

Farnham's Allotment News

Autumn 2019

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Farnham
Town Council



Things to do on your allotment in November

Plant

Garlic – if you have heavy soil that tends to hold water, put about 3cm of sharp sand or fine gravel at the bottom of your planting hole. Plant your garlic cloves and cover with compost for the best possible start.

Autumn broad beans
Hardy peas
Bare rooted fruit canes

General tasks

- Dig over the allotment and spread manure over the surface. It is OK to leave the soil roughly dug in large clumps. The freezing and thawing of water in the soil will help to break up the soil making it easier to handle come the spring.
- If you have a supply of fallen leaves, put them to good use by making leaf mould.
- Prune your apple and pear trees, blackberries and raspberries.
- If you have a greenhouse and you haven't yet given it a clean, now is the time to give it a good wash down.
- Harvest remaining vegetables.



What tips do you have for preparing your allotment for winter? Please tell us so we can share them in a future newsletter.

Six Bells Facebook Group

Plot holders at the Six Bells allotment can now share ideas, knowledge and information with other plot holders via a new Facebook group.

The group is run by plot holders for plot holders and is totally independent of Farnham Town Council.

To join the group, search for **Six Bells Allotments** on Facebook.



Bonfire season

We are now in bonfire season which means you can have a bonfire on your plot but please do not light it until after dusk.

To save **hedgehogs** and other wildlife from being burned, it's best to build your bonfire on the day you intend to light it and to do so on clear ground rather than on top of a pile of leaves.

Allotment holders win an abundance of awards

It's been a busy and productive year for Farnham's allotment holders and so we were pleased to see all your hard work rewarded at this year's Farnham in Bloom awards evening.

The addition of a best newcomers' category meant the Mayor handed out more prizes than ever before. Congratulations to everybody who won a prize and well done and thank you to everybody who took part.

Best Allotment Plot

Alderley Farm

Malcolm Swain - Plot number 7a

Farnborough Road

Malcolm Brown - Plot number 22

Morley Road

Alice Burtwell - Plot number 1b

Shepherd and Flock

Ruth Paris - Plot number 10

Six Bells

Robert & Angela Page - Plot number 17a/17b

West Street

Max & Barbara Gaunt - Plot number 14aa

West Street (Extension)

Clive & Sue Russell - Plot number 7/7a

Wrecclesham

Sandra Hunt - Plot number 11a/11b



Remember to renew your tenancy

Allotment tenancy renewal letters will be sent out in December.

If you want to keep your allotment for another year, please pay the amount shown on the invoice by the date given. If you wish to give up your plot, please let us know so we can reallocate the plot to somebody on our waiting list.

Best Newcomer Plot

Alderley Farm

Roni Brown - Plot number 20

Farnborough Road

Michelle Sheppard - Plot number 29

Morley Road

Tessa & Sam Masterton Plot number 5

Shepherd and Flock

Jason Gilbert - Plot number

Six Bells

Brett & Hellie King Plot number 15b

West Street

Vivien Kaldun - Plot number 14c

Wrecclesham

Neringa Jakstiene - Plot number 5b

Best Overall Newcomer's Plot 2019

Sam Masterton

Best Overall Established Plot 2019

Robert and Angela Page

Best in Show at the Farnham Allotment Show 2019

Michael & Margaret Nicholls

Neville Watkins Dahlia Challenge Cup 2019

Brian & Meg Daniels

Tallest Sunflower

Winner - Nigel Pollard

Largest Pumpkin

Winner - Ann-Marie Pease

Best Scarecrow

Gold - John Martin

Silver - Nigel & Tracey Pollard

Bronze - Sue & Norman Ware

Highly Commended

Clare Knapp

Michael & Margaret Nicholls

Commended

Andy Leach





A bloomin' marvellous result

It's been a fantastic year for Farnham in Bloom. On Friday 25 October we received the thrilling news that we had been awarded gold and best in category in the BIDS, town centres and city centres category of RHS Britain in Bloom.



The judging took place in July and we had a wonderful time introducing the panel of judges to the people and projects that make Farnham bloom.

During a tour lasting more than two hours, the judges met volunteers from the Farnham Rivers Group, volunteers from space2grow, Bishop's Meadow, Farnham Community Farm, Victoria Garden, and children from St Andrew's who interrupted their school holiday to show the judges their school garden. The judges also met members of the business community who talked about how Farnham in Bloom enhances the street scene and make it an enjoyable place for people to visit and shop.

It is an honour to have been invited to enter the competition and this year is the third time we have taken part. The judging criteria is much tougher for Britain in Bloom than for the regional competition, so we are very proud of the result which is

testament to the hard work and support we receive from our volunteers, staff, councillors and the wider community. We would like to give special thanks to our sponsors and especially The Farnham Institute Charity who came on board this year as our new Principal Sponsor. Farnham in Bloom also did brilliantly at the South and South East in Bloom awards and came away with a string of gold awards. Farnham in Bloom was awarded Gold and crowned regional category winner in both the town centre and large town categories. Badshot Lea Cemetery improved on last year's Silver Gilt with a Gold award in the Small Cemetery category and West Street received Silver Gilt in the Large Cemetery category. The judges awarded gold accolades to the Bishop's Meadow Trust and Victoria Garden. In the It's Your Neighbourhood category, space2grow and Victoria Garden

Results for Farnham in Bloom 2019

RHS Britain in Bloom

Business improvement districts, town centres and city centres category –
Gold and category winner

South & South East in Bloom

Town Centre category –
Gold and category winner

Large Town category –
Gold and category winner

In Your Neighbourhood

Hale Community Centre's Get Growing Gardening project –
Level 4 Thriving

Victoria Garden – Level 5
Outstanding

Space2grow – Level 5
Outstanding

Large Conservation Area category

Bishop's Meadow Trust – Gold
Small Cemetery category
Badshot Lea Cemetery – Gold

Large Cemetery category

West Street Cemetery –
Silver Gilt

Small Park of the Year category

Victoria Garden – Gold
Chairman's award –
Victoria Garden

were presented with awards for being Outstanding and Hale Community Centre's Get Growing Gardening project was awarded for progressing from Advancing in 2018 to Thriving in 2019. Victoria Garden completed their hat trick when they were honoured with the Chairman's award.

Farnham in Bloom 2020

Next year marks 30 years of Farnham in Bloom and work has already started on an extra special floral celebration.

Bloomin' volunteers have been busy and have planted on 13,500 plug plants for winter displays. We also have a few hundred bulbs to plant in roadside verges and at prominent junctions. Please email Lara Miller if you have some suggestions for where the bulbs can be planted.



Allotment Show

The annual Allotment Show was given a fresh new look this year.



The show was held alongside Music in the Meadow at Gostrey Meadow so that even more people could be introduced to the pleasures of allotment gardening.

Competition categories included the best root vegetables, soft fruits and squashes. The show also included categories for children to enter with a prize for the funniest vegetable character. Those of you who combine a love of growing with a passion for cookery brought along chutneys and preserves using allotment ingredients as well as cakes and biscuits.

Meg and Brian Daniels took home the Neville Watkins cup for the best dahlia while the overall Best in Show winners were Michael and Margaret Nicholls for winning the most categories including beans, courgettes, scones/biscuits and bread. A cup was presented to the Nicholls at the annual Farnham in Bloom awards.



West Street social

Allotment holders at West Street are making good use of their social area. They get together for regular meets and during the summer they enjoyed barbecues and gin and cake!

Summer visit

In July, some of you visited the Wildflower Turf Farm at Ashe Warren and enjoyed a two-hour private tour.

If you have any ideas for next year's summer visit, please email sueware1976@gmail.com





Maternity leave

Lara Miller will be going on maternity leave at the end of November.

We'll introduce you to her maternity cover in the next edition. In the meantime, for all queries where you would normally contact Lara, please email bloom@farnham.gov.uk or email lain.mccready@farnham.gov.uk.

We wish Lara the very best of luck.



Christmas Tree Festival

The popular Christmas tree festival returns to St Andrew's Church from 4 to 8 December. If you would like to take part and decorate an allotment-themed tree, please contact megdaniels@talktalk.net.

The festival is a community event supported by Farnham Town Council.

Know your rep

Please speak to your site rep if you would like them to raise something on your behalf at the next allotment liaison group meeting.

Alderley Farm – Gerard Nicholson, plot 5

Farnborough Road – Frank Green, plot 17

Morley Road – David Dearsley, plot 2a

Shepherd and Flock – David Wheeler, plot 3S

Six Bells – Tony Dean, plots 26A & 27A

West Street – Steve Kibble, plot 2b

West Street extension – Jenny Williams, plot 9

Wrecclesham – Peter Dawes, plot 8a

Chair of the Liaison Group – Sue Ware, West Street, plot 9



Gerard Nicholson



Frank Green



Steve Kibble



Peter Dawes



Jenny Williams



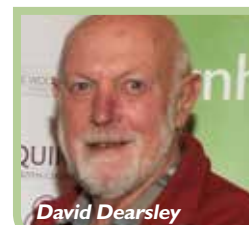
David Wheeler



Sue Ware



Tony Dean



David Dearsley

Other news from Farnham Town Council

Farnham's Big Feast



Tickets are on sale for a traditional dinner that dates back 400 years. The Venison Dinner at Farnham Castle was first held in 1605 as a way to discourage townsfolk from poaching the deer in Farnham Park.

The dinner is on Thursday 14 November and will be hosted by the Mayor of Farnham. Tickets cost £70 which includes a 4-course meal and after dinner speeches by the Vice Lord Lieutenant of Surrey, the Bishop of Guildford, Editor of the Farnham Herald and the MP for South West Surrey.

● **To see the menu and to apply for tickets visit** www.farnham.gov.uk.

Nominations open for Services to Farnham Awards



We are seeking nominations for the 2019 Services to Farnham awards.

The awards recognise people who provide outstanding service to people in Farnham.

● **To nominate** somebody you know for a Services to Farnham award visit

www.farnham.gov.uk and submit the application by 5pm on Monday 2 December or request a printed nomination form from Farnham Town Council.

Community grants up for grabs

Every year, we hand out around £75,000 in community grants to local good causes.

The community grant scheme is designed to provide funding for youth projects, community buildings, heritage projects, leisure facilities and much more. The grants of up to £2,000 are available for one-off projects

or schemes that require funding for up to three years.

● **To apply, visit** www.farnham.gov.uk/grants. The deadline for applying is 12 noon on Monday 2 December.

Schools' Remembrance

Children from Farnham schools will gather at the war memorial in Gostrey Meadow for a joint service of remembrance on Friday 8 November at 10.45am.

The Mayor of Farnham, representatives from the Royal British Legion and the Princess of Wales' Royal Regiment will be present. Members of the public are also welcome to attend.

Remembrance Sunday

The community will come together on Sunday 10 November for a joint act of remembrance.

The Mayor of Farnham will join the Vice Lord Lieutenant Bill Biddell, and others to parade from Castle Street to the war memorial in Gostrey Meadow for a service at 10.45am.

Shortly after the two-minute silence at 11am, there will be a march past. Senior dignitaries will take the salute as the parade passes Farnham Town Hall in South Street. The parade will finish at St Andrew's Church where a remembrance service will be held. Everybody is welcome to attend.

See www.farnham.gov.uk for details about road closures.

Other news from Farnham Town Council



Farnham's green journey

Farnham Town Councillors have shown their commitment to reducing carbon emissions at a local level by agreeing there's a climate emergency and pledging their aim to become a carbon neutral council by 2030.

At a meeting of the Full Council in September, councillors heard how the Town Council has already implemented a number of changes including a reduction in the use of single use plastic. Further measures to be considered include switching to renewable energy tariffs and as required, replacing the remaining council owned vehicles with electric or other appropriate vehicles.

We will continue to review our operations and how we deliver services and will draw up an action plan for councillors to consider. We will also work with and encourage the local community to take all practical steps to reduce their own carbon footprint and to safeguard the environment.



Christmas Lights Switch-On!

Farnham will light up for Christmas on Saturday 16 November. The excitement of the Christmas lights switch-on will begin at 1pm at Gostrey Meadow.



Throughout the afternoon there will be a non-stop programme of entertainment. Children from Farnham schools and members of local theatre groups will sing, dance and entertain you with seasonal performances all shown on a big screen.

The emphasis will most definitely be on family fun so you can expect to see a live nativity scene, children's rides and plenty of delicious food and drink. Father Christmas will be in his grotto so prime your children to write their letter to Santa so they can deliver it in person – they'll even receive a free gift.

As it approaches 4.30pm, be sure to turn your attention to the big stage and get ready to join in the countdown to the grand Christmas lights switch-on.

For full details about what's happening and the entertainment schedule visit www.farnham.gov.uk.



Christmas Civic Carol Service

If you enjoy traditional Christmas celebrations, then the chances are you will love the Christmas Civic Carol Service with the internationally acclaimed Farnham Youth Choir. The service is on 12 December at 7.30pm at St Andrew's Church.

Half the tickets are given to charities and local organisations as a thank you for everything they do for Farnham. The remaining tickets are allocated via a public ballot. To enter the ballot, you will need to complete the application form which will be printed in the Farnham Herald towards the end of November.

Everybody who attends will be invited to join the Mayor of Farnham for a festive drink and light refreshments.



Further Allotment information
at www.farnham.gov.uk/allotments.

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