

**North West Farnham Residents Association**

**Autumn Meeting and Talk**

**'The Victoria Garden – Farnham's Secret Garden'**

**By Radio Gardener John Negus**

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2014 at 8 pm  
St Francis Hall (off Three Stiles Road)**

Dear Members and Local Residents

This year the talk at our October meeting is given by John Negus with a little help from the chairman Penny Marriott. John trained at Wisley Gardens and Merrist Wood Horticultural colleges and he lectures regularly at gardening clubs, W.I.s and many other societies. He is a member of the Surrey, Hampshire, Berkshire and Kent Federations of Judges and Lecturers and is on the R.H.S. list of Speakers. He broadcasts regularly on Radio Surrey and Sussex and you will also find him writing features for 'Woman's Weekly' and answering queries with a team of experts on the Daily Mail nationwide Gardening Road Shows.

As usual there will be an open session afterwards so that we can hear your views on other matters and discuss the latest news. This should start at around 8.45 – 9.00 pm. The cost is £2.00 per head including refreshments. Anyone who would like to come but needs some extra help or transport can phone the chairman, Penny Marriott, on 01252 714489.

**Chair and Committee Report**

As you know the new Localism Bill is now in place alongside the National Planning Policy Framework. **It is now the case that there is a planning application in for a development of 120 houses on Beavers Road Hop fields. The situation continues to be that at present the presumption for every planning application that goes into Waverley will be to allow development unless the plans produced by our local Councils specifically protects an area.** As previously reported we have the added complication the plan put forward to the planning authority, Waverley Borough Council, has been rejected by the planning inspectorate because it didn't include enough housing (!) and at the time of writing this there is no final neighbourhood plan from Farnham Town Council yet in place to protect these fields or other vulnerable areas. By the time of the October meeting we should have more idea of what is going to happen and will have reported back on the latest developments and on the public meeting. It is particularly important that you comment on Waverley's consultation on the latest local development plan where question 13 option 4 appears to be

the best for Farnham in that it has less housing here and **not put any alternatives down** since they might win on count back. You can reach the consultation through our website ([nwfarnham.org.uk](http://nwfarnham.org.uk)) where there will also be a short report on the meeting and a button to reach the planning department and lodge an objection to our particular development. It is still the case that lack of infra structure is not a bar to development. Despite the lack of local school places, the overcrowded and potholed roads or the daily traffic queues, town centre development is preferred. This will put an intolerable strain on the already creaking infrastructure of the town and is **not sustainable**. We need to continue to put forward the idea that development **should not** take precedence in planning matters. The more people who write stating their views the more ammunition it will give to your representatives to put these views forward in the council and parliament. I would like to encourage all members who have not yet done so to write to our local government representatives and urge them to place some protection on the areas of North West Farnham that are under threat under these new conditions. Our historic green spaces make Farnham a green and pleasant town and we must fight to keep it that way. **It continues to be important to make your feelings known to those you chose to represent you.** The addresses are shown below.

If you have any other matters you would like to raise at the meeting please let us know and I am looking forward to seeing you all on October 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Penny Marriott**

**September 2014.**

<b>Jeremy Hunt (MP)</b>	<b>Paddy Blagden (Waverley and Farnham Town)</b>	<b>Ian Sampson (Waverley)</b>
2 Royal Parade Tilford Road Hindhead, GU26 6TD  <a href="mailto:huntj@parliament.uk">huntj@parliament. uk</a>	3 Old Compton Lane Farnham GU9 8BS  <a href="mailto:patrick.blagden@waverley.gov.uk">patrick.blagden@waverley. gov.uk</a>	18 Kiln Lane Lower Bourne Farnham Surrey GU10 3LS <a href="mailto:ian.sampson@waverley.gov.uk">ian.sampson@waverley.gov. uk</a>
	<b>Matthew Ellis (Chief Planning Officer, WBC)</b>	
	Waverley Borough Council The Burys Godalming GU7 1HR <a href="mailto:planningenquiries@waverley.gov.uk">planningenquiries@waverl ey.gov.uk</a>	