

# Farnham

A great place to live 2025

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**Farnham**  
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## UPCOMING EVENTS

<p><b>Senior School</b> <b>Working Open Morning</b> Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February, 9.00am - 11.00am</p> <p><b>Year 7 2025 Taster Event</b> Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February, 9.00am - 3.30pm</p>	<p><b>Nursery, Infant and Junior School</b> <b>Working Open Morning</b> Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February, 9.00am - 11.00am</p> <p><b>Whole School Open Morning</b> Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March, 10.00am - 12.00pm</p>
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## Farnham in 2025



Whether you're new to the area or a long-time resident, this guide is designed to help you make the most of everything our vibrant town has to offer. From essential services and local organisations to community events and leisure activities, you'll find all the information you need to discover why Farnham is so often rated as a great place to live. Find out more about our rich history, explore beautiful parks and open spaces, and connect with the local organisations that help our town and people to thrive. We're proud of our strong sense of community and our army of volunteers, and throughout this guide you will find details about opportunities to get involved. This residents' guide is your key to navigating daily life and uncovering hidden gems in Farnham. We hope you enjoy rediscovering Farnham.

With all good wishes

Iain Lynch, Town Clerk

## Coming up in 2025

Look out for Farnham Town Council initiatives coming up in 2025 which enhance living in Farnham and invest in the future. They include:

- A new accessible and more inclusive playground in Gostrey Meadow.
- A new state of the art public convenience building in Gostrey Meadow.
- A revamped website which will signpost you to everything you need to know about Farnham.
- New Christmas lights.
- Refurbishment of The Hart public conveniences.
- The launch of the Farnham Film Festival.
- Further work on updating Farnham's Neighbourhood Plan.
- Working with 'Make it Happen', the Farnham Business Improvement District to address the challenges presented by the infrastructure works.

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## Change is coming to Farnham

Works to transform Farnham town centre are due to begin in early 2025.

The improvements aim to deliver quality public areas while reducing the dominance of motorised traffic, which contributes to poor air quality, noise pollution and congestion. There will be wider pavements, and new planting, street furniture and pedestrian crossings. Resurfaced roads and changes to the road layout will keep the town moving.

The project website will keep you up to date during the works – including phasing information, any diversions or short term closures whilst work takes place and frequently asked questions. You can also sign up to the regular e-newsletter. Visit [www.surreycc.gov.uk/farnhamworks](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/farnhamworks) or call 0300 200 1003.

Farnham Town Council gratefully acknowledges the support of all its advertisers, who have helped fund this guide. As a reciprocal gesture, Farnham Town Council would like to draw readers' attention to the announcements. However, it does wish to make it clear that Farnham Town Council can accept no responsibility for the products or services advertised.

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Front cover – Farnham Town Crier Michael Stephens welcomes you.

# What's on in 2025

There's always something happening in Farnham. From events in village halls to larger scale activities in the town centre, there's something to suit all ages and interests. Here's a taster of what's happening in 2025 with lots more on our events calendar at [www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

## January

Quilters' Festival  
Sunday 12 January  
Farnham Maltings  
[www.farnhammaltings.com](http://www.farnhammaltings.com)

Farmers' Market  
Sunday 26 January  
Central car park  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

Music in the Vineyard  
Sunday 26 January  
Vineyard Church  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

## February

Unravel – a festival of yarn  
14-16 February  
Farnham Maltings  
[www.farnhammaltings.com](http://www.farnhammaltings.com)

Farmers' Market  
Sunday 23 February  
Central car park  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

## Farnham Literary Festival



### 6-16 MARCH

Book early to secure your seat at this popular festival. Choose from over 30 events ranging from engaging author talks, creative workshops, conversations, film, live performances and competitions.

Music in the Vineyard  
Sunday 23 February  
Vineyard Church  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

## March

Farnham Literary Festival  
6-16 March  
Various locations  
[www.farnhamliteraryfestival.co.uk](http://www.farnhamliteraryfestival.co.uk)

Bloomin' Help Out  
Saturday 8 March  
Badshot Lea Cemetery  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

Commonwealth Day  
Monday 10 March  
Farnham Town Council.  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

Great British Spring Clean  
21 March – 6 April  
Location of your choice  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

Farnham in Bloom  
Community Day  
Saturday 22 March  
Gostrey Meadow  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

Farmers' Market  
Sunday 23 March  
Central car park  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

Music in the Vineyard  
Sunday 30 March  
Vineyard Church  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

## April

Easter Bloomin' Kids' Activities  
Tuesday 8 April  
The Chantrys  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

Easter Bloomin' Kids' Activities  
Tuesday 10 April  
Hale Community Centre  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

Farnham Beerex  
10-12 April  
Farnham Maltings  
[www.farnhambeerex.org.uk](http://www.farnhambeerex.org.uk)

Farmers' Market  
Sunday 27 April  
Central car park  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

## May

The Great Farnham Duck Race  
Saturday 3 May  
Gostrey Meadow

Help out at West Street  
Cemetery  
Saturday 10 May  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

## Music in the Meadow



Spend Sunday afternoons chilling out this summer at Gostrey Meadow. We've handpicked a great line-up of musical talent which will appeal to a variety of tastes. Bring a chair and refreshments and enjoy two hours of free music.

Farnham Walking Festival  
10 May – 1 June  
Various locations  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

Sustainability Festival  
Sunday 18 May  
Gostrey Meadow  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

Farmers' Market  
Sunday 25 May  
Central car park  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

Music in the Meadow  
Sunday 25 May  
Gostrey Meadow  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

Rowledge Village Fayre  
Sunday 25 May  
Rowledge Recreation Green  
[www.rowledgevillage.uk](http://www.rowledgevillage.uk)

## June

Music in the Meadow  
Sunday 1 June  
Gostrey Meadow  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

Surrey Artists' Open Studios  
7-22 June  
Various locations  
[www.surreyopenstudios.org.uk](http://www.surreyopenstudios.org.uk)

Music in the Meadow  
Sunday 8 June  
Gostrey Meadow  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

Music in the Meadow  
Sunday 15 June  
Gostrey Meadow  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

Farmers' Market  
Sunday 22 June  
Central car park  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

Music in the Meadow  
Sunday 22 June  
Gostrey Meadow  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

Armed Forces Day  
Monday 23 June  
Farnham Town Council  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

Farnham Carnival  
Saturday 28 June  
Town centre  
[www.farnhamcarnival.org.uk](http://www.farnhamcarnival.org.uk)

Proms and Pop in the Park  
Sunday 29 June  
Gostrey Meadow  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

## July

Hale Carnival  
Saturday 5 July  
Hale Recreation Ground  
[www.halecarnival.co.uk](http://www.halecarnival.co.uk)

The Bourne Show  
Saturday 5 July  
Bourne Green  
[www.thebourneshow.com](http://www.thebourneshow.com)

Music in the Meadow  
Sunday 6 July  
Gostrey Meadow  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

Music in the Meadow  
Sunday 13 July  
Gostrey Meadow  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

Music in the Meadow  
Sunday 20 July  
Gostrey Meadow  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

Farmers' Market  
Sunday 27 July  
Central car park  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

Music in the Meadow  
Sunday 27 July  
Gostrey Meadow  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

## August

Music in the Meadow  
Sunday 3 August  
Gostrey Meadow  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

## Farnham Food & Drink Festival



### SUNDAY 28 SEPTEMBER

Serving up a feast of culinary delights to suit every palate. Plus, the infamous chilli eating competition, cookery theatre, live music and more.

Music in the Meadow  
Sunday 10 August  
Gostrey Meadow  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

Music in the Meadow  
Sunday 17 August  
Gostrey Meadow  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

Farmers' Market  
Sunday 24 August  
Central car park  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

Music in the Meadow  
Sunday 24 August  
Gostrey Meadow  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

Music in the Meadow  
Sunday 31 August  
Gostrey Meadow  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

**September**  
Farnham Pilgrim Marathon  
and Half Marathon  
Sunday 7 September  
[www.farnhampilgrim.org.uk](http://www.farnhampilgrim.org.uk)

Heritage Open Days  
12-21 September  
Various locations  
[www.farnhamsociety.org.uk](http://www.farnhamsociety.org.uk)

Farnham Food Festival  
Sunday 28 September  
Castle Street and the town centre  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

Farmers' Market  
Sunday 28 September  
Central car park  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

**October**  
World Craft Town –  
October Craft month  
1-31 October  
Various locations  
[www.farnhamcrafttown.com](http://www.farnhamcrafttown.com)

Farmers' Market  
Sunday 26 October  
Central car park  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

Autumn Bloomin' Kids'  
Workshops  
Tuesday 28 October  
The Kiln, Badshot Lea  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

### November

Bloomin' Litter Pick  
Saturday 8 November  
Town centre  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

Remembrance Sunday  
Sunday 9 November  
Farnham Town centre  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

Venison Dinner  
Friday 14 November  
The Bush Hotel

Christmas Lights Switch-On  
Saturday 15 November  
Gostrey Meadow  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

Farmers' Market  
Sunday 23 November  
Central car park  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

### December

Farnham Civic Christmas  
Carol Service  
Wednesday 3 December  
St Andrew's Church  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

Farnham Christmas Market  
Sunday 14 December  
Town centre  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

Farmers' Market  
Sunday 14 December  
Central car park  
[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

Advertise a public event  
for free at  
[www.farnham.gov.uk/  
events](http://www.farnham.gov.uk/events)

# Farnham Literary Festival

The 2025 Farnham Literary Festival promises to be another hit with over 50 events taking place across more than a dozen venues from 6 to 16 March.

Straight out of the jungle and headlining this year's festival is the cleric, broadcaster, and writer, the Reverend Richard Coles. There will also be a warm welcome for literary novelist Louis de Bernières (best known for Captain Corelli's Mandolin) in the opening weekend.

For crime devotees, Kate Summerscale (The Suspicions of Mr Whicher), BBC's Death in Paradise writer Robert Thorogood, and psychological thriller author Nicci French will all make an appearance.

Country Living columnist Sally Coulthard will discuss all things nature. Historians will enjoy Lissa Evans, Clare Chambers and Simon Scarrow; and the full History Day at Waverley Abbey with Damien Lewis, Alison Weir and Louise Morrish.

For those keen on current affairs, authors Michael Sheridan and Julian Evans will debate recent events in China and Ukraine.



Louis de Bernières



Damien Lewis



Reverend Richard Coles



Lissa Evans



Local authors will feature at a special event at Farnham Library and there are plenty of other poetry, theatre and comedy performances across the 10-day festival, including Luke Wright, the Booming Lovelies, Nia Broomhall, Daniel Bye and Andy Zaltzman, and plenty more besides.

### Schools' programme

Together with Blue Bear Bookshop, Farnham Town Council has organised a schools' programme. Local and bestselling authors will go into Farnham schools to share the enjoyment of books and reading with children and young people.

### Competitions

The theme for the free-to-enter Farnham Poetry Competition 2025 is 'unity.' There are four age groups: 7 and under, 8-11, 12-16 and over 16s. Email poems to [poetry@badshotleaandhale.org](mailto:poetry@badshotleaandhale.org) or post to Farnham Poetry Competition, St Mark's Church, Alma Lane, Farnham, GU9 0LT, to arrive by 5pm on 24 February. Winners will be announced at the poetry awards ceremony on Sunday 16 March at St Mark's Church.

### First Five Pages

Farnham's First Five Pages competition closed in January 2025, and results will be announced at the Festival. If you missed the deadline for this year's competition, start planning your first five pages for next year's Festival which is 6 to 15 March.

Farnham Literary Festival is organised by Farnham Town Council alongside a number of key partners and organisations. Principal sponsors are Frensham Heights and Leightons Opticians and Hearing Care. This support enables some of the events to be free of charge and helps make the festival a truly local community event.

For details about the events, competitions and how to book, scan the QR code (above), visit [www.farnhamliteraryfestival.co.uk](http://www.farnhamliteraryfestival.co.uk), follow @farnhamlitfest across social media, or pick up a full festival brochure from the Town Hall on South Street.

# Sport for everyone!

By David Gill, Chair of Farnham Sports Council



We all know that sport and physical activity is good for one's physical and mental health.

Watching your hard work pay off and achieving your dreams or ambitions through sport or for health and fitness reasons or personal image brings about a feel-good factor and tons of self-confidence. Quite simply, sport enhances your quality of life.

If you happen to live in Farnham, you're lucky. We have some of the very best community and member sports and fitness clubs anywhere, and we are indebted to the large pool of volunteers who prop up community sport in the town.

Sport matters in Farnham and there are plenty of awesome sporting and healthy lifestyle opportunities available in the town for everyone. Here are some sports to try out in 2025.



## Archery

Archery is a sport for all ages and abilities. It helps to build muscle endurance and flexibility, and develop hand-eye coordination and strength. Archery teaches discipline, respect and self-control. Farnham Archers club is based just outside Farnham near the village of Elstead. Members can shoot at any time. There is a club evening on Tuesdays and shoot organised rounds on alternating Saturdays and Sundays. There are also occasional club trophy shoots where any member is encouraged to join in. The club has archers of all ages and abilities, shooting locally and in national competitions. Beginner introductory sessions take place in April. See [www.farnhamarchers.com](http://www.farnhamarchers.com)

## Roller hockey

Experience the fast-paced excitement of roller hockey. Farnham Roller Hockey Club (FRHC) is at the heart of the action, with over 120 members fielding three junior (U13, U15, U17) and two senior teams competing in the South-Eastern Counties league.

New players of all ages and abilities are welcome – skates and equipment are provided to help you get started. Beginners can join the satellite club, Surrey and Hampshire Roller Skating Club (SHRSC), for fun, friendly sessions.

Learn more at [www.farnhamrollerhockeyclub.weebly.com](http://www.farnhamrollerhockeyclub.weebly.com) and [www.bordonrsc.weebly.com](http://www.bordonrsc.weebly.com)



## Pickleball

Pickleball is the fastest growing fun sport in the UK that can be played at any age and level. Aldershot and Farnham Pickleball Club (AFPC) play at Farnham Heath End School three nights per week. They currently have 80 members ranging in ability from national champions to recreational players. Competitive play is on Tuesdays, recreational on Wednesdays and flex sessions, involving drills, coaching or tournament practice on Thursdays.

For 2025 AFPC are looking to expand sessions to weekends, having more junior members and enabling beginners to join.

For contact details, visit [www.pickleballengland.org](http://www.pickleballengland.org)

## Croquet

Farnham Croquet Club has amalgamated with the Aldershot Traction Bowls Club to share their lawn and form the first club in the area where members can play both sports for a good value, single membership fee.

The club play the more popular game of Golf Croquet whose basic rules are simple and take about ten minutes to learn. Matches take about an hour, in two or four ball formats, and players are always involved as they try to help their side through the next hoop, or thwart their opponents. It's a great way to enjoy a new sport in a friendly and pleasant environment!

Croquet mallets and all equipment is provided by the club.

If you are interested in joining to play croquet and/or bowls in 2025 contact the club via their website at <https://aldershottractionbowlscroquet.uk/>. New member taster sessions will be held in April.

## Optimise Foundation

Optimise Foundation is an exciting new voluntary initiative in Farnham. Doctors, nutritionists, sports therapists, public health specialists, parents, athletes and Paralympians are sharing their expertise to empower girls and women to exercise in tune with rather than against their bodies.

They communicate latest science on female physiology in sport to educate and build awareness of coaches, teachers, sports, parents and athletes on how female hormone fluctuations at different stages of life can be a barrier to physical activity, but also harnessed to improve physical health, welfare and mental wellbeing of girls and women at all life stages.

Find out more at [www.optimisefoundation.org](http://www.optimisefoundation.org)



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## Farnham Farmers' Market

Farnham Farmers' Market is held on the fourth Sunday of every month from 10am-1.30pm in Central Car Park, off Victoria Road.

The market has a great variety of stalls, with around 40 producers showcasing their produce. Here's who you may find:

### Cheese On The Wey

Cheese On The Wey is an artisan cheesemaking business located at The Old Dairy, Pierrepont Farm in Frensham. John, the founder, loves cheese and this passion, alongside partaking in a cheese making course, hatched the idea for starting his own venture.

By 2020 The Old Dairy had been transformed into a functional cheesemaking facility. If you're lucky, visitors can see the cheese being made and have a chance to chat with John, who is always happy to answer questions.

Cheese On The Wey offers a diverse range of award-winning cheeses, including Tilston Blue, Blue Millie, Millie, Weywood and Colwey, as well as seasonal specialties. As the business grows, 2025 looks to be just as exciting. Plans are underway to introduce the first cheddar (it takes 9 months to mature) as well as running local cheese making courses at The Old Dairy.

<https://www.cheeseonthewey.co.uk/>



### Mrs B's Bees

Mrs B's Bees is a small scale, family-run bee farming operation. They currently run 200 hives across Hampshire, Surrey, and Sussex. The hives are located on unique sites which include wildflower meadows, sweet chestnut woodlands and orchards. Each season they take hives to the New Forest where they harvest a crop of heather honey for which they have won National Honey Show awards.

An important part of their ethos is to only harvest honey which is surplus to the bees' requirements. All their honey is harvested individually from each apiary and sold with the location on the labelling, enabling their customers to buy a honey that really is local to them.

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

### The Hairy Pig

Growing up their lives couldn't be more different. Luke grew up in bustling Brighton with an obsession for his toy farm set, and Krisz in Southern Hungary, but eager for a different journey. The farm has been developing in its current guise since 2003, providing high quality livestock and enough free-range food for Luke and Krisz.

Today, the Hairy Pig is a welfare friendly smallholding focusing on the production of free-range meat that is sold through local Farmers' Markets. Pork and sausages from their pedigree Mangalitzta and Oxford Sandy and Black pigs is the mainstay of The Hairy Pig stall along with lamb and mutton from flocks grazed in Froyle and Guildford. There is always seasonal variation in the products and keep an eye out for farmers' market specials!

<https://www.instagram.com/hairypigco/>



### Grow Your Own

Allotment plots now available in Farnham.

Enjoy fresh air, home grown produce and connect with nature by joining Farnham's community of allotment holders.



Farnham Town Council has eight allotment sites at:

- Alderley Farm, West Street
- Farnborough Road, off Weybourne Lane
- Morley Road
- Shepherd and Flock roundabout
- Six Bells roundabout, Hale Road
- West Street
- West Street extension
- Wreclesham, off Riverdale

No matter your skill level, allotments are a fantastic way to get hands-on experience with gardening. Visit [www.farnham.gov.uk/allotments](http://www.farnham.gov.uk/allotments) to apply for a plot.

**LOCAL TAX & ACCOUNTANCY SERVICES**

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## Boost your brand and be seen in Farnham

Farnham offers a variety of sponsorship opportunities through its 'Invest in Farnham' initiative, providing businesses with excellent visibility while supporting the community. These ready-made marketing opportunities range from sponsoring floral displays to major events. Prices start at £50 so there's something to fit most budgets.

### Sponsorship opportunities

- Floral displays:** Sponsor hanging baskets or flower troughs, which will feature your company's name on plaques and be showcased around key areas like South Street or Hickley's Corner. This option not only beautifies the town but also enhances your brand visibility locally. Prices start at £50 for winter hanging baskets and go up depending on location and display scale.
- Community events:** Farnham's vibrant all-year round event calendar includes live music concerts at Gostrey Meadow, Farnham Food & Drink Festival, the Literary Festival, Christmas lights switch-on and more. There are a range of packages offering benefits for sponsors which could include brand visibility on printed materials, banners, press releases, and promotional stands at events.
- Niche sponsorships:** Target specific audiences with tailored opportunities like the 'Bloomin' Kids' gardening workshops or the Allotment Show, aimed at families and gardening enthusiasts respectively. Both options include logo placement on materials, press releases, and social media mentions, offering a focused marketing strategy.
- Digital presence:** As part of any sponsorship package, your business can benefit from links and promotional features on Farnham Town Council's website, reaching both local residents and visitors online.

Whether your marketing objective is to make your business more visible in Farnham, to mark a business anniversary, demonstrate your corporate social responsibility or to provide your staff with a team building exercise, Farnham Town Council can offer you the perfect sponsorship opportunity.



Full details about the sponsorship programme and benefits can be found at [www.farnham.gov.uk/](http://www.farnham.gov.uk/) sponsorship or contact us to discuss your requirements.

## Farnham in Bloom: What's it all about

Farnham in Bloom is about so much more than brightening our town and villages with beautiful flowers. Instead, it's a vibrant community-driven project that brings together local residents, businesses, and volunteers to enhance the natural environment, promote sustainability, address challenges from climate change, and improve the wellbeing of everyone in our town.

### Horticultural achievement – planting with purpose

The flowers and plants Farnham Town Council chooses for containers and beds enhance urban environments, improve air quality, boost mental wellbeing and foster community pride.

#### How Farnham in Bloom has made a difference

- Creating more wildflower areas.
- Planting 50 native trees in Hale Cemetery.
- Planting over 30,000 spring bulbs around Farnham.
- Enabling over 180 children to take part in the Bloomin' Kids' gardening workshops at Badshot Lea and Hale.

### Environmental responsibility – helping the planet

At its core, Farnham in Bloom focuses on improving the local environment. Planting flowers, trees, and greenery in public spaces helps reduce carbon emissions, improves air quality, and supports local wildlife.

#### How Farnham in Bloom makes a difference

- Choosing single headed flowers as they support pollinating insects.
- Including more drought tolerant perennials in planting schemes so as to reduce the need for water.
- Using peat free compost.
- Expanding our range of low noise electric tools.

### Community participation – building strong community connections

Volunteers, regardless of age or background, come together to plant, care for, and maintain floral displays and green spaces. Farnham in Bloom provides numerous opportunities to connect with others and through these shared activities, friendships are formed, and a sense of ownership over how the local area develops.



### How Farnham in Bloom makes a difference

- Holding community days and organising workshop activities for families.
- Supporting the Badshot Lea Community Garden, Space2Grow, the Bourne Conservation Group and more.
- Organising the Sustainability Festival in partnership with Farnham Community Farm.
- Involving schools in making hanging baskets and taking part in competitions.

### How you can make a difference

If you are looking for a new interest this year and would like to get involved in Farnham in Bloom, please email [bloom@farnham.gov.uk](mailto:bloom@farnham.gov.uk). We need volunteers to help with litter picks, potting on, planting out, making hanging baskets and more.

### Behind the scenes

For an insight into Farnham in Bloom and its impact, watch the short film at [www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

### A winning formula continues

In 2024, Farnham won Gold and best in category for its entry into the RHS Britain in Bloom Town Centres and City Centres award. This was Farnham's fourth Gold at Britain in Bloom having also won in 2017, 2019 and 2022.

At South & South East in Bloom, Farnham won five Golds and was overall winner in the town centre, small parks and small cemetery category.

Five independent community projects also caught the eye of the judges with space2grow, Badshot Lea Bloomers, Bourne Conservation, Hale Community Centre and the Bourne Beautification Project winning awards.

# Walkable Farnham

Whether you're a seasoned walker or just looking for a peaceful escape, Farnham offers an abundance of walking opportunities right on your doorstep. Step outside, explore the natural beauty, and enjoy the fresh air!

## Self-guided walks

Farnham has a range of self-guided walks, all easily accessible through the free Discover Farnham app, available on the App Store or Google Play. You can choose from several themed trails, including public art, trees, and industrial heritage. The interactive map will keep you on track, offering helpful information like estimated walking times, as well as searchable features and various map views. For those who prefer a printed guide, illustrated brochures are available for download from Farnham Town Council's website or can be picked up from the Town Hall.

## Farnham Walking Festival 2025

Take part in the popular Farnham Walking Festival between 10 May and 1 June. Every day there is a different walk or walks. Whether you're after a gentle, family-friendly stroll or a more challenging hike with steeper gradients, there's something for everyone. The full programme will be available online in advance of the Festival at [www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)



## Popular Trails to Explore

- **North Downs Way:** Starting in Farnham, this 153-mile trail stretches all the way to Canterbury.
- **St Swithun's Way:** This 34-mile route connects Winchester to Farnham, taking you through scenic Hampshire and Surrey countryside. For a shorter walk, you can stop at Alton which is around 12 miles.
- **Blackwater Valley:** There are several walks around Farnham, including routes to Bentley and Aldershot (both around 5 miles). These walks take you through picturesque countryside, perfect for wildlife watching.

## Beautiful places to walk in Farnham

You don't need to be an avid hiker to enjoy Farnham's countryside. Pay a visit to the many parks and woodlands for a leisurely walk. Here are a few to explore:

### Tice's Meadow

A thriving nature reserve in nearby Badshot Lea, Tice's Meadow is perfect for birdwatching and leisurely walks. Check their website for kid-friendly printable nature trails to keep young explorers engaged.

### Caesar's Camp

Step back in time at Caesar's Camp, a site with Bronze and Iron Age history. Walk its trails to enjoy stunning views over Surrey and Hampshire, surrounded by heathland and pine forests.

### Bishop's Meadow

Purchased by the local community in 2009 to prevent development, this 30-acre wildlife haven serves as a natural floodplain and a vital conservation area.

### Farnham Park

A fantastic open space for walking, running, picnicking, and enjoying the fresh air. Its open areas and paths are ideal for peaceful walks or family outings.

### Alice Holt Forest

With miles of trails, this forest offers everything from short family walks to longer, more challenging hikes. Alice Holt offers inclusive cycle hire.

# Getting around

## Car alternatives for getting around.

### Bus services

The local bus service network which provides routes serving Aldershot, Alton, Badshot Lea, Bordon, Elstead, Godalming, Guildford, Haslemere, Hindhead, Rowledge, Sandy Hill, Shortheath, Whitehill and Wrecclesham is operated by Stagecoach.

Buses run at least once per hour, five days a week.

For further details, see [www.stagecoachbus.com](http://www.stagecoachbus.com)

### Door-to-door community transport

Waverley hoppa Community Transport provides a wheelchair accessible, door-to-door service for residents who do not have access to any other transport. The driver will pick you up from your front door and take you to your pre-booked destination in Farnham and surrounding villages in Waverley.

To register or to book your seat, visit [www.hoppa.org.uk](http://www.hoppa.org.uk)

### Digital Demand Responsive Transport (DDRT)

Download the Surrey Connect app from your app store, enter where you are and where you want to go and the app will guide you to your nearest virtual bus stop. The service operates Monday to Friday, 7am to 7pm and Saturday from 8am to 6pm. Bus passes can be used after 9.30am.

For further details, see [surreyconnect.org.uk](http://surreyconnect.org.uk)

### Cycle

Leave the car at home and save money by choosing eco-friendly cycling. There are over 30 cycle racks available throughout town, so whatever the purpose of your trip, you should be able to find somewhere to park your bike!



## Location of cycle parking

- Long Garden Walk
- Waitrose
- College Gardens
- Farnham Library
- The Maltings
- Farnham Town Council
- Central Car Park
- Farnham Leisure Centre
- 40 Degreaz
- Lidl
- Farnham Memorial Hall
- Coxbridge Business Park
- Farnham Station
- Farnham Hospital
- Sainsbury's Water Lane
- Badshot Lea Garden Centre
- Brightwells Tennis Club
- Premier Inn
- Nuffield Health
- Sainsbury's South Street
- David Lloyd
- Farnham Rugby Club
- Waggon Yard
- Vineyard Church
- Brightwells Yard cycle shelter

Farnham Town Council has been working with Waverley Borough and Surrey County Councils to identify and implement proposals that will bring significant social, economic and environmental benefits by creating a town centre which improves general traffic flow and provides pedestrians with wider pavements.

There will inevitably be some disruption caused by the implementation of the town centre improvements under the Farnham Infrastructure Programme (FIP). On some occasions roads will be closed for a period of time for works (including both Downing Street and The Borough). As a consequence alternative routes, resulting in slightly longer journey times, may be required.

For the latest information about the works programme, see Surrey County Council's website at [www.surreycc.gov.uk/farnhamworks](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/farnhamworks)



## Discovering art and craft in Farnham

Known for its pottery since Roman times, thanks to the white clay on which the town is built, craft is woven into Farnham's history.

Wool cloth manufacturing developed from the 16th century and later, the industrial revolution reinvigorated the pottery industry. Farnham School of Art opened in 1866, paving the way for crafting to take off more broadly. Its curriculum included crafts. Meanwhile, the likes of architect Harold Falkner, garden designer Gertrude Jekyll and potter Mary Watts, promoted crafts through their daily work.

The University for the Creative Arts (UCA) succeeded the art school and today teaches ceramics, glass, film, fine art, textiles, jewellery and silversmithing. It also houses galleries open to the public.

### Craft in the Community

In the community, Farnham Maltings, the Crafts Study Centre, the New Ashgate Gallery and the Rural Life Living Museum are key to promoting art and crafts but, in people's homes, schools, shops and village halls, crafters are also busily making, fashioning, painting, weaving, stitching and working their materials.

### World Craft Town status

In 2020, Farnham was designated England's first World Craft Town by the World Crafts Council. This honour connects Farnham to a global network of artists and has expanded learning and professional development opportunities for local craftspeople. Each year, there is an artist in residence scheme which is supported by the Farnham South Street Trust.

### Get involved

October Craft Month is the highlight of the crafting calendar. Residents can explore workshops, fairs, demonstrations, and exhibitions throughout the month. Visit [www.farnhamcrafttown.com](http://www.farnhamcrafttown.com) for updates. Open Studios in November offer a behind-the-scenes look at artists' workspaces (details at [www.surreyopenstudios.org.uk](http://www.surreyopenstudios.org.uk) and [www.nfat.co.uk](http://www.nfat.co.uk)).



### Places to visit

- Crafts Study Centre: Home to leading British craft collections. [www.csc.uca.ac.uk](http://www.csc.uca.ac.uk), 01252 891450
- Farnham Maltings: Community arts hub offering workshops and exhibitions. [www.farnhammaltings.com](http://www.farnhammaltings.com), 01252 745444
- Farnham Pottery: Studio space and classes for all skill levels. [www.thefarnhampottery.co.uk](http://www.thefarnhampottery.co.uk)
- Museum of Farnham: Local history through artefacts and activities. [www.farnhammaltings.com/museum](http://www.farnhammaltings.com/museum), 01252 715094
- New Ashgate Gallery: Arts and crafts exhibitions and workshops. [www.newashgate.org.uk](http://www.newashgate.org.uk)
- Rural Life Living Museum: Traditional countryside crafts. <https://rural-life.org.uk>, 01252 795571
- Watts Gallery: Art exhibitions, talks, and activities. [www.wattsgallery.org.uk](http://www.wattsgallery.org.uk), 01483 810235
- Allen Gallery: Renowned ceramics collection in nearby Alton. [www.hampshireculture.org.uk/allen-gallery](http://www.hampshireculture.org.uk/allen-gallery)

Whether you're an aspiring artist or a curious resident, Farnham's vibrant art and craft scene has something to inspire everyone.



UCA



Farnham Pottery



New Ashgate Gallery



Farnham Maltings



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### Visit the Farnham Farmers' Market



Buy fresh, local seasonal produce direct from those that grow it, rear it, make it or bake it.

Fourth Sunday of the month  
 10am to 1.30pm  
 Central car park

Over 40 stalls  
 Charity tea tent  
 Entertainment

Find out more about the farmers' market and the stallholders at [www.farnham.gov.uk/farmersmarket](http://www.farnham.gov.uk/farmersmarket)



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# Through the ages

## A potted history

Farnham's historical roots are a key part of its enduring appeal as a vibrant and sought-after place to live. Evidence of people making Farnham their home dates back to the Stone Age, Roman, and Saxon times, and by the 7th century, it was an established village owned by the Bishop of Winchester.

Farnham has seen its share of turmoil and tragedy including when the plague attacked (in 1625) and when Parliamentarians occupied it during the Civil War (1642-46).

Despite the challenges, Farnham's location at the meeting of ancient trade routes helped it thrive as a bustling market town as did the arrival of the railway in 1849. Over the years it has supported thriving industries which include pottery, wool, weaving, processing cloth and growing hops and this has shaped the town we enjoy today.

There's no doubt that Farnham's blend of the old and the new make it a special place to live and call home.



## Experience Farnham's history

### Museum of Farnham

Discover Farnham's social history through beautifully presented artefacts found, produced or closely associated with Farnham and nearby villages. The museum runs a programme of engaging activities for all ages. [www.farnhammaltings.com/museum](http://www.farnhammaltings.com/museum)

### Farnham Castle Keep

Dating back to the 12th century, Farnham Castle was a favourite residence of the Bishop of Winchester, Henry de Blois, brother of King Stephen. The impressive motte, 'shell' keep and a viewing platform revealing other remains are free to visit.

[www.english-heritage.org.uk](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk)

### Farnham Castle

Take a guided tour of Farnham Castle on select Wednesday afternoons. Charges apply and visitor numbers are limited. [www.farnham-castle.com](http://www.farnham-castle.com)



## Waverley Abbey

The first abbey founded in Britain by Cistercian monks. Enjoy an atmospheric walk around the remains of the 12th century refectory with its vaulted ceiling and explore the ruins of the lay brothers' quarters. Admire the ancient yew tree thought to be a sapling in the 1500s and named 'tree of the year' in 2022 by the Woodland Trust. [www.english-heritage.org.uk](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk)

## Heritage Open Days

Farnham participates in Heritage Open Days each year in September with an impressive programme of talks and guided tours offering a behind-the-scenes view of the town. [www.farnhamsociety.org.uk](http://www.farnhamsociety.org.uk)

## Venison Dinner

In November you can take part in a tradition that is believed to be unique to Farnham. The Venison Dinner dates back to 1605 and was first held in an attempt by the Bailiffs and Burgesses to stop townsfolk from poaching deer from Farnham Park. Nowadays, the meal is an opportunity to dress up and enjoy a formal but relaxed meal among friends with some entertaining speeches to introduce formal toasts to the town and responses.

## Notable names

Farnham has been home to sportsmen and women, artists, politicians, writers, activists and innovators. As you walk around Farnham, you can spot statues and place names dedicated to some of them. Florence Nightingale was a frequent visitor to Waverley Abbey, William Cobbett a renowned social reformer and politician, was born here and is buried in St Andrew's church yard.

In South Street, there is a wall featuring the names of people who have achieved great things in Farnham or elsewhere. There are currently over 30 plaques with more planned for this year.



## Hidden Heritage – revealing Farnham's buried past

Learn more about local history in and around Farnham from the Hidden Heritage leaflet series.

The leaflets are broken down into various historical periods and themes (Stone Age, Late Prehistoric, Roman, Saxon, Medieval, Early Modern, Industrial and Wartime) and provide useful historical information and timelines for each era of history.

Each leaflet showcases Farnham's distinctive history as a crafting town by focusing on historical industries and crafts for every period.

Copies can be downloaded from [www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk) or pick up hard copies from the Town Hall or Museum of Farnham.

## Did you know

The town's motto is 'By Worth' and is taken from the name of one of the town's benefactors, John Byworth. A clothier by trade and a philanthropist, in 1623 he presented the town with the Byworth Cup. A replica can be seen in the Museum of Farnham.

# Farnham's green spaces: havens for biodiversity

At Farnham Town Council we are dedicated to improving biodiversity throughout the town by implementing sustainable gardening practices, planting native species, and preserving wildlife habitats. This commitment ensures that Farnham's green spaces are not only beautiful and accessible but also supportive of a diverse range of species.

We own and manage a number of the area's parks, gardens and open spaces and are discussing with Waverley Borough Council about the transfer of more.

Under our stewardship, we aim to foster environments where nature and community thrive together.

## A guide to the spaces we manage

### Gostrey Meadow Union Road

A natural outdoor space that local people can easily access and enjoy, and that is the focal point for numerous community events, including cultural, heritage and educational activities.

Gostrey Meadow was officially opened as a park in 1910 after improvements and donations were made to overhaul a previously neglected area of wasteland. It was originally land owned by the Bush Hotel but fell into disrepair after the estate was broken up.



### Batting's Garden

Junction of A287 and The Ridgway

Enter through the splendid oak gate.

A wildlife garden tucked behind a hedgerow alongside an otherwise busy junction. The garden was presented to the town in 1933. It was given by Walter Batting who set up a drapers and outfitters in Alton and later retired to Great Austins.

### Hale Chapels' Garden

Hale Road

The award-winning garden is on the site of two former chapels which had fallen into disuse and disrepair. Parts of the chapels were removed to make them safe, but the materials have been reused in many ways. The sound of water from the water feature and the perfume of the garden makes this a very relaxing and peaceful space.

The garden is planted with trees and plants which feature in the bible and this has created a calm but positive ambience.

### Haren Garden

Enter from South Street (east side)

Celebrating the friendship between Farnham and the Netherlands' town of Haren, this small garden appropriately features lots of Dutch tulips, making a visit essential in spring or early summer. Large trees and attractive shrubs provide shade while the River Wey gives added interest.

The garden remembers the generosity of Farnham residents to the people of Haren in World War 2 and after flooding in 1953.

### Evelyn Borelli Garden of Rest

Falkner Road

The Evelyn Borelli Garden of Rest offers not only a peaceful spot to reflect, it also includes several pieces of public art. The result is an interesting place to walk or sit, with a modern, creative feel.

### Badshot Lea, Green Lane, Hale and West Street cemeteries

As well as being places of rest; the cemeteries are also important wildlife havens. These natural spaces provide vital shelter and food for birds, insects, and small mammals. They also serve as green corridors where wildlife can travel more safely and avoid built up areas.

When visiting the cemeteries, look out for graves of note which include:

#### Green Lane

George Sturt – writer and keen observer of daily life and social interaction.

Arthur J Stedman – an architect who was responsible for several notable buildings in west Surrey including the McDonald Almshouses in West Street.

#### Hale Cemetery

William Ellis – served in the XI Hussars and is said to have been the last survivor of the charge of the Light Brigade.

#### West Street

Mike Hawthorn – the UK's first Formula 1 world champion in 1958. He died in a car crash on the A3 near Guildford in 1959.

George Elphick – founder of the first Elphick's department store in 1881 and who died in 1921.



### The Garden of Reflection, West Street Cemetery

This garden offers a calm and peaceful place to remember loved ones. A largely white planting scheme is complemented with seasonal bulbs, plants and shrubs. Subtle screening offers privacy from neighbouring allotments. The garden is lovingly maintained by volunteers.

## Recognising excellence in green spaces

One of the key indicators of Farnham's commitment to biodiversity is its collection of Green Flag Awards. This prestigious recognition is awarded to parks and green spaces that meet high standards of environmental management, biodiversity conservation, and community involvement.

In 2024, Farnham Town Council was awarded a new Green Flag Award for Hale Cemetery. Green Flags for Badshot Lea and West Street Cemetery were retained for the second year running and Gostrey Meadow for the fourth consecutive year.

Farnham Town Council uses the Green Flag Award standard as a benchmark to ensure continued improvements and flourishing wildlife havens.

### Be a friend

Farnham Town Council has ambitious plans for 2025. If you would like to get involved by joining a friends' group for your favourite garden, please register your interest by emailing [bloom@farnham.gov.uk](mailto:bloom@farnham.gov.uk)

For more information, see [www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

# Farnham Repair Cafe

Farnham Repair Cafe is a thriving community initiative committed to reducing waste, encouraging sustainability, and fostering a culture of repair. This volunteer-powered organisation offers residents a chance to fix broken or damaged items for free, extending their lifespan, keeping them out of landfill and saving money.

## What happens at the Repair Cafe

The Repair Cafe's mission is simple: repair rather than discard. Skilled volunteers include electricians, seamstresses, carpenters, and general fixers. The team repairs household objects for the local community, including electrical items, like irons and kettles, mechanical items, furniture, laptops, bikes, clocks clothing and textiles. See the website for more information.

The cafe, which operates monthly at The Spire Church in Farnham, has welcomed almost 6,000 product owners and successfully repaired more than 2,600 items. Repairing the products has diverted over seven tonnes of waste from landfill, avoided over sixty-eight tonnes of carbon emissions and saved local residents an estimated £220,000 in replacement costs.

## When is the Cafe held

It is open on the second Saturday of every month at the Spire Church, South Street, Farnham from 10am to 12.30pm.



## Is there a charge for repairs

The Cafe makes no charge for looking at or attempting to repair the item. The owner of the item will need to pay for any spare parts or materials that might be needed.

If you wish, you may make a donation towards running costs.

## How to volunteer

If you would like to volunteer at the Cafe and help with booking in repairs at the check-in desk or becoming a repairer, please do visit the cafe and speak with one of the trustees.

## Recognition: The King's Award for Voluntary Service

The Farnham Repair Cafe's outstanding contributions earned it the prestigious King's Award for Voluntary Service in 2024. Often called the 'MBE for volunteer groups, this award recognises exceptional service provided by volunteer-led organisations.

This accolade underscores the cafe's vital role in the local community and its dedication to environmental responsibility. The volunteers' passion and commitment have inspired similar projects in other communities, making the cafe a beacon of sustainability.

You don't have to bring a faulty product to visit. The Cafe welcomes people who just want to pop along for a look.

To find out more about Farnham Repair Cafe, visit <https://frc.cfsd.org.uk>

# Volunteering in Farnham

Volunteering is the lifeblood of Farnham's vibrant community. It provides a way for individuals to connect, contribute, and make a tangible difference in the lives of others. Whether supporting older people, cleaning public spaces, or leading youth activities, volunteering strengthens the bonds that make Farnham such a welcoming place to live.



2024 award winners

## Services to Farnham

One way Farnham recognises its dedicated volunteers is through the annual Services to Farnham Awards. In 2024, 11 people received awards for the countless hours they have spent supporting many important facilities and services including care of the elderly, people with disabilities, activities of all kinds and for all ages, protecting the environment and caring for people's wellbeing.

If there is somebody you would like to see honoured with a Services to Farnham Award, visit [www.farnham.gov.uk/servicestofarnham](http://www.farnham.gov.uk/servicestofarnham) to submit your nomination.

## King's Award for Voluntary Service

The King's Award for Voluntary Service is the highest award given to volunteer groups in the UK and is equivalent to an MBE. The awards take place every year and in 2024 the Farnham Repair Cafe and Tice's Meadow received the honour.

Visit [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) for more details and how to nominate a Farnham group.

## Winners from 2024

Visit [www.farnham.gov.uk/servicestofarnham](http://www.farnham.gov.uk/servicestofarnham) to read the nominations for each of the award winners.

### Adam Chambers, Maria Finch, Tony Marshall

For services to 12th Farnham (Wrecclesham) Scouts

Adam, Maria and Tony co-founded the 12th Farnham (Wrecclesham) Scouts over ten years ago. Scouting was flourishing but there was a shortage of volunteers. Supported by the District Commissioner, they re-established a cub pack and undertook the necessary training to enable the group to flourish and then created a scout group.

Adam, Tony and Maria, recruited a community of ten scout leaders and have been able to maintain a regular programme of activities including: camping (giving every child the opportunity to participate); navigation; bush craft; pioneering; leadership; first aid; climbing & abseiling; cycling and cycle maintenance; archery & shooting; cooking; kayaking & rafting.

Adam, Tony and Maria have dedicated themselves to supporting over 150 young people aged 6-14 years old with the opportunity to develop themselves as young citizens.

### Cliff Watts

For Services to Badshot Lea and Farnham Cliff dedicates much of his time to two important organisations within the village of Badshot Lea. He has chaired the Badshot Lea Community Association for many years and is a trustee of the Hop Kiln (Village Hall), whilst also being its treasurer.

Cliff was one of the first people to realise the importance of the Neighbourhood Plan and spent many hours contributing to planning meetings and appeals against development in inappropriate locations and keeping the village informed.

He has also been instrumental in supporting Farnham in Bloom, the pond restoration, and the development of the Community Garden.

Cliff shows huge dedication, diligence and gives of his time willingly. As someone who has been at the centre of key organisations that enhance life in the village for many years, he is understandably regarded as 'Mr Badshot Lea' and the award is well-deserved.

# Community Connections

Support is available right here in Farnham for those moments when life becomes a little overwhelming. Asking for help can be difficult, but many local organisations are ready to assist you.

## Free, confidential and impartial advice

Contact Citizens Advice South West Surrey.

- Call the free Surrey Adviceline Monday to Friday, 10am to 4pm on 0808 812 7087.
- Drop in to Montrose House, South Street, Farnham, Surrey, GU9 7RN. Opening times are Monday 10am to 12noon, Wednesday 1-3pm and Thursday 10am to 12noon
- Visit the website for information and other ways to contact the service. See [www.casws.org.uk](http://www.casws.org.uk)

## Money Advice

Frontline Farnham provides confidential advice on managing money, debt, and benefits. Their drop-in sessions require no booking, or you can contact them by phone, email, or video call at a convenient time.

- Drop-ins: Wednesdays, 10am-12noon, Bethel Baptist Church; Fridays, 10am-12noon, the Vineyard Church Centre.
- Website: <https://farnham.frontlinemoneyadvice.org>
- Phone: 01252 560752
- Email: [info@ffma.org.uk](mailto:info@ffma.org.uk)



## Food and groceries

Farnham Foodbank offers food parcels for those in need. Access the service through a GP, school, or local agencies.

- Phone: 07901 581539
- Website: [www.farnham.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.farnham.foodbank.org.uk)

Community Fridges and Cupboards at Hale Community Centre and Brambleton Hall operate on a “take what you need, give what you can” basis. These are open to all, regardless of financial circumstances.

- Hale: Monday to Friday, 10-12noon. For people who live within five miles of the Centre.
- Brambleton Hall, Talbot Road: Fridays, 1-4pm.

## Meals on wheels

Nutritious hot meals, sandwiches and ready-to-heat frozen meals can be delivered to your door if you cannot cook for yourself. All food is freshly made from scratch (dietary needs are accommodated) by Brightwells Gostrey.

- Website: [www.brightwellsgostrey.org](http://www.brightwellsgostrey.org)

## The Hygiene Bank

Provides hygiene essentials, beauty and personal care products for those who cannot afford them.

- Email: [FarnhamandAldershot@thehygienebank.com](mailto:FarnhamandAldershot@thehygienebank.com)
- Website: [www.thehygienebank.com](http://www.thehygienebank.com)

## Energy Support

Farnham Lions' Project Wenceslas assists with heating and cooking costs. Visit [www.farnhamlions.org.uk](http://www.farnhamlions.org.uk)

## Transport

Care Farnham's volunteers will drive you to your GP practice or hospital for a voluntary contribution to cover the driver's costs. So long as you are able to get in and out of a car safely, Care Farnham can take you to your appointment – even to hospitals further afield such as in London.

Phone: 01252 716655  
Website: [www.carefarnham.org.uk](http://www.carefarnham.org.uk)

Waverley hoppa provides door-to-door transport in its wheelchair accessible buses. On-board staff help passengers on to the bus and ensure they get into their homes safely. Hoppa takes passengers wherever they want to go: town centres, dental appointments, hairdressers, to friends, etc. Register to use the service and then book in advance.

- Phone: 01428 681701
- Website: [www.hoppa.org.uk](http://www.hoppa.org.uk)

## Meet new people

You can expect a warm welcome, good company and satisfying food and drink at Farnham's community cafes. Here are some of the places to visit in 2025:

### Coffee Spot

**Where** Rowledge Village hall

**When** Every Friday from 8am to 12noon

**What to expect** Enjoy delicious homemade cakes with a cup of tea or coffee served by village volunteers. Everyone is welcome and all profits go to the village hall.

**Email** [helen.mortimer0610@gmail.com](mailto:helen.mortimer0610@gmail.com) if you would like to make cakes or help out.

### History of Hale Project Coffee Mornings

**Where** Hale Village Hall

**When** Last Saturday of the month from 10am to 12 noon

Try out the coffee and cake, browse the history exhibition and look through volumes of local postcards, family photographs and other material. Bring along your photos and memories about Hale. All welcome.

### Seniors' Coffee Morning

**Where** Hale Community Centre

**When** Wednesdays from 10.30am to 12noon

**What to expect** A welcoming group for people aged 50+.

Hale Youth Centre also hosts clubs and meet ups for local young people. Details at [www.halecommunitycentre.org.uk](http://www.halecommunitycentre.org.uk)



HRH The Duchess of Edinburgh GCVO meets members of Hale Community Centre's Seniors' Club



Sunflower Cafe

### Sunflower Cafe

**Where** Small Hall, The Spire Church, South Street

**When** 11am to 12.30pm on Thursdays

**What to expect** The cafe is aimed at people with dementia and their carers. Enjoy a cuppa, biscuits and good company as well as a weekly activity.

A £2 donation is requested to help cover room hire and refreshments.

### Tuesday Coffee Morning

**Where** Cobbett Room, St Thomas-on-the-Bourne

**When** Weekly coffee morning which starts at 10.30am

**What to expect** A popular coffee morning which is open to all.

### Wednesday Coffee Morning

**Where** St Martin by the Green, Lower Bourne

**When** Wednesdays from 10.30am to 12noon

**What to expect** Drop in and meet others. All welcome.

### Coffee Mug Cafe

**Where** St James's Church, Rowledge

**When** Second Saturday of the month, 10am to 12noon

**What to expect** Refreshments and conversation for people living locally and visitors to Alice Holt or the church.

### The Spire Cafe

**Where** The Spire Church, South Street

**When** Open 10am to 2pm Monday to Friday and 10am to 12noon on Saturday

**What to expect** An independent cafe serving morning coffee, tea, light lunches and a selection of home-baked cakes and biscuits.

If you run a community cafe, contact us to be added to our online directory. [www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)

# Valuing Farnham's younger people

Supporting younger people is a priority for Farnham Town Council. By committing an additional £90,000 to our budget we have been able to strengthen existing services and carry out research to gain an understanding of how we may be able to meet younger people's needs in the longer term.

## Keeping younger people active and engaged during the holidays

A programme of free school holiday activities ensures that hundreds of young people in Farnham are kept active, engaged, and safe during the holidays. Designed to support children and teens of all ages, particularly those from financially disadvantaged backgrounds, the initiative provides opportunities for fun and learning.

Local organisations are awarded grants totalling £20,000 to run activities ranging from sports and arts to educational workshops.

To find out how to apply for funding for your school holiday activity, visit [www.farnham.gov.uk/young-people](http://www.farnham.gov.uk/young-people)



## Holiday projects Farnham Town Council helped to fund in 2024

### Summer holiday activities

**Organiser:** The Chantrys Community Centre

**Grant:** £1,500 from the school holiday activity fund

**What they did:** Held a summer fair and a family fun day.

**How the grant made a difference:** The grant enabled the organisers to buy a barbeque, food, sports equipment and healthy snacks. They also hired a bouncy castle for the summer fair and a speaker and DJ deck.

**Outcome:** The organisers were able to offer food to children whose families are struggling financially. Children of different age groups bonded over sport and music and created new friendships.

### Challengers summer holiday sessions

**Organiser:** Disability Challengers

**Grant:** £1,320 from the Community Grant fund

**What they did:** Summer holiday activities which included exciting trips and activities, including swimming, mini golf, cooking, a 'Challengers Got Talent' competition and a trip to a theme park.

**Outcome:** Sixty-two young people with disabilities attended at least one session. Youth workers provided 1:1 support for 35 young people and 2:1 support for a further two. Nine young people enjoyed a successful trip to a theme park with six receiving 1:1 support which enabled them to go. The summer holiday sessions saw parents and families benefit from a combined 1,800 hours of respite from their care responsibilities.

### Epic Explorers

**Organiser:** Bethel Baptist Church

**Grant:** £500 from the school holiday activity fund

**What they did:** Four days of activities which included crafts, games, songs, a daily bible drama and an accompanying 'messy quiz'.

**How the grant made a difference:** The organisers were able to provide a free lunch for every child.

**Outcome:** 75 children attended across the four days of the event including children with additional or significant needs. Feedback from parents and children was extremely positive and it is hoped a similar holiday club can be held in 2025.

## Getting to know what younger people want

Farnham Town Council commissioned some research to find out more about youth provision for Farnham's 11-18 year olds.

The findings included the identification of existing youth services and challenges, insights from 935 students from three secondary schools in Farnham and conversations with young people outside the school setting.

Key findings are as follows:

### Youth activities and engagement

- Young people have access to a wide range of local facilities, with sporting clubs the most mentioned, 75% having access to sport after school and 71% having access to a local sport club. Other activities mentioned by a majority of younger people were non-sporting after school clubs (64%), a gym (61%) and a library (58%).
- Barriers to participation in community activities include cost (24% agree "a lot"), activities not taking place at a suitable time (17% agree "a lot"), and accessibility issues (15% agree "a lot").

### Perceptions of community

- Youth generally view Farnham positively, appreciating safety (54% feeling safe "a lot") and friendliness of adults (44% agree "a lot" of adults are friendly).

### Mental health concerns

- Almost half of young people (42%) rated their current happiness at 8-10 out of 10, while over half (55%) rated their health as 8-10 out of 10.
- Over four in five agreed that 'My school cares about my happiness' (83%) and 'Bullying is taken seriously at my school' (85%).

The full report and recommendations can be viewed at [www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk)



## Young researchers project

During 2025, Farnham Town Council is working in partnership with Participation People on a second research project.

Young people aged 11-18 who live, work or study in Farnham are being recruited to interview their peers about their views on mental health in and out of school. Young researchers who complete the project will earn an AQA accreditation which can be included on CVs and personal statements.

## Outreach support

£60,000 of the additional funding allocated by Farnham Town Council has been granted to 40 Degreez, Hale Community Centre and Jubilee Hub. The money is helping to strengthen these existing organisations' youth outreach and youth work across the town centre, north and south Farnham. For example, 40 Degreez has been able to continue and grow a project which involves them going out and meeting young people, talking to them to find out their needs and supporting them where they can.

## Younger people's directory

Visit the younger people's directory to find activities and services for younger people.

If you are an organisation that provides services or activities, you can add your details to the directory. Visit [www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk).

Links to services and information for organisations which are not based in Farnham but which you might find helpful:

[www.surreycc.gov.uk/children](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/children)  
[www.mindworks-surrey.org](http://www.mindworks-surrey.org)  
[www.barnardos.org.uk](http://www.barnardos.org.uk)

# Financial support for individuals and community organisations

Funding is available for people who are in financial difficulty.

Farnham Town Council also administers the South Street Trust and Community Grants scheme which help to fund a variety of community projects.

Applying is straightforward and can be done online.

All information, including application forms and funding criteria can be found at [www.farnham.gov.uk/grants](http://www.farnham.gov.uk/grants)

## FUNDING FOR INDIVIDUALS

### Farnham no-interest loan scheme

A no-interest loan scheme is available to Farnham residents and aims to help people survive the ongoing financial crisis.

Funded by Farnham Town Council and administered by Boom Community Bank, this scheme offers vital financial support to residents lacking access to conventional credit. The no-interest loan scheme is designed to ease immediate financial burdens and enhance community financial resilience.

Loans of between £300 and £1,500 are available to residents for expenses such as:

- Furniture
- Appliances
- Educational resources
- Car repairs and MOT
- Eyecare
- Dental
- Season tickets, and
- Other essentials.

More information about the scheme including details about how to apply, can be found at <https://boomcb.org.uk/loans/farnham-nils>



### Farnham Support Fund

The Farnham Support Fund, aims to provide financial support or assistance to individuals and families in Farnham who find themselves facing difficult circumstances due to financial pressures.



The Duchess of Edinburgh GCVO meets people from the Farnham Support Fund

### What help is available

Applications for up to £350 are invited for urgent assistance with essentials such as:

- Paying for gas or electric
- School uniform and shoes
- Replacing an essential household appliance
- Acquiring equipment eg wheelchair, care alarm
- Getting furniture and household items like a bed.

### How to apply

Visit the Financial support page at [www.farnham.gov.uk/grants](http://www.farnham.gov.uk/grants) to apply online. Applications need to be supported by a referee such as a headteacher, GP, social worker or health visitor.

### How applications are assessed

Applications will be assessed by a panel of people who represent the organisations that contributed to the original Farnham Support Fund during COVID.

The Farnham Support Fund was created as a collaboration between Farnham Town Council, Farnham Maltings, The Dempster Trust, Farnham Lions, Farnham Parochial Charity, The Farnham Institute Charity, Farnham Rotary (Weyside), Care Farnham, Farnham Hedgehogs, Farnham Herald, Farnham Foodbank, Citizens' Advice Waverley and Frontline Farnham.

### Surrey Crisis Fund

The Surrey Crisis Fund is available for Surrey residents who have nowhere else to turn in an emergency or following a disaster. Visit [www.surreycc.gov.uk](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk) to find out more about this fund.

## GRANTS FOR ORGANISATIONS

The Community Grants Scheme and South Street Trust fund provide vital funding to local organisations, helping them deliver projects that benefit our community. From supporting vulnerable groups to promoting arts, sports, and environmental initiatives, the scheme ensures resources are directed where they're needed most and will make the most difference.

The application forms and grant criteria can be found at [www.farnham.gov.uk/grants](http://www.farnham.gov.uk/grants)



	Community grants	South Street Trust
What does it fund?	Projects that benefit Farnham's community life or environment.	Art-based educational activity. By 'art,' the Trust means art and allied subjects but not performing arts.
Examples of successful applications	Play facilities, community building repairs, projects for older people, environmental sustainability projects, heritage projects.	Clay exploration for school children. Commissioning an artist to work with schools.
Who is eligible?	Not-for-profit organisations.	Farnham organisations with Farnham beneficiaries.
How much?	Up to £2,500.	No maximum stated per grant but the total available fund per year is around £20,000.
How long?	One-off projects or schemes needing funding for up to three years.	One-off projects.
When to apply?	September to mid-November	September to mid-November
When are grants paid?	May. Decisions are made in January.	April-May. Decisions made in January.

### Larger grants

Larger grants are awarded for key activities which are seen as supporting the strategic priorities of Farnham Town Council and key services which help the community. Examples include Farnham CAB, Brightwells Gostrey and Waverley hoppa Community Transport.

### Other sources of funding

Farnham's thriving community sector means there are other organisations looking to fund projects that benefit local people. Each has its own priorities, criteria and application process so visit their websites to find out if they are suitable.

The Dempster Trust

[www.thedempstertrust.org.uk](http://www.thedempstertrust.org.uk)

The Farnham Institute Charity  
[www.farnhaminstitutecharity.org](http://www.farnhaminstitutecharity.org)

Farnham Round Table  
[www.farnhamroundtable.org.uk](http://www.farnhamroundtable.org.uk)

Hale Carnival  
[www.halecarnival.co.uk](http://www.halecarnival.co.uk)

The Hedgehogs  
[www.the-hedgehogs.org.uk](http://www.the-hedgehogs.org.uk)

High Sheriff Youth Awards  
[www.highsheriffsofsurrey.com](http://www.highsheriffsofsurrey.com)

Isabella Schroder Trust (Wrecclesham only)  
[www.farnham.gov.uk/grants](http://www.farnham.gov.uk/grants)

Lions Club of Farnham  
[www.farnhamlions.org.uk](http://www.farnhamlions.org.uk)

Community Foundation for Surrey  
[www.cfsurrey.org.uk](http://www.cfsurrey.org.uk)

Rotary Club of Farnham and  
Rotary Club of Farnham Weyside  
[www.rotary-ribi.org](http://www.rotary-ribi.org)

Visit [www.farnham.gov.uk/grants](http://www.farnham.gov.uk/grants) and Voluntary Action South West Surrey ([www.voluntaryactionsws.org.uk](http://www.voluntaryactionsws.org.uk)) for more sources of support.

# The villages that make up Farnham

Meet your councillor and the ward they represent. Although Farnham is an historic market town with a thriving centre, the wider area is made up of distinct and active communities which contribute to the wider wellbeing of Farnham and its people.

## Badshot Lea and Moor Park

At the heart of Badshot Lea is a fine church, an active infants' school and several individual shops. The village boasts a large garden centre with a popular cafe, a community centre and a village pond.



Badshot Lea has an active community association led by volunteers. Badshot Lea Bloomers is a sub-group of the Association. Volunteers help with the upkeep of the village by organising litter picks, working parties at the pond and helping to look after the church and school grounds.

Badshot Lea Cemetery won Gold and was overall winner in the Small Cemetery category at South & South East in Bloom 2024.

For anglers, Farnham Angling Society provides some wonderful fishing opportunities at Badshot Lea big and small ponds.

Tice's Meadow, an award-winning nature reserve on the site of a former quarry, is considered to be one of the best inland sites to watch birds in the south east of England. The site is managed by Tice's Meadow Bird Group.

Visit [www.ticesmeadow.org](http://www.ticesmeadow.org) for information and details of volunteering opportunities. The volunteer group was awarded the King's Award for Voluntary Service in 2024.



**Councillor Chris Jackman**  
Independent  
c/o Farnham Town Council  
South Street  
Farnham  
GU9 7RN  
c/o 01252 712667  
[chris.jackman@farnham.gov.uk](mailto:chris.jackman@farnham.gov.uk)



**Councillor Mark Merryweather**  
Liberal Democrats  
Pheasant Cottage  
Frensham Farnham  
GU10 3DH  
07768 102459  
[mark.merryweather@farnham.gov.uk](mailto:mark.merryweather@farnham.gov.uk)

## The Bourne



The Bourne is a vibrant village with shops and a large village green which has been the location for the annual Bourne Show for over 90 years.

St Thomas-on-the-Bourne is a lively church at the heart of the community and Langham's recreation ground has a popular children's playground. The Bourne Woods are owned by the Forestry Commission and have featured in several blockbuster movies.

The village is well served by community groups, sports clubs and activities for young people.

The Bourne Beautification Project enhances the appearance of the village centre. Volunteers help with watering the hanging baskets and flower tubs and carry out regular litter picks.

### An insight from your councillors

Councillor Murray recommends a visit to Bourne Woods for impressive views over the surrounding pine forests and the chance to visit the filmset of many blockbuster films such as Gladiator and Harry Potter.



**Councillor Michaela Martin**  
Farnham Residents  
1 Moor Park Lane  
Farnham  
GU10 1NS  
07899 844674  
[michaela.martin@farnham.gov.uk](mailto:michaela.martin@farnham.gov.uk)



**Councillor George Murray**  
Farnham Residents  
33a Shortheath Road  
Farnham  
GU9 9SH  
01252 820557  
[george.murray@farnham.gov.uk](mailto:george.murray@farnham.gov.uk)

## Castle



### An insight from your councillors

Councillor Hesse describes the jewels in Castle Ward as the Bishop's Meadow behind Crosby Way, the Museum Garden and Garden Gallery West Street. He also gives a mention to Farnham Town Football Club who are riding high in the amateur leagues. For cultural experiences, Councillor Hesse recommends the museum and the New Ashgate Gallery in Waggon Yard for its unique range of all types of craft work.



**Councillor Alan Earwaker**  
Farnham Residents  
c/o Farnham Town Council  
South Street  
Farnham  
GU9 7RN  
c/o 01252 712667  
[alan.earwaker@farnham.gov.uk](mailto:alan.earwaker@farnham.gov.uk)



**Councillor George Hesse**  
Farnham Residents  
c/o Farnham Town Council  
South Street  
Farnham  
GU9 7RN  
07968 451273  
[george.hesse@farnham.gov.uk](mailto:george.hesse@farnham.gov.uk)

## Farnham North West



### An insight from your councillors

Councillor Beaman describes Farnham North West ward as a ward of great contrasts over a wide area. To the west is an area of small hamlets such as Dippenhall surrounded by agricultural fields. Moving westwards the ward is more urban than rural in character with the Coxbridge Business Park and the location of the largest new proposed residential development in Farnham with 320 new homes being constructed at Coxbridge. Also in the ward is the large expanse of Farnham Park with Farnham Castle.



**Councillor David Beaman**  
Farnham Residents  
3 Highfield Close  
Farnham  
GU9 8EZ  
07788 202242  
[david.beaman@farnham.gov.uk](mailto:david.beaman@farnham.gov.uk)



**Councillor Graham White**  
Farnham Residents  
20 Ribston Road  
Farnham  
GU9 7GR  
07778 523667  
[graham.white@farnham.gov.uk](mailto:graham.white@farnham.gov.uk)



## Hale and Heath End



North of the town centre is the area of Hale and Upper Hale. Hale has a successful annual carnival and fayre held on the first Saturday in July on the recreation ground.

Adjacent to the recreation ground is an enclosed playground, a tennis court and two basketball courts which are free to use. An 11 a side football pitch and a cricket pitch can be booked via Waverley Borough Council. There is a scout hut, cemetery, Hale Chapels' Garden, Hale Institute Village Hall, two hairdressers and two pubs.

The area has a number of churches. Visit St Mark's to see Emily, the beautiful Edwardian pipe organ and murals painted by artist Kitty Milroy.

Heath End has access to Rowhill Nature Reserve which is good for walking and provides a haven for wildlife and flora.

The area is also home to Farnham Rugby Union club and Aldershot and Farnham Hockey Club. Heath End has a private gym and Farnham Heath End School with its all-weather pitch for community use.

### An insight from your councillors

Councillor Dickson suggests a visit to Hale Chapels Garden followed by a picnic at Caesar's Camp where, on a clear day, you can admire the view all the way to London.



**Councillor Sally Dickson**  
Farnham Residents  
39 Alma Way  
Farnham  
GU9 0QN  
01252 330386  
sally.dickson@farnham.gov.uk



**Councillor Tony Fairclough**  
Farnham Residents  
c/o Farnham Town Council  
South Street  
Farnham  
GU9 7RN  
c/o 01252 712667  
tony.fairclough@farnham.gov.uk

## Shortheath and Firgrove



Shortheath and Firgrove is a mainly residential area south of the A31.

This area includes Farnham College plus schools such as St Peter's, St Polycarp's, Highfield South Farnham and Weydon.

Shops, services and businesses are clustered around the railway station. There is also a vet, pubs and a business park.

Farnham Town Council manages Green Lane Cemetery and Morley Road allotments.



**Councillor Brodie Mauluka**  
Farnham Residents  
c/o Farnham Town Council  
South Street  
Farnham  
GU9 7RN  
07867 994439  
brodie.mauluka@farnham.gov.uk



**Councillor Kika Mirylees**  
Farnham Residents  
c/o Farnham Town Council  
South Street  
Farnham  
GU9 7RN  
c/o 07940 718982  
kika.mirylees@farnham.gov.uk

## Weybourne



Located to the east of Farnham, Weybourne has a village hall, sub post office, shops, a bakery, pubs, private gym and recreation ground. Weybourne House was once home to John Henry Knight, inventor, engineer and local landowner. He is famous for building the first petroleum carriage for two people made in England in 1895.

### An insight from your councillors

Councillor Brown recommends a trip to Beagley's bakery followed by a picnic on Weybourne recreation ground.



**Councillor Matthew Brown**  
Liberal Democrats  
24 Woodside Road  
Farnham  
GU9 9DS  
07720 413676  
matthew.brown@farnham.gov.uk



**Councillor Andrew Laughton**  
Farnham Residents  
2 Warren Close  
Farnham  
GU9 9FD  
07534 739738  
andrew.laughton@farnham.gov.uk

## Wrecclesham and Rowledge

Wrecclesham has a recreation ground which hosts the annual village fair, plus cricket, football and tennis clubs. Wrecclesham Community Centre is a focal point for local clubs and activities.



The village of Wrecclesham is best known for its pottery which is one of the best-preserved examples of a working Victorian country pottery in England.

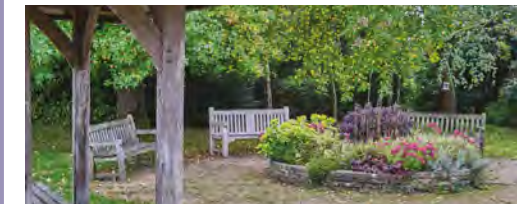
Wrecclesham History Project has recently published a new history of Wrecclesham book.

To the south of Farnham is Rowledge which has a thriving centre made up of a butcher, post office and convenience store, coffee shop, hairdresser, garage, village hall and pub.

The village green hosts a fayre on the second bank holiday in May.

### An insight from your councillors

Councillor Woodhouse rates cricket on the green at Rowledge 'for its significant family membership and how it encourages kids and families to get involved at the social events on the green on a Friday evening during the spring and summer months'.



**Councillor John Ward**  
Farnham Residents  
Woodlands  
7 Wrecclesham Hill  
Farnham  
GU10 4JN  
01252 715617  
john.ward@farnham.gov.uk



**Councillor Tim Woodhouse**  
Farnham Residents  
23 Vale Close  
Farnham  
GU10 3HR  
c/o 01252 712667  
tim.woodhouse@farnham.gov.uk

# A to Z of council services

A guide showing which council to contact about services in Farnham. For a more detailed A-Z or to report a problem, visit [www.farnham.gov.uk/report](http://www.farnham.gov.uk/report)

At Farnham Town Council, our core services include:

- A regular events programme
- Managing four cemeteries
- Managing eight allotment sites
- Managing Farnham in Bloom throughout the year
- Managing open green space which belongs to Farnham
- Reviewing planning applications (approximately 1,000 per annum)
- Supporting the business community through the emerging business improvement district
- Organising a range of civic events throughout the year including Remembrance Sunday, a Civic Christmas Carol service and other events or receptions celebrating volunteering, commemorating Commonwealth Day, and Armed Forces Day.





**Farnham**  
Town Council

[www.farnham.gov.uk](http://www.farnham.gov.uk) 01252 712667

 ALLOTMENTS	 FARMERS' MARKET
 BUS SHELTERS	 FARNHAM IN BLOOM
 CCTV	 GRAFFITI REMOVAL
 CEMETERIES	 GRANTS
 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS	 MAYOR
 CIVIC EVENTS	 PLANNING CONSULTEE
 COMMUNICATION	 TOILETS
 COMMUNITY EVENTS	 TOWN PARTNERSHIPS
 COUNCIL MEETINGS	



**Waverley**  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

[www.waverley.gov.uk](http://www.waverley.gov.uk) 01483 523333

 BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION	 LEISURE AND PLAYGROUNDS
 BUILDING CONTROL	 LEISURE CENTRES
 COLLECTING COUNCIL TAX AND BUSINESS RATES	 LICENSING
 ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATION	 OFF STREET CAR PARKING
 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH	 PLANNING APPLICATIONS
 FLOODING	 RUBBISH AND RECYCLING
 HOUSING	 STREET CLEANING
	 WAVERLEY TRAINING SERVICES

To contact your borough councillor, visit [www.waverley.gov.uk/councillors](http://www.waverley.gov.uk/councillors)



**SURREY**  
COUNTY COUNCIL

[www.surreycc.gov.uk](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk) 0345 600 9009

 CHILDREN'S SERVICES	 LIBRARIES
 EDUCATION	 ROADS
 FIRE AND RESCUE	 ON-STREET PARKING
 FOOTPATHS	 SOCIAL CARE
 HIGHWAY DRAINS/GULLIES	 TRADING STANDARDS

To contact your county councillor, visit [www.surreycc.gov.uk/councillors](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/councillors)

**Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey**

[www.surrey-pcc.gov.uk](http://www.surrey-pcc.gov.uk) 01483 630200

The Police and Crime Commissioner is elected every four years. They are responsible for overseeing the work of Surrey Police, holding the Chief Constable to account and agreeing the police and crime plan.



# continuous help

Wherever you are in **your life journey**

From residential conveyancing to divorce, finances, and child arrangements, Wills, LPA, probate matters, company and corporate transactions and more.

Our team is here to support you.

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

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SOLICITORS  
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HIGH WYCOMBE

LONDON

MAIDENHEAD

SLOUGH