This year's AGM was held at Wexham Park Golf Centre for the second year running. We had a very good turnout once more – almost to capacity. Big changes this year as we said goodbye to our chairman Alex Glonek, who has been on the committee for seven years, and welcomed Phil Cox as our new chairman. After a speech by Alex and the usual committee reports we transferred to the dining area for an excellent meal.

Whilst the diners were finishing their coffee and mints, nine of us slipped out to prepare for our performance as The Jaws Singers. Unbeknown to everyone else, we had been practising once a week for three months. All were shocked when we sang our renditions of three well known sixties' hits. As a finale we sang our own version of The Crystals' hit 'Da Doo Ron Ron' – a comedic reworking and renamed 'Are You Ron Ron' in honour of our President, Ron Bright.

Jaws members excelled themselves this year with participation in world championship events, gaining championship entry to the London Marathon and with two members gaining podiums at various events. Trophies were presented in recognition of these and other outstanding running, cycling and walking performances throughout 2016.

With the formal proceedings completed it was time to take to the dance floor or chat at the bar. All agreed, at breakfast the following morning, that the evening was a resounding success.

JAWS AGM Dinner Dance



#### **Maidenhead Theatre Trip**

One of our members, Janet Crookes, performs with the Maidenhead Operatic Society who put on two shows every year. For the third year running a group of Jaws musical enthusiasts went to Desborough Suite in Maidenhead to see the musical 'The Hired Man', an epic story, spread over thirty years, of a Cumbrian farming family striving for a better life. Choices are few — the mine or the trenches! A sad story, but an enjoyable musical.

#### The Christmas Golf Tournament

Fifteen gentlemen and four lady golfers graced Oakland Park on December the 7th and were greeted with fine weather and great hospitality. The course though short is tricky, with many challenges throughout the day. An unusual and greatly appreciated innovation was the provision of hot drinks supplemented by malt whisky and brandy at the start of the 10th. This had a remarkable effect on the performance of some of the players who either got better or just did not care any more.

In the evening players, partners and guests gathered in The Emperor, Blackpond Lane,

for the traditional celebration and prize giving. Ian McDougle had organised a splendid meal in the Emperor's barn and a great evening was enjoyed by all.

#### **Boxing Day and the Copper Horse**

After the excesses of Christmas a firm favourite in the Jaws calendar is the run or walk in Windsor on Boxing Day. The formula is simple – members and guests gather at Windsor Castle gates to either run or walk along the Long Walk to the Copper Horse. As soon as the first person reaches the statue they signal, at that we all turn round and return to the gates. Amazingly, both runners and walkers seemed to get back around the same time. After we had all re-assembled at the gates we went to Alex Glonek's house for convivial mulled wine and mince pies. A great way to see your friends over Christmas.

Finally, if you know any Jaws members, they might well invite you to join them on our annual Boxing Day morning run/walk/ stagger from Windsor Castle Gates, up to the Wellington Copper Horse Statue and back. Don't worry - you can't get lost on this event. Enjoy.





## FARNHAM COMMON SPORTS CLUB



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# Farnham Common Sports Club

Rugby Championship side London Irish will be holding a half term summer camp at Farnham Common Sports Club from the 15th to the 17th of February for all ages between 7 and 14.

Hosted by Drifters RFC, these camps have been hugely successful in the past and are open to existing players and new players alike.

It is rare that young kids are able to get up close and personal to international players so what better way could there be to find out or learn more about the game?



To find out more please call 01932750100 or go to www.london-irish.com/camps



# South Bucks Hockey Club

The club has bounced back from a tricky 2015 to establish a solid record of success over the last 18 months.

With a delightful blend of mature players and schoolchildren coming together in both the men's and ladies' teams the future looks bright but the club can always find a home for new and returning players.

League matches are played at Herschel Grammar School on the astroturf pitches, while less pressurised sociable matches of mixed teams and the legendary Wrinklies are played at Farnham Common Sports Club where there is a lively and entertaining social scene.

To find out more go to FCSC's website at www.fcsc.org.uk

# The Thursday Walkers Lisbon on Foot

The Thursday Walkers chose Lisbon for their ninth tour of European capitals. John Elliot takes us along the sights of this historic city.

Early on a bright morning in September the Thursday Walkers, 12 in number with some now creaking, departed for Lisbon the least familiar of capitals which we find is a city of paradoxes. Lisbon is jumbled and crowded, yet open to the sea, rather jolly despite a somewhat melancholy history.

without pretension but with a certain dignity, and the most welcoming of capitals.

The city has been formed three bv events: subjugation by the Moors, a short interlude of remarkable

imperial and trading global dominance and the earthquake of 1755. These resulted in three very different districts. The central comparatively level area of the commercial Baixa and Avenida, which is hemmed in by the steep hill of the leisure and more residential district of the Barro Alto and Estrella, and on the opposite side on an even steeper hill, by the Moorish Alfama. So a city for hillwalkers of very contrasting parts comfortably crushed together.

Some cities have little integration. Much of Lisbon is visually integrated by the combination of remarkable and ubiquitous pavements and squares paved with the black and white Calcada mosaic, and by culinary uniqueness of the always available and delicious custard tarts.

On the first day we walk the centre strung along a slope of charming avenues and squares culminating to the north in the Edward VII park. To the south the Avenue Liberdade, two minutes down the steep hill from our hotel, blends easily into fine squares such as the Pracas Restauradores and, down the Rue Augusta the smartest street, culminates splendidly in the Praca de Commercio fronting onto the Tagus. For those with a fondness for the eccentric the sight on our first day was the homely iron Elevator de Santa Justa built by the architect who built the Eiffel Tower and complete with lifts and stairs to a platform to give splendid views of the city.

The Barro Alto is a vibrant place of small restaurants, theatres, clubs, squares and

"At the lively First of

May restaurant. . . we

became heavily involved

with a university student

and staff celebration."

nightlife where we dine curious accident. perhaps foresight, bv restaurant seemingly the watering

every evening. By a concealed our planner, we enjoy a particularly memorable dinner at the lively 'First of May',

hole of the Workers Revolutionary Party, followed by saxophones and bands when we become heavily involved in a university student and staff celebration. neighbouring Estrela is a quarter of smart houses, centred on the colourful basilica with lots of light and coloured marble. The many clerics of 30 years ago seem absent, apart from one church where I was ushered out by an enraged priest for wandering into the robing room, much to the amusement of the cleaners.

The next day disdaining the funiculars, we walk the Alfama - the original city where the Moors constructed a fine castle and where, following their eviction, the Portugese added a massive Romanesque cathedral. It is embroidered by a maze of medieval narrow avenues, some gentrified, with washing lines, decaying churches and convenient viewing platforms. More than in any other city the medieval and the nineteenth century, the classy and the run-down, tumble and jumble into the 21st century. There is even a pissoir in the Alfama, which one walker to our shameful delight insists on using. Photographs are taken. (Not shown!)

The next two days are spent in wonderful weather at the seaside suburbs of Cascais and Belem which is rather like having a small Brighton, complete with royal connections, 30 minutes from London. We start at the small pleasant beach for coffee. Then we walk to a maritime museum previously a royal club in the last days of the monarchy. Here exhibits of stuffed fish solemnly regard us in odd neighbourliness with photographs of members playing games similar to egg and spoon races in formal Edwardian dress. Following a good

lunch overlooking the bay we walk two miles or so down a promenade to Estoril, an old town with a modern and enormous conference centre.

Belem is a 'walking up-and-down the esplanade' sort of place, with two monuments and the splendid Monastery Jeronimos. The first, an impressive fortress completed in 1520 with a fine exterior of shields, watchtowers, and battlements was the starting point for Portugal's remarkable era of expansion. The second, the grandiloquent Monument to Discoveries commissioned by Salazar, seems out of time. The monastery is passed by as a lengthy lunch wins the remaining time.

Lisbon is placing aside the litter of history and bidding to be the San Francisco of Europe, complete with a similar climate and red bridge over the bay and now capped with the hosting of the Web Summit in November 2016. This seems a most befitting objective for this idiosyncratic, welcoming and vibrant city.



## Farnham Common Nurseries

Now that spring is just around the corner and the garden beckons, there is no better place to look for inspiration and advice than this local nursery and plant emporium, as **Jessica Houdret** discovered on a recent visit.

This nursery in Crown Lane was started in 1986 by Tony Whittle and two business partners on a 3-acre plot, which has now grown into a site covering 9 acres.

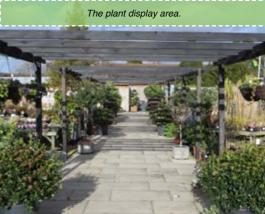
It is a plant centre and a nursery, rather than a garden centre. As Rob Reeder, manager of the retail section explains: "Our aim is to sell good quality plants to keen gardeners, who range from budding amateurs to landscapers and garden designers. We don't do garden sheds, fences, pot-pourri or candles."

The wide range of plants on offer include shrubs, trees, topiary and grasses as well as the more seasonal bedding and bulbs, herbs and alpines, roses and fruit trees, bare root hedging and Christmas trees. There is even a hanging basket service, planted with the customer's own choice of plants, which can then be replaced in the autumn for a winter display.

The twenty members of staff employed are all knowledgeable about plants and work with them hands on. Their daily jobs include potting, setting out plants on nursery beds, weeding and displaying stock in the poly tunnels. 70% of the plants are grown on site under the capable management of Sadie Cocker.

Unusual plants are the stock in trade of this enterprising concern. On a recent visit, when I ask for a showy shrub that I won't see in every other garden I visit, staff member, Terry Hant, proudly shows me a comparatively rare Koelreuteria paniculata, also known as Pride of India or Golden Rain. Of Chinese origin, it has pretty panicles of yellow and orange flowers, is hardy even in severe winters, and has the added advantage of being 'low maintenance and drought resistant'. Who could ask for more?





For unusual plants they don't stock, the nursery offers a plant hunting service. "If customers come in looking for something they have seen on TV or in a gardening magazine, we do our best to source it for them," says Rob. "We also offer advice on plants for places – such as for sun, shade, moisture, dry areas, deer-friendly, rabbit-friendly and so on."

Rob is also a popular speaker on horticulture for groups and clubs, specialising in 'plants of the moment'. "People want to see what is in flower at the time of the talk," he says. "There's no point talking about a load of old sticks – and I don't do slides, because they always send people to sleep."

For talks, plant advice, and other information call into the nursery, which is open every day from 9am-5pm and on Sundays from 10am-4pm, or telephone the plant emporium on: 01753 647710.











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# Stoke Poges Memorial Gardens

A visit to these tranquil gardens, featured on our cover, is like stepping back into a different era. They are a delight to visit in spring, especially in April, when the magnolias are in flower, or in May to see the magnificent wisteria colonnade, says **Jessica Houdret**.

Sir Noel Mobbs conceived the idea of establishing the 20 acres Memorial Gardens south of the church of St. Giles, which is famous for Thomas Gray's poem 'Elegy written in a Country Churchyard' and where his tomb is sited.

They were designed and laid out in the 1930's by Edward White, from a leading firm of landscape architects of the day. There were to be no monuments or buildings to identify it as a cemetery, the concept was simply that it should be a beautiful garden, containing small plots and inner gardens that could be purchased by members of the public, of all cultures and beliefs, as memorials.

Now Grade I registered by English Heritage, the gardens underwent significant restoration work, which was completed in 2004. It was supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund, South Bucks District Council and the Mobbs Memorial Trust. Much care is taken to keep the gardens to their original design and character.

The gardens contain formal and informal water features, a colonnade, rose garden, woodland, rock garden and open parkland with stunning views across the Capability Brown landscape and Repton bridge to Stoke Park Country Park.

April and May are the best months for spring and early summer displays, as well as October for stunning autumn colour. However, the gardens offer interest and a tranquil place for a leisurely walk throughout the year.

Guided tours for groups are available at £6 per person for the tour and tea or coffee and biscuits afterward There is also a programme of open days and events at the gardens, including the ones featured overleaf.

For further information or to book a guided tour, please contact:

The Head Gardener, Mrs Franzi Cheeseman, Stoke Poges Memorial Gardens, Church Lane, Stoke Poges, SL2 3NZ 744 - 01753 527844 - 07731 172307 franzi.cheeseman@southbucks.gov.uk



# Stoke Poges Memorial Gardens

#### Events 2017

Open days and events are held at the gardens throughout the year. The programme began in February with a 'Snowdrop Walk' and Rose Pruning course, but there are still plenty of activities to look forward to and a regular Volunteer Gardening Group to join.

#### Azalea & Wisteria Walk - Thursday, 18 May 2017

Free of charge, but please telephone to book - see details of who to contact below.

# National Garden Scheme Open Day – Sunday, 21 May 2017, 2-5 pm, guided walks every half hour.

£4 per adult, children free, refreshments served, plant stall. Money raised from entrance fees is passed on to charities, including Macmillan, Marie Curie Cancer Care, Alzheimer UK and many others.

#### Butterfly Walk – July 2017 (Date to be arranged)

With Paul Bowyer from The Butterfly Conservation Trust. Free of charge.

#### Heritage Open Day – Sunday 10 September 2017 – 2-4.30pm

With guided tours of St Giles Church, Thomas Gray's Tomb and the Memorial Gardens. Free of charge – Meet at the Memorial Gardens office at 2 pm.

#### Fungus Foray – October 2017 (Date to be arranged).

With Penny Cullington from the British Mycological Society. Bring any specimens you have for identification and a basket or ice cream box and hand trowel for collecting. £5 per adult, children free.

#### **Volunteer Gardening Group**

This is held twice a month, on Monday mornings and Thursday afternoons, when you can go along and help out with the maintenance of this unique site. At the same time you can learn from the professionals, who are always happy to answer your gardening queries. For dates and times, see contact details below.

All tours start from the Memorial Gardens Office. For further information, or to book a place: Contact the Gardens Administrator, Telephone 01753 523744.







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# **Yoga with Lindi**

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Monday, 7.15pm-8.30pm Wednesday, 9.30am-10.45am Farnham Common Village Hall Victoria Road, Farnham Common, SL2 3NJ

Wednesday, 6pm-7.15pm Burnham Park Hall, Burnham

All levels - beginners and those returning to yoga welcome. One-to-ones and chair-based yoga for the less mobile also available.



Contact Lindi: 07818 052087 Email: lindibilgorri@gmail.com

# Jottings from the Potting Shed

R. E. Maun provides some useful information on dealing with the French pest which kills our box hedges and the new giant Spanish slug.

Firstly I want to deal with a query. It concerns box hedges and trees. We now have an intruder from France called the Box Tree Moth which is off-white with dark edges to the wings. This pest has four breeding cycles per year and produces caterpillars which look similar to

the cabbage white caterpillar, which will chomp their way through a box hedge in no time flat! So attack, attack, attack, use Provado Ultimate Bug Killer. Several treatments

per year will be required and the cheapest way is to buy the product in the large size and dilute it yourself. Farnham Common Nurseries keep it in stock.

MARCH - Wake up the lawn. Treat any moss now with Sulphate of Iron (obtainable from the Handyman in Farnham Common Broadway) using the mixture as described in previous articles. Give the grass a feed with a high nitrogen tonic. Start regular cuts using a cylinder mower with a box which collects all the cuttings if you want a really good looking sward.

By now the vegetable plot should be almost ready to plant. I'm going to use more chicken manure pellets this year for ease and convenience. Sow broad beans now. Early carrots sown in a bucket and placed

in as warm a place as possible should Plant garlic in the plot which has been fertilised with a high phosphate onion fertilizer. Early peas can be sown, preferably under cloches. My choice this year is Kelvedon Wonder to be followed by Alderman, an old heritage variety which usually produces high yields from July to September. Sow leeks along the edge of your plot ready to transplant when about 8" high. Early this month I will plant Accent first early potato and three weeks later these will be followed by Athlete for my second early. I think "bliss" may be described as new potatoes, carrots and peas served with new season's lamb chops. I digress. Plant onion setts. I am staying with Golden Ball which produced very well last year and I will also plant shallots. Prune roses hard down to the lowest outward

facing bud and remove any crossing and weak stems together with old damaged and dead stems. Wear gloves! Start off some flower seeds indoors. I suggest some

mesembryanthemum, nemesia, osteospermum and, of course, sweet peas. Trim heather, plant snowdrops whilst in leaf. A lot of gardening magazines will tell you to sow parsnips now. Don't even think about it – read on...

APRIL - The real planting and sowing month. Having cleared out, washed down and disinfected the greenhouse (you did, didn't you?) prepare seed trays, peat pots and any other containers ready for action. Tomatoes will, of course, be a priority. All seeds will be sown in individual pots (peat) or cardboard toilet roll inners in good compost so that transplanting will not disturb the roots. Runner beans will be started off in the same manner as will cucumbers Cucino and Bella. Sow plenty of lettuce seed in plug trays – two seeds per

"I'm going to use more chicken manure pellets this year for ease and convenience." section - then you can discard the weaker plant prior to transplanting. Beetroot is essential for me. I am growing Detroit 6 only as I found the experiment of growing Solo not productive enough. Radishes are also a "must" with us, as are spring onions. Perpetual spinach sown now will produce young leaves well into the winter if you harvest continuously. Brassicas, sown now, will keep you in green for a large part of the year. Brussels sprouts were in good time for Christmas and were some of the best ever. Keep on sowing carrots at the rate of a few seeds every two or three weeks for a regular supply. The end of this month is the optimum time for sowing parsnips, but only during a warm spell. I sowed four rows last year - two of Tender & True, two of Albion. I'm still waiting for the former to germinate whilst the latter

have produced bestever for size, quantity and flavour. There are many flower seeds which will grow direct when sown into the flower border such as helianthus. eschscholzia, candytuft, lobelia. larkspur. etc. The

ground for these should be prepared to a fine tilth with some added bonemeal worked in and kept moist. Protect from birds and the local feline population.

All these new plants must be protected from slugs and snails, especially the new giant Spanish slug. These giant slugs are partially resistant to slug pellets and the best solution, if you see any, is to sprinkle them with salt. For ordinary slugs I will use Nematodes now and later in the year and I will also use organic slug pellets.

MAY - This is a very busy month. Sow plenty of French beans and plant out runner beans in prepared ground (12" deep trenches filled with raw kitchen waste

covered with newspaper and soil). I prefer climbing French beans as they keep clean, slug free and are easier to harvest. Plant early maincrop and maincrop potatoes and keep on top of earthing up the earlies. Last year my maincrop potatoes produced beautiful looking tubers but when cut they were rotting from the inside with Spraing virus. There is no antidote for this, so we had to buy potatoes for Christmas. Keep on sowing carrots, beetroot and lettuce. At the end of the month it should be warm enough to plant cucumbers in their final position and the tomato plants should be put in large pots in the greenhouse. Don't forget to plant French marigolds in the greenhouse as these certainly deter whitefly and other aphids.

Start planting out flower beds. Fork some

"All these new plants

must be protected

from slugs and snails,

especially the new giant

Spanish Slug."

blood, fish and bone fertilizer into the soil to give them a good start and mulch the bed with (preferably) homemade your Prepare compost. hanging baskets and containers for planting. I found that a good planting medium last year was a mix of

3 parts peat, 3 parts garden soil, 4 parts potting compost, chicken manure pellets and some water retention crystals. This mix does not dry out as readily as neat compost and so saves water. Once again I will use calibrachoa (million bells) as the mainstay of the baskets and begonias for containers. Avoid all varieties of busy lizzies as the virus which destroyed them five years ago has not been conquered.

Unfortunately I have no more space so I must stop now but, should you wish to talk to me about gardening, the editors can put vou in touch.

Good gardening, everyone!

### ADVANCE NOTICE

# Farnham Royal Parish Fete 2017

8th July from 1pm to 4pm - St. John's Church Grounds

"Oh I do like to be beside the seaside!"

Please put our summer fete in your diary as it promises to be an exciting and fun occasion with something for everyone, particularly the children. Featuring Benjamin Hasker's famous Punch & Judy Show, Mike's Donkeys, Brass Band and a fish and chip van for your lunch. All the fun of the seaside at St. John's.

If you would like to sponsor one of the 3 main events, or want to join others in offering sponsorship, you would have published, public recognition, and help hugely to making our fete a success.

For further information please contact Rev Graham Saunders 01753 643233 or email revghs@gmail.com



# The Farnhams & Hedgerley Horticultural Society

# **42nd Annual Show**

will be held this year

At: The Village Hall, Victoria Road, Farnham Common

On: Sunday 10 September 2017 at 2pm

Exhibits will include flowers, fruit, vegetables, flower arranging and crafts, as well as other categories, so get growing and start to prepare your entries now in good time for the show in September.

Full details will be on the website www.farnhamshedgerleyvillageshow.co.uk and the printed schedule will appear in May.





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# Farnhams Open Gardens 2017

**Pat Marshall** proposes a repeat of this popular event this year, probably at the end of June, and is hoping for enough interest from participants old and new to make it a success.

There were eleven gardens last year, with a couple of new ones we had not seen before.

It would be nice to have some different gardens again this year, as well as our faithful participants, of course, where there is always something of interest to look at. If your garden is small or large and you would like to participate in the day, please contact me. Don't think you have to be of top show standard. Remember this is not a competition and we are not Chelsea, but have real, living gardens to look after year round.

All the garden owners who take part enjoy showing their gardens off and talking to visitors from the villages and further afield. It is very rewarding and raises much needed funds for Farnham Common Community Library.

If you would like to take part, please contact me, Pat Marshall, on 01753 645924 or marshallpat@hotmail.com



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For Membership Enquiries please contact our Membership Team on 01753 717179 or email membership@stokepark.com







# Rotary Club of Burnham Beeches

**Rebecca Whitlock** explains how their Rotary Club's vibrant and enjoyable fund raising activities 'define who they are'.

The Rotary Club of Burnham Beeches has had an extremely enjoyable last few months. We took part in the hugely successful Burnham Christmas Fayre, where almost the entire club turned out to sell mince pies and mulled wine on the High Street. It was standing room only at the perennially

popular Burnham Carol Service and the choirs from local schools, the bell ringers and the very impressive 'Pop Goes the Choir' did themselves and the village proud. Despite the initial 'Carols on the Green' being postponed, we had a ball helping at the event

itself. We also held our annual Christmas Meal at the South Bucks Golf Club and had a wonderful time eating fabulous food and raising money from selling raffle tickets for a Christmas Hamper Extraordinaire, donated and made by our very own hamper chief Michael Murphy. The monies raised totalled an impressive £505, which was donated to a very deserving local charity, Home-Start.

And it's just that sort of thing that really defines who we are. As well as having fun and making lifelong friendships, our aim is to give as much help as we possibly can for local and international charities. Donations and help given recently include Dictionaries 4 Life to several local primary schools (they are given to Year 4 pupils for them to keep



and use throughout their school career), the sponsorship of the SureStart Christmas Party for disadvantaged local families, and the purchase and delivery of over 600 Atlases for Africa that have reached scores of underprivileged children in Southern Africa. We have agreed to sponsor the achievement awards at Burnham Park

Academy this academic year and have donated to the Rotary Against Malaria cause, which is working hard in its aim to eradicate Malaria one day. We also raised over £3500 for Children in Need in November (with a bit of help from Pudsey visits to local schools).

"As well has having fun and making lifelong friendships, our aim is to give as much help as we possibly can for local and international charities."

Our exciting Music Night took place in February with an all star line-up. We are now focusing on our 26th Donkey Derby, this year taking place on Saturday 27th May 2017 in Burnham Park. Book it into your diaries now!

The club is a fabulous way to make friends and help those in need, wherever and whoever they are. If you would like to come along to visit our rapidly growing, vibrant and dynamic club, please feel free to drop in to one of our meetings; held every Thursday at the Tudor Barn, South Bucks Bridge Centre, Britwell Road, Burnham, SL1 8DF (7.30pm for 8.00pm meet) or contact us at rcburnhambeeches@gmail.com.



Members of Burnham Beeches Rotary Club at last October's 5k and 10k Run, where they celebrated the unveiling of a new defibrillator donated by the club.



Fabian Downs finishing the 10k course in a record-breaking 34 minutes 44 seconds.



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# Hedgerley Historical Society

John Lovelock outlines the Society's programme through to May, when there will be a talk on how there were no social boundaries for Great Missenden's fallen in WW1.



Our March meeting is the Harry Kirby Memorial Lecture in memory of our founder in 1976. Popular speaker and writer Julian Hunt will present The Romance of the A413 on Wednesday 15th March.

The A413 is the modern name for the old road from London to Birmingham which forms the spine of Buckinghamshire. We will examine early bequests for road maintenance, surveyors of highways, turnpike trusts, milestones and tollhouses. We will learn how to distinguish a coaching inn from a beerhouse, and whether the highwayman was as big a threat as the

period films would have us believe. We will also hear what people in the 18th and 19th centuries thought of their roads and the cost of travel by stage coach.

# Nancy Astor and the Cliveden Set

Following a brief AGM on Wednesday 19th April, Nigel Smales will present his talk on Nancy Astor and the Cliveden set. Nigel Smales was born in Ealing and moved to Taplow in 1997. He began his career as an Architect before becoming a Management Consultant. When he retired in 2011 he published a biography of his father Eddy 'Smiler' Smales and then he wrote a detailed history of his village 'Taplow Moments' that was published in 2015.

### Great Missenden's Fallen in WWI

During the Centenary commemorations of the Great War we are continuing to look at the impact the conflict had on the Home Front in Buckinghamshire and on the 17th May Jill Robertson will describe Great Missenden's fallen in WW1.

Jill Robertson's Great Uncle George was killed in the First World War at Ypres at the age of 18. Jill grew up hearing about the devastating impact this made on her mother's family. So whenever she walked past the war memorial in Great Missenden High Street, Jill always wondered about the men who died from the village in the Great War and wanted to know who they were, where they lived, what their family life was like, what they looked like, what job they did and where they died.

Jill was shocked to find out that there was no village record about these men. There wasn't even a list of their Christian names and she felt that we were in danger of forgetting the very men whom the war memorial had been set up to remember. So in 2014, Jill started to research them all in detail

Of the 39 names, eight men were officers, living in some of the larger and better homes

in Great Missenden. Ten of the dead came from one street, which was the poorest road in the village a hundred years ago. Each story was a tragedy for the family left behind. There is a letter to the War Office

from a father who was a farm labourer, pleading for information on his missing son, who was only confirmed killed months later. The tragedies knew no social boundaries. A well-to-do family living

"Of the 39 names, eight men were officers and ....ten of the dead came from the poorest road in the village."

in a 19-roomed mansion lost three sons who were all officers, two of them being killed on the same day. Two labouring families both lost two sons and one of these families also lost another six children from other causes.

Jill's talk will cover the lives of some of these men and what life was like in Great Missenden at the time of the war, with a brief description of how she did the research.

# Milton's Cottage

Our Spring Programme ends on Wednesday 24th May with an evening visit to Milton's Cottage in Chalfont St Giles. Milton's Cottage is the only surviving home of the visionary poet and political writer, John Milton. It was in this 16th century cottage that he completed his epic masterpiece, Paradise Lost, and was inspired to write

its sequel, Paradise Regained. Today Milton's Cottage open to the public as a museum. It retains of the the charm 17th century home that Milton would have known whilst

housing one of the world's most important collections relating to the writer on open display. The three museum rooms contain rare books, paintings and prints that give a unique insight into Milton's life, work and influence.

Hedgerley Historical Society meet at Hedgerley Memorial Hall, Kiln Lane Hedgerley SL2 3UZ.

Further details from John Lovelock 01753-647187 jdlovelock@btinternet.com

Wedding of grocer's assistant, Harold Patman, killed at Ypres, August 1917, leaving a widow and two young children.



Capt. Archibald Campbell, a Lloyds insurance broker, killed at the battle of Loos in November 1915, aged 32, leaving a widow and daughter.



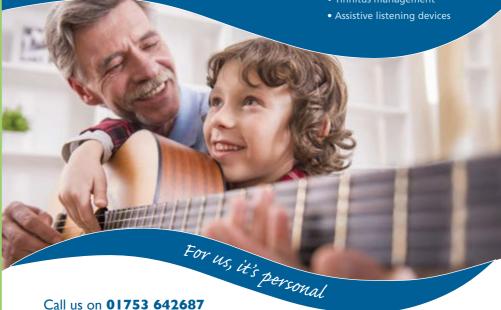
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# The Baby under the Seat

Intrigued by a chance encounter with a paragraph from The Bucks Herald Saturday of May 5th 1900, **Lisa Edwards** set about unravelling the mystery of an abandoned baby found in an empty railway carriage over a century ago.

The baptism register for Upton-Cum-Chalvey has an entry for June 24th 1900

about a baby simply referred to as 'Iris', parents unknown. The baby was in the Union Workhouse, Slough. At the foot of the page is an annotation made by the vicar where he states that the baby had been found in a railway carriage in Slough on May 1st

1900, and had been adopted by Caleb Luther and Edith Adams of Eastbourne

The entry found quite by accident has resulted in my piecing together the life of Iris, using the documents and newspaper collections that we hold here at the Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies and online resources such as the British Library Newspapers, Ancestry and FindMyPast.

The story of the discovery of the baby was reported nationwide, from Penzance to Yorkshire, stimulating interest from ladies wanting to adopt the child.

The minutes of the Eton Board of Guardians, dated Tuesday 8th May 1900, detail the case. The Master suggested that the baby was about a month old and four applications had already been received

by women hoping to take the child. Newspaper reports state that one of the applicants was a Kentish clergyman's wife who asked if the baby looked healthy. The others were from Maidenhead, Brighton and Eastbourne. The Guardians agreed that it was too early to decide whether the child should be adopted as not enough time had passed for relatives or friends of the infant to be found and so the matter was postponed for two weeks.

The Board of Guardians deliberated the adoption of the baby at a meeting of 22nd May 1900 and elected to contact both the Faversham and Eastbourne Union Board of Guardians, "with a view to assisting the Guardians in arriving at a decision as

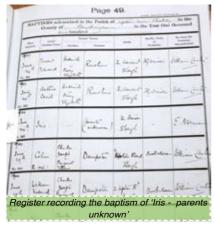
to the homes offered for the child..." It was decided at the following meeting, held on the 19th June, that Mr and Mrs Adams of Eastbourne should be able to adopt the child and she was duly baptised Iris on 24th June 1900.

"The cries of a baby were heard emanating from a second-class compartment, and a female child was found under the seat...there was no owner for it..."

This is where her story ends in Buckinghamshire, but using the census records for 1901, I see that her adoptive father Caleb was 54 years old and a fishmonger. Her adoptive mother Edith was 34 and both were born in Sussex. Iris's birthplace is given as unknown, as it is on the 1911 census. Poignantly, she creates a date of birth for the 1939 register - 6th April 1900. Her occupation is given as 'housewife' and she is single living with her widowed mother. Iris E Adam's death at the age of 64 is recorded within the 1965 March Quarter of the General Register Office Index

It is over 116 years since Iris was born. Her life on paper is documented from the moment she was found abandoned by her birth mother till her death in 1965. It

is important to remember, though, that the glimpses we find of an individual's life were kept for official purposes only. Yet by reading such records family historians are able to look into the lives of those long since passed, something that the documents were not intended to be used for. And it is with this in mind that I wonder if the vicar could have realised that a simple annotation that he wrote in 1900 could lead to my discovering the lifetime journey of a new-born foundling.



"The story of the discovery of the baby was reported nationwide, from Penzance to Yorkshire"

The alkaster reported that a going Stream that in a take the same that a meet the last alkering been admitted into the Tokkow s applications from those proposing to adopt the third were record and the months are then adjusted to the meanwhite a those to when for their latters and inform them of the adjusted considered to Extract from the minutes of the Eton Board of Guardians concerning a 'child found in a railway carriage'.

# **Boards of Guardians and the Workhouse**

These were elected bodies who administered the Poor Laws in force between 1835 and 1930. As such they were responsible for managing workhouses within a Poor Law Union, consisting of a group of parishes. Eton Poor Law Union was set up in 1835 with a 22-strong Board of Guardians, representing 19 constituent parishes, which included Slough, Farnham Royal, Hedgerley, Gerrards Cross and many others in the area.

The Eton Union Workhouse – where the foundling Iris of our story was baptised - was built to cater for all 19 parishes on a plot of land adjacent to Upton Street, Slough, now Albert Street. It was completed in 1836 to house

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# From the Archives

"The Bug House", as it was known, in Farnham Royal, was once a scientific centre of world renown, as **Elisabeth Mills** discovers on her latest trawl through the Archives.

We are now looking at the June 1949 magazine, in which there is an article on Farnham House Laboratory. The Laboratory of the then Imperial Institute of Entomology was started at Farnham House, Farnham Royal, in February 1927. The work of the laboratory was to collect beneficial insects and send them to areas infested with pests.

### The article tells us:

Although the laboratory distributed a large number of beneficial insects within Great Britain, most help was given to the Dominions and Colonies. Whether it was sawfly pests of wheat or spruce in Canada, or a caterpillar pest of cabbages in New Zealand, or a blowfly pest in Australia, or the codling moth spoiling apples in South Africa, Farnham House was appealed to by the respective governments.

Altogether the natural enemies of 60 major pests in 22 countries were studied. Some were attacked by as many as 30 different kinds of parasites. In order to obtain these parasites, predators and plant eaters, most of the continent of Europe was scoured, and

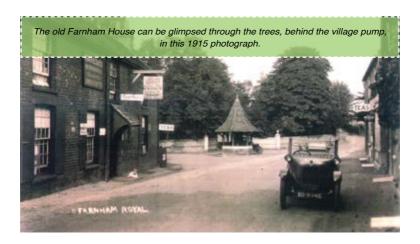
much material was also obtained from the West Indies, Canada, Mauritius, Java, U.S.A. and Malaya. A large number of the insects required were also collected from around Farnham Royal, and sorting, packing and shipping the insects could not have been accomplished without the help of many Farnham Royal residents, who found the work congenial and interesting'.

The work became widely known in scientific circles throughout the world and was recognised as of great economic importance and attracted many foreign visitors. Much was written in papers and magazines of the "Parasite Zoo" (or "Bug House" as it was known in Farnham Royal!) The Czechoslovakian area was the laboratory's main collecting centre, and when Germany marched into that country in 1938 and 1939, all work in that region ceased. When war started the collecting of insects was severely hampered and became crippled when France collapsed in June 1940. Farnham House was closed temporarily and the work and some of the staff were transferred to Ontario in Canada.

### The article continues:

'The colossal total of 39 million insects was sent out from Farnham House. This number is too huge to grasp. It compares with the total population of people in the British Isles. Who would have guessed that there was such activity within those apparently peaceful grounds and buildings?'

Farnham House was on the corner of Beaconsfield Road and Farnham Lane and is now occupied by the Berkeley Homes building.



# Mothers' Union

Mary Lane brings us up to date with Hedgerley Mothers' Union.

Our Christmas activities started with a Deanery candle-lit Advent Readings and Carol Service at Upton Church, one of the oldest buildings in Slough, where we were made very welcome. We were also able to look at the Herschel exhibition at the back of the church, which used to be in Slough Library but was moved to Upton Church. where Herschel is buried. We made the Christingles for the Hedgerley Christingle service, an enjoyable event which the children love (parents also enjoyed the sweets!). We then had our own party, where we played games, did a guiz and joined in Christmas carols, led by the Revd Graham Saunders.

Our January meeting was a tea and chat afternoon when we remembered our experiences of Christmas past. This proved a very enlightening afternoon, with many tales, traditions and experiences remembered.

On 7th March we are having slides and a talk on a visit to lona by one of our members, followed on 4th April by a talk on our theme for the year "Faith in Action" by a member from the Diocese. On 2nd May we hope to visit Dorchester Abbey and on 6th June we have a talk from the RSPB in Hedgerley.

If you would like to join us at any of our meetings, which are held in the Memorial Hall, Hedgerley on the 1st Tuesday in the month, from 2 - 4pm, please come along, (Mothers' Union is open to everyone, male or female); and you will be warmly welcomed. Lifts can be arranged if you require them, just ring Mary on 01753 646926 for further details.

# Hedgerley Women's Institute



To celebrate our 95th Birthday Rosemary Followell produced wonderful video on the History of W.I. Hedgerley Rosemary has spent most of last collectina vear information and

photographs from our scrap books, which date back many years, and arranging them beautifully in this very informative film, from the time when the Memorial Hall was first used by the W.I. and devoid of all facilities - members boiled the kettle for teal on a primus stove outdoors - to our wellequipped hall today.

The years in between were illustrated with photos of events from exhibitions of crafts, plays, music, house and garden visits, modelling hats, lunches, rain-soaked garden parties - to mention but a few - and all this set to music. This will be a valuable record of Hedgerley W.I. for future generations.

As all W.I.s throughout the country are raising funds for the upkeep of our Denman College in Oxfordshire, we have taken the opportunity to present Bucks Chairman Jenny Street with our donation of £500 for "The Appeal for Denman Fund". Denman College is an inspiration to W.I. members countrywide and much treasured.

Our new programme has just been printed, which includes a wide variety of speakers and activities. We meet on the 3rd Thursday each month at 2.30pm in the Memorial Hall. and a warm welcome awaits. Telephone Jenny Harper-Jones on 01753 643872 so that she can look out for you.

# Royal British Legion

The Poppy Appeal in November, reports **Naomi Arnold**, achieved a new Branch record, raising more than £24,000.

Whilst we continue with our house to house collections and our street collections in the Broadway, our Poppy collection at the Beaconsfield Motorway Service Area - which actually falls in Hedgerley, and where we are now in our third year of collecting - has proved most rewarding. Our Appeal



benefitted by over £ 8,000 from this venue alone, due to the high footfall in this Service Area. Our sincere thanks to the many Poppy People who gave so generously of their time, however they helped with our Poppy Appeal, and especially those who enabled us to fill our rota at the MSA from 7am to 7pm on each of the 11 days we covered.

I would also mention that we are pleased to let villagers and businesses have one of our attractive all-year-round Poppy Boxes, available in both large and small. They are ideal for collecting loose change and - dare I say it - acting as a swear box throughout the year, and the contents help swell the Poppy Appeal each November. If you would like one delivered to you, just let me know, and we would be glad to drop one off to you.

We held another very convivial Sausage Supper at Farnham Common Village Hall on 7th October, with a record number of attendees.

Naomi C Arnold - Chairman, RBL FC Branch (01753 663305 naomi.arnold33@gmail.com)



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# New 'Drop-in Centre' at St Mary's Church, Farnham Royal

**Jerry Houdret** explains how the new vestry is to be a meeting place for coffee and a chat with children's area – and is looking for volunteers to help with the project.

All the alterations at St Mary's are finished and our new meeting room with coffee/tea and children's area is ready to use. So now the Church Wardens are looking for volunteers to open a drop-in centre on some Wednesday mornings during school term time from 8.45am till 10.15am. Then we can welcome parents or grandparents of all denominations dropping off elder children at St Mary's School who have children under school age, and want to have a coffee, tea or soft drink, and chat to and make new friends.

All the volunteers need is to be able to make the drinks, wash up, and keep an eye on safety of all who visit. Since it wouldn't be every week, and only for an hour and a half each time, this should be more like fun than work, we hope. If we have lots of volunteers, it may be only once a month that we would hope for your help.

We already have some children's toys and drawing materials, so youngsters would have things to do, while parents natter, and enjoy a break from the routines of life with kids Jerry puts out a call for volunteers to help with this project.

This new meeting area is also for use during our normal Sunday services, so youngsters can meet there during parts of the regular service, leaving the adults to the sermon and prayers.

Although this area is not a Sunday school, we do offer a chance to learn a little more about our Christian faith in a child friendly environment called JAM = Jesus and Me.

So if you feel able to spare a bit of time to see what we want to do, and might volunteer, please call Jerry Houdret, Church Warden on 01753 643610.





# **Obituaries**

# **Ivv Prince**

# 21st July 1926 - 21st October 2016

Ivy was well known in the village as she had lived in Drew Meadow for 65 years, having been born in Burnham. Many people will remember Mum with her "wheels" in the village

This poem was written by Dave Petter in memory of her as she loved nature, especially butterflies, swans and sheep.

A swan glides serenely across the pond Waters ripple in the breeze Loud whispers from the trees beyond As a zephyr moves the leaves Their colour is gradually changing Autumnal hues so bright But the sun still has sufficient strength To warm butterflies to flight All the swallows have departed The damselflies have gone The sheep are shorn and eat lazily On the hill above the pond Suddenly it occurs to me As I contemplate this scene

That I see what my parents saw And what theirs before have seen An infinite, wondrous beauty No-one really knows the cause That defies the generations And is bound by natural laws It goes on for eternity And it's comforting to me To know whatever power created this Must have created me So as the sun sets crimson And colours all the sheep I cease all my reflection And gently fall asleep

# **Margery Dovey**

# 14th June 1924 - December 11th 2016

Margery was a familiar figure in the village, having lived in Mayflower Way since 1964. From her early childhood in Neath, South Wales, she was involved with music, studying piano and singing at Trinity College, then teaching local children and adults to sing and play the piano.

In addition to Margery's love of music and her family, she and husband Bill shared a

passion for gardening, creating a garden of exceptional beauty in Mayflower Way.

Local resident Katherine Bowles remembers Margery with great fondness: "I will always remember Margery as someone with a real passion or music and life. She was so effervescent, but also lovely, kind and a truly fantastic piano/singing teacher. She was more than that though... I'll never be able to say how grateful I am for her inspiring me to go so far in my piano exams. But I will truly cherish the moments when she would sit on the large stool and join in. She's bound to be up in heaven, singing away".



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# Southmead Surgery

**Sue Hazell**, Practice Manager, plans a regular spot in the Farnhams Magazine to keep patients informed of any changes or news.

As I am sure most of you are aware, we have changed the way the Monday Open Surgery runs. You are now given a time slot to try and avoid a long wait to be seen. As long as you have called or come into the surgery before 10.30am, you will be seen that morning, for urgent or routine appointments.

Are you aware that you can register for Patient Access? Please ask at Reception for your login details and password. Once you have this set up you can order regular

repeat prescriptions, make appointments and view your medical records using the internet.

If you have any queries regarding referrals or hospital appointments please speak to our Secretary, Angela Smith, who will be happy to help you. Angela works Tuesdays, Thursday and Fridays. Dr Laura Weidner will be taking 6 months Maternity Leave from Friday 10th March 2017.

We welcome feedback, both positive and negative, to help us to improve the service we offer. If you would like to join our Patient Participation Group either let Reception know or submit the form on the surgery website www.southmeadsurgery.co.uk



# Slough Together Charity Walk



This annual event, organised by the **Rotary Club of Slough**, will be held this year on Saturday 29th April 2017. All funds raised by participants will be retained by their charity.

The walk starts and ends at Upton Court Park, Slough, with a route along the Jubilee and Thames rivers. Full details are on the website: www.sloughrotary.org.uk/walk/

# Library Update

Following a busy 5th anniversary year for Farnham Common Community Library in 2016, **Maria Hall** looks ahead to the exciting programme of activities planned for 2017.

We had a very busy and successful 2016 during which we celebrated our fifth anniversary as a community library and continue to thrive as a local hub. We ended the year with our coffee morning in November which raised a whopping £600 for Alzheimer's UK. Our trips to St Alban's Christmas Market and Thursford Christmas Spectacular received rave reviews, and our annual sell-out Christmas Supper was a great success as always.

This year promises to be just as packed with events and activities. We will have all our usual children's storytelling and holiday Arts & Crafts activities, our regular Book Group, Lunch Club and IT Clinics and a varied and interesting programme of events. We organised a coach visit on 23rd February to the unusual Brick Lane Music Hall in east London, which is the UK's only permanent home for Music Hall, and we enjoyed a pantomime for adults only - "Schlepping Beauty" - with a delicious afternoon tea included in the interval.

On 29th March we have organised a ticket-only visit to Kensington Palace, London to see a new exhibition entitled "Diana: Her Fashion Story". This exhibition will bring together an extraordinary collection of garments ranging from the glamorous evening gowns worn on engagements in the Eighties to the chic Catherine Walker suits that made up Diana's working wardrobe in the Nineties. The temporary White Garden will also feature "flowers and foliage inspired by memories of the Princess's life, image and style". Tickets, which include admission to the palace, gardens, and state apartments as well as the exhibition, are £14.50 for seniors and £18.00 for adults.

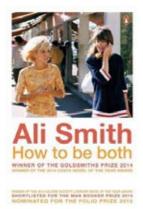
Our next event is a coach trip on Wednesday 19th April to see "42nd Street", Broadway's biggest musical on the West End's biggest stage. With songs like "Lullaby of Broadway", "We're in the Money", "I Only Have Eyes For You", this is one of the iconic shows and a must-see for theatre fans. Grammy Award winner Sheena Easton joins the high-kicking cast at the Theatre Royal Drury Lane as Dorothy Brock, alongside Tom Lister as Julian Marsh and Clare Halse as Peggy Sawyer. We have low-priced tickets in best Stalls seats for the matinée, with return coach included.

Taking us up to May, we have a visit to Mapledurham House, planned for 23rd May, including coach to Caversham Bridge, then Thames cruise by covered boat to Mapledurham with a guided tour of the house and working mill.

And if that wasn't enough, we have even more exciting events planned for almost every month for the rest of the year! For details of any of our events and activities, please visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/farnhamccl, our website at www.buckscommunitylibraries.org/farnham-common/, pop into the library and watch out for our regular newsletter.



# **Book Review**



**Carola Donovan** writes about a recent book club choice, '**How to be both**' by Ali Smith, winner of all the major prestigious literary awards

Ali Smith's style is unusual - bold, imaginative and unique and 'How to be both' published in 2014 is even more innovative than any of her previous titles. This novel is a dual narrative, two stories interconnected and actually printed as two separate chapters within the one book with multiple connecting themes and allegorical strands. One story is that of a real life 15th Century Italian fresco painter Francesco del Cossa living in Ferrara in Northern Italy and working on the Fresco panels of 'Room of the months' at the Palazzo Schifanoia. In order to develop her artistic talents in what was a man's world, Francesco, on her Father's instructions, binds her chest and lives as a man. The second story is that of troubled teenager George (Georgina) living in present day

Cambridge and struggling to come to terms with the sudden death of her mother Carol, a feminist and intellectual

The book is printed in such a way that depending on which copy is taken from the shelves, George's or Francesco's story appears first prefaced by either the seeing eye or camera icons, one more of Ali Smith's amusing teases. Several of the Book Group members believed it was easier to appreciate the book if George's story was read first, yet Francesco's story is the more lyrical one.

The interconnecting themes of past and present merging, the versatility and power of art, the influence of death over the living and gender identity, with Francesco living as a man, and George exploring her sexuality are all skilfully manipulated by the Author.

No doubt this book is a challenge and takes a mind switch away from our comfortable expectations that a novel presents itself with a main plot, a sub-plot and recognisable characters, yet the prose is imaginative, often poetic and structurally very ingenious. It can be enjoyed as much for the skilful form and configuration of the novel as for the original story line.

Since 2014 Ali Smith has published a collection of short stories, 'Public Library' and the first of four intended titles of a seasonal quartet 'Autumn', which has been well reviewed. Her dedicated readers will be eagerly anticipating the further three titles, Spring, Summer and Winter.

The Book Group meets 8 times a year (approximately every 6 weeks)

at 2 pm on Monday afternoons, in the Library.

Usual attendance is 12-15 members

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# Stop! Think!

Don't swim with the Loan Sharks if money is tight!

They neveralet you go!



After the expense of the Christmas season all too easy to get persuaded to use high cost 'buy now pay later' catalogues, payday loans, doorstep lenders and even loan sharks. All these sources of credit will lead to high interest rates and in the case of loan sharks, intimidation and possibly harm. Check out the following advice:

- Most loan sharks start out friendly, but behaviour change when payments are missed.
- Few loan sharks advertise; they are often heard of by word of mouth.
- Most loan sharks offer little or no paperwork.
- Many loan sharks will refuse to tell you how much you owe, how long you will be paying
  off the debt or what the interest rate is.
- Many loan sharks will increase the debt and add additional amounts.
- Many loan sharks take items as security including passports, bank cards or benefit cards.
- Many loan sharks resort to intimidation, threats and violence.

REMEMBER if you have borrowed from a loan shark you have not committed a crime, they have.

If you do need a loan, you could join your local credit union, M for Money. Credit unions offer safer, affordable loans to people who may turn to high-risk borrowing like payday lenders.

You can join the credit union at www.m4mcu.org or emailing admin@m4m.cu.org or phoning 020 8756 3866.

If you believe you have borrowed from a loan shark, contact the England Illegal Money Lending Team. The team can be contacted, by phoning the 24/7 confidential hotline on 0300 222 5555, by email to reportaloanshark@stoploansharks.gov.uk or you can find out more from the webpage which is www.direct.gov.uk/stoploansharks.



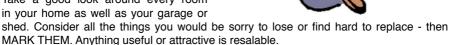


# Beating Burglaries

Property marking is a way to help protect your belongings by deterring burglars and helping the Police trace and return stolen property.

Marking your property with your postcode and house or flat number (or the first three letters of the house name) will make it much easier to trace, if it does get stolen, as it can be positively identified as yours.

Take a good look around every room in your home as well as your garage or



All your electrical and mechanical goods, household appliances, furniture, pictures, ornaments, antiques and silver can be a target for thieves. New bicycles and ones you have already can be marked. (Contact Community Safety on 01494 8586535 for advice where to get this done)

Forensic marking products such as SmartWater and Selecta DNA are highly effective. A liquid solution is applied, which cannot be seen by the naked eye and is incredibly difficult to remove. It glows under ultraviolet light, allowing the police to detect it. To purchase these products email the community safety team at communitysafety@chiltern.gov.uk.

Once you have marked your property, make a list of your valuables and their value which can be used for insurance purposes. It also helps if you can take a photo of your jewellery and other marked belongings.

For a FREE UV pen email communitysafety@chiltern.gov.uk. (Please note pens are limited to one per household and subject to availability).

It pays to show you are "Property Marked". Stickers placed anywhere a burglar might force an entry provide a very effective deterrent, and are also available free from the Community Safety Team.

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# Concerts

# Stoke Poges Singers

### Saturday 25 March 2017 – 7.30 pm, at St Andrew's Church Hall, Stoke Poges

Spring Concert featuring music for the unusual combination of choir and wind band, taking us on a journey "from cradle to grave" only in reverse. Programme includes two 'a capella' pieces,

Anton Bruckner's 'Locus Iste' and Arthur Sullivan's 'The Long Day Closes'.

Brahms Begräbnisgesang (Burial Song)

Stravinksv Mass **Bob Chilcott** Jubilate Nico Mulhy Senex puerum

Tickets available from Naomi: 07831 217 575 or Martin: 07900 668 601.

# Slough Philharmonic Society

Saturday 11 March 2017 - 7.30 pm, at Centenary Hall,

Caldicott School, Farnham Royal

MacCunn The Land of the Mountain and the Flood

Beethoven Piano Concerto No 4

Finzi Ecloque for Piano and Strings

Schumann Symphony No 4

Saturday 7 May 2017 - 7.30 pm, at School Hall, Eton College

Jonathan Dove There was a Child Copland Billy the Kid

Griea Morning, Anitra's Dance, In the Hall of the Mountain King

Visit sloughphil.org for event details and to buy tickets

# **Events**

Talk - "Time Travel in India" - A 2,000 km Road Trip, tracing family roots

with Jerry and Jessica Houdret. Wednesday 26 April, 2017 -7.30pm, at St Mary's Church, **Farnham Royal** 

Travelling by road in India is sometimes hair raising, but never boring. Our route took us from Varanasi, the holy city on 'Mother Ganges', via atmospheric Lucknow, to the Maharaja's quest house in the former Princely State of Balrampur, on the borders of Nepal and to several Himalayan hill stations.

Drinks and snacks + entry £6.

For tickets contact:

Rose Stewart - 01628 313713, or Jerry Houdret - 01753 643610,

Mob: 07789 994555

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# **Activities**

# **Stoke Poges Bellringers**

... welcome new members

A visit to the belfry at St Giles Church, where we ring, to see our 8 bells is an interesting experience for our new recruits

Over the past year we have been working on our striking to try and ring evenly and with a good rhythm and several of us have attended training courses run by the Oxford Diocesan



Guild of Church Bellringers. The training sessions give us practice in ringing with seasoned experts and their support and encouragement is crucial. We have a new recruit, Anthea, from the 'Learn to Ring Church Bells' week in August, who is very keen and is doing well.

We ring the bells from 5.45 until 6.30 pm before evensong on every Sunday, except the first of the month when there is no service. Our practice night is every Wednesday from 7.45pm to 9pm - so please listen to us and if you feel like it, you are very welcome to join us.

To find out more, please contact our tower captain, Anne Frank ann.efrank@virgin.net or secretary, Jane Lunsford vjlunsford@yahoo.co.uk

# **Ballroom Dancing with Strictly Shine**

We are well served for learning to dance in the Farnhams with Angela's Strictly Shine classes in both village halls, as well as in nearby Stoke Poges. So, if you have always wanted to learn to dance or to brush up rusty skills, now is your opportunity.

**Wednesdays**, **12.30 pm – 1.30 pm**, at Farnham Royal Village Hall - Strictly Ballroom Basics

Fridays, 1.30 pm – 2.30 pm, at Farnham Common Village Hall – Strictly Ballroom Basics

**Mondays**, **8.15 pm – 9.15 pm**, at St Andrews Church Hall, Stoke Poges – Strictly Solo Latino

For further information contact: Angela 0745 011714, Angela@strictlyshine.co.uk







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# From the Registers (October to December 2016)

# **Baptisms:**

St. Mary Farnham Royal

St. John Farnham Common

St. Mary Hedgerley

# Weddings:

St. Mary Farnham Royal

St. Mary Hedgerley

### **Funerals:**

St. John Farnham Common

St. Mary Farnham Royal

St. Mary Hedgerley

# **Crematoriums & Cemeteries:**

Joy-Rose Taylor

Harry David William Baker

William James Selby

Andrew Fitch & Natalie Barros

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Geoffrey Laycock

Mary Hales

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Colin Harris

Marion Taylor

Judith Broadgate

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# Memories of Farnham Common's Old Telephone Exchange

Irene Tibble looks back to the 1950s when she worked in Farnham Common's old manual telephone exchange in Kingsway. The building later became offices and last year was replaced by an apartment development.

I used to work on the exchange in the 1950s. Those who worked with me included Wendy and Ronnie Heaver, Ann Richardson, someone called Lily, whose surname I forget, and Joan Dyson was in charge. Evening operators included Sid Spuffard and Joe (whose surname I also forget).

We used to do split shifts, 8am until 1pm and 2pm until 6pm. I used to do shifts for the women that wanted to take time off over Christmas and Easter. I enjoyed working there and they were a nice lot of ladies. The shops were handy, with an estate agents on the corner of the road, a



Image © David Hillas, re-used under Creative Commons Licence.

confectioners, Dyson's for groceries and Lund the greengrocer. The old cinema was taken over by a firm of printers and the boss there was nicknamed 'Argie Bargie'.

I often think about the times I worked at the telephone exchange and how much the world has changed since those days.

# **Christmas Crossword Solution**

Out of the correct solutions sent in, the lucky winner of the £25 prize was Mr T Dolling. Many thanks to Steve Ridgwell of Ridgwell Windows and Conservatories for sponsoring the crossword, and to Will Ansell for compiling it.

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<sup>23</sup> S		Т		С		R		0		Т		Α
<sup>24</sup> T	R	0	٧	Е		<sup>25</sup> A	Т	С	Н	U	N	G
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# Parliamentary & Council Information

# **Member of Parliament for Beaconsfield Constituency**

Dominic Grieve MP 02072 196220 email: grieved@parliament.uk

# **Buckinghamshire County Councillors**

Stoke Poges & Farnham Common Trevor Egleton 643330

Email: tegleton@buckscc.gov.uk

Farnham Royal & Burnham Beeches Linda Hazell 01628 661024

Email: linhazell@btopenworld.com

### **South Bucks District Council**

Council Office sbdc@southbucks.gov.uk 01895 837200

Farnham Royal & David Anthony Hedgerley Ward Dev Dhillon

Stoke Poges Ward Ralph Bagge & Trevor Egleton
For Councillor contact details visit www.southbucks.gov.uk/councillors

# **Farnham Royal Parish Council Councillors:**

Chairman	Trevor Clapp	643623
Vice Chairman	Bob Milne	642149
Finance Committee Chairman	John Hodges	646500
	Brian Bilgorri	642980
	Neil Hodgkins	626930
	Roger Home	642078
	Clive Robinson	642124
	Paul Rowley	643300
	Richard Thomas	642210
	Victoria Thompson	648124
	Judy Tipping	644831

### FR Parish Clerk - Mrs Hilda Holder

648497

Email: clerk@farnhamroyal-pc.gov.uk Sherriff House, The Broadway, FC SL2 3QH

Website: www.farnhamroyal-pc.gov.uk

Parish Council Meetings are open to the public and press. Public comment may be made, at the invitation of the Chairman, during the first 15 minutes of the meeting. Letters concerning parish matters should be sent to the Parish Clerk who will bring them to the attention of the Councillors. Residents who have matters to bring to the Council's attention are advised that it is more effective to attend meetings in person.

### Next Meetings - (starting at 7.30pm)

6th March (8pm) 27th March 24th April 22nd May (AGM) 26th June (6.30pm) 26th June (7.30pm) 31st July

25th September

Annual Parish Meeting Farnham Royal Village Hall

Farnham Common Village Hall Farnham Royal Village Hall Farnham Common Village

Finance committee Farnham Royal Village Hall

Full Council Farnham Royal Village Hall

Farnham Common Village Hall Farnham Royal Village Hall



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# **Church Information**

# The United Benefice of Farnham Royal with Hedgerley (Anglican)

### St Mary Farnham Royal

11:00 am Holy Communion (1st, 3rd, 4th, 5th Sundays)

11:00 am Family Praise (2nd Sunday)

Baptisms on 4th Sunday of the month

St John Farnham Common

08:00 am Holy Communion (1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays)

09:30 am Holy Communion (Every Sunday)

Baptists on 1st Sunday of the month

St Mary Hedgerley

08:00 am Holy Communion (2nd, 4th Sundays)
11:00 am Holy Communion (1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays)
11:00 am Church Family Worship (2nd Sunday)

11:00 am Family Praise (4th Sunday)

Baptisms on 1st Sunday of the month

St Mary's Hedgehogs Toddler Group - Thursday in term time 10:00 am at Scout HQ

The pattern will vary slightly depending on circumstances and patronal festivals. For further information, please contact Rev Graham Saunders on 01753 643233. To receive a weekly email bulletin (E-pistle) of our services and activities, email Graham revghs@gmail.com.

Clergy

lose, Stoke Poges	662536
ane, FC	646546
	, 0

Mr John Turkington - Licensed Lay Minister

**Church Office** 

St John's Vestry, Victoria Road, FC 644130

Open usually Wednesdays 9:30am-12:30pm

unitedbenefice@gmail.com www.farnhamroyalchurches.org.uk

www.facebook.com/ubfarnhamroyalwithhedgerley

For Baptism, Banns and Wedding enquiries ring Revd Graham Saunders 643233

**Church Wardens** 

 St Mary FR
 St John FC
 St Mary Hedgerley

 Mr J Houdret 643610
 Mr P Brooker 710865
 Mrs R Brogden 892076

 Mr A Martin 647528
 Dr R Neale 645631
 Vacancy

Other Denominations

Farnhams & Hedgerley Community Church

Sundays: 10:30 am at FC Infants School – Pastors Barry & Vicky Thompson Fridays: 10-11:30 am 'Pop-In' for parents and toddlers – FC Village Hall

Office Address: 1st Floor Ashley House, The Broadway, FC 648124

St Anthony's Farnham Royal

Mass: Saturdays 6:00 pm Sundays 10:30 am. Weekdays (except Wed) 9:15 am 267918

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# THE UNITED BENEFICE OF FARNHAM ROYAL WITH HEDGERLEY

### **SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER 2017**

**PALM SUNDAY 9th April** 

8.00am Holy Communion St Mary, Hedgerley

9.30am Holy Communion St John, Farnham Common

11.00am Family Service St Mary, Farnham Royal

11.00am Family Praise St Mary, Hedgerley

**TUESDAY in HOLY WEEK 11th April** 

8.00pm Holy Communion St Mary, Farnham Royal

'Healing Service'

WEDNESDAY in HOLY WEEK 12th April

10.00am Holy Communion St John, Farnham Common

6.00pm Seder Eucharist Brian Jubb Hall

(for all ages)

**MAUNDY THURSDAY 13th April** 

8.00pm Holy Communion St Mary, Hedgerley

with foot washing - followed by 'Watch' until Midnight

**GOOD FRIDAY 14th April** 

11.30am 'Devotions on the Green' Farnham Common Green

12.00pm United Service (all welcome) St. John, Farnham Common

(with Hot Cross buns afterwards in Brian Jubb Hall)

2.00pm 'Last Hour Devotions' St Mary, Farnham Royal

6.30pm 'Choral Devotional Service' St. John, Farnham Common

### Sunday 25th December - Christmas Day

No 8am Service

9.30am Family Communion St John, Farnham Common

11.00am Family Communion St Mary, Farnham Royal

11.00am Family Communion St Mary, Hedgerley

(with Easter Egg hunt in Churchyard)