

THE Farncombe Villager

ST JOHN'S PARISH CHURCH



CHRISTMAS AS USUAL

After almost 3 years in which we were encouraged to 'keep our distance' in social situations it was a joy and relief to be able to enjoy our usual Christmas services and celebrations.



Left: The Christmas Eve Crib Service Right: Twins Chloe and Sophie enjoy the atmosphere Below: Carols by Candlelight.

The Service of Lessons and Carols was well attended and it was a very calming scene as the church was lit by candles for most of the service. Our less formal 'Carols by Candlelight' had been another victim of the pandemic but this year about 80 people enjoyed a selection of narrative and musical performances, including a short programme of piano pieces played from memory by Gabriel – an enjoyable and inspiring performance. Tom had polished up his oboe and treated us to arrangements of a couple of songs from West End shows and there was a selection of entertaining prose and poetry, all interspersed with familiar carols which we sang together. A steady supply of mince pies and mulled wine was on hand to keep us going.

On Christmas Eve the Crib Service was another occasion to celebrate the birth of Jesus and it was lovely to welcome so many

people of all ages to join in. The service at 11.30 pm, usually known as Midnight Mass, led us into the celebrations of Christmas Day.

We are hoping that Christmas 2023 will be an even happier time and you will be very welcome to join us then. John



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From the Rectory



By the time you read this in the middle of January, you may well have given up on any New Year's resolutions you made! Of course (as someone is almost bound to point out) there is something irrational about thinking that the flicking-over of an arbitrary date has any great significance to it, never mind the great fuss we may make about it. There have been other calendars and other ways of calculating the change from one year, one cycle of the Earth round the Sun, to the next; in England the New Year was technically observed on the Feast of the Annunciation, March 25th, until the change of calendars in 1752; the tax year starts on April 6th, and the school year in September. If you want to make a change, there are infinite opportunities to do so.

And yet we human beings are not strong-willed and we usually find it hard to make changes that are against our inclinations. It helps to attach them to something happening outside us, because that makes it objective: it gives the change we want to make an external reality which is more than just our own choice. And what could be more objective than the cycle of the seasons, the fact that we've been through the very darkest part of the year and are, just, starting to emerge into a time of greater light? It's very hard to deny that kind of reality!

The last few years have brought with them such colossal, and often unwelcome, change that we have had very little chance to assimilate

and recover. 2022 saw four Chancellors of the Exchequer, three Prime Ministers, two monarchs, and one devastating European war, all against the background of the pandemic we have only just clambered out of (and will never see off completely, covid will always be with us) and the shifts in our climate which threaten so much we value in the long term. In all this we might feel very powerless as the chaos seems to swirl around us.

However, the values we will need to cope with what gets thrown at us are the same as always – charity, co-operation and generosity. These are not soft or weak ideas, but absolute necessities if anything we hold dear is going to make it through. If all of us could commit, perhaps, to reducing the anger of our discourse it would make a distinct difference to our common life. Remain angry about injustices and wrongs, by all means, but hesitate before ascribing them to individual people you may interact with: and, if we're honest, most of our anger is very personal and about us rather than matters of principle. As part of this, I am going to try to stop making rash judgements about other people I might have difficulties with and then having imaginary conversations with them in which, naturally, I always come off best. But, friends, I must admit to you that I have made this promise before! Perhaps I get marginally better each time I make it.

James Rector

LITTLETON CHAPEL

A duty I have acquired almost by accident takes me over the parish boundary in the week after Christmas each year to the chapel of St Francis at Littleton on the Loseley estate. I first stood in to take their Christmas service back in 2011 and have been going back ever since! The chapel used to be used more often, but now this is normally the only service that takes place in it each year. It's simple (especially simple this year, as we had to sing carols a capella) and the high point is leaving the building to walk a short distance to one of the estate barns where we sing our final carol to the sheep, before returning for seasonal refreshments. At least it's the high point for the humans, I think the sheep are usually a bit bewildered. This Christmas was our first gathering since the pandemic and though we were without Chloe the shepherd who has done the organising in the past – she, like many people, was poorly – it was as lovely an occasion as ever, and the sheep were duly sung to.

James



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VIRUSES VIRUSES EVERYWHERE!

News from Binscombe Surgery



If there's one thing we have learnt about as a society in the last 3 years, it is the reality and nature of viruses! We all knew about viruses in pre-covid days, of

course, but before 2020 I'm sure there was a nagging feeling in the public perception that doctors had invented the idea of viruses in order to have something to say when they weren't sure what was going on, so that they could say: "It's probably a virus, you'll get better soon." And maybe I've been as guilty of saying that as anyone! We all know about viruses these days, however.

Covid-19 has brought with it experiential learning about the nature of respiratory viruses on a societal level that we have never had before in our lifetimes: the reality of how unwell they can make you, how easily they spread, the importance of immunity and so on. With the widespread use of lateral flow tests we have all had the ability to tell in a moment that our symptoms really are due to a virus, and that rapid confirmation has often been very helpful in preventing unnecessary treatment and tests. It has also confirmed what virologists have known for a long time, but we in the general public have preferred not to think about, that many respiratory viruses go round again, and again, and again. Unlike a virus like chicken pox which you almost only ever get once in your life, coronaviruses, like most other respiratory viruses, will infect us again and again; if we hadn't believed this before then staring at our second positive covid lateral flow test certainly brings this truth home.

We have also learned that we can significantly limit the spread of respiratory viruses, but that we have to be careful what we wish for. Lockdown had a dramatic effect on all respiratory

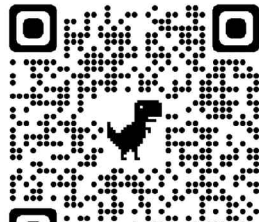
viruses, not just covid, and most seemed to vanish for nearly a year – winter 2021 with almost no patients with respiratory illness was a very odd experience in General Practice. But, of course, those viruses didn't disappear, they just hid in the background, waiting until not only did we mix again, but also our combined immunity had dropped due to so few of us being exposed to them, and then they came back with a vengeance – and boy are they enjoying their comeback at the moment!

The last month in General Practice has been dominated by coughs and fever, with a great deal of proper influenza, a bit of covid and a sea of other viruses joining in the mayhem. The news has focused on Group A strep, of course, and there has been a smattering of that, but really it has been all about the viruses. And we are learning again. Unpleasant lessons like when you have flu you really do spend a few days barely able to get out of bed; that coughs really do last 2-3 weeks with a virus and that with so many going around it is not unusual to just be getting over one when a different virus decides to take its turn.

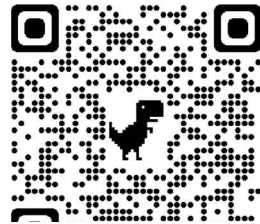
It was with this last fact in mind that I was especially interested to come across a research paper that looked at just how frequently healthy people – and especially healthy children – test positive for viruses. The study was conducted in 2015, so well before covid, and they took swabs every week from 108 individuals across 26 households. What they found was just how commonly we test positive for respiratory viruses – children under 5 had a positive test 50% of the time! In young adults this rate was still as high as 22%, and pity the poor household with 6 children, where someone in the house was carrying a virus a massive 87% of the time! (see the reference below). Now the subjects didn't always have symptoms when they tested positive, but if you are wondering why your child always seems to have a cold – now you know!

<https://academic.oup.com/cid/article/61/8/1217/376653>

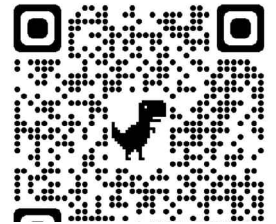
Dr Brunet (Doc Martin) regularly posts short videos on social media, covering a range of medical topics, especially in the area of mental health. Why not take a look and follow? You can find his accounts with the following QR codes.



YouTube: DocMartinGP



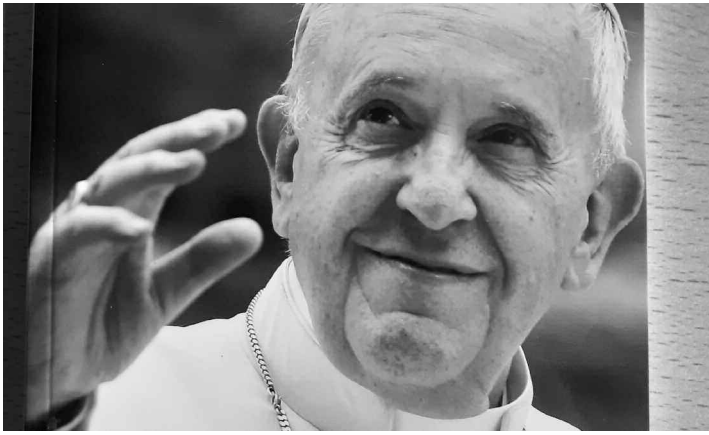
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THE LETTER

Everyone is invited to the film screening of 'The Letter' on Thursday 9th February at 7pm at Franciscan Spirituality Centre, Ladywell Convent, Ashted Lane, Godalming GU7 1ST. Described as a 'Message for our Earth', this is a powerful and moving film which features Pope Francis and tells the story of four 'champions' who each receive an invitation from the Pope to come to Rome to talk with him about the climate crisis.

The evening will be hosted by the St Edmund's Livesimply group, with refreshments from 7pm to 7.20pm and the film shown at 7.30pm, with time for discussion afterwards.

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LAUNCH OF GODALMING CHILDREN'S CHOIR

The brainchild of Godalming Choral Society, this new singing group made its debut at the GCS Christmas concert in St John's. After only 5 weeks together their singing was an utter delight – who could forget the pure lines of Away in a Manger and Silent Night and their confident contribution to selected grown-up choir items?

The group is open to all children in School Years 3-6 who enjoy singing and want to join others who do. Starting with clapping - and singing - games the children learn voice- and breathing - control, building up the confidence to hold a melody and then sing simple part-music. And it's great fun.

Children's Choir Director Sam Hayes (also director of the adult choir) studied Music at Cambridge and in Europe, and has vast experience of working with both adult and children's choirs. For eighteen years he has been Director of Music at Great St Mary's, the University Church, Cambridge – a position producing children's singing of the highest standard. And above all he possesses boundless enthusiasm and energy! Accompanist Oli Sullivan is not only a versatile pianist but a professional singer, starting life as a chorister at Sheffield Cathedral and now at Guildford Cathedral. He teaches singing in schools in Surrey and Hampshire, and has a keen interest in Jazz. He lives in Godalming.



Co- Director Martina Smyth lives in Godalming. She teaches piano, organ and singing in schools, and has been a chorister-trainer for several cathedrals, so she has a wide knowledge of music suitable for children's choirs. She currently co-directs a

children's choir in London.

This talented team have shown that children can produce great music. Come along to a session – the first is always a taster – and have fun. A love of music and of singing will stay with you for life – just turn up and give it a go!

Term-time Tuesdays 5pm-6pm at Godalming United Church, Bridge Road, GU7 3DU

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GUILDFORD AND GODALMING CROQUET CLUB

Did you even know that you have a croquet club on your doorstep?

Our club is part of the Broadwater Sports Club and is situated between the rugby pitches and the crematorium. We have about 80 members, four lawns, a clubhouse and ample parking.

Croquet is fun; an inexpensive and stimulating sport suitable for all ages, genders and levels of fitness. No specialist equipment is needed to start; we simply ask you to wear flat soled shoes. We will provide the equipment and tuition.

Most people imagine that croquet is a simple game, rather easy, requiring little or no skill or mental ability. While you can pick up the basics of how to play pretty quickly, and enjoy a social game at one of our regular roll-up sessions, many of our members frequently play competitive croquet at competitions and tournaments across the country. It really is a sport for all.

Our club is a member of both the Croquet Association and the South East Croquet Federation, and we have teams taking part in several leagues and tournaments. We also hold a number of national tournaments where we welcome players from other clubs, and have hosted some international tournaments welcoming competitors from Mexico, Norway, the Czech Republic, Russia and Portugal.

We have a team of qualified coaches happy to provide both taster sessions or beginners courses. There is a handicapping system, which levels the difference between stronger and weaker players.

We play throughout the year, although the main competitive season is from about April to October. Nothing beats getting outside on a sunny winter day for some entertaining and sociable gentle exercise.

If you think you might be interested in learning to play this great game why not come and give it a go? Explore our website, guildfordandgodalmingcroquetclub.co.uk, to find out more about what is on offer. Feel free to email or phone if you have further queries.

We look forward to meeting you!



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The Farncombe Initiative New Year 2023

Following the “lockdowns” of 2020-21, the past year has seen The Farncombe Initiative getting busy again. Here are a few examples.



Farncombe Station in Bloom



SWR gave us permission to install a trio of planters on the Portsmouth platform opposite the main entrance. Thank you Paul Devereux for sourcing the planters and to the team that set them up.

Through the Community Rail Partnership, we met with local SWR managers. New fencing has now been installed and repainting carried out.

On the Portsmouth side the long border has also been restored with the help of Ritual Café, Godalming Community Garden and various individuals with

donations of bulbs coming from SWR.

The Farncombe Initiative (TFI) added its voice to those arguing for the two trains per hour service. Following a meeting with SWR, a new timetable has started, restoring the previous service.

Dead and Dying Road Markings

The road markings in Farncombe have been in an appalling state for years. TFI sent to Surrey County Council a list of the worst with photos. As a result, our road markings are much improved. Early in 2023 we will be on our bikes checking that all the markings have been restored.

Green Space Saved

When we learned of plans to turn an acre of green space at Broadwater School into a car park for an expanded Godalming Leisure Centre, we intervened and many letters were written.

Waverley councillors took notice. Paul Follows, the Waverley leader, met us on site with other councillors and arranged a public meeting at the Waverley offices. Attendees were all opposed to the car park being extended.

On November 28th TFI received a letter from Paul Follows: all plans for extending the Godalming Leisure Centre have been cancelled and, there are no plans to turn this land into a car park. Waverley is buying the land but want to consult with residents as to how to make best use of this acre of green space.

We are grateful for the attention and support that our MP, Jeremy Hunt, gave us.

Report It

Keeping up with potholes etc seems a never-ending task. Just use Surrey County Council's “Report It” website. Issues are addressed quickly once reported. So, if you see a problem and don't report it, the chances are it won't get fixed.

Green Lane Shops

As well as the station, a small team has also been targeting the borders around the shops in Green Lane. These were significantly improved just before lockdown but require renewed activity to keep them looking good



St. John's Spring Fair



This year St John's church held its annual Spring Fair at the church instead of on the Burys Field in Godalming. TFI took up the offer of a stand to promote our activities and to remind people of the history of our community.

Paul Devereux brought memorabilia of old Farncombe to display which attracted a steady stream of visitors. The photo shows Paul and Matthew at the stand.

Public Art

The hope is still alive that more public art can be brought to our streets. We have had positive meetings with Watts Gallery. They expressed support but staff changes have resulted in no concrete steps being taken so far.

Farncombe History Walks

Two new Farncombe history walks have recently gone on-line. They will make good, short walks for that unexpected sunny day during the spring. They can be found on Plotaroute from where you can produce a paper copy or follow on-line with GPS.

Walk 1 – <https://www.plotaroute.com/route/2015037>

Walk 2 – <https://www.plotaroute.com/route/1229543>

Oral History

Interviews can be one way to record memories that will otherwise be forgotten. Paul Devereux and Sue Manuel have recorded a fantastic interview with two long-standing residents of Summers Road who remember a very different Farncombe. We plan to share this and other interviews with Godalming Museum and will provide an update in a future newsletter.

There have been no general meetings recently because of lockdown restrictions, but a small steering group has gathered several times to keep activities moving forward.

Anyone with a love for Farncombe is welcome to take part. Do get in touch to join the steering group or one of the teams. farncombeinitiative@gmail.com

This is an abridged version of a recent newsletter which can be found on Facebook using the following QR code.



REGULAR SERVICES at ST JOHN'S

SUNDAYS

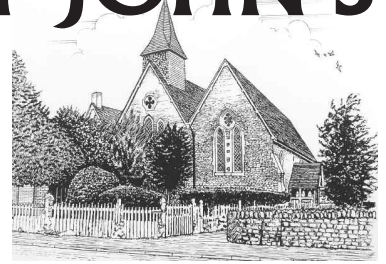
- 8am Holy Eucharist
- 8.45am Roman Catholic Mass
- 10am 1st Sunday in the month, Sunday Space
Other Sundays, Parish Eucharist
- 6.30pm 1st Sunday in the month, Sung Eucharist
- 7.30pm 2nd Sunday in the month, Compline over Zoom

TUESDAY

10.30am Holy Eucharist

FRIDAY

11.45am Last Friday in the month,
Toddler Praise



For all other information see our website: www.farncombe.org.uk

PARISH REGISTER

In Memoriam

Judith Smith Joan Buckingham

Blessing of Marriage

Fran Garvey & Will Amison



MARVELLOUS MESSY CHURCH

One of Israel's most famous kings was King David, whose eventful life is described in the Old Testament books of the prophet Samuel. David spent a lot of his early life outdoors and our flower arranging activity, whilst it was probably not something King David would have done, reminded us of God's provision of the beauty of nature. Being the youngest of eight brothers David looked after the family's flock of sheep, which we remembered with some nice fluffy animals. Later in his youth David was called to the court of King Saul, who often suffered from violent and disturbing thoughts. David was known to be a good harpist and his playing would calm the king and help him cope with these problems. Our activity was to make a 'harp' by stretching fibres across a small frame tightly enough to make a sound when plucked – easier said than done!

One of the best-known events in David's life was his encounter with the Philistine giant Goliath. Whilst he was a shepherd boy, David would have needed to protect his flock from wild animals and in those days, a sling and stone were used. This skill enabled him to defeat Goliath despite his physical disadvantage.

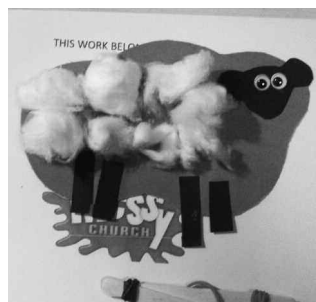
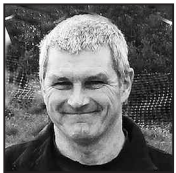
To celebrate the crowning of David as King of Israel we made crowns set with 'jewels'. David was around 30 years old by this time and reigned for 40 years, during which time he wrote many of the Psalms, the best known and loved one being Psalm 23, "The Lord's my shepherd", which has been a source of comfort and encouragement to many people over the centuries.

We had our usual short service in church and then enjoyed tea and refreshments, along with plenty of excitement and chatter! It was very encouraging to meet up again with regular Messy Churchers and also to get to know some new friends who were there for the first time. It would be good to see you for our next session on Saturday, 11th March at 3pm. **John**



SAT 14th JAN '23

THE TEAM



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HOW TO PUT A WHOLE LIFE INTO ONE SUITCASE

Greetings to you, dear readers! I am Anastasiia, and my motherland is Ukraine. But no matter where I have lived I have always been proud to call myself Ukrainian.

I was the happiest person in the universe. I was living a dream life: I had beautiful relationships with my family, reliable friends, a great education, hobbies, and I even had a part-time job, which I enjoyed – what else could a teenage girl ask for?

In 2014 I was too young to realize that the war had already started. However, on 24/02/2022 I was able to experience the whole reality. The whole life went absolutely blank. Could you imagine your house shaking? Can you imagine your town being ruined, your country literally on fire? Neither did I. My mum and my sister woke me up, under the sound of gunfire, saying the full-scale war had started. At first, I stood there with a petrified face and confusion in my eyes. What are we supposed to do now? Is it the end? Why are my country and its people suffering? Nobody had an answer for any of these questions. At that moment we were hiding in the room with no windows. We even were afraid to put the light on, so “they” won’t notice us.

We used to live not far away from a military base. The only thing we knew for sure was that we couldn’t stay at home. In a panic, we packed our bags. Our pregnant cousin’s family had a shelter underneath the house. 15 people with their pets were placed in only one room. All of us were surrounded by cement. It was chilly. No fresh air. No beds. No space. Prayers only and thanks to all the defenders, who are giving their today for our tomorrow. Even though the war is strictly seen as man’s work that didn’t stop some women from wanting to take part. Moreover, besides fighting, these women are playing a significant role in caring for the physical and emotional wellbeing of soldiers.

All Ukrainians tried to help as much as possible. My mum and I used to go to a local school and help the cooks to do simple tasks, like chopping, grating and peeling vegetables, etc. One day mum wasn’t feeling very well, so we decided to stay at home. Later that day we were told that saboteurs had entered the city, a fierce battle took place at the school, and 14 volunteers had been killed. If we had been there we would have been in huge danger. A few days later, we were having breakfast, when right through the window we saw a rocket falling right next to the house. Thank God, no one was hurt. After these incidents, we came up with a plan to move closer to Poland, to the west of Ukraine.

Incomprehension has turned into anger, for destroying everything we have built. While we were in the west of Ukraine, we still were doing a different volunteering job. It wasn’t easy, it was tough. But we adored spending time together in the evening playing board games. For a moment we were forgetting about the war and all terrifying things in the world. Once we heard an air-raid siren, but no one was bothered, because Lviv region was considered to be an absolutely safe place. In a minute a big explosion rang out. Everyone fell on the floor with great speed. One more explosion. Flesh trembled for fear. We thought that was the end. The most valuable words “I love you” were spoken. We tried to fall asleep without knowing if we would wake up the next day. But we did.

We had no choice but to pack our bags again. Before long, a close friend of ours mentioned the opportunity to get a sponsorship visa in the UK. Our jaws dropped. We couldn’t imagine our dream might come true even under such terrible circumstances. Although mum was searching for detailed information, nobody could believe that it was possible. Within 3 weeks, we had found the most wonderful host family ever and got permission for the visa. A feeling of expectation of something

forthcoming and unknown filled our hearts. And there we were, flying on an airplane with only one suitcase for each of us. The first meeting was incredibly warm and cheerful! It felt unreal. The family had a massively big Ukrainian flag with them. Moreover, it was written “Ласкаво просимо”, which means “Welcome Roza, Sonia, Anastasia” in Ukrainian. From this moment on we realized these people are the most amazing angels, who saved my family. Our grins didn’t leave our faces. A reality was at times better than an expectation. These months went by so quickly. We absolutely fell in love with them. They opened their homes and warmed us with their warm hearts. They have truly made a difference in our life, and we are forever grateful for all the memories we have made together and all the love that surrounds us.

The names of our heroes are Darren, Louise, Saskia, Liberty and Cameron. I cannot describe them in a better way than saying we found our soulmates. Each of them inspires me personally and I am immensely grateful for the opportunity to be here. My mum has never ridden a bike before, but always wanted to. Hence our English family asked for some spare bikes for us and they taught her. It was amazing watching mum truly happy and acting like a small child.

They even helped me and my sister attend Prior’s Field School, which was almost impossible to do. Nevertheless, this is such an unforgettable experience to have and it is so different to Ukrainian school. In Ukraine we would not have a choice what subjects we would like to do. We supposed to do all 17 subjects. Moreover, I still remember on our first day at school, we found a card saying “good luck at school” on our doorstep. Also, we were watching Eurovision 2022 together. Darren voted for Ukraine, instead of England, which was so kind of him to do. Once Lou told us what the parkrun is. After that we decided to take part in it. And we have done 8 so far. We celebrated 70 years of the Queen’s reign together and we were saddened when she passed away. These guys showed us all the beauty of London for the first time in our life. We went to a trampoline park, ice skating and lots of other fun places. Their help is priceless, because every time different even small things like giving us a lift, gave us a sense of stability and security, gave us the feeling that we matter.

Quite quickly I have found a job, my mum has had two and my younger sister is always looking for a part-time job. However, despite all good things that are happening in our lives, we never forget about the horrible reason why we are here. We get in touch with our family, who are still in Ukraine. It is getting harder to call or message them, due to the harsh conditions they live in. There is no electricity, hence this causes a bad signal, lack of light and problems with heating. Even so, we never give up!

In the summer on Ukrainian Independence Day we made a presentation to dozens of English people at Busbridge church telling what Ukraine is. We showed a video of our cities before and after, sharing our experience. Interesting, but little-known facts were told as well. Did you know, for example, that according to a legend, Mary Stuart and Richard the Lionheart have got Ukrainian roots? Adults and children, who fortunately escaped from the war and got a chance to be here, in a safe place, were singing traditional songs and doing a flash mob in the Memorial Park. The performance was aimed at drawing attention to the war to remind everyone that it is not over yet. And I feel like that is my mission here.

This is only the beginning of my journey in England. I want to end on my favourite quote that always helps me through the tough times, which is “What doesn’t kill you makes you stronger.”

Thank you for reading this article. – Anastasiia Khymenko



FAIRTRADE AT ST JOHN'S

St John's has been a FairTrade Church for many years so we were very pleased to welcome back a TraidCraft stall in April last year. A wide range of products from TraidCraft is available, including FairTrade favourites, such as tea, coffee and chocolate, along with other items you may not expect, including breakfast cereals, jams and preserves, greetings cards and olive oil soap. Thank you to everyone who has visited the stall after a service or at the Spring Fair and Village Show.

We are close to our target of selling £3,000 of goods by April this year. Whilst a small profit is made to support the work at St John's, the real difference that this money makes is for the producers of the many items on offer. By receiving a fair price for their crops and crafts, the communities that produce the food and other goods we need each day are able to invest in their businesses, villages and families. The extra money they receive by selling to TraidCraft, and other Fair Trade buyers, enables children to attend school, villages to build schools and other infrastructure and farmers to mitigate some of the effects of climate change.



The annual FairTrade Fortnight will run from 27th February to 12th March this year. This year, the campaign is highlighting the importance of Fair Trade in protecting some of our favourite foods, including

cocoa, coffee and bananas. The farmers who grow these crops are finding it increasingly hard as climate change is interfering with the normal growing season and poor prices are making it uneconomic to produce these foods. We are planning a Coffee Morning on Saturday 4th February from 10:00am to 12:00pm in support of this campaign. Join us to try some Fair Trade food and drink and see the range of products on offer.

Our regular stalls are held in the Church Room after the 10:00am service on the first and second Sunday of each month (also after the 8:45am Mass on the first Sunday).

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WINTER GARDENING

With the weather changing dramatically and warnings of climate change, we are facing several challenges in our gardens, although this doesn't mean we can't enjoy the challenges and the delights! This is the time of year to think about our plans for the new season so try to work out what crops and plants you want and where would be the best place in your garden to grow them. We then need to prepare the ground, either by clearing old plants or by adding fertiliser and compost to help the new plants. If you can grow your crops in small groups it should help to avoid a glut with everything maturing together. This can be difficult but it does allow a longer growing season and more variety.

Fruit trees and bushes need pruning where necessary, gooseberries and currants should be cut back to an outward-facing bud to avoid crossing shoots in the main plant.

After the heat of last summer, lawns have had a good watering but will need some fertiliser and nutrient to help them survive. Leaves have been late to drop this year so try to keep the lawn and flower

beds as clear as possible and remember that leaves can rot down to make good mulch – and it's free!

This is a good time to check over the garden machinery and tools and keep things like secateurs well sharpened. This is a good job for a wet day as long as your shed doesn't leak.

Happy gardening for 2023. John



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NEW LOOK FARNCOMBE TANDOORI

The Farncombe Tandoori as you all know is one of the oldest Indian curry houses in Surrey, and was relaunched in September after a major refurbishment!

The new look restaurant has a relaxed and comfortable atmosphere with a new Bar as well! That's not all, under new management the Menu also reflects some wonderful and creative dishes along with the traditional curry house classics.

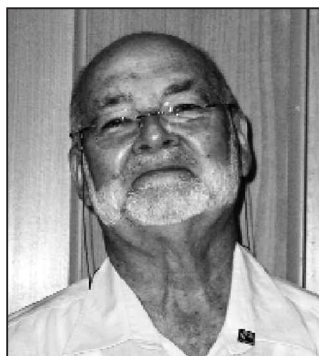
The Farncombe Tandoori has been committed to Farncombe, Godalming and the wider community since 1983. The Farncombe Tandoori offers a range of the most sophisticated dishes to be found in Indian cuisine. We are passionate about Indian cooking which reflects in our creativity whilst adhering to traditional methods.

The group is always striving to bring an authentic Indian experience to our patrons by offering authentic food as served in India, with a twist of ingenuity.



Our chefs and culinary team are highly experienced so you may enjoy a pleasant and a memorable dining experience. We only use the finest ingredients in our cooking to create unique dishes that have an uncompromising taste that is not only fresh but also mouth watering.

Wishing you all a prosperous and Happy New Year 2023.



Edouard le Maistre RIP

Edouard was born in Jersey in 1939 in the parish of St Ouën. He was the second son of farmers Frank and Kathleen Le Maistre. He had two brothers, François, born in 1937 and Jean who was born in 1944. Their early years therefore were spent

under Nazi occupation. Edouard remembered the curfews and restrictions of movement, his dread of soldiers, seeing 'planes and their dogfights overhead, falling shrapnel. When swedes were the only food left, his mother made swede soup for starter, swede for main course and swede custard for pudding. Despite this, Edouard always enjoyed eating swedes! Imagine his delight when the Tommies liberated the island driving around throwing out handfuls of sweets to the children who had never tasted them before.

Edouard had to learn English when he went to school aged six. His mother tongue was Jerriais (Jersey Norman French) which he would always use when speaking with his Jersey family and friends. As he got older, when he wasn't in school, he worked on the farm. He and his brother François used to finish a day of work and then head down to the beach called La Greve au Lançon (bay of the sand eels) where they would wash off the day's dirt before heading home for dinner and milking the cows.

Edouard attended Victoria College in Jersey where he obtained his O levels. There began his love of music including singing in the choir. Unfortunately, before he was able to complete his A levels he had to leave college.

Edouard also enjoyed his local church but it was during his mid-teens that he attended Youth Camp at Lee Abbey in North Devon and committed his life to Christ. His faith meant everything to him. When Edouard left Victoria College he worked on the family farm for a while. He liked working with the animals, particularly with the horses, and loved the changing seasons of nature, but farming was not for him. He left the farm and became a junior reporter on the island's daily newspaper, the Jersey Evening Post, after which he came to the UK to

spend a year's Christian training at the Church Missionary Society College in Chislehurst, Kent. This led on to working in a run-down parish at the Elephant and Castle where he found he had a certain ability to listen to people in trouble.

Quite by chance, Edouard then got a job as Assistant Secretary at the Architectural Association. He became Company Secretary and stayed for almost 40 years. When he retired he was awarded an Honorary AA Diploma.

In 1968 he married Jenny and they honeymooned in southern Spain having driven there in a disreputable looking Ford Thames van which they'd bought for £36!

After a short time in London, Edouard and Jenny settled in Farncombe where they have lived for 50 years in Hall Close. Edouard was recently referred to as the Father of the Close. They adopted two fabulous children, Catherine and Philip, and now have two gorgeous grandsons, Alex and Jamie, whom Edouard adored.

As we said before his faith meant everything to him. He enjoyed St John's and was on the Parochial Church Council for a while. He ran the Men's Breakfast, joined the Mother's Union and was involved with Fair Trade. He was committed to Churches Together in Godalming and District for many years, organising inter-church Lent discussion groups and was Chairman at one time. He was also the unofficial town crier at Christmas and his booming voice would resound around Godalming High Street!

Although Edouard lived in the UK for most of his life, he loved his "Beautiful Jersey" and he together with Jenny, Catherine and Philip would visit regularly. The culture, the people, the language, the countryside, the beaches, he loved them all and was Chairman of the Jersey Society in London for 21 years. Edouard was never afraid to stand out from the crowd. He was completely comfortable in his own skin and always remained true to his principles.

He adored his family and always had time for them. Catherine and Philip remember him as a fun Dad, encouraging them in everything they did. Jenny will always treasure the happy memories, love and affection she shared with him in their 54 years of married life.

If you have a spare half an hour, make yourself comfortable, grab a mocha (or a glass of wine), and listen to Elgar's 'cello concerto played by Jacqueline du Pre, Edouard's cousin, and think of him striding out of the door booming "à la préchaîne" (until next time).

SLIMMING WORLD NEWS - AN AMAZING 2022

What an amazing 2022!!! We had in group lots of weight loss, lots of new target members, lots of fun, food tasting, awards given out and continued support and inspiration.

Thinking of joining? Bring on 2023. Please don't wait as this time next year this could be you.

First week back over 15 stone lost. What an amazing start to the New year! New Tuesday morning group times 8.30 or 10am. Pop along or call me on **07872162843** for more information.

St John's church Farncombe Tuesdays 8.30, 10.00, 5.30 or 7pm.
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QUIZ

1. What is the correct name for a badger's home?
2. 'Milvus milvus' is a species of bird we see around Farncombe, What is its common name?
3. What name is given to the indigenous people of Northern Canada?
4. There are 2 types of chambers in the heart, one is the atrium, what is the other?
5. What is the name of the special tools we use to tend an open fire?
6. What is the name of the winged horse in Greek mythology?
7. The word 'canine' refers to dogs, which word refers to sheep?
8. What is the capital of Slovenia?
9. What is the name of the wooden 'hammer' used in wood carving?
10. Which Italian city is famous for its ham and cheese?

The answers are on page 19

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'THE BOYS SCHOOL' GEORGE ROAD

The Farncombe Tithe Map of 1844 shows a green field site numbered 1314, described as a "Northbourne" and "arable". The owners were Mary Dill Lane and William Sanders Robinson who were at that time also the Lords of the Manor of Farncombe. By the latter part of the nineteenth century, the land had come into possession of Mary Ann Dashper of "Greylands", London Road, Guildford, possibly inherited from her late grandfather, Thomas Harrison, a papermaker of Eashing, who invested much of his money in land in the district.

By the 24th of January 1899, in conjunction with Samuel Wellman, a Surveyor with a practice in Godalming as well as her business agent, along with the then Borough Surveyor, Mr. J.H. Norris, she planned what was known as the "Farncombe Station Building Estate", laying out such roads as George Road (named after her late brother George Harrison), and Grays Road (after her husband Charles Gray Dashper), and with the intention of building houses, shops and a hotel (opposite Farncombe Station) to be sold Freehold.

Ninety-one plots of land were to be auctioned by Messrs. Folker and Horton of Godalming, at "The Kings Arms Hotel", Godalming, on Thursday the 22nd of February at 6 o'clock in the evening. Plot numbers 103 to 108 in George Road, and Plots 119 to 128 in Grays Road, were initially destined for housing, but were sold to the Rev. Edgar Francis Bowring, the Rector of Farncombe, and it was his intention to build a school here on behalf of the Church of England. The price was £900, with a deposit paid of £180, the agreement dated "22nd February 1900" and signed "E.F. Bowring" over a six-penny stamp. He was also to have a right-of-way over a narrow access road off of Grays Road, adjoining Plot 128. The balance of £720 was paid on the 23rd of March 1900. The school managers met at the Rectory to review the three tenders sent in. The lowest, in the sum of £2,439, was accepted, and the builders were the Mitchell Brothers of Shalford and Godalming.

The "Boys School" was opened in George Road in 1905, built at his own expense, but the Will of the Rev. Bowring, dated 4th March 1930, clearly states : "I give and devise to the Rector and Churchwardens



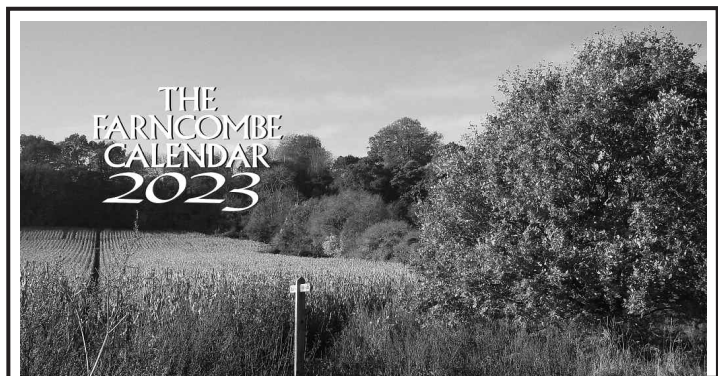
and their successors, the Freehold Property near Farncombe Station, now used as an Elementary School for boys, and for which they pay me five shillings a year, upon Trust that they continue to use the same for a Church of England Elementary School, and if this should cease, then they may sell it and the money to be used for any other purpose connected to the Church of England."

Over the years the school has ceased to be purely a boys' school, later catering for infants of both sexes. With the growth of Farncombe and the surrounding district, it has been necessary to build additional classrooms as well as modern toilet facilities. Although these and other modern conveniences have been added over the years, the ideals for a Christian education and upbringing, for which Edgar Francis Bowring founded the school, are still very much in evidence.

Taken from a By-Gone Farncombe article by Clive Downs

THE FARNCOMBE CALENDAR 2023

The Farncombe Calendar has been popular again but if you haven't got one yet, there are a few available still. Contact John on 01483 428604



**This Month's Mystery Photo is?
The answer is on page 19**



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Julian Lewry Music

KEEPING MUSIC LIVE

A message from Julian....



Happy New Year! Many thanks to all those who attended concerts in Farncombe and/or Haslemere during 2022. It was wonderful to see so many people returning to support live music after what had been a dreadful 2 year period. There are some great shows coming up in 2023 with acts I've not promoted before as well as popular, old favourites returning to the area. Whilst the costs of promoting concerts continue to rise, often more than inflation, I strongly believe the shows I offer represent tremendous value for money for the quality of entertainment provided by these original and tribute acts. Hope to see you in 2023. Please keep supporting live music.

Saturday 27th January
@ HASLEMERE HALL



TRIBUTE



Creedence Clearwater Revival are one of the most iconic rock groups of all time. Their all-time classic hits such as Proud Mary, Bad Moon Rising, Have You Ever Seen The Rain, Born On The Bayou, Fortunate Son, Down on the Corner, Up Around the Bend along with CCR and John Fogerty fan favourites are powerfully reprised by Clearwater Creedence Revival. Support comes from Joe Martin performing The Songs of James Taylor. The show is guaranteed to provide a feast of the finest music.

Tickets: £21 inc. booking fee. Show starts @ 8.00pm (doors and bar open from 7.00pm)

Saturday 28th January
NINE BELOW ZERO
@ HASLEMERE HALL



UK-based Rhythm 'n' Blues Group Nine Below Zero celebrate acclaimed third LP's 40th anniversary. After the critical and public acclaim of the classic debut LP Live at the Marquee (1980), the band kept the momentum going with Don't Point Your Finger (1981) before releasing their third and final LP on A&M Records, Third Degree (1982). With the iconic front cover shot by the legendary David Bailey, Third Degree is arguably the band's masterpiece from the A&M era. Kicking off with Eleven Plus Eleven (as performed live on The Young Ones), and Wipe Away Your Kiss, the LP mixes 60's soul with Rhythm 'n' Blues. They toured with The Who and The Kinks around the time of this LP and also appeared on The Old Grey Whistle Test, and The South Bank Show.

Tickets: £23 inc. booking fee. Show starts @ 8.00pm (doors and bar open from 7.00pm)

Saturday 4th February
GENESIS
VISIBLE TOUCH
@ HASLEMERE HALL



Genesis Visible Touch are the ultimate Phil Collins-era Genesis show!. In 1983, Genesis released their 12th studio album, "Genesis". Referred to since as either the "Mama" album because of the opening track or the "Shapes" album because of its iconic artwork, 2023 is its 40th anniversary. To celebrate, GVT are touring, performing material from the album alongside hits and old classics. Expect "Mama" and "Home By The Sea" with hits like "Turn It On Again" and some old favourites for good measure! "The best exponents of Collins-fronted Genesis I've seen" (Nick Davis, Genesis' producer). "A 'must see' show!" (Dave Hutchins, Genesis' engineer on The Lamb...). "Genesis fan or not, go see them, you won't be disappointed!" (Cardiff Live).

Tickets: £21 inc. booking fee. Show starts @ 8.00pm (doors and bar open from 7.00pm)

FUTURE SHOWS PLANNED INCLUDE THESE EXCITING ACTS FOR '23 ALL AT HASLEMERE HALL

- Friday 24th February - Sad Cafe
- Friday 31st March - Simply Dan (Steely Dan tribute)
- Saturday 15th April - Focus
- Friday 19th May - Petty Criminals (Tom Petty and The Heartbreakers tribute)

- Friday 29th September - Oye Santana (Santana tribute)
- Friday 13th October - China Crisis
- Friday 3rd November - Fleetwood Bac (Fleetwood Mac tribute)
- Friday 8th December - The Alter Eagles (Eagles tribute)

Tickets for Haslemere shows are available from www.haslemerehall.co.uk or the box office on 01428 642161.

To keep up to date with news and info on upcoming shows, please see www.julianlewrymusic.com and Facebook page Julian Lewry Music



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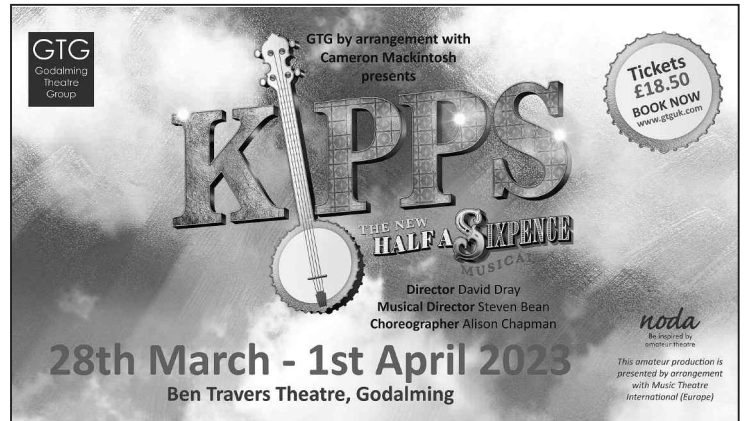
“What a triumph! Stick it in your family album.”

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‘WHAT’S IN A NAME’

If you have been spending the long winter evenings reading Shakespeare you may recognise the question above. It comes from ‘Romeo and Juliet’ and continues, “A rose by any other name would smell as sweet.” We may not have any Montacutes or Capulots in Farncombe but names are important and even street names can take us back in time and help us to understand a bit more about our history and our surroundings. Farncombe has a number of clues to its past hidden in street names – here are some to get started.



At one time, Farncombe was part of the manor of Loseley, hence we have Loseley Road, More Road and Molyneux Road from the house and family names. Upper and Lower Manor Road and Manor Gardens remind us of times when there were some very grand residences here. Although Farncombe has a wide range of buildings, some dating back to Tudor times, many have been built since 1950 and it is hard to visualise Farncombe as a village ending at the top of Farncombe Street but Harrow Lane is marked on an early 19th century map leading to open fields which extended almost as far as Fox’s Barn in Binscombe.

Names such as Kings Road and Elizabeth Road give us clues as to the time they were built and it is really interesting as we walk round the village to try to work out how each road name originated. To start you looking, there is a small road whose name is connected to the Titanic – see if you can find it.

John

The mystery photo is Station Garage



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If you would like details about advertising in The Villager please email David Preston at: djpreston@bcs.org.uk

Answers to quiz: 1. Sett 2. Red kite 3. Inuit 4. Ventricle 5. Companion set 6. Pegasus 7. Sheep 8. Ljubljana 9. Mallet 10. Parma

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HOW TO DEAL WITH PASSWORDS?

By following these best practices, you can help keep your passwords secure and protect your accounts from being hacked.

1. Use unique passwords for each account. If a hacker gets one password, they won't be able to use it to access your other accounts.
2. Use long passwords. The longer the password, the harder it is to crack.
3. Use a mix of letters, numbers, and special characters. This makes your password harder to guess.
4. Don't share your passwords with anyone.
5. Regularly update your passwords. It's a good idea to change your passwords every few months to further protect your accounts.
6. Enable two-factor authentication (2FA) on your accounts if possible. This adds an extra layer of security by requiring you to enter a code sent to your phone or email in addition to your password when logging in.
7. Use a password manager to store your passwords securely. A password manager is a tool that stores your passwords in a secure way and can automatically enter them for you when you visit a website.

There are many good password managers available, and the best one for you will depend on your specific needs and preferences.

Here are some popular options:

LastPass: A feature-rich password manager that is available on a wide variety of platforms.

1Password: A popular password manager with a focus on user-friendly design.

Dashlane: A password manager that includes a built-in VPN and a password generator.

Keeper: A secure password manager with a range of features, including the ability to store documents and make secure payments.


Bitwarden: An open-source password manager that is free to use and has a variety of features.




It's a good idea to research these and other password managers to find the one that best fits your needs.

Igor Dalavourak, MSc Tel: 01483 860777

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