

April 2021

65p

Oxshott

m a g a z i n e

Census 2021

*Have you
responded yet?*

Focus on food

Have an impact!

An ideal outfit

Recycling costumes

St Andrew's

Easter reopening: see inside

Easter edition

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- This month's cover picture shows a spring meadow with buttercups, a sign of the approaching spring

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The Monthly Letter

Light and life!

Dear Friends,

'There's light at the end of the tunnel.' How often have you heard, read or found yourself saying this phrase recently? Even the Prime Minister has used it, to describe where we are in relation to the end of the worst of the pandemic.

It's such a relief to see the progress we are making towards real human interaction again, which we have all missed so much. At St Andrew's, we very much hope to be able to resume services on Easter Sunday, 4 April (please see more information on page 6) and our Easter theme is 'Jesus: Light and Life.'

You see, for followers of Jesus, Jesus himself is the light at the end of the tunnel, so-to-speak. In a well-known reading from John's gospel, we read:

'In him (Jesus) was life and the life was the light of all people.'

(John 1.3-4)

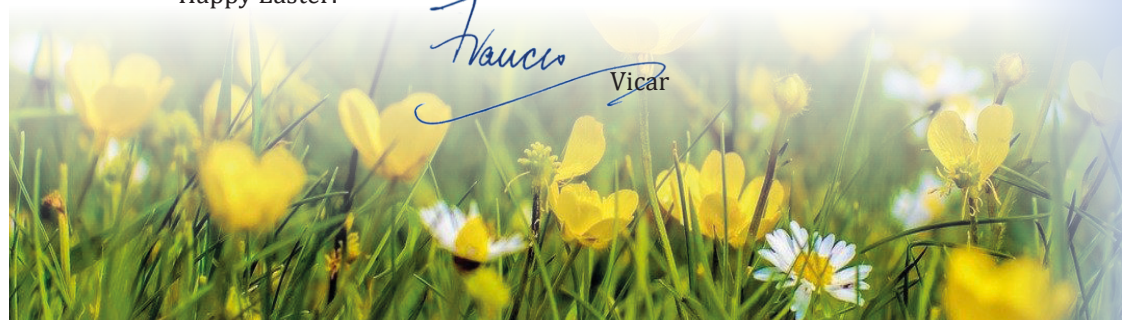
It is possible to live in lockdown - we've all had to learn to do this over the past year - but it is nothing like the richness of real life lived beyond lockdown. Similarly, it is possible to live life without God. But living life without God is only a pale imitation of what life is meant to be like.

Easter is when we celebrate the fact that God loves us so much that he sent his son, Jesus, to die for our sins on the cross, even when we did not acknowledge our need of him. This same Jesus was then raised to life again to demonstrate that God has power even over death itself: the ultimate form of darkness which has claimed so many over this past year.

If you are interested in having a space in which to explore the big questions of life, faith and meaning and to find out more about Jesus, the true light at the end of the tunnel, please join us (on zoom, from the comfort of your own home) on the Alpha course we shall be running from 3 May on Sunday evenings: see our website and social media for more information.

Happy Easter!

Frances
 Vicar



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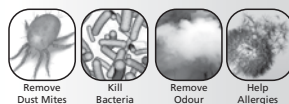
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Church News

Church Services in April



- Thu 1 Maundy Thursday**
9am Pray Together, via zoom
7pm Holy Week Reflection for 30 minutes, via zoom: *Humility & Love*
- Fri 2 Good Friday**
10am *The Darkest Day* - a drama, live streamed for families
2-3pm *Darkness & Death* - a meditation, live streamed
- Sat 3 9am Saturday Prayers, via zoom**
- Sun 4 Easter Sunday**
Jesus: Light & Life *The Brightest Day*
10am Listen & Pray, live streamed,
with bookable places, in church, for Holy Communion¹
- Tue 6 9am Pray Together, via zoom**
- Wed 7 10am-12 noon Private Prayer, in church¹**
- Thu 8 9am Pray Together, via zoom**
- Sat 10 9am Saturday Prayers, via zoom**
- Sun 11 The Second Sunday of Easter**
Jesus: Light & Life *All the difference in the world*
10am Listen & Pray, live streamed,
with bookable places, in church, for Holy Communion¹
- Tue 13 9am Pray Together, via zoom**
- Wed 14 10am-12 noon Private Prayer, in church¹**
- Thu 15 9am Pray Together, via zoom**
- Sat 17 9am Saturday Prayers, via zoom**
- Sun 18 The Third Sunday of Easter**
Nehemiah: Kingdom Building *Leading by Example* (Nehemiah 5.1-19)
10am Listen & Pray, live streamed,
with bookable places, in church, for Holy Communion¹
- Tue 20 9am Pray Together, via zoom**
- Wed 21 10am-12 noon Private Prayer, in church¹**
- Thu 22 9am Pray Together, via zoom**
- Sat 24 9am Saturday Prayers, via zoom**
- Sun 25 The Fourth Sunday of Easter** *Learning to rely on God* (Nehemiah 6.1-7.73)
10am Listen & Pray, live streamed,
with bookable places, in church, for Holy Communion¹
- Tue 27 9am Pray Together**
- Wed 28 10am-12 noon Private Prayer, in church¹**
- Thu 29 9am Pray Together, via zoom**

Note:

- ¹ Private Prayer (on Wednesdays) and Listen & Pray with Holy Communion (on Sundays) in church need to be booked beforehand: please do so on the church website (standrewsoxshott.org.uk) or via the Church Office (01372 842071, 9am- 1pm, Monday to Friday)

Church News

Re-opening the Church!

We plan to resume worship services and private prayer in church from the beginning of April. **Revd Frances Trickey** explains how we expect to start the long road back to normal worship...

The great news is that St Andrew's is able to welcome people back in church, and we will initially resume with a single service on Sundays at 10am. As numbers in church will still be restricted, this service will also be live streamed, followed by a short form of Holy Communion, which will not be broadcast.

Sunday services from Easter Day

The current plan (which is, of course, subject to change if rates of infection increase once more) is that our first service will be held on Easter Day itself, 4 April: a timely and appropriate way to celebrate!

For this special service, we will personally invite those who have had difficulty accessing our services online (in the same way that we did at



Jesus: Light & Life for all today

Easter Sunday 4 April

Our in-church services will continue to be live streamed – do join us online on Easter Day at 10am via the church website:
www.standrewsoxshott.org.uk

April 2021

Church News

Christmas). Once the number of spare places becomes clear, it will be possible for others to book in the usual way, via the website or the Church Office.

Then, from 11 April onwards, the usual booking arrangements will be in place for Sunday services.



As we resume in-church activity, all Covid prevention rules will need to be observed, even if you have had one or both vaccinations.

For the present at least, we intend to continue live streaming our Sunday services (see left).

Private Prayer

We also plan to reopen for private prayer on Wednesday mornings, on a pre-booked basis, as we did before.

So from Wednesday, 7 April, the church will be open weekly for private prayer between 10am and 12 noon, and times can be booked via the website or by calling the Church Office.

A new development is that clergy or Ministry Team members will be available during this time to pray with anyone who would appreciate this.

Looking forward

As demand grows, we anticipate reinstating a repeat of the Sunday service on Wednesdays at 10am, with private prayer then beginning at 11am.

Beyond this stage, the Parochial Church Council (PCC) and the Ministry Team will be considering what we are gradually able to introduce.

All those who have signed up to our mailing lists will receive pastoral letters giving more information as matters unfold. However, if you do have any concerns, or would like to be added to the mailing lists, please do ring the office team on 01372 842071.

Frances Trickey

From the Registers



Funerals

We offer our condolences to the family and friends of:

10 February	Sydney Donald Morgan (died 13 January 2021, aged 91)
22 February	Janet Ellinger (died 20 January 2021, aged 88)

An ideal outfit...

Ever had a good idea? We spoke to **Ros Ebbutt-Hadman** about an excellent charity that she instigated, which arose from her work over many years designing costumes for film and television...

I had the idea for OutFits several years ago, when I was helping Jacky Atkins, then the head of Oxshott Mothers' Union, and also Diocesan President, with a special exhibition at Guildford Cathedral.

We were chatting about volunteering in prisons, and she told me that when prisoners are released, they are often wearing obviously 'prison' garments, and carrying their possessions in a black plastic bag.

This is a poor start to life 'outside', and makes them an obvious and easy target for those wanting to sell them drugs, or recruit them back into criminal activity.

Inspiration

I had this sudden flash of inspiration: clothing is acquired for the cast and extras of every contemporary film or tv drama shoot. But at the end of filming, this clothing is dispersed - and everyday items are generally donated to charity. There had to be a way to link this together.

Filming commitments meant that I didn't put my idea into action straight away, but at an MU meeting in St Andrew's I met Antonia Wilson, by then the new Diocesan President, pitched my idea to her, and everything took off. She fixed for us to meet the governor of HMP Coldingley, who received the idea with enthusiasm, and sent us to Wormwood Scrubs, who were equally enthusiastic.

OutFits

So we decided to set up a charity, to be called OutFits, which could co-ordinate the distribution of clothing at the end of shoots to assorted prisons across the UK.

There has been a really successful dissemination of the plan across the industry, starting with costume teams and then involving production companies, and 'continuing dramas' (i.e. the popular soap operas). It is also pursued alongside various sustainability initiatives in the film industry, as what better way of recycling could be imagined?

We started to roll out the scheme in August 2019, with immediate success, but then in March 2020 coronavirus took its toll - with no filming taking place, there were no redundant costumes becoming available.



Bags of clothing from OutFits, earmarked for various prisons - a donation could contain clothes for about 20 people

But activity in the industry gradually resumed in late summer, and the flow picked up.

We now have over a dozen prisons on our contact list, which is steadily increasing across the country.

I first met Antonia almost exactly two years ago, and even with the pause in filming caused by the pandemic, we are now a flourishing charitable concern. For example, over the past few weeks alone there have been a dozen sizeable donations of clothes to prisons across the UK.

Ros Ebbutt-Hadman



They had been promised a Celebrity Guest Preacher

Parish News & Notes

Christian Aid celebrates 75 years of helping those in poverty and suffering, and this year's Christian Aid Week takes place just before phase 2 of the relaxation of lockdown, so we won't be able to get together as a community to help those in poverty.



We are, however, working on ideas to bring us together to show we can share God's love with those most in need. News will follow about a few events, including sponsored events, some virtual get-togethers including the possibility of another opportunity to win the St Andrew's Quiz prize...

APCM on 28 March

A reminder that our Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) will now be at 7pm on Sunday, 28 March (Palm Sunday) – online via the website!

If you have any queries, please contact the Church Office.

Some congregations are making donations when they receive their Covid vaccines, as those in other countries do not have the same support that we do. I have set up a site that will connect your donations to St Andrew's, so please donate through www.justgiving.com/fundraising/mark-currie8 if you would like to give thanks in a way that will directly benefit those in extreme poverty. *Mark Currie, Christian Aid representative for St Andrew's*

Building Your Church (BYC) update...

Work on BYC continues... One of the most important next steps will be to share the architect's latest designs, following the feedback we received from individuals and from the DAC (the committee responsible for approving church building works across the diocese).

We want to make the building the very best it can be to enable us to deliver our vision of growing and serving, so hopefully the next drawings will demonstrate how carefully we have listened to your passionate and practical responses to the initial plans.

Other next steps include having a site visit from representatives of the DAC in mid-April, and organising a tree/landscaping survey, a bat survey and a flood risk assessment, all of which are required before the main planning application.

We are also working on those all-important applications for CIL and YFS funding, ahead of a broader fundraising programme to be launched in early summer.



Jill Mengham



Writing a will

Are you thinking of making a will or updating your existing will?

Rebecca Mayhew has been investigating...

Lent in Lockdown certainly strips away all the distractions. I've found that looking at the daily news figures of new coronavirus cases, hospitalisations and deaths has changed my perspective on what's important in life; who's important in life; what I'd like my legacy to be. I wonder if you feel the same.

If you're thinking of making a will or updating your existing will, here are some recommendations:

1. Do some preparation - a list of assets and liabilities; the loved ones you want to leave assets to; the charities/clubs/associations you support.
2. Look at your tax situation, and consult your financial advisor if you have one.
3. Arrange to see a solicitor.

Many people don't realise that if you leave a gift of more than 10% of your net estate to a registered charity, then your Inheritance Tax rate may be reduced from 40% to 36%.

As part of your prayerful preparation, would you consider leaving a legacy to St Andrew's? If so, we have added some helpful guidance to the St Andrew's website - you can find it under the tab 'Playing your part' and then 'Legacies'.

Your gift, no matter how large or small, will be used to make a real difference to the lives of people in our parish and beyond, both in maintaining our current ministry and transforming its future.

Rebecca Mayhew

For further information and useful guidance about writing your will, see www.churchlegacy.org.uk

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Eco Church – Focus on Food

The United Nations has identified ‘food, water and energy’ as the three areas most key to global environmental sustainability. **Patrick Davies** looks at the first of these, and what we might change...

What we eat is a significant factor in our environmental footprint, and as Christians we take seriously humankind’s God-given role to care for the whole of Creation, not just ourselves.

Food production accounts for a quarter of the world’s greenhouse gas emissions (about 10x that of air travel!), uses 50% of habitable land (not ice or desert covered) and 70% of the world’s freshwater supply. Humans and livestock account for 96% of the earth’s total mammal biomass – with just cows and pigs making up about 60%. The biomass of poultry is about three times that of wild birds. Of the 28,000 animal species threatened with extinction, 24,000 have ‘agriculture’ or ‘aquaculture’ listed as a threat to their survival. We can see how great an impact our food has on the environment!

Therefore, thinking about how we might minimise the environmental impact of our food can be very powerful. Here are three suggestions:

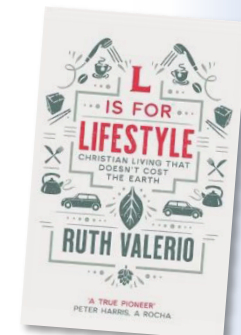
Make choices about meat: Meat production is the most environmentally impactful area of food production, in terms of land and water use, and greenhouse gas emissions. Perhaps consider eating less red meat? Animal products, red meat & beef in particular have a disproportionate environmental impact. Kilograms of CO₂ equivalent per kilogram are: oatmeal – 1kg; lamb – 25kg; beef – 59kg!

Eat local & seasonal produce: Year-round demand for seasonal produce has driven a global industry, growing and shipping foods around the world to supply our tables with whatever we wish, whenever we wish. This means our food clocks up thousands of ‘food miles’ and contributes to carbon emissions through its global transportation. However, eating locally and seasonally minimises food transportation and the environmental impact.

Minimise waste: On average in the UK around 30% of edible food is thrown away. For most people, reducing the amount of food waste by shopping wisely and using as much as possible of what you have can really help reduce your food’s environmental impact. For the food waste we do produce, using a specific ‘food waste’ bin means it can then be industrially digested for biofuel.

If this has piqued your interest, Ruth Valerio’s book *L is for Lifestyle* would be a recommended read.

Patrick Davies



New bishop for the environment

The Bishop of Norwich, Graham Usher, is to lead the Church of England's Environment Programme with a charge to lead bold, deliberate, collaborative action across the Church to tackle the grave existential crises of climate change and biodiversity loss.

Bishop Graham (*right*) will work with the Mission and Public Affairs department of the Church of England, continuing the commitment to net-zero carbon impacts across the Church of England by 2030 set by General Synod in February 2020. Bishop Graham said: "Responding to the climate and biodiversity crises is not a luxury in the ministry of the Church, but an urgent imperative for our mission."

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, said: "This will be a key year for the UK's approach to climate change internationally." In June, the UK will host the G7. In November, Glasgow will host COP26. The Environment Bill will be coming to Parliament. "Now is the time for bold, deliberate, collaborative action."



The witness of the short distance runner

When David Crouch became a Licensed Lay Minister (Reader) in 2010 here in Oxshott, he took his first service for us in a spotless white surplice appearing for all the world as a superannuated cherub. His perpetual look of innocence and self-deprecating manner when preaching have touched our hearts and opened our eyes to see what God is saying to us in the Bible.

Sadly, we said goodbye to him and his wife Katharine last month as they moved to Oxford to live. We shall miss them for they have been at the heart of St Andrews for almost 20 years.

They used to be five and part of the attraction of coming to us was our youth work led, at the time, by Catherine Parkes. Now the children are children no more (*see opposite*). Roland lives and works in Amsterdam; Steph and her husband live in Oxfordshire; Ben continues his graduate studies in Birmingham. Katharine has retired from a successful school headship and David is easing out of his role as senior partner in an International firm of Chartered Patent and Trade Mark Attorneys. They see

this as the time for a change with new challenges in Christian witness.

I asked David about the highs and lows of his ministry. The highs included the privilege (his word) of taking funerals and getting alongside grieving families. He greatly enjoyed his recent work with Liz de Wet Steyn and Jolyon Trickey on our Mission Partnerships. The only 'low' he could remember was trying to start a service without a microphone and leaving a congregation totally mystified for several minutes while he went off to look for it. A different sort of high came 2 years ago when as a 70-year-old veteran he ran 100 metres in 14.37 seconds in the UK championships. He intends to keep up running in a club as it gives him opportunities to witness to the Lord Jesus outside as well as inside the church.

David and Katharine have many happy memories of their time with us and promise to go on praying for us in St Andrew's. "For what in particular?" I asked. "That you will always look outward and never get too comfortable with the status quo."

It's what the Bible says in Hebrews 12 - *Let us also lay aside every weight ...let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus.*

Thank you, David and Katharine!

Phillip Herbert



The Crouch family, taking the air



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Village News

Flourishing in a lockdown

Oxshott Village Sports Club will be opening from 29 March for some sports. **Fiona Stephen** brings us the exciting news...



We will be opening our gates for outdoor sports from 29 March! During the summer of 2020, following a spring of lockdown, adapting to new measures put in place, OVSC flourished. We were able to enjoy a summer of tennis, cricket, pétanque and bowls. New members were welcomed, and members and guests embraced the new outside bar arrangements. There was even some squash played!

But then we were hit with Lockdowns 2 & 3. In November the facilities had to shut again and then, after opening momentarily in December, we had to close up shop for a third time. However, we are a resilient lot and the club has been using the lockdown time to make improvements to OVSC ready for opening of outdoor sports from Monday 29 March.

The clubhouse has been having a facelift both inside and out – with a sprucing up of its décor. A new patio and gazebo have been built, adding excellent additional outside space with a perfect view overlooking the cricket pitch. Tennis courts and pétanque terrains are ready and waiting, the bowls green and cricket pitches are being cut and rolled and behind the scenes people are making sure we are ready to open. We also expect to run our usual holiday junior tennis and cricket camps.

Good news

More good news received is that OVSC has been nominated for Club of the Year in the Surrey Tennis Awards; the winner is to be announced at the end of March – fingers crossed! Also, the club's pétanque section has been ranked in the top 10 of venues in England. Two fantastic achievements.

And last but not least, the club has received planning permission for two new padel tennis courts. We expect them to be ready for the summer – watch this space and we will hopefully have more news in the next issue.

So, if you would like to be part of the OVSC family, we have memberships to suit everyone, including social memberships. Enjoy the club's members' bar and wonderful outdoor space and you never know you may want to try one of our sports.

Please contact Fiona or Sarah in the OVSC office by email - office@oxshottsports.com or 01372 843652 for any information.

Fiona Stephen

Oxshott Art & Crafts Society

Planning and painting

Though still having to live with Covid restrictions, we can now all see some light at the end of the tunnel – so cheering, along with the beautiful spring blossom and flowers!

OACS have been busy planning our long-awaited programme of demonstrations, workshops and exhibitions and, while the lifting of restrictions continues, we have two online demonstrations to start us off – the first on 11 May, by popular artist Chris Forsey, demonstrating *Boats and Harbour*, using mixed media; the second, on 8 June, by a newcomer to OACS, Judit Matthews, demonstrating *Natural World* in watercolour. After that, all being well, we can look forward very much to meeting in person for the first time in well over a year. Subject to Government rules at the time, in July we plan to have a celebration get-together, with bubbly and an opportunity for those who wish to, to show their creative work from lockdown.

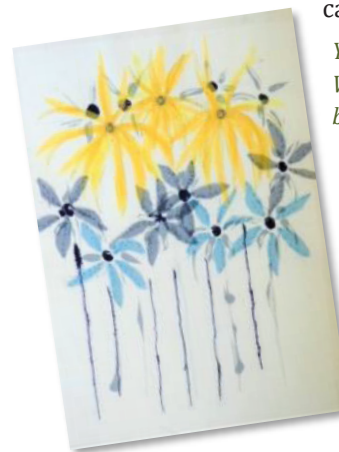
Our autumn events will begin with a demonstration on 14 September by one of our favourite artists, Max Hale, of *Still Life* in water-mixable oils. Details of further autumn events will be given in future editions.

In the meantime, members have kept up their creative work in a variety of ways.

Meryl Hayes has produced a number of watercolours, among them this lovely crocus (*right*). Charlotte Fletcher's *Yellow Flowers*, organza flowers with machine embroidery on hand printed fabric, was part of an *Up the Garden Path* exhibition at Riverhouse Barn in Walton on Thames, which, sadly, was cancelled due to Covid after six days. Her second piece was created with her *Textiles on Tuesdays* group. Entitled *Winter Cathedral*, it is a fabric mosaic



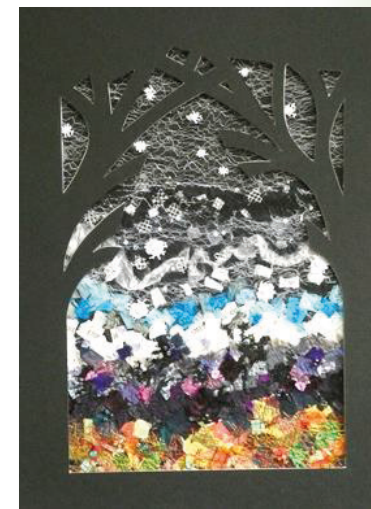
background with a tree motif mountboard, giving the impression of a natural wooded cathedral.



Yellow Flowers (left) and Winter Cathedral (right), both by Charlotte Fletcher

OACS look forward very much to being able to invite readers to join us as guests, once our face-to-face demonstrations resume, and wish you all a Happy Easter.

Miranda Fuller



Census 2021

The Census comes round every 10 years, and census day was on Sunday 21 March 2021 – have you responded yet?

Census 2021 is in full swing in Oxshott. The letters, with your unique access codes, have all gone out and responses are already coming in.

Results will be available within 12 months, although personal records will be locked away for 100 years, kept safe for future generations.

**census
2021**

You are asked to **complete the census online**, using an access code that was sent to you in the post.

Or you can request a **paper version**, online or over the phone.

Operating in line with the Government's latest Covid-19 guidance, field officers will be deployed across the country to contact those who have not responded. They will offer help and advice to those who need it, and will also remind people that their census response is required by law.

There are a range of support services available, including large print formats, information in Braille and British Sign Language support.

To complete your census, and find out how you can get help, visit census.gov.uk or call 0800 141 2021.

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Dr Rachel Woodruffe
BChD

Dr Claire Morrice
BA (Hons) BDS

Dr Siobhan Berry
BDS



Cobham Dental Team

Chelsea Flower Show in September

RHS
CHELSEA
FLOWER SHOW



For the first time ever in its 108-year history, Chelsea Flower Show will not be held in the spring, but in the autumn.

The 2021 Show will now take place from 21-26 September. The Royal Horticultural Society, the show organisers, will still hold it at the Royal Hospital in Chelsea.

The hope is that by September, millions more people will be vaccinated, so that mass outdoor events will be able to happen safely. 140,000 people are predicted to attend this year's Chelsea, over the six days.

Sue Biggs, RHS director general, says: "We believe many designers and nurseries will look forward to working with different plants that would not be available or at their best in May. We will do our utmost to deliver a beautiful, uplifting and different RHS Chelsea safely in September 2021."

What's On in Oxshott



April

- Fri 2 10am **St Andrew's Church:** *The Darkest Day* A Good Friday drama, live streamed via the church website
- Sun 4 10am **St Andrew's Church:** Easter Sunday service, live streamed via the church website. Limited pre-booked seating in church (see details on page 6)
- Wed 14 2.30pm **The Arts Society Cobham & Oxshott:** *The Vikings are Coming!* Looking at all aspects of the 'long-haired tourists from Scandinavia', with Imogen Corrigan, via zoom for members
- Tues 20 8pm **Oxshott Village Women's Institute:** *Easter Flowers:* a demonstration by Liz Owler, via zoom for members. Contact Liz McGibbon: lizmcgibbon@btinternet.com if you wish to join Oxshott Village WI
- Wed 21 8pm **Cercle Français d'Esher:** *Joséphine Baker*, with Isabelle Schloesing, via zoom for members

If you would like to have details of your event listed here, let us know at oxshottmagazine@yahoo.co.uk

Miscellany...

In praise of the afternoon nap

A short nap in the afternoon improves your memory and keeps your brain more agile.

People who nap tend to speak more fluently, have greater mental agility, and remember things better than those who do not break up their day with sleep. Even a five-minute nap can offer your brain a chance to down-time and replenish itself, so that it is 'good to go' again.

If you want longer than five minutes, try to stop at 40 minutes, before you enter the deepest stage of sleep. If you do carry on, sleep for two hours, which is a full sleep-cycle. The study was published in the *British Medical Journal*.

We are reading more books

More than 200 million print books were sold in the UK last year, according to an estimate from the official book sales monitor Nielsen BookScan.

It was the first time since 2012 that the volume of physical books sold has exceeded 200million, says *The Bookseller* magazine.

According to *The Bookseller*, the best-selling title of 2020 was Charlie Mackesy's *The Boy, The Mole, The Fox and The Horse*. Richard Osman's *The Thursday Murder Club* was second, while cookbook *Pinch of Nom – Everyday Light* was third.



Thank God for dentists!

Here is something gruesome: last year the sale of DIY dentistry first aid kits nearly doubled. People actually attempted to give themselves lost fillings, caps and crowns.

Most popular were products that offered 'long-lasting' temporary repair for caps and fillings, and a first aid kit.

The British Dental Association understands why; because of lockdown, there were 20 million fewer dental treatments available last year than in 2019. That left some people desperate. But experts warn against the damage that could be done. Dr Nigel Carter, chief executive of the Oral Health Foundation, says: "DIY home dentistry is a terrible idea and should be avoided at all costs. Home treatments in untrained hands ... can lead to permanent damage to your health."

The good news is that dental surgeries are now back to relative normality. So – book an appointment if you need one!

Oxshott Village WI

The enigmatic air twist glass

Fifteen members of the Village WI 'zoomed' into their meeting on Tuesday 16 February to hear a talk by Brian Whicher about air twist glass. To support his talk, members were shown examples of antique wine glasses and well-prepared slides.

The presentation was a chatty collection of facts rather than a dull lecture and he took us back to the manufacture of glass from volcanic action and production through the ages.

The first glass to be made in England was in Chiddingfold, a lovely village in Surrey. The only church with engraved glass windows is St Nicholas Church in Moreton, near Swanage (where Lawrence of Arabia is buried). He also told us that the name 'potholes', the bane of Surrey road users, came from Roman times when potters dug up smooth roadways to find clay to make pots hence the name 'potholes'! Not sure this applies to today, but an interesting fact which may or may not be true!

Brian exhibited various beautiful air twist glasses and members were fascinated to learn that the reason behind the stunningly creative stems was to avoid paying excessive glass tax levied at the time. Chuckles were raised by the deceptive drinking glasses so enjoyed by Victorian society. Should ladies ever be offered such a glass now, having listened to Brian and being shown exactly how to hold and drink from their glass, they would not be embarrassed by seemingly spilling their drink! In describing the symbolism and style of drinking glasses through the 18th Century it was fascinating to realise that every shape, size, and feature of a glass had a reason.

A final thought to leave you with: when you next use your smart phone, remember that you are reading the screen through the latest innovation, gorilla glass!

Glass is fascinating and Brian gave an entertaining and informative talk for which he was warmly thanked. Once travel is permitted again, the WI group certainly intend to follow recommendations of places to visit to see further examples of beautiful glass.

Our return to meeting in the Village Hall is still not yet known, but we can only hope for better times.



Liz McGibbon

The Arts Society of Cobham & Oxshott

Mottisfont Abbey and the churches of Romney Marsh

In this month of Easter, what better time to remind ourselves of an abbey and several churches visited by The Arts Society of Cobham & Oxshott (ASCO) over previous years.

As the coach drove into Hampshire, our destination was Mottisfont Abbey (*right*), west of Winchester. On arrival, members listened as our guide explained the building's transformation from abbey to private house over a period of 900 years.

The word Mottisfont dates from 1167, when Motesfont meant 'a meeting place near a spring', and today the original spring can be found still bubbling up and streaming towards the River Test. It was to this Augustinian priory in the 1200s that pilgrims gathered for rest and food, appreciating wine from the cellarium. This cool medieval storage area had a low vaulted ceiling supported by short squat pillars. Travellers would stay a night or two and once suitably refreshed set out for Winchester to pick up the Pilgrims Way *en route* to Canterbury and Becket's shrine.

Centuries and several owners later, the abbey escaped being destroyed following the Tudor Dissolution as the owner, Lord Sandys, was fortunately a friend of Henry VIII. Sandys set about converting the nave into a main hall, around which rooms and two forward projecting wings were added. We noticed at the front of the building the Georgians had enlarged the windows and added a central pediment. Later still, the Victorian owner's interest extended to rebuilding the stable block for his racehorses.

By the 20th century, further domestic alterations and improvements ensured a comfortable country house for political and artistic friends arriving for weekend house parties. We were impressed by Rex Whistler's distinctive *trompe l'oeil* murals in the drawing room alcoves, painted just months before he died in WWII.

After lunch we headed for the walled kitchen gardens now famous as home to the National Collection of Old Roses, whose perfume we could



smell some way off. Mottisfont Abbey came to the National Trust in 1957.

Medieval wonders on Romney Marsh

Another visit took ASCO into south east Kent to discover not one but four distinct medieval churches on Romney Marsh. Our coach parked at the Royal Oak pub, Brookland, a regular watering hole for visiting groups, where our two guides joined us. After coffee, we drove to our first church in New Romney. The tower suggested different building eras as the style changed from rounded Norman arches at ground level to slightly pointed arches nearer the top. Today the church stands some four feet below the surrounding pavement – the result of having withstood a huge thirteenth century storm which brought quantities of shingle inland.

Entering St Mary in the Marsh we reflected that the low wooden roof of the nave and chancel very much resembled an upturned ship. Our guides pointed out a rare double piscina (for washing communion vessels), a scratch dial on the outside south wall (an early sundial to tell parishioners the time) while in the churchyard we found the grave of Edith Nesbit, author of *The Railway Children*.

Too soon it was time to discover East Guldeford – here the church resembles a barn with two parallel roofs. We learnt that the colourfully painted frieze of angels in the chancel was painted in the nineteenth century, probably at the same time as the box pews and double-decker pulpit were installed. St Mary, East Guldeford is noted for being the only Romney Marsh church in Sussex - the rest being in Kent - and the only one built of brick.

Perhaps the most evocative of the churches we visited was at Fairfield where the dedication is to St Thomas Becket. Visible for miles around because of its isolated location in the flat landscape, it stands in fields grazed by sheep who barely moved aside as we neared the porch. The church is small in size with few windows, so for services oil lamps hang from the roof timbers as the church has no electricity. A bell tower rises only just above the nave roof.

Following a welcome tea prepared by Brenzett WI in their village hall, we boarded our return coach. We had hugely enjoyed a most absorbing day thanks to the Romney Marsh Historic Churches Trust. It not only looks after fourteen quite diverse churches (of which we only visited four), but provided two most knowledgeable guides to enlighten us throughout the day.



Church of St Thomas Becket, Fairfield

Nicky Orlebar

Back to school...

Even before home schooling, things weren't going well...

The following questions were (allegedly) set in GCSE examinations in Swindon, Wiltshire. These are genuine answers (from 16-year-olds)

Q. Name the four seasons

A. Salt, pepper, mustard and vinegar

Q. How can you delay milk turning sour?

A. Keep it in the cow

Q. What is the fibula?

A. A small lie

Q. Name a major disease associated with cigarettes

A. Premature death

Q. What guarantees may a mortgage company insist on?

A. If you are buying a house, they will insist that you are well endowed

Q. What is a turbine?

A. Something an Arab or Shreik wears on his head

Q. What are steroids?

A. Things for keeping carpets still on the stairs

Q. Give the meaning of the term 'Caesarean section'

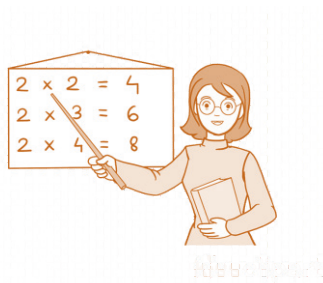
A. The caesarean section is a district in Rome

Q. What is a terminal illness?

A. When you are sick at the airport

Q. What does the word 'benign' mean?

A. Benign is what you will be after you be eight



Sudoku

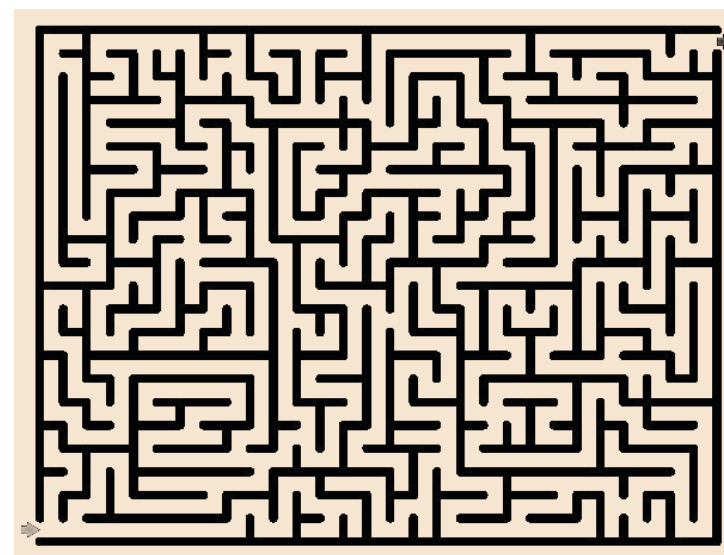
9	5	2	8	3	7	4	6	1
4	8	1	9	6	5	3	7	2
3	6	7	2	4	1	9	5	8
2	9	8	6	7	3	1	4	5
7	4	5	1	2	8	6	3	9
1	3	6	4	5	9	2	8	7
5	1	9	3	8	6	7	2	4
8	2	3	7	9	4	5	1	6
6	7	4	5	1	2	8	9	3

Last month's solution

Answers
next
month

9	6	4	1	5	7	2	3	8
3	7	1	2	8	6	4	5	9
2	8	5	3	9	4	1	7	6
1	5	8	4	6	2	3	9	7
4	9	3	8	7	1	5	6	2
6	2	7	5	3	9	8	1	4
8	3	6	9	2	5	7	4	1
5	1	9	7	4	8	6	2	3
7	4	2	6	1	3	9	8	5

Maze



Eyesight...

A man went to his doctor to say that his eyesight was getting worse. The doctor asked the man to look out of the window and to tell him what he saw. "I see the sun," the man replied.

The doctor said: "Just how much farther do you want to see?"

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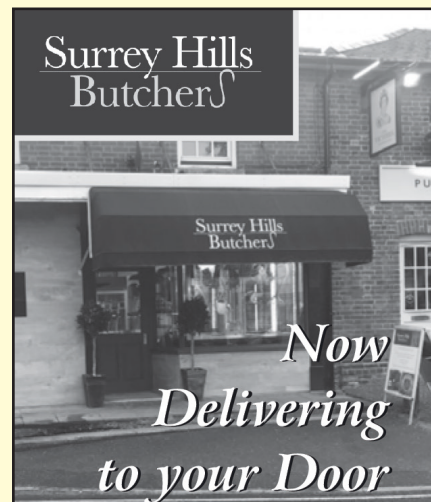
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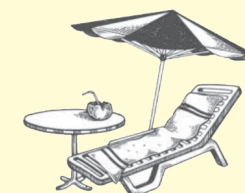


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April 2021

Oxshott Directory

Contacts at St Andrew's (continued from page 2)

Who's Who at St Andrew's



Covid-19: many activities are suspended, or are now 'virtual' - ask contacts below for details

Bible Reading Fellowship: Hon Sec: Claire King (01932 867522)

Build your Church Project: Contact: Jill Mengham (01372 842084)

Children and Young People:

StAks - 4-11 years old groups, meeting on Sundays 11am-12 noon in term time

OY! - Youth Club for local young people aged 10-14 (school years 6-9)

Contact: the Church Office (01372 842071)

Church Flowers: Jill Levitt (01932 862532)

Church Hall: For bookings contact the Church Office (01372 842071)

Churches Together: Suzanna Knott (01932 866951)

Coffee Comfort: Jenny Mathieson (01372 842760)

Deanery Synod: Representatives: Rebecca Mayhew and Jill Perrett

Electoral Roll Officer: Emily Godfrey (electoral.roll@standrewsoxshott.org.uk)

In Touch: group for parents and carers of babies and young children. Contacts: Karen Banks (01932 868323) or Marianne Francis (01932 866223)

Lay Assistants: Barbara Begley, Peter Burt, David Crouch, Marianne Francis, Anita Harper, Phillip Herbert, Claire King, Rebecca Mayhew, Jill Mengham, Helen Shand and Jackie Stewart

Life Groups: A number of Life Groups meet for study, fellowship and prayer on a regular basis throughout the parish. Co-ordinator: Patrick Fleming (life.groups@standrewsoxshott.org.uk or through the Church Office 01372 842071)

Lunch Club: meets every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month, and generally appeals to people who are 60 plus. Leaders: Sheila and Phillip Herbert (01372 842005)

Mothers' Union: Branch Leader: Jane Endean (07762 212607 or mothers.union@standrewsoxshott.org.uk)

Music: Director of Music: Valerie Beynon (01932 863296). Organists: Carina Moffat, Nicky Orlebar. Worship Band: Andy Hum (01372 844322)

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Anna Jarrett (safeguarding@standrewsoxshott.org.uk)

Parochial Church Council: PCC Secretary: Sue Procter; PCC Members: Ruth Burns, David Crouch, Revd Patrick Davies (*Curate*), Patrick Fleming, Richard Green, Chris Hampson, Karen Henshall, Brenda Hum, Carl Jackson (*Treasurer*), Anna Jarrett, Claire King, Charlene Lamb, Rebecca Mayhew (*Deanery Synod*), Jill Mengham, Mike Newman, Jill Perrett (*Deanery Synod*), Gordon Scott, Norman Steven, Revd Frances Trickey (*Vicar*) and Revd Jolyon Trickey (*Associate Minister*)

Pastoral Assistants: Barbara Begley, Peter Burt, Marianne Francis, Rebecca Mayhew, Gavin Harper, Helen Shand, Jackie Stewart, Ron Stewart and Trish Torr. For contact, please call the Church Office (01372 842071)

Sidespersons: Convenor: Gwen Bullen (01372 843932)

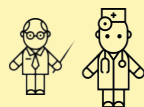
Stewardship: Parish Funding Administrator: Marjorie Cox (01372 842857)

Treasurer: Carl Jackson (01372 843990)

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Contact information for local services – *please advise any changes*

Community and Local Services



Oxshott Medical Practice: Holtwood Road, Oxshott KT22 0QJ

Telephone: 01372 844000 - Monday to Friday, 8am to 6.30pm

Website: www.oxshottmedicalpractice.co.uk

Doctors:

Dr Richard Draper MBChB DCH DRCOG DA MRCP (available Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday)

Dr Mark Jenkins MBBS DRCOG DFFP MRCP (available Monday - Wednesday, Friday)

Dr Alice Palfreman MBChB (Hons) MRCP (available Monday - Wednesday)

Dr Sarah Glynn MBBS(Hons) BSc MRCP(UK) MRCP DFFP (available Monday)

Nurses: Rosemary Tyler (available Monday, Wednesday, Friday) and Tracy Crook (available Tuesday, Thursday)

Surgery hours: Monday to Friday, 8am-6.30pm. Pre-bookable early morning and late night appointments available - contact surgery for details

Outside surgery hours:

- **in Non-Emergency cases:** telephone **111**

- **in an Emergency**, such as chest pain or shortness of breath (or any other emergency), telephone **999**

Central Surrey Voluntary Action: No.1, The Quintet, Charities House, Churchfield Road, Walton on Thames, KT12 2TZ - incorporating Elmbridge Volunteer Centre, and an Esher venue (01372 463587 or visit www.centralsurreyvoluntaryaction.co.uk)

Centre for Sight: Vision correction, laser eye surgery, lens implants and cataract surgery, at 48 High Street, Oxshott. Mon-Fri, 9am-4.30pm (0800 011 2882)

Chiropodist: Tracie Sampson MBChA MSSCh HPC-registered. Visiting practice (mobile 07944 951505, home 01932 589756)

Cobham Area Foodbank: Serves Cobham, Oxshott, Stoke D'Abernon, the Horsleys and Effingham (01932 450282 or manager@cobhamarea.foodbank.org.uk)

Council Representatives – Surrey:

Mary Lewis (01932 590338) represents Cobham, Downside & part of Stoke D'Abernon and Oxshott (west of the railway line)

Mike Bennison (01932 866367) represents Oxshott (east of the railway line), Claygate and Hinchley Wood.

Both can also be contacted through the Esher & Walton Conservative Association, 3 Bridle Close, Surbiton Road, Kingston-upon-Thames KT1 2JW (020 8546 2934 or conservatives@esherwalton.com)

Council Representatives – Elmbridge (Oxshott and Stoke D'Abernon Ward):

Andrew Burley (07503 830954), Oliver Chappell (07900 780077), David Lewis (07771 505567)

Counsellor: Fay Preston MBACP BACP-registered counsellor (01372 450742 or 07855 098995 or visit www.counselling-directory.org.uk/counsellors/fay-preston)

Contact information for local services

Services *(continued)*



Dentist: Dr Brian Cullen BDS (Shef), Oxshott Dental Practice, Winkfield, Steels Lane, Oxshott. Mon-Thur 8am-5pm; Fri 8am-4.30pm (01372 843552 or info@oxshottdental.com or visit www.oxshottdental.com)

Esher and District Citizens Advice Bureau: Harry Fletcher House, Civic Centre Complex, High Street, Esher (No service currently in person; by phone 01372 464770 Mon-Tue, Thur-Fri 10.30am-3.30pm; Wed 1pm-3.30pm, or via www.eshercab.org.uk)

FEDORA: Federation of Oxshott Residents and Associations. Co-Chairs: Anthony Wolfe, Carmen Robinson (chairman@fedora.org.uk)

Friends of Oxshott Heath: Contact: Jan Fuller (janmfuller@yahoo.co.uk), Elizabeth Chovil (e.chovil@ntlworld.com)

Health Visitor and Cobham Health Centre: (01932 867231)

Hospital Accident and Emergency Department (A&E): Epsom General Hospital, Dorking Road, Epsom KT18 7EG

Meals on Wheels: Contact: The Community Support Services Team at Elmbridge Council (01372 474552 or commservices@elmbridge.gov.uk)

Neighbourhood Watch: Voluntary crime prevention movement. Co-ordinator for Oxshott: Sally-Ann Todd (sa-washington@hotmail.co.uk)

Osteopath: Anja Davidson MSt, Wellmead Osteopathy, Steels Lane (01372 897497 or info@wellmeadosteopathy.co.uk)

Oxshott Care: Local voluntary Help Scheme (07950 478329). Phone attendance Mon-Fri 9am-12 noon, answer machine at other times

Oxshott Village Centre: Bookings Secretary: Alexandra Horne (01372 841892 or ovcbookings@aol.com or visit www.oxshottvillagecentre.co.uk)

Physiotherapist: Leigh R. Hopper MCSP SRP, Oxshott Physiotherapy Practice, Sunridge, Fair Oak Lane, Oxshott (01372 844449 or oxshottphysio@btopenworld.com)

Police: Cobham and Oxshott: PC Jo Fahey, PCSO Sarah Janes, PS Rob Thomas. Elmbridge Borough Commander: Inspector Bert Dean

Police Station: Elmbridge Borough Council, Civic Centre, High Street, Esher, Surrey KT10 9SD (elmbridge@surrey.pnn.police.uk)

To report a crime or incident, call 101, the number for all non-urgent calls

In a genuine emergency, requiring urgent police attendance, call 999

Royal Kent School, Oakshade Road, Oxshott, Surrey KT22 0LE (01372 842495) Church of England Primary School, ages 4 to 11. For details of admissions, please contact the School Office. **Headteacher:** Katie Hancock **Governors:** Nigel Mengham (Chair), Katie Hancock (Head), Jo Allen, Joe Blaney, Ruth Burns, Maureen Carruthers, Helen Howell, Steve Jones, Leo Morrell, Frances Trickey, Linzi Way, David Young, Robbert Zoet

SSAFA: Leading national charity helping members and ex-members of the Armed Forces and their families (01372 462796 or surrey@ssafa.org.uk)

Victim Support: Free confidential support after crime. Contact: Supportline (08 08 16 89 111) or visit www.victimsupport.org.uk

All the details you need to join in

Local Clubs & Societies



Covid-19: many activities are suspended, or are now 'virtual' - ask contacts below for details

1st Oxshott Scouts: Meetings, Beavers (Mondays 6-7.15pm), Cubs (Thursdays 6.30-8pm), Scouts (Wednesdays 6.30-8pm), Explorers (Mondays 7.30-9pm).
(oxshottscoutgroup@gmail.com) www.oxshott-scouts.org

Ladies Friendship Group: Meets 1st Tuesday in month at 10am, in small hall in Oxshott Village Centre. Contact: Angela Horne (01372 843113)

Le Cercle Français d'Esher: Evening talks in French on 3rd Wednesday of each month from October to June in West End Village Hall. Contact: Cavan Taylor (01932 864258 or cavan.taylor@btopenworld.com)

Oxshott Art & Crafts Society: This friendly group of artists and craftsmen meet for a demonstration at 7.45pm on the second Tuesday of most months. Guests are welcome and members can exhibit in three annual exhibitions. All standards are welcome. Full details are all on our website (www.oxshottartandcrafts.org)

Oxshott Badminton Club: If you play badminton why not join us on Tuesday evenings (September to May). Contact: Geoff Moyle (01372 843844 or geoffdot@ntlworld.com) or Ashok Patel (07977 103436 or ashokdivya@aol.com)

Oxshott Bridge Club: Duplicate bridge on Wednesday evenings at Oxshott Village Centre. Enquiries to Secretary: Janet Kefford (01932 863541)

Oxshott Choral Society: Meets Wednesday evenings in the Church Hall. Contact: Sue Rees (01372 842300) www.oxshottchoral.org.uk

Oxshott, Esher and the Dittons NWR (National Women's Register): meets fortnightly on Tuesday evenings (some Tuesday afternoons during winter) in each other's homes. Contact: Cathy Davies (01372 842085)

Oxshott Flower Arrangement Society: Meets 3rd Tuesday in the month at Oxshott Village Centre, except August. Contact: Jill Leviton (01932 862532)

Oxshott Village Sports Club: Bowls, Bridge, Cricket, Cycling, Football, Netball, Pétanque, Squash, Stoolball, Tennis. All enquiries to the OVSC office: Fiona Stephen or Sarah Murphy (01372 843652 or office@oxshottsports.com)

Political Parties: Cobham, Oxshott & Stoke d'Abernon Conservatives: Chair: Jan Fuller (01372 844167 or janmfuller@yahoo.co.uk)

Cobham, Downside, Oxshott and Stoke Labour Party: For information contact Secretary Dan Parks (07860 677898 or codslabourbranch@gmail.com)

The Arts Society Cobham and Oxshott (formerly CODFAS): arranges illustrated monthly afternoon talks, and lectures with lunch, at Oxshott Village Centre. Coach visits organised. Contact: Sheila Millard (01372 462722)

The Oxshott Club, Oakshade Road: Centre of Village Social Life. Lounge Bar, Snooker, Pool, Quiz Nights on a regular basis; music and entertainment evenings and BBQs held regularly. Sports events shown on BT Sports channel. Open every evening; Saturday and Sunday open midday onwards. New members always welcome. See us on Facebook or contact Club Secretary or Stewardess (01372 842232)

Women's Institute - Oxshott Village WI: Meets 3rd Tuesday in month at 8pm, in Oxshott Village Centre. Contact: Maggie Day (01932 988501)

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