

Hale Chapels to receive a new lease of life



Work is underway to create a new garden of remembrance in Upper Hale.

The space has been designed by the award-winning

garden design company Graduate Landscapes on the site of Hale chapels which have stood redundant for many years.

With the help of the Hale Chapels Trust and the local community, Farnham Town Council explored all possible options for the chapels and concluded that creating a garden of remembrance was the most viable.

The project will see the unstable parts of the chapel walls reduced in height. Key features such as the gable windows and stone mullions have been incorporated into the design. The footprint of the chapels will be preserved by the laying of repurposed flint setts at ground level.

The garden itself will be planted with trees and plants which feature in the bible and will create a calm but positive ambience. The trees include an almond tree which symbolises renewal, an olive tree for productivity, a fig tree for life and myrtle for recovery.

The garden is being built by Landform which created the hilltop garden at RHS Wisley. Landform has won multiple awards at Chelsea and Hampton Court.

It is expected that the garden will be completed by the summer.

Changing with the season at the Farmers' Market



Spring is sprung (well nearly) and this month at the Farnham Farmers' Market there will be over 40 stalls including some new producers.

Products on sale will include locally reared beef and lamb, free range eggs, plant based foods, fresh fish, goats' milk from a local herd, unusual locally grown and

freshly picked vegetables and much more. The tea tent will be run by Abbeyfield Wey Valley Society and there will be live music.

The Farmer's Market is a perfect kick start to a delicious, healthy spring, supporting local producers. The market is on Sunday 26 March, 10am to 1.30pm at Central car park.

Promote your event for free

If you are organising an event this year in Farnham, did you know you can advertise it for free on Farnham Town Council's event calendar?

To submit your event details, visit www.farnham.gov.uk/add-event-listing.

Volunteer for the environment



Giving back to the community, meeting new people, learning a skill, wanting to make a difference – these are just some of the reasons people give for volunteering with award-winning Farnham in Bloom.

If you would like to get involved in this year's campaign, Farnham Town Council invites you to come along to its Bloomin Communities Group Fair on Saturday 25 March.

You will be able to meet some of the organisations that help make Farnham bloom and find out more about what they do and the help they need.

The fair is being held at Gostrey Meadow from 10am to 1pm.

Pick a crisp packet or two



Fed up with seeing litter ruining the look of the town, your street or your favourite walk? If so, Farnham Town Council invites you to sign up for the annual spring clean.

There are two ways to get involved:

- **Bloomin' Town Centre Litter Pick Saturday 25 March, 10am to 12 noon**

Meet at Gostrey Meadow where you will be given litter pickers, rubbish sacks and an area of town to litter pick.



Farnham Town Council

• Great British Spring Clean Saturday 25 March to Monday 10 April

Choose a location and decide when you want to do your litter pick.

Recruit some willing friends or relatives to help. Register your litter pick with Farnham Town Council and reserve your litter picking equipment.

For details about Farnham's spring clean email us at bloom@farnham.gov.uk.

Dates for your diary

The last Music in the Vineyard for 2023 is on Sunday 26 March from 3pm to 5pm. There will be live music from Shuffle Tunes.

On Sunday 2 April from 10am to 4pm Farnham Town Council will welcome an Art & Makers Market and Antiques and Brocante Street Market to West Street. The markets will offer a mix of antiques, collectables, curios, vintage, retro bric-a-brac, as well as vinyl records from traders and enthusiasts from across the South and beyond.

Farnham Literary Festival

3 to 12 March



This year's Literary festival offers something for everybody with over 40 events for you to enjoy. The Festival will be launched on 3 March by actor Christopher Biggins. This will be followed by nine days of workshops, author talks, panel discussions, masterclasses and more.

For full details including ticket prices and booking information, visit www.farnhamliteraryfestival.co.uk.

Programme of Events

Saturday 4 March

Writing Workshop: Plotter or Pantser
10am to 1pm at Farnham Town Council
An interactive workshop for aspiring novelists, examining how to progress from the blank page to a fully plotted draft.

Book valuations
11am to 3pm at Oxfam Bookshop

Do you have a book that you think might be of value? Come and get a valuation from expert Stephen Dick.



Sebastian Payne – The Fall of Boris Johnson
6pm to 7.30pm at Blue Bear Bookshop

Author Sebastian Payne takes us inside the corridors of power and talks about his new book The Fall of Boris Johnson.

Reclaiming Edgar Mittelholzer
6pm to 8pm at Oxfam Bookshop

A fascinating insight into Guyanese author Edgar Mittelholzer with historian Roy Waight and academic Juanita Cox.

Sunday 5 March

Songwriting Masterclass
10am to 5.30pm at Farnham Pottery

Share the amazing songwriting experiences and techniques of singer songwriters Jim Cozens and Eva Perrin Fontana.

There is more than one way to read a book – for learners with dyslexia

10.30am to 12pm at Helen Arkell Dyslexia Charity
This talk will touch on some of the reasons why many learners with dyslexia and related specific learning difficulties struggle with reading.

It's Never too Late
3pm to 5pm at Oxfam Bookshop

A panel discussion by three experienced authors who started writing in mid-life, prompted by writer Libby Morgan into revealing their pathways to literary success.

Monday 6 March

Storytime with Sean Taylor
10.30am to 11am at Farnham Library

Storytime is aimed at two to five year olds and provides a fun and enjoyable introduction to books and libraries.

Writing Memories – a dementia friendly workshop
10.30am to 12.30pm at Farnham Town Council

Come and tell or write your memories in this dementia-friendly event designed to recall and share the stories of our lives.



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In Conversation with Dr Jim Down
7.30pm to 8.30pm at Farnham Town Council

Dr Jim Down will be talking with

Tom Quinn about the things that have confused, shocked, frightened and moved him during his career in ICU.

Tuesday 7 March

Rhymetime

10.30am to 11am at Farnham Library

Rhymetime is aimed at babies and toddlers and is based on sharing nursery rhymes, action songs and percussion music.

Poetry Panel

7pm to 9pm at Blue Bear Bookshop

Join poets, Anastasia Taylor-Lind, Rishi Dastidar and Joey Connolly for an amazing poetry panel discussion and reading event.

Local Author Showcase Evening

7.30pm to 8.30pm at Farnham Library

Come along to meet three local authors, Guy Singer, Catherine Hewitt and Cristina Loggia who share their journey and their books with you.

Wednesday 8 March

Rhymetime

10.30am to 11am at Farnham Library

Rhymetime is aimed at babies and toddlers and is based on sharing nursery rhymes, action songs and percussion music.

Hale Community Book Swap

11.30am to 1.30pm at Hale Community Centre

Come along to this book swap event which is being held in conjunction with the Community Share Store.

An Evening of Spoken Word

6pm to 7pm at University for the Creative Arts

Join writers and performers from UCA and Creative Response for an evening of spoken word. They will share essays, poems and stories as well as their hopes, dreams, challenges and fears.

Local Author Showcase Evening

7.30pm to 8.30pm at Farnham Library

Come along to meet three local authors, Liam Jenkins, Willow Woods and Lynette Lothian as they share their journey and their books.

Literary Themed Pub Quiz

7.30pm to 10.30pm at The Wheatsheaf

Test your literary knowledge at this pub quiz in aid of Booktrust, the UK's largest children's reading charity.

Thursday 9 March

Stitch Your Own Power Mantra

3pm to 5pm at Farnham Pottery

Investigate the power of word and stitch with Jamie Chalmers aka Mr X Stitch.



Martin Brown – Illustrator of Horrible Histories

4.30pm to 5.30pm at University for the Creative Arts

Join the mega bestselling illustrator of Horrible Histories Martin Brown. Expect (pre)history, adventure and plenty of drawing!

An Evening with Philip Reeve

7pm to 8.30pm at Blue Bear Bookshop

Come along for a magical evening with Philip Reeve discussing his latest book Utterly Dark and the Heart of the Wild.

The Needle has a Point – An Evening with Mr X Stitch
7pm to 8.30pm at Farnham Pottery

A talk by Jamie Chalmers during which he will reveal how the world of traditional craft cross stitch has been revolutionised to feature modern themes and issues.

National Theatre Live – Othello

7pm to 8.30pm at Farnham Maltings

An extraordinary new production of Shakespeare's most enduring tragedy.

In Conversation with Author Ian Williams

7.30pm to 8.30pm at the Museum of Farnham

Author Ian Williams talks about the impact of China's global ambitions and the chilling new realities of geopolitics.

Friday 10 March

Finding Connection in an Age of Isolation by Kim Samuels

6pm to 7pm at the Museum of Farnham

An author talk introducing readers to leaders around the world who are doing the work to cultivate belonging.



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Author talk: Guy Morspess
6pm to 7.30pm at Oxfam Bookshop
An author talk by the writer of speculative crime fiction and the author of two published novels.

Opera and Song Inspired by Literature
7.30pm to 10pm at St Andrew's Church
Opera ensemble KT Tenuto present a wonderful evening of opera and song inspired by literature.



Lumberjills by Joanna Foat
8pm to 9pm at the Museum of Farnham
Discover the inspiring story of the Lumberjills, the young women who felled trees with an axe and saw for the nation during World War Two.

Saturday 11 March

Modern Calligraphy for Improvers
10am to 2pm at Farnham Maltings
Improve your modern calligraphy skills in this fun and creative class.

Make Your Own Myth
10.30am to 11.30am at Farnham Library
A fun, interactive writing session inspired by author Ally Sherrick's just-published Roman mystery adventure, Vita and the Gladiator. For children aged 9 to 13.

Lions, Tigers, Football and Unicorns
10.30am to 11.30am and 2pm to 3pm at Farnham Library
A family session of word fun with Coral Rumble who will be reading from her two newest collections. The workshop is for children aged 5 to 11.

Build a World Workshop
10.30am to 12.30pm at St Mark's Church
Build your own fantasy world and populate it with characters in this creative writing workshop focusing on the fantasy genre. Adult workshop.

Writing Real Romance
3pm to 4pm at Farnham Town Council
Panel discussion by three big-hitting authors who will talk about what makes a brilliant romance novel – from meet-cutes to marriage, love/hate to ever after.

Poetry Showcase and Awards Ceremony
5pm to 8pm at St Mark's Church
Come and hear poets young and old(er) as they read their entries on this year's theme – Hope.

Past, Present, Future – Writing History
5pm to 6pm at Farnham Town Council
Join four highly-respected experts of the genre to explore how historical fact can be used to enhance a great story.

Murder by the Book – How to Build the Perfect Crime Novel
7pm to 8pm at Farnham Town Council
Crime novel panel discussion with best-selling authors Ava Glass, Katherine Faulkner, Fiona Barton and Helen Fields.

Macbeth – Sliced to the Core
7pm to 8.30pm at Farnham Pottery
David Keller's knife-edge performance cuts to the heart of every character.

Sunday 12 March

Author Talk and Q&A with Dame Jacqueline Wilson
3pm to 4pm at St Andrew's Church
A conversation with best-selling children's author Dame Jacqueline Wilson. Come and learn about her career and her best loved characters.

Macbeth – Sliced to the Core
3pm to 4.30pm at Farnham Pottery
David Keller's knife-edge performance cuts to the heart of every character.



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