March 2021 65p

Oxshott magazine

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Vicar: Revd Frances Trickey (frances.trickey@standrewsoxshott.org.uk or 01372 842071) *(Not available: Friday)*
Associate Minister: Revd Jolyon Trickey (jolyon.trickey@standrewsoxshott.org.uk or 07725 942424) *(Not: Friday)*
Curate: Revd Patrick Davies (patrick.davies@standrewsoxshott.org.uk or 07780 125127) *(Not: Friday, Saturday)*
Licensed Lay Ministers (Readers): Phillip Herbert (07710 019534 or phillip.herbert@standrewsoxshott.org.uk) David Crouch (07776 234172 or david.crouch@standrewsoxshott.org.uk)
Churchwardens: Richard Green (07770 644039), Ruth Burns (01372 844377)
Assistant Churchwardens: John Henshall, Jill Perrett
Church Office: Monday-Friday, 9am-1pm (01372 842071 or office@standrewsoxshott.org.uk)
Church Administrator: Claire Costard
Assistant Church Administrator: Rowena Osman-Robertson
Webeditor: web@standrewsoxshott.org.uk

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■ *This month's cover picture, courtesy of the Royal Kent School, shows some of the new pupils enjoying themselves at the new Ladybird Nursery*

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The Monthly Letter

Food for thought

Dear Friends,

Have you ever noticed how much Jesus liked food – so much so, in fact, that he was accused by some of being a glutton! In the Bible, much of the action of the gospels takes place around meals with Jesus; in the gospel of Luke for example, we have at least eight dinner scenes with Jesus, as well as finding food at the centre of many parables, teaching points, and even miracles of Jesus. But how often do we connect food and faith today?

During the season of Lent, many Christians will give up something, often food, to remember that people need to be nourished spiritually, as well as physically. At the Last Supper, Jesus gives his followers a meal, and shows us one way we can be fed in body and soul.

But how might we think about food more widely, so it feed our souls and our bodies each time we eat? Here are three suggestions:

Connect with where our food comes from. Ultimately it is God who provides our food. We might plant and water seeds, but only God can make the plants grow! But getting familiar with the places and people involved in making our food, and stepping toward better knowing where our food comes from on earth, means stepping toward better knowing who our food ultimately comes from – the God who provides!

Cultivate thankfulness. Acknowledging food as a good gift from God leads us towards thankfulness, and encourages us to open-handed generosity. This might mean sharing food through a local Food Bank, or an international food programme, or simply making lunch for a neighbour when restrictions allow.

Make thoughtful food choices, that honour God and the whole of creation. This may involve making informed ethical choices around meat, food miles, production methods, or waste. Think through the journey 'from farm to fork', and consider the impacts on all life – human, animal and plant – along the way. Does anything need to change?

As we think about food and faith this Lent and Easter, in doing so I pray we might each *'Taste and see that God is good'*! (Psalm 34.8)

Patrick

Curate

JEM BLOK
INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL ADVISER

M: 07809 826627
E: j.blok@sandringham.co.uk
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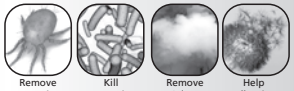

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Church Services in March

Tue 2 9am Pray Together, via zoom
Thu 4 9am Pray Together, via zoom
Sat 6 9am Saturday Prayers, via zoom
Sun 7 The Third Sunday of Lent
Jesus says: 'Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up'
10am Listen & Pray, live streamed via the website
Tue 9 9am Pray Together, via zoom
Thu 11 9am Pray Together, via zoom
Sat 13 9am Saturday Prayers, via zoom
Sun 14 The Fourth Sunday of Lent - Mothering Sunday
Jesus says: 'Live by the truth and come into the light'
10am Listen & Pray, live streamed via the website
Tue 16 9am Pray Together, via zoom
Thu 18 9am Pray Together, via zoom
Sat 20 9am Saturday Prayers, via zoom
Sun 21 The Fifth Sunday of Lent
Jesus says: 'Father, glorify your name'
10am Listen & Pray, live streamed via the website
Tue 23 9am Pray Together, via zoom
Thu 25 9am Pray Together, via zoom
Sat 27 9am Saturday Prayers, via zoom
Sun 28 Palm Sunday *(Clocks go forward)*
Palms and Praises
10am Listen & Pray, live streamed via the website

Mon 29 7pm 30-minute Reflections for Holy Week, via zoom
Tue 30 9am Pray Together, via zoom
7pm 30-minute Reflections for Holy Week, via zoom
Wed 31 7pm 30-minute Reflections for Holy Week, via zoom

April

Thu 1 Maundy Thursday
9am Pray Together, via zoom
7pm 30-minute Reflections for Holy Week, via zoom
Fri 2 Good Friday
The Darkest Day
10am service live streamed, for families
2-3pm An hour at the Cross: *Darkness & Death,* live streamed via the website

We currently expect that the church building will have to remain closed during March, and all our services and activities will be available online...

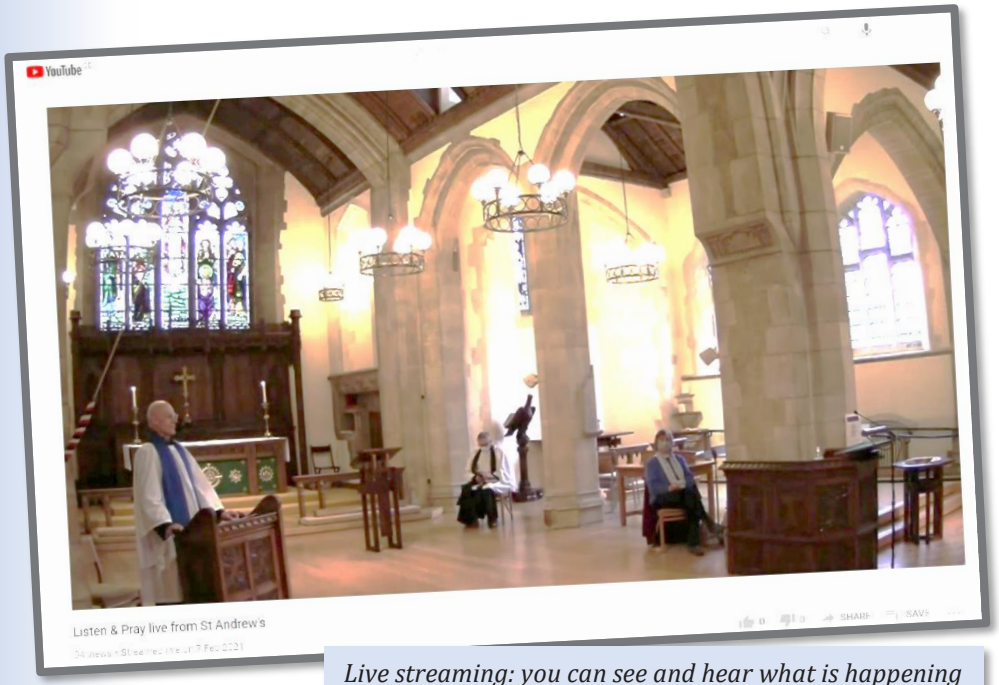
But do check our website for the latest information:
www.standrewsoxshott.org.uk

Church News

Going Live at St Andrew's

It is now over a year since the first cases of Covid-19 in the UK were announced. Since then, every aspect of our lives has been impacted; **Andrew Burns** looks back on how St Andrew's has also had to adapt...

The loss of regular fellowship is just one of the bitter consequences of Covid lockdowns. St Andrew's Church was swift to address the closure of churches by offering Listen & Pray YouTube services and embracing zoom for 9am prayer meetings, Life Groups and other meetings throughout 2020. These provided wonderful worship and prayer opportunities at home at a click of a computer, tablet or mobile phone.



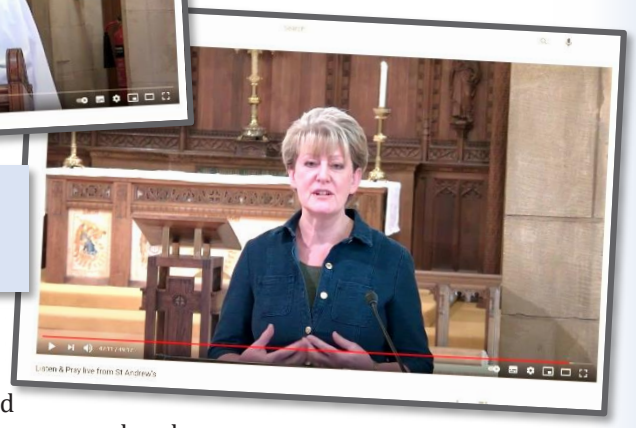
Live streaming: you can see and hear what is happening in church, where everyone is socially-distanced...

As lockdown restrictions continued and tightened, we looked for ways to broadcast regular live services into people's homes. The task of recording and editing complex videos every week was an onerous task for our Ministry team and our master of technology, Mike Shand. So starting with shaky handheld broadcasts of Remembrance Sunday and the annual Memorial Service, we experimented with live streaming.

There is a real sense of the gathered church when we are able to attend an online service as it happens. So we invested in professional quality video equipment in church so we could begin weekly live streamed services.

These enabled hundreds to join together for our Christmas services, including a beautiful Carol Service featuring distanced choir pieces, and a marvellously chaotic Crib Service with an angry innkeeper and contributions from homes across the village.

With the church buildings closed for public worship at the start of 2021, the live stream has really come into its own. Our video cameras and mixer allow viewers to feel they are with the small team in church each Sunday at 10am. Traditional services include recorded music from our choir and organist, supplemented with a library of wonderful hymns from St Martin-in-the-Fields. Oxshott Praise services include superb video inserts from families across the community and modern praise songs from our own band.



... as you join in from your own home, as we all worship together.

Although the chairs in church stand empty for now, the live online audience for our services is quickly growing, with still more watching the recording later on.

We encourage you to join us at 10am by clicking the 'Easy access to online services' button on the St Andrew's website and sharing prayers, worship and fellowship by chatting along from home, even perhaps joining a post-service coffee zoom on occasion.

Easy access to online services

Andrew Burns

Parish News & Notes

Where to begin... ?

It's hard to know where to start reading in the Bible. St Andrews' Life Groups recently studied The Bible Course, which helps us understand the overall message of the Bible.

Here's the course summary of the Bible's big picture; a quotation from the course:

"In the beginning, God created a perfect world, symbolised by this tree of life. As things go wrong, God calls Abraham's family to bring hope back to the world. And through Joseph and his technicolour dream-coat, Israel ends up enslaved down in Egypt for 400 years. So God steps in and rescues them through the Exodus bringing them into the Promised Land. Then various judges and kings rule over Israel but the nation soon divides in two and despite warnings from the prophets, Israel is conquered and deported. In exile, they lament their loss but soon they get to return and rebuild and then they wait. Finally the promised Messiah comes. Jesus is born. He lives a stunning life, dies on a Roman cross and is raised back to life. He sends the Holy Spirit to empower God's people to bring hope back to the world. The last book of the Bible shows how the story will end, back at the tree of life; paradise lost is regained."

If you would like to know more about the Bible, you too can do The Bible Course – simply contact the Church Office to let us know you would be interested.

APCM on 28 March

Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) will be held on Sunday, 28 March (Palm Sunday) at 7.30pm - online!

The bishop has given permission for all APCMs in Guildford diocese to go ahead, even if they have to be solely online. And we are expecting that ours will be completely online this year.

As we did last year, to ensure everyone is able to vote, we will send paper documents to those who regularly receive these, and count online votes within the meeting itself.

If you are on the electoral roll who would like to receive docs via post, please contact the Church Office.

Thank you from BYC!

Last month's feature on Building Your Church (BYC) has certainly got people thinking – and acting – judging by the number of responses we've received.

So **Thank You** for your positive, constructive and enthusiastic feedback – we are delighted that the vision for St Andrew's and the community of Oxshott as the future unfolds is capturing your imagination as much as it is ours.

There is a great deal to do before we can put a spade in the ground, and we are moving forward steadily on a number of fronts. One of the major challenges is, of course, raising the necessary funds, but we are greatly encouraged by the positive feedback, the generosity of those who have already donated to the development fund, and the launch of Your Fund Surrey in November 2020, where Surrey County Council has made available the amazing sum of £100million to help with community projects such as this.

But we need your help too! It's really important that Surrey CC sees that the project has community backing, and so we would be very grateful if you are able to visit the Your Fund Surrey map *(via the website below)* and add your support to the 'Likes' at the bottom of the page. It could make a real difference to the level of funding we are able to apply for.

We have also created a special page on the St Andrew's website to keep you fully informed, and thank you for your support already and in the future. Together, we will build a great community space for Oxshott, but far more importantly, together we will build a great community.

Jill Mengham

Useful links:

Your Fund Surrey map: https://yourfundsurreymap.commonplace.is/

St Andrew's: www.standrewsoxshott.org.uk/about/building-your-church/

If you worship regularly at St Andrew's, you should be on the Church Electoral Roll! It is an act of commitment to your local church and to the Church as a whole; it also opens up the way for greater involvement in the life of the Church, and you become entitled to vote at the APCM.

If you are not already on the roll and would like to be, simply print and sign an Electoral Roll Form from the website and return it to the Church Office by post or by scanning and emailing: if you need any help, feel free to contact the Church Office.

Porridge and Passion

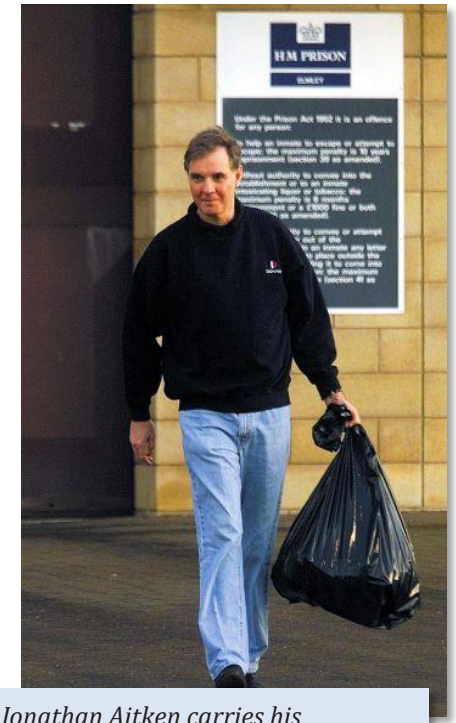
Jonathan Aitken, the guest speaker at our first St Andrew's zoom Breakfast, chose this title for his second autobiography (sequel to *Pride and Perjury*). As **Jenny Mathieson** points out, it was too apt to resist for this report!

Jonathan Aitken had spoken at a Men's Breakfast in 2003, but this time everyone with access to the internet had the chance to hear the testimony of this extraordinary man. Phillip Herbert did a marvellous job in organising this meeting. Andrew Burns, wearing his "techie" hat, divided us into break-out groups, where we did some socialising (with or without the coffee and croissants!) and then returned us to the main screen for Frances to introduce Jonathan.

Born into a titled family, educated at Eton and an Oxford graduate, he was first a journalist, then a politician. He became Chief Secretary to the Treasury in 1994, but by 1995 he was embroiled in a scandal, a failed libel case, bankruptcy and finally a conviction for perjury, carrying an eighteen-month sentence.

Jonathan had earlier attended an Alpha Course and, during the seven months he actually served, was sustained by Bible reading and study, including New Testament Greek.

He was pleasantly surprised by how well he was treated by his fellow prisoners and was in turn able to help them with their concerns, thus preparing him for his current role as part-time chaplain to Pentonville Prison.



Jonathan Aitken carries his belongings in a black plastic bag as he leaves Elmley open prison in 2000. He had served seven months of an 18-month sentence for perjury.

On his release, he tackled his financial commitments, all the time

sensing a call from God to the ministry. He gained a theological degree from Wycliffe Hall in Oxford, but shunned ordination, saying he didn't want to give dog collars a bad name! He was eventually ordained priest in 2019; as well as his role at Pentonville, he is a part-time minister at St Matthew's in Westminster.

A turning point

Jonathan ended with the story of one former prisoner at Pentonville who had attended services in the prison chapel, where he had done a Christian Teaching course. "I knew God was stirring something inside me", Dan recalled, "but I was scared of being released and going back to my bad old ways of drugs, crime and prison. But then out of the blue I met Jonathan Aitken doing his pastoral visit on my wing. We talked, prayed together, read the Bible and became friends." He then asked Jonathan if he could be baptised, as he needed God's help to go straight. Dan now has a structure and a schedule for his life and keeps all his appointments with self-help groups and probation officers. "One way and another, everything is going

© Ben Gurr

Jonathan Aitken

well and in my heart of hearts I know that my baptism was the turning point. I know my walk will not be easy, but I do believe that, with the help of my friends at St Matthew's, it will be a walk towards God".

Phillip received much positive feedback from the 162 zoom attendees. Some said they had appreciated the group chat before and after the talk, others that they were moved by Jonathan's honesty and humility. There were also offers of donations towards the work with ex-offenders. One person had been inspired by Jonathan's story to be more thoughtful of others. Many said they had welcomed tips for coping with lock-down from someone who had experienced lock-up!

We look forward to discovering: who will be the focus of our next zoom Breakfast, Phillip?

Jenny Mathieson

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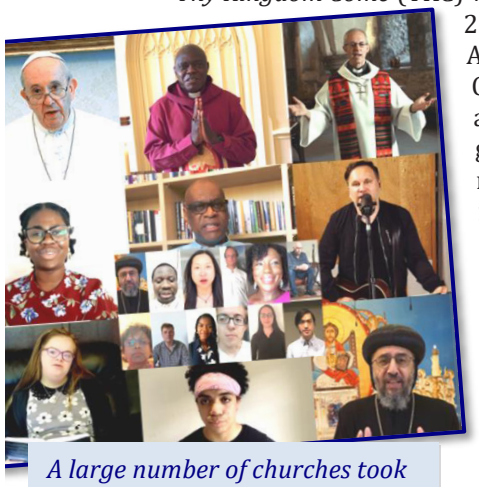
Thy Kingdom Come 2021

Over 10 days in May, between Ascension and Pentecost, St Andrew's will again be taking part in the global call to prayer that is *Thy Kingdom Come*. Despite lockdown, **Claire King** is looking forward to it…

After the very first Ascension Day, Christ's disciples gathered to pray and wait for the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, and over the centuries Christians have used this period to pray in the same way.

Thy Kingdom Come (TKC) was started in 2016 by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York as a global prayer movement inviting us to light up the world with prayer for families, friends and communities to experience the love of God.



A large number of churches took part in last year's event.

Since then it has become a worldwide event across all churches, gaining the support of leaders across the globe.

In 2020 the event culminated in a truly interdenominational online service lead by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, with contributions from Pope Francis, the heads of the Pentecostal and Coptic Orthodox Churches in London and many others.

Plans for 2021

This year, the emphasis of Thy Kingdom Come 2021 will be on the many challenges that communities are facing in this world of Covid-19. Events are being specifically planned to help; information and resources, including prayer journals and activities for children and families, are available on the TKC website: thykingdomcome.global Why not take a look?!

Here at St Andrew's, we will be praying daily for families, friends and neighbours, both in church and during our lockdown walks as we move about the village. Indeed many of us have already begun. So, please, make these 10 days a date in your diary and join us. More information about our specific plans for Oxshott will be in May's magazine.

Claire King

Within the walls of Jericho

One of our mission partners, Embrace the Middle East, operates across several countries. This month, **David Crouch** explains the work they do in a Palestinian city you will definitely have heard of…

Jericho, on the west bank of the River Jordan, lays claim to be the oldest inhabited city in the world, dating from about 9000 BCE. The claim is justified by archaeological digs that revealed a settlement there of hunter-gatherers beginning to domesticate plants and animals. They have also revealed the oldest city wall and the oldest tower. Jericho is also the deepest city on earth, at well over 800 feet below sea level.

With all these superlatives it might have been hoped that it would demonstrate only the very best of human nature, but sadly it is in need of healing, like anywhere else involving human beings. It is, of course, well-known to many from the book of Joshua in the Bible, who led the children of Israel in the battle of Jericho.

Today it is immersed in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, bristling with sensitivity. But it is not the purpose of this article to put forward political arguments for one side or the other, but rather to present the work of one of our mission partners, who seek to contribute to such a healing, namely Embrace the Middle East, in the partnership they in turn have with the Palestinian Bible Society in their 'Embracing Jericho' project.

Teaching children in Jericho as part of the 'Embrace Jericho' project

The building where most of the activities of the project take place is called Zacchaeus House. This follows the story made well known from Luke's gospel, about a chief tax-collector of Jericho called Zacchaeus who wanted to see Jesus when he came by, but was too short to see above the crowds, so he climbed a tree. It was a sycamore tree, and if you are a tourist one day, perhaps not too far in the future, passing through Jericho, you might be shown the very tree standing there to this day, although at least two such trees lay claim to that distinction! To the disgust of many at the time, Jesus went to stay with Zacchaeus. Zacchaeus was so challenged by this encounter that he gave away half of what he had to the poor. This is the response that the project seeks to emulate.

Our contact with Embrace, Su McClellan, describes the purpose of the project as follows: *"The project aims to enhance education, raise moral values and develop skills amongst marginalized children, women and young people. It aims to empower participants with the appropriate educational tools to raise their self-esteem and equip them physically and mentally to live better lives and lead by example, thus influencing the larger community around them."*

She passes on to us the following words coming direct from a partner in Jericho itself: *"Jericho is a suffering city; it is like a get-away city for outlaws and people who have family problems, and is known to suffer from many cases of drug and alcohol abuse."*

Teaching in the West Bank under conditions imposed by Covid

Covid in the West Bank

Sadly, as Su explains, Covid-19 is disrupting many of the project's activities, but staff are doing their best to keep in touch with project users. The uncertainty around Covid is certainly a cause for prayer.

We are all together in facing this worldwide challenge, but here in the UK we don't have the tensions of living in the West Bank. Covid levels are rising in both Israel and Palestine. Israel is currently locked-down but Palestine does not have the civil structures in place to enforce a lockdown. There is no tourism, and workers cannot get into Israel for the casual building work so many get their income from. Consequently, unemployment is now running at 35% in the West Bank. People are starting to go hungry. The need for prayer is urgent.

We are grateful to those whose generosity has enabled St Andrew's to give £2,500 towards this project during 2020. St Andrew's is also keen to do more than send money, and zoom meetings with Su and other communications have enabled us to pray intelligently for the project and to build relationships with those involved, so that it can be truly in partnership with them in this work.

If you would like to get more involved with this project and with one of the church's life groups that is especially linked to it, please do contact Don and Jo Eccleshall via the church email: info@standrewsoxshott.org.uk

David Crouch

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The Railway at Oxshott

Photograph by David Coney, taken in February 2021 from the Sheath Lane footbridge, which was opened in January 1910

Village News

Simply no end to the talent!

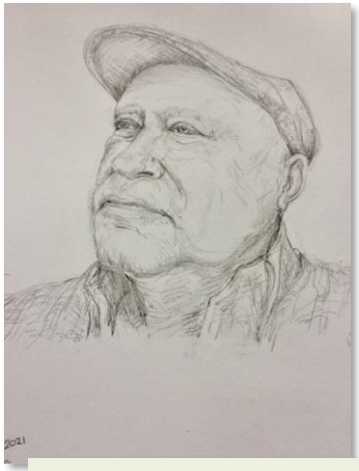
Members of Oxshott Art & Crafts Society have missed having their usual 'live' demonstrations, but as **Miranda Fuller** explains, they have still been very creative…

With us all still stuck firmly in this third lockdown, OACS members continue to find creative ways in which to stay buoyant, many online.

Our secretary, Sue Smith, readers may remember, participated in a weekly live Facebook event, the *Sky Portrait Artist of the Week*, in which celebrities sat in front of a camera, to be painted by over 4,000 artists from around the world. Sue, usually a printmaker and landscape artist, joined in each week, creating a portrait in real time and varying her mediums, from ink drawing to oil painting. In the autumn we saw her portrait of Bernadine Evaristo.

Sue Smith working on her portrait of Dame Mary Beard

Pictured here, we see her painting another of the sitters, Mary Beard. Although Sue was not one of the winners in this hugely competitive event, she won a 'Like', from presenter and art critic Kate Bryan, for each of her efforts, quite an achievement in itself!



Man in a Cap by Geraldine Dahlke-Fox

Geraldine Dahlke-Fox, another of our members, has been participating in regular zoom sessions with the Wokingham Life Drawing Society (WLDS) and enjoying the freedom to experiment with mediums and techniques at her leisure. At present she is working on producing a delicate touch, through drawing with pencil, pastels or pen, as you can see from her latest portrait, a man in a cap.

(continued overleaf)

Wendy Hale's colourful piece reflecting the Herefordshire landscape

Our third member, Wendy Hale, is working off-line, on a landscape piece, inspired by the beautiful Herefordshire countryside where she grew up.

Having created the background, using the wet felting method, she is now in the process of adding some colourful hand embroidered flowers and foliage, to enhance the piece with depth and texture. A lovely work in progress.

So, OACS is making the best it can of this latest lockdown and hope to have some more efforts ready to show you next time. In the meantime, spring is fast approaching and we hope you are keeping safe and well.

Miranda Fuller

What's On in Oxshott

March

Wed 10 2.30pm **The Arts Society Cobham & Oxshott:** *In the Kingdom of the Sweets:* the story of the Nutcracker Ballet, with Nigel Bates, via zoom for members

Tues 16 8pm **Oxshott Village Women's Institute:** *Bagels and Bacon*: 1950's East End – a mixture of Cockney and Jewish humour, with Jeff Rozelaar, via zoom for members

Wed 17 8pm **Cercle Français d'Esher:** *L'Histoire du Textile dans la Région du Nord*, with Brigitte Thibaut, via zoom for members

Sun 28 10am **St Andrew's Church**: Palm Sunday service, live streamed via the church website

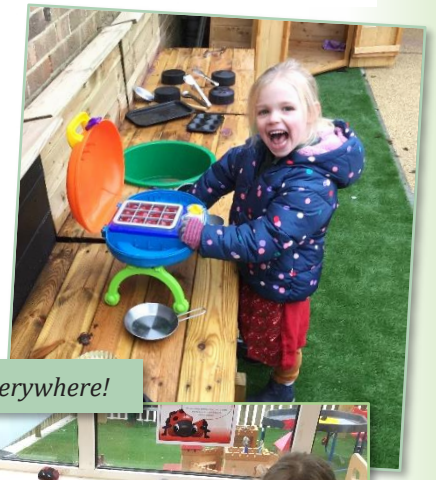
If you would like to have details of your event listed here, let us know at oxshottmagazine@yahoo.co.uk

Apply now for September!

After two years in development, the RKS successfully opened their new Ladybird Nursery in January. As Headteacher **Katie Hancock** explains, the world is now very different, but the Ladybirds are looking good…

When we set out on the journey to open a Nursery at The Royal Kent School (RKS), little did we know that on the very day we opened its doors, coronavirus restrictions would mean that the rest of the school would have to close to most pupils.

As per Government guidelines, Nurseries may stay open during this period of National Lockdown, and our new Ladybirds have made the most of having a quieter school for this half term, whilst we remain open for a smaller number of pupils from Reception to Year 6.



Ladybirds everywhere!

New families

The children have settled in incredibly well and we have had wonderful feedback from families. The children have loved getting to know their new surroundings, both inside and out; they especially love having access to the school's all weather MUGA (multi-use games area) and the ever-popular adventure playground!

Many of our new Ladybirds are siblings of children already in the school, but we have also welcomed a number of new families to The Royal Kent School too.

If you are interested in a place for September, or even prior to this, please do get in touch with the school at nursery@royal-kent.surrey.sch.uk

Katie Hancock

Round & About

OVSC and Coronavirus

Although the club's sporting facilities have not been used since January, rest assured work is continuing behind the scenes to ensure that the club and the sporting facilities are ready as soon as they are allowed to open.

The clubhouse and grounds are being spruced up and the club is hopeful and planning for a spring and summer full of sport!

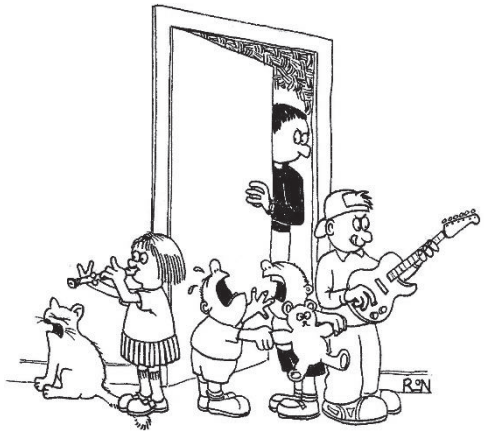
If you are interested in membership of the club, please drop them an email (office@oxshottsports.com) for more information.

RideLondon no more…

Unsurprisingly, RideLondon has been cancelled for the second year running due to the Covid-19 pandemic. So the event won't be coming through Oxshott this summer.

And Surrey County Council is reported to have withdrawn their support for RideLondon after 2021, following complaints from residents of the disruption caused by the event.

Instead, the council says they will focus on "smaller, community-led events that encourage a greater variety of participants whilst minimising disruption for residents".



Kevin took himself off to his study to pray for peace

Oxshott Village WI

Carrying on regardless!

The last time members of OVWI met socially was in March 2020, the night before lockdown started. Thirteen of us met in the small hall of the Village Centre sitting in a socially distanced circle round a flower arrangement! We participated in a quiz and did not envisage that we would not meet again for the foreseeable future. Thankfully all of the members have access to email and some to zoom, so we have been able to keep in touch with one another.

The Book Club has also continued on zoom. This has worked well and it is always good to interact with each other and discuss our latest book. We have just finished *The Lady in the Window,* by A J Finn. A good read with an interesting twist.

The Walking Group continued for a while over the summer but members did miss the pub lunches at the end of the walk! Current walks are taken only in pairs and with the woods being very muddy are mostly around Painshill Park, RHS Wisley or round the Crown Estate.

There have been reports of members having to wade through deep puddles, which is no deterrent to spending time chatting with a friend!

Flowers and Craft; keeping WI members busy…

Meetings 'on screen'

The Craft Group meet, on screen, to talk about their latest projects. At the last meeting we did a quiz and at the next one a member, talented at knitting, will be showing us a special way to 'cast on'.

Our monthly meetings are continuing - last month we enjoyed a talk from David Allen entitled *The Wonderful World of the Law,* which was both interesting and amusing. Brian Whicher, at our February meeting, is telling us about 18th century air twist glasses. A March meeting is planned with a talk entitled *Bagels and Bacon: 1950's East End - a mixture of Cockney and Jewish Humour.*

So, in spite of everything we are trying to keep together and hope that we will soon be able to meet again in the Village Centre.

The National Federation of WIs is very active with many suggestions of online courses and their publication *WI Life*, a magazine full of reports from across the country and some good recipes, is there to keep us busy.

Roll on better times!

Liz McGibbon

Oxshott, a changing Village

Places change, and Oxshott is no exception - there have been distinct phases in the past, and no doubt there will be more in the future...

The old man sat on a bench on the western side of the heath in Oxshott, and looked out across our village. Few others perhaps might have known that they were gazing back on almost 1,000 years of history and that until around 100 years ago our village was known as OCKSHOT. However, he knew that in the 1100s, people in the hamlet, as it then was, earned their living from forestry, farming and keeping pigs.

© moleseylife.co.uk

Oxshott: the view from the bench

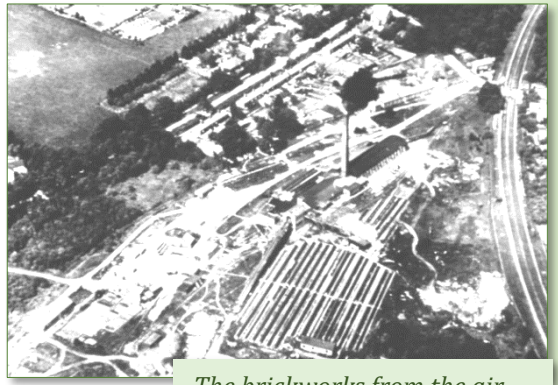
He wonders if the villagers today know that the derivation of this spelling suggests the name means a 'corner of land' rather than anything to do with oxen!

He chuckles to himself at the thought that our village has been nicknamed "the Beverly Hills of Britain" and that in the *Daily Mail* it was described as "A little bit of paradise", although in truth the beauty of the image in front of him persuades him why.

However, a glance back at history reminded him that our heritage was much more to do with industry than fame and pleasure.

Today, the village comprises some 4,900 people living in 1,800 homes, as of the 2011 census. This corner of land is still relatively small at four square miles; he could almost see it all from his bench.

Industry arrived in Oxshott when John Early Cook set up his brickworks in 1866. Production continued in fact until 1958 with the famous and distinctive chimney only being demolished in 1967. There are perhaps still a few who have lived here for a while who can recall that impressive chimney. A few years later, he pondered, in 1885, a really major change took place with the building of the railway, and the creation of the station then known then as 'Oxshott and Fairmile'. This allowed both day trippers and residents to come to this part of the county and enjoy the area's great beauty.



Ernest Crossland Collection

The brickworks from the air

In 1912 St Andrew's Church was built, and with the new place of worship in the village, Oxshott became a parish in its own right, and the old spellings dropped forever. Our local primary school, The Royal Kent, where members of his own family had attended years back, celebrated its bi-centenary last year, the foundation stone having been laid by the Duchess of Kent in 1820, on the site that is now the petrol station.

In those early years there were only three shops in the village, a draper's, a tobacconist and tearooms. Nowadays, certainly pre-pandemic, we have become a mixed village, populated by people commuting by car, train or plane. In our down time, we are truly blessed, he reflected, with the variety of sports and social activities, shops, restaurants and pubs that serve us all today.

His mind wandered again and he found himself wondering whether the picture will be the same in another hundred years?

He had made a couple of random visits to the station over the past couple of weeks, and noticed less than 5 cars parked there on each day! Will all the commuters return to travelling daily up and down to London, he pondered? Has this pandemic and Brexit begun another material shift in the life of our village? How many homes will become the Office as well?

Musing philosophically, he recalled reading a recent definition of 'community'. Being part of a community gives us a sense of belonging, enables us to share personal relatedness, support perpetual growth of each other, ourselves and our environment. Are we there yet?!

There undoubtedly will be change, he thought, and he might not like it all, but he smiled to himself, comforted that he could continue to watch and enjoy it in safety from his bench, high on the heath.

A long-term Resident

The Arts Society of Cobham & Oxshott

From classical art to Punch cartoons

Although members of The Arts Society Cobham and Oxshott (ASCO) appreciate visiting places of architectural interest or galleries hung with works of art, sometimes a former home carries the day. Over the years, two Victorian houses have attracted members' curiosity - Limnerslease in Surrey and 18 Stafford Terrace in London.

On arrival in Compton, a village south of Guildford, members were keen to learn about former resident George Frederic Watts (1817-1904) - named after Handel, his parents' favourite composer, and known to posterity as GF Watts. As a portraitist, sculptor and landscape painter, Watts's huge output embraced a deep knowledge of the classics. But he was also all too well aware of the pressing themes of the nineteenth century such as famine, suicide and animal rights. In 1866, one of GF Watts' designs for St Matthew was completed in a dome spandrel in St Paul's Cathedral. Following his death, articles in the national press suggested that the nation had lost its greatest Victorian painter.

G F Watts aged 24, self portrait

Mary Watts, by G F Watts

Together with his second wife Mary, a respected designer in her own right, a hugely creative partnership flourished with Mary running both craft and pottery classes. Now known as the Artists' Village, Compton includes the Watts Gallery (opened in 1904, three months before GF's death) and Limnerslease, their Arts & Crafts home. In the Sculpture Gallery his original plaster model of a horse called *Physical Energy* dominates the space. Mary's enduring masterpiece was the nearby Mortuary Chapel. Built of local red clay with terracotta panels of Celtic patterns, these were made by Mary's friends under her supervision. Both Watts and Mary were buried in the churchyard in front of her arched Cloisters.

Another enjoyable visit took us a short distance from Kensington tube station, where ASCO members found themselves at different Victorian home...

We discovered Stafford Terrace to be an elegant road of stuccoed houses, forming part of the Phillimore estate development in west London.

Here at No. 18 lived Edward Linley Sambourne (1844-1910), the Victorian *Punch* cartoonist, and his family. They were the ancestors of the photographer and husband of Princess Margaret, Lord Snowdon and his son, the current Viscount Linley of furniture fame.

The house remains as Linley Sambourne left it – overflowing with furniture, books, papers and ornaments with every wall covered by his framed original sketches. Sambourne's photographic reproductions just about find wall space, often providing inspiration for his drawings, particularly if he had an approaching deadline. Linley's studio in the early days was behind a curtain off the crowded drawing room. This contrasted with his wife Marion's noticeably less congested Morning Room.

Edward Linley Sambourne

Sambourne, who acquired the house in 1874, bought Morris wallpaper when funds permitted, while good quality blue and white plates and vases were sourced from antique markets.

Additional income came from illustrating books including *The Water Babies*. Later in life, his top floor bathroom was used for developing his photographs with chemicals kept on narrow shelves.

After a career sketching for *Punch*, Linley Sambourne submitted his final satirical cartoon just a year before he died.

Nicky Orlebar

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

Last month's solution

Answers next month

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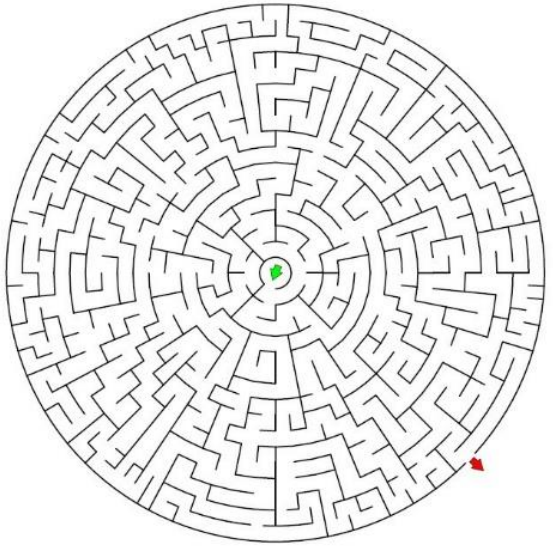
Maze



Friends...

I lent a friend of mine £10,000 so he could have plastic surgery.
Now I don't know what he looks like.

Another friend is giving up spreadsheets for 40 days and 40 nights...
Excel Lent.

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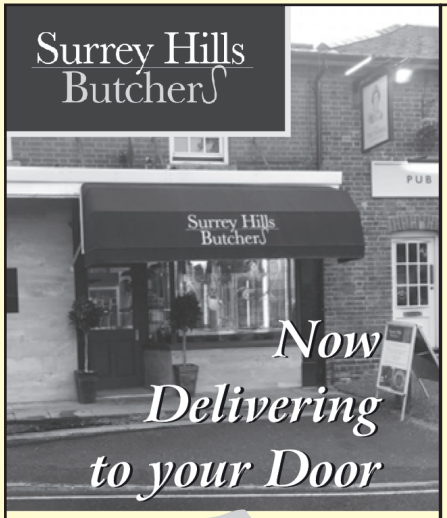

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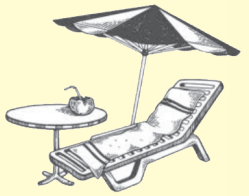

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Contacts at St Andrew's *(continued from page 2)*

Who's Who at St Andrew's

St Andrew's your church

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 Levitton (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)

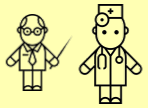
Sidespersons: Convenor: Gwen Bullen (01372 843932)

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

Treasurer: Carl Jackson (01372 843990)

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 MRCGP (available Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday)
Dr Mark Jenkins MBBS DRCOG DFFP MRCGP (available Monday - Wednesday, Friday)
Dr Alice Palfreman MBChB (Hons) MRCGP (available Monday - Wednesday)
Dr Sarah Glynne MBBS(Hons) BSc MRCP(UK) MRCGP 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**
Patient Participation Group:
Chairman: Elizabeth Chovil (oxshottppgsec@gmail.com)

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)

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 MOst, 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, Fairoak 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 Levitton (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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