outlets in the Town, priced £10. from the Ranger's Office and a number of The 'History of Farnham Park' can be bought

other crops here as part of the war effort. the Women's Land Army grew potatoes and activities, parts of the Park were ploughed and shipped out to France. As well as military were grazed here to get them fit before being

During the Great War, horses roles during both World Wars. The Park played a variety of Digging for Victory

of Bishops left the Castle for good. and in 1956, the last in a long line of the Park was obtained in 1952, local council. The southern part sold as public open space to the In 1930, a large part of the Park was

The People's Park

ed... volled over and over down its bollows, thousands. We sprawled on it as a cushion relean green playsround with room in it for The grass ... was a source of sheer bliss. A Celebrated local writer George Sturt recalled: much enjoyed by the people of Farnham. During Victorian times, as now, the Park was

Victorian childhood memories

remain prominent landmarks in the Park. the Ranger's House in the 1790s, survive and majestic cedars of Lebanon, planted around now been replanted with lime and beech. The

Farnham Park is an important historic landscape. The combination of a Norman Castle adjacent to a medieval deer park that has survived intact for over 600 years, gives Farnham Park a very special heritage.

Today, the Park is a peaceful place to relax and enjoy the countryside, but it echoes with the stories of earlier battles and wars.

The Park has a fascinating history dating back to 1376, when the Bishop of Winchester, Bishop William of Wykeham, enclosed woods, fields and pasture to create his own private deer park. Over the following 600 years, it was visited by royalty and nobles, fought over during the Civil War and used

as a defence against invasion during World War II.

crosses the Park, although the original elms have He also planted the magnificent Avenue that and general troublemakers were commonplace. 17th Century at a time when poachers, squatters the Park was built by Bishop Morley in the late The imposing Ranger's House in the centre of

and the Avenue The Ranger's House

improvements. undertook a number of repairs and poor state of repair and Bishop Morley the Castle and the deer parks were in a the deer. After the Civil War, the pales and killed many of period, locals broke down Royalist forces. During this where they fought off attacks by Soldiers set up camp in the Park was under Parliamentarian control. For much of the Civil War, Farnham Castle

Civil Was skirmishes

camp at Aldershot.

often riding through the Park after visiting the army

Queen Victoria was also a regular visitor, as ever a King received from a subject". deautiful and great an entertainment enthusiastic, his visit was described "as the rich and powerful. James I was particularly gift - perfect for cementing relationships with 'sport' - venison was a treasured and respected guests of the Bishop to enjoy a little medieval queens over the centuries. They came as Farnham Park was visited by many kings and

Fit for a king - or a queen!

and other game as well as timber and arable crops. cattle and were 'live larders', supplying venison, they offered grazing for the Bishop's horses and The parks were not only used for keeping deer,

by the public. deer escaping and deter unwelcome incursion wooden 'pale' or fence of cleft oak to prevent in about 1376. Both were surrounded by a as the New or Little Park when it was 'emparked' the Bishops in Farnham, today's Park was known Originally one of two deer parks established by

Ino parks

historic landscape in southeast England. intact medieval deer park, make it an important continuous occupancy and the proximity of an Bishop's Palace. Historical associations, near-Grade I and II listed buildings that form the Restoration - are seen in the complex of styles - primarily early Norman, Tudor and centuries and the mixture of architectural Various Bishops added to it through the following and bailey' structure built in the 12th century. Farnham Castle was originally a Norman 'motte

A castle and palace

power could not be ignored. nominees and their immense wealth and The early medieval Bishops were Royal Surrey, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. a vast scale and with a diocese covering in England - owning land and property on controlled one of the greatest medieval estates around Farnham since the 9th century. They The Bishops of Winchester have owned land

rowerful bishops



Waverley BOROUGH COUNCIL

THE HISTORY OF **FARNHAM PARK**

The historic green heart of Farnham

Keeping it special

Farnham Park is a very special place for its history and its wildlife. Its importance is recognised nationally and it's listed as a Grade II Park and Garden of Special Historic Interest, Site of Nature Conservation Interest and a Local Nature Reserve. It is a proposed Historic Battlefield site.

Enjoy Farnham Park and help us protect it by....

- Binning your dog's mess (in any litter bin)
- Keeping your dog under close control
- Cycling with consideration for others
- Not lighting fires
- Reporting criminal incidents to the Police (101)

Farnham Park is managed by Waverley Borough Council. Contact the Ranger at the Park Office on 01252 717047. For out-of-hours emergencies, please ring 02392 242161.

www.waverley.gov.uk



Farnham Park is full of fascinating historic sites. Some, like Farnham Castle, are clear to see. Others have vanished, their locations only discovered by experts who have uncovered the faint clues that remain.

1 Prehistoric site Finds in the Park, including Mesolithic (middle stone age) flint fragments, show there has been human activity in this area for at least 7000 years. A scattered hoard of coins and pottery fragments, dating from the Iron Age and Roman occupation, was also discovered

of the Castle among other things and was in operation from as early as the 13th century.

3 Civil War skirmish site

Two lines of lead shot have been discovered here. One misty November morning in 1643, Royalist troops attempted to recapture the Castle from their encampments on the heathland above the Park. However, the defenders were alerted by the sound of 8000 troops and used the Castle cannons to disperse the attackers. The Royalists retreated after a series of cavalry skirmishes.

4 13th century vineyard

Early documents refer to this area on the south facing slopes as 'Wynerde' field and it is probably the site of a 13th century vineyard supplying grapes for the Bishop's wine.

5 Air Raid Shelter During World War II, Farnham Park had a range of military uses. Pillboxes and anti-glider posts were built to protect it from enemy attack and the Ranger's House became an Air Raid Precautions Centre and a base for the

10 Ice House

This subterranean chamber was constructed sometime in the 18th/19th Centuries and during the winter, ice and snow would be stored and packed with insulation, often straw or sawdust. It would remain frozen for many months and used by the Palace kitchens as a source of ice during the summer to store meat, cool drinks, or allow ice-cream and sorbet desserts to be prepared for the Bishop's feasts.



- 8 Saw pit Now lying preserved under the cricket nets, this brick lined saw pit has graffiti from 1764, but may date from medieval times. It would have been used to prepare timber for the frequent building works at the Castle and may also have been where joists for the roof of the magnificent Westminster Hall were prepared at the end of the 14th century.
- Spigot Mortar site Part of the Second World War defences, the mortar was manned by the Home Guard and positioned overlooking South Street. It would have helped defend this approach to the Castle, where the War Office had established the Camouflage Development and Training Centre.