



Farnham Literary Festival

Farnham's first Literary Festival runs from 5 to 13 March and is packed with literary-inspired events including talks, walks, workshops and readings, aimed at all ages and interests. Most of the events are happening at venues in and around Farnham town centre.

A sample of what's happening:

Saturday 5 March

UCA student pop up presentations
Time: 11am-1pm

Book valuations – Stephen Dick

Time: 11am-3pm

Opening event with Sandi Toksvig, Jack Jewers and Sophie Hannah

Time: 7-9.30pm

Sunday 6 March

Retelling of an Ancient Story - Kenneth Bailey readings plus middle eastern food
Time: 7-9pm

Ayana Lloyd Banwo – author talk

Time: 3.30-4.30pm

Lulah Glender – author talk

Time: 5.30-6.30pm

Tom de Freston – author talk

Time: 7-8pm

Monday 7 March

A 'novel' view of Waverley Abbey - Christopher Herbert
Time: 5.30pm

Weydon School TED talks

Time: 6-7.30pm

Discovering Local Authors – Andy Charman

Time: 7.30-9pm

Tuesday 8 March

Writing Memories – workshop for those living with dementia
Time: 10-12noon

Crime Panel discussion

Time: 7.30pm

Strictly Come Writing - writing workshop, Neil Macdonald

Time: 7-9pm

Alex Preston – author talk

7.30-8.30pm

Wednesday 9 March

Writing the Past workshop – Annie Garthwaite

Time: 4.30pm



Two Farnham Childhoods - Rosemary Wisbey

Time: 5.30-6.30pm

Discovering Local Authors – TJ Thomas
7.30-9pm

Annie Garthwaite and AK Blakemore in conversation

Time: 7.30-8.30pm

Pub quiz

Time: 8pm

Thursday 10 March

Rehearsed readings, Farnham Theatre Association
Time: 7.30pm

Discovering Local Authors – Al Campbell
Time: 5.30pm

Mick Herron – author talk
Time: 7.30pm

Professor Stott in conversation with Professor Dominic Tantram
Time: 5.30-6.30pm

Utterly Dark – Phillip Reeve
Time: 7.30-8.30pm

Writing for Wellness workshop – Joanna Barnard
Time: 7-9pm



Friday 11 March

Handstitched book binding workshop
Time: 10-1.30pm

Shakespeare walks

Time: TBC

Roy Waight

Time: 5.30-6.30pm

Discovering Local Authors – Carol Sacha

Time: 7.30-9pm

Jeremy Hunt in conversation with Richard Hunt
Time: 6-7pm

Drill artist Nath678

Time: 7.30-10pm

Saturday 12 March

Modern Calligraphy workshop
Time: 9.30-12noon

Shakespeare walks

Time: TBC

Children's workshop with Coral Rumble
Time: TBC

Workshop - How to write children's literature - Ally Sherrick
Time: 10-1pm

Awards poetry competition
Time: 5.30pm

Professor Grayling – author talk
Time: 5.30-6.30pm

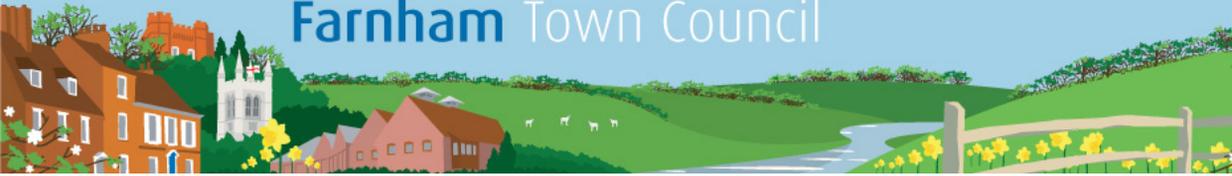
John Grindrod – author talk
Time: 7.30-8.30pm

Sunday 13 March

Awards writing competition
Time: 2.30pm

Bobby Duffy – author talk
Time: 5.30-6.30pm

To see the full schedule and booking details, visit www.farnhamliteraryfestival.co.uk.



Take your pick!

Get outdoors and join in the Great British spring clean around Farnham town centre on Saturday 26 March. Individuals, community groups, businesses, sports clubs and charities, and anybody else who wants to improve where they live and has some time to spare, can take part.

Meet at Gostrey Meadow to collect all necessary equipment including gloves, sacks and litter pickers. Keeping Farnham litter free forms a major part of the Farnham in Bloom initiative. The spring clean is the first of several community litter picks that will take place this year.

If you are unable to attend the town centre event but would like to organise your own litter pick where you live, please contact bloom@farnham.gov.uk or call 01252 712667.

Interested in volunteering?

If you interested in doing some volunteering but are not sure what to do, pop along to Farnham Town Council's Bloomin' Community Group Fair in Gostrey Meadow on Saturday 26 March.

In what has been described as a freshers' style fair, many local groups will have a stall and will be on hand to chat about their current volunteering opportunities.

Oyez! Oyez! Oyez! Farnham is looking for a new town crier



Farnham is looking for a new town crier to help keep residents and visitors up to date with important news and announcements. Local residents - male or female, young or old – are invited to put themselves forward if they think they are suitable.

As well as having a loud, clear voice and bags of self-confidence, the new town crier will need to be at ease in dealing with all sorts of people and to have a friendly, approachable nature.

Engagements will include Farnham's festivals and other key local events as well as making announcements about civic events such as the appointment of a new mayor.

The role attracts a small honorarium payment and out-of-pocket expenses.

For an informal chat to find out more about the role, please call 01252 712667.

The role of town crier goes back to at least as far as medieval times when most people could not read and needed a quick and easy way to hear important news, official proclamations and changes to local laws. In a time long before services like the police, and firefighters and street lighting, town criers also carried out night patrols to ensure fires were damped down at night and there was no rowdy behaviour.

Be part of the local conversation



Farnham electors are invited to this year's Annual Town Meeting which will be held on 31 March.

As well as being an opportunity to find out about the town council's services and how it spends taxpayers' money, the meeting is an open and accessible way for local people to ask their town councillors questions or to make comments about issues relating to Farnham.

If the question or comment is about something that falls outside the council's remit, town councillors will do their best to provide an answer or follow up with the relevant organisation.

Anybody wishing to find out more about the meeting or register their interest in attending should email customer.services@farnham.gov.uk or call 01252 712667.

The meeting will be chaired by the Mayor, Councillor Alan Earwaker.

Farnham Town Council wins its first award for 2022

Farnham Town Council has started 2022 how it means to carry on with the announcement of its first award for the year.

Farnham has been named Not for Profit organisation of the year 2021/22 in the South England Prestige Awards.

Judges were impressed by examples of how Farnham Town Council had innovated, collaborated and worked in partnership 'during the pandemic and how the positive response to COVID-19 was underpinned by the support of volunteers'.

Celebrate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Plans are underway to mark Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June.

There will be an extended bank holiday from Thursday 2 to Sunday 5 June so that communities can come together to celebrate this historic milestone.



Local events



Farnham will be joining in the UK's long tradition of celebrating Royal events by lighting a beacon at Farnham Castle on 2 June and on Sunday 5 June, there will be a 'proms style' Music in the Meadow.

In early spring, Farnham Town Council will plant a Jubilee avenue of trees near Brightwells Tennis Club. There will be a mixture of Himalayan Birch and Liquid Amber which will make for a stunning display.

How you can get involved:

Organise a street party

Organising a street party just for residents and neighbours in one or two small streets is very simple and does not usually need a licence.

The advice is to plan early, particularly if you need a temporary road closure as the application process can take at least six weeks.

Visit www.farnham.gov.uk/jubilee for a link to Waverley Borough Council's online application form.

Farnham Town Council is helping with the cost of insurance if required.

Have a Big Jubilee Lunch

On 5 June, communities are invited to come together for The Big Jubilee Lunch.

Safe events of all shapes and sizes are encouraged in a way that works best for your community. Some ideas include getting together with neighbours to watch the Platinum Pageant on television, having a cuppa or organising a Big Lunch gathering.

The Queen's Green Canopy

People across the UK are invited to plant a tree for the jubilee. Experts recommend that the best time to plant your tree is between October and March.

FREE trees

The Woodland Trust is giving away hundreds of thousands of trees to schools and communities. Find out how to apply at www.woodlandtrust.org.uk.

Dates for your diary:

Sunday 27 March Music in the Vineyard

A free, live music concert to lift your spirits!

Full details at www.farnham.gov.uk

Sunday 27 March, 10am-1.30pm

Farmers' Market

Visit the Farnham Farmers' Market in Central car park to buy fresh, local seasonal produce direct from those that grow it, rear it, make it or bake it.

Sunday 3 April, 10am-4pm

Antiques and Brocante Market

Visit the outdoors market in West Street for items including furniture, home textiles, vintage jewellery, kitchenalia,

Tuesday 12 April and Thursday 14 April

Easter Bloomin' Kids

Spring themed activities at the greenhouses in West Street. To book email bloom@farnham.gov.uk.



Farnham Town Council

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Telephone: 01252 712667 Email: customer.services@farnham.gov.uk

Web: www.farnham.gov.uk

Town Clerk: Iain Lynch Mayor: Cllr Alan Earwaker



Winner of Council of the Year

in the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) Star Council Awards 2021



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