

Oxshott

m a g a z i n e

September 2026

A new term...
after a long dry summer!

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South Africa*

Hello to Lyn

*Introducing
Lyn Turner!*

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of sport
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St Andrew's
 your church
 Growing & Serving

Oxshott
 magazine



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September 2026



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This month's cover, courtesy of the Editor, shows a view of Oxshott Heath after the 2026 prolonged hot, dry summer

Welcome

Water that never runs dry...

Dear Friends,

As I write this, the country is struggling with one of the driest summers many can remember. There is news of wildfires in Scotland, Wales, Suffolk, and even smaller ones closer to home. Here the lawn (or what's left of it!) has turned entirely the colour of straw and many plants are looking tired, despite valiant effort with the watering can. Even the weeds are struggling! This has been a summer that has reminded us just how much we depend on water.

Psalm 1 offers a striking picture after these past parched months. The person who delights in God's ways is "like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither." It is a picture of resilience, of 'drought resistance'. The tree stays leafy and fruitful throughout because its roots reach down to hidden water. Right now, all around it's easy to see the trees and plants which have deep roots reaching deep unseen water – they're bearing fruit, keeping green!

As autumn begins and we look ahead, perhaps this image is worth carrying. Our own strength, like that of our lawn, can wear thin under pressure. But when we are like a tree planted by the right water - the water of God's life - we can be sustained in every season. We put our roots down into this life-giving water through spiritual practices such as prayer, reading the Bible, being part of a Church, by serving one another — and when we do so deeply, we needn't fear when dry seasons come. Putting down deep roots is hidden work, but it makes all the difference.

May this September find us all putting our roots down deep, drawing from the water of life, which finds its source in God and never runs dry.



Patrick
Vicar

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fuss is about.
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Church Services in September

- Tue 1 9am Pray Together, via zoom
 Wed 2 11.30am Wednesdays at 11.30 (Holy Communion)
 Sat 5 9am Saturday Prayers in the Lady Chapel
 Sun 6 **The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity**
Where two or three gather in my name, I am there among them
 10am St Andrew's at 10 All Age service
 Tue 8 9am Pray Together, via zoom
 Wed 9 11.30am Wednesdays at 11.30 (Holy Communion)
 Sat 12 9am Saturday Prayers in the Lady Chapel
 Sun 13 **The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity**
The Unforgiving servant
 10am St Andrew's at 10
 4pm St Andrew's @4
 Tue 15 9am Pray Together, via zoom
 Wed 16 11.30am Wednesdays at 11.30 (Holy Communion)
 Sat 19 9am Saturday Prayers in the Lady Chapel
 Sun 20 **The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity**
The Workers in the Vineyard
 10am St Andrew's at 10
 Mon 21 *Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist*
 Tue 22 9am Pray Together, via zoom
 Wed 23 11.30am Wednesdays at 11.30 (Holy Communion)
 Sat 26 9am Saturday Prayers in the Lady Chapel
 Sun 27 **The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity**
The Two Sons ("Turn, then, and live")
 10am St Andrew's at 10
 7pm St Andrew's at 7
 Tue 29 9am Pray Together, via zoom
 Wed 30 11.30am Wednesdays at 11.30 (Holy Communion)

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



On their wedding day, Helena and Sam went
 back into St Andrew's after the service and
 rang the church bell in celebration!
 (see 'From the Registers' on page 15)

Hello to Lyn!

At the end of August, we will be welcoming **Lyn Turner** as part of our expanding Ministry team here at St Andrew's – and Lyn is looking forward to joining us!...

Hello Everyone! I am honoured to have been appointed to the role of Youth and Children's Minister at St Andrew's; as the time of the commencement of my appointment draws nearer, my excitement is growing. Every time I have visited St Andrew's, I have felt such a warm welcome.

As I embarked on the journey for this role, I have spent a lot of time reflecting on how God has lit a path for this over the course of my adult life. I have been a



volunteer with Girlguiding UK for over 25 years in a variety of roles, including a Brownie Leader. I have also been a 'Kids Church' leader at my current church, St Andrew's, Cobham, for over 11 years, which I first joined when my children attended St Andrew's School.

Before that, I belonged to All Saints' Church, New Haw, for almost 25 years - I have very fond memories of my time as a teenager at All Saints'.

In addition to these voluntary roles, I have been working in education for most of my adult life, including as a Nursery School Manager.

Creating lifelong memories

I believe children should be central to the life of a church, and want them to feel loved and to know God's love. I am excited

to have the opportunity to bring to life my vision for the children, which is to experience church as somewhere full of love and joy through StAKs, the setting up of new youth groups, holiday clubs and other memory-making events.

From my own experience, I know that these memories can be lifelong, and I look forward to creating these opportunities for the children and watching them 'let their little lights shine' as they grow and discover the gifts God has given each of them.

I currently live in Weybridge with my two teenage daughters, aged 17 and 18! Both are at college, studying Engineering and Vocal Performance! We also have a puppy and an elderly cat. My hobbies include reading and going for walks.

I look forward to meeting you all soon - every blessing,

Lyn Turner

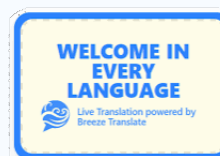
You can contact Lyn at lyn.turner@standrewsoxshott.org.uk

News & Notes

In church, and you can't easily hear the service?
Or would you like it translated from English?

We now offer real-time subtitles and translation!

You can now have near real-time subtitles in English, or any other language, on your phone during our 10am Sunday services.



Just scan the QR code on the screen at the start of the service.

It will open in your browser (Safari, Chrome etc.) and **nothing will be downloaded to your phone**. Just press the green arrow to start...

Our June appeal... Thank you!



We have received a HUGE Thank You the Cobham Area Foodbank for the £1,585.63 we collected in our June appeal, and for the whopping 31 crates of food!

Thank you so much for your continued generosity and compassion, which brings practical assistance to those in need in our community.



Adult Baptism:

The key moments in our morning service on 19 July, when Brandon Rennet was baptised – our congratulations to Brandon!



Our **Kneeler of the month** features the Queen Elizabeth Foundation.

It was made in 2000 by Florence Kathleen 'Floss' Bray (1915-2014) - Floss used to live in Oakshade Road, in a bungalow opposite St Andrew's, and died aged 99%.

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother was Patron to the charity, which was set up in as the Cripple's Training College in 1935. In 1948, it acquired the Dorincourt Estates in

Woodlands Road, Leatherhead, on the borders of our parish. After a few changes of name, it became Queen Elizabeth's Foundation for Disabled People in 1967, reflecting its increasingly wide range of services.

Sadly, the charity announced its closure in November 2025.

Every kneeler has its story.

A happy day!

Our friend, and now Curate, **David Boothby** was ordained at Guildford Cathedral on Sunday 28 June. We invited him to share with us his feelings about the day – and his journey there...

When the Bishop told me, a few weeks before this summer's Petertide ordinations, that he wished to ordain me, I was both astonished and deeply moved. Although many people had encouraged me during the preceding months, I had not allowed myself to take anything for granted. When he embraced me as a 'brother' in Christ, I was overwhelmed by an unexpected sense of joy and gratitude. My first thought was simply, "Who, me?"

As the reality of ordination dawned, there were, of course, many practical preparations: forms to complete, safeguarding requirements to fulfil, certificates to locate, and the opportunity to reflect on the story of God's call in my life. Looking back over those years reminded me how faithfully God has walked beside me - from the first stirrings of faith in childhood, through a growing sense of vocation nearly ten years ago, and even through the challenges of leaving the world of a salaried career in HR early because of ill health.

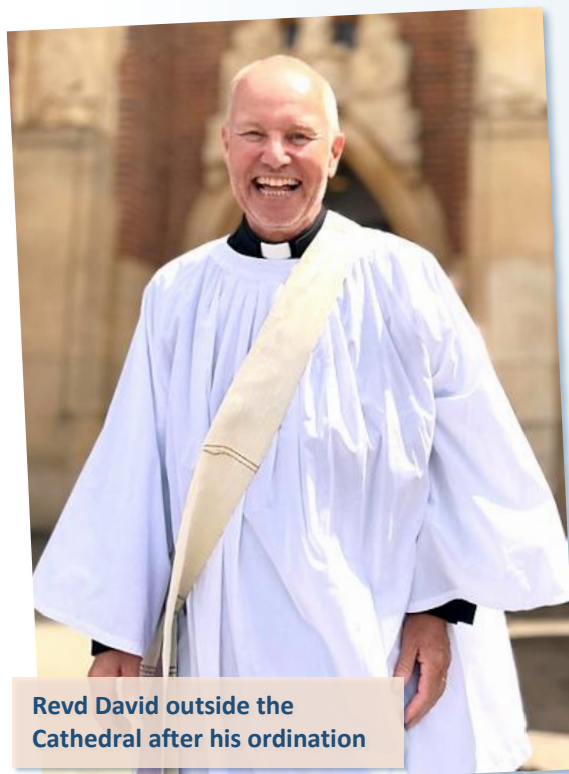
By God's grace, and sustained by prayer, those difficult days have become part of a much larger story of hope.

Different backgrounds

The days leading up to the ordination passed remarkably quickly. At the cathedral rehearsal I met those who would kneel alongside me, and afterwards we spent three days together on retreat at Storrington Priory. We came from many different backgrounds and walks of life: full-time/stipendiary and part-time/self-supporting ministers (such as me), younger or older, each with a unique story of God's calling.

Yet it soon became clear that what united us was far greater than what distinguished us. As we prayed and shared together, we began to grow into a community that, God willing, will continue to support one another throughout our curacies.

By the time I returned to Guildford Cathedral on the morning of the ordination,



Revd David outside the Cathedral after his ordination

there was naturally a sense of anticipation. Yet once the service began, any nervousness soon melted away. Throughout the liturgy there was a profound awareness of God's presence and the gentle assurance of the Holy Spirit.

One of the greatest blessings of the day was seeing so many familiar faces: family, friends, members of my sending church: All Saints', Ockham; my new church family at St Andrew's, and people who have journeyed alongside my wife Alison and me over many years. During the sharing of the Peace I caught the eyes of so many who had prayed, encouraged and supported me. It was a deeply humbling reminder that no one is ordained in isolation. Every vocation is nurtured within the love and prayers of God's people.

The celebration afterwards at St Andrew's was filled with warmth, laughter and thanksgiving. Looking back at the photographs, I cannot help smiling at my Cheshire cat grin! They remind me not simply of a happy day, but of the immense joy, privilege and responsibility that ordination brings.

Energy and warmth

What has surprised me most, however, has happened since. In the weeks following my ordination, everyone I met seemed somehow brighter, their eyes sparkling with energy and warmth. Then I realised the change was not in them but in me. It was as though the scales had fallen from my own eyes, allowing me to appreciate more deeply the privilege of sharing life and faith with others.

Alison has remarked that I seem happier than I have been for many years, and I think she is right. My prayer is that this joy will continue - not simply as the memory of a special occasion, but as a deeper awareness of God's presence in the ordinary moments of daily life and ministry.

Ordination is not an ending but a beginning. It is one way of responding to God's call to serve the Church and the world around us. Each one of us is called to follow Christ in ways that are unique to us. If, as you read this, you sense even the faintest nudge that God may be inviting you into some new form of service, I encourage you not to ignore it! Speak to someone, pray about it, and trust that the God who calls is also the God who equips. God's plans are often richer and more life-giving than anything we could imagine for ourselves.

David Boothby



Book Review

Hope for All Creation – a theological response to the environmental crises by House of Bishops

Church House Publishing, £12.99

A teaching document from the House of Bishops of the Church of England, this book presents a theological vision by which we might think, reflect and act in response to the current environmental crises - and offers a vision of how Christians can integrate this fully into Christian discipleship. It features a Foreword by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York.

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Supporting the family...

St Andrew's supports a variety of initiatives, and **Kirsten Penner** brings news of one that is close to home in so many ways...



Care for the Family is a UK-based, Christian charity dedicated to supporting and strengthening family life, and helping those who face family difficulties.

It provides practical help and encouragement to all families, regardless of background or faith, in three key areas: marriage and couples support, parenting, and support for bereaved parents, or those grieving the loss of a partner.

Help and training is delivered in a variety of ways, including live events, in-person and online courses, and online resources. A telephone befriending service puts parents in touch with a trained volunteer whose experience is similar to their own; befriending is available to bereaved parents, those widowed young, and those parenting children with additional needs.

Left to their own Devices?

There are also live events this autumn, which include *Left to their own Devices? How to confidently parent tech-savvy kids.* - designed primarily for parents of 8-14-year-olds, that will cover:

- What children are being exposed to online
- Why tech can feel so addictive, and what is happening in a child's brain
- The impact social media is having on mental health
- Creative ways to tackle issues as a family
- Practical tips for success

These events are being held locally in Wimbledon (24 November), Horsham (25 November), and Guildford (26 November).

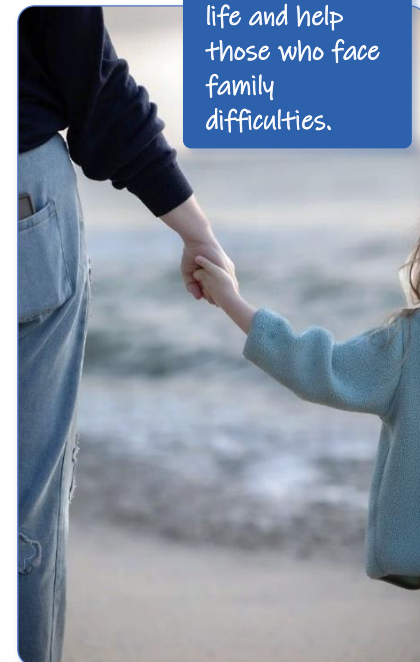
In October, there are residential support weekends (Friday-Sunday) for bereaved parents, bereaved adult siblings and those widowed young, along with online support sessions. Interactive, online events for parents and carers of children with additional needs are also on offer this autumn.

Check out their website to find out more or to book: www.careforthefamily.org.uk

Kirsten Penner

Care for the Family

A national charity that aims to promote strong family life and help those who face family difficulties.





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before



after

Government consultation on weddings

The proposals aim for greater flexibility and cheaper options...

Couples may soon be able to marry almost anywhere, including forests, beaches, cruise ships at sea, canal boats, and at home, under Government proposals that “shift the focus from bricks and mortar to people and promises”.

The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) is to consult on plans to allow ‘authorised officiants’ of any religion or belief to conduct weddings, in what are being described as the most radical changes to marriage law in England and Wales since the 19th century. The Government says, however, that the “permanence” of marriage will be strengthened by enabling more questioning of candidates before their weddings: “To protect against forced, predatory and sham marriages, couples must complete a two-stage process, including in-person interview, to verify their identity and demonstrate eligibility to marry.”

Anglican bans of marriage would continue “as an important part of the established Church”, the document says. “The Government agrees with the Law Commission’s recommendation that Anglican weddings should continue to be conducted as they are now. It recognises the unique role of the Church of England and the Church [in] Wales in relation to marriage and has no plans to alter ... these roles.”

The MoJ says that the proposals will reduce costs. The average wedding in England costs more than £20,000. About 470,000 people marry in England and Wales each year; Anglican weddings are generally required to take place in a church or chapel, although they can take place in a private home by special licence.

From the Registers



Baptism

We welcome into God’s family:

21 June Annabel Euphemia Lee
19 July Brandon Rennet

Marriage

We offer our congratulations to:

10 July Helena Francis and Samuel Bendit

Burial of Ashes

We remember in our prayers:

5 July Gerard Edwin Bullen (died 25 January 2026, in Colombia, aged 58)

Burial of Ashes at Cobham Cemetery:

11 May Philippa Merrifield (died 10 February 2026, aged 87)



AUTUMN EXHIBITION AT

RIVERHOUSE BARN
ARTS CENTRE
walton on thames

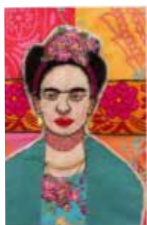
Common Ground

*Step into a vibrant world
of colour, creativity and imagination*

Oxshott and Cobham Art & Crafts Society is pleased to present a striking collection of original artworks and handcrafted pieces by its members. From glowing landscapes, still life, expressive life studies, to intricate handmade and unique creations, each work reflects individuality, skill, and artistic vision. Rich colours, bold forms, and fine detail come together to create a lively and inspiring display. Admission FREE

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Hot on the Heath

Photo taken in August 2026 on the very dry Heath near Oxshott Station, courtesy of Brian Cox

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Regeneration update: progress at Sites 1 & 2

As you may have seen in the High Street, work has continued on two of the regeneration sites; **Sophie Jones** keeps us in the picture...

The High Street Regeneration Project is making excellent progress.

By way of a reminder, the map (right) shows the three sites in the High Street...

Sustainability considerations at Site 2

Work has officially begun at Site 2 (the Old Post Office) as many will have seen, marking another major milestone in the regeneration project.

The Wolsey House Group construction team began works in the most sustainable



Site 2: A selection of the bricks and slates that have been hand-prepared for reuse

and minimally disruptive way possible by dismantling the brickwork from the previous building by hand before mechanical demolition commenced. Although a fully mechanical approach from the start would have been quicker, the manual method allowed valuable bricks to be packaged up and sent for reuse, reducing waste and supporting the project's commitment to sustainability.

The initial dismantling of the bricks by hand also avoided having to close the High Street for several days. It reflects the regeneration team's ongoing commitment to balancing environmental responsibility, construction efficiency and the needs of the local community throughout the project.

Whilst mechanical demolition of course then began as a key component to the works, many have commented on the fact there is zero to minimal disruption at both sites.

Progress at Site 1

Site 1 is also coming along nicely, with expected milestones being met.

One of the next steps will be the scaffolding coming down, which will enable rendering to commence externally.

Any sales enquiries for the upcoming new apartments at Site 1 should go to Curchods Prime (prime@curchods.com or 01932 558555).

The Oxshott Regeneration Team



Site 1: The apartments emerge above the hoardings

Join the World's Biggest Coffee Morning!

Why not consider attending – or even hosting – a Macmillan Coffee Morning? Many are going to be held soon, on 25 September, but you can hold one whenever you like - about 50,000 coffee mornings are held around the country each year.

The first Coffee Morning happened in 1990. It was a small affair with a simple idea: guests would get together for coffee and donate the cost of their drink to Macmillan. It was so effective that Macmillan did it again the next year – only this time nationally. Since then, the tradition has grown, until now an estimated 1.2 million coffee mornings have been held since the tradition first began.

These days, Coffee Mornings come in all shapes and sizes. They can range from small home gatherings to large corporate events; school fundraisers to a gathering with a local community group. But they all have one thing in common: they raise vital funds to support the almost 3.5 million people in the UK living with cancer. More details at www.macmillan.org.uk



Join the Great Garden Route Trek!

The Garden Route Children's Trust is celebrating 20 years of nourishing hope. You are invited to join a trek across South Africa – but virtually, so you can use any activity you like, wherever you are... **Patrick Fleming** explains:

The Great Garden Route Trek is a virtual journey through the towns and cities of South Africa where the Garden Route Children's Trust (GRCT) has feeding projects.

Choose your own distance and complete it in any way you enjoy - join us throughout September by running, cycling, rowing, swimming, skating, spinning or in any way you like, as we visit the projects and celebrate our 20th anniversary.

By getting sponsorship you will be helping to feed South African children in need, while boosting your own health and wellbeing!

Find out more...

To find out more, go to www.grct.org.uk/greattrek2026/ where you can find all the information you need, and can sign up!

Join many other fellow trekkers from the beginning of September; over the four weeks of the trek, you'll receive blogs from our intrepid and inspiring leader and guide, who will tell you about the places you visit and the projects. Don't miss this exciting adventure!

How to join in

You can choose how you exercise your challenge!

For example, Patrick's own personal challenge, as part of the trek, is to walk 20 miles a day for 10 days, starting on 31 August.

What could you do?!

The Great
Garden Route
TREK



From	To	Kms
Wellington	Cape Town	95
Cape Town	Kleinmond	125
Kleinmond	Swellendam	160
Swellendam	Knysna	280
Knysna	St Francis Bay	200
St Francis Bay	Port Elizabeth	140
TOTAL		1,000

*Seriously, what do you
do the rest of the week?*

Our next men's event at St Andrew's:

Breakfast Q&A with the Vicar

Join us at The Bear, Oxshott

at 8am for 8.15am on Friday, 25 September

Do join us for a thought-provoking Traditional English Breakfast – with fried or scrambled eggs, honey-cured bacon, Cumberland sausages, etc., or a vegetarian option

The cost is £15 a head. We aim to finish by 9.45am

MEN'S
Breakfast
AT THE BEAR

St Andrew's
your church

Numbers are limited, so register **now** by email, at
men@standrewsoxshott.org.uk

**Register
now!**

Summer in full swing at Oxshott Village Sports Club!

An exciting medley of sports created a buzz at our local Sports Club this summer, as **Sarah Murphy** reports...

It's been a fantastic summer at Oxshott Village Sports Club, with members making the most of glorious sunshine, warm summer evenings and a packed calendar of sporting and social events.

There has been something for everyone, from lively Football World Cup evenings and Wilson/Adrenalin racket demo days to exciting T20 cricket under blue skies and more sedate Bowls fun Sundays. The club has been buzzing with activity, creating a wonderful atmosphere throughout the season.

June saw two of the highlights of the summer as both the Squash and Tennis sections hosted their Finals Days. Spectators were treated to some outstanding, fiercely contested matches that showcased the talent and commitment of our players. The Tennis Finals were blessed with beautiful weather, while members enjoyed refreshments from a cocktail bar hosted by our fantastic new partners, Danes Hill School. With the tennis section decorated in classic Wimbledon colours, it really captured the spirit of the Championships and added to the wonderful summer atmosphere.

The Pétanque section also enjoyed a successful June, hosting its annual Business League over five weeks. The competition concluded with an exciting finals evening, where CGI once again claimed the title. IAC secured a well-deserved second place, with club sponsors Curchods rounding off the podium in third.

Farewell to President Gavin

July brought another memorable occasion with Cricket President's Day. This year marked the final President's Day hosted by Gavin Harper, who will be stepping down as Club President at the end of the season. Gavin's XI took on a team of club members in an entertaining match before members and guests enjoyed a superb afternoon tea generously hosted by Gavin.

Cricket has continued to flourish throughout the summer. Friday evening junior coaching sessions proved so popular that they were extended through to the end of July, while the senior teams have battled not only their opponents but also some



exceptionally high temperatures. Fortunately, there has been plenty of opportunity to cool down afterwards—whether in the traditional paddling pool or by enjoying a well-earned drink at the bar!

With so much taking place across the club, there's never been a better time to get involved. Whether you're looking for competitive sport, social events or simply a welcoming community, Oxshott Village Sports Club has something for everyone.

If you'd like to become part of the OVSC community, we'd love to hear from you. Please contact Fiona or Sarah in the Club Office at office@oxshottsports.com for more information.

Sarah Murphy

What's On in Oxshott



September

- Tue 1 10am **Ladies Friendship Group:** *What You Did When You Left School:* a social gathering with coffee, biscuits and chat, visitors welcome, in the Small Hall, Oxshott Village Centre
- Tue 8 to Sun 13 **Oxshott & Cobham Art & Crafts Society:** Exhibition of Members' Presentations, at Riverhouse Barn, Walton-on-Thames (*for opening hours and details: see page 16*)
- Wed 9 2.15pm **The Arts Society, Claremont & Oxshott:** Music Recital, then 2.30pm: *Gardens as Fine Art*, with Timothy Walker, at the Menuhin Hall, Stoke D'Abernon
8pm **Oxshott Choral Society:** *New season - first rehearsal and welcome*, at St Mary's Church Hall, Stoke D'Abernon (*see page 26*)
- Tue 15 7.30pm **Oxshott Village WI:** *The World of Costume Design*, with Rosalind Ebbut, in the Small Hall, Oxshott, Village Centre
- Sat 19 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
- Thu 24 7.30pm **Oxshott Net Zero: People's Emergency Briefing**, film screening and discussion, at Oxshott Village Centre (*see page 25*)
- Fri 25 8 for 8.15am: **St Andrew's Church:** *Breakfast Q&A with the Vicar*, at The Bear, Oxshott (*see page 21*)

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

Summer art!

Creativity flows from summer into autumn with the work of members of OCACS (Oxshott & Cobham Art & Crafts Society), as we hear from **Miranda Fuller**...

Oxshott & Cobham Art & Crafts Society (OCACS) have not allowed the sweltering heat of the summer to distract us from our creative work.

Several of our members have continued with their *en plein air* efforts and others enjoyed our summer social at Bluehouse in Esher. A number of our members will also be taking part in



Molesey Art Society's popular towpath exhibition at Molesey Lock on the Bank Holiday weekend, 30-31 August.

We are also, of course, busy preparing artwork for our September exhibition at Riverhouse Barn in Walton, details of which are shown in this magazine (see page 16).

Our final demonstration before the summer break was by popular artist Brendan Smith (above), who produced for us the excellent landscape in acrylic, shown here.



Starting off our Autumn programme, on 13 October, will be Frank Walters, who will demonstrate *A Landscape in Watercolour*, and, following this, on 10 November, Paul Alcock will demonstrate for us *A Riverside Scene in Oils*.

Our demonstrations are friendly and informal and take place at the Oxshott Village Centre on the second Tuesday of the month, from 7.30 to 9.30pm – details on our website:

oxshottartandcrafts.org. Non-members are always welcome to attend, regardless of experience or expertise, for a fee of £5.

Miranda Fuller



Round & About

In November 2025, more than 1,200 MPs and leaders from business, culture, faith, sport and the media gathered at Westminster Central Hall for the **National Emergency Briefing** – a landmark event bringing together leading experts to assess the UK's exposure to climate and nature risks.

The briefing, introduced by Chris Packham CBE, set out the implications of climate and nature breakdown for food security, public health, the economy, etc. – with evidence-based actions to reduce these risks.

Adapted into a 50-minute film, *The People's Emergency Briefing* is now being screened in communities across the UK.

Diana Thornton from Oxshott Net Zero, who are organising the local event on 24 September, said, "I went to a screening in May, and was impressed by the range of issues covered. This is about creating space for people to come together, look at the evidence, and begin a more open and informed conversation about what it means for our community – and how we can support the bolder action now called for by the science, which will also do so much to improve lives, as the film explains."

With screenings taking place nationwide, local events form part of a broader effort to build a shared understanding of climate and nature risks across the UK, and to support constructive public dialogue about future choices.

Tickets for the Oxshott screening are free, but advance registration is encouraged.

Please use the QR code on the poster (right).



Oxshott Net Zero



People's Emergency Briefing

On the climate and nature crisis

Oxshott



www.nebriefing.org

Film screening and discussion

Oxshott Village Hall,
Holtwood Road, Oxshott, KT22 0QJ
24 September 7.30pm

Join us for our
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9 September 2026

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More
info



* September to June

Heritage Open Days return 11-20 September 2026!

A number of venues, often not generally open to the public, will be opening their doors this year, including locally Slyfield House Cobham, St John's School Leatherhead, Semaphore Tower Ockham, Rowhurst Forge Leatherhead, Claremont Fan Court School, Esher and much, much more! (Note that Fetcham Park House, featured last month, has changed its opening times to Saturday 12 September, 10am-4.30pm.) Some venues require booking – full list and details at www.heritageopendays.org.uk/



Oxshott Choral Society: New singers welcome...



Whether you're new to choral singing, coming back to it after a few bars rest, or looking for a new choir, you'll get a warm welcome at Oxshott Choral Society.

We welcome new singers in all sections - although being able to read music is an advantage, you can simply bring with you your love of music and your enthusiasm!

We rehearse weekly on Wednesdays in St Mary's Church Hall, Stoke D'Abernon, so do join us on Wednesday 9 September at 7.45pm for a glass of wine and introductory 'sing' (see opposite), as we return after our summer break.

Contact us on 01372 842300 or email membership.sec@oxshottchoral.org.uk, or just come to a rehearsal!

Mike Newman

www.oxshottchoral.org.uk



REED'S
School

Back in the spring, Reed's School announced that it would become fully co-educational, admitting girls into Year 7 from September 2027 and reaching all year groups by 2031. Reed's already operates a flourishing and oversubscribed co-educational Sixth Form.

At the same time, it was announced that Reed's and Feltonfleet Preparatory School will merge, along with Ripley Court School, to create the Reed's Schools Charitable Trust, establishing a co-educational pathway for families from the age of three through to A Level.

The merged Trust will thus comprise Reed's School (ages 11-18), Feltonfleet (ages 3-13), and Ripley Court (ages 2-11).

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Deciphering symbols in medieval art

Members of The Arts Society in East Surrey recently learnt fascinating insights into medieval floral and animal paintings. **Nicky Orlebar** reports...

In May 2026, the East Surrey Area of The Arts Society welcomed Dr Jonathan Foyle to the Menuhin Hall. A BBC presenter, expert on cathedrals and royal palaces, Dr Foyle gave us two engaging talks on *A Paradise Garden: Plants in Medieval Art*, followed by *The Nature of the Beast: Animals in Medieval Art*. Spanning the 5th to 15th century, artists often depended on biblical references for their subject matter.

In his first lecture, about plants in medieval art, Dr Foyle showed a painting of marigolds. Remembering that few people could read or write at the time, a marigold was understood to represent 'Mary's gold'. A carnation signified the 'incarnation' while a daisy implied a 'day's eye'. Colour was also relevant, so using red paint might refer to the blood of Christ, while a lady draped in blue could be the Virgin Mary, blue paint being an expensive colour to buy. A flowering columbine (*columba* is Latin for dove) denoted the Holy Spirit. Jonathan puzzled over Henry VIII's sister and his flagship having the name Mary Rose...

The second topic covered animals in medieval art. Travellers reported that an Egyptian lion (think of the Sphinx) had a human head. Others returning from Central Asia on the Silk Road would describe species they claimed to have encountered. Bestiaries or animal books helped decipher images, for example, dragons implied sinfulness. Including a lion (king of the beasts) might indicate Christ crushing all evil. To vary the appearance of a lion, a spotted leopard (leopard) might be drawn, while a dog facing away from the viewer denoted bad news.

In his talks, Dr Jonathan Foyle certainly opened our eyes to what artists of the past aspired to tell us. We rather agreed, amongst ourselves, that future visits to an art gallery will never be quite the same again.

Nicky Orlebar



Hidden symbols in medieval art:
Roses, Lilies, and an Iris,
by Clara Peeters, 1612

Sudoku

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

Last month's solution

Answers
next month

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

Think about it...

I'm working on a new typeface to be used for church bulletins. I'm calling it Baptismal Font.

Have you heard about the new corduroy pillows?
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Wondering...

...I hope it's hounous



Worried Wordsmith: Why do 'fat chance' and a 'slim chance' mean the same thing?

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Oxshott Directory

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).

Contact: Revd Patrick Davies (patrick.davies@standrewsoxshott.org.uk)

Church Flowers: Jill Leviton (01932 862532)

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: Jane Berridge, Ros Ebbutt-Hadman, Kirsten Penner 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: Life Groups meet for study, fellowship and prayer on a regular basis throughout the parish. Co-ordinator: Patrick Fleming (life.groups@standrewsoxshott.org.uk)

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 (07710 019534)

Mission Partners: Contact: Mark Currie (mission.partnering@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: Members: Jane Berridge (*Deanery Synod*), Revd David Boothby (*Curate*), Ruth Burns (*Lay Chair*), Harry Conlan, Mark Currie, Revd Patrick Davies (*Vicar*), Ros Ebbutt-Hadman (*Deanery Synod*), Tina Hanciles, Jack Jeffery, Rebecca Mayhew, Kirsten Penner (*Deanery Synod*), Jill Perrett (*Lay Chair*), 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)

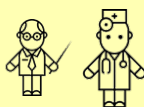
Safeguarding: We are fully committed to Safeguarding and have two Safeguarding Officers. Contact: via their dedicated Safeguarding phone number (01372 230370), or email safeguarding@standrewsoxshott.org.uk

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)

Social Prescriber: Paul Chouls (available 1st & 3rd Wednesdays at 10.30am-12.30pm in The Café at St Andrew's Church, or via the Medical Practice)

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:

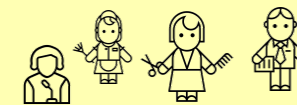
(includes Hinchley Wood, Claygate and Oxshott, east of the railway line)

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@hrcaregroup.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, Fair Oak 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
- Cobham Probuss:** club for retired or semi-retired gentlemen. Meets 1st Tuesday in month at 9.30 for 10am at Churchgate House, Cobham. Contact: Adrian Scheele (01372 436091 or 07759 892054 or adrianscheele@me.com)
- 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 annellbell121@yahoo.co.uk) www.cerclefrancais-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. Contact 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 Net Zero:** Oxshott residents working to reduce our carbon emissions. Full details and contact via the website (www.oxshottnetzero.org.uk)
- Oxshott Repair Café,** by Oxshott Net Zero: Meets 10am-12.30pm, 3rd Saturday of the month (except August & December), at St Andrew's Church. Bring something from home in need of repair. Full details on our website (www.oxshottnetzero.org.uk)
- Oxshott Village Sports Club:** Bowls, bridge, cricket, netball, padel, pétanque, squash and 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 7.30pm, in Oxshott Village Centre. Contact: Maggie Day (01932 988501)

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