

THE MAGAZINE
OF THE PARISH OF SUNNINGHILL
AND SOUTH ASCOT

FEBRUARY 2022



BISHOP OLIVIA'S
VISIT TO ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH
SEE PAGES 28-29

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THE MAGAZINE

OF THE PARISH OF SUNNINGHILL
AND SOUTH ASCOT

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FEBRUARY 2022

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FRONT COVER: BISHOP OLIVIA WITH SARAH MORTIMER / MIKE CROSS

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FROM THE EDITOR...



I wonder how many of you have spent their lives under the rule of two Monarchs? Apart from me! King George VI died on February 6th in 1952 from lung cancer aged 56; thus catapulting Princess Elizabeth (as she was then) onto the throne, and promoting her instantly to the



WIKIPEDIA

THE CORONATION OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II, JUNE 1953

role of Queen at the tender age of 25. She had married the Prince Philip in 1947, and at the time of the King's death they were on holiday in Kenya, so also precipitating the Duke of Edinburgh into a much different role than he had been anticipating. Both role models for us all.

And talking of long-term role models, it is great to see the Quince Players back in action again with their "Adventure in Pantoland". (which is reviewed elsewhere in this magazine). They have been going since 1945 and not only kept us entertained, but performing a social function within our community. Cheering up what can be a miserable post-Christmas long haul, with dark nights and cold, miserable weather by means of sparkling panto and colourful inuendo! Not to mention the rest of the year with well-produced drama, musical and comedy. All power to their collective elbows! Looking forward to their next 77 years.

And talking of pantomimes, I'm not saying anything about what has been happening 27 miles east of here regarding scenes worthy of a Gilbert & Sullivan operetta, but sadly, not very funny. It is right to question the direction in which society is heading, and the further we move away from our Christian heritage, the more adrift we become. There is an old hymn which I used to sing at Sunday School when I were a lad; "We have an anchor that keeps the soul steadfast and sure while the billows roll". Well, frankly we don't nowadays (did we ever?); we just roll with the tide, surfing on the latest fad. I guess being kind to animals and putting our rubbish in different bins is a worthy part of it, but it goes deeper than that; we really do need an anchor! And not just for them in parliament and those who proclaim their truth as they see it on social media, but for you and me. In our hearts.

A very Happy and hope-filled New Year to you all.

Mike Cross

Mike Cross
tel 01344 303991
mobile 07737 088423



THE MINISTER'S MESSAGE

One of the most phenomenal concepts in Christian faith is the notion of love, which is undoubtedly at the core of our existence. The truth is there is no Christian faith without love, or dare I say, there is no God without love. *God is love* (1 John 4:8). I thought this would be the best place to start as I write this month's message, perhaps to set the tone for all of us, especially as we begin this year as a parish. I am also reminded that the month of February is known to many as the 'month of love' (maybe this is inspired by Valentine's

Day which falls on the 14th). So why not share a few reflections on this valuable truth of life.

Let's face it, this year will be very important for our parish for many reasons, but I'm particularly noting the appointment of our vicar, which is scheduled for later in the year. Come to think of it, did you know that no matter how attractive the job advertisement we place in *The Church Times* is, or how wonderful our vicarage may be, no minister would even consider coming to this area if we are not a loving and caring community? Yes, this is a dream of every vicar: to sow love in the people that are already making an effort to display God's love to each other. Love is a simple concept yet with powerful significance. Now God will soon be inviting us to a new love relationship with our future lead-pastor (and family). With time, this relationship will be glossy and splendid, but yes, it may also be sour and dull (hopefully not). Regardless, love must stand at the heart of it all. Love is certainly the glue that blends and binds all hearts: it is God's amazing force that heals and reconciles.

Why not make love a resolution? Or perhaps, why not make it our collective commitment for this year? I am sure that you also have your projects and purposes for 2022. Hopefully we can all propose to do our best every day, focusing on a common goal – to love. Sometimes when we make promises in general, we often forget to make promises to love. It's true that loving can be difficult at times, as we can all share our experiences, but we can be reminded that love is a choice that we will have to make, not only for those who receive it, but for ourselves – we love as we recognize that we have been loved too, by God. And he gave himself for us.

As we continue with our deliberations this month, please join me in this prayer by Debbie McDaniel.

Dear God, Thank you that you are a loving, gracious God. Thank you that you've offered us forgiveness and the gift of new life in you. Thank you that your love is perfect, it never fails, and that nothing can separate us from your love. We pray that our lives would be filled and overflowing with the power of your love so we can make a difference in this world and bring honour to you. We ask for your help in reminding us that the most important things are not what we do outwardly, it's not based on any talent or gift, but the most significant thing we can do in this life is simply to love you and to choose to love others. Amen

Vusi (Associate Minister)

SERVICES IN THE PARISH FEBRUARY

Our pattern of services is 9:15am and 10:45am at St Michael's and 10:30am and 4pm at All Souls.

Staying safe: We continue to have regard for keeping each other comfortable and safe while Covid remains present in our community – please do talk to us about how you are feeling so we can ensure you are able to enjoy worshipping in our church buildings.

The churchwardens and ministry team continually review the measures we are taking according to latest requirements and guidance regarding managing the situation with COVID. Check our websites for the latest information.

WEEKLY SUNDAY WORSHIP 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th February

9:15am ST MICHAEL'S INFORMAL SERVICE – Every Sunday

Join us for our informal, child-friendly, 30-minute service. With lots of interaction, music and some space for reflection, discover the joy of worshipping together.

Contact Rev Sarah Mortimer for more info – sarah@ssaparish.org

10:45am ST MICHAEL'S TRADITIONAL SERVICE – Alternating between Morning Prayer and Holy Communion, we use the traditional liturgy of the *Book of Common Prayer*, hymns, prayers, bible readings and sermon to help sustain us spiritually week by week.

Contact the St Michael's Office for more info – admin@ssaparish.org

10:30am ALL SOULS WORSHIP – We gather each week, using the best of traditional and contemporary worship, to meet with God through hymns, readings, preaching and prayer. We use a varied pattern of services with Holy Communion every other week. Café Church is back on the first Sunday of the month. For **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Contact nicola@allsoulsascot.org. A warm welcome awaits you.

Contact Rev Vusi Mabuza for more info – vusi@allsoulsascot.org



4pm ASCOT@4 AT ALL SOULS – Informal afternoon service for young people and adults. particularly families with 9-15 year-olds. We restart

on 9th January 2022. Contact Rev Tim Norman for more info – tim@allsoulsascot.org

SPECIAL SERVICES

• **Sunday 6th February** – We welcome the Archdeacon of Berkshire, the Venerable Stephen Pullin to our 10:30am service at All Souls.

LOOKING AHEAD

• **Wednesday 2nd March** – 8pm **Ash Wednesday** Holy Communion at All Souls.

Look out for our further plans for Lent in our weekly newsheets and on our websites.

Many of our regular activities and events are now returning. These will be publicised via our weekly newsletter, website and Facebook pages.



MORNING AND EVENING PRAYER

- Please join us on Tuesdays and Thursdays for Morning Prayer at 9:15am at All Souls
- Please join us on Fridays for an informal Evening Prayer at 5:30pm at St Michael's

E-PRAYER CHAIN

• Should you have any prayer requests for yourself or anyone you know, then send them to mary@ssaparish.org; **01344 624535**, who will pass your message to our prayer team in confidence.



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TODDLER PRAISE

• 10:30am on Tuesdays. Our popular, weekly preschool service at All Souls' with Nicola Shaw is meeting again. A great time to share God, faith and life with your little ones and other parents. Contact nicola@allsoulsascot.org to find out the latest information

YOUTH WORK

• Rev Sarah Mortimer oversees our youth work. Look out for information at www.ssaparish.org/youth. Contact sarah@ssaparish.org to be added to the youth mailing list

PARISH LETTER

• Our weekly newsletter contains all of the latest updates as well as a note of spiritual encouragement from our ministry team. To receive this letter please contact our church office, admin@ssaparish.org / 01344 620727



PARISH REGISTERS



BAPTISMS

28th November Isla Stephenson

FUNERALS, MEMORIALS, CREMATIONS AND INTERMENT OF ASHES

1st December George Hodgson
9th December Michael David Rogers
20th December Roma Young
10th January Phyllis Rona Nash



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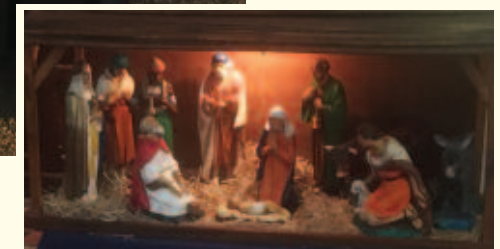
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

On Sunday 2nd January, the service led by Reverend Sarah Mortimer, our curate at St Michael & All Angels church, was most unusual in that we were given a very interesting sermon by Sarah's husband, Reverend Sam Mortimer, who is a curate at Binfield.

Between Sarah and our two church wardens, Vanessa and Kate, St Michael's has coped really well with all the restrictions necessary.

The other photo shows the beautiful nativity crib.

Hilary Mear




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Contact Bernice or Nora on **01344 528022** or email bernice@levertonkerr.com if you're thinking about selling your property, or need advice on your next move.

THE RENOVATION OF ST MICHAEL'S CAR PARK

By the time you read this, visitors to St Michael's Church and the graveyard will be enjoying the newly renovated car park. Gone will be the potholes and uneven surface and instead there will be an expanse of new, even shingle with a repainted barrier and the entrance will be hugely improved with marking stones.

This work has taken place thanks to the amazing generosity of LAURENCE AND LUCY BUTCHER, members of our community who wanted to improve the area for the benefit not just of the Church but all those who use the car park when visiting the graves of loved ones or just going for a walk. Talking to the contractors – Paul White Garden Contractors – they said they had been very surprised by the large number of cars that they have had to ask to park on the road while the work has been going on. But this was no surprise to us as we know many people come to St Michael's to enjoy the peace of the grounds as well as pop into the church itself now that it's open from 10am to 4pm every day.

The good news of this donation is a wonderful start to a new year when we hope to find a new Vicar to lead the congregations in the Parish of Sunninghill and South Ascot. Sadly, as a result of the difficulties of the last 2 years of Covid

restrictions, both St Michael's and All Souls in South Ascot are suffering financial difficulties so if you would like to make a donation to help us maintain our beautiful churches and also enable us to be more proactive in our communities, please contact any of the Churchwardens. Our contact details are in the listing of the Parish 'who's who' at the back of this magazine.

Finally, please everyone note that once the renovation is completed, the car park



will be opened from 10am to 4pm each day. It will be locked at 4pm and any cars left in the car park after this time will need to pay a release fee. Thank you for your cooperation.

*The Churchwardens of
St Michael & All Angels, Sunninghill,
Vanessa Cummings and Kate Bolsover*

*The Churchwardens of
All Souls, South Ascot
Aled Jones and Sandra Stansfield*



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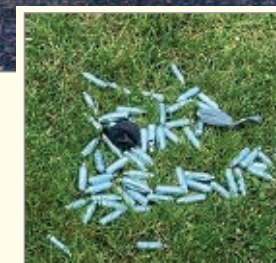


Sunninghill and Ascot Parish Council would like to say a big 'Thank You' to all our volunteers for their great efforts in keeping the Parish tidy throughout the last year. There is no doubt the Parish is a cleaner place to live thanks to your selfless efforts.

The Litter Squad has had new recruits over the recent months, with families joining us, and several children as part of their Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Volunteers have been getting in amongst the leaves to dig out cans and bottles, sweeping broken glass from pavements and they've been into the woods to clear environmentally damaging dumped paint pots and waste. Volunteers at our Christmas pick were treated to tea and coffee by the Duke Pub in Sunninghill.

We are aware of an increase in dumped nitrous oxide canisters (pictured) causing a mess in various places around our Parish. In addition to the risks associated with use of this drug, littering is simply unacceptable and it is also extremely wasteful. These canisters, like much of the litter we find, can be recycled ad infinitum. The Litter Squad collects these canisters on all our picks and we send them to a scrap metal dealer locally, we are saving up to buy a trolley to aid us in our picks. If you find used nitrous oxide canisters you can flag them to the Litter Squad via our Facebook Group, or report the litter to RBWM here: www.rbwm.gov.uk/home/transport-and-



streets/report-problem-littering

Information on the risks of nitrous oxide use can be found here:

www.talktofrank.com/drug/nitrous-oxide

To create the clean parks, woods and streets we all want to see, picking up litter is an important small step. If you'd like to be part of our volunteering efforts please email the Clerk at the address below.

Helen Goodwin
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THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE PREPARATIONS

In 2022, Her Majesty The Queen will become the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee after seventy years of service, having acceded to the throne on 6 February 1952.

National celebrations have now been revealed and will be held from 2-5 June and continue throughout the year. How are we celebrating in our own community? The Sunninghill and South Ascot parish can celebrate in several ways:

► Thursday 2 June

Party in the Park and Beacon Lighting at the Victory Field. The Beacon requires an application by the Council as it is a matter of National and Commonwealth precision timing.

► Friday 3 June

Concert in "last night of the proms" style.

► Sunday 5 June

The Big Jubilee Lunch (or street party).

The Council will announce their own plans for the Party in the Park. The Big Jubilee Lunch is yet to be organised. However, we are off to a good start for a wonderful concert. When Thames Hospice held a concert for the Diamond Jubilee, it was performed with the wonderful acoustics at St Michael & All Angels church and lots of people from the community took part including Berkshire Brass, Rock Choir, Sunningdale Savoy Chorus, Quince Players and Sunninghill Singers as well as the joint

choirs of St Michael's and All Souls churches. We were also joined by a former High Sheriff of Berkshire.

The concert theme for 2022 will be based on the Four Nations and the Commonwealth. We need all sorts of helpers, from sound and lighting technicians to refreshment makers. Be part of something unique that celebrates and brings our community together. It will be great!

I hope to update you on our progress as we head towards June. Please do email me if you would like to help.

Melanie Trapnell
melanie@trapnell.co.uk





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SUNNINGHILL BROWNIES



At the end of November, we held our very own Brownie party. The Brownies spent one week planning and then put everything into action the next week. Each patrol had a different role, one decorating the hut, another preparing food and the final group entertaining everyone with some games. It was a fun night for all, and the brownies even cleared up after themselves!

Brownies came together to do something nice for the residents of Gracewell care home in Ascot. We were not able to visit the residents this year but still wanted to make Christmas special so decorated and wrote greeting cards. We also coloured in some tree ornaments for them which got everyone into the Christmas spirit!

For our final meeting of the term, the

*Young Leader Ruby
2nd South Ascot Brownies*





Happy New Year all!
The end of 2021 was full of learning and fun for our Beavers section, Rob our friendly neighbourhood fireman invested even more of his time coming to see our younger ones having previously visited our Cubs – THANKS ROB! We were also kindly visited by two of our parents, one running a fascinating session about Poland, teaching the Beavers about the country, some of the language and some obligatory food tasting, THANKS DIANA. We also had a fabulous session on First Aid run by Bella Sousa, assisted by Mum Emma, THANKS BOTH – am not sure that the pictures do justice to everything you taught us. We finished the Autumn Term with a bonfire, smores and carols and



also decorated 4 mini Christmas trees for the church.

The Cubs did a great spread of activities too – literally throwing themselves into Ice-skating, a creative evening making canvas bags and an invention evening making their ideas out of recycling. Congratulations to Alex, Toby and Ethan who all earned their Silver Award which is the Highest Award they can receive at this level – a great reward for all their hard work.

Volunteers to help run the various groups are always welcome. To get involved as a volunteer, please email

1stsouthascotscoutgroup@gmail.com

Have a great 2022!

James Brown, Beaver Leader

HISTORIC Sunninghill AND DISTRICT

WE ARE GRATEFUL TO NEIL PARKER AND THE MEMBERS OF THE 'HISTORICAL SUNNINGHILL, SUNNINGDALE, ASCOT AND SURROUNDING AREAS' BLOG FOR PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE MATERIAL FROM THEIR FACEBOOK PAGES.



ALL SOULS CHURCH SOUTH ASCOT, I GOT MARRIED IN THIS CHURCH IN 1977.

AMANDA GALE

THE CHURCH I WAS MARRIED IN, 1966. LOVELY OLD CHURCH

GILLIAN COOPER

GOSH - BAPTISED AND CONFIRMED HERE. SEB JONES WAS THE VICAR AND I SANG IN THE CHOIR IN THE 1980s

ANITA MAINWARING



AMANDA GALE

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH SUNNINGDALE BEFORE THE CLOCK AND WAR MEMORIAL WERE INSTALLED.

ADRIAN TURNER

I WAS CHRISTENED THERE IN 1962. I WAS TAKEN UP THE TOWER, WHEN I WAS ABOUT 12, TO HELP WITH THE CLOCK BY MR PACK, WHO RAN THE GARAGE OPPOSITE.

CLIVE REDRUP



ADRIAN TURNER

AH... THE GOOD OLD DAYS DOWN THE CHUKKA FOR A FEW - AND ROAST POTATOES SUNDAY LUNCHTIME WITH RAY & LINDA. I FIGURE IT WENT FROM THE SEVEN STARS PUB TO THE CHUKKA AROUND 1986/87 UNTIL THE EARLY TO MID NINETIES I GUESS.

GEORGE REEVES

I'M NOW WAITING FOR SOMEONE TO COME ON AND SAY THEY REMEMBER WHEN IT WAS THE TOLL HOUSE FOR THE WINDSOR FOREST TURNPIKE TRUST.

RICH POLHILL

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DAVID GINGER



DAVID GINGER

ASCOT STATION. NICKNAMED "U-BOATS", THESE LOCOMOTIVES WERE BUILT BETWEEN 1928 AND 1931, DESIGNED BY MAUNSELL. THE U-CLASS SAW CONTINUOUS USE UNTIL 1966, SERVING THE SOUTHERN AND FINALLY BRITISH RAILWAYS. NOWADAYS IT WOULD COST ME ABOUT £1,850 TO DRIVE A STEAM ENGINE FOR ONE DAY - TIMES HAVE CHANGED SOMEWHAT!

DAVID GINGER

I IMAGINE THAT IS THE AREA TO THE NORTH OF PLATFORM 1 THAT WAS TO BECOME THE STATION CAR PARK.

ANDY SOLLY

IT WAS THE PARCEL DOCK, AND FOR ANYTHING THAT NEEDED LOADING AND UNLOADING, INCLUDING BILLY SMART'S ELEPHANTS!

DAVID SMITH

WE USED TO WATCH THE ELEPHANTS COMING OFF THE TRAIN. WHEN THE CIRCUS WAS ON THE PLAYING FIELDS AT SOUTH ASCOT.

DAWN SOUTHA

AWW, SUCH GOOD MEMORIES, MY DAD USED TO TAKE ME UP TO THE STATION. I REMEMBER HOLDING HIS HAND WITH EXCITEMENT TO WATCH THE ELEPHANTS DISMOUNT THE TRAIN AND THEY WOULD WALK TAIL AND TRUNK IN A LINE OUT OF THE STATION.

AMANDA GALE

I WAS BORN AT THE STATION. WE LIVED IN THE FLAT ABOVE THE STATION; MY DAD WAS A TRAIN DRIVER.

ANGIE WOOTON



DAVID GINGER

IMPORTANT ADVICE FROM RBWM TRADING STANDARDS

Are you dealing with a Genuine Juliet or a Rogue Romeo?

Trading Standards help protect vulnerable residents from an array of scams which are constantly evolving in different and innovative guises. With Valentine's Day approaching this month, when love is in the air, we should give a virtual hug and look out for our friends and neighbours who might have been struck by a romance scam – a charlatan Cupid.

Thames Valley Police have asked us to share some knowledge on this topic and D.I. Duncan Wynn helps answer some of the common questions:

WHAT IS A ROMANCE FRAUD?

Romance fraud happens when you think you've met the perfect partner through an online dating website or app, but the other person is using a fake profile to form a relationship with you. They're using the site to gain your trust and ask you for money or enough personal information to steal your



identity.

HOW DOES IT HAPPEN?

Romance fraudsters are masters of manipulation and will go to great lengths to create a false reality in which an individual feels that they are making reasonable and rational decisions.

WILL WE FACE DENIAL? The challenge for enforcement agencies such as Trading Standards, family members and friends of romance fraud victims is being able to disrupt the false reality created to enable the victim to see the situation for what it really is – fraud.

Figures from Action Fraud give us an idea of the scale of romance fraud: In 2017, romance fraud resulted in Brits being defrauded by £41 million, equating to £11,500 per victim. City of London Police saw a report of romance fraud once in every three hours. In 2018, reports made to Action Fraud revealed a loss of over £50 million, a



Always

- Be wary of revealing personal information about yourself online.
- Remain on the dating site's messaging platform if contact was via a dating site.
- Remember that anyone can pretend to be anyone they want to be online.
- Be wary if you are encouraged to keep things from your family and friends.
- Be wary of anyone asking lots of questions about you but not revealing much about themselves.
- **STOP:** Taking a moment to stop and think before parting with your money or information could keep you safe.
- **CHALLENGE:** Could it be fake? It's ok to reject, refuse or ignore any requests. Only criminals will try to rush or panic you.
- **PROTECT:** Contact your bank immediately if you think you've fallen for a scam and report it to Action Fraud.

27% increase since the previous year. With the effects of lockdown and Covid, the figures are now expected to be even higher.

Dr Elisabeth Carter from the University of Roehampton has studied examples from real romance fraudsters and has discovered how they work:

Romance fraudsters use language to manipulate, persuade and exploit. They distort their victims' perception of reality in a similar way to grooming, domestic abuse and coercive control. The victim can feel they are making decisions that are rational and reasonable, but this is what makes it difficult for them to recognise when it is happening, however obvious it may seem to those on the outside. Fraudsters work hard to make sure that when they ask for money, and require urgency or secrecy from the victim, it doesn't set off alarm bells. Unsafe requests such as these are disguised and can be hidden in stories that seem expected and reasonable, such as in a fraudster's cleverly designed 'reluctant' admission of

Never

No matter how long you've been speaking to someone online and how much you trust them,

- Never send them any money.
- Never allow them access to your bank account.
- Never transfer money on their behalf.
- Never take a loan out for them.
- Never provide copies of your personal documents such as passports or driving licenses.
- Never invest your own money on their behalf or on their advice.
- Never purchase and send the codes on gift cards from Amazon or iTunes.
- Never agree to receive or send any parcels on their behalf (such as mobile phones or laptops).

health worries, their vulnerability, or their desire to protect the relationship.

Thames Valley Police have produced a guide to spotting romance fraudsters which gives further sources of support which you can find easily searching online for "TVP romance fraud".



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POETRY CORNER

A POETRY PAGE WITH A DIFFERENCE FOR FEBRUARY

On the 6th February 1952, the then Princess Elizabeth, succeeded to the throne on the tragic death of her father King George VI.

At the time she was on holiday in Kenya, at Treetops Safari Lodge (right). She was with Prince Philip, her husband, whom she married on 20th November 1947. She flew immediately back to London, descending the plane in full mourning as our Queen.



Now, seventy years later, she celebrates her Platinum Jubilee, sadly without her beloved Philip at her side. On the occasion of their Golden Wedding, she referred to Prince Philip in the following words;

"He has quite simply been my strength and stay all these years - I owe him a debt greater than he would ever claim". And poignantly on his death last year: "Grief is the price we pay for love."

During her reign she has watched fourteen Prime Ministers come and go. The world has undergone dramatic changes both good and bad, disasters and tragedies, but through everything the Queen remains steadfast, strong and true to her beliefs.

In 1947, on the occasion of her twenty-first birthday, she addressed the Commonwealth with the following emotive words:

"I declare before you all, that my whole life, whether it be long or short, shall be devoted to your service, and the service of our great imperial family to which we all belong."

Whatever one's feelings about monarchy, no one can deny that her dedication and duty to service throughout the seventy years has ever wavered. She is quite simply an amazing lady, but how can that find expression in poetry?

Thinking very hard, my thoughts again and again returned to this poem. *Invictus* by W.E. Henley, was written in 1875, while the author was undergoing debilitating

treatment for tuberculosis.

The poem expresses defiance, determination and a mood of perseverance and striving when met with unfortunate circumstances. Ultimately it asserts the boundless strength of the human spirit.

In one line it does question faith, which is in direct contrast to the Queen. Her religious faith has remained true and steadfast all her life. It is

an inspiring poem, which quite simply states we must strive to make each day a good day whatever our circumstances.

INVICTUS

*Out of the night that covers me,
Black as the pit from pole to pole,
I thank whatever gods may be,
For my unconquerable soul.*

*In the fell clutch of circumstance,
I have not winced or cried aloud,
Under the bludgeonings of chance,
My head is bloodied but unbowed.*

*Beyond this place of wrath and tears,
Looms but the horror of the shade,
And yet the menace of the years,
Finds, and shall find me unafraid.*

*It matters not how strait the gate,
How charged with punishment the scroll,
I am the master of my fate,
I am the captain of my soul.*

I wish the Queen a glorious jubilee year, and pray that we are all able to celebrate this milestone too. Here's to good weather, good times and the celebration of a lifetime of service and devotion to duty.

Alison Drummings



BISHOP OLIVIA WRITES OF HER EARLY JANUARY VISIT TO ST MICHAEL'S:

I was reflecting on the season of Epiphanytide, through which we travel in the month of January, and on the themes which run through it. It starts of course with the arrival of the mysterious Magi at the stable, with their strange gifts, and the realisation it brings us that the Baby has come not just for one place and people but for all places and all peoples. And then we get four Sundays in which we see more deeply and fully the revealing of Jesus as the Christ – the anointed One. . .

Our challenge is to ponder what it means for our lives, to believe that Jesus was affirmed as God's Son and anointed by God to bring us the Good News, and to believe that he came on a mission to save and heal us. What is our response?

This year the whole of February is the space between Epiphanytide and Lent. Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day) falls on 1st March with Lent beginning on Ash Wednesday (2nd March) when we follow Jesus' calling and journey to the cross over the weeks leading up to Easter. A 'space between' can feel a bit disorienting but it can also be an opportunity to pause and reset the compass of our lives. If we find ourselves in a 'space between', we can use the time to take stock and allow ourselves to be re-oriented by listening to God's voice. Our churches are open for private prayer from 10 till 4 daily and all are welcome to come in, pause, be still and listen.

Sarah Mortimer



A VIEW FROM THE GARDEN

Hopefully it's still not too late to wish you all a happy and healthy New Year! Whilst waiting in anticipation for the fresh shoots of our autumn planted bulbs to push through the soil and nod that Spring is on its way and new life is emerging in our gardens, we hope for the world to be able to start living some normal semblance of life again. I can see my large snowdrops have pushed up and just see the tops of some daffodil bulbs.

This lovely little pink flower of



CLEMATIS FRECKLES

Schizostylis Kaffir Lily came into bloom in December and is still in bloom. My mother gave me a small clump from her garden, and she always used to ask me if I knew what it was. I've spent the last hour researching what it could be and I'm pretty sure I've identified it correctly. I've put my clump in a pot close to my windows so I can get pleasure from seeing it from the warmth of my kitchen. It only seems to start

blooming when it gets cold and is very hardy. It's a member of the Iris family and my plant is *Schizostylis coccinea* Mrs

Hegarty. They can be planted anywhere in moist but well drained soils and are suited to the front of borders. They prefer full sun but can also tolerate some shade. They have long strap like leaves and will form clumps over time. They are also suited to cutting.

I also have a clematis in bloom in my garden, this is over an arch near my patio doors. It's a good idea to plant winter flowering plants close to the house so you can see them from indoors. This is *Clematis cirrhosa* Freckles, very aptly named. Freckles is a large evergreen climber with heavily speckled maroon bell shaped flowers, and it has lovely silky seed-heads after blooming. It enjoys being in full sun and flowers on the previous year's growth. Keep the roots shaded, they don't like getting hot!

Group 3 Clematis should be pruned this month before they start active growth. Group 3 Clematis include late-flowering

species which will be in bloom from summer to late autumn, flowering on stems grown in the same year. Cut all stems down to a pair of strong buds 20-30cm above ground level.

My violas in their hanging baskets and little yellow pansies are soldiering on and keep shining their smiling faces through the winter – very good value for money. Remove faded flowers to stop them setting seed, this will also encourage a flush of new flowers when the weather warms up.

OTHER JOBS FOR

FEBRUARY You can plant roses when it's dry underfoot. Add lots of well-rotted manure or compost to the soil and mulch well after planting and watering. Modern roses should be pruned by the end of this month before they start to shoot. Prune hardy evergreen hedges before the birds start nesting. Trim your lawn edges to create neat and defined borders. Prepare vegetable beds, as long as the ground isn't frozen, by removing all weeds and forking in plenty of compost, and start to warm up the soil with fleece, polythene or cloches ready for sowing in the coming months. Chit your potatoes, pop them in old egg cartons and keep in a cool place to allow sprouting shoots to form before you plant them. Prune overwintered fuchsias to one or two buds on each shoot. Prune apple or pear trees whilst they are still dormant, this is your last chance to do



SCHIZOSTYLIS COCCINEA MRS HEGARTY

so. Top dress fruit bushes with a slow release, potassium rich fertiliser to feed plants.

Check garden structures and put up or repair trellis before everything shoots into growth. Ensure your tools are clean and sharp ready to get into action.

Sort out your seeds and put in order of the month to plant, check your seed trays are cleaned and ready, purchase some seed compost and ensure you have plant labels or used lolly sticks so you can remember what you planted!

Michelle Batt



Safe, healthy and secure for Spring – the Signature Way

Signature at Ascot Grange has an unwavering commitment to creating safe and welcoming environments for our residents. We are proud to announce that all of our residents and staff have now been offered the COVID-19 vaccine, providing total peace of mind and reassurance as we look forward to spring.

We are actively welcoming new residents to Ascot Grange offering assisted living, nursing and dementia care in apartment style accommodation. Residents can enjoy a varied programme of activities and entertainment in expansive communal areas that allow for social distancing.

Safety remains at the forefront of everything we do, having invested in specialist training, equipment and rigorous additional health protocols – often setting industry firsts.

To find out more about how Signature at Ascot Grange can provide total peace of mind for you and your loved ones, please contact Diane or Louise today.

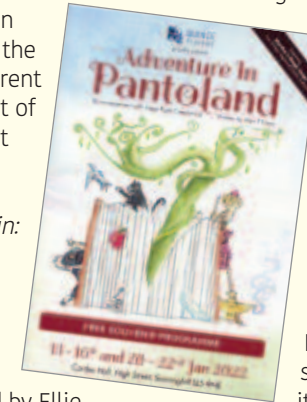
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ADVENTURE IN PANTO LAND QUINCE PLAYERS CORDES HALL 13-16, 20-22 JANUARY

How refreshing it is to see the Quince Players back in action! And a packed audience ready to get life back to normal with their cheers, boos, and “Oh no it isn’t”. Isn’t life wonderful? Oh, yes it is! Ok, so we all had to wear masks, and the orderly division of sections of the audience to get to the bar in a 20-minute interval seemed to work well, despite the fact that I almost missed my turn! That may have been my fault, though, dear Reader, as I am not used to being orderly at the bar!

A small matter; for the production itself was impeccable, the entire cast enthusiastic, and the set design brilliant. The whole premise of the show was to attempt five different pantomimes in one, on account of the main characters having lost their way in the ‘Land of Make Believe’. So we had shortened versions of *Snow White*: *Aladdin*: *Dick Whittington*: *Jack & The Beanstalk* and *Cinderella*, and guess what? They all ended happily ever after despite the combined efforts of Wicked Witch Poison Ivy (darkly played by Ellie Cornes) and her incompetent and sleazy henchperson Wizbad (brilliantly played by Fiona Barker). The fairy godmother, Fairy Honeysuckle held the whole thing together as combined Narrator and Jolly Nice Helpful Person (sweetly played by Nishi Kovvuri). Keeping our heads up and the mood light, the Fool – later to become Buttons, was energetic, wise-cracking, never-ending Joke-Smith, Steve Smith. With some brilliant special effects, and at one point some skilful dancing by Mia Csernus we could believe that the Cordes Hall had grown a hundred foot beanstalk with an Ogre at the top. The scary fee-fi-fo-fum of multi-talented Toby Adamsom had us all cowering in our seats!



There is nothing like a dame, we are told in a show that I don’t think the QP have attempted yet, and expertly coping with various voluminous frocks was Dave Barker, in apparently his first outing as dame, stepmother, mother, widow etc etc. I think he might have found his other side there! And the non-speaking, dumb animals played to perfection by Molly Matthews was a real treat to watch. And talking of treats to watch, well done to the choreography and the realisation thereof by the numerous dwarfs, minions, villagers, courtiers, citizens and ball guests encountered on our Around

The World in 80 minutes plus: all delightfully entertaining, musical and syncopated and all so young and energetic! Where do all these young people come from – you never see them about in the village, at least I don’t. And the band, a talented group of musicians without whom the singing and dancing would fall a bit flat! Now I’m sure I’ve forgotten to mention someone, but who on earth could it be? Cinderella, that’s a clue and

Prince Charming, that’s another one. Now there are two people whose strong stage presence and beautiful singing voices permeated the whole show. I mean of course, Amelie Barker (what, another talented Barker!?), as at home in the kitchen, or as the Belle of the Ball, and Tom Underwood was as ruthless as a giant-killer as he was charming as the Prince at the Ball.

This was a GIANT undertaking for all those involved (and there were many more than I have space to mention, and it just goes to emphasise what we have been missing over the past two years.

Very welcome back, Quince!

Mike Cross



NOTICES



ACTIVITIES AT THE CORDES HALL

DRAMA

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★ Mondays 7:45–10pm

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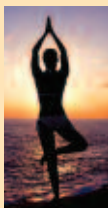
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CORDES HALL CINEMA

FEBRUARY 2022



- ★ **11th February 8pm Respect** (12A) Respect follows the career of Aretha Franklin from childhood through to superstardom.
- ★ **12th February 11am Kids' Club** (£1 for all)
- ★ **2pm Dune** (12A) Dune tells the story of a gifted young man who must travel to a dangerous planet to ensure the future of his people.
- ★ **5pm Spencer** (12A) Kirsten Stewart portrays Princess Diana. Though rumours of a divorce and affairs abound, peace is ordained for the Christmas festivities at the Queens Sandringham Estate.
- ★ **8pm No Time to Die** (12A) Daniel Craig's final outing as Bond, does not disappoint!





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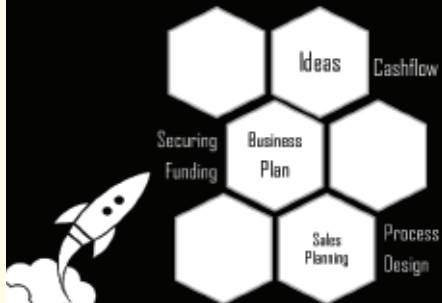
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THE ARTS SOCIETY ASCOT

FEBRUARY LECTURE

Tuesday 1st February at 10:30am (coffee from 9:50am)
at the Church of St Michael and All Angels,
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THE ART OF STAINED GLASS

Nicole Mezey BA MA



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Nicole studied Art History at the Universities of Sussex, York and Paris. She was Senior Lecturer at Queen's University until 2009, working primarily with adults, managing and teaching on both the Part-Time degree and Extra-Mural programmes and conducting annual, international study tours. She also established the Department of Art History, the first in the north of Ireland. Nicole now lives in central London and is a freelance lecturer, working for organisations including National Museums, the National Trust, Queen's University and private cultural bodies. She is a guide lecturer for tours and will shortly embark on her second lecture tour of New Zealand for The Arts Society and ADFAS in Australia. Her publications focus on adult education and the arts

We intend to hold the lecture in St. Michael's Church, but in the event of Covid restrictions being re-imposed, the lecture will be delivered online via Zoom.

If you would like more information, or would like to join us at the lecture, please visit our website at www.theartssocietyascot.org.uk or email us at ascot@theartsociety.org

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THE ARTS SOCIETY ENGLEMERE ASCOT'S EVENING ARTS SOCIETY

Guests are welcome to join us on Zoom for our lecture

TUESDAY 8th FEBRUARY AT 7:30 FOR 7:45pm

POST WAR AUSTRALIAN PAINTING A lecture by Paul Chapman



MEN'S WEAR, 1953, JOHN BRACK

Western Art from 'Down Under' is often overlooked and neglected, but there is a large number of talented and inventive painters who rose to prominence in the post-World War II era. Paul Chapman will help us understand and appreciate the modern art of Australia and its place in the history of Western Art with references to painters like Sidney Nolan and Arthur Boyd working in a naive and expressive

style, Fred Williams' landscapes and John Brack's figurative paintings. Paul will also reference works by John Olsen, Brett Whiteley and Jeffery Smart.

Paul is an Art Historian and a National Gallery trained guide with many years of experience working in education. As a freelance Paul delivers courses and lectures for a wide range of educational organisations. He has also given talks and tours for art associations/societies in Museums and Galleries in the UK and Europe. As a writer, Paul has published a book, which examines the subject of cultural crossovers and appropriations in 20th century painting. He also has a long-standing commitment, in conjunction with the National Gallery, as a tour guide at the Longford Castle art collection.

There will an opportunity to put questions to the lecturer.

Further detail of the event is available on our website

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December/Jan 2023 issue	26th November
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Do please 'Like' and 'Share' the **All Souls' Church, South Ascot** Facebook page for up to date news on what's going on in the church



Also, I would recommend the 'Pray as you Go' app. It's a lovely 10-12 minutes of music, bible reading, contemplation and time to think. A great way to start the day.

Fiona Jones

NOTICES



NEED A FRIEND?

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- Financial problems?

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(Matthew 11:28)

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Contact any of the ministry team and/or mary@ssaparish.org for prayer.

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

sudoku ¹⁵²

The solution to Sudoku 151:

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

All you need to do is to fill in all of the 81 squares in the puzzle so that each column of 9, each row of 9 and each 3 x 3 square includes every number from 1-9. No prizes – just an enormous amount of satisfaction!

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▲ Can anyone suggest what the driver of this vehicle might have been saying?
 Entries to the Deputy Editor: Roger Kohn, Shrubshill Cottage, London Road, Sunningdale, Berkshire SL5 0JZ or email: rogerkohn@talktalk.net
 * to reach us no later than Thursday 17th February please.

◀ Congratulations to last month's joint winners, Pami Cross (A) and Steve Heathcote (B). Commendations go to Mimi Smyth, Matt Newman, Di Heathcote and Pauline Austin.

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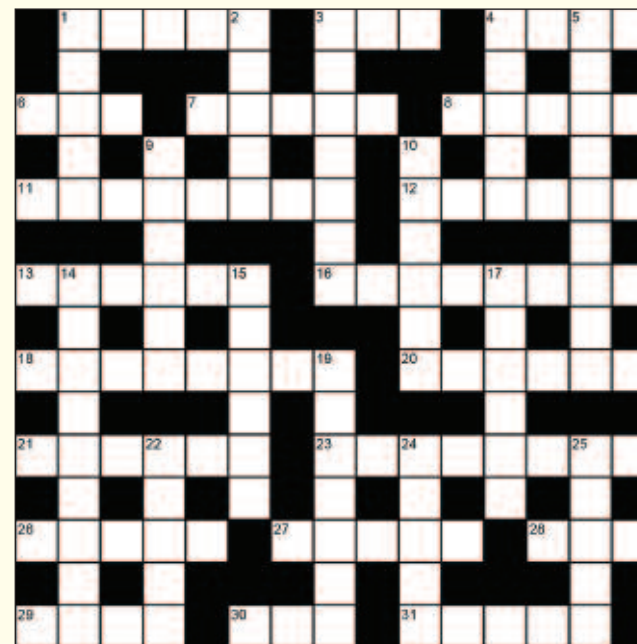
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CRYPTIC CROSSWORD EX CRUCUM NO.211



The answers to Crossword no.211 will be published in the next issue.

The answers to Crossword no.210 were:



*God save our gracious Queen
With the longest reign
That's ever been.
The first five clues spell out a date
On which we're going to celebrate!*

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ACROSS

- Part of a ponytail made into another hairdo (5)
- Can have element of Sn? (3)
- Without Queen, Count feeling stunned (4)
- We would return shortly to this on the grass in the morning? (3)
- Young William to get the goat perhaps. (5)
- Scallop that is missing sovereign (5)
- Word play around pear tree? (8)
- First follow idiot to help (6)
- Uber came round after church for angelic child (6)
- Masters of Ceremony who help make breakfast? (8)
- Rome, up moves for having government representative (4,1,1)
- Black eyes hide secret of manservant (6)
- Instrumentalist from Bedfordshire town, reportedly? (8)
- With 7, she brings up the kids (5)
- Headgear worth five shillings, perhaps! (5)
- Jewel young Margaret returned (3)
- Chances are, they're strange (4)
- Expert lost friend in 10 (3)
- Yardstick for Her Majesty? (5)

DOWN

- A bit of tranquility, it's said (5)
- Twits dance this? (5)
- Everyone in exam will be the highest (7)
- Objects. No sun coming out (5)
- Eddy left marmoset injured (9)
- Backer on part exchange (6)
- At first Harry and Philip had a zany and real dynamic for rough and tumble (9)
- The French boy Napoleon uncovered beheaded Queen (6)
- Her Majesty's seat around North E. (6)
- The Queen gulps madly on a binge (7)
- Monarchs, not one skiing badly (5)
- 15 taken here, by tug boat? (5)
- Lance mended spare weapon (5)

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DAILY PRAYER FOR OUR COMMUNITY, FEBRUARY

Please use these bible readings, street names and weekly prayers to help you to pray for our community. If you would like pray for anything then please email mary@ssaparish.org or contact our church office. All requests are kept in strict confidence.

01	Princes gate	Genesis 18.16-end	Almighty and everliving God Clothed in majesty, Whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple, In substance of our flesh: Grant that we may be presented to you With pure and clean hearts, By your son Jesus Christ our Lord, Who is alive and reigns with you, In the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God, now and for ever.
02	Pump Lane	Luke 2.22-40 (Candlemas)	
03	Queens Hill Rise	Genesis 21.1-21	
04	Queens Place	Genesis 22.1-19	
05	Queens Road	Genesis 23	
06	Quince Close	Luke 5.1-11	
07	Ravensdale Road	Leviticus 19.1-18	
08	Regents Walk	Leviticus 23.1-22	O God, you know us to be set In the midst of so many great dangers, That by reason of the frailty of our nature We cannot always stand upright: Grant to us such strength and protection As may support us in all dangers And carry us through all temptations; Through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, Who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit one God, now and for ever.
09	Royal Victoria Gdns	Leviticus 23.23-end	
10	School Road	Leviticus 24.1-9	
11	Silwood Close	Leviticus 25.1-24	
12	Silwood Park	Numbers 6.1-5	
13	Silwood Road	Luke 6.17-26	
14	Spring Gardens	Genesis 24.1-28	
15	St George's Lane	Genesis 24.29-end	Almighty God, Who alone can bring order To the unruly wills and passions of sinful humanity: Give your people grace so to love what you command And to desire what you promise, That among the many changes of this world, Our hearts may surely there be fixed Where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, Who is alive and reigns with you, In the unity of the Holy Spirit One God, now and for ever.
16	St Mary's Hill	Genesis 25.7-11,19-end	
17	St Mary's Road	Genesis 26.34-27.40	
18	Stanmore Close	Genesis 27.41-28.end	
19	Sunninghill Close	Genesis 29.1-30	
20	Sunninghill High St	Luke 8.22-25	
21	Sunnybank	Genesis 29.31-30.24	
22	Tenby Drive	Genesis 31.25-32.2	Almighty God, You have created the heavens and the earth And made us in your own image: Teach us to discern your hand in all your works And your likeness in all your children; Through Jesus christ your Son our Lord, Who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things, now and forever
23	The Covert	Genesis 31.25-32.2	
24	The Poplars	Genesis 32.3-30	
25	The Terrace	Genesis 33.1-17	
26	Truss Hill Road	Genesis 35	
27	Upper Village Rd	Luke 9.28-36	
28	Vicarage Gdns	Genesis 37.1-11	

WHO'S WHO

During the vacancy, (between vicars), we have a good team of people keeping church up and running and open to all on Sundays and throughout the week. Come and visit and please don't hesitate to get in touch should you need anything or have any questions. All their contact details can be found below. Here are some of the people to look out for:



Rev Sarah Mortimer Rev Vusi Mabuza Rev Tim Norman

VICAR	<i>Position vacant</i>	
CURATE	Rev Sarah Mortimer	07876 188519
	<i>Day off: Friday</i>	sarah@ssaparish.org
ASSOCIATE MINISTER FOR ALL SOULS	Rev Vusi Mabuza	vusi@allsoulsascot.org
ASSOCIATE MINISTER for Ascot@4	Rev Tim Norman	tim@allsoulsascot.org
	Vusi and Tim are available on Sundays and by appointment	
LICENSED LAY MINISTERS	Mike Francescon LLM	contact via Church Office
	Mary Nichols LLM	01344 624535
PARISH CARE NETWORK / e-PRAYER CHAIN		mary@ssaparish.org
MAGAZINE EDITOR	Mike Cross	07737 088423
		magazine@ssaparish.org
MAGAZINE DEPUTY EDITOR	Roger Kohn	01344 622278
		rogerkohn@talktalk.net
MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTION	Lyndsey McNair	07703 229057
		magazine@ssaparish.org
MAGAZINE ADVERTISING	Claire Woods	07791 203674
		advertising@ssaparish.org

OFFICERS

TREASURER	Marnie Offord	treasurer@ssaparish.org
ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER	Nicola Hughes	admin@ssaparish.org
INTERIM PCC SECRETARY	Andrew Trapnell	contact via Church Office

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The Vicar (position vacant), Church Wardens, LLM Representative Mary Nichols and: Rev Sarah Mortimer, Rev Vusi Mabuza, Andrew Trapnell, Marnie Offord, Mike Francescon, Liz Moore, Fiona Jones, Anna Catheya, Charlotte Stokes, Cliffe Chermiside, Lyndsey McNair, Arabella Cameron, Fiona Thomson, Keith Thomson, Rosie Allen.

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CHURCHWARDENS	Vanessa Cummings	vanessa@ssaparish.org
	Kate Bolsover	kate@ssaparish.org
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC	Camilla Jarnot	music@ssaparish.org
BAPTISMS	Church Office	admin@ssaparish.org
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CHURCHWARDENS	Aled Jones	aled@allsoulsascot.org
	Sandra Stansfield	djandsdj53@hotmail.com
MUSIC	Judith Usher	
CHILDREN & FAMILIES	Nicola Shaw	nicola@allsoulsascot.org
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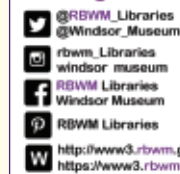
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