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December 2018





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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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Editorial

"It's the most wonderful time of the year" Whether you agree with the sentiments of this seasonal song or not, there is something different about December. For me, it's the anticipation of the festive season, the lights in the village that sparkle in the dark wintry skies. Walking in the Beeches wrapped up in winter coats and hats, the first day of Advent and no, that doesn't just mean a daily chocolate treat.

My aim every December is to teach my girls the true meaning of Christmas which is not about getting presents and eating a lot of food. It's about helping others, doing good things for the community; it's about giving not receiving. Check out the Random Acts of Kindness guide on Page 27 for some ideas on how you can get your families involved.

This Christmas issue also contains a review of the Horticultural Show, great updates from our usual contributors keeping us up to date on what has been happening in the community, another moment to stop and think with our blogger, Amanda and an amazing hearty lamb recipe from Sanita. Also new this issue are beauty tips from our local salon owner Raman. We welcome all of your submissions and we are always looking for ideas on how to improve the magazine so feedback is genuinely appreciated – find out how on page 59.

This magazine is due out on 1st December and on that day I shall be getting married to Dan, our advertising manager. I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas in the Farnhams, a happy healthy new year and we will see you again in 2019!

Paula Morris

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New Rector, New Opportunities

John Attree, *Vice-Chairman of the Parochial Church Council*, seeks your perspective on our community needs as we look to appoint a new Rector for our churches.

Graham and Helen, our previous Rector and his wife, have now moved on to the next phase of their lives together. In his farewell message Graham recognised the time is right for new ideas and for the church to do more in our community.

We are now starting the process of finding a new Rector for St. John's Farnham Common and St. Mary's Farnham Royal together with St Mary's Hedgerley, the three churches in our United Benefice. We seek a new Rector who will bring something new and exciting, and we should be able to tell them what our expectations are, what our churches are doing now and what new ideas we are following up.

Until we have a new Rector our church life will go on much as usual with services, baptisms, banns and weddings in the care of the Rev'd Gordon Briggs and the Rev'd Jan Clark. See page 78 for details. And we continue our activities a few of which are:

- Talks to raise money for charities as well as the church. Recently we have had talks on the history of The Farnhams and on Aston Martin Adventures in S.E. Asia.
- Our close work with St. Mary's Farnham Royal Church School.
- Our link with the One Can Trust "giving food to the hungry".
- Our support of mission partners in Pakistan and Asia and some working in the U.K.
- And of course our Parochial Church Council publishing this magazine with the support of the Parish Council.

We know, though, that we are here to support our community; we need to inject something new; we need to do more. So we seek your views on our community needs: needs not now being met; where could our churches better help and serve; who is marginalised or at risk; if we make our buildings more flexible which groups might use them.

Answering these sorts of questions will help us think about what our churches can do differently for the benefit of our community and will become an important part of our new Rector's plans and objectives.

So please send your thoughts either by emailing me at unitedbeneficeoffice@gmail.com, ringing on 644130 and leaving a message or write to the Church Office, St. John's Vestry, Victoria Road Farnham Royal. To those of you who do, thank you in advance for your contribution.



Farnham Royal Village Hall seeks New Committee Members

If you are local to our hall, and would consider joining its excellent small management team, we need you.

Two of our committee of six have moved away from area. So now is the time for us to seek new members from the Farnhams.

The Hall is a valuable community asset, which is run for the community by a volunteer management team.

Joining us will not mean hard work, just coming to our 4 or 5 early evening meetings each year, which last a maximum of 2 hours, often less. All you need is enthusiasm, common sense, and if you have a particular skill, be willing to use it to help out with the odd practical task.

Our hall has an excellent caretaker and outstandingly good bookings secretary. They do all the hard work. Only rarely do we help them with one off tasks, and only if we can do so.



If you don't know our hall, it is on Farnham Lane, with lots of parking, a Social Club, a kindergarten school in the Montessori style, and a large hall room where many classes and meetings take place. It is also often rented for parties, and weddings, because we have licenced bar facilities.

Once you have seen who we are and what is needed, give us a call, we would love to find two new committee members.

Google us as:- Farnham Royal Village Hall

For more information email Roger Home at FRVH@hotmail.co.uk



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Farnham Common Village Schools

Alison Fischer tells us about adventures with owls, longboats and prisons, and living in Stone Age times.

On Wednesday 26th September the Acorn Nursery children had a visit from the 'Feathers and Fur Falconry Rescue Centre.' The children were very excited when Sadie arrived with a Barn Owl, an Indian Eagle Owl and a special Little Owl.

The children were able to hold the Little Owl and they watched in awe as the Barn Owl flew silently above their heads! They learnt that the Barn Owl flies silently as it relies on its hearing to catch its prey but the Indian Eagle Owl flies noisily as it uses its eyes to hunt. However, the fact that they found most funny was that owls have their ears on the front of their faces, covered with feathers and that they are 'wonky' with one at the top and one at the bottom!



Acorn Nursery getting acquainted with a Little Owl called Pip.



Year Five using Viking tools to make flour.

At Chiltern Open Air museum, Year Three learnt what it was like to live in Stone age times. They lit fires using flint, built shelters, designed stone age jewellery and had the chance of learning the skills of hunter gatherers. It was an exciting introduction to their stone age topic.

Year Five travelled back in time to a world of longboats when they took part in a Viking Workshop. Led by Bjorn the Viking, who transformed the assembly hall into a religious longhouse, the children took part in a wide range of activities, including stick wrestling, flour grinding and Viking board games. Teachers Mr Yiacoumi and Mr Byrne acted out a deadly spear battle before the children armed themselves with shields and tried to out-Viking each other with their war cries. It was a fascinating insight into the domestic and often violent life of the Vikings.

Year Six have also been out and about visiting Oxford Castle and Prison. On this fascinating trip they learnt about the history of the castle and its use as a prison from 1216 until 1996, hearing stories of trials, curses, punishments and life in the prison. While touring of the castle, they saw the conditions in the cells and, during the workshop session, used a range of historical sources to learn about crime and punishment throughout history.



Year Six investigate historical crimes through the ages.



St Mary's Farnham Royal Church of England Primary School

Farnham Royal School

The staff and children of St Mary's keep us up to date with the latest happenings.

Another great start to the new term with lots of excited faces moving up to their new year groups. Ms Daywan our PE specialist has already created some fantastic competitions with some of the pupils of St Mary's and September has already proved to be a very busy term for the pupils being involved in a number of sporting activities! Eight children from Year 4 went to a badminton development day at Wycombe Badminton Centre. They were Tyler, Savana, Frankee, Ruhan, Aidan, Laila, Isabel and David.

We had a very good day and played some fun activities and we learnt loads of badminton skills. In the afternoon we had a mini festival against other schools, and one of our teams called Royal Wolves won the competition with 256 points. It was great fun. Thank you to Ms Daywan for organising it.

Written by Frankie, Savana and Laila

Also in September, Nursery, Reception and Year 1 children were introduced to Rugby Tots, a dynamic session for children aged 2-5 aimed at developing social and physical skills in a fun and positive environment. A great time was had by all.

On Monday 1st October our year 6 boys football team played in the Chiltern and South Bucks Primary Schools U11 Competition. Their first match was against Butlers Court, and after a tough battle they lost 6-0. Their second match was tightly fought, and after brilliant goal keeping from Wayne, the team were unfortunate to lose 3-0. Team practice is currently taking place and we are hoping for better results in the weeks to come. An exciting addition to our extra-curricular sports is our Girls Football Team and we wish them every continued success!

The annual Harvest Festival was yet again a significant success with parents and pupils attending the church service, which was led by Rev. Jan Clarke. There was an array of food donated for the local food bank. This was followed by all the pupils attending a food taste with a difference; they were able to, and encouraged to, use all their senses with unusual vegetables, which was an eye-opener for both pupils and some staff. A big thank you to the parents of the school that helped set up and tidy up the hall.

Pupils and staff are now preparing for the magic of Christmas time. Visits to local churches, Nativity plays, Carol service and of course the 3rd Age Christmas luncheon, which is always an exciting time for both the community and pupils.



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Burnham Beeches Bulletin

Chris Morris shares the latest news from Burnham Beeches

With the stresses and strains of high-speed modern life, being able to unwind is increasingly important, so how fortunate are we to be able to do that in a place like Burnham Beeches? With it being such a great place for a Sunday afternoon family stroll, cycle ride with the kids, picnic or kickabout on the main common and of course somewhere to walk the dog, it's easy to forget that the Beeches isn't just any old park. An ancient woodland dating right back to the last ice age and a National Nature Reserve, the Beeches offers far more from a constitutional stroll than most similar public open spaces; you can become absorbed in the living history that surrounds you as you walk.

The recorded history of the site can be dated back to William the Conqueror's Domesday book of 1086 when an area in Burnham Parish was noted as having "sufficient woodland for 600 swine". As you walk you can discover tangible echoes of people from centuries long past in the remains of the Iron Age hill fort at Sevenways Plain and the medieval moated farmstead (sometimes referred to as Hartley Court moat). During the periods when these Scheduled Ancient Monuments were inhabited, people turned their livestock out into the woods to graze and forage. This continued during the period when local 'commoners' had specified rights to graze their livestock or collect firewood, and it was centuries of interventions with the natural process of woodland development, that helped to create the rare, rich and diverse habitats found here today.

As coal, oil and gas became available and the numbers of commoners with livestock dwindled, the traditional techniques for managing the woodland declined, resulting in the gradual loss of the open aspect of the heathland and wood-pasture. At around the same time, the emphasis for the land use changed from being a place of 'production' to an area for recreation. Without regular cutting the ancient pollards continued to grow, becoming magnificent, but top heavy, living relics of bygone days. Sadly, their numbers began to decline.



One of the pigs released into Burnham Beeches

A few attempts to cut the trees were made in the 1950's but it wasn't until the late 1980's, when a more scientific and cautious approach was adopted, that a proper understanding of how to care for these trees developed. During the same period, it was also recognised that, as grazing livestock had helped to develop the complex habitats beneath the trees over the centuries, they would be the best tool to restore them to their former glory.

Around thirty years later and we are still building on our knowledge of how best to nurture and care for the Beeches for present and future generations. Not only do specialists come to the Beeches to see the work being undertaken, but we share and gather knowledge with other experts from across Europe.

All the livestock we use are traditional breeds, chosen because they are docile and because they are exactly the sort of breeds that historically would have been turned out into the woods. The British white cattle and Exmoor ponies are very hardy and thrive on the type of grazing available here. We have used the cattle and ponies pretty much continuously since the late 1980's but, for various reasons, we had a gap of around ten years without pigs. At the end of September 2018, the traditional 'pannage' season was re-kindled when two Berkshire pigs were released onto the site.

The re-introduction of these traditional woodland management techniques not only manages the Beeches in the best way possible, it also brings the history of the woodland back to life, helping visitors to get a glimpse of how the woods may have appeared centuries ago. Now an exciting new project being run by the Chilterns Conservation Board, and called Beacons of the Past, is promising to bring more aspects of the site's history back to life. The Heritage Lottery funded project aims to engage and inspire communities to discover, conserve, and enjoy the Chilterns' Iron Age hillforts and their prehistoric chalk landscapes; one of the sites chosen is the monument at Severnways plain. We will be working with the project over the next few years, hoping to add further rich layers of history and interpretation for our visitors to explore.



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Thursday Walkers in Amsterdam

Joined by our differences as much as by our pleasure in walking and fun, ten of the Thursday Walkers are off to Amsterdam, the ninth of our European capital cities. With some increasingly rickety with age, but not yet diminished in zest, we are welcomed with a bright, very early September morning.

A few steps out of the Central Station and walking to our nearby Ibis hotel on Valkenburgerstraat, we experience our first change with London. The emissions of exhausts and resultant coughs are swapped for the miasma of 'weed' and getting high from innocent walking. We are in the Old Town. The canals are straight, the bordering trees well-tended, the pavements dirty and covered with cigarette stubs; the mainly seventeenth century buildings proportioned tall, narrow and confident, the bridges charmingly humped, and the bicycles whizz. In this crowded centre the bicycle, ever looking for the gap, is sovereign; both control and anarchy reign. The discipline of safety helmets is swapped for the freedom of loose hair. The Dutch are at ease with paradox.



The bicycle, ever looking for the gap, is sovereign

We are guided on a zig-zag route east of the Dam through a town compressed into the smallest of spaces consistent with elegance and trade, still ready for the spinet hoisted from the barge and the visiting East Indies merchant. A few medieval buildings, the Oude Kerk of early 13th century and the Waag, a multi-turreted gate house of 1488, relieve the consistency.

Thirty minutes by train, the next day we are in Leiden, an old trading city with one of the oldest and finest universities of Europe. Einstein was on the staff and to polish the eminence Rembrandt was born here. The rain pours, so umbrellas are up, but the charming town easily balances the weather. Indeed an authentic way to picture old Amsterdam is to visit Leiden in the rain. There are few cyclists and the students are all indoors. This is a truly lovely and welcoming place. A lunch of Dutch pancakes, enlivened by the engaging student granddaughter of Ys, one of our Walkers, sends us off in style to Zaanse Schans where Ys was a boy.



The canals are straight and tree-lined

A village of one time food processing, there is still a smell of cocoa in the air. In the park is a Memorial to brave villagers who sheltered Jews and allied airmen. It is a place so redolent of an earlier Holland that an open air museum of working artisan workshops and windmills has been developed. We have a lovely time walking on the dyke chatting with the locals and peering at the rear of the house of the childhood of Ys where the wide canal is a few yards away.

Dinner at the restaurant "Indrapura" is the excellent Indonesian. probably the best of Dutch cuisine.

On our third day we walk east from the inner canal ring to Jordans and the Western canals and islands. The contrast is striking. Only 20 minutes walk from the centre the few bicycles signal with a courteous ring and the air is clean. The workers of the expanding Amsterdam were housed here and it is now gentrified



Dinner at the restaurant Indrapura is probably the best of Dutch cuisine

with quirky small business, design studios and dress shops mixed in with grand houses. The most charming place in Amsterdam is the Begijnhof, where rows of beautiful houses decorate an enclosed rectangular green. Here kindly, caring nuns once lived and the Protestant church shakes hands with the Catholic neighbour across a narrow path.

The quietude suits an overlay of bereavement. The Anne Frank House is not far from the Homomonument, a poignant memorial in the shape of a pink triangle commemorating the homosexuals executed in the war. In the afternoon we walk further north to the Western Islands, a warehouse and shipping area. A curiously desolate area with some warehouses converted into apartments; an out-of-sight of activity sort of place. Now tiring, we are ushered to a tram by our ever prescient guides,

Roger and Keith, the engine room of our small adventures

We are revived with a fine and jolly dinner at the “Belhamel”, a French restaurant, with the usual large glasses, and preceded by beers at a tiny, delightful one room pub, the “Papeneiland” all organised by Rinks, a close childhood friend of Ys.

On the morning of our last day we walk south west to the museum and cultural quarter developed from the 1880s and outside the canal rings. A spacious place of famous museums, the Concertgebouw, and the Vondelpark, we enjoy a fine lunch in the Pavilion. We conclude our trip with a canal boat ride of craned necks as we are encouraged to look upwards, but with the reward of sitting down, so giving us a better, leisured and comfortable sense of the time and space of this remarkable city.

The umbrellaed Walkers with the Rembrandt memorial.



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Farnhams and Hedgerley Horticultural Show

*The Village Show, held on 9th September, was a great success with almost 400 entries across a wide variety of classes. **Rebecca Curtis** tells us more about it.*

The flower arrangements are always the first thing to catch the eye, and these were varied and colourful. The green and white arrangements were particularly interesting, and a beautifully simple design won Edith Painter the cup for Best in Show. Enormous dahlias in vases and huge chrysanthemums seemed bigger than ever this year.

After the long hot summer there were plenty of vegetables in the various classes, as well as fruit. The cakes looked mouth-wateringly delicious, with scones, fruit cakes and sponges well represented. The men only cake, a double lemon gin and tonic cake, was again very hotly contested with a worthy winner. Jam and chutneys could have had a few more entries – start thinking about it for next year! Many other classes included wine, beer, photography and needlework.

It is always wonderful to see the children's entries, such as a seaside garden on a plate, a recycled model, heaviest pumpkin and widest sunflower head.

The show welcomed a new president, Johnny Ball, who did a wonderful job of giving out the trophies. Thank you to the many businesses and individuals in the village who help with the show, whether by advertising, class sponsorship, donating raffle prizes or helping out with the committee or set up of the show.



Johnny Ball presents the cup for "Best in Show" to Edith Painter.



A splendid show of Dahlias.



A wide range of entries were on show.

Parish Patch

FRPC Parish Council for The Farnhams

Judith Hall introduces herself and shares the local news from the Parish Council.

Welcome to the latest and my first Parish Patch. Firstly, I must thank all those that I've met and spoken to since starting at the end of July. The warmth that I have been welcomed with has truly helped me to settle into my new role. You may be asking who I am. Well, I live in Flackwell Heath with my husband, our three children and three dogs. When I'm not here in the Farnhams I can be found either watching one of my children in their latest activity, walking our dogs or spending time with friends. Since my appointment as a primary school governor and Beaver Scout Leader several years ago, I have been passionate about working with others to create opportunities for all and to improve community facilities. I hope to carry out this role with the same skill and enthusiasm as Hilda, the previous clerk. Please feel free to pop in and see me to discuss any issues you may have.

Public Conveniences

Over the Summer you may have seen articles in the media referring to the policy of many local councils to stop funding public conveniences. This Parish Council is proud to have stepped in when the facilities at The Broadway Car Park were threatened and worked hard to reach an agreement with SBDC. This agreement sees the Parish Council pay the costs of maintaining the facilities and secures their existence for all to use. Should you need to report any issues regarding the public conveniences please do not hesitate to contact me.

World War One Commemoration

As many of you will be aware this year marks the 100th anniversary of the end of World War One. The Parish Council felt strongly that it wanted to publicly show its thanks to those who fought in the conflict and once again the villages' flag poles returned, this time displaying beautifully designed flags

featuring images depicting the Royal Navy, the Royal Air Force and the Army.

Christmas 2018

In the middle of November, the flag poles were removed and the Christmas lights were installed. The Parish Council agreed an expansion to the previous Christmas lights, which means that instead of stopping the Farnham Common lights just after Kingsway Green they will now shine brightly further down the A355 Beaconsfield Road towards Farnham Royal. Then after a short break to reflect the more rural setting the lights start again illuminating from just past Home Meadow to the junction of Church Road. We hope that these, together with the trees on Kingsway Green and in Farnham Royal, will help residents get into the festive spirit.

Unfortunately, the Carols on the Green event in Farnham Common will not take place this year. Although well received and enjoyed by many, concerns were raised about holding such an event on a small green with roads around three sides. We did look at trying to relocate the event but it was not possible to find a suitable alternative in the time available. I am however looking for ideas, suggestions and volunteers in the hope of putting together an evening full of festival fun next year. Please contact me if you feel able to help in any way.

BCC Devolution Contract

As you may be aware in April 2015, when the frequency of certain services provided by BCC was due to reduce, the Parish Council took over the provision of certain services previously provided by BCC in an effort to ensure standards were maintained and even enhanced. These services included urban grass cutting, hedge cutting, siding out overgrown footpaths, clearance of Rights of Way and the maintenance of street furniture. It is fair to say that the Parish Council has

found managing these services challenging but is committed to improving their delivery over the next few years. With this in mind the Parish Council has agreed to enter into a devolution contract with BCC for a further four years to March 2023.

The Council has learnt lessons from the first contract and is looking to improve the way in which those services are delivered and managed in order to make a positive impact on the lives of all residents.

Emergency Plan for Illegal Encampments

As many of you will be aware Farnham Common has been visited by travellers twice this Summer, both times in The Broadway Car Park. Whilst the car park is not owned by the Parish Council we kept in regular contact with SBDC, BCC and the police in an effort to resolve these instances as quickly as possible, although not as quickly as any of us would have liked. The Parish Council is currently putting together an emergency plan for dealing with illegal encampments on its land. This plan will include the use of an enforcement company to manage the whole process and ensure eviction takes place as soon as possible whilst not breaching any statutory provisions.

Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

At the Parish Council meeting in September, the Council approved the membership of its new and eagerly awaited Neighbourhood

Plan Steering Group together with the group's terms of reference. By the time you read this they will have had their first meeting and with the assistance of a planning consultant will be starting to formulate their plan for taking this important issue forward. It is hoped that through the creation of our Neighbourhood Plan the wishes of the residents of the Farnhams will be included in future planning strategy and I would urge as many of you as possible to get involved in future consultations.

Litter Picking initiative

Currently, the Parish Council employs two dedicated and hardworking gentlemen who between them spend on average 56 hours per month litter picking in Farnham Common and Farnham Royal. I have been contacted by a resident of Farnham Common who has asked whether the Parish Council would support a litter picking initiative that would see residents coming together to create a cohesive strategy for improving our environment by carrying out regular voluntary litter picking. The answer is an emphatic "YES". I am aware that there are currently a number of residents that litter pick in areas close to their homes and I would urge these and other individuals to contact me to establish a committed group of people to tackle this issue together. In addition, I am considering running one off litter picking events throughout the year, like many neighbouring villages, so please look out for these in the future.



1st Hedgerley Scouts at Hillingdon Outdoor Activity Centre

Becky Thatcher writes:

We arrived on Friday evening and went straight to building our tents that we were going to spend the next two nights in. Once we'd completed the tents and helped the younger ones, we were then given a tent where we were going to sleep and who with. I was very lucky as I had two of my friends with me. We then all stood in front of the fire and had some hot chocolate and cake and settled in for the night.

When we woke up we got changed and prepared for the morning to come. We had a delicious breakfast and were told our activity groups. Then we went to our first activity which was the plank challenge. We were given several planks and had to find a path through without touching the ground.

Our next activity was sheep in the field. We had a farmer in a fenced area and the rest were sheep and the farmer had to get the sheep in the fenced area, but we couldn't say left, right, forward or backwards so we had to make up our own language.

The rest of the day we did other various activities including fencing and trying to float a rubber duck out of a tube with holes in. We went back and had our dinner of chicken casserole and went to bed.

The next day we had two activities. We had to explain how to build a flat pack house to a team that was blind folded by giving instructions – we managed to finish it in time. Then we swapped, and we went to build a catapult which was hard as it was extremely cold and rainy all through the weekend. Then when we got back to our tents we packed up and went home. We all had a really great time at our last camp at HOAC.



Warming up around the bonfire.

Beauty Tips for the Winter

Our new beauty columnist **Raman** from True Beauty helps us keep looking great in the winter months, with top five tips to keeping our skin hydrated.

Where do we start with winter skin concerns? Does your skin feel tight after cleansing? Does it lack that summer glow?

Our TOP FIVE tips are here to help get you hydrated and glowing this jolly season.

Tip 1: Stay hydrated.

It's as simple as a glass of water. The main cause of dehydration is the lack of moisture in our skin. Dehydration makes the skin feel tight and lifeless. Swap your favourite coffee for a ginger infused hot water.

Tip 2: Apply a mask on your lazy day.

The Dermalogica Multivitamin Recovery Masque is my go to. As everyone else I very rarely find time to apply a mask, but thanks to this non setting, pretty much invisible mask, it works wonders when you are at home cleaning or doing those endless household chores. You can even apply it around the eyes and over lips.

Not skin savvy? Not to worry, we have you covered too. Homemade masks are also a fab skin treat. Try one of my favourites: one tablespoon of cornmeal flour, one tablespoon of turmeric powder, a splash of milk and teaspoon of honey. Leave on for 10mins and wash off.

Tip 3: Protect your skin with SPF.

Did you know that we receive our highest volume of sun damage when it's snowing? So protect your skin all year round.

Tip 4: Use a hydrating spritz during the day to overcome dehydration caused by central heating.

One spritz of the Dermalogica multi active toner is like a glass of water for the skin. The bonus is you can spray over your make up.

Tip 5: Have regular skin treatments to boost your home care routine.

We have always stressed to clients that it is important to carry out a good skincare regime at home, so when you come in and see us we can take the skin treatment level up when in our therapy room.

Whether the weather, always take care of your skin. Stay glowing!





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Christmas Random Acts of Kindness

Last year we published the Acts of Kindness advent calendar, which was very popular. This year I've decided to list just 10 acts for you to choose from this December (more flexible with our busy lives). It'd be great if you could do as many as you feel able to do.

Please encourage your kids/families to get involved. This magazine goes out to over 4,000 homes – if each home did one of these, imagine the impact. Every little act really does help our wonderful community and reminds us of the true meaning of the festive season.

- Let someone go in front of you in a queue
- Donate a bag of clothes/books to one of our fabulous charity shops
- Bake cookies for colleagues or teachers
- Hold doors open for someone
- Send a handwritten letter to a friend or family member instead of an email or text
- Kids – visit an old folks' home
- Adults – offer to help kids read in the library/school
- Pay for someone's coffee in the coffee shop
- Buy some items for the local food bank
- Spend a whole day not complaining but giving compliments to people

And below is our Christmas word search, for kids and adults alike!

O	M	S	R	T	L	T	W	U	E	S	L	W	Advent	Parcel
C	H	R	I	S	T	M	A	S	O	E	I	L	Carol	Presents
T	F	U	E	A	P	R	E	S	E	N	T	S	Christmas	Rudolph
I	F	D	B	L	I	A	D	A	T	I	I	E	Elf	Santa
R	E	O	N	T	T	I	R	E	T	W	R	I	Holly	Sleigh
Y	S	L	E	I	G	H	R	C	L	D	N	P	Lantern	Stocking
I	T	P	L	A	A	A	S	O	E	E	R	E	Mince Pies	Tinsel
F	O	H	F	R	T	I	N	S	E	L	O	C	Mulled Wine	Winter
I	C	N	O	N	R	E	T	N	A	L	S	N	Myrrh	
P	K	A	A	D	V	E	N	T	G	U	E	I	Noel	
P	I	S	R	O	E	H	R	R	Y	M	R	M		
L	N	I	T	O	L	D	D	F	C	N	E	H		
E	G	H	H	O	L	L	Y	O	S	E	A	H		

The Garden in Winter

Eva Marzec of Newleaf tells us what to do in our gardens over the winter.

As many of us generally spend less time in our gardens at this time of year, there is a tendency to think that there is not a lot going on and not a lot to do. This couldn't be further from the truth and is a common gardening misconception. The late, great plantswoman and doyenne of the gardening world, Rosemary Verey, encapsulated this;

"A garden in winter is the absolute test of the true gardener".

Personally, I find that the run up to Christmas is still very busy in the garden, 'putting everything to bed' properly for the winter, whereas January allows me to plan ahead and catch up with all those jobs that are a struggle to fit in once things get moving again in spring.

Winter Tasks:

- Continue clearing the last of leaves to prevent harbouring pests and diseases.
- Pay particular attention to clearing away fallen leaves from the base of roses and Buxus plants to prevent over-wintering of fungus, which could return to blight these plants next year.
- Renewal-prune overgrown deciduous shrubs, trees and hedges, whilst dormant. Winter-prune Wisteria, vines and deciduous, woody climbers.
- Winter dig beds and borders and introduce home-made compost or manure. Turning beds will expose clods of clay, allowing winter weathering to break them up. Get ahead and prepare new beds and borders.
- Keep on top of winter-germinating weeds – this will save time and effort in the spring.
- Lawns can still benefit from attention now, however, avoid walking on frosted lawns. Carry out lawn repairs and improve drainage by aerating compacted, water-logged lawns. Clear away worm casts, level hollows and bumps and re-turf bare patches.

- Consider installing garden lighting to prolong enjoyment of the garden throughout the winter. Lighting can not only be functional at this dark time of year, but can offer enormous visual appeal, casting a magical, welcoming, inviting glow, which can be subtle or dramatic, depending on the desired effect.
- If the weather is really too harsh to work outdoors, there is no better time to take stock of the garden and plan ahead, designing or re-designing areas. If weather conditions allow, now is the perfect time for starting landscaping projects. Use the coldest, darkest times to curl up with a pile of gardening magazines, books or catalogues and cut out, note or Pinterest ideas and schemes that inspire or that you would like to re-create in your own garden.
- Let's not forget our wildlife. Provide food and water for birds and be aware of hibernating hedgehogs in piles of leaves. When winter clearing, try to always leave an inconspicuous 'wildlife-friendly' corner, such as a simple heap of leaves and logs.
- Finally, plant seasonal pots and hanging baskets to create an attractive welcome for guests over the festive season. Evergreen topiary can be especially effective in the winter garden when it offers strong structure to an otherwise sparser garden and looks beautiful when dusted with frost or snow. I find that clipped evergreens, particularly the bold, simple shapes, work in all styles of gardens and are a good, timeless investment with year-round value.

Instead of turning our backs on the garden at this time of year, we should embrace it by planting shrubs or bulbs that will tempt us out into the garden on the coldest days. These heroic plants defy wind, frost, sleet and snow, their delicate, elegant flowers symbolising the hope of new life, and, against a muted winter backdrop, they are all the more noticeable, their subtle colours, sweet scents and unusual contours are all the more charming and lovely to us for their veiled and modest beauty.

As William Wordsworth wrote, *"The flower that smells the sweetest is shy and lowly"*. Why not treat the garden to at least one special plant that is at its prime at the moment? (See my list of suggestions below). We often neglect our gardens at this time of year when it comes to ornamental planting, however, introducing something new and interesting now can be very positive and inspiring. As we are all thinking of gift-giving at this time of year, why not treat someone else to a 'green' gift? I love giving plants as gifts as I know they should last for a long time beyond Christmas, bringing some cheerfulness and life to an otherwise quite gloomy time of year and offer the unexpected additional gift of patience and nurturing, for "we might think that we are nurturing our garden, but of course it is our garden that is really nurturing us". The beauty of giving plants as gifts is also that there is at least one plant for everyone! It adds to the personal nature of the gift when really thinking about the recipient and trying to match a suitable plant or planting scheme to them. Why not try creating a planting scheme in a pot or planter for someone special? Try to think of their individual style when choosing a pot and then some plants – putting such a personalised gift together makes us think about the person more and will be unexpected, meaningful and, I guarantee, warmly received!

So, although we are resigned to a couple of long, cold months before things start to really take off again, take the time to snatch some precious moments in your winter garden, and you may well be rewarded with some subtle beauty and surprising signs of optimism such as the first bulbs poking their defiant heads skyward – a promise of

things to come and a new gardening year ahead...

Finally, if the weather isn't great, we shouldn't get too frustrated being stuck indoors and instead relish making some positive plans. A little bit of thought now about what needs moving, pruning, removing, training, feeding, sowing, treating or preparing will save a lot of time in the busy spring season just around the corner!

"Anyone who thinks gardening begins in the spring and ends in the fall is missing the best part of the year...for gardening begins in winter, with the dream." Josephine Neuse.

TOP 10 WINTER PLANTS

1. *Betula utilis* var. 'Jacquemontii' - Birch
2. *Chimonanthus praecox* 'Grandiflorus' - Wintersweet
3. *Cornus sanguinea* 'Winter Beauty', or *C. stolonifera* 'Flaviramea' - Dogwood
4. *Garrya elliptica* 'James Roof'
5. *Hamamelis x intermedia* 'Diane', 'Jelena', 'Orange Peel' and 'Pallida' – Witch Hazel
6. *Helleborus niger* – Christmas Rose
7. *Jasminum nudiflorum* – Winter-flowering Jasmine
8. *Mahonia x media* 'Charity'
9. *Sarcococca hookeriana* var. *humilis* – Christmas Box
10. *Viburnum x bodnantense* 'Dawn'





There is still a need for Neighbourhood Watch

South Bucks District Council and Chiltern District Council Community Safety are actively promoting new and revitalised Neighbourhood Watch Schemes, especially in areas which have experienced incidents of recent burglary. Neighbourhood Watch is one of the biggest and most successful crime prevention initiatives. Behind it lies a simple idea:

Getting together with your neighbours to take action can cut local crime. Everyone knows that the police are there to fight crime, but they need your help to do an effective job, Neighbourhood Watch is all about an active partnership with the police.

Neighbourhood Watch schemes can:

- Cut crime and the opportunities for crime
- Help and reassure those who live in the area, especially those who are vulnerable.
- Encourage neighbourliness and closer communities.

Create a better place to live, work and play.

Neighbourhood Watch is not just about reducing burglary figures - it's about creating communities who care. It brings local people together and can make a real contribution to improving their lives. The activity of Neighbourhood Watch members can foster a new community spirit and a belief in the community's ability to tackle problems. At the same time, you feel secure, knowing your neighbours are watching out for you and your property.

What can Neighbourhood Watch schemes do?

These are the key steps to targeting and reducing crime and the fear of crime in an area.

In consultation with your local police:

- Get a picture of local crime
- Conduct a 'fear of crime' survey
- Target crimes you can have a real impact on
- Identify the opportunities for crime
- Form an action plan to tackle the problem
- Block or reduce opportunities for the criminal

If you are interested in getting involved in Neighbourhood Watch and live in the South Bucks or Chiltern districts please contact the Community Safety Team on 01494 586535 or email communitysafety@chiltern.gov.uk or communitysafety@southbucks.gov.uk



Follow us on Twitter for community safety updates and crime prevention advice [@csafetycdcsbdc](https://twitter.com/csafetycdcsbdc)



**Working together for a safer
Chiltern and South Bucks**

The poster features a festive Christmas theme. At the top, there are pine branches with green needles, a red and white striped Christmas ball, and a white Christmas ball. A gold beaded garland runs across the top. The background is a soft, white bokeh with light spots. The main title is written on two red ribbons with gold borders. The first ribbon says 'Burnham Concert Band' and the second, larger ribbon says 'CHRISTMAS CONCERT'. Below the ribbons, the date and location are listed in bold black text. There are two columns of text for admission and concert start times, separated by a vertical red line. The bottom of the poster is decorated with pine branches, a red gift box with a gold ribbon, a white gift box with a gold ribbon, a red bow, and a silver Christmas ball.

Burnham Concert Band

**CHRISTMAS
CONCERT**

**Wednesday 12th December
St. Anthony's Church**

Admission: £8
(Concession: £7)

Concert starts at 8pm
(Doors open at 7pm)

Get in the Christmas spirit with an evening of festive music from the Burnham Concert Band (with musical director Michael Pegram), refreshments and a raffle.

The event is open to all ages and denominations, but there is limited seating, so call **01753 267 918** and book your place today to avoid disappointment.

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Hannah and Matthew's Wedding

Daven Chamberlain, proud father of the bride, tell us about his daughter Hannah's wedding!

The final Saturday in August saw packed pews in Holy Trinity Church, Cookham, for the marriage of Hannah Chamberlain (only daughter of Rev'd Helen Chamberlain and former Curate of St Mary Hedgerley) to Matthew Edmondson.

The day before had been wet, as those stalwarts, the Kaffirs (a local charity group), will attest; nevertheless they set about erecting the marquee on the grass behind the Parish Centre despite the deluge (thanks guys ... I wasn't really laughing!) The day after was a total washout. But miraculously the Saturday remained dry, and in the afternoon, very sunny.

The bride arrived in a beautiful vintage Ford Mustang, whose engine was loud enough, when revved, to have disturbed the inhabitants of Cookham churchyard. Then, accompanied by the sound of the bells the happy bride and father walked into the packed church, decorated so beautifully with flowers (by Anita Davey), and to the musical accompaniment of Sara Wood. The service itself was taken by the proud mother, ably assisted with readings by Fr. John, prayers by Fr. Nick, a sonnet

by Fr. David, and sermon by Rev'd. Graham Saunders (the Bride's Godfather). The gravity of the event was not lost on anyone, and at times of silence you could hear a pin drop; even during the protracted signing of the registers, when the Holy Trinity choir filled the church with heavenly sound, those children in the congregation seemed to sense the occasion and listened silently.

A church service amalgamates majesty and mystery, solemnity and ceremony in a way that no other setting can match.

Afterwards, the ceremony over, all converged on the Parish Centre where members from both congregations (Holy Trinity and St John the Baptist) put on a vintage tea party for everyone. The afternoon was full of friendship and short on speeches, just as it should be. Then the wedding party retired, and the tired helpers indulged in a well-earned takeaway.

On behalf of Helen, Hannah and Matthew, and Matthew's family, I would just like to say a big thank you to all concerned – helpers and congregation – and apologies for not naming everyone that made this one of the happiest weddings I have ever attended.



The happy couple surrounded by clergy (L-R Rev'd. Graham Saunders, Fr. John Ainsley, Rev'd. Helen Chamberlain, Hannah & Matthew, Fr. Nick Plant and Fr. David Joynes) (© Diane Frazer Photography)

Farnham Common Sports Club

The Tennis Club has had a busy summer season with three Mens teams. Two Ladies team and two Mixed teams playing in the local Bucks LTA leagues. We have also run fun social events including social tournaments, Parents & Junior events and our annual Club Championship where we enjoy our cake and chats as much as the tennis! We are now getting ready for the winter season when we continue to play in the local leagues (weather permitting) and make full use of our floodlit courts.

Our Junior section led by Head Coach Stephen Wright is going from strength to strength and we now have six young players attending County training. Our mini tennis Aspirantes classes have commenced at the club on Wednesday afternoons. The players in this class are committing to playing tennis 3+ times per week as well as competing regularly and attending county training days. They are aged between 5-8years old. This is a long-term approach to help raise the standard of players at the club.

Stephen also runs regular holiday tennis camps for young players of all standards as well as adult classes for "rusty" racquets and improvers. To find out more you can contact him at s.wright@internationaltenniscoaching.com

In October work commenced to upgrade two of our tennis courts with Tiger Turf Advantage Pro. which is already successfully in use at several local clubs. It is a soft durable short pile polyethylene textured carpet with a sand infill and offers several advantages over tarmac, including being playable in most weather conditions as well as being physically less tiring. The new Tiger Turf will give members an alternative surface to tarmac to play on and will be a great asset to the tennis club.

The resurfacing work has been made possible due to the donations of several Tennis Club members and the financial support of three local businesses: Ashford Kitchens and Interiors,



Mens Doubles: Winners Alan Polding & Rob Coull and runners up Paul McPhillips & Alistair Coull



Mixed Doubles Winners Sandra and Daniel Buckeldee



Ladies Doubles: Winners Bronwen Harding & Sandra Buckeldee and runners up Gill Prout & Gill Wilson. The prizes were presented by Simon Bailey - Farnham Common Tennis Club Chairman.

Kitchen Art and The Shanly Foundation. The Tennis Committee would like to thank these members and organisations for their generosity without which the resurfacing project would not have gone ahead.

We are always happy to welcome new members of any standard so if you interested in picking up a tennis racquet and trying out our new surface have a look at our website for further details: <http://fcsc-tennis.weebly.com>

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Wednesday, 6pm-7.15pm: mixed ability

Burnham Park Hall, Windsor Lane, Burnham, SL1 7HR

Thursday, 10am-11.15am: mixed ability

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Slough Rotary

Terry Pattinson gives a brief overview of some of the activities that Slough Rotary Club has been getting involved in.

The Rotary Club of Slough works hard to support charities near and far. We have many activities throughout the year. Below is but a brief summary of what we've been up to lately.

Our Slough Together Walk was hugely successful, raising more than £20,000 for more than 30 charities in the local area. This year's walk was opened by Mayor Cllr Ishrat Shah, who joined the crowd of over 500 walkers at Upton Court Park. This year the Rotarians were joined by staff from Wexham Park Hospital and we hope to build on this allegiance again next year.

We also held a special awards dinner, during which we celebrated the top individual walkers and their organisations, handing over generous cash prizes. Next year's walk is scheduled for Saturday 4 May, when we will once again meet in Upton Court Park.

Our annual coach trip to France was also a great money-maker, benefiting the local community. A party of around 50 people set off from Farnham Common on 4 October bound for Valenciennes and Lille, in northern France.

We are also involved in longer-term initiatives. The Slough Rotary Dictionaries for Life project started nine years ago when the Club gave 60 books to a Colnbrook school as a trial. Since then, the club has distributed over 9,000 books worth £135,000. It has been helped by grants, including one from the Slough Public Hall Trust, a charity established in Victorian times.

Club members are also gearing up once again to distribute thousands of free Dictionaries for Life to thousands of schoolchildren in the borough.

Rotary is a thoroughly rewarding initiative. As well as benefiting the local community and charities, it also gives a great sense of achievement and purpose to its members. We have some spaces available, so if you'd like to join, please get in touch: info@sloughrotary.org.uk.



Burnham Beeches Rotary

Our plans to form a new 'satellite' Rotary group in the area are progressing well, writes **Claire Popple**

A core group of interested local residents have come forward to discuss how membership can be tailored to their needs, while being supported by Burnham Beeches Rotary, as they plan their own charitable projects. We're keen to attract more new members, who want to give something back to their local community, yet don't want to commit to time consuming weekly meetings and are looking for more flexibility to fit in around family commitments. If you would like to be part of this new, fun, family-friendly organisation please get in touch: contact@rcbb.co.uk

Another exciting project being spearheaded by Burnham Beeches Rotary is support in developing the potential of OK Our Kids, based in High Wycombe. OK Our Kids helps young children to deal confidently with the challenges and dangers of staying safe at home, in school and in the community by providing educational resources for them, their parents and primary schools.

The annual Burnham Beeches 5K and 10K run took place on 3rd November. This year's event was in memory of Ray Dance, one of our members who had helped organise the Race over the last few years. We had record attendance and entrants received a 'Running Tree' medal with proceeds being distributed to charities.

Our very own Pudsey Bear made a welcome return tour of many local schools to raise money for Children in Need from 12th to 16th November.

December is busy, as ever! We'll be at Burnham Carol Concert on the 4th, Burnham Christmas Fayre on the 6th and we look forward to seeing many of you at Carols on the Green on the 8th.

A note for your diaries, on 16th February we'll be hosting another supper evening at Caldicott School with the multi-talented and highly entertaining Richard Digance. Tickets will be selling fast before Christmas!

Being part of Rotary opens up a world of possibilities for supporting local charitable causes and helping others, while having a good time in the company of like-minded people. If you'd like to join us or find out more, visit www.rcbb.co.uk or contact me: claire.popple@rcbb.co.uk



Annual Burnham Beeches Run.

Christmas Fair

Seven local artists will be showing and selling work in the glass studio at 25 Gore Road, Burnham in early December.

The studio is owned by Marilia Carvalho, a stained glass artist who also undertakes commissions and offers workshops for those wishing to learn about cold and warm glass making. The artists she has invited to show with her are three ceramicists/sculptors – Dawn Carroll, Kim Lim, and Dorothea Reid; two jewellers – Heather Gaebler-Savoie and Chris Green; and Jonathan Little who is a photographer of classic cars and aircraft. There will be a wide variety of work on show at reasonable prices for that special Christmas present.

It is worth mentioning that the venue itself is something of a landmark in Burnham. Built in 1912 as the Village Hall it has also functioned in the past as a Girl Guide Headquarters and a Police Court. Its appearance has changed greatly over the years, particularly with the addition of the large circular window facing Gore Road. Converted into a working studio and living space by the current owners, it opens its doors twice a year for Bucks Art Weeks and for Christmas to become a stunning gallery.

Opening dates are Saturday 1st to Sunday 2nd December from 10am to 4pm daily. Refreshments will be offered.



Glass studio in Burnham.



Back row (left to right): Heather Gaebler-Savoie, Dawn Carroll, Jonathan Little, Chris Green, front row (left to right): Dorothea Reid and Marilia Carvalho. (Jonathan LittlePhotography)

Christmas Tree Forest

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JAWS

Paul Naish reports on races and successes, including the London Marathon.

It has been a long hot summer but in true JAWs tradition our members have been involved in many activities which have included taking part in the Burnham Beeches 10k and 1/2 marathon in August. Three of our keen runners entered the 1/2, and ten ran in the 10k. Many other members turned out to run the two water stations on the course and give all runners support as they flew past. This was followed by a picnic party in the Brian Jubb Hall to celebrate the Clubs 35th anniversary.

September saw the first official Burnham Beeches 5k run, which was organised and run by the club. The event which was “on road” within the Beeches, was officially measured and accepted by English Athletics. Over 120 runners took part, many from our neighbouring club The Burnham Joggers. All competitors were given an official time and the first three men and women were presented with medals and vouchers from



Congratulations go to Brian Webber, Elaine McLellan and John Pugh

Apex Sports. The presentations took place after the Race at the Beeches Cafe, where a pleasant summer’s evening was enjoyed by runners and supporters. Our thanks go to Fred Ashford of Park Runs who helped us organise this event, also the cafe for staying open and providing sustenance for us all. As we have received so much positive feedback we are hoping to run it again next year.

Three of our members have taken part in the three major events organised by London Marathon: the London Marathon itself a 26.2 mile run; Ride 100, a hundred mile cycle starting at the Olympic Park Stratford and riding out to Surrey, scaling Box Hill and returning to finish on the Mall; and a two mile swim in open water on the Serpentine. Having successfully finished all three events they were awarded commemorative medals of which only five hundred have been won to date. Congratulations go to Brian Webber, Elaine McLellan and John Pugh.

Finally some of the events coming up to round off this year, before the annual AGM and Dinner Dance in November: a trip to London to visit the domed roofed Sky Garden at Fenchurch Street for a leisurely lunch; and an afternoon of culture at the Swan Theatre in High Wycombe, to see a performance of Mathew Bourne’s Swan Lake. Not to forget something a bit more energetic: the Burnham Rotary Club’s annual 5k and 10k off road race in the Beeches on Saturday November 3rd.

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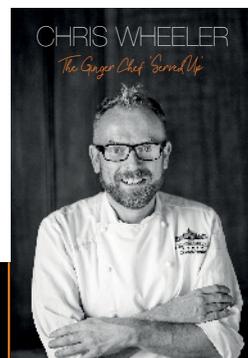
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Just a little thank you

*One of our readers, **Brenda English**, writes a lovely note about the beautiful flowers in the Farnhams*

Many Farnham Common residents and visitors alike have enjoyed the pleasant (if rather warm) summer weather this year.

Our High Street has looked especially attractive and this is just a little note from a local resident to say 'thank you' to all the businesses who have made a real effort to enhance the area with a range of planting schemes and colour.

La Cantina has always had a really impressive display of plants and greenery. Those gardeners in the village will know the exact names and species but for me they are just colourful and welcoming. This year Ashford Kitchens have added attractive tubs and flowers and Bespoke Hairdressing also displayed a selection of plants. The local pubs have made an effort, too, with baskets and planting and both Nazma and Memories of India have included some greenery and colour. The Florist has exhibited a range pots and plants at their entrance, the Chapel has a beautiful display and Aztec Tiles and the Sports shop have interesting vertical floral displays. There have also been many beautiful hanging baskets above some businesses (who does the watering, I wonder?), which are delightful.

The additional planting on the railings near the pedestrian crossing and outside Sainsbury's have been colourful and interesting, helping to create a welcoming atmosphere in our village. Visitors comment positively and locals enjoy it.

So, thank you to all the local businesses in Farnham Common who have made great efforts to add a splash of colour into our daily lives.



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Hedgerley Historical Society

John Lovelock outlines the winter programme, with *Votes for Women, the South Pole and Skindles Hotel*

For our first event in the Winter programme we welcome back Jane Robinson to present her talk on *Votes for Women* on Wednesday 5th December 2018 at 8pm.



Jane Robinson

Most people assume the fight for the vote - won in part 100 years ago - was all about the militant Suffragettes, but that's not true. What finally won the hearts and minds of Parliament and the people was an astonishing six-week suffrage march - the 'Great Pilgrimage' - involving thousands of suffragists, or non-militant campaigners, from all around the UK. Following the publication of her acclaimed book about the Pilgrimage - *Hearts and Minds* - Jane tells the inspiring story of how these ordinary people came together and changed the world.

Jane Robinson is one of our most engaging and original historians, specializing in social history through women's eyes. She was born in Edinburgh, educated at a Yorkshire comprehensive school and read English at Oxford. A love of book-collecting developed when she was banned from the local library for using a jam-tart as a bookmark, and after Oxford

she worked for 10 years in the antiquarian book trade in London before embarking on a writing career. Her tenth book - *Hearts and Minds* - was published this year and is a best-seller. She's now working on a book about women pioneers in the traditional professions, to be published in 2020. Jane is a Senior Associate of Somerville College, Oxford.

We will then have a talk entitled *To the South Pole with Buzz Aldrin* by Prof Nigel Henbest, on Wednesday 12th December 2018 at 8pm, to be followed by seasonal refreshments

In 2016, Nigel was among a select group of 12 explorers who travelled to the South Pole with Moon-walking astronaut Buzz Aldrin. His talk reveals the challenges of living in Antarctica, the group's adventures in rock-climbing above the frozen ocean and in exploring deep ice-caves, and the gruelling expedition to the South Pole itself - where Buzz was airlifted out to safety. With stunning images and videos, Nigel paints a vivid picture of what it's like to experience the most remote and inhospitable location on Earth.

Prof Nigel Henbest, FRAS, is one of the UK's leading science popularisers - and a Future Astronaut with Virgin Galactic! An award-winning



Nigel Henbest at the South Pole

author and television producer, he specialises in astronomy and space. Nigel's 42 books and over 1000 articles have been translated into 27 languages; while his 60+ television programmes have been screened worldwide. Nigel is a columnist for *The Independent* newspaper, and his consultancies have ranged from New

The “pods” where we stayed



Scientist magazine to the Royal Greenwich Observatory.

Nigel will be travelling to space with Virgin Galactic around 2020.

The first meeting in the New Year will feature The Rise (and Fall) of Skindles Hotel on Wednesday 16th January.

Our speaker will be Nigel Smales who loves history for its wonderful stories of who, when, why and how. His enthusiasm for local history led him to be the author of ‘Taplow Moments’, the definitive history of Taplow, and to deliver his talk ‘Nancy Astor and the Cliveden Set’ to Hedgerley Historical Society in April 2017. Now he returns to tell of ‘The Rise and Fall of Skindles’.

Skindles Hotel stood on Taplow’s riverbank by Maidenhead Bridge. For generations, it was THE place to be and to be seen. Nigel will explain how it evolved from The Orkney Arms, an 18th Century coaching inn, to become notorious for its perfect storm of elite Edwardian decadence and discretion, and how its iconic reputation was reinvented time and again to entertain royalty, gentry, literary giants, musicians and stars of stage, screen and political theatre until its closure in 1995. The old buildings are no more but a new chapter has begun with the opening on their site of a new restaurant, ‘Roux at Skindles’.



Skindles Hotel beside the bridge at Maidenhead

On the 20th February 2019 we welcome Simon Wiles who will describe the work of the Churches Conservation Trust

Having enjoyed a career in the leisure, retail and hospitality sector stretching over 40 years, Simon decided to turn his attention to helping the national charity look after the beautiful buildings that are churches no longer being used for their original purpose.

Simon is the Community Fundraiser for the South East of The Churches Conservation Trust, and has been in position for over three years. Along with the rest of the South East Team, they



A beautiful stretch of the River Thames

look after almost 130 churches – just over 1/3 of the national estate of 353.

His experience in fund-raising comes from a lifetime of voluntary helping in various communities, from town carnivals in Norfolk, to charity events being held in pubs, through to fourteen years recently spent as the treasurer and fund-raiser of a local community in his home town in Northamptonshire, raising £1/4m through grants, project awareness and general events and activities.

Simon believes that the work at The Churches Conservation Trust is rewarding and pleasurable, where working with local volunteers and friends groups, results in some fabulous events, and commitment by people who have a passion for keeping this primary building in their community, alive. His view is that when the church was originally built, it was used as a form of community centre, and now hundreds of years later, these architecturally interesting, beautiful and historic buildings are being used for that purpose again.

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

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

This season at Pinewood Nurseries...

Liz Robinson shares the news from Pinewood Nurseries

We are excited to have a new cabin join our village of local businesses, at our site in Stoke Poges. Jo has opened her Unique Boutique, although she has been working from home for several years so she has an established business. Her boutique has been described as “an Aladdin’s cave of treasures,” offering a vast collection of clothes, shoes and accessories in a variety of styles and colours, with prices ranging from £2.50 to £75. She has welcomed ladies from the age of 15 to 76 to her boutique. A happy client remarked that a visitor would “arrive as a customer and leave as a friend”.



Our café has also opened, after refurbishment, and under new management. Glauca is a pastry chef and Andre is a coffee mad Italian. They have a safe small inside play area, perfect to entertain your little ones while you have a coffee or lunch.

As a family, we have been selling Christmas Trees for over 30 years. This Christmas we have more Christmas trees than ever. We only stock premium non drop trees, which makes it easy for you to choose from and Tom will be busy delivering them to homes locally. Marie has been sourcing lovely giftware and making up poinsettia arrangements which also make great gifts. Lizzy is back from maternity and has filled the shop with wonderful artisan gifts. We also take orders for local turkeys and geese, as well as fresh bread and vegetables for your Christmas lunch.

Other businesses which you can visit are The Beauty Room (massages, nails and lashes to name a few) The Pet Store, The Dog Spa, Prime - Organic Hair Dresser and Wexham Mowers. We are based opposite Wexham Park Hospital with ample parking.

On behalf of all of the local businesses at Pinewood, we look forward to welcoming you all soon!

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October, or Stoptober as it's now known, was the month when we're all encouraged to quit booze and it was swiftly followed by Alcohol Awareness Week which ran from 19-25 November.

There's no doubt alcohol consumption is a big issue right now. Public Health England have said that at least ten million Brits should cut down on their drinking, with middle aged drinkers in particular being urged to abstain.

And, for each person whose consumption goes on to become a serious problem to their health and life, it's estimated that at least five others are directly affected.

But help is at hand for families and friends of problem drinkers from a charity called Al-Anon Family Groups which organises regular meetings that take place in many locations in the local area. It can be isolating, living with someone who is struggling with a drink or - increasingly these days - drug problem, yet the people closest are severely affected and often the first to notice.

They may find themselves making excuses or telling lies on their loved one's behalf for missed days at work. They're always the one to drive home after a night out because he/she isn't fit to get behind the wheel, even after swearing blind not to drink that evening. They could be constantly living like a single parent at weekends whilst their other half recovers from yet another heavy drinking bout. And, through all this, the drinker denies that they have a problem, which is a common trait in people struggling with addiction.

Help, hope and support are available at Al-Anon meetings which take place weekly on Mondays in Slough, Tuesdays in Beaconsfield and Thursdays in Gerrards Cross. Further details are available at www.al-anonuk.org.uk or via the national helpline on 0207 403 0888.

Worried about someone else's drinking?

Find help and support at Al-Anon for the friends and families of problem drinkers or drug users.

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Visit al-anonuk.org.uk or call the helpline on 0207 403 0888



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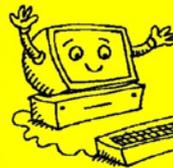
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Book Review:

Reservoir 13 by Jon McGregor

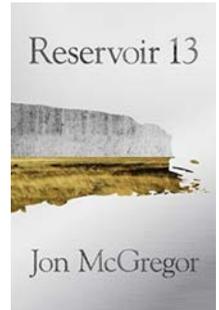
On New Year's Eve, writes Barbara Richards, a girl aged 13 goes missing but *Reservoir 13* isn't simply the usual mystery story. We're pulled in from the first page, when the villagers are gathered in the car park for the search but time passes and the police searches come to nothing. The divers go into the reservoirs in vain, Rebecca isn't found, not that first night, nor in the days and weeks that follow. And as our expectations are strained to the limit, we begin to realise that the writer is deflecting them into something else, taking us into another kind of novel.

What actually fills up the pages, while we wait to find the girl, is the rhythms and repetitions of country life that are cut across by this singular threat. Each chapter begins, "At midnight when the year turned," and this repetition underscores the annual changes to the familiar village fabric. As readers we move through time, with a whole collective of protagonists in the village, following them through their daily lives, and the yearly cycle of events: New Year's Eve fireworks, Cricket Match, Well Dressing, Harvest Festival, Mischief Night, Bonfire, Pantomime and Christmas services.

We come to realise the novel's primary concern was always these characters and the endurance of the village as a character in its own right. None of them dominates the story space: Geoff the embittered potter; Sally with the dangerous brother; Irene who cleans and struggles stoically with her son with special needs; Jones whose sister doesn't come out of the house; Jackson the farmer who has a stroke and dominates his grown-up sons from his sick bed. There are the teenagers who, it turns out, did have something to do with Rebecca while she was alive, but keep it secret, and her unhappy parents are glimpsed at a distance, falling apart with their grief and lack of certainty.

Life goes on, babies are born, marriages fail, new people arrive and yet the tragedy reverberates throughout the community. Everything ordinary has its undertow of significance. When the keeper wades into the river and cuts away the weeds, when children ask about the boarded-up old lead mines, or when the boiler house at the school is demolished, after Jones the caretaker has been so secretive, we expect the worst. Is Rebecca in there? Are we going to find her now?

McGregor plays with our expectations in this novel, which isn't a murder mystery at all, but a contemplation of the effects of loss and uncertainty over the passage of time.



Library Update

A recent article in the *Mail on Sunday*, writes **Maria Hall**, told us that 'demand for physical books is back' and sales of e-books are declining as people rediscover the pleasure of holding a book in their hands and turning real pages.



The Mad Hatter would have been proud of the children!

As library supporters, we are naturally pleased by this and if you want to be part of the trend, just pop in and take out some of the great books that we have in Farnham Common Community Library! With new books arriving regularly, there's bound to be something that interests you....

Over the summer, the Children's Library was transformed into a scene from *Alice in Wonderland* for our ever-popular holiday arts and crafts activities. With an amazing backdrop created by Lizzie Millar, caterpillars sat on toadstools, Cheshire cats grinned, playing cards played games and things were never quite the size you expected. The children designed and made talking flowers from *Wonderland* which were displayed all around the library. The workshops came to a close with a tea party that even the Mad Hatter would be proud of, with cakes, pastries, strawberries and squash for everyone!

We completed another successful Summer Reading Challenge, with over 65 children signed up, and all finishers were presented with their certificate and medal. We also ran an Under-4s Reading Challenge, trying to get them hooked on the reading bug as young as possible!

In October, we had a new trip to the British Legion Poppy Factory in Richmond, Surrey with a fascinating presentation and introductory film about the factory and its history followed by a visit to the production floor itself, giving the opportunity to see where remembrance poppies and wreaths are made, while also enjoying a lunch made by volunteers. This visit was so over-booked that we are considering running another visit next year, so if you missed out this time there will be another chance.

Also in October, we held a sold-out visit to see "Evita" at the Wycombe Swan Theatre, which was very entertaining and enjoyable. This was followed by our Autumn Coffee Morning where all proceeds went to support Thames Valley Adventure Playground.

In November, our visit to see "There'll Always Be An England" at Brick Lane Music Hall proved as popular as ever, as did our trip to see the Thursford Christmas Spectacular, a wonderful feel-good show with overnight stay at a lovely hotel.



Alice and the White Rabbit



The Mad Hatter's tea party adorned the walls.

For the festive season, we have our Winter Coffee Morning on 1st December, with proceeds going to support Hearing Dogs for the Deaf, and we close the year with our always sold-out Christmas Supper on 15th December.

To kick off 2019, we have a ticket-only visit to the "Nutcracker" ballet at the Wycombe Swan for the 2.30pm performance on Saturday 19th January with seats in the front stalls at a group discounted price. We also have a matinee show at the Royal Albert Hall on Sunday 17th March with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in a programme of songs from the musicals.

Our four Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme volunteers continue to provide great assistance in the library, doing a weekly session that helps them gain their volunteering experience and helps us to keep the library running smoothly. If you are interested in signing up as a DoE volunteer, please contact Eric Harris by popping into the library.

Do you have old spectacles or hearing aids lying around? Not sure what to do with them? Well, we now have a collection bin for used spectacles which are recycled and then sent to developing countries to be issued by volunteer opticians at temporary eye clinics. Many people in these countries cannot afford spectacles and these used spectacles make a huge difference to their lives. The collection bin is also for used hearing aids which also find a grateful home in these countries, so if you have any of these items that you don't need, please drop them into the library.

As our Library is very dependent on donations, we were very pleased to receive a £500 donation recently from McCarthy & Stone, developers of the new Heathlands retirement living apartments on Beaconsfield Road. Support like this from local businesses is very much welcomed and helps us to continue to keep the library going as a community hub for Farnham Common and the surrounding area.



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From the Archives

Another glimpse into the past from Elisabeth Mills

We are still looking at the parish magazines for 1951, and have reached August. Then, as now, finances often loomed large, and this time the magazine finances are giving cause for worry.

'The cost of everything is going up – and paper and printing are no exception. For a long time the Parochial Church Council has been subsidising the parish magazine to the extent of £50 per annum. In view of very heavy financial commitments, they feel they can no longer do this. It has been decided, therefore, reluctantly, to increase the price of the magazine to 3d. a month. More local matter will be included, so organisations should keep the editor well posted as to their doings, especially future activities. Mr. David Rose, of Roseview Nursery, The Broadway, Farnham Common, has kindly consented to continue as Circulation Manager.'

Then: 'The Farnham Common Young Wives Group held a meeting at Allerds House on Tuesday, June 19th, and were given a talk by Mrs. Thorpe of Iver.

'Her subject, Marriage as a Career, dealt with a woman's difficulty in rearing a young family and giving all that a mother hopes and wishes to give her children, while at the same time retaining the love and companionship of her husband; also of keeping pace with him intellectually while absorbed in domestic tasks and duties'.

I do not propose to pass any comment whatsoever on this item!

In October there is further Belfry Corner news, and contains a reminder that the 'great masters' of the art of bell-ringing are buried in St. Mary's churchyard 'close beneath the tower and bells they loved so well'

The article goes on to say that Mr. W. H. Fussell was a veteran of a thousand peals when he organised, in 1934, a tour of Australia and New Zealand. It explains that a peal consists of five thousand changes or bars, in each of which each bell is struck once only. No two changes may be alike, and it usually requires not less than three hours' continuous ringing to complete the five thousand changes.

The second grave is that of Mr. J. J. Parker, who was a composer of peals. 'He has been called the Beethoven of campanology'.

Finally, back briefly to the Young Wives Group to say that their October meeting was held at Brockhurst Nurseries 'on the main road in Farnham Common by kind invitation of Mrs. J. Sachs'. I include this because, together with the reference to Rosewood Nurseries in the first paragraph, it gives us a glimpse of how different Beaconsfield Road was in the 1950's compared with today.



Hedgerley Women's Institute

Our "Indoor" Garden Party in August was a happy success but, writes Betty Newcombe, yes, it rained! However, Plan B went smoothly into action and everyone enjoyed a jolly afternoon indoors with delicious afternoon tea and lots of friendly chat. We were joined by our Federation Chairman, Pat Poole, and Vice-Chairman, Tracey Girdler-Rogers who enjoyed sharing the afternoon with us.

At the Farnhams & Hedgerley Horticultural Show, Hedgerley W.I. provided tea and cakes throughout the day. Rosemary Followell and Jenny Harper-Jones won most of the 1st and 2nd prizes in the food category, and Edith Painter won the cup for her flower arranging and "Best in Show". Well done!



Edith Painter, Margaret Paine and Beryl Fox enjoy the "garden" party!

We enjoyed a talk at our September meeting on "The History of Royal Flying". Sqdn Ldr Graham Laurie had many stories of his years of flying with the Royal Family and photos showing how aircraft design had changed over the years for Royal air travel.

Stoke Poges W.I. hosted the Beeches Group Meeting of local W.I.s in October, when we had the opportunity to hear each W.I.s reports on their activities throughout the past year. The speaker was William John French whose subject "Welcome to my world – Butler to Royalty and the Stars" was a very interesting account of his life from the age of 15 when he joined the Royal Navy and became a Chef and then Steward. He survived

the Falklands War, eventually becoming a Steward on the Royal Yacht Britannia, the personal Butler to Lord Rothermere and then for Nicole Kidman.

We elect our Committee for the coming year at our AGM in November. Our guest will be Kaye Edmondson from Stuart Lodge shop and who also organises the Chat and Craft meetings.

Christmas Party plans are underway. Adding to the festive cheer this year we will be entertained by "Banjou", banjo players who will no doubt add rhythm to a lively afternoon.

Our thoughts are with the family and friends of Rita Sweeney who sadly recently died. Rita was a popular member of our W.I. and we will miss her.

A warm welcome awaits all guests and visitors to our meetings on the third Thursday each month in the Memorial Hall, Hedgerley at 2.30pm. Please contact President Jenny Harper-Jones on 01753 643872.

We wish everyone a very Happy Festive Season and a peaceful New Year.



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Winter Lamb

Sanita Sharma shares her latest delicious recipe.

This lamb recipe is perfect for those rainy lazy Sundays. Don't get me wrong - I actually love a roast on a Sunday, but every now and then a big pot of spicy lamb curry bubbling away on the stove whilst I potter around my house is just as delightful!

This dish is warm, hearty and ideal for the winter months. Lots of spices and fresh ginger, garlic and fresh chillies in a tomato based sauce to build up your immune system. The whole green cardamom and whole cloves bring out the sweetness of the lamb and give this dish an additional yet slight warm undertone, elevating and working so beautifully with the other dry spices to create this stunning lamb dish.

<p>Ingredients</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 tbsp sunflower or vegetable oil 1 tbsp cumin seeds 5 green cardamom pod 5 cloves whole 3 large onions finely chopped 2 tsp salt 2 inch of fresh ginger peeled and minced 4 gloves of peeled garlic finely chopped 3 green chillies finely chopped 	<p>(less or more depending on how spicy you would like it)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 tsp Garam Masala 3 tsp turmeric 1 1/2 tsp chilli powder One tin of plum tomatoes blitzed 1 kg boneless leg of lamb cubed into small pieces 1 liter hot water boiled in the kettle Chopped coriander as much as you like. 	
---	---	--

Method

Heat the oil on a medium/high heat in a large saucepan. Add the cumin seeds and let them sizzle, add the onions, green chillies, whole cloves, cardamom and salt. Cook for 8-10 minutes over a medium heat.

Add the ginger and garlic and cook for a couple of minutes stirring continuously as the ginger will start to stick to the bottom of the pan. Reduce the heat to low and add the blitzed plum tomatoes and then follow with chilli powder, garam masala and turmeric powder. You need to let the spices cook and start releasing their oils, make sure you stir all the time to ensure the spices don't burn.

Increase to a medium heat and once the spicy tomato sauce has warmed through add the lamb and stir together for 5 minutes, this will have released the fat from the lamb.

Reduce the heat to low, add half a litre of boiled water and cook for 10 minutes, keeping the lid covering half the pan.

Stir every 5 minutes for the next 15-20 minutes to ensure the lamb does not stick and add the remaining water a bit at a time, once the sauce starts thickening up. This creates a beautiful rich lamb gravy. You can add more water if you prefer a lighter gravy.

Now reduce the heat to low, place the lid on the pan and slow cook it for a further 20 minutes, checking it to ensure it is not burning.

Finally, once the lamb is tender add the chopped coriander and turn the heat off. Serve with pilau rice, naan or roti.

Follow Sanita Sharma on Instagram – [the_asian_larder](#) – for more recipes.

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Southmead Surgery

We hope that you have all enjoyed the amazing summer weather and are now looking forward to the approaching festive season!

We have, once again, been looking at ways to improve how we work and the access we offer to you. We been trialling a new appointment system from November. All appointments in the mornings are now “book on the day” and all afternoon appointments pre-booked. All telephone consultations will take place at the end of the morning.

Southmead surgery is now open, on a Thursday evening, until 8pm. Appointments can be pre-booked through reception.

Home visits are only available for the housebound. Please make a request before 10:30am.

If you need a repeat of your contraceptive pill, there is a now a form available for you to complete. A copy of this can be found on our website or from reception. You will need to attach your most recent blood pressure reading. This should avoid you having to make an appointment to get your medication.

If you are eligible and have not yet had your flu jab, please make an appointment as soon as possible.

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR OPENING – The surgery will be closed on 25th, 26th December & 1st January 2019. For medical advice please call 111.

Royal British Legion

At the time of writing, the Branch is heavily involved in finalising arrangements for the Annual Poppy Appeal, which takes place from 27 October to 10 November.

Last year, the Branch raised a record sum of £ 26,000 for the Appeal, and it will be working doubly hard this year to exceed that total.

We are helped by a wonderful number of ‘Poppy People’ who help with the various methods of collecting - house to house; outside the major stores in our area; in shops and offices; and with ever-increasing results at the Beaconsfield Motorway Service Area. Due to the very high footfall enjoyed by this Motorway Service Area it is a most rewarding site for collecting and this year we will be manning it for 11 of the 15 days of the Appeal, from 7 am to 7 pm.

We have also held our annual Sausage Supper in early October which was, attended by a new record number of Members and Guests, ensuring another highly convivial evening.

The Branch was proud to participate in the Royal British Legion’s GP 90 Pilgrimage which was held in France in August to commemorate the end of World War I, when David and Andrew Moore attended along with the Branch’s Standard. (*Apologies for referring to them in the September issue as David and Andrew MORRIS*)



Neo-natal units learn from the world of motor racing

Amanda Silvey, our mummy blogger, loves to explore new ideas.

Every week we see big headlines that fight for our attention, and sometimes they creep into our consciousness and play on our minds long after the headlines have moved on. One that recently caught my interest and imagination was hearing about how Williams Martini Racing have been working with the Neonatal Department of the University Hospital Wales to see how they can share their knowledge, and in particular how they can apply Formula 1 pitstop 'know-how' to the resuscitation of new-born babies. The pit stop strategy is critical to a Formula One campaign and fans will be familiar with the precision and care that goes into getting this right. In 1950 it took over 1 minute to change the tyres. Today it is done in around 2 seconds, with Williams's breaking the 2 second barrier in the 2017 season.

The hospital theatre is the equivalent of the pit stop and they have worked together to see which aspects of their pit stop strategy they can apply to this clinical environment.

Ideas they have adapted and implemented:

1. **Communication.** This is undoubtedly the number one skill we all need to hone. If anything unexpected happens, no matter how well briefed everyone is on their role and responsibility, it is the immediate communication that will make all the difference. The teams in the pit have learnt a form of body language (you can't hear much in the pit and your ears are protected by state of the art sound mufflers) that allows them to communicate without words – every nod and wink means something. The staff involved in resuscitation of new-borns have been working on non-verbal communication.
2. **Use of Space.** The pit is clearly marked and every engineer knows exactly where to stand. When your patient is as tiny as a newborn baby then there isn't much space to work with and timing needs to be exact. Knowing exactly which direction your next bit of kit is coming from can literally be lifesaving when every second counts.
3. **Colour Coding and Labelling.** The equipment trolleys are now colour coded making it easy to locate resuscitation equipment in a hurry.
4. **Post Incident Debriefs.** Making these standard with a view to identifying things they can do better next time, as opposed to looking for somewhere to lay the blame.

Why did I like this story? Well I love to explore ideas, and the more we learn about what others are doing the more potential ideas we uncover for ourselves. We do this all the time in our day to day lives, and we encourage our children to do the same. Developing a 'growth mindset' is the latest concept hitting our schools and our businesses, developed by psychologist Carol Dweck, and it focuses on the belief that we can all learn more and become smarter through exploring different ways of doing things and persevering in the face of failure. It's a more sophisticated way of teaching that 'there's no such thing as can't' and one which works across all aspects of our busy lives. It's much easier to focus on finding a way to make something happen than worrying about why you can't possibly do it! Food for thought as we start the New Year.

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Bright Ideas To Keep Your Home Safe In The Dark Evenings

This time of year when the clocks have gone back homes are in darkness early in the afternoon – a gift for opportunist burglars.

To avoid becoming a victim of burglary, Chiltern District Council and South Bucks District Councils Joint Community Safety team is encouraging householders to take some simple steps to protect their home:

- Use a timer switch to turn on lights and a radio to give the impression someone is home
- Keep valuables and other electronic equipment such as laptops out of sight
- Security mark valuables with a UV pen and register them with www.immobilise.com
- Double lock UPVC doors or use dead locks on solid doors
- Keep all spare keys, including car keys, away from the front door and out of sight to avoid them being 'fished' through the letter box
- Keep windows locked with the key and keep it out of sight
- Don't leave packaging of expensive items purchased on view as an advertisement to thieves

Neighbourhood Police Officers will be patrolling in residential areas and if they believe a property is at risk of being burgled, they will pop a 'Here's a bright idea' card through the door along with contact details for further crime prevention advice.

Residents can follow their local police and pick up security advice from Twitter at: [@TVP_ChiltSBucks](https://twitter.com/TVP_ChiltSBucks). For regular updates on crime and disorder in your area you can sign up to [Thames Valley Alert](https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/residential-burglary/).

You can also contact Chiltern District Council and South Bucks District Council's Joint Community Safety team on 01494 586535 and for further crime reduction advice you can visit:-

<https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/residential-burglary/>
www.chiltern.gov.uk/crimereduction or www.southbucks.gov.uk/crimereduction.



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Concerts and Events

Slough Philharmonic Society

Saturday 15th December at 7.30pm in School Hall, Eton College

Rutter	Magnificat
Cecilia McDowell	Christus Natus Est
Chilcott	The Shepherds Sing
Glazunov	Winter, from The Seasons
Carols for all	



Saturday 9th March 2019 at 7.30pm in Centenary Hall, Caldicott School

Tchaikovsky	Piano Concerto No 1
Bruckner	Symphony No 6



Get in to the Christmas spirit with some beautiful seasonal music in the splendid surroundings of the school hall at Eton College. John Rutter is one of the most popular contemporary choral composers and Slough Philharmonic Society will be performing his Magnificat. Included in the programme is Cecilia McDowell's *Christus Natus Est*, a Christmas cantata of five carols and the cold of the winter season is captured in Glazunov's scintillating ballet score, with its depictions of frost, ice, hail and snow. Included in the programme is Chilcott's beautiful carol, *The Shepherds Sing*, leading to a sequence of well-known carols, including audience participation with the chorus and orchestra.

Our first concert of the new year features Tchaikovsky's *Piano Concerto No 1* with a captivating slow movement and a finale based on a vigorous Russian dance melody. To play it we welcome the brilliant young Hungarian pianist Daniel Lehardt, who has won numerous international piano competitions. He has recently given a recital at the Louvre in Paris and at Wigmore Hall, performed concerts in the USA and Russia. The concert includes Bruckner's much loved 6th Symphony.

For full concert details and tickets, visit our website at

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Stoke Poges Singers

The 2018 musical calendar for Stoke Poges Singers reached a grand finale with a concert given in November. This was what is becoming a hallmark for the choir which sang a range of pieces from the 16th to 21st Centuries with the theme "From the Four Seasons". This included traditional, classical and popular works such as Gershwin "Summertime", Haydn "Come, Gentle Spring", Bernard "Winter Wonderland" and Carole King "You Got a Friend". As well as well known numbers the audience was also treated to less familiar works including a recent piece with the composer present in the audience. The sound of voices was enhanced by the accomplished key board playing of our regular rehearsal pianist Debbie Langham with percussion and string quintet, all under the baton of Andy Langley.

All SPS concerts raise money for local charitable causes through ticket sales. On this occasion we were pleased to support High Wycombe based DrugFAM, a charity which helps families impacted by someone else's drug or alcohol use. In the past five years SPS has given over fifteen thousand pounds to local good causes. As well as the pleasure of making music and singing together, it is also this aspect which makes SPS so special.

As the new year approaches, we start rehearsals for our Spring 2019 concert. This will be a return to the classical repertoire with a performance of the moving and much loved "Requiem" by Mozart. There will also be an opportunity for fellow singers to join us at our Come and Sing day also featuring this work.

Forthcoming Dates for your diary: -

2nd March 2019 "Come and Sing" day.

13th March 2019, Spring Concert Mozart "Requiem".

22nd June 2019, Summer Concert on the theme "Colours".

Tickets for all Stoke Poges Singers concerts and events can be booked on-line at www.ticketsource.co.uk/stoke-poges-singers.

For more information please visit our web site www.stoke-poges-singers.org.uk.





From the Registers (July to September 2018)

Baptisms:

St. Mary Farnham Royal

Hunter Derek Ricci Harrington

Lyra Amanda Lee Hadaway

Alexander Ronald Steven Perlesha

St. Mary Hedgerley

Benjamin Thomas Knight

Edward Joseph Knight

Rory James Knight

Henry David John Aldridge

Weddings:

St. Mary Hedgerley

Harry Taylor and Charlie Portsmouth

St Mary Hedgerley

Nick Bridger and Amy Rankin

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We love to read your submissions and will print as many as we can.

If you have any ideas, please drop me an email and I'll see whether we can fit you in

Paula Morris

Editor

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Ask For Angela

Pubs and bars within Chiltern and South Bucks are being encouraged to join the Ask for Angela campaign.

The aim of the campaign is to raise awareness of sexual violence and abuse and to stop harassment that some people may experience while out on a date.

If anyone feels unsafe or threatened on a date, they can ask a staff member for Angela and they will make sure that they are ok and arrange for them to get home safely.

Every pub or bar that supports the scheme will have an Ask for Angela sticker in the front door/window and an Ask for Angela poster in the toilets.

For the full list of pubs and bars that support Ask for Angela please visit:

www.chiltern.gov.uk/askforangela or www.southbucks.gov.uk/askforangela

Please contact Chiltern and South Bucks District Council's Community Safety team via 01494 586535 or email communitysafety@chiltern.gov.uk if you would like to sign up to the Ask for Angela campaign.

In an emergency please always telephone 999, alternatively you can report via the non-emergency number 101 or Crimestoppers 0800 555 111

Follow us on Twitter for community safety updates and crime prevention advice @csafetycdcsbdc



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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 Royal	Ralph Bagge Email: ralphbagge@gmail.com	07472 693600
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Farnham Common & Burnham Beeches	Linda Hazell Email: linhazell@btopenworld.com	01628 661024
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South Bucks District Council

Council Office Farnham Royal & Hedgerley Ward	sbdc@southbucks.gov.uk David Anthony Marlene Lewis Dev Dillon	01895 837200
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For Councillor contact details visit www.southbucks.gov.uk/councillors

Farnham Royal Parish Council Councillors:

Chairman	Paul Rowley	643300
Vice Chairman	Bob Milne	642149
Finance Committee Chairman	Bob Milne John Hodges Roger Home Jennifer Jebson Clive Robinson Marilyn Rolfe Richard Thomas Judy Tipping	

FR Parish Clerk – Mrs Judith Hall

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 - (all starting at 7.30pm)

January 21	Finance Committee, Farnham Common Village Hall
January 28	Full Council, Farnham Common Village Hall
February 25	Full Council, Farnham Royal Village Hall
March 4	Annual Parish Meeting, Farnham Royal Village Hall
March 25	Full Council, Farnham Common Village Hall
April 29	Full Council, Farnham Royal Village Hall

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Church Information

The United Benefice of Farnham Royal with Hedgerley (Anglican)

During the Vacancy the following services will be held:

On the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th Sundays of the month services will be held in St John Farnham Common at 9.30am, in St Mary Farnham Royal at 11.00am, and in St Mary Hedgerley at 11.00am.

On the 4th Sunday of the month there will be a United Benefice Service at 11.00am. This will be held at the three churches in the Benefice in rotation. Please contact the Church Office (644130) for further details regarding these joint services.

There will also be services of Holy Communion at 10.00am at St John, Farnham Common on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month.

The pattern may vary slightly depending on circumstances and patronal festivals. For further information please contact the Church Office.

Please note the following United Benefice Services:

January 27th – United Benefice Service – Hedgerley

February 24th – United Benefice Service – Farnham Royal

March 24th - United Benefice Service – Farnham Common

Clergy

Rector	Vacant	
The Revd Gordon Briggs	52 Freemans Close, Stoke Poges	662536
The Revd Jan Clarke	55 Cranwells Lane, Farnham Common	646546

Church Office

St John's Vestry, Victoria Road, FC 644130

Open usually Wednesdays 9.30am-12.30pm

(Emails and telephone calls will be monitored throughout the week)

Website: www.farnhamroyalchurches.org.uk

www.facebook.com/ubfarnhamroyalwithhedgerley

For Baptism, Banns and Wedding enquired, ring or email Church Office above.

Church Wardens

St Mary FR	St John FC	St Mary Hedgerley
Rose Stewart 01628 313713	Prunella Neale 645631	Mrs R Brogden 892076
	Ruth Millsom 646546	

Other Denominations

Farnhams & Hedgerley Community Church

Sundays: 10.30am at FC Infants School

Fridays: 10-11.30am 'Pop-in' for parents and toddlers – FC Village Hall

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

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The United Benefice of Farnham Royal with Hedgerley

Christmas Services 2018

Sunday 2 December 2018

Advent Carol Service 6.30pm St John, Farnham Common

Sunday 16 December 2018

Christingle Service 4.00pm St Mary, Hedgerley

Carols by Candlelight 6.30pm St Mary, Farnham Royal

Sunday 23 December 2018

Carols by Candlelight 6.30pm St Mary, Hedgerley

Monday 24 December 2018 – Christmas Eve

Children's Service 4.00pm St John, Farnham Common

Christingle Service 4.00pm St Mary, Farnham Royal

United Benefice Midnight Mass

11.30pm St Mary, Farnham Royal

Tuesday 25 December 2018 – Christmas Day

Family Communion 9.30am St John, Farnham Common

Family Communion 11.00am St Mary, Farnham Royal

Family Communion 11.00am St Mary, Hedgerley

For more information contact the church office on 01753 644130
or email unitedbeneficeoffice@gmail.com