

St Mark's Church Farnborough Newsletter



July 2023

St Mark's would like to introduce you to the Rev Phil Roche

who begins his ministry with us on July 18th.

He was ordained in 2017 and will be leaving the parish of Seale, Puttenham and Wanborough.

He is married to Helen and has two adult children.

His background is in teaching, outdoor education and project management. He also works for Surrey County Council on building provision for young people, families and those on the margins.

Phil and Helen have been to St Mark's on a number of occasions and they have been very impressed by the welcome they received.

Phil has written "I have also seen the enthusiasm and commitment to sharing God's love and building His church, that is evident in the parish. It will be part of our task together, to learn together, to grow together, to see God's love impacting our lives, and the lives of those around us.



I am very much looking forward to joining you on 18th July".

Welcome all to another newsletter.

We have had so much going on in the last few months that this issue is late coming out. Then we decided to wait so we could put the good news on the front page.

Next,

**We want to invite you all to the
Licensing Service of
the Rev Phil Roche
to the Parish of St Mark's
Farnborough.**

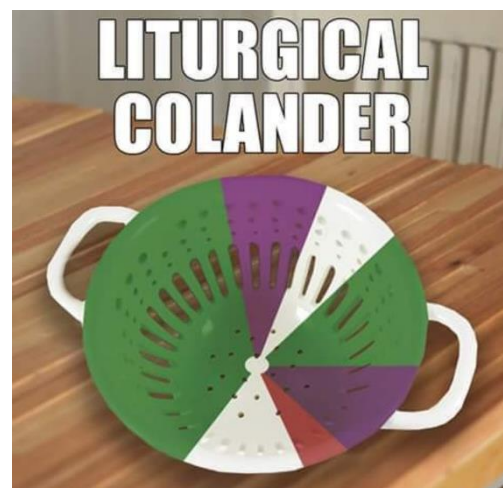
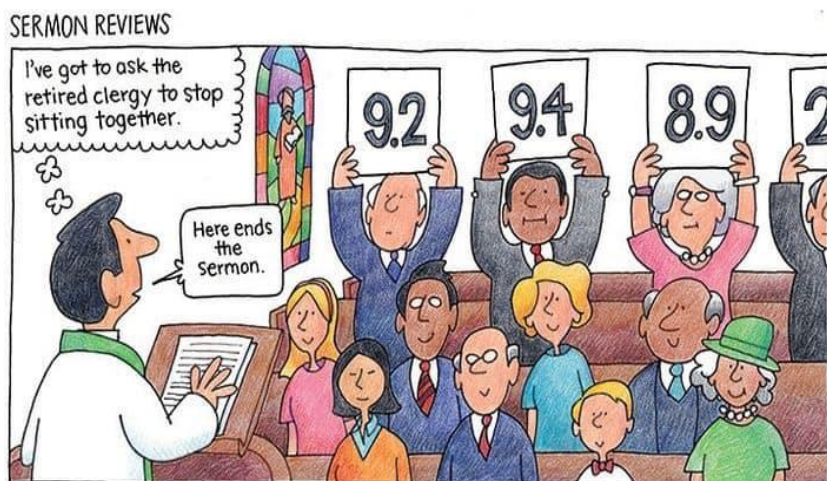
On Tuesday 18th July 2023

At 7.30pm

**In the Church of St Mark's
Farnborough**



We would love to see lots of people at the service and hope that they will stay for the celebration afterwards.



Lent Groups 2023

During Lent two groups met at 126 Reading Road to share some thoughts and ideas on a variety of topics and issues.

The Lunch time group followed a similar pattern to last year where someone gave a short talk followed by discussion and lunch. We asked those who were leading to talk about either a favourite Bible passage or hymn. As a result each week was different as we heard about Jesus being our Shepherd, Jesus calling us in times of trouble and being there to provide care and love. We rejoiced in the Lord and considered all things worthy of praise and the times and seasons given us to do so. We were able to end by contemplating on Lent, Holy Week and the joy of the Resurrection to come at Easter.

The Evening Group had a more complex issue to consider as we worked our way through the five week course “Living in Love and Faith”. This was the chance to explore Christian teaching and learning about identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage.

We were very grateful to Jim and Angharad for leading these sessions. We soon came to realise that the issues were very complex and could be divisive. We realised that we need to continue discussing these issues with a wider group of people.





Lent

Kicked off in splendid fashion with Judith's annual Pancake Party to raise money for her Marich Pass Charity.

It is always amazing to see 3 Pancakes being cooked at once, and the counting of how many have been made. Then there are the kids trying to eat as many as they can or more than last year or even put as many toppings on as possible.



All through Lent Judith makes the most incredible altar frontal displays.





Holy week was very busy as normal.

It all started with a big bang as the Bishop came to celebrate Palm Sunday.

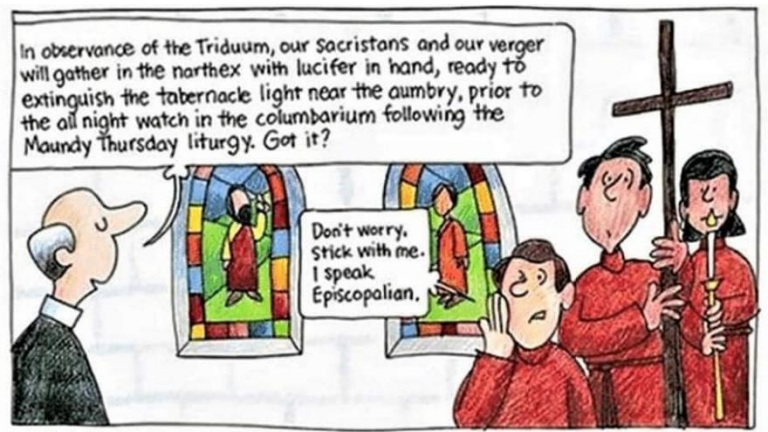


We always start in the church hall so that we can process over the roads to the church. This year we asked our two confirmation candidates to help lead everybody over, as the Bishop wanted to be at the back.

Over Holy week we had one service a day. Morning Prayers on Monday and Tuesday which were well supported.

"A great time to reflect on as we prepare for all the emotions of the rest of the week."





Wednesday was an amazing Taizé service of music, prayer and song.

"I had never heard of this before but found it very moving and very calming."



On Maundy Thursday we recreated Jesus' Last Supper and Prayers in the Garden of Gethsemane, by holding a re-enactment of a Shabbat meal which teaches us where our Eucharist (Communion) Service originates. This led into moving to the Altar of Repose for the Watch, Prayers and Readings.



"I found the meal interesting and now understand our service a little better"

"I loved the bit where all us kids had to go and find the last Matzo and then ransom it as we all got a massive bag of chocolate buttons".

"We found going from one loud, happy, family time to one of quiet, prayerful, individual time very moving."





Holy Saturday was “bizzy, bizzy, bizzy”.

The church was full of people in the morning cleaning and decorating the whole building with the most beautiful flowers.



In the evening we all went to Guildford Cathedral to see two of our young members getting confirmed. This was a long service but we were all so happy as they were welcomed to the church with 30 other candidates.

Easter Day always starts with a snap and crackle.



As the Dawn service starts outside round the bonfire, and as the sun starts to rise we light the Pascal Candle and welcome the light into the church building.

After the Dawn Service we all joined together for an extra special breakfast, with lots to do, from colouring in, word searches, crafts, chocolate egg decorating (for young and old) and even an egg hunt (for young and old).

After the 10.30am service we had a big party to celebrate Neo and Hannah's Confirmation.





The King's Coronation



We made lots of decorations for the hall, and many made their own crowns too.

On the Monday we had our “Meal Fit for a King”

This was a three-course meal with our normal “doggy boxes” available to take home at the end.



At The West End Centre, 48 Queens Road, Aldershot GU11 3JD

EVERY 3RD SATURDAY OF THE MONTH



Repair, Reuse, Regenerate...

*Bring along your broken items to be repaired free of charge
donations welcome!*

10.30AM-1.30PM | *ON-SITE PARKING | WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE



www.rushmoorrepaircafe.org



info@rushmoorrepaircafe.org

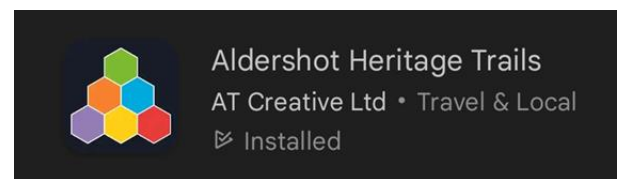
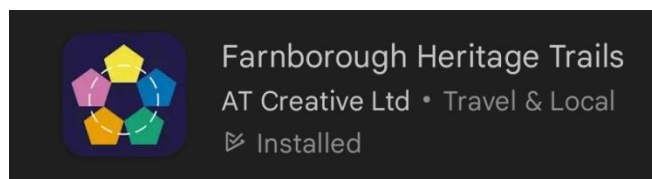
*Some parking on-site on first come basis
Last entry for repairs at 1pm

 THE ARMED FORCES
COVENANT FUND TRUST



REPAIR
CAFE

Rushmoor have just launched two new apps for those that like history or want a little walk. These are the routes so far.

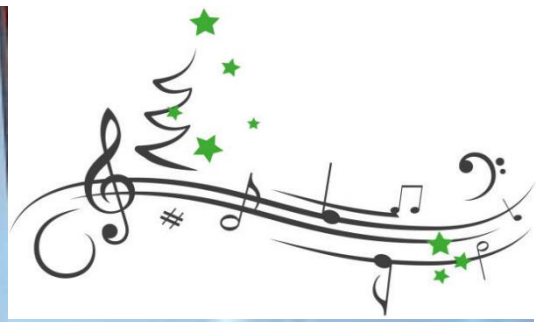


Aviation Trail The Aviation Trail explores Farnborough's rich aviation history through iconic buildings and aviation pioneers.	25 ⬠ 2+ hours 4 miles / 6.42 km
Cove Village In 875 Cove was mentioned in the will of King Alfred the Great. Traces of its village atmosphere is still visible.	22 ⬠ 2.5 hours 3.4 miles / 5.4 km
Farnborough Street This trail looks at some connections with aviation and explores the history of the original village of Farnborough.	26 ⬠ 3.4 miles / 5.4 km 2 hours +

North Camp This trail charts the effects of the army camp had on the civilian population in the southern part of Farnborough.	35 ⬠ 2.5 - 3 hours 3.05 miles / 4.9 km
St Peter's A route through the development of the surrounding area from the sale of land belonging to the Manor House.	19 ⬠ 1.5 - 2 hours 2.3 miles / 3.75 km

Marlborough Trail Explore the fascinating history of Aldershot garrison.	19 ⬠ 3.7 miles (5.9 km) 3 hours
Redan Trail Covers the south-east area of the Army Camp and parts of the eastern side of the civilian town.	13 ⬠ 2.8 miles (4.5 km) 2.5 hours
Stanhope Trail Explores the former Stanhope Lines, now the area of the Wellesley housing development.	29 ⬠ TBC TBC

Village Trail The trail explores the early history of Aldershot when it was a small rural village.	19 ⬠ 2.3 miles (3.7 km) 2.5 hours
Wellington Trail Explores the south-west of the old Army camp and west of the town.	22 ⬠ 2.6 miles (4.3 km) 3 hours.



St Mark's Advent Festival 2023.

This year's Festival we will be celebrating the music of Christmas, secular, religious or popular. We are entitling it

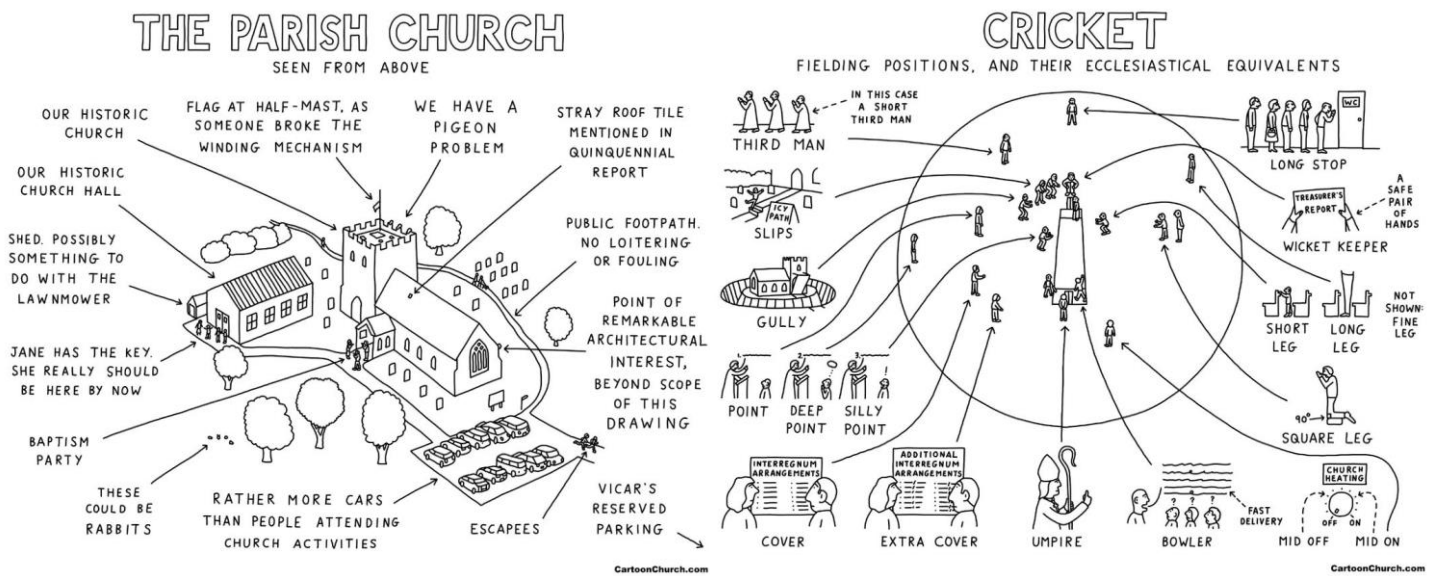
“ DING DONG MERRILY ON HIGH”

We extend an invitation to everyone to join in this Festival by representing Christmas Music in any art form.....BUT NOT A WREATH.

Painting, printing, knitting, crochet, mosaic, pottery, 3D models of any kind....ANY art form EXCEPT a wreath.

See separate flyers for more details.





Dates for 2023 Events

The Social Committee has devised these activities for later in the year. Some might change and more details will be given on each event.

Sept 9th: Tabletop Sale inside and outside the Church

Sept 30th: MacMillan Coffee Morning

Oct 15th: Harvest Festival (Lunch in Church?)

November 11-12: Remembrance Weekend

Nov 25 Come and make a Christmas Decoration Workshop

December 3 – 9th: “Ding Dong Merrily on High” A Christmas Music Celebration in Art Form

Not to be forgotten Christingle and 25th December (to be announced later)