

# THE PARISH MAGAZINE OF BADSHOT LEA AND HALE



*Serving the communities of Badshot Lea, Folly Hill, Hale, Heath End, Sandy Hill and Weybourne*



**The churches of St George's, St John's and St Mark's**

Issue no.  
288

**July/August  
2025**

Suggested price  
£1.50  
(min price £1)



# MagiKats

TUITION CENTRES

We found the fun  
in English  
and Maths!



★ English ★ Maths ★ Reasoning ★

## MagiKats Farnham & Guildford

Out of school tuition for pre-school to GCSE,  
enabling students to achieve  
their full potential.



[magikats.co.uk](http://magikats.co.uk)

Call: 01483 667795



Learning Without Limits

## Contents

# July/August

Advertisers' index	4
What's on in July/August	6
From the ministry team	8
Call for volunteers	9
The rector arrives	10
A fete-full day	12
It's a Regency dog's life	14
Pugs and Prejudice	15
A new LAM in the flock	16
Prayer page	17
Goodbye and thank you	18
Free family fun with Farnham Maltings	19
The Badshot Leader—four pages about the village	21
Stella's firewalking adventure for dementia	24
Parish registers	24
St John's tower	25
Ladywell Retreat Centre away day	26
Bells Piece summer fete	27
Hive Helpers	28
The Church Cat	30
The Church Dog	31
Who's Who	33



*Page 10*



*Page 23*



*Page 31*

## Magazine subscription and deadline

Subscriptions to the magazine are a minimum of £10 for the year, suggested price £15. Contact 07842 761919 or email [editor@badshotleaandhale.org](mailto:editor@badshotleaandhale.org).

The deadline for the September issue of the magazine is  
**Sunday 17th August**

# Advertisers

*Below is a list of our current advertisers by category and the page numbers you can find them on. Please use their services and don't forget to say that you saw their advert in this magazine.*

## **Care/Supported Living**

Abbeyfield Wey Valley  
Society 40

Alina Homecare 37  
Bourne Wood Manor 35  
Cunningham House 25  
Hamilton George Care 35

## **Chiropody and Podiatry**

Farnham Foot Health  
Practitioner 32  
Jo Penny Foot Health 34  
Visiting Foot Clinic 38

## **Home Improvement, Decorating, Plumbing etc**

Dave Fitchett 39  
DR Alden & Son 38  
Graham Neves 39  
MJP Plumbing and Heating  
38  
Uwatt Electrical 34

## **Music**

Saxooma 39

## **Physiotherapy**

Backtogether 37

## **Portraits**

The Squirrel Collective 5

## **Room Hire**

Hale Community Centre 38

## **Septic Tank Upgrades**

Burrow Environmental 25

## **Tutoring**

MagiKats 2

## **Waste Removal and Recycling**

Cannon 36



# Cartoon Family portraits from the Squirrel Collective



Have your portrait drawn by Jacqui, from the Squirrel Collective, as seen on baptism booklets in the Parish of Badshot Lea and Hale.

Family groups, friendship groups, couples, children and parents... even your pets. I draw from photographs and will work with you to get a drawing you are happy with. I draw by hand and add colour with alcohol-based markers, so your picture will stay vibrant for a long time to come.

You can buy an additional, digital copy of your portrait, so that you can put it onto mugs, T-shirts, bags, etc.

**Prices from £15.**

*To order, or for more details, please see @TheSquirrelCollective on Facebook.*



# What's on in July/August

**Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> July — 19:00 to 21:00**

## **Friday Night Games Night**

Join us for an entertaining talk about Jane Austen, dogs, and life in Regency England. Jenny Colquhoun will be giving a talk, along with her dog, Lilli. There will be Regency-style music at the beginning, and cakes, tea and coffee at the end. Admission is free and donations to the Tower Fund are welcome. Please contact the Parish Office to book, so we can cater for you.

**Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> July — 10:30 to 12:00**

## **Pamela's Licensing**

Pamela will be licensed as a Lay Associate Minister, at Guildford Cathedral. Tickets have been allocated but there will still be room in the cathedral if you would like to come.

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> July, 14<sup>th</sup> July, 21<sup>st</sup> July, 28<sup>th</sup> July, 4<sup>th</sup> August, 11<sup>th</sup> August, 11<sup>th</sup> August, 18<sup>th</sup> August — 09:00-11:00**

## **Clothing Giveaway & Café at St Marks**

Our weekly clothing giveaway and café at St Mark's. There are free clothes for anyone who would like to come and take some.

Café serves tea, coffee, cake and biscuits.

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> July, 14<sup>th</sup> July, 21<sup>st</sup> July, 28<sup>th</sup> July, 18<sup>th</sup> August — 18:00 to 19:00**

## **Parish Choir**

The Parish Choir practises on Monday evenings at St George's. Please speak to Margaret Emberson if you would like more information.

## **Our regular church services are:**

Every Sunday:

9.30am St John's;

10am St George's;

11am St Mark's.

Wednesday: 12pm St Mark's, Midweek Eucharist.

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> July, 22<sup>nd</sup> July —10:00 to 11:30**

### **FREE Craft Café**

FREE Craft Café run by Farnham Maltings at St George's. Come along and learn a new craft or bring your own. It's every fortnight and absolutely free.

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> July, 5<sup>th</sup> August, 19<sup>th</sup> August—10:00 to 11:30**

### **Connections**

A group for the over-50s meeting at St George's every fortnight. Just come along and enjoy a cup of coffee, some cake and various activities.

**Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> July, 16<sup>th</sup> July, 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 30<sup>th</sup> July, 6<sup>th</sup> August, 13<sup>th</sup> August, 20<sup>th</sup> August, 27<sup>th</sup> August — 15:00 to 16:00**

### **Contemplative Prayer**

Our weekly Contemplative Prayer group meets at St Mark's. Please do join us to sit quietly before God. This is followed by tea and chat!

**Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 17<sup>th</sup> July, 7<sup>th</sup> August, 21<sup>st</sup> August —10:00 to 12:00**

### **Coffee and Art at St Mark's**

Join us for art and coffee (and cake) at St Mark's on the first and third Thursday of every month. No artistic skills needed!

**Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 24<sup>th</sup> July, 31<sup>st</sup> July, 7<sup>th</sup> August, 14<sup>th</sup> August, 21<sup>st</sup> August, 28<sup>th</sup> August —14:00 to 15:30**

### **Home Groups**

Join us for Bible reading and discussion, prayer and chat. For more details contact Richard Myers.

**Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> July, 24<sup>th</sup> July, 14<sup>th</sup> August, 28<sup>th</sup> August —10:00 to 12:00**

### **St John's Thursday Café**

Drop-in coffee morning taking place on the second and fourth Thursday of the month in the Sumner Room at 10am. There is tea, coffee, cake and biscuits and a chance to meet and chat with other people.

**Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> July, 11<sup>th</sup> July, 18<sup>th</sup> July— 10:00 to 11:30**

### **Little Bees**

Stay and play toddler group for children from birth to 4 years old. St George's hall. Toys, craft, singing, tea and coffee. FREE entry. All welcome – come and join our friendly group.

**Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> July, 25<sup>th</sup> July —19:00 to 21:00**

### **Friday Night Games Night**

Join us for Friday Night Games at St Mark's. There is a meal, table tennis, games, art and lots of chat!

# Hello from Lexi

It's been a busy few weeks, making the big move from Manchester to Farnham, taking time to settle into the new house and, at last, being installed as the rector of this fantastic parish.

Words can't express how much we as a family have appreciated the welcome we have received from the whole community. I am deeply grateful to everyone who has made the effort to introduce themselves, send a card, and welcome us into the area.

I would also like to say a huge thank-you to those who have kept this parish ticking over whilst it's been in vacancy – you know who you are! I'm sure there are feelings of relief, exhaustion and excitement looking forward from those that have worked so hard in this period. I pray that going forward there is a period of spiritual refreshment, in whatever form it is needed.

We are entering into a new chapter in the life of the parish, which can seem a daunting thing. I'm very conscious that 'change' isn't the most natural word in the vocabulary of the Church and can often be met with apprehension. Before I cause a mass panic within the parish, I do not have any grand plans to dramatically change the



*Rev'd Lexi Russell*

churches. Instead, I would like to walk alongside you all, as we discern together the vision for what God has in store for our parish.

Over the summer I would really like to take the time to get to know our parish and local community. I would love to hear about the things that are important to you. I want to know why you come to church, or why you don't come to church. How can the Church serve you? What do you love about the Church, and what would you like to change?

I know change and uncertainty are an inevitable part of life and can be unsettling, but what I also know is that in those times of change and periods of uncertainty God is right there with us. Leading us, guiding us, and always walking alongside us. I believe God is with us all now, as we open ourselves up to the exciting times we have ahead, filled with the unknown, but also a sense of mystery and adventure.

Maybe now is the time for you to come and get involved? Perhaps you used to come to church a long time ago but stopped because life got in the way.

Or maybe you've never been to church, and you've got along just fine without it. If that's the case, why not come along and give it a go? You have nothing to lose. I don't know what the future holds for us here in the parish of Badshot Lea and Hale, but I do know that you'll be met with open arms. No matter who you are, who you love, or where you come from, you are so welcome to come just as you are and be part of these exciting times we have ahead of us.

See you soon,

**Lexi**

---

## Community

# Call for volunteers

First Weybourne Brownies needs new volunteers to take over the Unit from September 2025. The new team would be trained and DBS checks would be organised. The unit meets once a week, in a local hall, meetings are for 1.5 hours with planning and preparation required ahead of each meeting.

Brownies are girls, aged between seven and 10 years, who work on the Girlguiding programme of activities which is spread across six themes – Be Well, Have Adventures, Know Myself, Take Action, Skills for my Future and Express Myself.

Please sign up to volunteer and give back to your local community. If your daughter is on a local Brownie waiting list it's a sure-fire way to get her to the top of the list by volunteering regularly yourself. Please get in touch with Kirsty who is the local District Commissioner via [hale\\_district@outlook.com](mailto:hale_district@outlook.com), or call 07796178418. We look forward to hearing from you.

# The rector arrives

There's a new rector in town. After 16 months with no-one in post, the parish has welcomed Rev'd Alexa (Lexi) Russell as its new rector.

Rev'd Lexi was installed as Rector at a service at St George's Church on Monday, June 2nd, attended by parish members, visiting clergy, councillors and other community representatives.

Rt Rev'd Paul Davies (Bishop of

Dorking) installed Lexi as Rector, while other parts of the ceremony were conducted by Rev'd Robert Jenkins, Assistant Archdeacon of Surrey, and Rev'd Tara Hellings, Assistant Area Dean.

Lexi was Assistant Curate in the Wythenshawe Team in Manchester Diocese. She is in a civil partnership with Johanna, a doctor, and they have a nine-month-old son Leo.

Lexi said: "What a welcome we have had. I am incredibly grateful to all those who took the time to welcome us into the parish. The lead up to this moment has been immense not just for the parish but also for me, and I'm incredibly excited to see what God has planned for us all."

The installation service had its origins far back in the history of the Church of England and involved giving Lexi the 'cure of souls' – the spiritual responsibility for the parish – and the 'temporalities' of the parish, that is, the physical buildings and their contents. Lexi was also led round the church in a sym-



*Lexi and Johanna*





*Pictured above from left: Churchwarden Pamela Marsham, Rev'd Robert Jenkins, Rev'd Alexa Russell, Rt Rev'd Paul Davies, churchwarden Kris Lawrence*

bolic series of acts which included having her hand placed on the door and receiving the keys, then tolling a bell; being seated in a chair (the 'stall of the priest'); pouring water into the font; receiving a large Bible; and placing bread and wine on the altar.

The service was followed by a party with a celebration cake.

*Lexi can be contacted on  
07792233477 or  
[rev.lexi@badshotleaandhale.org](mailto:rev.lexi@badshotleaandhale.org)*



*Lexi cuts the cake*

# A fete-full day

*This year's community fete took place on Saturday, June 7th. Kris Lawrence reports.*

The weather really did not look promising for this year's fete so reluctantly we took the decision to move the majority of the event indoors.

This actually turned out to be a great idea – everyone commented



*Brodie Mauluka singing at the fete*



*Flopsy Croggon contemplates the prize for being awarded 'Best in Show' in the Badshot Lea Pet Show.*

on what a lovely atmosphere this created. The set-up and take-down was also so much easier with most of the preparation being done on the Friday evening. So, we will definitely look to putting the majority of the fete indoors next year.

Even the maypole dancing worked well in doors with all of the ribbons being taken up. It was great to see Lexi being initiated into the dance!

New for this year was the Pet Show. Not a great fundraiser, and a couple of entries dropped out because of the bad weather, but I do believe it attracted more people to the fete as they wanted to look at the animals. Many thanks to Farnham Veterinary Hospital for their support.

And we had lots of support from others: Michael, Farnham's town crier; George, Farnham's recently elected mayor; Brodie, who entertained us with his lovely singing and guitar playing; Chris, Matt and other councillors who got involved and assisted where they could; Sarah and her Scouts; Sean with his assis-

tant from the Sea Cadets. I apologise as I'm sure I've missed some-one.

And of course it's the generosity of church members in so many ways that made the fete such a success this year. I believe we raised a record amount for our parish funds. So, a massive 'thank you' goes out to everyone, not forgetting all those who kindly donated prizes to support our grand raffle. We haven't fixed the date for next year's fete yet, but please do come along and have more summer fun in 2026.

**Kris Lawrence**  
**Churchwarden**



*Maypole dancing in the church*



# It's a Regency dog's life

Join us at St John's Church on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July at 7pm as we celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Jane Austen's birth, with *Pugs and Prejudice*, an entertaining talk about Austen's life as well as the dogs and costumes of the Regency period. Admission is free.

The talk will be given by Jenny Colquhoun, a local Jane Austen expert and enthusiast. She will be assisted by her

Maltese dog, Lilli (pictured above). The pair will be dressed in matching Regency outfits and there will be a selection of bonnets, top hats, waistcoats and cravats for you to try on, too.

To accompany the event, Margaret Emberson and Lesley and Bob Shatwell will play Regency music, and there will be refreshments, including homemade cakes. You will also have a chance to win some Maltesers from Lilli.

You may have visited Jane Austen's home in Chawton, but did you know that her family also had a Farnham connection? Jane's brother, Henry, be-



*Jenny and Lilli*

came a curate in Farnham in 1819. This raises the question, did Jane ever visit her brother in Farnham? Henry has often been described as her favourite brother, so it seems hard to believe that she never travelled here. There is nothing in her letters to suggest that she did but, since some of her letters were burned by her sister, it is fun to imagine

that perhaps Jane was familiar with our town too.

Join us on Friday, July 4<sup>th</sup>, at 7pm, at St John's, Hale, for an entertaining evening of doggy tales and tails, bonnets and bows. Although admission is free, there will be the opportunity to make a donation towards restoring St John's tower. Please let us know if you are coming as we need to know how many to cater for and Lilli wants to know how many packs of Maltesers to pop into her Regency reticule. Email [admin@badshotleaandhale.org](mailto:admin@badshotleaandhale.org) or call 07842761919.



# Pugs and Prejudice

An evening with  
Jenny Colquhoun  
and Lilli

Fri, July 4<sup>th</sup>, 7pm  
St John's Church, Hale

Jane Austen, pampered pooches  
in Regency England,  
gorgeous gowns, beautiful bonnets

**Free. Donations to the St John's Tower Fund**

To book: [admin@badshotleaandhale.org](mailto:admin@badshotleaandhale.org) 07842761919



# A new LAM in the flock

*Pamela is licensed as a Lay Associate Minister*

Pamela Marsham (pictured) church-warden at St John's, will be licensed as a Lay Associate Minister at Guildford Cathedral on Saturday, July 5th, at 10.30am.

As a Lay Associate Minister, Pamela will continue to work alongside Lexi and the rest of the ministry team. Her course has focused on preaching, teaching and discipleship and she has also done the diocese's Worship Leaders Course.

"That for me is the most important as my focus is on leading worship. and Lexi is keen for me to continue to do that," says Pamela. "I have been lucky really, in that I have been able to gain experience in this while training."

During the course, Pamela particularly valued meeting others who were on the same path as she was. She adds: "We were all on a journey and it was exciting as we didn't really know what it would actually lead us to do. I think there are some in the group who will continue the journey and probably go on to train to either be LLMs or even become ordained. Those roles are definitely not what I will do as obviously age is against me but I can lead worship and that is a great privilege. I hope,



too, that I am showing that age is not a barrier to serving God."

"I am also reading more theology and am constantly learning more about what the Scriptures teach us."

Tickets to the licensing have been allocated but if you would still like to attend you can do so and can have unreserved seating which will be towards the back of the cathedral.

*Pamela's training was part of the Foundations in Ministry (FiM) programme run by the diocese. It seeks to equip lay people to become involved in ministry. Anyone interested in exploring can find out more at [www.cofeguildford.org.uk/formation-and-training/#fim](http://www.cofeguildford.org.uk/formation-and-training/#fim)*



## Prayer page



May all I say and all I think be in harmony with thee

God within me

God beyond me

maker of the trees

Amen

Chinook prayer,

Photo: Tree in the Cevennes LS)

# Goodbye and thank you

## A message from Dave Walter

Goodbye and thank you. Well, 'goodbye' is a bit strong because I am not going anywhere, but the role of PCC Lay Vice-chair is a strange one in that it is centre stage during a vacancy but during 'normal times' it is basically non-existent. So, now Lexi has taken up her post as rector, I have returned to being just an ordinary parishioner. Please don't feel sorry for me; it is where I would rather be. I also suspect that Lexi has one or two jobs that she would like me to be doing, so I may not escape completely!

It has been an honour and privilege to serve the parish during the vacancy, but I could not have done it without the support of the parish. Whether it be the work of the inner team (Rev'd Stella, Kris, Pamela and Richard), managing things on a day-to-day basis, or the contributions of so many when we had parish events, or those who regularly, and quietly, just 'did their bit', the parish showed its many strengths. There is no doubt that we would have liked to have done more and to have done several things better than we did, but we have received many compliments from across the diocese as to how we coped so well across such a long vacancy.

I would like to repeat my thanks to all who contributed to the parish successfully negotiating the vacancy and look forward to everyone giving Lexi the support that she needs.

**Dave**  
**PCC Lay-Vice Chair**

# Free family fun in the parish with Farnham Maltings

For the third year running, Farnham Maltings is bringing a programme of free family events to the parish from the end of July for four weeks. On Monday afternoons there will be events at St Mark's and on Wednesday mornings there will be events at St George's, culminating in a circus show on Wednesday, 20th August.

It is possible to turn up on the day, or you can book via the links below once they become live from July 7th.

## St Mark's

Mon, 28<sup>th</sup> July, 2-3pm – Sound and

Sketch Music Workshop

[www.eventbrite.co.uk/  
e/1446539481529?aff=oddtcreator](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1446539481529?aff=oddtcreator)

Mon, 4<sup>th</sup> August, 2-3pm – Colourful

Collage Craft Workshop

[www.eventbrite.co.uk/  
e/1446682288669?aff=oddtcreator](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1446682288669?aff=oddtcreator)

Mon, 11<sup>th</sup> August, 2-3pm – Puppetry  
Workshop

[www.eventbrite.co.uk/  
e/1451955490959?aff=oddtcreator](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1451955490959?aff=oddtcreator)

Mon, 18<sup>th</sup> August, 2-3pm – Circus Skills  
Workshops

[www.eventbrite.co.uk/  
e/1446895907609?aff=oddtcreator](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1446895907609?aff=oddtcreator)

farnham  
maltings

## St George's

Wed, 30<sup>th</sup> July, 10-11am – Sound and

Sketch Music Workshop

[www.eventbrite.co.uk/  
e/1446565158329?aff=oddtcreator](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1446565158329?aff=oddtcreator)

Wed, 6<sup>th</sup> August, 10-11am – Beaded

Charm Necklace Workshop

[www.eventbrite.co.uk/  
e/1431595313119?aff=oddtcreator](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1431595313119?aff=oddtcreator)

Wed, 13<sup>th</sup> August, 10-11am – Puppetry  
Workshop

[www.eventbrite.co.uk/  
e/1451969733559?aff=oddtcreator](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1451969733559?aff=oddtcreator)

Wed, 20<sup>th</sup> August, 10-11am – Patch's  
Circus Show

[www.eventbrite.co.uk/  
e/1446904693889?aff=oddtcreator](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1446904693889?aff=oddtcreator)

# **The Badshot Leader**

## **July/August 2025**

### **Village Hall**

The Kiln in St George's Road is still a vibrant part of the community and has survived the double whammy of covid and the energy crisis. We have been very fortunate that we have not incurred any major expense on maintenance over recent years. This is always a potential problem for a building that is now 139 years old.

We continue to increase the use of the building with a new model car club that meets twice a month, occasional events by Surrey Wildlife Trust and craft fairs by Swancraft Designs. All the regular activities and contact details can be found on the BLCA website.

### **Parking**

A number of residents have complained recently of the increasing problem of people parking on double yellow lines. This is particularly bad along sections of Badshot Lea Road by the entrance to the Preymead industrial estate. Please park sensibly and safely and be mindful of other road users.

### **New Bus Timetable**

At last, a bus timetable review that has resulted in a more frequent service. We have been agitating for a better bus service for Badshot Lea for a number of years now, particularly as the village has grown considerably recently. The answer was always the same: the number 16 is subsidised by SCC and there is no funding available to improve the service.

So, against expectations, the new timetable introduced on 8<sup>th</sup> June provides two early buses and then an hourly service to Farnham from 09.35 until 13.35, with a less frequent service mid-afternoon, and then hourly from 16.45 to 18.45. The last bus back to Badshot Lea from Farnham is now an hour later at 19.45 from The Borough.

The service to Aldershot follows a similar pattern, two early buses and then hourly from 09.45, but please check with Stagecoach for full details of the new timetable.

### **Planning Issues**

The Farnham Neighbourhood Plan is now out of date, along with the Waverley Local Plan. The policies contained in both documents still apply but will carry less weight, particularly as the Waverley Five-Year Housing Land Supply figure is now down to less than two years because of the massive increase in the government's housing target.

There are planning reforms proposed by the government, including reducing the opportunity for local planning committees to comment on minor applications, ie. up to 10 homes

or sites up to 0.5 hectares. These can be some of the most contentious and will be decided by Waverley planning officers.

The details of Local Government Re-organisation for Surrey are still undecided but need to be agreed by September. The huge problem of debt associated with some of the boroughs which Waverley will be tied to under the new authority still hangs over the whole process. It runs into billions of pounds and the government is showing no signs of any willingness to write them off.

**Cliff Watts**

## Morris Dancing at The Crown

The Crown Pub in Badshot Lea has traditionally welcomed Morris sides. These dancers, with their musicians, keep this long-established English custom of folk dancing alive. During the winter the sides practise, then, generally from May 1<sup>st</sup> onwards, they can be seen dancing and entertaining at various locations outside at pubs, fetes, festivals and other special events.

There are varying forms of Morris dancing, each originating in different regions of the country. Those who were fortunate to see this season's dancing at The Crown were able to witness these various dancing traditions. This year has been very special as there have been three evenings of colourful, lively dancing outside the pub, demonstrating these traditions and contributing to an enjoyable evening for those watching.

On Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> May, Fleur-De-Lys Morris, along with Fleet Ladies Morris, assembled at 8pm and danced for an hour or so to the pleasure of the spectators. This was followed, on Friday, 30<sup>th</sup> May, by an evening of great performance by three sides, who all



*Above: a dance from the Welsh Borders;  
below left: a stave dance from Dorset.*



danced different styles. Jack Straws Morris, our local side, who practise in Upper Hale, chiefly dance from the Morris tradition that was original found in the villages of the Cotswolds. They were joined by Alton Morris, who dance Border-style wearing rag jackets, they were accompanied by a large group of musicians. The third side that evening was Hook Eagles, who also wear colourful rag jackets, with hats decorated with feathers. It was a great evening.

*Cont. on page 22.*



## The Badshot Leader

*Cont. from page 21*

On the third occasion that there was dancing in the road outside The Crown there was a large crowd as the usual 'groupies' were joined by members of the Badshot Lea Ladies Group, who were enjoying an outside visit in place of their usual fortnightly meetings in St George's hall. The crowd was entertained by Jack Straws Morris and their guests Customs and Exiles from Wokingham, who wear clogs and are a mixed side. They dance in the energetic North-West style which involves traditional processional dances which originate from the mill towns of West Yorkshire.

Thanks are due to Jayne Cole, landlady of the pub, for her hospitality, and all the dancers for their fine entertainment which is keeping our heritage and folk traditions alive.

**Judy Hewins**

### Cometh the hour, cometh the man

As the parish welcomes a new rector, it is interesting to see the tasks set for previous incumbents. In 1899, Badshot Lea was part of Tongham Parish, having previously been joined to Hale. The Rev'd Topham was appointed as the first curate, with the ambition to build a new church to replace the former National School in St George's Road. This had become available in 1895 as a Church Mission Room when the Council School opened.

Soon after St George's Church was consecrated on 24th October, 1903, Rev'd Topham was succeeded by Rev'd Tristram, who initiated the first parish magazine in October 1904.

However, Rev'd Durrant, previously from St Paul's, Brentford, who succeeded Rev'd Tristram in 1913, was dealt arguably the most difficult hand of all Badshot Lea's priests. At that time, there was an urgent need of a new vicarage, and at first Durrant and his family lived in the rambling medieval Badshot House (now demolished, on the site of Beechtree Drive). By summer 1914 things were going well and the church held an ambitious two-day 'Dutch Village' fete to raise money for the project. It was attended by Princess Alice.

Then, on 4<sup>th</sup> August, war was declared with Rev'd Durrant in the firing line. A few days before, he had taken the Mothers' Union on a trip to Portsmouth, a month later he was chairing a committee on war relief, a meeting on recruiting and another at which the village brass band was dissolved. Most of the younger members had enlisted.

In spite of this, work started on the new parsonage at the end of September, supported by villagers 'buying a brick' for the project. The Durrant family were able to move in at the end of March 1915.



*Demolition of the parsonage, 1998*





*Rev'd Durrant's daughter,  
Veronica (centre) 1917*

When recruitment was flagging at the end of the year, Lord Derby introduced a 'voluntary' scheme to get men to sign up to be called in groups, when required. Durrant, as a member of the Farnham Committee, personally canvassed 100 Badshot Lea men, with some success, but inevitably conscription came in on 27<sup>th</sup> January, 1916.

Meanwhile, money was still owing on the parsonage project and Revd Durrant was heavily involved in a 'Fancy Fair' in Manor Park, which, despite heavy rain, raised £154 out of £400 outstanding.

All the time Durrant carried out his routine parish duties. He always seemed to catch flu, and in January 1917 he was unable to present school prizes and, as so often happened, his wife stood in. In February he was dealing with applications for allotments, and in March he dedicated the memorial to William Garrett, who drowned when HMS Hampshire was sunk. Also, in March he started voluntary war service, teaching part-time at the Grammar School, where he took charge of Form V boys, growing vegetables for local hospitals. On 25th June, 1917 another fete in Manor Park finally cleared the debt on the parsonage account, with £63 to spare! The optimistic clergyman was now talking about a new church hall and parish status.

As food shortages increased, caused by German submarines sinking supply ships, rationing came into force in September 1917. The Parsonage became the collection point for ration cards. It was vital nobody was forgotten. It is not surprising that the overworked clergyman was off sick for some time early in 1919 with a chill following over-strain and flu.

In January 1921, the Durrant family left Badshot Lea, to be succeeded by Rev'd Hugh Metcalf. For some reason it happened with little time for goodbyes, probably to sort out a problem at Revd Durrant's new parish at St Cuthbert's, Copnor, Portsmouth.

**Maurice Hewins**

## **The Community Garden**

June has been a busy month. On Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> June, I was privileged to attend the Installation of our new priest, Rev'd Alexa Russell. On Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup>, the Community Garden was visited by the new outside manager for Farnham Town Council, Lucy Dorkins, who will be working closely with us during Farnham in Bloom. I was also invited to the opening night of Creative Response's Summer Exhibition. They have started visiting the garden. The plant stall at the church community fete on 7<sup>th</sup> June followed a similar successful event at the school.

**John Martin**



*Stall at the church fete*

## Charity

# Stella's firewalking adventure for dementia

Stella Wiseman (curate, administrator, editor etc) has taken on a new challenge. It happened slightly by mistake, as many things do with her, in that she expressed enthusiasm for an event and then found herself signing up.

This latest escapade is firewalking. To be fair to her it is for charity so there will be a good outcome—apart from hot feet. She is joining the team from Right at Home, a care agency packed full of dementia specialists, to take part in a firewalk on July 19.

The team is raising money for Dementia Adventure, a charity which helps those living with dementia to keep active and keep connected to family and friends through supported holidays, free dementia training for family and friends, and training for professionals and organisations.

Stella says: “My parents, Tony and Diana, both lived with dementia in the last years of their lives and, though their memories were going, there was still much they could enjoy in the moment. Dementia Adventure can help others keep enjoying life as well as providing training and doing research. But, of course, they need money for this, so I'd be grateful for any sponsorship.”

To sponsor Stella visit:  
[www.justgiving.com/page/stella-wiseman-1](http://www.justgiving.com/page/stella-wiseman-1)



## From the parish registers

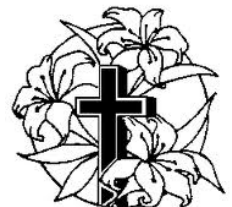
### Funerals

We commend to God those whose funerals have recently taken place:

*30th May at St John's Church and Churchyard*  
*Dorothy Jean Pharo*

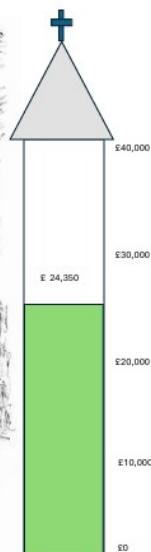
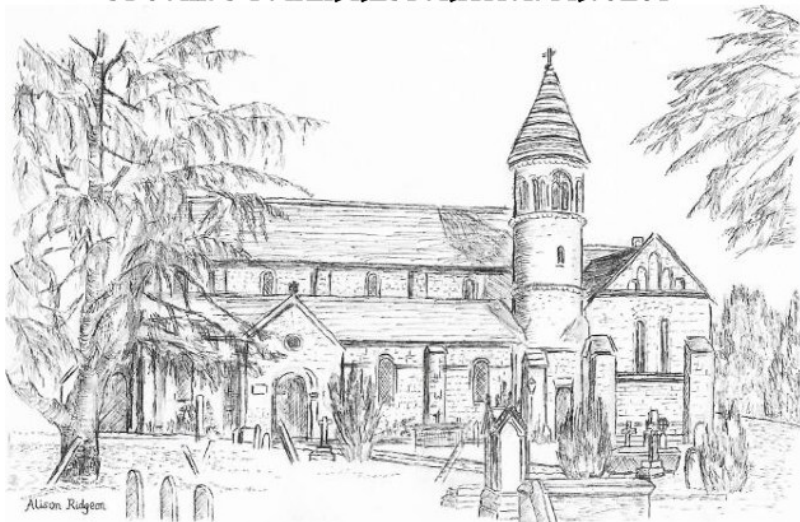
*12th June at St John's Church and Churchyard*  
*Carolyn Wendy Weston*

*16th June at St Mark's Church*  
*Alan Gale*



## St John's tower

### ST JOHN'S TOWER RESTORATION PROJECT



LAST UPDATED:

25<sup>th</sup> MAY 2025

## Cunningham House Pirbright

Supported housing for  
older people who:

- value their independence
- love good food
- enjoy being sociable



Tel: **01483 488751**

Website:

[www.cunninghamhouse.co.uk](http://www.cunninghamhouse.co.uk)

Email:

[cunninghamhousepirbright@gmail.com](mailto:cunninghamhousepirbright@gmail.com)

Cunningham House is the operating name of Abbeyfield Pirbright and District Society Limited, a registered society under the Co-Operative and Community Benefits Societies Act 2014, registration number 22478R

Abbeyfield Pirbright & District Society



## BURROW



**Septic Tank Owners  
register your interest  
in a fully-funded upgrade**

Due to the Phosphate pollution in your local river catchment we are operating a septic tank replacement scheme using private funding.

We install wastewater treatment plants that remove almost all pollutants, with funding secured from planning applicants who need to create a positive impact on the environment.

**Register on our website today.**



[burrow-environmental.com](http://burrow-environmental.com) **01935 507 508**

**LADYWELL RETREAT CENTRE AWAY DAY**  
**OASIS IN THE DESERT**



*An ecumenical day of refreshment, encouragement  
and food for thought for women of all ages,  
in the peace and beautiful surroundings  
of Ladywell Retreat Centre, Godalming*

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

**10 am - 4 pm**

***Led by Linda Chamberlain***

**Who would wish to live in a desert?**

**Such an extreme environment - vast, dangerous, lonely and barren.**

**Is there any beauty or benefit to be found in such a harsh place?**

**Many Christians experience 'spiritual deserts'.**

**Let's explore together some aspects of desert life through worship,  
the Word, testimony and creative activities.**

**Let's discover God's presence and purpose in desert times.**

**To reserve a place (£28) including a cooked lunch & refreshments)**

**by Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> August**

**please contact Sally Pollard email: [pollard3@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:pollard3@hotmail.co.uk), tel: 01483 428646**



# Bells Piece Summer Fete

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2025

12.00-16.00

- BBQ
- Sweet Treats
- Bouncy Castle
- Games
- Raffle
- Arts & Crafts
- Wax Melts
- Children's Toys & Gifts
- Icecream
- Jewellery
- Face Painting
- Crotchet
- Personalised Items

And Much More ...

Free Entry but Donations Welcome

Interested in booking a table please call 01252 715138 or  
email [chloe.reed@leonardcheshire.org](mailto:chloe.reed@leonardcheshire.org)

Location: Bells Piece Hale Road, Farnham, Surrey, GU9 9RL

# On safari!

## *Pollinator Patch with Juliet from Hive Helpers*

### **Bee Safari!**



Last month I wrote about the Farnham Bee Trail, and now we have done our first Bee Safari as part of the Farnham Walking Festival.

A group of nine adults and five children walked (almost) the whole trail, starting at Gostrey Meadow and ending at the Farnham Maltings, led by Hive Helpers directors Erica and Juliet.

The group nearly didn't make it past the first hotspot in Gostrey Meadow, such were the number of bees we saw, including early bumblebees, mason bees and cuckoo bees! Other highlights were tree bumblebees in Farnham Park, green-eyed flower bees in the Residents' Border near Waitrose, and white-tailed bumblebees in the Bishop's Meadow. The extent and variety of bees and other pollinators in the town was simply astonishing.

During the course of the walk, Erica caught several different species

released afterwards). The children on the walk were keen to run ahead and find the next post to do their rubbing!

The trail is a great way to see the



*On the bee safari! (Picture: Myung-Hye Chun)*



parts of our town which attract so many of our wild pollinators. Erica led another Bee Safari on 26th June, and in the summer holidays there will be three more Bee Safaris especially for children and their families, thanks to funding from Farnham Town Council. For further details, please contact Hive Helpers (details at the end of this article).

## Bee of the month – cuckoo bees

Six of the UK's 24 bumblebees are cuckoo bees, so named because, just like the bird, they have a parasitic lifestyle.

The Bumblebee Conservation Trust website tells us that they are not a major threat to our social bumblebees and are important pollinators in their own right. A female cuckoo bee will go into the nest of a social bumblebee, kill the queen, and take it over for herself. A cuckoo bee does not produce any workers, just new females and males. They also don't collect pollen because the original queen's workers collect it for them!

We saw two species of cuckoo bee on our bee safari, the forest cuckoo (*Bombus sylvestris*) which is widespread, and the southern cuckoo (*Bombus vestalis*) which is common in the south. Although cuckoo bees don't

forage for nectar and pollen to provision their nests, they do visit flowers for their own sustenance.

## Pollinator plant of the month – bramble

Not many of us would welcome bramble (*Rubus fruticosus*) into our gardens, but how many of us love to gather blackberries in hedgerows for bramble jelly, summer pudding or as an essential ingredient in pies and crumbles? We wouldn't have this free bounty were it not for the great job done by our pollinators. Moreover, bramble is important habitat for many animals, giving protection for nesting birds and small mammals, as well as fruit for birds like song thrushes and yellowhammers, and providing nectar for bees and butterflies.

For a comprehensive list of plants for pollinators, visit [www.rhs.org.uk/science/conservation-biodiversity/wildlife/plants-for-pollinators](http://www.rhs.org.uk/science/conservation-biodiversity/wildlife/plants-for-pollinators) and download the garden plants list.

We will be taking a break in August, but do hope to see you on one of our Bee Safaris!

For more information about Hive Helpers, please visit [www.hivehelpers.co.uk](http://www.hivehelpers.co.uk), email us on [office@hivehelpers.co.uk](mailto:office@hivehelpers.co.uk) or phone us on 07895 547637.

# Changes are here

I, the wise one, warned of change and it has come. It has come in the form of new beings, canine, human and, well..., I'm not sure. But more of that later.

The Rector has arrived. Apparently she is in charge of the churches. Obviously, she is mistaken as I am in charge of the churches, because I am a cat.

However, I am willing to delegate and allow humans to run around and do all the work so I shall let this mistake pass.

She has brought with her The Church Dog. His name is Bugsy and he has already done me the courtesy of writing me a letter which I have allowed to be published on the next page. Wisely, we have decided to be pen friends rather than venture into the same physical space.

Then there is Hale-Lea. Have you

spotted them on Facebook? The Curate's friend, Jacqui (servant of the other 'Sprout' who is, I'm afraid, a dog) tells me that they are a 'vintage Fisher Price play family figure'. Their pronouns are they/them. Mine are she/her but 'her majesty' will do if you must.

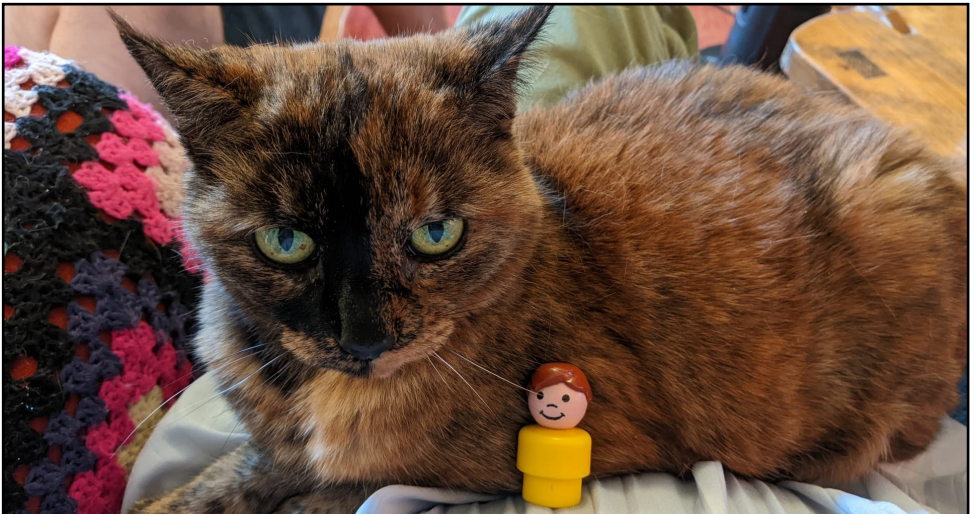
Hale-Lea is not your 'normal' congregation member but what is 'normal'? Everyone is special. Even dogs. Everyone is welcome (yes, again, even dogs).

So, I wish Lexi, her wife Johanna, their son Leo, Bugsy and Hale-Lea much happiness here.

For your, and their, information, I like tuna and fresh salmon. And you don't need to wait for my birthday.

Purrs

**The Church Cat** 



*The Church Cat and Hale-Lea*

# My first column

I've been requested to write a column for the parish newsletter— that's a first! Two weeks into my pack leader's new job and she's outsourcing her jobs to me... I hope the payment is good (I accept payment in dog biscuits, cheese or carrots).

Oh wait - I've just been told that my hopes of a journalism career might be a little high as the only reader of this column is the Church Cat. I didn't realise it was more of pen pal situation!

I'll start again -

Dear Purrs,

My name is Bugsy. I am glad for this socially distanced form of communication as I must admit that, unlike my humans, I'm a little shy when it comes to socialising! I do enjoy a paw-storal role with humans, but other four legged creatures worry me. My past is a bit of a sob story (everyone needs a back story!), but since my new life with the Russells, I am happy as a sermon-writing companion, dog-ters assistant and occasional babysitter.



*Bugsy*

I might be a little rusty as I haven't done any writing since I did my GCSEs (Good Canine Secondary Education). Even then I found the lack of canine representation in Shakespeare really lost my interest so I've become quite skilled at daydreaming out the window.

I'm sure through our communications we can shine a light on the parish goings-on from our unique paw-spectives.

Best wishes from my pack to yours,

**Bugsy**





## **Farnham Foot Health Practitioner**

**Lisa Fitzgerald**

**DipCFHP MPSPract**

Keep your feet happy with regular foot care.

- Nail trimming and filing
- Removal of corns & reduction of callous
- Ingrown toe nail treatment
- Diabetic foot care
- Reduction of thickened toe nails
- Verruca treatment

I am based in Upper Hale, Farnham and have free parking.

Treatments cost £35. £5 off your first treatment when you mention this advert.

To make an appointment please call Lisa on

0781 2662575 or 01252 724460

[www.farnhamfoothealth.com](http://www.farnhamfoothealth.com)

## Who's Who

### Ministry Team

#### Clergy

Rev'd Alexa Russell  
(Rector)

07792233477

[rev.lexi@badshotleaandhale.org](mailto:rev.lexi@badshotleaandhale.org)

Fr. John Evans  
(Retired priest)

01252 710594

[johnjune@btinternet.com](mailto:johnjune@btinternet.com)

Rev'd Stella Wiseman (Curate)

07842 761919

[revd.stella@badshotleaandhale.org](mailto:revd.stella@badshotleaandhale.org)

#### Youth Minister

Vacant

[youth@badshotleaandhale.org](mailto:youth@badshotleaandhale.org)

#### The Church Cat

Sprout  
[slashermcgoogs@gmail.com](mailto:slashermcgoogs@gmail.com)

#### Churchwardens

Kris Lawrence  
[warden.stgeorges@badshotleaandhale.org](mailto:warden.stgeorges@badshotleaandhale.org)

Pamela Marsham  
[warden.stjohns@badshotleaandhale.org](mailto:warden.stjohns@badshotleaandhale.org)

(Vacant)  
[warden.stmarks@badshotleaandhale.org](mailto:warden.stmarks@badshotleaandhale.org)

#### PCC Lay Vice-chair

Dave Walter  
[pcc.layvicechair@badshotleaandhale.org](mailto:pcc.layvicechair@badshotleaandhale.org)

#### PCC Treasurer

Richard Myers  
[Treasurer@badshotleaandhale.org](mailto:Treasurer@badshotleaandhale.org)  
07752 665155

#### Safeguarding Officer

Dave Walter  
[safeguarding@badshotleaandhale.org](mailto:safeguarding@badshotleaandhale.org)

0755 22079

#### PCC Secretary

June Jasper  
[pcc.secretary@badshotleaandhale.org](mailto:pcc.secretary@badshotleaandhale.org)

#### Choir Leader

Margaret Emberson,  
[embersonmargaret@gmail.com](mailto:embersonmargaret@gmail.com)  
01252 409124

#### Administration and Hall Bookings

Stella Wiseman:  
[admin@badshotleaandhale.org](mailto:admin@badshotleaandhale.org)

07842 761919

#### Magazine Editor, Website & Advertising

Stella Wiseman:  
[editor@badshotleaandhale.org](mailto:editor@badshotleaandhale.org)

07842 761919

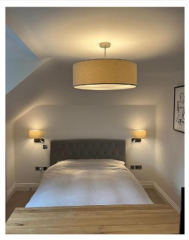


info@uwattelectrical.com

# UWATT

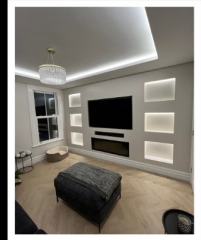
## ELECTRICAL

Expert Electrical Solutions Based In Farnham, Surrey



### OUR SERVICES

- ✓ Fuseboard Replacement
- ✓ Testing and Inspection
- ✓ Garden Lighting
- ✓ Fault Finding
- ✓ Lighting Upgrades
- ✓ Re-Wires/Extensions
- ✓ Smart Homes/Heating
- ✓ Garden Room Wiring



#### CONTACT US

01252 214027

www.uwattelectrical.com



Professional  
Mobile

## Foot Care

Qualified, Insured, DBS checked  
07928 287527







## HIGH-END CARE IN YOUR OWN HOME

### OUR LIVE-IN SERVICES

#### HOUSEKEEPING

Companionship and help  
around the home

\*\*\*\*\*

#### CLINICAL CARE

Varying levels of clinical and  
personal care

\*\*\*\*\*

#### COMPLEX CARE

Condition led; including nursing,  
palliative and rare conditions

\*\*\*\*\*

#### REHABILITATION

Short term care  
(four weeks or more)

[hamiltongorgecare.com](http://hamiltongorgecare.com)  
0330 470 2866

At **Hamilton George Care**, we only work with the very best live-in carers. We take the time to understand the unique clinical and lifestyle needs of our clients and their families. Our outstanding carers and dedicated in-house team provide around-the-clock support, all from the comfort of your own home.



### CLIENT TESTIMONIAL

*'Hamilton George are not 'just a safe pair of hands', they are proactive rather than reactive. They balance a professional level of care with the inherent empathy needed that has become a rare commodity. Cannot recommend highly enough.'*



**BOURNE WOOD MANOR**

FARNHAM  
A PORTHAVEN CARE HOME



## Keep warm and well this winter at Bourne Wood Manor Care Home

Experience the Porthaven difference with a respite stay this winter

Book today at [porthaven.co.uk](http://porthaven.co.uk) or call 01252 941300

Bourne Wood Manor Care Home, West Street, Farnham, Surrey GU9 7AP

**NURSING • RESIDENTIAL • DEMENTIA • RESPITE**







# CANNON

## Waste Removal & Recycling

No  
waste  
too  
large

No  
waste  
too  
small

House Clearance  
Loft Clearance  
Garage Clearance  
Office Clearance  
Garden Clearance  
Metal Clearance  
Industrial Clearance  
Building Waste Clearance



CHEAPER  
THAN A  
SKIP!

All rubbish and waste is cleared and disposed of in the correct manner and **recycled** where possible.



**07788 440013**



laylacannon05@icloud.com

# Backtogether

PHYSIOTHERAPY



## Physiotherapy

- Back / Neck Pain
- Sciatica
- Sports Injuries
- Pelvic pain
- Pilates
- Headaches
- Post-Surgery Rehab
- Acupuncture
- Ergonomic Assessments
- Pre and Post Natal

Farnham Dene Medical Practice

Lower Bourne, Farnham

Springfield Surgery

Elstead

Badgerswood Surgery

Headley

Home Visits are also available

Book your appointment via our website:

[www.backtogether.co.uk](http://www.backtogether.co.uk)

Call us on: 01428 609975

E-mail: [backtogetherphysiotherapy@gmail.com](mailto:backtogetherphysiotherapy@gmail.com)



## alina homecare

*Care at Home*



We believe care is best at home.

Our professional carers provide a wide range of home care services including regular home visits or Live-in care.

Call today for your Free no obligation Home Assessment.

**01252 227222**  
[alinahomecare.com](http://alinahomecare.com)

**Your home  
Your care  
Your choice**



**Why not hire Hale Community & Youth Centre,  
for your meeting, class, event or children's party?**

**We have rooms for a wide variety of events  
with competitive rates. It's the ideal venue.**



For more information, or to arrange a visit to  
see what facilities we have on offer please  
contact us.

**Or pop in and join one of our many  
activities.**

**Some of the current activities and  
groups include:**

- Community Wednesday Pop-in (Café)
- Job Club
- Community Fridge & Cupboard
- Craft Groups & Classes
- Youth Club
- Health & Fitness Groups
- Community Gardening

**130 Upper  
Hale Road  
Farnham  
GU9 0JH**



**halecommunitycentre.org.uk** **halecommunitycentre**  
**bookings@halecommunitycentre.org.uk** **01252 722362**



**D.R. ALDEN & SON**

**HOME IMPROVEMENT SERVICES**

**Including**

**Carpentry-Decorating**

**Tiling-Guttering**

**Patios-Fencing**

**Free Estimates**



**Tel Fleet (01252) 617486**

**MJP Plumbing &  
Heating Ltd**

Helpful friendly plumber.

Will do all the jobs that need doing from a tap  
washer to refitting your bathroom.

Servicing to replacing boilers

**Just ask, no job too small!**

Works with all systems –  
heating and plumbing.

Gas Safe registered

Contact **Mike** on **07768 844276**  
or email **mike@mjpplumbing.com**

## Visiting Foot Clinic

**Adanna Tauschwitz BSc (Hons)**  
**MSc MCFHP MAFHP**  
**Registered Foot Health Professional**

Visits to home, office and care  
facilities for foot health  
consultations and examinations;  
treatment for foot problems;  
general foot care and advice.



Contact 07548 642558; adannat.fhp@gmail.com

Advertise your business  
here.

Details and prices  
contact:

**Stella Wiseman**  
**07842761919**

**editor@  
badshotleaandhale.org**





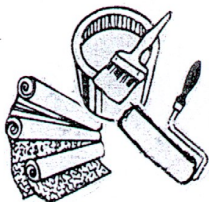
Tel:  
01252 345235  
or  
07919 857095

**Graham Neves**

**Painting and Decorating**

Interior  
And  
Exterior

**FREE  
ESTIMATES**



**DAVE FITCHETT**

PAINTING  
BUILDING & GARDEN WORK  
WALLS-PATIOS-GRASS CUTTING  
ETC.

**7 ROMAN WAY  
FARNHAM  
SURREY GU9 9RF  
07754 775844**

Advertise your business here.  
Details and prices  
contact:

**Stella Wiseman  
07842761919**

**ditor@  
badshotleaandhale.org**

# SAXOOMA



**Saxophone Quartet for any occasion**

Contact: Roger Sanders 07919 385935

# Farnham's local Charity

## offering care and support in your own home

### your care - your way...

- Maintain your routines and lifestyle
- Enrich your quality of life
- Enhance your independence
- Completely bespoke care for you
- One-to-one support
- A support team providing peace of mind
- Flexibility to have care when you want
- Less expensive than residential care

Now with  
availability  
to help new  
clients locally



Call our team today on

**07769894131**

To discuss your individual care needs,  
or email

**[homecare@awvs.org.uk](mailto:homecare@awvs.org.uk)**



**Abbeyfield Wey Valley Society**

**Mike Hawthorn Drive | Farnham | GU9 7UQ**

**[www.awvs.org.uk](http://www.awvs.org.uk)**