

THE MAGAZINE  
OF THE PARISH OF SUNNINGHILL  
AND SOUTH ASCOT

MARCH 2022



BOOKS OF HOURS - THE ARTS SOCIETY ASCOT LECTURE  
see page 37

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# THE MAGAZINE

OF THE PARISH OF SUNNINGHILL  
AND SOUTH ASCOT

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**MARCH 2022**

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**FROM THE EDITOR...**



As I gaze out of the window, here at Magazine Towers, the world looks sunny and bright, but as it hits our myriad information portals, seems a very troubled place. We are hopefully beginning to see daylight and the legendary green shoots, not only physically, but also metaphorically. The pandemic appears to be easing, and I do hope that you have come through that without too much sorrow as I know many have been affected by it in one way or the other. We emerge from that, of course, only to find ourselves faced with soaring energy prices and much trouble in the eastern part of our continent. It was ever so. In the *Old Testament*, in the *Book of Job*, the author says this: “How frail is humanity! How short is life, how full of trouble!” But the again John says “for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith.” So, we take our choice; we can either worry about everything or we can pull up our skirts and look on the bright side of life. Sometimes very hard I know, but it’s always worth a try.



In search of some uplifting light relief, we at Magazine Towers had a trip out a few weeks ago, to see the very excellent Quince Players' panto. That gave us a lift, but the lift was even higher to see so many people back in circulation, joining in the jolly jinks! And looking forward, what do I see on the horizon, the Wheelbarrow race is back! And in the Spring (Bank Holiday, May 2nd); so hopefully a warmer prospect than it's old New Year's Day slot! So, dust off those old wheelbarrows, grease the wheel, (maybe borrow one from Monty Don, if you don't have one to hand), get your family or colleagues in training and sign up! It's a great event and one which involves the whole village. It'll not only lift your spirits but lift the fortunes of the various charities which it supports. The details can be found on page 29 of this magazine. At the time of writing, we are due to pay our respects to James Bond at the Cordes Hall on Saturday night, so I am hoping that he will have the answer to all the world's problems.

We love to hear from our readers, but if you do write to us, please identify yourself. We've had a letter (yes, a real folded up and posted letter!) but it is typed and signed by “A Parishioner”, so we can't publish it, as we do not know from whence it came. Wishing you all a joyful spring into Spring.

*Mike Cross*

Mike Cross  
tel 01344 303991  
mobile 07737 088423



## THE MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

Did you notice that back in January, no sooner was Christmas over, than our supermarket shelves were being filled with chocolate Easter eggs, which is great for me as a 'Chocoholic'. However, Easter is still six weeks away and before I can indulge in delicious Easter chocolate, as a Christian, I have the season of Lent to travel through.

As this magazine is delivered to the Parish homes at the beginning of March, we begin Lent straightaway as it starts on Ash Wednesday which is the 2nd March this year.

Lent lasts forty days (not including Sundays) and is a time when Christians reflect and prepare for their most joyous celebration on Easter Sunday, when they remember the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ, the highlight of the Christian calendar.

"While Advent, which we celebrated just before Christmas is a celebration and a time of great anticipation, Lent however is more frequently seen as a time of solemn observance and preparation, where we think of Jesus and his journey to the cross and the sacrifice he made by giving his life for the world.

In the Gospel of Matthew chapter 4 we read that, after his Baptism Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit into the wilderness where he fasted and prayed for forty days and nights. In following this example, Lent has been a traditional time for prayerful reflection and fasting by giving something up like treats and luxuries. Alternatively, some people take on an extra commitment which means a giving up of time, which in busy lives is quite a challenge.

Others might prayerfully take on a financial challenge and decide to give more to charity.

In essence it's a time of sacrifice and gratitude for what God has done through Jesus his Son.

So for my journey this Lent I will give up chocolate, in what ever shape or size, or form it may be i.e. solid bar, ice cream, biscuits or cake, as my small sacrifice to hopefully enable me to focus more prayerfully on my relationship with God through Jesus.

I shall attempt to do this by praying, reading my Bible and following a Lenten study guide and give thanks for the blessings I have received in an abundance of forgiveness, hope, assurance, and access to God through prayer that comes with knowing Jesus.

Just as we carefully prepare for events in our personal lives, like a wedding, or birthday, Lent invites us to make our minds and hearts ready for remembering Jesus' life, death, and resurrection.

How will you spend Lent?

*Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.*

(Ephesians 3 v 20 - 21)

May God richly bless you all over this Lenten season!

Love, Nicola

## SERVICES IN THE PARISH MARCH

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. Currently:*

- *Masks are no longer mandatory but please feel free to wear one if you wish. At All Souls' we ask that masks are worn during singing.*
- *Singing has now resumed at St Michael's.*
- *There is no longer socially distancing seating in either Church, however, please feel free to move if you are uncomfortable at any point.*
- *Very importantly, we ask that if you are feeling at all unwell – even if you've not tested positive for Covid – please stay at home to keep everyone safe from any infection.*

*Check our websites for the latest information.*

### WEEKLY SUNDAY WORSHIP 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th March

#### 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:nicola@allsoulsascot.org). A warm welcome awaits you. Contact Rev Vusi Mabuza for more info – [vusi@allsoulsascot.org](mailto:vusi@allsoulsascot.org)



**4pm ASCOT@4 AT ALL SOULS** – Informal afternoon service for young people and adults, particularly families with 9-15 year-olds. Contact Rev Tim Norman for more info – [tim@allsoulsascot.org](mailto:tim@allsoulsascot.org)

#### SPECIAL SERVICES

- **Wednesday 2nd March (Ash Wednesday)** – Join us for a special 8pm Holy Communion at All Souls.
- **Sunday 6th March (First Sunday in Lent)** – To mark the first Sunday in Lent there is an 8am Holy Communion Service at St Michael's.
- **Sunday 27th March is Mothering Sunday** Our services are 10:30am at All Souls and there will be one service at 10am at St Michael's combining both the 9:15am and 10:45am congregations.





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**LOOKING AHEAD**

- The details of special services and events for **Holy Week** and **Easter** will appear in the April magazine.
- **Sunday 17th April Easter Sunday** Services are 10am at St Michael's and 10:30am at All Souls
- 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 8:45am 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.

**HELP!**

- We continue to be able to help anyone in need, either by providing that help ourselves or by connecting you up with other local charities and resources. Please do get in touch if you or anyone you know locally is in need. **help@ssaparish.org** or tel **01344 624535**

**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**

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**NEWS FROM  
SUNNINGHILL & ASCOT  
PARISH COUNCIL**



**PARISH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY – 23rd MARCH**

Did you know that all Parish and Town Councils throughout England are required by law to hold an Annual Parish Meeting, which must take place between 1st March and 1st June?

Sunninghill & Ascot Parish Council Annual Assembly will be held on Wednesday, 23 March at 7:30pm at St George's School in Ascot.

This is a chance for you to meet your local councillors and hear about what the council has been doing over the last two years and its plans for the coming year and beyond. It is your opportunity to have your say on anything you consider important to the people of the Parish. The local play parks and wildlife areas are a major area of parish council responsibility so do come along to find out what we have planned for these areas. If you are an elector in the parish you are entitled to attend and participate. Lasting about 1½ hours, there will be presentations and an opportunity to discuss future projects, followed by refreshments.



**SAVE THE DATE!**

On Thursday, 2nd June the parish council will host our Party in the Park when we will be marking the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. There will be fairground rides, musical entertainment, activities and stalls. The fun starts at 5:30pm and culminates at 9:45pm with the lighting of the beacon. This is an event not to be missed so put the date in your diary!

*Helen Goodwin  
Clerk to the Parish Council  
01344 623480*

*enquiries@s-a-pc.com  
<https://sunninghillandascotparishcouncil.co.uk>*

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## A VIEW FROM THE GARDEN

The snowdrops are in bloom! I took these pictures on a beautiful but very cold sunny day, brave little flowers! Snowdrops are very hardy and one of the first plants to flower. They prefer moist soil and partial shade. Plant in late April/May and if not possible to plant in late spring, buying just after flowering when the leaves are still green 'in the green' is the next best way of planting snowdrops and they should multiply in time. Savill Gardens have planted snowdrops in amongst drifts of an ornamental black grass which displays the white flowers beautifully and is a lovely planting idea.

My primroses and primulas are in bloom too and I can see some daffodils about to burst into flower. I also have one of my



camellias in bloom, which is the earliest camellia to flower in my garden.

I have been very busy on the seed sowing front, I've two heated propagators on my kitchen windowsill and have germinated some cherry tomatoes for my hanging baskets, I'm trying 'Sweet Baby' this year. I filled coir pots with seed compost almost to the top, watered them, then popped a seed in each and covered with a thin layer of vermiculite, labelled them and popped them in the propagator. Most popped up in a few days. As soon as you see your seeds growing take them out of your propagator, mine have been transferred to another tray with the lid off so they don't rot. I have also planted three types of chillies, Prairie Fire which is a small chilli and



SNOWDROPS



PRIMROSE

will sit happily in a small flowerpot on a sunny windowsill once established. I already had a plant but it's looking a bit tired, so I took one of the chillies off the plant, opened it up and used the seeds inside, a much cheaper way of propagating. I had also bought two packs of chilli seeds - you only get about eight seeds inside. I'm also growing Havana Gold and Habanada, you can propagate these the in the same way as the tomatoes as described above.

Back in December I encouraged you all to turn your front gardens red, white and blue to celebrate the Jubilee. Well, I've just been too organised, I have recently read in the Windsor and Maidenhead residents' newsletter that the borough colour theme this year is purple and white. So, if you've not been super organised you still have time to change your mind. However, in my theme of red, white and blue my sweet peas are doing well and are a few inches high, called Singing the Blues! I'm also propagating Verbena Intensity which is blue, Penstemon Scarlet Queen and Lavender Munstead.

Jobs to do in the garden in March. You can prune both bush and climbing roses, but it's your last chance to do so. When pruning cuts should be no more than ¼ inch above a bud and sloping downwards away from the bud so water does not collect on it. Cut to the appropriate height if a dormant bud is not visible. Cut out dead and crossing stems and aim for well-spaced stems that allow free air flow. Cuts must be clean so use sharp clean tools. Plant early potatoes, we shall be planting ours in pots and potato bags again this year and they are currently chitting in the garage. You should lay them out on trays and keep in a cool dark place until they start to produce shoots. I shall also be top dressing containers with fresh compost, scrape an inch or so off the top and replace with fresh compost. You can also plant some radish out in the vegetable garden and have your first crop within about eight weeks, rocket will also grow well now too.

*Michelle Batt*



CAMELLIA

## IMPORTANT ADVICE FROM RBWM TRADING STANDARDS



at the point where the customer chooses an item, such as menus (including online menus), food delivery platforms and food labels.

**Businesses selling food must:**

- Display the energy content of the food in kilocalories (kcal)
- Reference the size of the portion to which the calorie information relates
- Display the 'statement of daily calorie needs' i.e. 'adults need around 2,000 kcal a day'

This may lead businesses to reformulate portion sizes and ingredients in their dishes to reduce salt, fat and sugar and overall provide a more appealing kcal figure.

The Government have said that the Covid pandemic has highlighted the impact that obesity can have on general health.

It is estimated that overweight and obesity related conditions across the UK cost the NHS £6.1 billion each year. Almost two-thirds (63%) of adults in England are

The Government's wider strategy to tackle obesity has led to new legislation to improve public health which will be enforced by Trading Standards. From 6 April 2022, large businesses will be required to display calorie information on menus and food labels. These rules are designed to help the public make more informed and healthier choices when eating out or getting a takeaway.

"Large businesses" are those with 250 or more employees across the whole entity and will include cafés, restaurants and takeaways. It applies to non-prepacked food and soft drinks that are prepared for customers; that is, food or drink ready for immediate consumption, whether on or off the premises. Home delivery, franchises, and food delivery apps are caught by this too. There are some exemptions such as soup kitchens and hospitals.

The information will need to be displayed



overweight or living with obesity – and 1 in 3 children leave primary school overweight or obese. Last year, Public Health Minister Jo Churchill, said the aim is to make it as easy as possible for people to make healthier food choices for themselves and their families, both in restaurants and at home and to make sure everyone has access to accurate information about the food and drink they order. This view was supported by a Public Health England survey on calorie reduction, where 79% of respondents said they think that menus should include the number of calories in food and drinks.

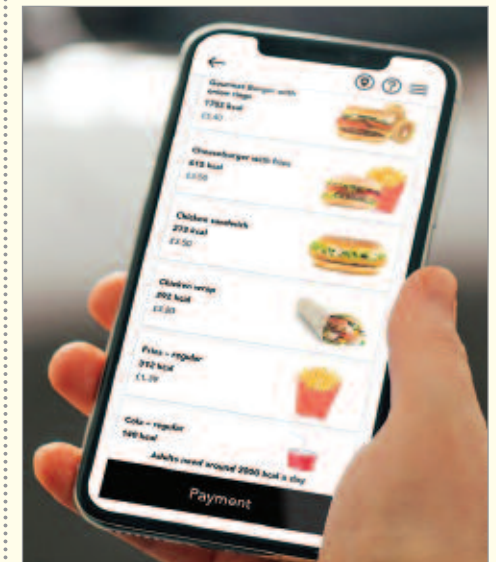
By only requiring large businesses to label calories on menus, it will not impact small, independent businesses. Smaller food businesses might start voluntarily adopting calorie labelling as consumers become more familiar with the information. A future review (set for 5 years' time) might see this extended to smaller businesses.

To ensure the regulations are implemented smoothly, Trading Standards will be working with businesses to help them understand and apply the legislation sensibly and appropriately.

Full guidance is available for affected businesses here:

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/calorie-labelling-in-the-out-of-home-sector/calorie-labelling-in-the-out-of-home-sector-implementation-guidance](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/calorie-labelling-in-the-out-of-home-sector/calorie-labelling-in-the-out-of-home-sector-implementation-guidance)

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## THE SAVOY SINGERS PRESENT

### GILBERT & SULLIVAN'S THE SORCERER

9th–12th MARCH, CAMBERLEY THEATRE

The Savoy Singers know a thing or two about Gilbert & Sullivan, having spent the last 50 years performing at least one G&S Operetta (almost) every year! And 2022 is no exception...

Their next show, the comic masterpiece *The Sorcerer*, is an 80s TV inspired production of one of Gilbert & Sullivan's shortest comic operettas. Director Duncan Hamilton has put an 80s TV spin on his latest adaptation of the (socially distanced) show – think *The Good Life*, *Are You Being Served*, *The Vicar of Dibley*, *Dr Who* and *Absolutely Fabulous* and you're half way there...!

The story follows Alexis and Aline, whose wedding has been postponed due to the lockdown. To celebrate, the village cricket team take on a classic TV celebrity XI, followed by a parish tea on the green. To

cap it all, Alexis has planned a fabulous phantasmagorical phenomenon featuring a phial, a philtre and a phone box! Or in other words, a musical extravaganza, featuring a love potion, mismatched couples, shoulder pads and lots of laughs!

The Savoy Singers' latest musical production is a magical tale set to Sullivan's earliest tunes. With plot twists, magic spells, and recognisable characters from classic 80s TV shows, it promises to be 80s 'tastic entertainment from start to finish!

The Savoy Singers will be performing *The Sorcerer* at Camberley Theatre from Wednesday 9th – Saturday 12th March at 7:30pm, with a Saturday matinee performance at 2.30pm. Tickets are available online at [www.camberleytheatre.co.uk](http://www.camberleytheatre.co.uk) or by calling the Camberley Theatre box office on **01276 707600**.

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## 2nd SOUTH ASCOT BROWNIES

This year we chose 'Smalls for all' as our Christmas charity to do what Brownies like to do and help other people. 'Smalls for all' send underwear to Africa for those who do not have any or enough. Elizabeth wrote a letter to them when we sent off our donation:

*Dear Smalls for All,  
 We raised money to buy knickers by filling Smartie tubes with money (we had to eat the Smarties first). Brown Owl knitted and crocheted covers for chocolate oranges which she sold to raise more money.  
 At the end of term we went to The Lexicon in Bracknell so we could buy knickers from Primark.  
 We bought 24 packs and in all those packs there are roughly 150 pairs of knickers.  
 We really hope these knickers will make a difference to people's lives.*

*2nd South Ascot Brownies*

THE PHOTOS SHOW ELIZABETH WITH THE BOX PACKED READY TO SEND AND THE BROWNIES SHOPPING IN THE LEXICON. WE WENT THERE AND BACK BY TRAIN!



**BEAVERS**  
**cubs**

1st SOUTH ASCOT  
**SCOUTS**



The beginning of the year has had a very International feel for our Beavers section – we celebrated Hogmanay with a Scottish dancing lesson and some caber tossing and then with Chinese New Year - learning all about the Year of the Tiger, playing Chinese games and creating our own money envelopes with our names on. We were also very grateful to have a visit from Graham, a local golfer (and pilot) who taught us all about flying both real aeroplanes and paper ones! We also had a very enlightening trip to the Look Out Discovery Centre and attended a lecture on sound and light, where we all learned something, which was fantastic.

All of the Beavers section would like to thank Dylan who has been helping the section as a volunteer as part of his Duke of Edinburgh project for the last few months!

The cubs have had a varied month with activities ranging from what to do in an emergency, to Scouting values. They also celebrated Chinese New Year making face masks and lanterns and brushed up on their map reading skills, hiking around Ascot.

It has been an exciting and frightening month for our Explorers who had a scavenger hunt, organised by Maisie. Then they were blindfolded and driven to a drop-off, where they had to work out where they were and navigate a safe route back to the hut. Lauren then organised a terrifying escape room where we were locked in an institution. They even squeezed in a climbing session at Wokingham!

1st South Ascot Scout Hut is on Church Road, South Ascot. Beavers, which is for 6–8 year old boys & girls, meet on a Tuesday from 5:45–6:45pm. Cubs, for 8–10½ year olds, meets on a Tuesday from 7–8pm. Scouts, for 10½ to 14 year olds, meets on a Thursday from 7–8:30pm. Explorer Scouts, for 14 to 18 year olds, meets on a Wednesday from 8pm. All meetings are term time only.

Volunteers to help run the various groups are always welcome. To get involved as a volunteer, to rent out the Scout Hut or for further information please email [1stsouthascotscoutgroup@gmail.com](mailto:1stsouthascotscoutgroup@gmail.com)

*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.



DAVID GINGER

MY GRANDFATHER RAN A LITTLE CAFE AT THE STATION BACK IN THE 50'S, IT WAS A LITTLE GREEN HUT. IF ANYONE HAS ANY PHOTOS OF IT I LOVE TO SEE THEM.

JENNY WINTER

WHY IS IT ENTITLED 'WINDLESHAM'?

JANET SANDERS

IT USED TO BE CALLED WINDLESHAM & SUNNINGDALE, LIKE ASCOT USED TO BE CALLED ASCOT & SUNNINGHILL.

DAVID GINGER

LOVE THE WINDLESHAM BIT. I SUPPOSE SUNNINGDALE WAS VERY MINOR AT THE TIME OF SOUTHERN RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION.

MIKE DEARTH

REMEMBER THAT STATION SO WELL, AS A CHILD STANDING ON THE BRIDGE WAITING FOR MY FATHERS TRAIN TO COME IN FROM LONDON. WHEN I WAS OLDER GOING FOR A DRINK AT THE SUNNINGDALE HOTEL.

CAROLINE HAWES

NOBBY CLARKE ON THE PLATFORM; MR BRIXTON IN HIS TAXI OUTSIDE (HE TAUGHT MY MUM TO DRIVE). WE THREE ALSO STOOD ON THE BRIDGE... JUMPING OVER THE GAPS BETWEEN CARRIAGES AS A TRAIN RUSHED UNDERNEATH. STEAM TRAINS, EVEN, IN THE EARLIEST DAYS! THE 'INTERNATIONAL STORES' SHOULDER TO SHOULDER WITH THE LEVEL CROSSING. GILLINGS, JUST UP THE ROAD. MR WHITE IN THE GREENGROCERS. A DREAMSCAPE NOW.

SHIRLEY BURNHAM

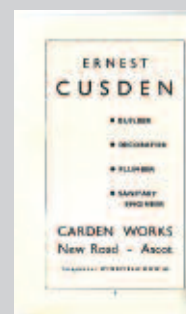
WHAT WONDERFUL MEMORIES THIS PICTURE BRINGS TO ME! I WORKED ON THIS LOVELY LITTLE STATION WAY BACK IN TIME WHEN THERE WAS GAS LIGHTING ON THE STATION AND ALONG THE PLATFORMS. AFTER THE LAST TRAIN FROM LONDON, 11:49, I WOULD WALK THE PLATFORMS WITH A POLE WITH A HOOK ON THE END TO PUT THE LIGHTS OUT. I WORKED WITH NOBBY CLARK, TED REDRUP AND IN THE SIGNAL BOX WAS A VERY GOOD FRIEND OF MINE, SID STEVENSON. I LIVED IN THE RISE AND THE FIRST JOB I HAD FROM SCHOOL WAS AT BROOMHALL FARM - WONDERFUL DAYS. I LIVE IN DEVON NOW AND IN THE SUMMER HOPE TO DO A 'DOWN MEMORY LANE TRIP' AROUND THE AREA FOR A FEW DAYS, A PLACE I LOVED SO MUCH.

NIC COFF



IN THE THROES OF MOVING HOUSE AND TAKING THE OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE A MEGA CHUCK OUT. CAME ACROSS THIS LITTLE GEM HIDING ON OUR BOOKSHELVES...

MARY WILLIAMS



MARY WILLIAMS



## CHEAPSIDE C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

It has been a packed half-term here at Cheapside Primary School. The children have really been getting their teeth into their learning.

In Key Stage 1, the children have been busy travelling the world by air and by boat, visiting the Arctic and travelling rather precariously across the ocean on the Titanic. In Year 3, the children have welcomed some new fishy friends as they have embarked on Maidenhead Aquatics' Fishkeeper Fry project; the children are very much looking forward to their new zebra danios being joined by some more

fish very soon. Year 4 has been exploring the world of the Shang Dynasty and are in the midst of investigating artefacts – even making their own! In upper Key Stage 2, they have been considering children's well-being as part of Children's Mental Health Week and our new Well-being Ambassadors held an assembly to talk to the school about how they will be looking at ways to support well-being across the school.

*Clare Roberts,  
Assistant Headteacher*



## ST MICHAEL'S C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

In April, St Michael's will be welcoming a new Head Teacher, Mr Matthew Thompson. Mr Thompson visited the school recently to meet pupils and staff. We know you will join us in wishing him every success in his new role.

*Helen Miles*

*'I am absolutely delighted to introduce myself as the new Head Teacher of St Michael's. Over the past six years I have been Head of School at White Waltham Academy in Maidenhead, where I started as a teacher. I am married and have two children, Oscar 10 and Ruby 7. In my spare time, I enjoy spending time with my family. I especially love watching my son play*

*football on a Saturday and walking our dog Sonny with my daughter. As a Head Teacher I am passionate about giving all children an outstanding education, providing them with a safe and engaging environment to flourish. I want children to be inspired and have a life long love of learning as we prepare them for secondary school. During visits to St Michael's, I was blown away by the atmosphere; the children are happy, polite and, from the interview I had with the School Council, it is clear that they care greatly about St Michael's. I am very much looking forward to working with the children, staff, governors and parents in the school community.'*

*Matthew Thompson*





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## POETRY CORNER

As I write, it is a beautiful, clear January morning. The sky is bright blue, the bark on the trees surrounding the park glows olive green, whilst the silver birches gleam silver and white. It lifts the soul and the spirit, but above all I can hear birdsong. It is the week of the Great British Bird Watch, and we are blessed to have a myriad of species in our gardens. Birds have given poets inspiration over the years. Perhaps one of the most familiar poems is *Ode to a Skylark* by Shelley.

*Hail to thee blithe spirit,  
 Bird thou never wert,  
 That from heaven or near it,  
 Pourest thy pure heart.*

It is a long poem, one to take time to read and think about. The main theme is the power of nature to transform lives. Shelley believed this small songbird embodied joy and happiness. James Henry was an Irish poet of the Victorian age. He wrote the following lines about a bird we are all too familiar with in this area, the pigeon!

*By what mistake were pigeons made so happy,  
 So plump, and fat and sleek, and well content.*

Birds of prey have often inspired poets, they have a majestic presence and I am fortunate to often see Red Kites from my window. As they hover and swoop it is like an aerial ballet. Tennyson writes about an Eagle:

*He grasps the crag with crooked hands,  
 Close to the sun in lonely lands,  
 Ring'd with the azure world he stands.  
 The wrinkled sea beneath him crawls,  
 He watches from his mountain walls,  
 And like a thunderbolt he falls.*

Louisa May Alcott, an American writer, famous for *Little Women*, wrote this poem

called *Fairy Song*, about a captive bird.

*A little bird I am!  
 Shut from fields of air,  
 And in my cage I sit and sing,  
 To him who placed me there.*

The poem *Ducks Ditty*, from *Wind in the Willows* by Kenneth Grahame is perfect to read to a child.



*All along the backwater,  
 Through the rushes tall,  
 Ducks are a dabbling,  
 Up tails all.  
 Ducks tails, drakes tails,  
 Yellow feet a quiver,  
 Yellow bills all out of sight,  
 Busy in the river.  
 And ends  
 High in the blue above  
 Swifts whirl and call,  
 We are down a dabbling,  
 Up tails all!!!*

WIKIPEDIA

We can gain much inner peace being at one with nature. Whatever one's personal beliefs - to see seasons come and go, plants dying off in winter and springing to new life, animals hibernating and waking with the spring warmth-it is miraculous. And to end, a quote from Leonard Cohen:

*The birds they sang at the break of day,  
 Start again I heard them say,  
 Don't dwell on what has passed away,  
 Or what is yet to be.*

And Ralph Waldo Emerson:

*For flowers that bloom beneath our feet,  
 For tender grass, so fresh, so sweet,  
 For song of bird and hum of bee,  
 For all things fair we see or hear,  
 Father in heaven we thank thee.*

We are due a cold snap, but the warm spring weather will soon be here, for us all to enjoy.

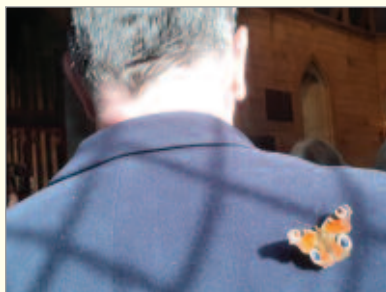
*Alison Drumming*

## A CELEBRATION OF LIFE

On the 28th January this year, Fiona and I attended the celebration of life for a good friend's 93-year-old

mother-in-law, Ann, at Holy Trinity, Markbeech near Edenbridge in Kent. It turned out to be the same church where my Aunt's service was held six years before. During what was a very fitting service, a peacock butterfly, one of few UK species which over-

winters, landed on the back of the man in the pew in front of us (see photograph). Initially it was moving its wings but then remained motionless during the prayers. I told Ann's daughters afterwards that maybe their mum, who was a great naturalist and flyfisher was there in another form. They



both seemed rather pleased and perhaps consoled by this suggestion. My wife also had mentioned to me that the vicar's name

seemed rather familiar and thought he might have been a former acquaintance of her younger sister about 40 years before. When I asked him, this turned out to be true!

As a life-long fisherman myself I was amused by a quote on the

back of the order of service attributed to Tony Blake :

*"Some go to church and think about fishing, others go fishing and think about God."*

Keith Thomson

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## NOTICES



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April issue	26th March
May issue	23rd April
June issue	28th May
July/August issue	25th June
September issue	27th August
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November issue	29th October
December/Jan 2023 issue	26th November
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## ACTIVITIES AT THE CORDES HALL

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## CORDES HALL CINEMA MARCH 2022

- ★ 11th March 8pm - House of Gucci (15)
- ★ 12th March 11am - Kids Club (U)  
2pm - Encanto (U)  
5pm - King Richard (12)  
8pm - Stillwater (15)

Tickets available from [www.ticketsource.co.uk/whats-on?q=cordes%20hall](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/whats-on?q=cordes%20hall)  
Also from Inspirations, Sunninghill High Street.  
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# NOTICES



## ACTIVITIES AT SOUTH ASCOT CHURCH HALL

### CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

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★ 11th-24th April - Easter Break  
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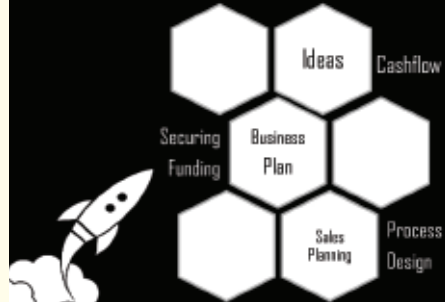
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Coffee from 9:50am

AT ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS' CHURCH,  
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Dr Christopher de Hamel DPhil FSA FRHistS

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*"Immerse yourself in the medieval world of Christopher de Hamel" (Sir David Attenborough's advice on life, quoted in The Evening Standard on his 90th birthday). Christopher de Hamel, FSA, is a Fellow of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge. He has doctorates from both Oxford and Cambridge. He was a director of Sotheby's for 25 years, responsible for illuminated manuscripts, and then librarian of the Parker Library in Cambridge for 17 years. His very many books on medieval manuscripts include the best-selling Meetings with Remarkable Manuscripts, which won the Wolfson History Prize. He is widely known as a lecturer across six continents.*

If you would like more information, or would like to join us at the lecture, please visit our website [www.theartsocietyascot.org.uk](http://www.theartsocietyascot.org.uk) or email us at [ascot@theartsociety.org](mailto:ascot@theartsociety.org)



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**APRIL LECTURE**  
TUESDAY 5th APRIL at 10:30am  
Coffee from 9:50am

AT ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS' CHURCH,  
CHURCH LANE, SUNNINGHILL, SL5 7DD

**FABERGÉ: JEWELLER TO A VANISHED WORLD**  
Ms Clare Phillips MA



At the Paris Exposition Universelle in 1900 Carl Fabergé's display elicited the following praise from the Jury: 'this is craftsmanship at the very limits of perfection, the transformation of a jewel into a true object of art'. This lecture celebrates the varied array of luxury objects and jewellery created by the virtuoso Russian goldsmith Fabergé in the decades around 1900, and the craftsmanship by which they were made. The magnificent jewelled Easter Eggs made each year for the Tsarinas might be inspired by an event such as the opening of the Trans-Siberian railway, or simply the icy beauty of a Russian winter. But, in addition to the eggs and reaching far beyond the Russian court, the lecture considers elegant jewellery, vivid enamels, humorous hard-stone carvings and naturalistic flower studies. We explore Fabergé's universal appeal, a magic made even more poignant by our knowledge of the impending destruction of the Great War and the Russian Revolution.

*Clare Phillips (M.A. Royal College of Art, London) has been a curator at the Victoria and Albert Museum since 1989. As a jewellery historian she is part of the small team dedicated to the V&A's jewellery collection and is the author of the V&A's classic book 'Jewels & Jewellery'. In addition to her work with the permanent collection, she has been responsible for the more focussed jewellery content within many major V&A exhibitions from 'Art Nouveau: 1890-1914' in 2000 to 'Frida Kahlo: Making Her Self Up' in 2018. Her books range from Thames & Hudson's accessible introductory text 'Jewelry - from Antiquity to the Present' to 'Chaumet Tiaras: Divine Jewels' which she co-authored in 2019. In 2006 she curated the exhibition 'Bejewelled by Tiffany' at the Gilbert Collection, Somerset House.*

As this lecture will be preceded by our AGM, we are unable to invite guests to this meeting

If you would like more information, please visit our website **www.theartsocietyascot.org.uk** or email us at **ascot@theartsociety.org**



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#### MARCH LECTURE

THE LECTURE WILL BE HELD AT OUR USUAL VENUE, ST GEORGE'S SCHOOL, WELLS LANE, ASCOT, SL5 7DZ

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*Nicola is an independent art historian specialising in British art of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. She studied at the University of York and Birkbeck College, London. Formerly a curator at Tate Britain she has curated a number of exhibitions and has published widely on J.M.W. Turner, including contributions to the forthcoming online catalogue of the Turner Bequest. She is co-editor and author of How to Paint Like Turner (Tate Publishing, 2010), she has published on Walter Richard Sickert and is co-author of Tate's catalogue of works by the Camden Town Group.*



There will an opportunity to put questions to the lecturer. Further detail of the event is available on our website. To register your interest please go to our website **tas-englemere.org.uk** click on "contact us" and email **info@tas-englemere** and you will receive the link.

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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



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

## sudoku 153

The solution to Sudoku 152:

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!

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

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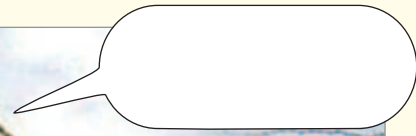
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## CAPTION COMPETITION

► Can anyone suggest what the baby giraffe might have been saying?  
 Entries to the Deputy Editor: Roger Kohn, Shrubshill Cottage, London Road, Sunningdale, Berkshire SL5 0JZ or email: [rogerkohn@talktalk.net](mailto:rogerkohn@talktalk.net)  
 \* to reach us no later than Tuesday 15th March please.

▼ Congratulations to last month's joint winners, Di Heathcote (A) and Andrew Wood (B). There were many similar entries this month... commendations go to Paul Naldrett, Simon Roberts, Alan Granados, Chris Adkins, Steve Heathcote and Tony the Bike.



**A** IT SEEMED SUCH A GOOD IDEA TO JOIN THE CAR POOL!



**B** I SAID POOLE DORSET - NOT POOL DOORSTEP!

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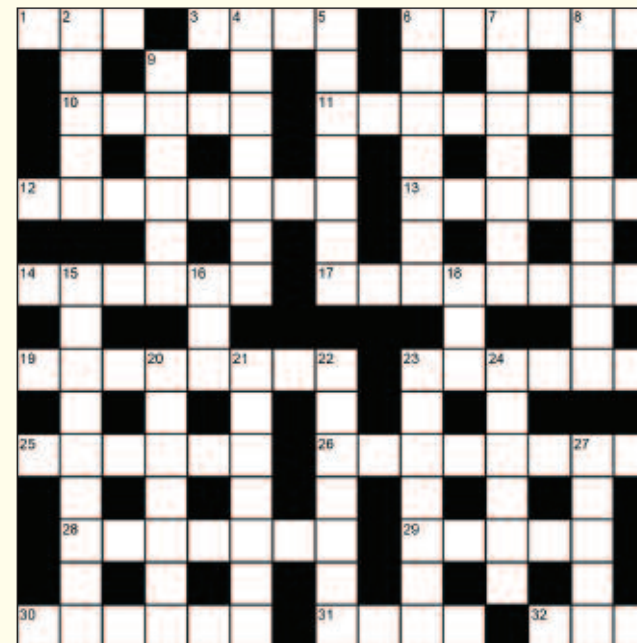
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## CRYPTIC CROSSWORD EX CRUCUM NO.212



The answers to Crossword no.212 will be published in the next issue.

The answers to Crossword no.211 were:



This month marks the 100th anniversary of the birth of actor and singer of comic songs, Michael Flanders. The first four clues Give a hint of a song Written by the duo Flanders & Swann.

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### ACROSS

1. Trendy Joint? (3)
3. People sadly missing the Spanish Primate (4)
6. Author who liked to amble in Ambleside? (6)
10. Squeaky computer part? (5)
11. African swine with a growth, unfortunately (7)
12. Flanders' female counterpart? (8)
13. Homer went round Crete first to get a shiny coat (6)
14. A caravan being towed by these? (6)
17. Top gear for The Virginians, perhaps? (8)
19. Heel uses dagger! (8)
23. Vietnam saga includes song "Going West" for he who cometh on a Monday morning! (6)
25. Mow and mop up this wonder product, according to Flanders (6)
26. Record dispute over wallet (8)
28. Take a small taxi to Hackney? (7)
29. Diana upset a Russian girl (5)
30. Norwegian author wrote "Nudest" (6)
31. Ponderous description of Flanders' train? (4)
32. The animal song sung badly, not sweetly, at first (3)

### DOWN

2. William/Bill includes metrical units (5)
4. Beginners, but they can get into the can! (7)
5. New Spar produces veils (7)
6. Build porches for this vehicle? (7)
7. Informal attire for an afternoon repast? (1-5)
8. So, lunacy caused by obsession? (9)
9. Embrace, say hello (but leave last) Mr. Green, game show host (6)
15. Invented male catonian doll (6,3)
16. Tell stories while resting? (3)
18. Ate up this meal (3)
20. Lines up bloomers (7)
21. Pets one who likes to be controlled by another (4,3)
22. Transport of delight for everybody (7)
23. Become involved with young George holding tincture (3,4)
24. Withdraw splinter (6)
27. Composer and pianist used a "penn" name, reportedly! (5)

We apologise for the missing two clues on last month's crossword (no.211). Several of you have emailed in and we have put the matter right. Entirely my fault as editor, so please write to me if you have any questions. Ed.



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## DAILY PRAYER FOR OUR COMMUNITY, MARCH

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01	Victoria Road	Genesis 37.12-end	Almighty and everlasting God, You hate nothing that you have made And forgive the sins of all those who are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts That we, worthily lamenting our sins And acknowledging our wretchedness, May receive from you, the God of all mercy, Perfect remission and forgiveness; 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..
02	Watersplash Ln	John 8.1-11 (Ash Weds)	
03	Whitmore Lane	Genesis 39	
04	Whynstones Rd	Genesis 40	
05	All Souls Road	Genesis 41.1-24	
06	Armitage Court	Luke 4.1-13	
07	Ascot High St	Genesis 41.25-45	
08	Ascot Wood	Genesis 41.46-42.5	Almighty God, Whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, And was tempted as we are, yet without sin; Give us grace to discipline ourselves In obedience to your Spirit; And as you know our weakness, So may we know your power to save; 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	Bagshot Road	Genesis 42.6-17	
10	Beechcroft	Genesis 42.18-28	
11	Blacknest Gate	Genesis 42.29-end	
12	Bouldish Farm Rd	Genesis 43.1-15	
13	Bowden road	Luke 13.31-end	
14	Bridge Road	Genesis 43.16-end	
15	Brockenhurst Rd	Genesis 44.1-17	Almighty God, You show to those who are in error the light of your truth, That they may return to the way of righteousness; Grant to all those who are admitted into the fellowship Of Christ's religion, That they may reject those things that are Contrary to their profession, And follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; 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	Buckhurst Lane	Genesis 44.18-end	
17	Buckhurst Rd	Genesis 45.1-15	
18	Carberry Lane	Genesis 45.16-end	
19	Cardwell Cres	Matt 1.18-end(Joseph of Naz)	
20	Carroll Crescent	Luke 13.1-9	
21	Cavendish Meads	Genesis 47.1-27	
22	Charters Lane	Genesis 47.28-48.end	Almighty God, Whose most dear Son went not up to joy But first he suffered pain, And entered not into glory before he was crucified; Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, May find it none other than the way of life and peace ; 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 forever.
23	Charters Close	Genesis 49.1-32	
24	Cheapside Road	Genesis 49.33-50.end	
25	Church Lane	Luke 1.26-38 (Annunciation)	
26	Church Road	Exodus 1.22-2.10	
27	Claver Drive	Luke 15.1-3,11b-end(Mothering)	
28	Coombe Lane	Exodus 2.11-22	
29	Coronation Road	Exodus 2.23-3.20	Merciful Lord, absolve your people from their offences, That through your bountiful goodness We may all be delivered from the chains of those sins Which by our frailty we have committed; Grant this Heavenly Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our blessed Lord and Saviour, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit One God now and forever.
30	Cromwell Road	Exodus 4.1-23	
31	Crown Hill Court	Exodus 4.27-6.1	



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Rev Sarah Mortimer   Rev Vusi Mabuza   Rev Tim Norman

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	<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
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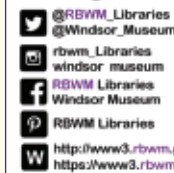
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