



The Farnham Society
presents

Heritage Open Days



Thursday 8th to Sunday 18th September 2022



1938 Atalanta open sports car with bodywork designed and built by Abbots of Farnham
By kind permission of Bonhams / Len Huff. See page 12 for more details.

**Free Admission
to all venues,
tours and events**

farnhamsociety.org.uk

Supported by



www.farnham.gov.uk

Quick Guide

Please refer to listings for time and information

Key ● Main events ● Booking Required ○ Other activities

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| 20 | Farnham Masonic Centre | | | ● | | | | | | | | |
| 7 | Farnham Museum | | | | | | | | | | ● | |
| 8 | Farnham Pottery | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | | | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○● |
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Nationally HODs starts on Fri 9th Sept. We have a full programme and to fit everything in we will presenting two talks the day before the formal start of HODs.

HERITAGE OPEN DAYS IN FARNHAM 2022

Welcome

By Alan Gavaghan, Chairman, The Farnham Society

The good news is that for a few hours you can forget the depressing thoughts of rising costs and enjoy any or all the events described in this brochure completely free of charge. The organisation is undertaken by members of the Heritage Open Days sub-Committee of The Farnham Society supported by many other volunteers. Without the support and involvement of many members of the public, it would not be possible to bring these opportunities to you and it would be thoughtless not to also offer thanks to the many who act as guides, lecturers and the property owners who throw open their premises, the vintage car owners and so many others.

The scene is set and we all wish you an enjoyable visit.

Astounding inventions!

The National Trust's theme for Heritage Open Days 2022 is "Inventions, industry and innovation".

How does this apply to Farnham? If you were asked to describe Farnham to a stranger, what would you say? You might say that it is a historic town with beautiful buildings, many of them very old, and a Georgian character. Or that it is a World Craft Town with its own University for the Creative Arts, a regionally important arts and community centre at Farnham Maltings, a historic Victorian pottery and many distinguished individual artists past and present. Others would point to the town's wealth of gardens and green spaces, or draw attention to the surprisingly large number of famous people who have called the place their home. Farnham is all these things, but what you are not very likely to hear is anyone saying that it is a cradle of invention where world changing creations have first seen the light of day.



But Farnham can indeed make this claim, in addition to its other attributes. Visitors who do not know the town might be astonished to hear that one of the first examples of an invention that changed everyone's lives, the petrol powered motor car, was born here in 1895 and was the first to be driven on English public roads. A pottery industry that first developed here in Roman times has continued through the ages. The miraculous hammer beam roof of Westminster Hall was made here in Farnham at the end of the fourteenth century – a fact too often forgotten.

Hops and brewing and associated industries dominated the town for four centuries until the mid-twentieth. Abbotts Coachbuilding Works in Wrecclesham designed and built beautiful car bodies here, now treasured as vintage examples of their kind. Products as diverse as whalebone corsets and a patent toothbrush were made here – in the early twentieth century the Al Arak Toothbrush Company in Farnham advertised its toothbrushes made from the wood of the Middle Eastern Al Arak shrub where it is known as the ‘toothbrush tree’. Not a lot of people know that! Farnham is full of surprises.



It is these less well known aspects of Farnham which are the focus for Heritage Open Days in 2022 as well as the regular attractions - the ever popular festive open day at Farnham Castle, a day of celebration at Waverley Abbey House which is Farnham’s grandest mansion, days of special activities at the 150-year old Farnham Pottery in Wrecclesham and special events at Farnham Museum in its Grade I Listed Georgian building in West Street.

Walks guided by experts are offered on almost every day of the Heritage Open Days period, ranging through history and architecture to wildlife, forestry and lepidoptera, and there will be a total of nine illustrated lectures by specialists. 2022 will see the first full-scale range of events since 2019, because of the restrictions of the pandemic. Time to celebrate!

Sir Ray Tindle CBE DL

The absence of the Farnham Society President, Sir Ray Tindle, from our Heritage Day events is yet another example of how he will be missed from the many community activities in Farnham which received his active support.

Sir Ray has been a considerable influencing force in the community for many decades and his death has left a vacuum which will be extremely difficult to fill.

Not only The Farnham Society but many other organisations and individuals owe much to the support and encouragement quietly given without publicity or thought of personal gain.

He would have relished the thought that Heritage Open Days give you the chance to enjoy Farnham, the town he loved.



SPECIAL ALL DAY EVENTS

FARNHAM CASTLE, KEEP & DEER PARK, Castle Street GU9 OAG

Castle open Sun 11th Sept from 11am to 4.30pm.

Advance booking not required except for cream teas in the Great Hall. Map 2

No parking at the Castle except for disabled visitors. Parking available in Farnham Park (entrance off Folly Hill) entering the castle grounds through the Postern Gate.

Strictly no dogs (assistance dogs permitted).

Disabled access to ground floor only, steep stairs within the building.

Self-guided tours of the Bishop's Palace

900 years of living history! Self-guided tours of the Bishop's Palace, between 11am and 4pm. Palace guides will be present between 2pm and 4pm to offer historical information.

Farnham Castle Keep will be open, with a climb up steep steps, for an unrivalled view looking out across Farnham and the historic Bishops' deer park, created by the great Bishop William of Wykeham at the end of the 14th century.

Cream teas

Cream teas will be served in the magnificent surroundings of the Great Hall (advance booking essential on 01252 721194). Wood fired Pizzas and take-away cream teas available outside on the Great Lawn.

Historic re-enactment

Historic Civil War re-enactment from 11am to 4pm featuring military drills, musket and cannon firing. Lots of fun for all the family!

Farnham Castle dates from the 12th century, and for 800 years, until the mid-twentieth century, was the home and power base of the Bishops of Winchester. It is now a venue for events, conferences and weddings. The castle is the jewel in Farnham's crown, looking down upon the town from its elevated position on Castle Hill, as it has done for almost 1000 years. It was built as a Palace of the Bishops of Winchester and visited frequently by royalty. The historic buildings are Grade I and Grade II listed.



WAVERLEY ABBEY HOUSE, Waverley Lane, GU9 8EP

**Saturday 10th Sept, House and grounds open, 10am to 4pm.
Café open for light lunches and refreshments, cakes for sale.**

Discover the history of this Grade II* Listed mansion, located opposite the ruins of the first Cistercian monastery in England. Learn about what goes on here today. Parts of the house will be open to tour, as well as the grounds.



Waverley Abbey House is Farnham's most magnificent mansion, in a unique setting a couple of miles outside Farnham by the River Wey, with a lake and lovely garden. The original house on the site

was built in 1723 by Sir John Aislabie MP, and it was rebuilt and extended in the nineteenth century following a fire. In the First World War it was volunteered as a military hospital caring for over 5000 wounded soldiers. It is now a venue for courses, conferences and events.

Access: ground floor only, stairs to upper floor.



Adjoining Waverley Abbey House are the ruins of the Waverley Abbey and the 13th century Abbey Church,

On Sunday 18th there are two tours entitled "The Rise and Fall of Waverley Abbey", see page 18 for more details

**FARNHAM MUSEUM, Wilmer House, 38 West Street, GU9 7DX
Map 4.**

Sat 17th September, for opening times see website, museumoffarnham.com



Wilmer House, the home of Farnham's Museum, is an outstanding and little altered example of a Georgian townhouse. It was built in 1718 for a wealthy hop merchant, John Thorne, and today it is one of Farnham's only two non-ecclesiastical Grade I Listed Buildings. The initials J.T. and date 1718 can be seen on the drainpipe heads to the side of the building. It is a symmetrical early Georgian townhouse with Baroque design influences and many original interior features. The front façade is a tour de force of rubbed and gauged red brickwork with fine putty joints, though this is currently obscured by scaffolding pending repair work. Behind the house is a sheltered walled garden, secluded and quiet, well planted with trees and flowers, and a portrait bust of William Cobbett. The Garden Gallery is a teaching and exhibition space which can be hired for private events.

On Saturday 17 September the museum will run a family open day full of activities relating to this year's HODs theme of invention, industry and innovation. There will be an exhibition of vintage photographs of coach building at Abbots of Farnham in Wrecchlesham where bespoke car bodies were made between 1920 and 1972, and there will be science experiments for children and crafts.

Access: disabled access to ground floor, Garden Gallery and garden, disabled parking and accessible toilet. Stairs to upper floors.

Farnham Pottery, Quennells Hill, GU10 4QJ (off A325 through Wrecclesham).

Open every day 9am to 4pm with café providing home cooked food.

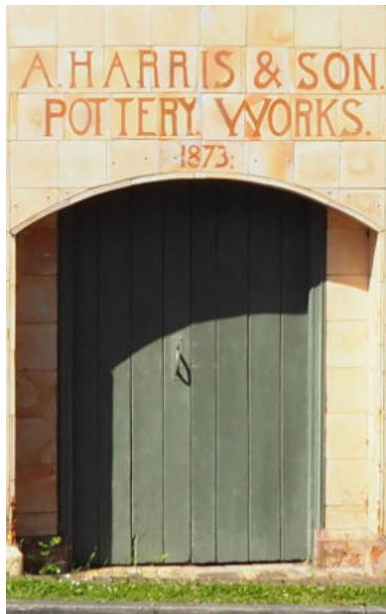
Sun 18th Sept at 12.30pm and at 3pm, “The Farnham Pottery History Talk”

Philip Harris, member of the fifth generation of Harrises to run the 150-year old Farnham Pottery, will give a one-hour talk providing an exclusive view into the site’s history, exploring traditional methods of making and decorating pottery wares, as well as the process of firing up the big kiln which is preserved on the site.

Advance booking for the talks required at www.thefarnhampottery.co.uk

Thu 8th to Mon 12th and Thu 15th to Sun 18th Sept, 9am to 3pm, “The Farnham Pottery Walking Video Tour”.

A smart phone guided video tour of the buildings, narrated by Philip Harris and taking about 40 minutes. Using your smart phone and QR codes, explore the secrets of the building and stories of the traditional potters who worked here..



The Farnham Pottery in Wrecclesham is a very rare surviving example of a Victorian country pottery. Opened in 1872, the business was owned and run until 1999 by five generations of the Harris family. In 1998 it was acquired by the Farnham Building Preservation Trust to save the buildings from threatened demolition, and it has been privately owned since 2012. Today it is a community based arts and crafts centre.

Access: floors are uneven and there are steep stairs. No disabled access to the upper floor. Accessible toilet.

Note, the 3pm talk on Sunday will be downstairs to allow for disabled access.



TALKS

Access: lifts are available at the Farnham Maltings and the Council Offices.

“John Henry Knight, man of many parts”, talk by Maurice Hewins.

Thu 8th Sept at 10am for 1 hour, Barley Room, Farnham Maltings. Map A.

Advance booking not required



Although John Henry Knight is best known for his inventions including the first petrol powered car to be driven on English roads, he was also an important and well known member of local society. He had brewing interests, owned and farmed substantial land in the area and was a deeply religious man.



“The Story of Farnham’s Water Supply and its Disposal”, talk by Noel Moss

Thu 8th Sept at 11.30am for 1 hour, Barley Room, Farnham Maltings. Map A.

Advance booking not required

This presentation traces the history of the supply of water to Farnham from the early days of individual wells and pumps through to today’s highly integrated system. It also describes the first sewage system, introduced to combat disease which was becoming rife in the nineteenth century. These services are the foundation of the attractive and healthy town that Farnham is today.

“The Architecture of West Street”, talk by Yolande Hesse

Fri 9th Sept at 2pm for 1.5 hours, Garden Gallery, Farnham Museum Map B.

Advance booking not required

The talk will describe the architecture of West Street, examining some of the geometry, history and stories of the people who lived there, as well as some hidden architectural features.



“St Andrew’s Church, past, present and future”, talk by the Revd. H. David Uffindell

Sat 10th Sept and Sat 17th Sept, St Andrew’s Church, Church Lanes (off Downing Street), Map D. Talk at 10am and 12 noon both days maximum 20

Advance booking essential at farnhamsociety.org.uk/hods2022 (booking opens Wed 31st Aug)



The Church will welcome HODs visitors with two talks by the Rector lasting approx. 20 minutes with question and answer time. Complimentary refreshments will be available.

The Church will also be open for HODs visitors between 10am and 1pm on the two Saturdays.

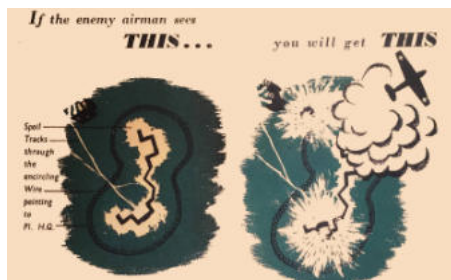
The rare Vinegar Bible will be on display and there will be tours of the Church Tower with visits to the ringing room and input from the members of the bell ringing team.

Access: the tower can only be accessed via a steep narrow spiral staircase.

“Camouflage at Farnham Castle”, talk by Roy Waight

Sat 10th Sept at 11am for 1.5 hour, Council Chamber, Council Offices, South Street, Map C.

Advance booking not required



The talk covers an extraordinary episode in the history of Farnham Castle when World War 2 forced a truly novel role upon it. The castle became home to the government’s camouflage school. This was a top secret and extraordinary exercise in deception, involving a list of gifted artists and designers including a magician whose accounts of his exploits there make a colourful story.

“The Great Roof of Westminster Hall”, talk by Roy Waight

Thu 15th Sept at 10am for 1 hour, Barley Room, Farnham Maltings, Map A.

Advance booking not required

It was in Farnham at the end of the fourteenth century that the greatest wooden structure of the European Middle Ages, the hammer beam roof of Westminster Hall, was constructed. It was made by the royal master carpenter Hugh Herland under the direction of the great Bishop William of Wykeham. It is not only ingenious but a thing of beauty in its own right, and the fact that it was made in Farnham is too little celebrated.

“Pottery across the Millennia – Farnham’s forgotten industry”, talk by David Graham

Thu 15th Sept at 11.30am for 1 hour, Barley Room, Farnham Maltings, Map A.

Advance booking not required
A look at how two linked industries in Farnham, potting and tile and brick making, developed across the centuries from the Roman period onwards, exploiting clay deposits in the countryside around the town.



“Farnham’s Finest – Celebration of Great Names”, talk by Peter Bridgeman

Fri 16th Sept at 10am for 1 hour, Cellar Bar, Farnham Maltings, Map A.

Advance booking not required

An illustrated talk detailing Farnham people who deserve the title “One of Farnham’s Finest”.

The list includes royalty, clergymen, politicians, medics, scientists, writers, artists, sculptors, architects, inventors, editors, plantsmen, sports people, musicians, singers and actors.



Heritage Open Days

Established in 1994, Heritage Open Days is England’s contribution to the European Heritage Days and has since grown into the country’s largest community heritage festival.

In 1991 the Council of Europe and the European Commission set up European Heritage Days to raise appreciation for Europe’s rich and diverse cultural assets and

their need for care and protection.

The central principle was simple : to throw open the doors to historic monuments and buildings, in particular those normally closed to the public. Today, they are held annually in September in 50 signatory states to the European Cultural Convention. Each country running it in their own way, the festival not only highlights the dazzling diversity of Europe’s heritage, but also its intercultural links.

“The Architecture of Castle Street”, talk by Michael Blower MBE

Fri 16th Sept at 11.30am for 1 hour, Cellar Bar, Farnham Maltings, Map A.

Advance booking not required

Retired architect and artist Michael Blower will take his audience on a ‘virtual walk’ around the buildings lining the famous panorama of Castle Street, drawing attention to architectural details large and small. Castle Street was described by the author Alec Clifton Taylor as “for sheer visual delight this street has few equals in all England” and this talk by a professional justifies the claim.



“St Andrew’s Church, past, present and future”, talk by the Revd. H. David Uffindell

**Sat 17th Sept at 10am and 12 noon
See entry on page 10.**

“E.D. Abbott Ltd, the history of Edward Dixon Abbott, the man, his company Abbotts of Farnham, his artisans and his fine hand-built cars”, talk by Len Huff

Sat 17th Sept at 11am for 1.5 hours, Council Chamber, Council Offices, South Street, Map C.

Advance booking not required



The story of Abbotts Coachbuilding Company in Wrecclesham who built many hundreds of fine, bespoke bodies for the finest chassis from Great Britain, Europe and the United States between 1929 and 1972.

Rolls-Royce saloons were built for such as Lord Baden Powell, former Prime Minister Lloyd George, writer and poet Rudyard Kipling as well as a unique Ferrari 212 and the only 4-seat Jaguar XK120 in the world.

In 2019 the site was awarded the prestigious Red Wheel award by the National Transport Trust.

A photographic display will be available in the Council Chamber on the morning of the talk, and there will be a display of vintage Abbott-bodied motor cars in the car park at the rear of the Council Offices building.

GUIDED WALKS

Advance booking is essential for many of the guided walks
To book please visit the Farnham Society's website
farnhamsociety.org.uk/hods2022
Booking opens 31st August

“Parks and Plaques”

Fri 9th Sept at 2pm
Advance booking essential
(maximum 12)

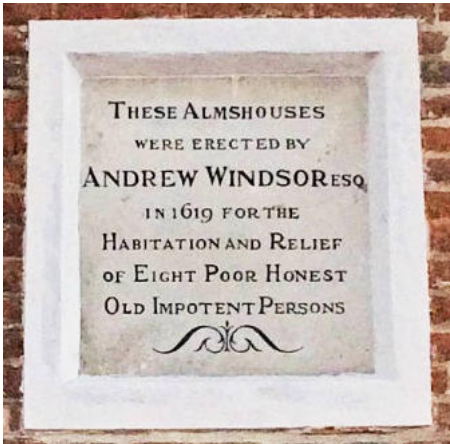
Meet at Borelli Walk off South Street by the river bridge, Map 13.

Guide: Peter Bridgeman

Tour length: approx. 2 hours

A walk around Farnham town centre visiting ten parks and gardens, discussing their history, trees and main attractions and en route observing some 60 plaques commemorating important Farnham people, places and events over the past millennium.

Walking conditions: a mainly easy, flat pavement walk but crossing busy roads. Some kerbs and cobbles but suitable for wheelchairs and pushchairs. Children and dogs welcome.



“Farnham’s Industries”

Sat 10th Sept at 10am
Advance booking essential
(maximum 12)

Meet at the entrance to the Waggon Yard car park, Lower Church Lane.

Map 7

Guide: Chris Shephard

Tour length: approx. 2 hours (distance 3.5 miles)

A gentle stroll through Farnham town centre to visit sites which have hosted a wide variety of industries ranging from twine and corsets to tooth brushes and the assembly of the greatest timber frame roof in England.

Walking conditions: some steps but all on hard surfaced paths. Some paths are too narrow for wheelchairs.

The details in this brochure were correct at the time of going to press. For any last minute changes to the programme, please check the Farnham Society website at farnhamsociety.org.uk/hods2022 or our Facebook page “Farnham Heritage Open Days”.

Tice's Meadow Nature Reserve, Badshot Lea, GU9 9NB – “From farm to quarry to community nature reserve”

Sat 10th Sept at 10am
Advance booking essential,
maximum 30



Meet at the reserve's main entrance on Badshot Lea Road, opposite Farnham Van Sales. On-street parking only.

Guide: Mark Elsoffer with volunteers from the Tice's Meadow Bird Group
 Tour length: approx. 2.5 hours

A 2.5 km walk around the reserve explaining the history of the site from prehistoric settlement to farming, quarrying and restoration to an award-winning nature reserve.

The walk will follow the Biodiversity Trail taking in woodland, meadow, reed bed and river habitats. The guide will help you spot the resident wildlife. Binoculars will be available but bring your own if you have them.

Walking conditions: the route is flat along unsurfaced footpaths which can get muddy after rain, walking boots or wellies recommended. There is little shelter if it is raining. If it is dry, parts of the route are suitable for sturdy off-road mobility scooters and some wheelchairs – access via a RADAR gate, please phone 07765 368977 to discuss beforehand.

Moor Park House, Moor Park Lane, GU10 1FH, garden tour
Sat 10th Sept at 11am and at 2.30pm



Meet at the gates of Moor Park House. Park in the field opposite.

Guide: Fred Wilkinson
 Tour length: approx. 1.5 hours
 Advance booking not required.

A guided walk around the grounds of Moor Park House with an outline history of the property which dates from the twelfth century.

The walk will describe the seventeenth century period, the time of Sir William Temple and Dorothy Osborne, and continues the history up to the present day.

Walking conditions: mostly hard surfaces, tarmac, gravel and paved paths with some steps.



“From Bat to Cow via Moths”**Mon 12th Sept at 10.30am****Advance booking essential,
maximum 20**

Meet at the Bat and Ball pub, Bat and Ball Lane, Wrecclesham GU10 4SA

Guide: David Dearsley of the Bourne Conservation Group

Tour length: 2.5 - 3 hours

A short walk from the Bat and Ball pub to the Spotted Cow pub with a stop at Middle Bourne Lane Wildlife Garden to see a collection of moths trapped the previous evening – and to release them.

Various stops en route to review points of interest. A shuttle service will be provided to take car drivers back to the start.

Walking conditions: a few short hills but an otherwise easy walk.

Normal walking shoes, suitable for children and dogs on leads but not wheelchairs.

“Architecture of The Borough and West Street”**Mon 12th Sept at 11.30am.****Advance booking essential,
maximum 12.**

Meet at the corner of Castle Street and The Borough, Map 10.

Guide: Sam Osmond

Walk length: 45 minutes

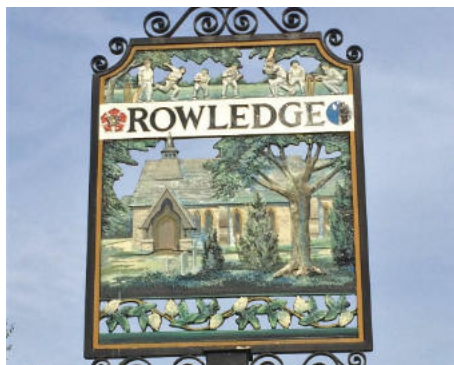
A walk around 500 m. of historic central Farnham from the Bailiff’s Hall in The Borough to Farnham Museum in West Street. The walk will include recreations of historic buildings by the architect Harold Falkner.

Walking conditions: no access problems, but crossing some roads. Easy walking on pavements.



“Rowledge to Wrecclesham and back”

Tue 13th Sept at 10am
Advance booking essential,
maximum 20



Meet at St James’ Church, Church Lane, Rowledge

Guide: Roy Waight

Walk length: 2.5 hours.

Anyone who completes the walk will be welcome afterwards at The Old Vicarage in Rowledge for a glass of wine and nibbles.

Rowledge is not an old village. Wrecclesham is and Rowledge owes its origins to Wrecclesham. The walk follows old footpaths from Rowledge to Wrecclesham passing Absalom Harris’s 19th century pottery (now a thriving pottery and arts centre). Crossing the A325 the route continues down to the River Wey and Willey Mill before returning to Rowledge via the old Holt Pound Oval Cricket Pitch, across the A325 and back following ancient footpaths and through Rowledge back to the church.

Walking conditions: there are stiles and steps, including one taxing climb up steps and the paths can be muddy. Walking boots recommended. Not suitable for pushchairs or wheelchairs.

“Alice Holt Arboretum”

Wed 14th Sept at 2pm

Meet at the Forestry England car park on Gravel Hill Road.

(Take A325 Petersfield Road, pass Haskins Garden Centre, take next right Gravel Hill Road. Pass Alice Holt Research Station and JCB centre and after half a mile enter car park on left.)

Guide: Brian Greig.

Walk length: 1.5 to 2 hours

Booking not required but there is a maximum of 15 on the walk.

Tour of the Alice Holt Arboretum followed by a short forest walk with the background to the history of the Forestry Commission and the importance of the Alice Holt Research Station locally and nationally.

Walking conditions: the Arboretum tour is not suitable for wheelchairs. Easy walking except for one short descent and incline. Paths can be slippery if wet.



“Courtyards and Passages of Farnham”

Thu 15th Sept at 9.30am
Advance booking essential,
maximum 12

Meet outside Farnham Maltings, Red Lion Lane, Map 12.

Guide: Roger Jude

Walk length: 1.5 to 2 hours

A visit to some of Farnham’s lesser known areas exploring the hidden courtyards and passageways which provide an insight into Farnham’s agricultural/industrial past in the seventeenth, eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The tour will point out some of the finest historical buildings, built first on the proceeds of the agricultural trade and later on the hop growing and brewing industries.

Walking conditions: the walk will be at a gentle pace and is not lengthy but there is traffic to contend with and busy roads to cross. Comfortable footwear is recommended.



“Farnham’s Brewing Heritage”

Thu 15th Sept at 2pm
Advance booking essential,
maximum 12



Meet at the entrance to the Waggon Yard car park, Map 7.

Guide: Alan Buttery

Walk length: approx. 2 hours (3 miles)

A walk around Farnham exploring how Farnham’s historic links with the brewing industry have influenced the Farnham we see today.

Walking conditions: mostly on pavements but a short section on uneven public footpaths and passing over stiles. Mostly flat and even with a short incline. Walking shoes advised.



“The Rise and Fall of Waverley Abbey”

Sun 18th Sept, two tours at 10am and at 11.30am



Meet at the Waverley Abbey car park off Waverley Lane, GU9 8EP

Guides: Roger Jude and Roy Waight

Walk length: approx. 1.5 hours

Advance booking not required

The walk from the car park passes in front of Waverley Abbey House and continues to the ruins of the 13th century Abbey Church, which is actually the second church to be built on the site. Waverley Abbey was the first Cistercian monastery to be founded in the UK, in 1128 by 13 monks from the Abbey of Aumône in France but these buildings have disappeared.

The tour will show the remains of the 13th century Church, the Chapter House, the monks' Dormitory and the undercroft of the lay brothers' Refectory. The Abbey was dissolved by Henry VIII in 1535. Much of the stonework was sold and used in local grand houses such as Loseley House.

Walking conditions: the tour will be undertaken at an easy pace but some of the ground is rough pasture, not suitable for wheelchairs. Good footwear is required and the total distance walked is 1 km.

“The Architecture of Castle Street”

Sun 18th Sept at 2pm

Advance booking essential, maximum 12



Meet outside 10 Castle Street, corner of Long Garden Walk, Map 11.

Guides: Michael and Robert Blower

Walk length: approx. 1.5 hours

Castle Street was described by Alec Clifton-Taylor as “For sheer visual delight this street has few equals in all England”.

Michael and Robert will lead a leisurely walk pointing out the architectural features of Farnham's famous Georgian street with its many Listed Buildings, ranging from grand houses to tiny ancient cottages which would have been the homes of workmen employed by the Bishops at the castle. Many buildings are much older than their Georgian appearance would suggest, as fashionable Georgian frontages were added in the 18th century.

Walking conditions: easy walking on pavements, but including crossing busy Castle Street. Suitable for wheelchairs.



THE FARNHAM SOCIETY

Shaping our future, protecting our heritage

The Farnham Society was founded in 1911 when its prime objectives were to preserve the architectural heritage of Farnham, to encourage integrity in the construction of new buildings, sympathetic to their surroundings, and to maintain the quality of life for future generations of its residents.

The Society continues to pursue those objectives, making every possible effort to preserve the quality of life in and around Farnham. To this end it promotes the highest standards of planning and architecture in the built environment. It supports preservation of the green environment. And it takes an active part in the fight for air quality and against traffic congestion.



We engage with our members through regular evening talks and daytime social gatherings. During the Covid-19 pandemic we started a series of filmed discussions on matters of local interest.

We have continued these into 2022, they are available on our website under the title 'In Conversation'.

Being a member of The Farnham Society enables you to have your say on the future of the town, and helps us to protect it. The more members we have, the louder our voice can be, and the better our chance of being heard on crucial issues.

You can join via our website at farnhamsociety.org.uk

PROPERTIES OPEN

Advance booking is essential for some of the properties

To book please visit the Farnham Society's website

farnhamsociety.org.uk/hods2022

Booking opens 31st August

Farnham Masonic Centre, 42 Castle Street

Sat 10th Sept from 10am to 4pm
Map 3.



The origins of this building date back to some time before the English Civil War (1642-1648) when it is likely to have been an outbuilding or barn for the Castle. From 1673 it was a 'Musick House' and from 1820 a school. In 1877 a charity was formed known as 'The Working Men's or Castle Street Institute' and was used among other things for church meetings. After a sale in 1909 it was used by Surrey County Council for training purposes.

The Farnham Masonic Hall Company was formed in 1946 and in 1952 the building became the Freemasons' Hall. The external appearance of the building has changed little since 1763 and it remains a handsome red brick landmark at the top of Castle Street. Tours of about 15 minutes are available on the day.

Access: there is a high step to the front door and no designated disabled access to the building.

High Mill, 1 Moor Park Lane, GU10 1NS

Sun 11th and Sun 18th Sept, conducted
tours morning and afternoon.

Advance booking essential,
maximum 5 per tour.

For times see the booking website.



Directions: from Shepherd and Flock pub (inside the A31 roundabout), go past the pub and follow the unmade road under the A31 and then the railway bridge. Shortly afterwards take the first right to High Mill.

Park by the Shepherd and Flock pub with a 10-15 minute stroll to High Mill. Limited parking at High Mill down the unmade, single-track road.

The Mill House and mill buildings date from the 18th century and are listed Grade II. High Mill is one of six watermills in Farnham listed in the Domesday Book, and was named as 'la hyghe' in 1258. This is a rare example of an old water powered mill where the 18th century wooden mill workings are still in situ and can be inspected. The buildings are fronted by the mill pond.

Access: steep open ladders in the mill workings.

Caffe Piccolo, 84 West Street
Wed 14th and Thu 15th Sept, from
2pm to 5pm.
Map 1.



The age of the building is uncertain though it may date back at least to the 17th century. It was rebuilt at a later stage, and then restored in 1929 when a Tudor fireplace was revealed. In the 19th century there was a cooper here selling tubs, barrels, baskets and bowls and in the 20th century it was a pub called The Mitre.

It opened as Caffé Piccolo in 1995 and has recently re-opened after a major fire.

Access: stairs within the building.

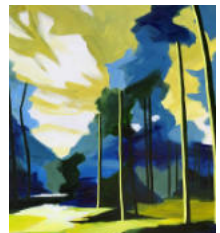


New Ashgate Gallery, Lower Church Lane, GU9 7PS
 Entrance in Waggon Yard car park
Meet Susie Lidstone, Wed 14th & Thu 15th Sept from 11am to 4.30pm.
Also an exhibition by Fiona Pierce, Fri 9th to Sat 17th Sept, except Sun and Mon, 10.30am to 5pm.
Map 7.



Artist Susie Lidstone's wonderfully evocative paintings of Farnham have added a splash of colour to the New Ashgate's walls over the years. For two days she will be working on a new painting of Farnham at the gallery.

Also, come and enjoy the energetic exhibition by Fiona Pearce showcasing our much loved local landscape in bright and uplifting colours.



The gallery was once the site of a pub called The Feathers and is one of the few older buildings to survive the 1960s almost wholesale clearance of the area which is now the Waggon Yard car park.

St Mark's Church, Alma Lane, Upper Hale, GU9 0LT

Thu 15th 11am and Sun 18th 2.30pm
Advanced booking essential,
maximum 25. Tour length 1 hour



Find out more about Historic England listed St. Mark's Church with its unique murals painted by Kitty Milroy.

On the death of the Rev Andrew Milroy, the Milroy family came to live in Upper Hale in 1902. After training at The Slade School of Art, Kitty started work on the chancel walls in 1911. Using her faith and clear influences from the Arts and Crafts movement, she was able to realise her vision, completing the work in 1920.

The paintings suffered a major catastrophe in the 1940s from water damage and over subsequent years deteriorated further until the position had become critical.

In 2018, Rector Lesley Crawley & Nick Seversway, a local Picture Restorer, began raising funds for their restoration, leading to a full cleaning and restoration project carried out last year by the esteemed conservators Rickerby and Shekede. Hear more of the story of the Milroys, the murals and their conservation..

Access: there is a ramp leading up to the church entrance. The speaker will use a microphone system.

Guitar Village, 80-82 West Street

Thu 15th, Fri 16th and Sat 17th Sept,
from 10am to 5pm.
Map 5.



Tree ring dating of timbers in this building reveal that it is one of Farnham's oldest buildings, built in 1467. It was a 'Wealden' house, a spectacular form of medieval open hall house. The original 15th century building would have been timbered, infilled with wattle and daub. The present infill of long narrow bricks was probably added in the Tudor period.

Access: there are steps within the building and steep stairs to the first floor.



West Street Chapel, West Street Cemetery

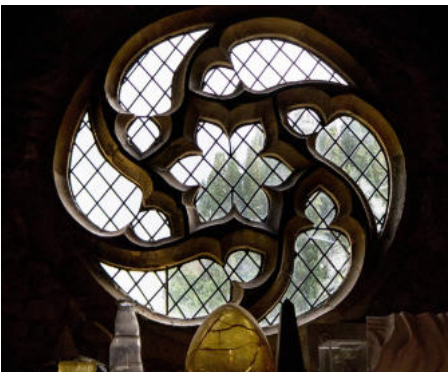
Open Fri 16th, Sat 17th and Sun 18th
Sept, 10am to 3pm.



Special opening of the Chapel which is not normally open to visitors.

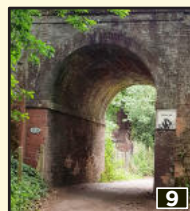
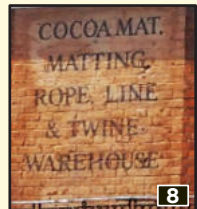
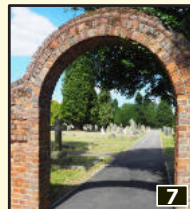
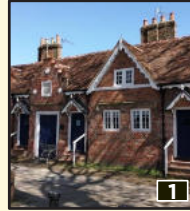
The little Chapel of Rest is now the workshop of sculptor Ian Bishop who will be present to welcome visitors. Built in the 1870s of the local white clunch or chalk stone, there were originally two chapels, one for Church of England burials, and the other for Nonconformists with a space between the two for the hearse. The two buildings were amalgamated at a later stage. The chapel was closed in the 1980s when there were few burials, and restored as an artist's studio by Farnham Town Council.

Access: two steps into the building.



How well do you know the Farnham area?

A simple quiz, where is (or was) it?
Answers on page 25



**The Old Vicarage, Vicarage Lane
off Lower Church Lane**

**Open for conducted tours Fri 16th
Sept at 2.30pm and at 3.30pm.
Advance booking essential,
maximum 10. Map 8.**



Meet at the churchyard in front of the house

Guide: Cathy Cook

The Old Vicarage is Listed Grade II*, and is one of the oldest buildings in Farnham, accurately tree ring dated to 1418. It was built by John Forrest, Archdeacon of Surrey as his ecclesiastical Court House. The rear garden leads down to the river.

Access: Steps up to the front door, uneven floors, steep narrow stairs and low beams.



**Ellel Pierrepont, Frensham GU10
3DL**

**Sat 17th Sept at 10am
Advance booking essential,
maximum 15**



Meet at Ellel Pierrepont,

Guide: Sam Osmond

Visit length 1 to 2 hours

Tea and biscuits will be offered.

Pierrepont is an imposing 19th century mansion designed by the architect Richard Norman Shaw in his 'Old English' style.

It was built in 1876 for the brewing magnate Richard Henry Combe and is now owned by Ellel Ministries, a ministry / charity offering counselling and ministry training for local and international guests.

Walking conditions: easy walking partly on grass, some uneven ground and cobblestones. Wheelchair access to ground floor of house and most areas. If heavy rain forecast, the tour will have to be cancelled.

Hones Yard, Downing Street
Sat 17th Sept from 10am to 3pm
Map 6.



Step away from the bustle and traffic of modern Downing Street into a different world.

This is the site of an old farm with 17th century barns and a 19th century hop kiln. It offers a fascinating glimpse into Farnham's history and the important local hop industry which flourished in Farnham from the 16th century to the mid-20th, with 17th century barns and a 19th century hop kiln.

A guide will be present to explain the history. There will be some exhibits.

Access: uneven floor in barn, otherwise accessible.

The Kiln / Village Hall,
St George's Road, Badshot Lea,
GU9 9NE

Sun 18th Sept from 10am to 4pm



Tours throughout the day on an on-demand basis, no advance booking required.

This is the old village hop kiln built in 1886. Tours will take visitors throughout the building and will include the restored hop drying room. The history of the building will be described, and that of hop growing in the village, how the building functioned and how it functions now as a village hall.

Photographs and drawings will be on display.

Access: stairs only to the upper floors of the building to the restored hop drying room.

Answers to the quiz on page 23

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Alms Houses, Castle Street | 5 St Andrews School |
| 2 Old Town Hall, The Borough | 6 Lion & Lamb Yard |
| 3 East Street, looking east (demolished in the 1960s) | 7 West Street Cemetery |
| 4 Bush Hotel Garden | 8 Bills Restaurant, Castle Street |
| | 9 Railway Bridge, Moor Park Lane |
| | 10 Hop Blossom, Long Gdn Walk |

The Victoria Garden, Brightwells Road, off South Street, next to Sainsbury's car park

Sun 18th Sept at 10.30am
Advance booking essential
maximum 12



Meet at the Victoria Garden entrance

Guide: Alison Gordon

Visit length 30 minutes

Map 9.

This is an award winning garden in the centre of Farnham, on the site of Farnham's first open air swimming bath which was built to commemorate Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee in 1897. The garden is a peaceful oasis in the middle of Farnham with lots of seating, a children's maze and a hopscotch bed. Alison will explain the mix of planting which provides colour and interest throughout the year. The volunteer gardeners encourage wildlife and the garden is environmentally friendly.

Walking conditions.: There is easy access to all parts of the garden with smooth paths. The main entrance has steps but entrances from the side or rear are accessible for pushchairs and wheelchairs.

Partridge House, 102 The Street, Wrecclesham, GU10 4QR

Sun 18th Sept at 2pm and at 3pm
Advance booking essential,
maximum 10



Guide: Cathy Cook

This is one of Farnham's oldest buildings, dating back to ca.1390.

Two bays of the original house remain, the missing bays being replaced with 18th century additions.

Soot blackened trusses are visible plus an open screen of wattle and daub in the upper part of the building.

Access: Seven steps up to the front door, uneven floors, steep narrow stairs and low beams.



Essential services

Lots of everyday services are run by Farnham Town Council, in the town itself and surrounding villages. Farnham Town Council also organises an annual calendar of events for residents and visitors, including markets, festivals, free music and children's activities.

Part of a wider community

The council works with partners in other public services as well as Farnham's wonderful voluntary organisations, individual volunteers and its generous business community. The council is committed to working with others and finding innovative solutions to local problems - it has even won industry awards in recognition of this.

If you have volunteered to help Farnham in any way - thank you!



Seamless Services

The town council's main services ...

- Allotments
- Annual Town Meeting of electors
- CCTV and community safety
- Christmas lights
- Civic events
- Cemeteries
- Community enhancement, including Farnham in Bloom, noticeboards, street furniture
- Farmers' Markets
- Graffiti removal
- Grants
- Planning – statutory consultee
- Street banners bookings
- Toilets
- Tourism and events
- Town twinning with Andernach in Germany and other friendships
- War memorials

Local democracy

Farnham's eighteen town councillors are elected by residents. Councillors discuss local issues and make decisions at council meetings, most of which are open to the public. There are nine full council meetings each year. Why not come along? Meeting dates and agendas are published on the council's website, www.farnham.gov.uk.

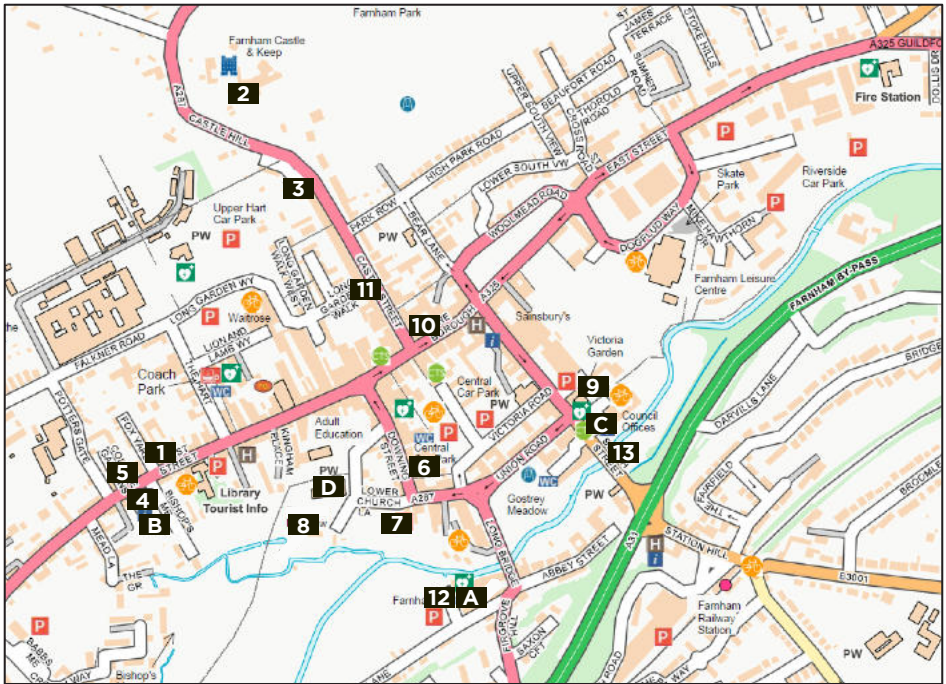
The website is packed with information about what is going on in Farnham and residents can sign up for an e-newsletter too.

Farnham Town Council, Town Hall, South Street, Farnham, GU9 7RN

01252 712667 www.farnham.gov.uk customer.services@farnham.gov.uk

Follow on Twitter and Facebook @farnhamofficial

Map of Events in Farnham Town Centre



Events in Town Centre

- 1 Caffe Piccolo
- 2 Farnham Castle
- 3 Farnham Masonic Centre
- 4 Farnham Museum
- 5 Guitar Village
- 6 Hones Yard
- 7 New Ashgate Gallery
- 8 Old Vicarage
- 9 Victoria Garden

Starting Points for Guided Walks

- 10 Borough & West St. Architecture
- 11 Castle Street Architecture
- 12 Courtyards & Passages
- 7 Farnham's Brewing Heritage
- 7 Farnham's Industries
- 13 Parks and Plaques

Venues for Talks

- A Farnham Maltings
- B Museum Garden Gallery
- C Council Offices (Town Hall)
- D St. Andrews Church

The annual Heritage Open Days events in Farnham presented by The Farnham Society, supported by Farnham Town Council. Programme organisers Simon Bradbury, Peter Bridgeman, Cathy Cook, Gez Evans, Sue Farrow, David Lang, Gillian Ward and Erica Wilkinson.

The Farnham Society would like to thank all the guides and property owners who have made the 2022 events possible by generously giving their time and expertise free of charge.

Brochure text by Sue Farrow, brochure layout by David Lang.

Photos © Chris Shephard, David Fisher (AFFCC.uk), David Lang, David Millard, Erica Wilkinson, Farnham Pottery, Ian Newman, Luke Welvaert, Melia Klonou, Michael Carrington, Michael Clements, Museum of Farnham, Nick Seversway, Peter Bridgeman and Stedman Blower Architects.