

AROUND TOWN: NEWS FROM CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

**The Farnham Society**

THE SOCIETY is seeking a volunteer who loves the town and is prepared to spend some time each month in the role of secretary to the executive committee.

This would involve taking the minutes of monthly meetings and to provide the usual secretarial support.

The role is central to all the society's activities and puts the individual in the somewhat unique position of hearing about virtually everything which could affect the good life in Farnham.

The level of challenges facing Farnham has reached new levels, ranging from inappropriate developments to the hidden threat of NO2 poisoning.

In joining this committee, the secretary would be involved in influencing the future and helping to ensure the pleasures of Farnham are preserved for generations to come.

For more details, call Alan Gavaghan on 01252 724714 or email [alngav@angnet.com](mailto:alngav@angnet.com)

**Woolmer Forest Lions Club**



DICK BALCHIN hands over a cheque for £500 to Mick Mallinson and Paul Woodward at the club's December meeting to help Lindford Working Men's Club buy a defibrillator.

The cheque handed over to Mr Mallinson, the president of Lindford Working Men's Club, and secretary Mr Woodward completed the total amount they needed to raise for the life-saving defibrillator.

Mr Mallinson said the donation was very much appreciated. The defibrillator is likely to be positioned in the outside porch at the working men's club.

By Chris Webb

**Compassion in World Farming**

STAFF from Compassion in World Farming took to the streets of Godalming in pig, cow and rabbit costumes on November 30 to raise money for Compassion, Britain's leading farm animal welfare organisation.

They were also gaining signatures for their petition to End the Cage Age for 16 million hens and sows in the UK.

Luciana Cole, who was a big fluffy pig for the day, said: "It was heartwarming to be able to spread awareness for these animals and the campaigning work we do in Godalming."

"Everyone we spoke to was outraged to learn there are still so many farm animals confined to cages and was keen to sign our petition to end this cruel, updated and unnecessary practice."

To sign the petition, go to [www.ciwf.org.uk/endthecageage](http://www.ciwf.org.uk/endthecageage)

The £115.12 raised and the 120 signatures will enable Compassion in World Farming to continue to campaign for increased standards of farm animal welfare.

**Friends of Alton Station**

THE ANNUAL meeting of the Friends of Alton Station was held at the Alton Community Centre.

The meeting on November 29, which was well attended, was opened by chairman Stephen Lewis, who also reported on the group's financial position, which is well on the way to reaching the target figure of £20,000.

The committee, comprising Stephen Lewis, Paul Ebbutt, Nigel Welbourn, Victoria Loy, Shaun Wood, Pat Lerew, Jonathan Kiddell and Gary Appleton, was elected on bloc.

Help publicise what your club, group, school or organisation is getting up to with a report on these pages. Send reports and pictures to [news@farnhamherald.com](mailto:news@farnhamherald.com) and we'll do the rest!



**Blackmoor & Whitehill WI**

HERE are members of the group in its centenary year – and it just so happened that Maureen Leveson, then county chairman, was visiting the WI at the time.

The group has a thriving membership of 60 ladies.

In November, the actual date of its formation 100 years ago, members enjoyed a lovely celebratory meal, supplied by caterers. There was entertainment, too, and each member received a commemorative pen and photograph.

By Sandra Finch  
Secretary

Members then heard from Paul Ebbutt about the revised plans to repair the Heritage Bridge by removing the span and using a flat-pack method to take it off site.

It had been discovered the bridge was originally brought to Alton by this method so this seemed the best way to repair and refurbish it. The sides and stairs could remain in place and be repaired on site, as this could be done without working over the live rail or causing disruption to rail services.

The main problems now were to persuade Network Rail (NR) to accept these revised and much cheaper plans and to guarantee the bridge would be reinstated in its current position.

At present, NR is insisting FAS should pay to get the revised plans costed, which could amount to around £10,000 and would not guarantee reinstatement.

NR is still anxious to demolish the bridge at the end of March 2019 at a cost of £250,000 while FAS wants to convince NR it would cost only about £20,000 more to take the span down carefully so it could be taken away for repair.

Leaving the side and stairs in would mean little work would need to be done to the parts of the station adjoining the bridge, which would also save money.

The meeting closed with the members endorsing the work being carried out by the committee to encourage NR to change its attitude.

community to enjoy interactive activities and be inspired to live life to the fullest and thrive.

In a talk infused with warmth and humour, Alan shared personal and professional experiences and anecdotes, before answering questions and signing copies of his latest books.

Alan offered advice to young people considering their future paths in life, saying: "The greatest gift it's finding out what you are good at. The lucky ones are those who find out what it is and do it for a living. Make sure that you do a job which makes your soul sing."

He argued that to thrive and flourish in life it is important to hold on to a generosity of spirit, have the confidence to be true to yourself, keep in touch with people who make you feel good about yourself, and take risks to try out new things.

Before Alan's inspiring talk, guests had an opportunity to take part in hands-on demonstrations led by university academics.

Guests trekked through landscapes with dinosaurs using virtual reality headsets showcased by the digital future team.

The sport, exercise and health team set visitors a challenge with a reaction testing machine – just one of the industry-standard pieces of equipment available at Winchester.

With experts from the nursing and physiotherapy teams, visitors also explored anatomical model skeletons and body parts and found out how online prescription tools help physiotherapists design tailored exercises for patients and monitor their effectiveness.

Other interactive and creative elements included steering a small robot around the venue with an iPad, handling religious artefacts with the theology and religious studies team, and writing experimental poetry in fewer than 280 characters for Twitter.

The demonstrations were accompanied by music from brass quartet band The Brass Stars and carols sung by the University of Winchester Music Centre.

**Tuckwell Chase lottery**

RESULTS for draw 1055, December 10:  
1, £1,000, winner from Aldershot, number 804725; 2, £100, from Dunsford, 251541; 3, £50, from Crondall, 462085.

**Aldershot, Farnham & Fleet Camera Club**

THE SECOND round of the club's sprint competitions saw only 46 in the open section but only three in the beginners'.

The sole entrant in the beginners' section was Andrew Melwaine, who scored 8.5 for an action shot of a rugby match, *The Leap*, showing team members lifting a team-mate high to catch the ball.

In the open section, judge Steve Lawrenson awarded six marks of 10. These went to Ian Newman for *Serene Moment* and *Ralph* and the *Streets of London*, Michael Bacon for *Egg* and *In the Footsteps of Reggie Perrin*, Ian Evans' self-portrait *The Wages of Sin* and Russ



**The Bourne Parish**

ANOTHER well-attended, lively annual Christmas market in The Bourne Parish, brimming with festive community spirit, broke all records again this year.

The event raised more than £8,800 for Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice Care.

Hosted again at St Thomas-on-the-Bourne, the event was put on by a large number of local volunteers, each of whom brought a special flair to their individual stalls.

The entrance was a spectacle of floral design and homemade crafts, new gifts and stunning potted bulbs and plants which led through into the church interior, where pews had been moved aside to make way

for a large volume of good-quality donated toys and books.

A children's treasure hunt was on offer in the church, as well as various games to keep children entertained.

In the large, adjoining meeting rooms, lovely handbags, colourful cushions, quality bric a brac, legendary jams, preserves and cakes were on sale, next to opportunities to win on a fabulous tombola and raffle.

If that were not enough, you could bid in the silent auction to name but a few local businesses who contributed so generously to the event.

Pride of place, though, on a central pedestal, went to a magnificent doll's house with amazingly comprehensive contents which had been kindly donated by a local teenager keen to help raise money for the hospice – the very same teenager who volunteered and helped on the toy stall.

We once again welcomed the able assistance of two Sandtander employees who volunteered to take part, helping with the stalls.

Sandtander has also promised to contribute a further donation to the overall sum raised.

The organisers would like to thank everyone who donated, attended or supported the Christmas market this year.

By Mo Cuthbert



**Khan's Fulmar Floating on the Wind**

*Serene Moment* was a half-length studio portrait of a girl that would look good on a magazine cover while *Ralph* and the *Streets of London* showed Ian's versatility with a completely different style, this being a low-key monochrome portrait of a musician against a black background.

Michael's *Egg* was another low-key monochrome shot, this time of a nude sitting on a wall bent over heavily vignettted to form the shape

of an egg from her back. Also in monochrome, *In the Footsteps of Reggie Perrin* showed a line of footsteps leading into the sea.

With *Fulmar Floating in the Wind*, Russ had caught the detail in its feathers as it soared over the sea.

There were two scores of 9.5, *Sunrise over Cappadocia* from David Horvath of a hot-air balloon festival and wildlife shot of an oturgant draped in cloth, *Mother and Daughter*, by Tony Watson.

The ones went to David Millard for *Affness Hack*, George Turnbull for *Vaping Deer*, Jon for *Marina reflections*, Michael for *In the morning comes regret* and Michael Carrington's *Lapping it up*.

After the Christmas and new year break, the first meeting of 2019 will be January 9 when Helen Fennell will give a talk on wide-field astrophotography followed on

January 16 by the third round of the print competitions with judge David Smith.

The club meets on Wednesdays at Hale Institute, Wings Road, at 7.45pm for 8pm. See [www.aofuk.org](http://www.aofuk.org) for further details.

**Farnham & District Museum Society**

IN A PACKED hall last Thursday, the society held its autumn season of evening talks on a high note with a superb lecture by Bishop Christopher Herbert on the work of one of the greatest artists of the 16th Century – and the one most responsible for shaping our perception of the turbulent court of Henry VIII – Hans Holbein.

Born in Augsburg in 1497, Holbein worked mainly in Basel but spent two periods in England – the first from 1526-1528 under the

patronage of Sir Thomas More, and the second from 1532 until his death in 1543, during which time he rose to become the painter of the Tudor Court.

With the assistance of many slides, Dr Herbert discussed the extraordinary skill and accomplishment of this artist and designer and the conflicting influences of the Protestant Reformation on his work.

The images were a feast for the eyes and the commentary a feast for the mind – a fitting end to another season of talks, eclectic in nature, it is safe to say.

The society now has a break for Christmas but will return on Thursday, January 10, when the first talk of the new year will be on *The history of the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst* given by Dr Anthony Morton, curator of the prestigious Sandhurst Collection.

Events take place at The Spire Church (Uniting which time he rose to become the painter of the Tudor Court.

For full details, visit [www.farnhammuseumsociety.org.uk](http://www.farnhammuseumsociety.org.uk)

**Four Marks (Afternoon) WI**



THE GROUP meets on the first Thursday of the month so, inevitably, the Christmas lunch is often the opening of the season of festive celebrations.

So, with sprightly step and unajded by too many mince pies, almost 60 members met at the village hall to begin the feasting.

Barbara Thomas and her committee put a lot of effort into making sure the tables looked festive, the free raffle was amply stocked and that all members attending were well looked after.

Angela Nash had a beautifully-arranged stall of many Christmas stocking fillers, presents and decorations made by the craft group.

Hill Williams and Pat Seal were in the kitchen and made a delicious line of homemade buttermilk squash soup followed by devilled chicken breast and roast potatoes and vegetables.

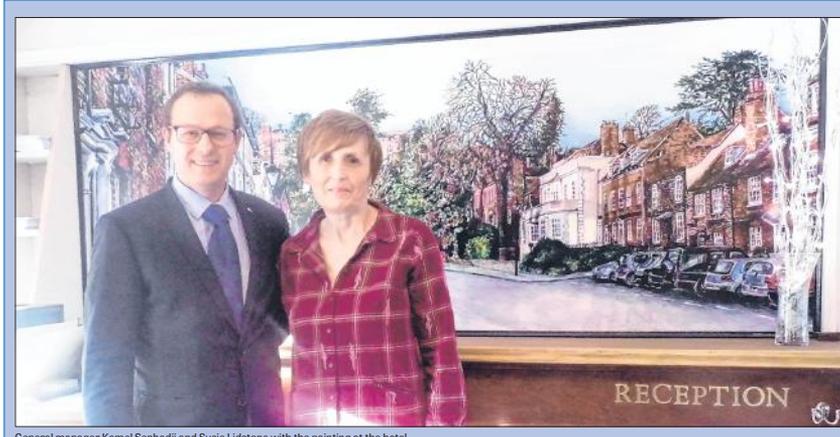
The superb choice of puddings was made by the committee. The next Christmas lunch entertainment didn't take place because of illness, but the ladies didn't seem to mind as this gave even more time for feasting.

The competition for the Katherine Miller Cup – A Christmas Cracker – was won by Sylvia Musckett.

The next meeting is on Thursday, January 3, at 2pm where the WI resolutions for 2019 will be discussed followed by fun and games. Members are reminded subscriptions are now due.

At the February 7 meeting, Liz Garner will be speaking about the Worshipful Company of Poulterers.

Visit [www.fourmarks.org](http://www.fourmarks.org) and new members are always welcome.



General manager Kamel Senhadji and Susie Lidstone with the painting at the hotel

**Castle Street looks pretty as a picture**

GUESTS at a Farnham Hotel are now greeted by a large painting of Castle Street when they check in at the reception desk.

The 240cm by 100cm print, taken from an original painting of the iconic street by painter Susie Lidstone, was bought by Mercure Farnham Bush Hotel, the three-star 94-bedroom hotel in The Borough.

General manager Kamel Senhadji saw the painting in Susie's studio.

"I thought it would perfectly fit with the hotel's style," he said.

"It is an extraordinarily detailed work. I trust we will have more opportunities to work with Susie in the future."

Susie, who is regularly commissioned to produce

paintings of properties, said: "It's a privilege to see my work hanging in the hotel."

Also known for her botanical watercolours, Susie is an elected and exhibiting member of The Society of Floral Painters and has a fine art printmaking degree.

Her own range of greetings cards and limited edition prints are widely available.

Susie's projects for children have been very successful and are available in kit form at an online children's store.

Since her childhood she has admired the artist Elizabeth Blackadder and has had the pleasure of exhibiting alongside her.

Susie is an elected member of The Society of Architectural Illustrators.



**Paper talk**

IS YOUR CLUB or organisation seeking a new speaker or someone new to come along and chat and try to entertain your members?

The Herald's new editor, Colin Channon, is always happy to go along to meetings and to talk newspapers – looking back at some of the characters in local media, discuss why journalism is the best job in the world, how papers are produced today, how the internet has affected the industry... and how the Herald may look in the future.

"And the best news of all is my talk is free – although once you've heard me, you'll understand why..." said Colin.

Any group looking for a speaker can email Colin on [colin.channon@tindernews.co.uk](mailto:colin.channon@tindernews.co.uk)