

Oxshott

m a g a z i n e

March 2026

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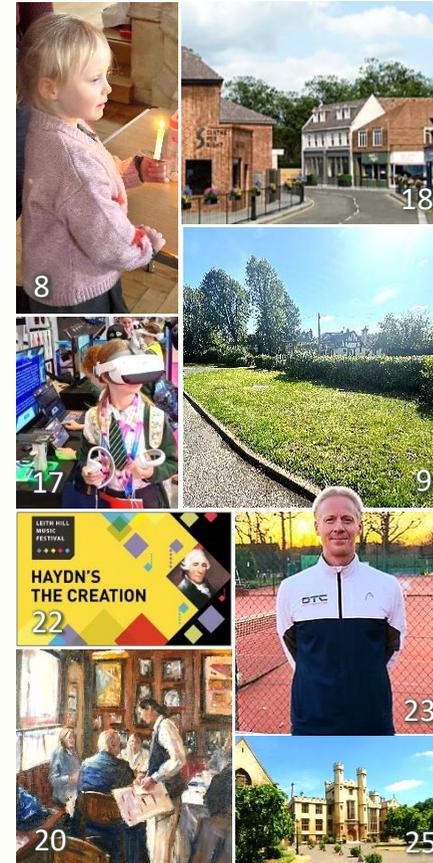
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March 2026



► **News and Features**

- 5 **The strange unfamiliarity of Lent...**
David on welcoming strangers - and being reshaped
 - 8 **The excitements of Candlemas**
Celebrating with candles at St Andrew's
 - 9 **The church grounds at St Andrew's**
Jill explores our aspirations!
 - 10 **Gwen Bullen**
A local life, fully engaged across our village
 - 17 **RKS: dealing with the internet**
The Royal Kent improves digital literacy...
 - 18 **A Community Vision for the Future...**
Looking at big changes for the High Street
 - 20 **A welcome tonic!**
Artists at OCACS have welcome guests...
 - 21 **Oxshott Net Zero**
Researching plastic, and doing some swaps!
 - 23 **Plenty to play for!**
Tennis and cricket news from the Sports Club
 - 25 **Another London palace**
Nicky recalls a trip to Lambeth Palace
- **Future events for you**
- 15 **Men's Curry Night**
Book now for a great evening on 6 March!
 - 22 **Haydn's The Creation**
Leith Hill Music Festival's Concert on 8 March!

Regulars

- 6 Church Services
- 7 News & Notes
- 8 From the Registers
- 11 Kneeler of the month
- 21 What's On in Oxshott
- 22 Round & About
- 26 Diversions and puzzles
- 33 Oxshott Directory



This month's cover, courtesy of the editor, shows catkins along Fair oak Lane, a sign of Spring

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Welcome

Dealing with the strange unfamiliarity of Lent...

Dear friends,

I arrived several months ago in the heart of the Oxshott community on placement as part of my training for church ministry. Although I come from only a couple of miles the other side of Cobham, I arrived as a stranger to almost everyone I met.



There are many passages in the Bible where Jesus makes strangers feel welcome. Thankfully, I found that a generous and open welcome quickly helps anyone feel at home in an unfamiliar situation.

This contrasts sharply with Jesus's experience in Lent, when he is led by the Holy Spirit as a stranger into the wilderness, where he is tested by the devil.

There's a tongue-in-cheek saying that Lent is the season when Christians give up things they enjoy, discover they're much nicer people without them, and then promptly take them all back again after Easter. Battling our self-destructive habits – whether over-eating or drinking, careless words, or irritating behaviours – is hard work.

Jesus's temptations during Lent, which resonate with our own self-imposed testing before Easter, were no less demanding. Yet Lent is not about punishment or proving ourselves; it is about allowing ourselves to be reshaped. Jesus's hunger points us towards a deeper appetite for spiritual guidance in a self-absorbed world. He rejects the temptation of a power-grab in favour of the self-respect that comes from honourable choices.

The good news for those of us who have fallen off the Lenten wagon is that occasional failures do not undo transformation. Research suggests that replacing old habits with new ones takes, on average, just over two months – longer than Lent's forty days. Missing a day does not reset the clock; it strengthens our resilience for lasting change.

Rather than bending scripture to serve our wishes, Jesus shows us that honesty with ourselves frees us from the guilt of a poorly lived life. This season's readings reassure us that in times of testing Jesus has gone ahead of us – and still shows us the way.

Ordinand
Ordinand



Church Services in March

Sun	1	The Second Sunday of Lent 10am St Andrew's at 10 All Age service
Tue	3	9am Pray Together, via zoom
Wed	4	11.30am Wednesdays at 11.30 (Holy Communion)
Sat	7	9am Saturday Prayers, in the Lady Chapel
Sun	8	The Third Sunday of Lent 10am St Andrew's at 10 4pm St Andrew's @4
Tue	10	9am Pray Together, via zoom
Wed	11	11.30am Wednesdays at 11.30 (Holy Communion)
Sat	14	9am Saturday Prayers in the Lady Chapel
Sun	15	The Fourth Sunday of Lent; Mothering Sunday 10am St Andrew's at 10
Tue	17	9am Pray Together, via zoom
Wed	18	11.30am Wednesdays at 11.30 (Holy Communion)
Thu	19	<i>Joseph of Nazareth</i>
Sat	21	9am Saturday Prayers in the Lady Chapel
Sun	22	The Fifth Sunday of Lent 10am St Andrew's at 10 7pm St Andrew's at 7
Tue	24	9am Pray Together, via zoom
Wed	25	11.30am Wednesdays at 11.30 (Holy Communion)
Sat	28	9am Saturday Prayers in the Lady Chapel
Sun	29	Palm Sunday 10am St Andrew's at 10
Mon	30	7pm – 30-minute Reflections for Holy Week
Tue	31	9am Pray Together, via zoom 7pm – 30-minute Reflections for Holy Week



Welcome

You are very welcome to join us for our services and prayers.

Visit our website for details of everything we do at St Andrew's

www.standrewsoxshott.org.uk



Lent continues all through this month. Many of us fast during Lent, and it seems that the kind of fast you undertake may be connected to your denomination...

A recent survey (by the charity *Green Christian*) found:

- 94% Black Majority Churchgoers give up all food for a set time.
- 85% of Orthodox churchgoers cut out specific foods and/or drinks.
- 83% of Pentecostal churches give up all food for a set time.
- 79% of Roman Catholics cut out specific foods and/or drinks.
- 76% of New Churches give up all food for a set time.
- 57% of Church of England cut out specific foods and/or drinks.
- 30% or less of Presbyterians, Methodists, and Baptists cut out specific foods and/or drinks.

The important thing is to use Lent as a time to 'reset' our relationship with God and the world.

News & Notes

5-star rating for our café

We are delighted that The Café has received a 5-star rating from the Foods Standards Agency.

Well done, Steph!



Palm Sunday this year is on 29 March...

10am St Andrew's at 10

Celebrate as Jesus enters Jerusalem!

7 for 7.30pm APCM

Join us for our Annual Parochial Church Meeting - if you come at 7pm, you will be offered a free glass of wine!

You will have seen news reports of the latest controversy around Elon Musk's Twitter/X.



Ofcom has said it will investigate the incidents of sexualised deepfake images (including those of children) being made and shared via X's AI chatbot, Grok.

Guildford Diocese has decided that, given this and what they feel to be the general deterioration of the social media platform, it is no longer beneficial (or sensible!) to have a presence there, so have decided to cease posting on the platform (but retaining the Diocesan handle to avoid anyone impersonating them or posting under their name).

Here at St Andrew's, Oxshott, we have done the same; you can follow us instead on Instagram: [oxshott.church](https://www.instagram.com/oxshott.church) and on Facebook.

Are you on the Electoral Roll for St Andrew's?

This year's Electoral Roll review runs from Sunday 22 February to 8 March, so if you feel St Andrew's Oxshott is your church community, please do complete the form.

You do *not* need to reapply if you are already a member.

For more information, or to complete the form, visit the church website www.standrewsoxshott.org.uk

Electoral Roll



Diocese of **Guildford**

A Statement on Bishop Andrew's health

The Diocese writes: Following a series of recent medical investigations, Bishop Andrew has very sadly been diagnosed with inoperable cancer.

Having only just received this diagnosis, he is currently awaiting further information regarding medical options to support his comfort and care.

Bishop Andrew has written directly to clergy and others across the diocese, to share this news and to welcome their prayers for him and his family. You can read his full letter on the diocesan website: www.cofeguildford.org.uk

Patrick is available should you wish to speak to him about this.

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Candles at Candlemas...

On 1 February, we celebrated Candlemas at St Andrew's, Oxshott – a beautiful and uplifting service centred on the lighting of candles to mark Jesus as the Light of the World. **Charlene Lamb** reports...



So what exactly is Candlemas? Celebrated on 2 February, forty days after Christmas, Candlemas commemorates the presentation and dedication of Jesus at the Temple in Jerusalem. Traditionally, candles are blessed and shared among the congregation, symbolising Christ's light shining in the world.

The festival, observed since the fourth century and also known as The Presentation of Christ in the Temple, reminds us both of Jesus' fulfilment of Jewish law and of his revelation as the Messiah. In the Biblical account, Mary and Joseph bring the infant Jesus to the Temple, where they meet Simeon, a devout man promised by God that he would see the Messiah before his death. Taking Jesus in his arms, Simeon declares him "a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel" (Luke 2:32).

Our service brought this story wonderfully to life. Puppet friends James and Steph retold the events in a lively and entertaining way – with Patrick proving himself a very capable (and amusing) puppeteer! Afterwards, our younger members of the congregation handed out candles, cardboard holders and pencils, inviting everyone to write their prayer requests on the holders. As Patrick lit the first candle, the light was gently shared from person to person, filling the church with a warm, peaceful glow. It was a lovely moment to pause, reflect, and hold our prayers quietly together, creating a truly memorable atmosphere in our beautiful church.

A joyful and light-filled service for all ages — and a wonderful reminder of the hope and light Candlemas brings each year.

Charlene Lamb

From the Registers



Funerals

We offer our condolences to the family and friends of:

22 January Gwendoline Bullen (died 14 December 2025, aged 87)
26 January Joseph Maurice Rowling (died 16 December 2025, aged 95)

The grounds at St Andrew's...

You will have noticed the improvement to the buildings here at St Andrew's – and perhaps that the church grounds also need some attention. The wet weather has not helped, but as churchwarden **Jill Perrett** explains, we are on the case...

We have been enjoying our newly refurbished ancillary buildings at St Andrew's for nearly a year, and we have now turned our attention to the outside space.

At St Andrew's we have surprisingly large grounds, and given the location at the heart of the village, it is our intention to transform this area into an asset for the whole community.

In the Autumn, work began on the new terrace, and we are hopeful that as the weather improves this will soon be finished.

There are many overgrown and neglected hedges and trees, and we have made a start on clearing these in the car park - this Autumn we should have an unimpeded view of our lovely acer tree in full colour.

We have just learned that we have been given funds by our local councillor for bike racks to be installed at the back of the car park, once we have repainted the lines.

Work in the church grounds will be undertaken in stages. This is due both to the cost and our intention to give people a respite from construction work! In the next few months, we plan

to submit a substantial CIL bid which will include more lighting and the refurbishment of the play area, which is used by many local families.

The flooding of the memorial garden continues to be an issue. We propose to tackle this by installing an effective drainage system, which is easier said than done but not impossible! This will enable us to move forward with more ambitious plans such as the construction of a garden room in the area near the playground and new hedging and fencing.

This would create a more secure boundary which would give us a safer area for outdoor activities, particularly those involving children.

We do not yet have a timeframe for all this work. However, we will proceed as quickly as funds allow and will keep the community informed.

We would like to encourage everyone to make the use of the grounds, particularly as Spring approaches, and would also welcome any offers of help in the garden. Watch this space!

Jill Perrett



Photos: Ash

Gwendoline Bullen 1938-2025

Gwen Bullen passed away in December, after many years in Oxshott and at St Andrew's. We summarise here the family's tribute to her...

Gwen was born in West Molesey, where she grew up with her sisters and brothers; in 1959, at the age of 21, she married Lorraine George Leslie Bullen, known as Les, at her church St Peter's in Molesey, where she had been baptised.

In 1967, they moved to 57 Waverley Road here in Oxshott, and it is in this house that Gwen raised her family and lived for the next 58 years.

When Les was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, Gwen later became his carer until his death in 1984, after 25 years of marriage. They had little money and no car, so walking everywhere and taking public transport were the norm for their children growing up. Summer day trips to Littlehampton with cousins, and to the Isle of Wight, were firm favourites. Gwen's love of all things that can be sewn, knitted or crocheted has been a constant in her life and her creations were shared with family and friends – she was commissioned to produce stock for a local businessman, and Gwen loved this creative opportunity.

After Les died, and continuing to raise their children, Gwen went seeking work, and met Janet and Derek Kiddle, who needed help with their children; from this meeting over 40 years ago, Gwen and the Kiddle family have remained a constant in each other's lives ever since, regarding each other as family.

Gwen met Bob Campbell that same year, quickly becoming inseparable, with Bob proposing the following year on Christmas Day. They remained engaged throughout their time together, in total 38 years.

Gwen showered her grandchildren with love and time as they each grew up, with walks, day trips and books and toys always out to play with. She was a strong member of the Oxshott village community joining School PTAs, being a Guides and Brownies Helper and Oxshott Chairman, Women's Institute and Mother's Union member, Wife's Group Leader, and a Prison Volunteer for 19 years; she took great pride in her many roles. Gwen loved living on Waverley Road for over 50 years, and she and Bob had a very happy and long life together. When Bob became unwell with dementia, Gwen again took on the role of carer, by his side until he died in 2022.

Gwen's love of God and the Church was shown daily throughout her life. She expressed her faith through service to others, regularly volunteering for welcoming duties at Sunday and other services including weddings, baptisms and funerals. She was always ready to welcome people, and did so for many families at the happiest of times, and was there offering quiet support to the bereaved arriving at funerals.

Gwen was a founder member of the Monday craft group, and one of the earliest



members of the 'Open the Book' team that goes into the Royal Kent School each week to act out a Bible story and explain the relevance to the world today. Gwen preferred the role of narrator but could be persuaded to dress up in character, calling on her previous WI acting career! Gwen was also a member of a ladies Life Group, which, over the many years, shared life's joys and sadness, supporting each other in any way they could. In December 2022 Gwen retired as Sidesman Convenor and was presented with a scrapbook album full of photos and reflections from her Church family, an insight into all the things in which Gwen was involved.

In 2024, complications arising with heart valve disease led to hospitalisation at various hospitals, but she was so glad to get herself back to her beloved home just before her 87th birthday last September. She was home for just over a month before having to return to hospital; Gwen was unable to go to Church but was visited a number of times by Patrick and by the Hospital Chaplains, for which she was very grateful. She always had a Bible at her bedside, with annotations from Bible Study in, keepsake cards, prayers, poems, and pictures of Church friends and of her children and grandchildren. Her family took her the latest Parish Magazines, and she was very chuffed to see she made 'Kneeler of the Month' in the November issue with her kneeler depicting the Church's Garden of Remembrance.

And it is in this Garden where Gwen's ashes will be laid to rest in the near future; Gwen died on Sunday 14 December, peacefully, with her family at her bedside.

The family have since shared the sad news that Gerard, Gwen's son living in Columbia, had also died, in January. He is survived by his wife Angela and their daughter Alejandra, and his children Keziah and Dexter. It is Alejandra's wish for some of his ashes to come to his England home and be laid to rest with his Mum's in the Garden of Remembrance.



1919
1968

1981

1996 ISF

Our **Kneeler of the month** was made in 1996 by Isobel Foster. It depicts the Women's Institute (WI) logo (since replaced in 2010), and celebrated the three WIs then meeting in Oxshott, with their founding dates – the Oxshott Afternoon WI (1919), the Oxshott Evening WI (1968) and the Oxshott Village WI (1981). The last-named still meets, and Evening WI has been succeeded by the Ladies Friendship Group.

Isobel was a member, and at one time President, of the Afternoon WI. Her initials and the year are included on one side: 1996 ISF.



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MEN'S CURRY

Night

St Andrew's is delighted to announce our next
Men's Curry Night

Join us at Oxshott Village Sports Club
at 7.30 for 8pm on Friday, 6 March

Our guest speaker will be **Mark Blythe**, a sportsman with an impressive and varied career – including being an Olympic torchbearer in 2012

Mark will also share how he became a Christian and the difference that has made in his life – “never has so much been achieved with so little natural talent; with God all things are possible”, says Mark

Do come and join us for an evening with local friends,
a thought-provoking talk and a delicious curry!

The cost is £15 a head

Numbers are limited, so register now by email at
mens.ministry@standrewsoxshott.org.uk





Embracing technology safely...

As explained by Headteacher **Vanessa Cooper**, advancing technology means that screens are being used in increasingly diverse ways and by children as young as three and four years old...

Research commissioned by Ofcom, the UK's communications regulator, suggests one in four children have their own phone by age eight, and by age twelve, almost all children have their own mobile phone.

These are *our* children, and so keeping pace with technological developments remains a top priority and safeguarding focus. At The Royal Kent School we strive to achieve a balance between giving our students access to computing devices as part of their educational journey, and instilling in them an inherent understanding of online safety and how to avoid damaging online behaviours.

In January, we put six of our pupils at the front and centre of educational technology developments at **Bett 2026**, the world's largest annual education technology conference and exhibition. The Royal Kent School joined a handful of other schools, selected via a nationwide search for schools with digital literacy high on their agenda. As part of the prestigious Kids Judge Bett initiative, they selected EdShed as their 'Best Young Learning Educational Resource' winner, presenting them with their award on the main stage - an incredible opportunity for them to experience solutions from major tech companies.

Internet safety...

Thanks to Danes Hill, our Year 6 children and staff attended an **Online Safety Talk** with Karl Hopwood, an e-safety expert and consultant, covering topics such as managing digital footprints, social media and recognising potential online risks.

This preceded our own **Safer Internet Week** last month, where every year group covered age-appropriate agendas, including keeping personal information private, treating others respectfully and reporting inappropriate content to a trusted adult. With the evolving digital landscape and proliferation of AI, we have recently updated our own Online Safety Policy, which is available on our website.

Whilst digital literacy is essential for today's children, for both education and future opportunities, it is crucial that we be cognisant of the impact the internet can have on both their physical and mental wellbeing. By extending our teaching to our parent community it is our hope that together we can partner to balance screen time, promote healthy habits, and implement safety measures to protect children from digital addiction and potential harm.

Vanessa Cooper



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A Community Vision for the Future...

Work has begun on realising the plans for the High Street, and we asked the Oxshott Regeneration team for an overview of their plans...

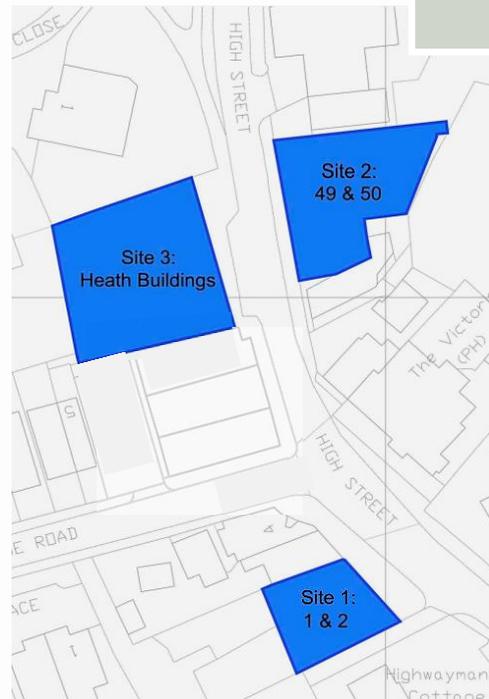
The Oxshott Regeneration project began with a shared belief between two local residents, James Davis and Peter Brodnicki, that the village they proudly call home deserved a High Street that reflected its character, strength and future potential. During many conversations about village life, they recognised a common feeling among residents: while Oxshott High Street is much loved, parts of it were becoming outdated and in need of meaningful structural improvement. Rather than allow decline, they chose to act.

From that shared enthusiasm and sense of responsibility, the Oxshott Regeneration project was born; a long-term commitment to revitalise the High Street while preserving its charm and strong community spirit. Following a thorough planning process and extensive consultation, works commenced in partnership with Wolsey House Construction. With 2026 set to be a landmark year for the village, three key sites are being transformed:

- **Site 1** - 1 & 2 High Street, adjacent to Munch & Wiggles, delivering new commercial spaces with apartments above.
- **Site 2** - Numbers 49 & 50, the former Post Office and bank site, reimagined into a contemporary mixed-use development.
- **Site 3** - Heath Buildings, stretching from Clay Hair Salon to Reads Florist, creating a premium mixed-use destination.

From the outset, James and Peter promised transparency, sensitivity and minimal disruption. With the valued support of FEDORA and the local church, communication has been strengthened to ensure residents remain informed and involved. Four months into construction at the first site, and with the Wolsey House Construction team on schedule, there has been zero disruption to the High Street. Many residents have commented that they were unaware works had even begun - a testament to the care and professionalism with which the project is being delivered.

Supporting local businesses remains central to the vision. In the coming months, a village poll will invite residents to share what businesses and amenities



Site 1

The High Street regeneration has started!

This picture shows (at the far end) the planned replacement of the former deli and West One site, at numbers 1 & 2 High Street.

Surrey Hills Delicatessen has moved up the road, next door to Clay. West One Bathrooms has relocated to 37 High Street in Cobham.



they would most like to see in Oxshott. Regeneration is being done with the community, not simply for it.

Regular updates can be found at www.oxshottvillage.com. Oxshott is already a beautiful village. With thoughtful regeneration and collective vision, it is set to become even stronger - vibrant, future-ready and unmistakably Oxshott.

The Oxshott Regeneration team

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A welcome tonic!

OCACS found their first demonstration of 2026 a wonderfully welcome tonic for endless grey sky, wind and rain! **Miranda Fuller** reports...

Well-known artist and popular demonstrator, Roger Dellar, produced for us another lovely picture in oils – this time, a scene from Colbert’s French restaurant in Sloane

– *Mood and Atmosphere in Acrylic*, (see *What’s On opposite*), and on 14 April we have Ella Hayward demonstrating *Still Life*, with creative collage and gelli printing.



Square. As can be seen (above), the warm depth of colour and treatment of light create an intimate scene that almost includes us, the viewer.

A very nice contrast, on 10 February, was a charming watercolour and mixed media picture of *A Surrey Village*, by artist Margaret Eggleton, details of which will be in the next issue.

On 10 March, popular Chris Forsey is demonstrating for us his *The Wild Coast*

Our demonstrations are friendly and informal and take place at the Oxshott Village Centre on the second Tuesday of the month – full details are on our website:

oxshottartandcrafts.org.

In response to a recent survey carried out by OCACS, members welcomed the idea of a regular social meeting, in addition to our monthly demos; a chance to



discuss ideas and continue work on a craft or art project, away from home distractions. Bluehouse Gallery in Esher, with its studio of large tables and plenty of natural light, not to mention a free coffee from one of its three resident artists, looks to be the place to try and, if it proves successful, this may become a regular monthly event. More on this in the next issue.

Miranda Fuller

Oxshott Net Zero brings us news of the Big Plastic Count, which takes place from 9 - 15 March.

It’s a national campaign, and for that one week in March, “thousands of people will be counting every piece of plastic packaging they throw away. Together, we’ll uncover the true scale of the UK’s big plastic problem and call on the government to do more about it.”

Investigate more, and sign up, at thebigplasticcount.com



At the Repair Café this month (see below) there will be a swap of jigsaws, board-games and cookery books plus plants and seeds.

What’s On in Oxshott



March

- Tue 3 10.00am **Ladies Friendship Group:** *The Best and Worst Present I Have Ever Been Given*, A social gathering with coffee and chat: visitors welcome, in the Small Hall, Oxshott Village Centre
- Fri 6 7.30 for 8pm **St Andrew’s Church:** *Men’s Curry Night*, with Mark Blythe, at Oxshott Village Sports Club (see page 15)
- Tue 10 7.30pm **Oxshott & Cobham Art & Crafts Society:** *The Wild Coast – Mood and Atmosphere in Acrylic*, with Chris Forsey at Oxshott Village Centre
- Wed 11 2.15pm **The Arts Society Claremont & Oxshott:** Music Recital, then 2.30pm: *Antoni Gaudi I Cornet, Master Builder of Barcelona*, with Vivienne Lawes, at the Menuhin Hall, Stoke d’Abernon
- Tue 17 7.30pm* **Oxshott Village WI:** *Scandal Below Stairs – a true murder story*, with David Alan, in the Small Hall, Oxshott Village Centre *Please note new start time
- Wed 18 8pm **Cercle français d’Esher:** *Le Situation Politique en France*, with Constance Bantam, at the Albert Arms*, 82 High Street, Esher, and on zoom for members *Please note temporary change of venue (see page 22)
- Sat 21 10am-12.30pm **Oxshott Net Zero Repair Café:** at St Andrew’s Church, Oxshott. Bring something from home in need of repair; last item accepted for repair at 12 noon

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

Round & About

No more wheels...

After many years, the Meals on Wheels service in Elmbridge ended in December, as funding for it was withdrawn.



Meals on Wheels provides meals and social contact to adults who are unable to leave their home to get food, or to prepare their own meals.

There is no single definition of Meals on Wheels, indeed, not all providers in the UK call their service 'Meals on Wheels'. And the frequency and level of the service vary across the country.

For information, visit mealsonwheelsuk.org

La vie française vous intéresse?

Esher French Circle
Cercle Français d'Esher



There will be a temporary change in venue for Esher French Circle meetings.

The talks usually take place in West End Village Hall, Esher, but that venue will be closing soon for renovation, so the next meetings will be held at the Albert Arms (*right*) in Esher High Street.



Le cercle français offers monthly talks – in French – by native or fluent French speakers, for anybody interested in keeping up or improving their French, in a relaxed and convivial setting.

The next meeting is on 18 March, entitled *The political situation in France*, with Constance Bantman.

Le cercle français warmly welcomes anybody with an interest in France and French life, whatever their level of knowledge of the language. The meetings are on the third Wednesday of most months.

Full information, in French and English, is on the club's website: www.cerclefrançais-esher.uk

LEITH HILL
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HAYDN'S THE CREATION



Leith Hill Music Festival's **Spring Concert** is on Sunday 8 March, at 7pm at Dorking Halls... Come and enjoy one of Haydn's most vivid and popular works packed with dramatic choruses. Tickets from 01306 881717 or www.dorkinghalls.co.uk

Dorking Halls will be closing for essential works from April to mid-December 2026, ready for a sparkling panto season!

Plenty to play for!

News and successes in tennis and cricket at Oxshott Village Sports Club (OVSC): **Fiona Stephen** reports...

We are delighted to announce the appointment of Alex Morris as the club's new Head Tennis Coach, just ahead of the start of the new year. Alex has been a valued member of the OVSC coaching team for a number of years and holds some of the highest coaching qualifications available.

He brings a wealth of experience to the role, and will continue to develop and enhance the club's coaching programme for both juniors and seniors, working closely with his team of coaches. In addition to being an outstanding coach, Alex is also a strong competitor and can often be seen representing OVSC as part of the Oxshott Men's First Team. Alex will also be running junior holiday tennis camps throughout the Easter and Summer holidays.



Alex Morris, the new Head Tennis Coach

Cricket: Maori Oxshott Cricket Club 2026 season

Pre-season preparations are well underway at Maori Oxshott Cricket Club (MOCC) as we look ahead to another summer of cricket. Our senior section runs three XIs in the competitive Surrey Championship on Saturdays. The 1st XI, led by Guy Harper, now play in Division 2 following two promotions in the last three years. Our fledgling 3rd XI, playing home games at our friends' ground at Ockham CC, had a dream debut season—going unbeaten and winning their league under captain Artie Wood, who will be looking to build on that success in 2026.

On Sundays, Sam Murphy captains a steely yet sociable XI with a longstanding fixture list that brings together players of all ages. It's village cricket at its best: competitive, eccentric, and always welcoming. Our junior section begins with the ECB All Stars programme for ages 5–8, progressing up through the age groups to U15s. League fixtures, training sessions and summer camps are currently being finalised for the summer season, and new players are always welcome.

We're keen to welcome new members - players of all ages and abilities - as well as supporters and volunteers. Whether you're interested in helping out with scoring, umpiring, team management, or simply joining us for a drink and a chat at Steels Lane, you'll be warmly received.

We are also working hard to grow girls' and women's cricket at the club and would love to hear from anyone who might be interested in getting involved.

If you are interested in becoming a member of OVSC or would like further information about the club and what is on offer, including coaching and holiday camps, please contact Fiona or Sarah at office@oxshottsports.com

Fiona Stephen

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Travels with Nicky



A London palace...

The new Archbishop of Canterbury is about to be installed at the Cathedral on 25 March, so **Nicky Orlebar** this month recalls a visit to Archbishop Sarah's splendid London office and residence...

An Arts Society group arrived by coach outside Lambeth Palace, the London residence for eight hundred years of the Archbishops of Canterbury. Sited on the south bank of the Thames, the Palace and its garden walls are opposite the Houses of Parliament.

Our guide led us through the main door of Morton's Tower, built in 1490, an impressive, early Tudor red brick gatehouse. During an introductory video in Cranmer's Tower, which dates from 1500, we learned that in AD 597 Pope Gregory sent Augustine, a Benedictine missionary monk to Kent to Christianise the pagan Anglo-Saxons. Having built a stone monastery in Canterbury, Augustine became England's first Archbishop.

We asked our guide why the Archbishop's Lambeth's residence should be south of the Thames, while Crown and Parliament reside on the north bank. The explanation was simple – the land south of the Thames was already owned by the Church in Canterbury. When Archbishop Stephen Langton travelled to London in 1207, he stayed in a nearby manor house while Lambeth Palace was being built.

The 1640s Civil War damaged many of the original buildings. In the 1820s, architect Charles Blore undertook renovations, while further repairs followed a direct hit during the 1940 London Blitz. We moved through the Archbishop's private Chapel and Gothic Crypt, which were both built between 1215-1225, to the State Rooms and medieval Guard Room. Carpeted corridors brought us to the Library in the 17th century Great Hall with its impressive hammerbeam roof, and where portraits of former Archbishops smiled benignly down on us.

In 2020 a separate public library was built in the Palace grounds to house the history and archives of the Church of England. Here, from January to May 2026, is a free-to-enter exhibition entitled *Primate of All England – the Archbishop of Canterbury through time*. Do check the website (www.lambethpalacelibrary.info) for opening hours.



Image: Wikimedia Commons/Basher Eyre

Lambeth Palace

Nicky Orlebar

Sudoku

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

Last month's solution

Answers
next month

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

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Think about it...

How funny are mountains? They are hill areas.

I have a pen that writes underwater.
It can write other words too...

My wife and I have decided not to have kids.
The kids are taking it pretty badly.

Worried Wordsmith: What if there were no hypothetical questions?

Whoops...

...and we are all
thinking the
same thing...



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

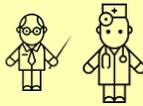
Who's Who at St Andrew's



- ABC:** Adults, Babies and young Children - group for babies, young children, and their parents or carers. Contact: Patrick & Belinda Davies (abc@standrewsoxshott.org.uk)
- Children and Young People:** Younger children meet separately for their own activities during part of our Sunday service at 10am in term time.
See also **St Andrew's @4** (below). For weekday events, see **ABC** (above).
Contact: Revd Patrick Davies (patrick.davies@standrewsoxshott.org.uk)
- Church Hall:** Contact: for bookings, contact the Church Office (01372 842071)
- Church Office:** Church Administrator: Claire Costard; Assistant: Rowena Osman-Robertson
Monday-Friday, 9am-1pm (01372 842071 or office@standrewsoxshott.org.uk)
- Churches Together:** Suzanna Knott (01932 866951)
- Churchwardens:** Jill Perrett (07768 852805), Rebecca Mayhew (07818 426482)
- Coffee Comfort:** Meets every 4th Thursday of the month, 10.15-11.45am in the church.
Contact: Jenny Mathieson (07712 032008)
- Deanery Synod:** Representatives: Jill Perrett, Ros Ebbutt-Hadman and Steph Rustom
- Electoral Roll:** Electoral Roll Officer: Claire Costard (electoral.roll@standrewsoxshott.org.uk)
- Lay Assistants:** Barbara Begley, Phillip Herbert, Jenny Mathieson, Rebecca Mayhew, 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 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month, and generally appeals to people who are 60 plus. Leaders: Sheila and Phillip Herbert (01372 842301)
- Mission Partners:** Contact: Mark Currie (mission.partners@standrewsoxshott.org.uk)
- Music:** Director of Music: Valerie Beynon (01932 863296). Organist: Nicky Orlebar
- Parish Funding:** Parish Funding Administrator: Jenny Major (pfa@standrewsoxshott.org.uk)
- Parochial Church Council:** PCC Secretary: *Vacant* PCC Members: Jane Berridge, Ruth Burns, Harry Conlan, Mark Currie, Revd Patrick Davies (*Vicar*), Ros Ebbutt-Hadman (*Deanery Synod*), Jack Jeffery, Rebecca Mayhew, Kirsten Penner, Jill Perrett (*Deanery Synod*), Steph Rustom (*Deanery Synod*), Freda Stephenson and Adele Wright
- Pastoral Assistants:** Barbara Begley, Jane Berridge, Michael Flaxman, Marianne Francis, Rebecca Mayhew, Helen Shand, Jackie Stewart, Ron Stewart and Trish Torr. Contact: call the Church Office (01372 842071)
- St Andrew's @4:** A monthly afternoon service in church, for everyone and especially those with primary-school aged and younger children. Contact: Revd Patrick Davies (patrick.davies@standrewsoxshott.org.uk)
- Safeguarding:** We are fully committed to Safeguarding and have two Safeguarding Officers. Contact: via their dedicated Safeguarding phone number (01372 230370), or email safeguarding@standrewsoxshott.org.uk
- Treasurer:** Carl Jackson (01372 843990 or treasurer@standrewsoxshott.org.uk)
- Website Editor:** Contact: web@standrewsoxshott.org.uk

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.nhs.uk

Doctors:

Dr Mark Jenkins MB BS DRCOG DFFP MRCGP (available Monday-Wednesday, Friday)

Dr Richard Draper MB ChB MSc DA DRCOG DCH FRCGP (available Thursday, Friday)

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

Dr Laura Peeke MBBS BSc MRCP DRCOG MRCGP PGcert (available Monday, Tuesday)

Dr Hannah Coleman MBBS MRCGP DRCOG (available Wednesday, Thursday)

Dr Esmat Abbas MBBS BSc MRCGP DRCOG DFSRH (available Thursday, Friday)

Nurse: Rosemary Tyler (available Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday)

Surgery hours: Monday to Friday, 8am to 6.30pm

Pre-bookable early morning and late-night appointments also available

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**

Centre for Sight: Vision correction, laser eye surgery, lens implants and cataract surgery, at 48 High Street, Oxshott. Mon-Fri, 9am-4.30pm (0808 189 3966 or enquiries@centreforsight.com)

Citizens Advice, Esher & District: Elmbridge Civic Centre, High Street, Esher. Contact: by email (via website www.eshercab.org.uk), or in person or by phone (01372 464770) Mon-Tue, Thur-Fri 10.30am-3.30pm; Wed 1pm-3.30pm

Councillors – Elmbridge Borough Council

Oxshott and Stoke D’Abernon Ward:

Andrew Burley (07503 830954 or aburley@elmbridge.gov.uk)

Corinne Sterry (07976 575662 or csterry@elmbridge.gov.uk)

Alan Parker (07917 521069 or alanparker.oxshott@gmail.com)

Councillors – Surrey County Council

Cobham Division:

(includes Cobham, Downside, part of Stoke D’Abernon and Oxshott, west of the railway line)

David Lewis (01932 590338 or 07771 505567 or david.lewis1@surreycc.gov.uk)

Hinchley Wood, Claygate and Oxshott Division:

(includes Hinchley Wood, Claygate and Oxshott, east of the railway line)

Andy Burton (07415 952432 or andy.burton@surreycc.gov.uk)

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)

Contact information for local services

Services *(continued)*



FEDORA - the Voice for Oxshott CIC: Chair: Anthony Wolfe (chairman@fedora.org.uk) or visit www.fedora.org.uk

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

Health Visitor: Surrey Child and Family Health visiting team, supporting you from the birth of your baby up until they go to school (0300 247 0025 or scfh.contact@hrcrgcaregroup.com)

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

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

Oxshott Care: Local Voluntary Help providing transport to medical, dental and hospital appointments. Call 07950 478329 Monday to Friday 9am to 12 noon. Leave message at other times.

Oxshott Village Centre: Bookings Secretary: Debbie Chitty (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: Elmbridge: Sergeants Nick Reynolds and Trevor Crossman

Cobham & Oxshott: NSO (Neighbourhood Specialist Officer) PC Sanjar Najibi, PCSO (Police Community Support Officer) Joshua Segal

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

Patient Participation Group (PPG): Patients, carers and GP practice staff who meet to discuss local practice issues. Contact: Oxshott Medical Practice (01372 844000)

Royal Kent School, Oakshade Road, Oxshott, Surrey KT22 0LE Church of England Primary School, ages 4 to 11. Ladybird Nursery preschool, ages 2-4. For admission details, please contact the School Office. **Headteacher:** Vanessa Cooper. **Deputy Headteacher:** Hannah White. **Chair of Governors:** David Young. **Contact:** School Office (01372 842495 or office@royal-kent.surrey.sch.uk)

SSAFA: Leading national charity helping members and ex-members of the Armed Forces and their families (0204 566 9126 or visit www.ssafa.org.uk/surrey)

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

Voluntary Action Central Surrey: Supporting the voluntary sector. Contact: Elmbridge Volunteer Centre, No.1, The Quintet, Charities House, Churchfield Road, Walton on Thames, KT12 2TZ (01372 722911 or visit www.centralsurreyvoluntaryaction.co.uk)

All the details you need to join in

Local Clubs & Societies



- 1st Oxshott Scouts:** Meetings: Squirrels (Fridays 4.30-5.30pm), Beavers (Mondays 5.30-6.45pm), Cubs (Mondays 6-7.30pm), Scouts (Mondays 7-8.30pm), Explorers (Mondays 7.45-9.15pm) (oxshottscoutgroup@gmail.com) www.oxshott-scouts.org
- Girlguiding Oxshott:** Meetings: Rainbows (girls aged 4-7: Tuesdays 4.15-5.30pm), Brownies (7-10: Tuesdays 5.45-7.15pm, Wednesdays 5.30-7pm), Guides (10-14: Tuesdays 7.30-9pm), Rangers (14-18: Wednesdays 7.30-9pm). Contact: 1stoxshottbrownies@gmail.com
- 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, usually on 3rd Wednesday of each month, from October to June at 7.30pm, in West End Village Hall and online. Contact: Anne Bell (07796 698 097 or annell121@yahoo.co.uk) www.cerclefrançais-esher.uk
- Oxshott Art & Crafts Society:** This friendly group of artists and craftsmen meet for a demonstration at 7.30pm on the second Tuesday of most months. Guests are welcome. Full details 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 Stoke D'Abernon Church Hall. Contact: Sue Rees (01372 842300) www.oxshottchoral.org.uk
- Oxshott Flower Arrangement Society:** Meets 3rd Tuesday in month at Oxshott Village Centre (except July and August). Chair: Andy Oowler (01372 844152 or andyowler@aol.com) Secretary: Anita Lee (07979 804668 or leea8971@gmail.com)
- Oxshott Net Zero:** Oxshott residents working to reduce our carbon emissions. Full details and contact via the website (www.oxshottnetzero.org.uk)
- Oxshott Village Sports Club:** Bowls, Bridge, Cricket, Cycling, Football, Netball, Padel, 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: Katerina Lusk (07934 296302 or k.lusk2605@gmail.com)
Cobham, Downside, Oxshott and Stoke Labour Party: Secretary: Dan Parks (07860 677898 or codslabourbranch@gmail.com)
- The Arts Society Claremont and Oxshott:** Meets 2nd Wednesday in month (except July & August) in the Yehudi Menuhin Hall, Stoke D'Abernon. Coach visits also organised. Contact: Anne Wallis (anne@wallis.eu.com)
- The Oxshott Club,** Oakshade Road: Lounge bar, snooker, pool, quiz nights; music and entertainment evenings and BBQs held regularly. BT Sports. Open every evening, Saturday & Sunday from midday. 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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