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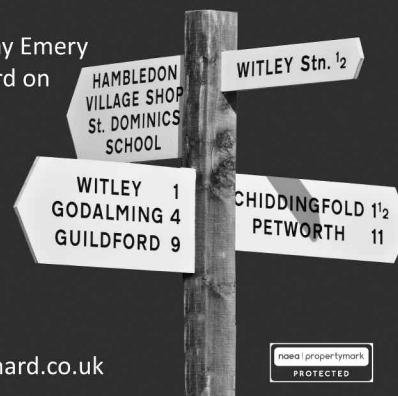


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From the Rectory



This morning I heard a radio discussion about the challenges facing the new Director-General of the BBC, Matt Brittin, and how his key task was to shift the core of the Corporation from its traditional broadcasting output to digital production. Rather than online material being basically adverts for, or adjuncts to, broadcast programmes, it will become the centre of what the BBC does. This is about changing the way the organisation looks at and thinks about itself: a 'paradigm shift', we say.

Like most people of my age I used to have a conventional camera and when a film was finished took it to the chemist's to be developed. Since the 1960s my mum and dad had turned their photos into boxes of slides, but I always preferred prints which I put in albums. When I got a digital camera in 2004 I kept doing the same. It took a couple of years before it suddenly struck me that the prints were no longer the primary record of my photos; that was the digital files on my computer. I didn't actually need to print them, unless I wanted to look at them that way. It, too, was a paradigm shift. I still print my snaps and paste them in albums but now only do so with a small minority of the photos I take, as a memory of the things I do, the places I go, and the people I know. If they stayed on the computer I'd never look at them at all!

Back during the COVID lockdowns and restrictions St John's, like every other church community, had to find different ways of doing things, and we learned, often for the first time, about recording or livestreaming services. Some churches even found themselves

developing new, online communities of people who only ever met remotely via the medium of Zoom or some similar program. St John's never had the tech to do it very well and as soon as they were able to meet in person again, pretty much everyone did so (not every church found the same).

Some in the Church argued that this was also a 'paradigm shift' and that digital Christianity was the way forward. But religion is inescapably an activity that people do together. The sacraments of baptism, holy communion and so on all recognise that human beings are physical and embodied (even if our bodies often cause us problems!), and we discover about God and what he wants of us by doing things in company, from worship to the ways we co-operate in trying to serve the community around us.

The digital world is a wonderful thing and I know that a lot of what I do is made immeasurably easier (or possible at all) as a result of it. But there are places it cannot go and aspects of our human identity it cannot touch. The deepest and most important things about who we are, the things of the body and the spirit, are its masters and not its servants.

Reading a Bible?

In the middle of May I attended the Guildford Diocesan clergy conference which happens once every three years. As this is only my seventh – or eighth, I forget which – I didn't win the bar of chocolate from the Bishop for long service which went to a colleague who retired a couple of years ago but who still exercised the option to turn up to what was his twelfth conference. There's still time, I suppose.

Anyway, in one of the sessions we were introduced to figures suggesting that sales of Bibles have doubled in about five years and surveys seem to show that many are being bought by people who are just curious, rather than churchgoers or who think of themselves as Christians. I think that's good and I wonder if anyone reading this falls into that group.

For anyone coming to the Bible for the first time, I would have a couple of lines of advice.

1. It's really good to read the Bible all the way through, at least once. At a couple of chapters a day, it should take about 18 months so it's not impossible at all. You can also skip bits. For instance, you need to know there was a Temple in Jerusalem, but you don't need to know how big it was in cubits, which the Bible texts will tell you several times.
2. Pick a modern translation. At St John's we use the New Revised Standard Version; the Jerusalem Bible is most common in the Roman Catholic Church; the New International Version is perhaps easiest to read. The language of the old King James Bible is grand and stately but not easy to understand and in some places actively misleading.
3. Remember that the Bible is a library of texts of distinct genres – folklore, history, poetry, letters – and they will each provide a different sort of reading experience. Expect it to be varied.
4. If you're being really serious about your Bible reading you may like to get a concordance, a kind of index which will help you look up names and individual words. This can be extremely useful when you read something that reminds you of something else you read earlier, but you can't recall where.

And remember that St John's and any church community is here to help and maybe talk through any questions you might have!
James Rector

St John's Church, Farncombe

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SPRING FAIR - Farncombe's busiest EVER

Although the weather for the Spring Fair was not as warm as we'd hoped it was very good to see how many people came along to enjoy the various stalls, refreshments and entertainments. The barbecue, plant stalls and children's games were as popular as ever, as was the coffee stall. There were stalls from several local charities with a variety of products and entertainment was provided by a Choir from Charterhouse,

The Farncombe Jazz Choir, The Godalming Junior Band and The Godalming School of Dance. The Spring Fair is an ideal place to meet up with friends and it was good to see groups having their get-togethers. The stalls were very busy raising funds for the church and for local organisations and charities. A big thank you to all who made this a very happy and enjoyable occasion. **John**



Binscombe Medical Practice NEW Patient Participation Group

The role of the Patient Participation Group (PPG) is to work in partnership with Binscombe's team of doctors, nurses and staff to ensure that patients and carers get the best possible delivery of support and care.

This new group was launched towards the end of last year and we currently have eight members, all of whom are patients at the Practice.

A Patient Participation Group helps the Practice by:

- influencing local healthcare service delivery
- advising on the patient perspective
- providing insight into the responsiveness and quality of the services provided
- supporting patients seeking to take greater responsibility for their own, and their family's health
- community engagement which supports the promotion of health
- aiming to be in regular communication with our patient population at Binscombe Medical Practice

We meet quarterly for one hour at present and all contribute to the agenda and the debate. We are still in the process of setting out how we work together and are keen to have more people on board who would be interested in taking an active role, e.g., representing young families, writing an ad hoc newsletter for patients, helping us promote the Farncombe Community Garden, promoting membership activities, acting as secretary to the group.

We are inviting more people to join to make numbers up to fifteen. If this sounds of interest to you, and you are a patient or carer of a patient at Binscombe, please get in touch with Sarah Wareham, Deputy Practice Manager, who will be pleased to answer any questions you have. You can contact Sarah via reception or over the phone on 01483 415115.

Maxine M Taylor

Chair - Patient Participation Group, Binscombe Medical Practice



GODALMING TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

THE GS ARE CHAMPIONS

Godalming Town Football Club has had an excellent 2025/26 season and, under the managership of Mo Sher, has won The Southern Combination League Division One. This is at the tenth level of English football and the club will now be promoted to a league at the ninth level.

The current club was founded in 1950 by ex-pupils of Godalming Grammar School and initially known as Godalming United. It has had a number of different names including Godalming & Guildford between 1992/93 and 2004/05 and it is from this era that the nickname, the Gs, originates.

The club's most successful period was between 2006/07 and 2016/17, with spells in both the Isthmian League and the Southern League at the eighth level of English football. During this time Godalming Town reached the fourth, and final, qualifying round of the FA Cup just one round from the entry into the competition of teams from the English Football League. But, at Wey Court in Farncombe, in October 2011, Maidenhead United triumphed to end the Gs' hopes. The attendance was 703 with gate receipts exceeding £3,000.

The Surrey Senior Cup was won in 2009/10 and 2012/13, the victims on both occasions being Sutton United (just eight seasons after the Gs' second victory Sutton United were promoted to the English Football League).

Of course, football has been played in Farncombe and Godalming for many years before the current club's formation. The earliest recorded game is for "A Grand Football Match" played at the Godalming Recreation Ground in April 1887 between Godalming and Charterhouse School (which had relocated from London to Godalming in 1872). The school won the encounter 2-0.

Matches between "town and gown" were held frequently in late Victorian / Edwardian times - after the 1894 meeting the school commented that Godalming seemed "to forget that they were not playing amongst themselves but against gentlemen"! Two of the greatest sporting polymaths of the time, C B Fry and G O Smith, both England internationals and with connections to Charterhouse School, played matches for Godalming.



Farncombe Football Club's first-ever match in the FA Amateur Cup took place in 1906 when the club hosted the Royal Engineers who had been FA Cup winners in 1875. The British Army team won 4-1.

In May 1912, Godalming defeated Farncombe 2-1 in a Titanic Relief Fund Match (RMS Titanic had sunk in the previous month). It was reported that, due to the rainy conditions, there was a small attendance but "between £2 and £3 was raised" (equivalent to c. £300 and c. £440 today).

Jeff Brooks has written a book titled "A History of Godalming Town Football Club 1950 - 2025 and a look at football in Farncombe and Godalming before 1950" to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the current club. Cover price is £10. The book is available at the ground on matchdays or by post - details at brooksjeff18@aol.com.

Jeff Brooks



CRICKET NEWS

"Well done to the Farncombe Cricket Club men's first team for winning their first three league matches of the season against Dogmersfield, Chiddingfold and Tilford."


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BOARD GAMES AT ST. JOHN'S

For the last few months, St John's have been hosting a board games afternoon on the second Sunday of the month. We have learned to shuffle (on a shuffleboard), and Settlers of Catan has acquired a dedicated group of enthusiasts. The latest addition to the 20+ games to choose from has been Mexican Train, a version of dominoes that makes you wish for the orderliness and organisation of Southwestern Railways. There are games for all ages, from the Tooth Fairy Game to Scrabble, and so far we have had visitors from about 5 years to 85. There is a prize giving with a difference and tea and cake at half time.

The next session is on Sunday 14th June, 4 to 6 p.m., and we are always happy to see new players. **Gertrud Sollars**



COFFEE MORNINGS at ST JOHN'S

all are welcome in the Church Room
Saturdays 10am -12noon
 13th & 27th June 11th & 25th July
 8th August



Board Games @ St John's

2nd Sunday afternoons, 4-6 pm
 14th June 12th July
 All ages are welcome



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HAPPY 95th BIRTHDAY MAJORIE



St. John's oldest and youngest members share a joke

We recently enjoyed a very special occasion after the Sunday morning service when we were joined by relatives and friends of Marjorie Godden to celebrate her 95th birthday. Marjorie has been part of the St John's 'family' for many years and it was very good to meet her family, some of whom had come from as far away as Ireland and Scotland. There were appropriate refreshments and we all wished Marjorie a very happy time. **John**



Open to God Open to each other Open to all SUNDAY SPACE

The informal Sunday Space service is at 10am on the 1st Sunday of the Month and covers various topics



MARCH

The topic for Messy Church on 14th March was appropriately, 'Bible Mothers' – very suitable for the date! We started at the beginning of the Bible with Eve and her 2 sons, Cain and Abel and then learnt about Hagar, whose story is in Genesis chapter 21. There is a lovely occasion where God told her to pick up her son who was crying because of the heat in the desert and give him a drink of water. The story of Sarah, also in Genesis, is of great comfort to many people. She was unable to have children but prayed to God, who blessed her with a son, Isaac.

The story of Jochabed includes the time when she made a watertight basket and hid her baby boy in the reeds by the river Nile to keep him safe. The best-known mother in the Bible is, of course, Mary, the mother of Jesus, who was told about becoming a mother by the angel Gabriel.

We had our usual service in church and then enjoyed our tea, which of course included angel ohncakes! **John**



We were very pleased to see a good number of people come to enjoy Messy Church on such a nice sunny day where we looked at the many ways in which God's message has been spread. At the end of his gospel St. Matthew tells the readers to go out and tell all people about Jesus. This was done by personal contact and also by means of letters as these were the main ways to communicate but today we have many other ways. The different activities helped us to see how we can spread the word of God, starting with writing a short message and sending it to a friend. We then made boats by folding paper (known as origami) to remind us that early Christians travelled by land and sea to take the message to people further away. Until recently, relatively few people have been able to read and churches used pictures and stained glass windows to show events from the Bible. Modern communications mean that it is much easier to contact others but it is even more important to 'Spread the Word', the Good News of Jesus' death and resurrection. **John**



9th MAY

REGULAR SERVICES at ST JOHN'S

SUNDAYS

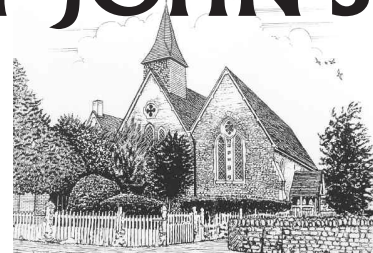
- 8am Holy Eucharist
- 8.45am Roman Catholic Mass
- 10am 1st Sunday in the month, Sunday Space
Other Sundays, Parish Eucharist
- 6.30pm 1st Sunday in the month, Sung Eucharist
- 7.30pm 2nd Sunday in the month, Compline over Zoom

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

There is a Roman Catholic Mass every Sunday morning at St John's starting at 8.45am *all are welcome*

PARISH REGISTER

In Memoriam

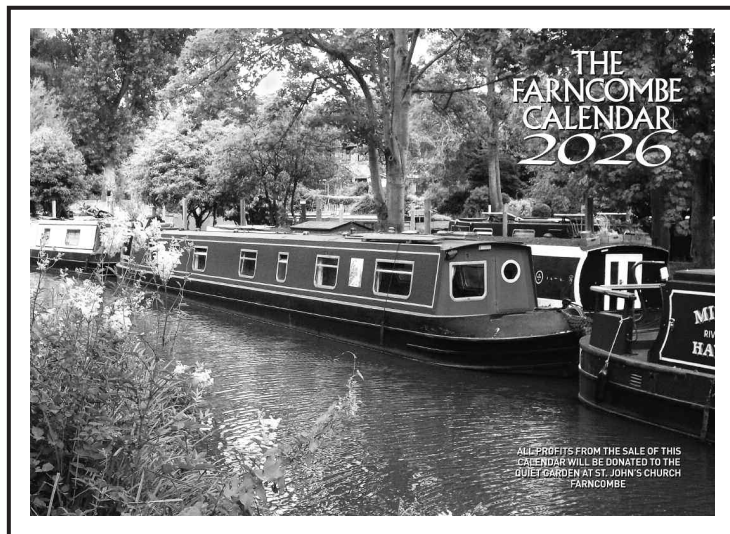
Peter Riddle



Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

The Mother's Union meeting in April had a very 'local' topic, with John Preston giving a talk about the Farncombe Calendar. The calendar was first produced in 2010 to raise funds for the maintenance of the Quiet Garden at church and we discussed some of the problems of keeping up with the changes in the village such as new building developments and the decline in the number of shops, many of which were converted to housing. We hope people will be encouraged to look around the village and the surrounding areas and enjoy the very varied views.



PRAYER FOR FARNCOMBE

A small group of pray-ers gather on the second Thursday of the month at 9am in the Lady Chapel to pray for Farncombe, its people, organisations, schools and businesses. Our next meetings are 11th June, 9th July and 10th September all 9am- 9.40 in the Lady Chapel. New members to our group are welcome, and if you have a concern that you would like us to include in our prayers, please tell us by emailing prayers@farncombe.org.uk.



BIBLE STUDIES

The Bible Studies group meet on the 4th and 18th June and 2nd July, 7.30 - 9.00. Venues tbc. We are studying some of the Old Testament prophets in their historic context.

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CHARITY CONCERT SERIES BY CHARTERHOUSE

This academic year has seen another successful run of the Charity Concert Series at St John’s Church. Since September, we have hosted five concerts, each bringing live music to the heart of the community.

The most recent performance was our largest yet—both in the number of performers and, as audiences will attest, in volume! Featuring a range of Charterhouse music ensembles, the programme delighted listeners with something for everyone: the Concert Band performed Queen’s Don’t Stop Me Now and John Williams’ Imperial March; the Jazz Bands played works by Herbie Hancock and Earle Hagen; and the Wind Ensembles and Sinfonia presented classic pieces such as Handel’s Water Music and Mozart’s Fantasia in F minor.

We are thrilled to share the vibrant music scene at Charterhouse with the Farncombe community, all while raising funds for the Cheryl King Trust—a cause close to our hearts, helping young people from disadvantaged backgrounds across Surrey receive a music education. These concerts also connect us with the school’s motto, Deo Dante Dedi (“God having given, I gave”), reinforcing the importance of service.

On behalf of the Charterhouse Music Department, we extend our deepest thanks to St John’s Church for generously providing such a wonderful venue with phenomenal acoustics. So far, we have raised over £500, and we are grateful to every contributor for their support.

We would love to see even more of you at our future concerts. Please look out for posters around town and do consider donating—either in person at our upcoming concerts or via the QR code below. We also invite you to attend the various musical events at Charterhouse, which are free admission. If you would like to stay informed, please sign up to our mailing list by emailing concerts@charterhouse.org.uk

Jen Ashman-Adams
Music Administrator



NEWS FROM LOSELEY



**19th June - 21st June
Summer Craft Show**

**17th July - 19th July
Salvage Show**

**07th August - 09th August
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**11th September - 13th September
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BROADWATER WINS ROTARY YOUTH AWARD



Congratulations to our students that were recently recognised at the Rotary Youth Awards. We are delighted to share that several students were prize winners across the Writing, Photography and Art competitions, with entries from all year groups placing in every category – including multiple 1st place awards!

We are especially proud to celebrate Esme, Yr 9 winner of the Rotary in Godalming Young Citizen Award, nominated by staff from the Godalming Youth Centre for her contribution to young people and work at the youth centre. Congratulations also to runner-up recipients Chloe, Yr 8 and Presley, Yr 10 for their outstanding service to the community. Awards were presented by Bob Crooks MBE, Town Mayor of Godalming. We couldn't be prouder of all our students for representing our core values: **WORK HARD, BE KIND, MAKE A DIFFERENCE.**

OUR POET LAUREATE

We are absolutely delighted to share that our Year 9 Broadwater Poet Laureate, Emily, has been shortlisted for the South East Young Poet Laureate – a national initiative run by the National Literacy Trust – with her powerful poem 'Alzheimers' Chosen as one of just 20 students across the entire region, this is a truly outstanding achievement.

Emily attended an exclusive poetry masterclass in London at Faber & Faber HQ, where she worked with professional poets, refined her writing, and performed her poem in front of an audience and judging panel.

Her performance will now be considered in the next stage of judging, which includes UK Poet Laureate Simon Armitage – one of the poets our students study at GCSE. Emily has even been awarded a signed certificate from him!

We are incredibly proud of Emily and wish her the very best of luck in the next stage.



SOLD Surrey Outdoor Learning & Development
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STEP UP to Secondary In School Grounds

Starting a new school in year 7 is a big step and 'Step-Up to Secondary' days are here to make it exciting, not intimidating.

These fun outdoor learning days are designed to help children starting Year 7 build confidence, make new friends and get familiar with their new classmates at their new school before term begins.

STEP UP TO SECONDARY WITH SOLD

We're excited to be partnering with Surrey Outdoor Learning & Development to offer a fun-filled outdoor transition day for our new Year 7 students. During our "Step Up to Secondary" Transition Day, students will enjoy team-building challenges, archery, wall climbing and orienteering – a great way to build confidence, make new friends and feel ready for secondary school.

When: Wednesday 19th August, 2026
Time: 9:30am – 3:30pm
Where: Broadwater School (hosted by SOLD)
Cost: £45 per student
Questions: Contact sbusby@broadwater.surrey.sch.uk
Scan the QR code for more information and to register your child to attend.





The Farncombe Initiative WIDENING THE FOOTPATH BETWEEN FARNCOMBE ST. AND MARSHALL RD.



For a long time, local residents have been complaining that this footpath running alongside the railway track is too narrow considering the volume of pedestrian and cycle traffic, as well as baby buggies. Many people take this route to walk down to Godalming, to avoid the busy roads, and often there is not room to pass.

On the railway side the path is bordered by wire fencing sitting atop a grass bank some distance in from the track. This is the Network Rail boundary. It would appear a simple solution to widening the path would be to move the fencing one metre towards the track, but still on the bank. In fact, in 2006 Network Rail agreed that this narrow strip of land could be used "to construct and maintain a path for the public to use as a cycle route and also as a footway." For different reasons this did not happen.

Farncombe Initiative approached Network Rail and Surrey County Council to request the path be widened for this 90 metre long

stretch. Network Rail told Surrey C.C. it was out of the question because of the cost. It appears they believe the bank would need reinforcing even though it had been there for many, many years. They also rejected the argument that there was a strong community interest in improving pedestrian access.

Farncombe Initiative disputed these arguments, based on the professional expertise of one of our members, and persisted in arguing its case. We were successful in gaining the support of Jeremy Hunt and he agreed to attend a site meeting with Network Rail.

This took place on Friday May 8 with Jeremy Hunt and a colleague, four technical specialists from Network Rail and South Western Railway, and two representatives from Farncombe Initiative.

The meeting was very positive with Jeremy Hunt once again voicing his support for this project and Network Rail agreeing to give serious consideration to the footpath widening scheme.

Please view the video Jeremy Hunt posted after the meeting which you can find by visiting his Facebook page.

Of course, there are still many hurdles to cross and formalities to go through, but it is felt that at last progress is being made on this important community project.

John Petty

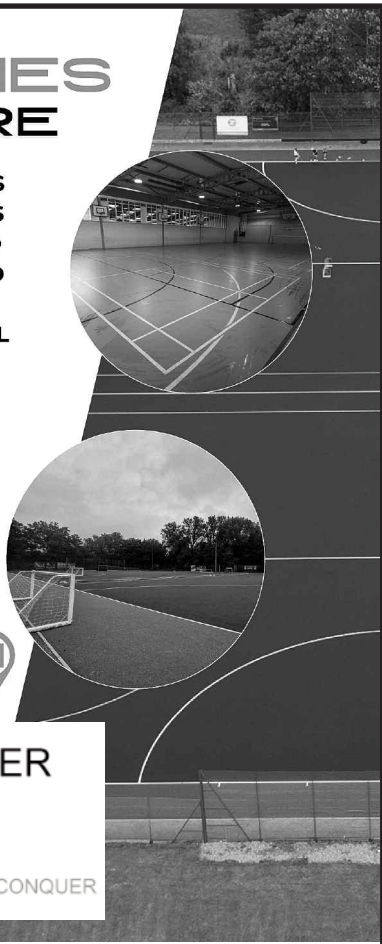
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New Phyllis Tuckwell Shop - Now Open



Phyllis Tuckwell is delighted to announce its new charity shop and donation centre in Pew Corner, Artington, is now open!

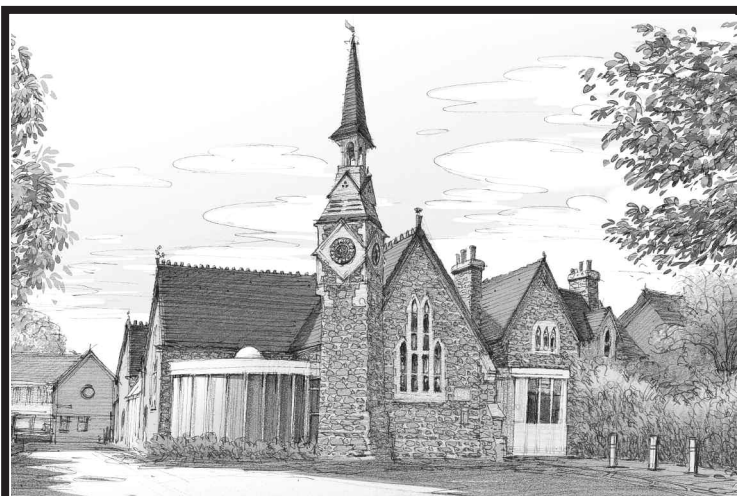
Come on in and browse its rails of high street, retro and vintage clothes, shoes and accessories. Pick up CDs and DVDs for background tunes and movie nights in. Kit out the kids with summer essentials, from clothes and shoes for holiday adventures, to books, games and toys to spark their imagination. With furniture and homeware too, you could give your place a whole new look. Buy sofas, chairs and tables, or change the decor with mirrors, pictures, cushions and throws. It's sustainable shopping that's good for the planet, at low prices that are good for your wallet.

The shop has a large donation centre towards the back, where Phyllis Tuckwell's volunteers are always on hand to help. So if you're having a sort out and find that you have some fantastic, quality, preloved items that you no longer want, they'll be welcome here! Donating and buying preloved gives many amazing items a new home, and those things you no longer need may be just what someone else is looking for. It's a great way to support Phyllis Tuckwell too, as all of the money raised through these sales goes directly towards funding its vital palliative and end of life care. And if you Gift Aid your donations, they'll be worth 25% more, at no extra cost to you.

Pew Corner is Phyllis Tuckwell's 19th shop in West Surrey and North-East Hampshire. Its opening comes shortly before your new Hospice in Farnham opens, which will enable Phyllis Tuckwell to support many more local people who needs its specialist services.

"We're thrilled to have opened our Pew Corner shop," said Barry Young, head of retail at Phyllis Tuckwell. "It's packed with a huge range of fabulous, preloved items donated by our generous supporters, and it's on a large site so there's plenty of parking."

The Pew Corner shop will be open from 9am to 5pm Monday to Saturday. Donations are welcome at any time during these opening hours.



Farncombe Day Centre

KEEPING THE VILLAGE ALIVE & WELL

Monday - Friday for lunches on a BOOKING ONLY BASIS

Please call Annette or Tanya on 01483 426685 to book

We will be following our own careful guidelines

We have now taken over the Community Meal Service (Meals on Wheels)

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AFTERNOON CLUB



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**St John's Church Room
St John's Street, Farncombe
2pm until 4pm**

every 3rd Wednesday in the month

We are open to those of all Faiths and those who have None.

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DATES FOR 2026

June 17th July 15th August 19th Outing Sept 16th

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- Beginners welcome
- Inspire others • Ask for help

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- Learn more about your sewing machine
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In the Church Room from 2pm-4pm the next dates are
3rd June 1st July August No meeting Sept 2nd

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Slimming World News

MEMBERS THROW SLIMMED-OUT-OF CLOTHES FOR CHARITY

Slimming World members in Farncombe have raised £3,275 for Cancer Research UK by donating the clothes they've slimmed out of to the charity's shops.

The Big Slimming World Clothes Throw with Cancer Research UK is an annual event that takes place in Slimming World groups across the UK. It sees members donating clothes, shoes, and accessories that no longer fit – and they're confident they will never need again.

The Farncombe Slimming World group, who meet weekly at St Johns Church, collected 131 bags to help support life-saving research.



Slimming World Consultant Vikki, who runs the Farncombe group, says she is proud of how her members came together to support the charity and to celebrate how far they've come on their own weight loss journeys.

She says: "It's always a pleasure to see the excitement in group when The Big Slimming World Clothes Throw comes around. When you're losing weight, it can be easy to focus on the number on the scales without realising how many non-scale victories are happening in the background, like our changing dress sizes and body shapes.

"This event celebrates those victories as it is all about members donating their old wardrobe while raising money for an important cause. It makes me so happy to see the confidence in my members as they commit to donating their larger clothes knowing they will never need them again, because they've made healthy changes they can maintain for life!"

As well as raising funds for Cancer Research UK, the Big Slimming World Clothes Throw raises awareness of how maintaining a healthy weight reduces the risk of 13 different types of cancer. Overweight and obesity is the second biggest preventable cause of cancer in the UK - causing more than one in 20 cancer cases.

Vikki says: "Being overweight doesn't necessarily mean that a person will develop cancer, but we know that losing weight and maintaining a healthy weight can help prevent a number of health conditions, including some types of cancer. I'm proud to host The Big Slimming World Clothes Throw at my Slimming World group to help Cancer Research UK continue its vital work."

Over the years, Slimming World has raised more than £30 million for Cancer Research UK through a variety of campaigns including The Big Slimming World Clothes Throw and supporting the charity's Race for Life event series.

Last year, Slimming World members, Consultants and head office staff raised £3.1m for Cancer Research UK through The Big Slimming World Clothes Throw and are aiming to make this year even bigger and better.

The Farncombe Slimming World group is held at St Johns Church in Farncombe every Tuesday. For more information or to join Vikki's group either pop along or call her on 07810868360.

SUMMER FAYRE

on June 28th

**at 109, Kings Road, Farncombe,
10.30 until 4pm.**

**Stalls include: • Grand Raffle • Tombola
• Bric a Brac • Hanging Flower Baskets • Books.**

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the day.**

BROADWATER PARKRUN

Did you know there is a friendly, free and fun 5k community event every Saturday morning at Broadwater park? Join us to run, walk or jog – or become part of our fantastic volunteer team!

Parkrun is a series of volunteer run, weekly, 5km timed runs around the world. In the UK they take place at 9am. Parkrun is open to everyone and it is safe and easy to take part. People of every ability are supported. Our Broadwater regulars range from babies in buggies to octogenarians; some complete the 5k in well under 20 mins, and some over an hour. All are welcome!



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This Month's Mystery Photo is?



The answer is on page 19

SUMMER GARDENING

With daylight getting longer and the temperature creeping up plants are generally starting to grow well. As we go around there are some lovely flowering shrubs to enjoy too. Warmer weather is also a great encouragement to get outside and do some jobs.

It is time to plant maincrop potatoes, peas and French beans and if you have space, try planting small amounts of each crop at regular intervals as this should give a succession of crops as each stage matures. Fruit bushes and trees will need to be checked for any disease or infestation and if your gooseberries are doing well, try picking a few of the larger young fruits at regular intervals to give the other fruits more space. Make sure raspberries do not start growing randomly, thus taking the strength from the fruiting canes. We are well into the mowing season now but keep a check on the weather, particularly if extra heat is forecast. **Enjoy your garden John**



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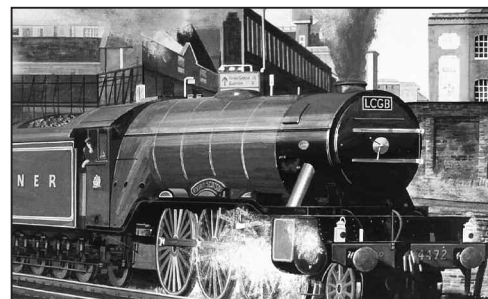
NEWS FROM THE TRACKS

On Saturday 13th June 2026, there will be another "steam-hauled" train passing through Farncombe in the "down" direction whilst, on this occasion, en route to Portsmouth Harbour.

This is a day trip organised by "Railway Touring Company" based in King's Lynn, Norfolk and runs from London Victoria to Portsmouth Harbour as "The Portsmouth Flyer". There is no mention at this stage of the steam locomotive which is likely to work this special service but the provisional timings suggest we should see it through Farncombe in the region of 10.15am. to 10.30am.'ish.

There will only be this one opportunity to witness the train at Farncombe on that day, as the return journey is routed back to London via Winchester and Basingstoke.

Robert Hills



QUIZ TIME

1. Which Gilbert and Sullivan operetta is set in Cornwall?
2. What is the name of the village at the southern end of the Pennine Way?
3. Which hand tool is used to smooth and level a piece of wood?
4. How many piano concertos did Mozart write?
5. Which prime minister started the British police force?
6. Which ingredient makes bread dough rise?
7. Which Shakespeare play features the Montacutes and the Capulets?
8. What is the name of the watery part of sour milk?
9. What is the capital of the Balearic Islands?
10. Charlie Brown featured in which cartoon strip?

Answers on page 19



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Tying the Choral Knot!
Godalming Choral Society Summer Concert 2026

Come to the wedding! Wherever we are in our own lives we all enjoy going to a summer wedding – the flowers, the happiness and of course the music.

Led by amazing conductor George de Voil, Godalming's own choir is celebrating the wonderful range and variety of wedding music: something old, something new, something borrowed and something blue! Older music includes Mozart's famous Exultate, the eternal Bach Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring, and Coleridge Taylor's evocation of a different culture, Hiawatha's Wedding Feast. 'New' music includes a choir version of Elvis Presley's hit song I can't help falling in love with you. Then we borrow St John's well restored Bishop organ for Widor's rousing Toccata, usually played as the new couple leave the church; you will be blasted down the aisle! 'Blues' are represented Cole Porter's Let's Do It! Something for everyone in this programme!

This feast will be held in a church in which many weddings have been celebrated, St. John's Farncombe, on Saturday 27th June at 7.30. Come and enjoy! Interval bar – take your drink into the garden

Tickets, £20 but free for under 18s, are available from Record Corner, Pound Lane, Godalming, from www.godalmingchoral.org.uk or at the door.



The Villager is printed by Leatherhead Print & Mail Centre, a social enterprise operated by Royal British Veterans Enterprise, who support veterans & disability nationwide. RBVE is proud to be working with St Johns.

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The Mystery Photo is Lower Manor Road

**THE AUTUMN EDITION 2026 OF THE VILLAGER WILL BE PUBLISHED ON THE 29th AUGUST
COPY DEADLINE 18th AUGUST 2026**

For articles and editorial please email: davidholtstudios@btconnect.com

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

- Answers 1. Pirates of Penzanze 2. Edale 3. Plane 4. 27 5. Robert Peel 6. Yeast
7. Romeo and Juliet 8. Whey 9. Palma 10. Peanuts

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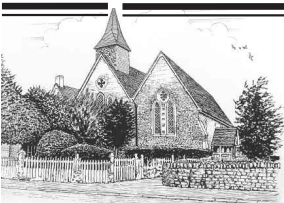
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