

OHN'S PARISH CHURCH







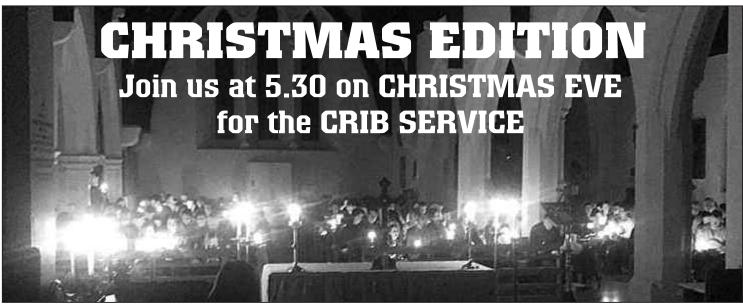












The switching on of the Farncombe Christmas Lights is at 5pm on Friday 6th December in the Day Centre car park - The fun starts at 4.30

Sat 7th December 10-2.30 in the Station Car park



SPENDING CHRISTMAS ALONE? CHURCHES TOGETHER CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH Wednesday 25th Dec 12 noon

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From the Rectory



There is a feature of the Christmas liturgy we use at St John's that has always excited me since I discovered it and adopted it. It's called the Christmas Declaration, and comes right at the start of the Midnight Mass. It fixes the birth of Jesus in time, beginning 'Unknown ages from the time when God created the heavens and the earth' and ending 'in the forty-second year of the reign of the Emperor Octavian Augustus'. It makes the Incarnation of the Christ the pivot around which the whole of history turns, and I suppose one of the reasons it strikes me is my interest in history. And then, just as the Declaration turns to the climactic event, it states 'the whole world being at peace, Jesus Christ, eternal Son of the eternal Father, was born in Bethlehem of Judaea'.

I wonder whether the world really was at peace? The Pax Romana, the Roman Peace as the Empire liked to call it, covered all of Europe, north Africa and the Middle East around the Mediterranean; but there was a lot of world besides that, which even the Emperor in Rome knew nothing about. Were the societies of Africa and the Americas, or the Far East, really all completely peaceful? Even if that was true, I can never say those words without thinking how they contrast with our own time, which no one would ever call one of peace. Even if

there have been moments over the last century when the region covered by the ancient Empire was without war, there were conflicts elsewhere across the globe. Peace has never reigned uninterrupted.

And yet each year our carols and Christmas cards praise, pray for, and wish one another, peace. It doesn't exist in the world at large, so can it exist in us? It's easy enough to say, and far harder to bring about. Conflicts arise, some of which are about real matters of importance but many more are affected by our own unacknowledged fears and desires, and they can't always be smoothed over with goodwill. Sometimes all we can do is try not to make a situation worse, and resist the temptation to add to conflict pointlessly: only this morning I read in the Book of Proverbs 'without wood the fire goes out', which seems obvious enough until you try to enact it in your own life.

'Live in peace in so far as it lies with you', St Paul advises in the Letter to the Romans. It doesn't mean glossing over uncomfortable truths – Paul was the last person to suggest that – but it means always making peace an active choice, a positive desire to govern our relations. A peace-filled Christmas to Farncombe Parish, when it comes.

James, Rector

Sunday Space-Faith and Economics

Our Sunday Space service on November 3rd included a conversation between the Rector and Dr Tim Leunig of the London School of Economics, discussing the ways Christian faith and a society's economic life connect with one another. Tim, who worships at Christ Church, Surbiton, has taught at the London School of Economics for 25 years, was a Special Advisor to the Department of Education, two Chancellors of the Exchequer, and one Prime Minister, and is now a Director of policy and research consultancy Public First, and regularly appears on Radio 4. In an eloquent and thought-provoking session Tim described the lessons we might draw from the Bible's descriptions of the organisation of ancient Israel, Jesus's parables, and the experiences of the early Church, for how we arrange society today. We also talked about economic growth (Tim is strongly in favour of it, for moral reasons) and the ways Christians can best use their resources - not just their time and charitable giving, Tim argues, but, if we are in work, working productively to the best of our ability



and trying to make sure that the organisations we work for, and with, express Christian values.

Jesus talks a lot about money, but Christians rarely do. This was a good opportunity to do so.



Congratulations to Organists

On Sunday September 15th Edward Wilmouth played the organ for us for the final time before heading off to Warwick University, and we made a small presentation to him. Edward has been 'on loan' from Charterhouse School for the last two years and we've benefited not just from his musical skill but also his flexibility and understanding when mistakes are made! The congregation wish him every success in the future, both in his studies and the support he's already agreed to offer to the musical life of several churches in the Warwick area.

We also congratulate our former organist Josef Gazska, who's just been appointed Assistant Organist at Guildford Cathedral.

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SUCCESSFUL SEASON FOR FAR

Farncombe Cricket Club held their annual dinner at the Guildford Rugby Club on the 4th October. This was well attended with 112 members sitting down for a fine meal and enjoying the company of team members and supporters of the club. After the meal, Graham Ekins gave a resume of the 2024 season highlighting many good team performances and personal achievements. Trophies were presented to both men and women players and teams. The men's first team had a very successful season in the I'Anson Cup Competition coming third in the top league behind the Champions Tilford and second place Elstead. The men's second team came 6th in Division 4 and the third team 10th out of 14 teams in Division 7. The men's team reached the final of the Ian Webster Plate.

The women's Ferns team had a wonderful season by winning every league match they played and consequently winning the league for a second year in a row. The women's 2nd team came 4th in Division 2 and only lost two league games.



The big success off the field was the club coming together to raise £20,000 for a building extension, supported by a grant from Godalming Town Council out of the Community Infrastructure Levy. The project has now started and the club is looking forward to its new facilities and even more success in 2025. Damian Wheeler

Having a party? Need somewhere to hold regular meetings

St.John's Church Room is available for hire For more details email: office@farncombe.org.uk





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 - Binscombe Surgery 01483 415115 Community Helpline 0300 200 1008

Farncombe and Binscombe Good Neighbours (for transport to essential appointments) 07531 888398 (phone between 10am and 12noon Monday to Friday) • The Samaritans 0808 1640123

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NEWS FROM FARNCOMBE COMMUNITY GARDEN

What a year we have had in Farncombe Community Garden! We have enjoyed the first full year of being able to plant and grow with accessible paths in place, proper running water and our wonderful

polytunnel fully in action, and the beauty of this ever-changing sanctuary never ceases to excite and inspire. And now the most ambitious part of the dream is to become a reality, as our much hoped for cabin is finally under construction!

We were absolutely delighted to hear that our application for funding from Surrey County Council was awarded in full! This generous award of £114,000 from the Your Fund Surrey

Large Community Projects Fund, in combination with a wonderful legacy we have received from Broadwater Care Home, will allow us to erect a classroom-sized building for year-round use in the garden, which will enormously expand the scope of what we can do on the site. We are very grateful for all the supportive comments submitted to the Your Fund Surrey team which helped them understand the great value our community places on the garden project, and to the council for believing in our vision for Farncombe and helping us to make our dream a reality!

We were very pleased that Shelley Lynch, from Your Fund Surrey, was able to visit the garden to see what an exciting project her team was supporting, and to present a lovely wooden plaque to Helen, our exceptionally hard-working Chair of Trustees, and Karen, our wonderfully gifted garden designer. She was able to witness how the

construction of the cabin is coming on apace and hear how it should be finished before Christmas, complete with fitted kitchen units and an office area. There will also be a lovely, wide veranda to sit on so

that we can enjoy taking time to look out at the beauty of the garden while drinking that all-important cup of tea! And with the flourishing sensory garden just opposite the building there is plenty of beauty to look at, even as the autumnal changes are fully upon us.

We met as a garden team recently to review the purpose of community gardening, which is for every person who visits to feel welcome, cared for and valued as we grow the

community together. It will always be important to come back to this fundamental purpose and to remind ourselves that growing produce and creating a delightful garden are actually secondary to this primary vision. We also talked about the role of both active and passive gardening and agreed that we want to encourage both. While active gardening usually involves getting your hands in the soil or using a pair of secateurs in the act of gardening, there is a place for passive gardening too, where we just take time to sit in this communal space and enjoy it, sometimes on our own in a quieter area of the garden and sometimes in the company of others. So, if you haven't yet visited us, do think about coming along to one of the open sessions, whether you would like to put some gloves on and get digging, have a wander around or just sit for a while. You will always be welcome! *Martin Brunet*





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HARVEST FESTIVAL at St. JOHN'S

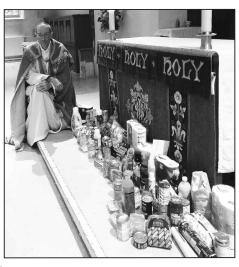
Everybody needs good neighbours according to a popular TV theme tune. Our food bank in Farncombe is lucky to have the parishioners of St John's as our neighbours.

This year's Harvest gifts will make a big difference heading into winter. We often say, as we reach New Year, we'd be struggling without the mainstay of help from churches and schools at Harvest. Thank you to everyone who brought items and for a very generous Sainsbury's voucher left for us. Financial gifts buy fridge & freezer food.

We currently support around 60 households with food, toiletries & cleaning products. Our 'customers' come fortnightly, referred by Citizens Advice, Social Services, schools, GPs and similar agencies. Our highest figure was over 90.

If you know anyone who is struggling and needs help they can be referred by these agencies. Or we can assist with our Community Cupboard outside our front door in the grounds of Farncombe Cricket Club. Each day the shelves have tins, and sometimes bread and fresh produce. This is for anyone and is a means of avoiding waste.

Thank you again to all at St John's Annie Barker Godalming & Villages Community Store



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Farncombe Day Centre KEEPING THE VILLAGE ALIVE & WELL

Monday - Friday for lunches on a BOOKING ONLY BASIS
Please call Annette on 01483 426685 to book
We will be following our own careful covid guidelines
We have now taken over the Community Meal Service
(Meals on Wheels)

Email: info@farncombedaycentre.org.uk www.farncombedaycentre.org.uk

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E DAY CENT

The Day Centre is a registered charity with a board of trustees, all of whom have local connections. We are always keen to hear from people

interested becoming a trustee. At the present we are seeking trustee with experience in HR.

The day centre is in a convenient position for local shops and bus



stops. It is open to anyone who lives in the areas of Farncombe, Binscombe, Godalming, Busbridge, Milford and Witley if you are travelling on our minibus. We welcome people from any area if you are able to make your own way to us. We have no age limit and we love people to stop by and say hello! There is no membership fee.

Farncombe Day Centre is supported by Waverley. It is run by a committed team of staff and volunteers who provide a Happy, Caring and Welcoming atmosphere.

The servery is open from 9.00am where we serve hot and cold drinks to have in or takeaway. There are also homemade cakes and snacks to eat in and takeaway. A two course lunch is available daily for £6.80 but must be booked in advance by telephone or in person before 11am. We also offer our popular bacon rolls, £2.20 each Monday-Friday 9am-11am to eat in and take away.

Services offered

We offer Chiropody Clinics Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday but you need to book by calling the centre 01483 426685.

We also offer Manicures by Beauty Butterflies. Why not treat yourself and again bookings are made through the

centre. We welcome anyone to use these services.

Bathing

We provide a bathing service for those who are unable to bath/shower at home. Our Care Assistants are experienced in bathing people with various disabilities.

Hairdressing Telephone 01483 415396

We have a team of 4 qualified stylists in our salon, which is open every

day. The rates are very reasonable and both men and women will be given a friendly welcome. Our salon is open Monday-Friday.



Minibus

We offer a minibus service to and from the Centre, with a tail lift for wheelchair access. Transport needs to be booked a day in advance, if required.

For more information on any of our services please contact Annette Clarke or Tanya O'Donnell on 01483 426685 or email info@farncombedaycentre.org.uk

Entertainment and Activities

The day centre offers Entertainment and Activities every morning and

afternoon to which all are welcome. Details are on our monthly newsletter and our entertainment programme which are displayed on our website www.farncombedaycentre.org.uk

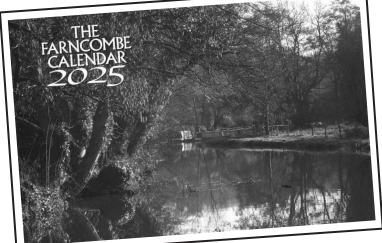
if you would like to start up a group and need somewhere to hold it in the afternoon please let us know, maybe knit & natter, crochet or a book club. We will aim to accommodate.



We also hire out the centre evenings & weekends £16 per hour. Call the centre to book and we do ask for a deposit.



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PROFITS FROM THE SALE OF THIS CALENDAR WILL BE DONATED TO THE QUIET GARDEN AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

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REGULAR SERVICES at ST JOHN'S

SUNDAYS

8am **Holy Eucharist Roman Catholic Mass** 8.45am

10am 1st Sunday in the month, Sunday Space

Other Sundays, Parish Eucharist

1st Sunday in the month, Sung Eucharist 6.30pm

2nd Sunday in the month, Compline over Zoom 7.30pm

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

The 11th March 2023 marked the 50th anniversary of the first Roman Catholic Mass held at St. John's which has been held continuously ever since

PARISH REGISTER

In Memoriam

Shirley Phipps Liz Blanch Joan Hayward

Baptisms

Laurie Turnbull **Brydie Maglio**



SUNDAY SPACE

FOOD FOR THE SOUL

10am on Sunday 5th January Open to God - Open to each other - Open to all



PRAYER FOR FARNCON

A small group of pray-ers gather on the second Thursday of the month at 9 a.m. in the Lady Chapel to pray for Farncombe, its people, organisations, schools and businesses. Our next meeting is on Thursday 14th November, and after that on 12th December and 16th January (exceptionally, a third Thursday). 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.



COFFEE MORNINGS at ST JOHN'S

all are welcome in the Church Room

10am -12noon 23 November 7 December & 4 January



Single Tracks

A safe meeting space for lone parents/guardians

5.30 - 7.15pm St. John's Church every 3rd Thursday of the month

Children welcome and afternoon tea provided

Call 07939 415245 for more information peer support for you and your children

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At this time of year we remember particularly those who have died in wars, and one of the symbols we use is the red poppy, which grew on the battlefields of Flanders in World War One and became a symbol of peace. At Messy Church we made felt poppies to remind us of the tragedy of war. We also thought about our personal need for peace, both in the events of life and also our interactions with other people. We made some very colourful rainbows to remind us of peace after a storm and some beautifully decorated paper doves. We joined together for a short service in church before enjoying tea, remembering not to argue about the cakes!

Our next meeting will be on 11th January, when it will be 2025!













There is a Roman Catholic Mass every Sunday morning and also on Christmas Day at St John's starting at 8.45am all are welcome

Godalming Youth Well-being Open Day



Godalming Youth Service recently celebrated the opening of the Wellbeing Garden within the Broadwater Community Building grounds.

The initial idea of a Wellbeing

Garden for the young people who attend the youth centre began over 18 months ago. Through consultation with the young people and RHS Wisley, the ideas started to emerge. "Dream Big" was a word of encouragement reinforced to the young people.

The ideas were big and possibly only achievable with the unwavering support of the Godalming Rotary Club.

Godalming Rotary Club has financed an enormous amount of the garden renovation, which has enabled the construction of a Wellbeing Cabin offering a quiet, relaxing space. The garden, enclosed by the incredibly rare Crinkle Crankle wall, is planted in neutral tones to offer tranquillity and calm.

The support from local businesses to create another meaningful space for the youth of Godalming has been genuinely inspiring. The amount of time dedicated to the garden renovation has been incredible, with many companies and community members giving their time freely.

Godalming Youth did dream big, and what a wonderful space we now have for all to enjoy.

The well-being garden will be used to teach gardening techniques, growing from seed, sustainability, environmental challenges, and many other future ideas.

The completion of the garden is just the beginning. It is a wonderful example of the well-known adage, "It takes a village to raise a child."

Godalming Youth Service will hold a Christmas Fair at Broadwater Community Centre on 7th December from 2pm to 4pm. All proceeds will be divided between the Youth Centre and the Brain Tumour Charity. The Christmas Fair is for families, and will feature Tombola, Raffles, good-as-new toys, arts/crafts and more, all at affordable prices.

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PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

Taking place in and around Godalming & Farncombe during the festive period

GODALMING

THE NEW CHRISTMAS LIGHT PARADE SUNDAY 24 NOVEMBER 5.00PM

Godalming Town Council is hosting a brand-new Godalming Christmas Light Parade

The Mayor of Godalming will host a dedication service at the Memory Tree, Crown Court at 4.30pm. Bring your tags in memory of your loved ones to hang on the tree.

TAKE PART IN THE PARADE

At 4.45pm, join the Mayor, Santa's Sleigh, the Ice Prince and Princess, the Godalming Band and the Rock Choir. Wear your brightest illuminated Christmas jumpers, bring your lights/torches (no naked flames) and be part of the first ever illuminated Christmas Parade in Godalming. The dazzling Light Parade will make its way along the High Street, where the town's sparkling Christmas lights will be turned on as the parade makes its way down to Church Street. The community is invited to attend a church service at the Minster Church of St Peter & St Paul following the parade.

CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL MARKET SAT 30 NOVEMBER 10.00AM-4.30PM

Meet our special guest character and enjoy the FREE Santa's Grotto (gift included).

Spend the day in one of the prettiest towns in Surrey where you'll find lots of stalls for all your Christmas present ideas in the High Street and Church Street as well as traditional Christmas Food. Buy a handcrafted gift, jewellery or decorations from a local producer and sample yummy foodie treats.

The festival is free to enter so browse around the town and soak up the festive atmosphere. Enjoy delicious artisan street food and drink as you also visit the superb range of independent shops who will be set to welcome you. There will be music and entertainment all day long at The Pepperpot for our Christmas Festival Market which will include a myriad selection of stalls for you to purchase Christmas gifts.

We look forward to welcoming you and your family to Godalming. Enjoy the Day

CHRISTMAS at ST JOHN'S CHURCH

Sunday 1st December 6.30pm

ADVENT SERVICE OF LIGHT

Friday 20th December 7.00pm CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

with mince pies and mulled wine!

Sunday 22nd December 6.30pm A SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS

> Christmas Eve 5.30pm CRIB SERVICE 11.30pm MIDNIGHT MASS

Christmas Day
8.00am EUCHARIST
10.00am FAMILY COMMUNION SERVICE

Conservatoire Concerts

Godalming Baptist Church, Queen Street GU7 1BA



Saturday 30th November, 7.00pm

Lisson Piano Trio Performing Beethoven, Brahms and Dvorak



Saturday 7th December, 7.00pm

Bodman String Quartet Performing Haydn, Debussy, and more

Booking:

www.conservatoireconcerts.org.uk suzanne.cacciottolo@gmail.com Admission Free - Retiring collection towards musicians' fees and expenses



CHURCHES TOGETHER WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

UNITED SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday 19th January 2025 10.30am Godalming United Church

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CHRISTMAS CONCERT

St JOHN'S CHURCH Farncombe GU7 3EJ

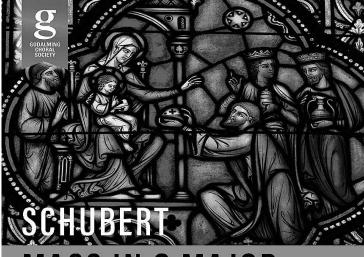
Monday 23rd DecemberDoors open 7.15 for 7.30pm

Tickets £10 plus booking fee (includes mulled wine and mince pie)

Available from Eventbrite







MASS IN G MAJOR

PLUS SELECTED FESTIVE PIECES FROM GERALD FINZI, JONATHAN DOVE AND BOB CHILCOTT

St John's Church, Farncombe, GU7 3EJ Saturday 30 November 2024 at 7:30PM

Musical Director : George de Voil

Tickets £20 (Free for under 18s)

Available from Record Corner, Pound Lane, Godalming (CASH ONLY), www.godalmingchoral.org.uk, tickets@godalmingchoral.org.uk, or at the door

Registered Charity No: 254800

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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!

MILFORD u3a SINGERS

Godalming; Busbridge; Farncombe; Milford; Witley; Chiddingfold; Hambledon; Hydestyle; Thursley; Elstead; Haslemere; Grayshott; Cranleigh; Shalford - even Bookham! They come from all over!! Singing for Fun – and that's just what we do every Tuesday morning in the wonderful Chichester Hall at Witley, (10 am to 12 midday).

We are a happy group of about 80 people, who just love singing (and we have a great deal of fun and laughter on the way). Everyone can sing - it doesn't matter if you can't read music - we learn by doing it and you'll be dragged along with the others.

Join us on Sunday 15th December for our Christmas Cracker at St John's Church Church Road, Milford at 2pm for an hour or so of song and laughter. Why not come along and see for yourself it's FREE? It'll be great to see you!

WINTER GARDENING

This has been a good year for some plants but very variable, mainly due to the mild weather in the springtime and no frost to kill off the bugs, both animal and fungal. This is all part of the joy and interest of gardening and we now look ahead and plan for next year.

Vegetables – we can now sow seeds such as broad beans but remember to keep them protected from frost. Other plants, including most brassicas, can be sown in a sheltered place but remember to



keep a check on them regularly for predatory insects as well as rodents. It is also time for winter digging and putting on compost and manure where the ground has been cleared.

Fruit – This has been a good year for fruit crops generally, apples, pears and gooseberries have done well and even wild blackberries had bumper harvests. The plants also grew at an amazing rate and will need to be pruned back when the leaves have dropped and the weather is suitable. Remember to prune back to an outward-facing bud so that the plant does not get congested with crossing growths.

Lawns - The autumn colours have been beautiful and it is fun to shuffle through the fallen leaves on a dry day but it is useful to rake them up from lawns and put them in the compost bin to rot down ready for use next year. New turfs can be laid when the weather is suitable.

It is helpful to get a regular dose of fresh air and a walk round the garden will help with this and also enable you to keep a lookout for any plants in need of extra support or problems caused by the weather. It is also useful to have a sit down and plan the crops and jobs for next year and also clean and check the tools and have a tidy up ready for a fresh start in 2025.

Happy gardening - John



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Julian Lewry Music

KEEPING MUSIC LIVE A message from Julian....

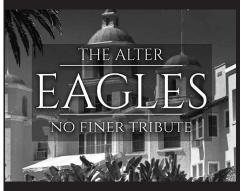
It's great to see so many people out enjoying live music concerts. Whilst ticket prices for superstars reach stratospheric levels, most concerts (including those I am involved with) are still at very affordable prices compared to other forms of live entertainment. Buying tickets well in advance helps too, not only so you can get the best choice of seats, but to help ensure that concerts go ahead as promoters, venues and artists do get nervous if sales are slow. To keep up to date with all my promotions, it is best to Like my Julian Lewry Music page on Facebook or visit my website www.julianlewrymusic.com . Hope to see you soon.

Please keep supporting live music.



In 2024 Simply Us + Them will be performing songs from all the different eras of Pink Floyd. The band will still be performing all the Pink Floyd classics with the addition of songs from the Syd Barrett era as well as moving into songs from the later David Gilmour version of the band after the departure of Roger Waters. This year's tour is called Welcome to Echoes as it takes its inspiration from the globally successful Echoes compilation released in 2001.

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



Friday 13th December @ HASLEMERE HALL

Since The Alter Eagles started in 2004, the five piece have built a reputation as one of the most faithful tributes around, ensuring that the audience enjoys a loving note-for-note recreation of songs like Hotel California, Lyin' Eyes, New Kid in Town, Desperado, Take it Easy and Life in the Fast Lane - as well as 'newer' Eagles' classics like Long Road Out Of Eden and How Long.

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



THE MUSIC OF BILLY JOEL Friday 7th February @ HASLEMERE HALL

This 5-piece band perform Billy Joel's hits and classic album tracks from his breakthrough in the 70's, the huge global chart success of the 80's, through to the 90's by which time Joel's status was firmly established as a true American icon. The set includes Just The Way You Are, My Life, It's Still Rock And Rock To Me, Uptown Girl, Tell Her About It, An Innocent Man, We Didn't Start The Fire, The River of Dreams and, of course, Piano Man.

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

OTHER UPCOMING SHOWS INCLUDE THESE EXCITING ACTS

Saturday 23rd November - G2 Definitive Genesis @ Farnham Maltings
Saturday 15th February '25 - Los Endos (Genesis tribute) @ Dorking Halls
Saturday 22nd February '25 - Simply Dan (Steely Dan tribute) @ Dorking Halls
Friday 28th February '25 - Totally Blondie (Blondie tribute) @ Haslemere Hall
Friday 2nd May '25 - Genesis Visible Touch @ Haslemere Hall

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

To keep up to date with news and info on upcoming shows, please see Facebook page

Julian Lewry Music and website www.julianlewrymusic.com



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Slimming World News

Please allow me to introduce myself

Hi there, my name is Vikki Mangan-Rose and I have recently taken over running the Farncombe Slimming World group. I have been a consultant for over 9 years after successfully losing 6.5 stone. I look back to 10 years ago and I find it hard to believe that was me. I had just had my second child and decided enough is enough. I was the heaviest I'd ever been at just under 17 stone. I googled where my nearest class was and it was actually this Farncombe evening group! So in I popped. I was AMAZED at all the food I could eat, nothing was out of bounds - I could still make delicious meals for the whole family. I had my half stone award in just 2 weeks. I fully embraced the Slimming World way of eating and in just 52 weeks I'd hit my Personal Achievement Target losing 6.5 stone.

I loved the ethos so much that I decided to open my own group. I've been running Cranleigh for over 9 years and I won an award for becoming a Gold Consultant. The award was delivered to me by Alan Carr in front of 1000's of other consultants. Such a highlight of my time with this fantastic company. Other achievements have been helping my members lose weight - whether it's half a stone to get back in your jeans, or my highest weight loss award of 11 stone! That is really lifechanging!

During the month of October my gorgeous members lost over 75 stone. All while building healthy habits around food, drink, exercise and changing their mindset for long term success. If you'd like to join us you'll find us in St Johns Church on Tuesdays at 8:30am, 10am, 5:30pm and 7pm.

I look forward to meeting you! Vikki





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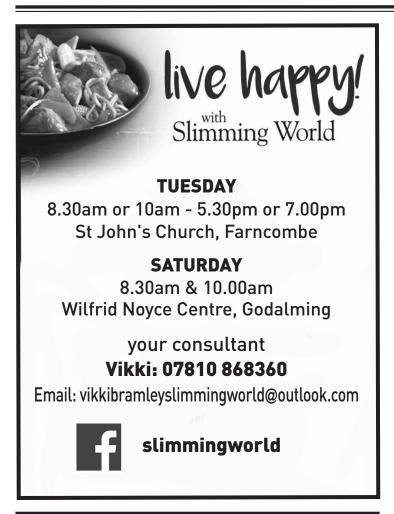
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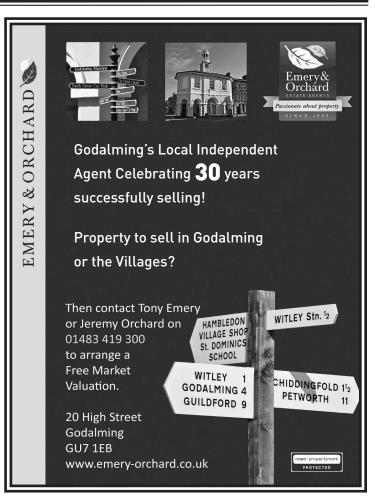




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This Month's Mystery Photo is?

The answer is on page 19

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The Farncombe Initiative

- Four main areas of activity: Advocacy connecting with local councils to seek the best for Farncombe
 - Public Art and Heritage enhancing and celebrating our village
 - Railway Station taking action for its upkeep and improvement
 - · Gardening including tree planting and litter picking



ALL IN BI

Regarding the Station, one of the first achievements was to organise the decorative panels on the downside platform with historic photos of our station and those who worked here.

Following on from this, the Station and Gardening teams came together to work on improving the appearance of the station with planting. This has included the installation of planters on both platforms and the complete renovation of the long border opposite the ticket office. We hope the improvements make waiting for a train more enjoyable and have heard that some people now come to the station for a coffee from the café so they can sit in a sheltered, sunny spot and enjoy the view!

A small team meets once a month, planting and weeding. On a recent Saturday, Chris, Les, Martyn, Paul, and Sue were all busy as can be seen from this photo. Others join in as and when. Willing hands are always welcome. Just contact us on the address below.

The team's efforts have been recognised by awards presented by the Royal Horticultural Society as part of their 'South & South East in Bloom' competition and in our own 'Godalming in Bloom'. The team thanks Godalming Town Council for its support as 'Station Adopters' and the Hills to Harbour Community Rail Partnership which embraces the stations along the line between Guildford and Portsmouth Harbour. Thanks also to South Western Railway who have given us a generous supply of bulbs to brighten up the station next spring. Watch the space!







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





INDEPENDENT FUNERAL DIRECTORS & MEMORIAL MASONS

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BROADWATER GOES TO BORNEO



During the summer, several of our students travelled to central Sabah, a beautiful region in Malaysian Borneo. Our school partnered with Camps International alongside students from other UK schools to experience the colourful marine life and incredible orangutans at the Sepilok Orangutan Rehabilitation Centre. They enjoyed an abundance of biodiversity whilst learning about sustainable conservation and played a vital part in environmental and community projects such as plastering the walls of a multi-faith centre, mixing cement to lay drainage systems, laying steps to Bongkud Hill to support a local community based tourism project and spent time teaching English to the local children. Our students also took on the challenge of learning to scuba dive on a PADI Open Water Scuba Diving Course. A massive well done to the students for all their hard work in supporting the local communities to help MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

BROADWATER SPORTS CENTRE



COMPTON PHONE BOX TAKEOVER

As part of Challenge Week in July, our school took over the Compton Phone Box. Our students researched the history of George and Mary Watts and their work in the community. As a tribute, students were challenged to create their own heroic plaques to showcase and recognise the people that inspire them. We were delighted to be part of such an iconic part of the Compton Village and to share the creativity of our students. With the support of Chris Sharples who oversees the Compton Phone

Box, the display was also relocated to Watt's Gallery for the summer. The project can now be found brightening the entrance the to school. A massive thank you to Chris Sharples, Watts Gallery and the Art and Graphics team at Broadwater and well done to all students that created such an inspiring display.



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You are invited to AFTERNOON TEA

meet old friends, make new ones and enjoy CONVERSATION

St John's Church Room
St John's Street
2pm until 4pm
every 3rd Wednesday in the month

Carers with friends and loved ones especially welcome

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

Do come and enjoy Afternoon Tea, all homemade

A small donation gratefully accepted - but not essential

DATES FOR 2024

20th November and the 11th December is the Christmas Party with Mothers' Union 2pm-4pm

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The Church Room, St John's Farncombe

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All our volunteers have been trained by the audiology departments of Epsom & St Helier Hospital or the Royal Surrey County Hospital and hold training completion certificates

Cotton On Craft Club

New! Handicraft Group at St John's Farncombe

The 2nd Wednesday in the month

- Bring your favourite craft to share
- Learn a new one Beginners welcome
- Inspire others Ask for help
- Make a community project

- Prepare for Christmas
- Learn more about your sewing machine
- Bring your ideas

The next dates in the Church Room are 13th November & 4th December 2pm - 4pm



The Villager is printed by Royal British Legion Industries who support disability and veterans' employment in Surrey The RBLI are proud to be working with St John's For all your print needs call 01372 389940 print@rbli.co.uk

The Mystery Photo is: The former Farncombe Baptist Church (now flats) in St John Street.

THE WINTER EDITION 2025 OF THE VILLAGER WILL BE PUBLISHED ON THE 19th JANUARY

COPY DEADLINE 4th JANUARY

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

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