

THE MAGAZINE
OF THE PARISH OF SUNNINGHILL
AND SOUTH ASCOT

DECEMBER/JANUARY 2021

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A

Merry

CHRISTMAS

and

a
HAPPY new year





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THE MAGAZINE

OF THE PARISH OF SUNNINGHILL AND SOUTH ASCOT

Registered Charity No.1135244

DECEMBER/JANUARY 2021



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FROM THE EDITOR...



It's tempting to write about all the political comings and goings (or not-goings) that are happening as I write this, but we try to steer clear of that in this magazine and concentrate on what's good and uplifting; such as the announcement of new vaccines for Covid-19 which will put us back on the straight and narrow, hopefully.

To help lift our spirits, the Government has announced the go-ahead for work to build a tunnel under Stonehenge to take traffic bound for Devon and Cornwall away from the five thousand year-old heritage site (how did they get those stones in place without modern heavy lifting machinery?). I use the A303 fairly regularly and am delighted that this project, which has been talked about since I was a baby, will finally happen, although I may be in my dotage when it finally comes to pass! I shall miss the sight of those ancient stones heaving into view whilst crawling along in a 10-mile traffic jam!

Not everyone is happy with it, of course, and indeed, is there enough money left in the kitty to pay for it? That's for someone else to worry about, but for now let's worry about Christmas and the New Year. Will we be able to continue our heritage of lustily singing our



favourite carols together in unison, or sharing a festive table with our favourite people? Whatever the government, or nature throws at us, I am sure we will find a way to make the most of it.

And we can look forward to 2021 with a renewed spirit of optimism and goodwill towards our fellows.

May God bless you and make his face to shine on you and be gracious to you and give you peace, and bring you a strengthened resolve to make things better in the new year,



WIKIPEDIA



Mike Cross
tel 01344 303991
mobile 07737 088423



THE MINISTER'S MESSAGE CHRISTMAS 2020



*The light shines in the darkness
and the darkness has not overcome it.* John 1:5

As we switch on our Christmas lights, brighten up our houses with tinsel and tree, and allow the season to kick into gear, this Christmas will be unlike any other.

I hope as you read this article, you can take a moment to stop, pause and reflect on the way this year will be different for you. What is it that has changed, for good and for ill? What is it that is missing? What is it that might be even better?

This Christmas will be a real challenge for the Johnson household. With social distancing guidance, church looks and feels very different and our family will be unable to gather together as usual. Both of these losses are hugely significant for us. For others, family members may have died, jobs and employment may be uncertain and looking forward with hope to 2021 may seem impossible.

As we have been buffeted through this past year, and face such a different Christmas, perhaps this is the time we most need to remember the above verse from St John's gospel. It's a verse read at Carol Services each year. This passage reveals how God cared about his world so much he sent Jesus, the Light of the World, to dwell with us in that Bethlehem manger 2,000 years ago. How much do we need that light today?

We need light to shine in our darkness – because times have been tough, the darkness has felt perhaps more real and oppressive than ever. Jesus' divine light can pierce even the deepest gloom.

We need light that cannot be overcome – because we've discovered that our strength, energy and joy can be eradicated by events both global and personal. We're not as strong as we used to think we were. Only His divine light keeps on shining, refusing to be snuffed out.

We need light that goes with us into 2021 – because it's not a vaccine, a new diet, or a new President that ultimately brings hope. It is the grown-up baby of Bethlehem that declares 'I am the light of the world, whoever follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life.'

We do not yet know what December and January will bring in terms of national and local Covid restrictions, and as yet what services at church will be enabled or allowed (see opposite) but amongst the crib, carol and Christingle services of December, I'd just like to highlight two here.

Firstly, **Monday 21st December, 6-6:45pm** at St Michael's – **'The Longest Night'** – a simple, reflective time for peace. For many of us Christmas may not feel like the season to be jolly. We will be able to bring any loss, loneliness and uncertainty to God. Then on **Christmas Day** (10am at St Michael's; 10:30am at All Souls and online) we will celebrate the joy, life and light Jesus brings to our world.

In a Christmas like no other, it is my prayer that we might know Jesus' love, forgiveness and light like never before. That as we bring to him any darkness and pain of this last year, we might experience his light, healing from 2020 and hope for the year to come.

In love and peace this Christmas,

SERVICES IN THE PARISH DECEMBER AND JANUARY 2021

Even though we are currently not able to worship together in Church week by week, our churches are still active, worshipping, meeting and focused on caring for each other. We do not know quite what restrictions will or will not be in place in December and January but here are a few things we can be certain of:

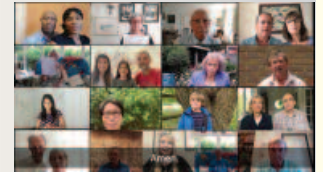
- To watch any of our online content, please visit any of the following:
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 or our websites www.ssaparish.org www.allsoulsascot.org

NEW NORMAL SUNDAY WORSHIP WHILE WE CANNOT ATTEND CHURCH

For December and January (not including our Christmas services, which are listed separately)

SUNDAY MORNINGS

- FAMILY SERVICE** – 9:15am – Meets on Zoom. Our informal, child friendly, 30-minute family service meets over zoom. A short time of worship with music, animation and prayer then time to chat together.



- TRADITIONAL SERVICE** – 10:30am – Each week there is either a live service or a pre-recorded reflection available on our Facebook pages (@ssaparish / @allsoulsascot) and website (www.ssaparish.org / www.allsoulsascot.org). These services contain our favourite hymns and music, Bible readings, prayers and liturgy and reflections to help sustain us spiritually week by week. You can also catch up on any week's service on our website at a time of your choosing.

LITTLE SEEKERS – Preschool Episodes. [SEASON 2 - Christmas]

- Our 20min little seekers episodes go up each week on our Facebook page and the Little Seekers YouTube channel. With great songs, animations and a furry squirrel, Little seekers is a joyful way to engage your little one in faith. You can catch up on Season 1 – God's family, anytime online.

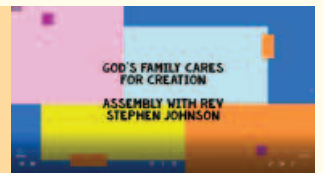


TODDLER PRAISE – Preschool Class

- Our toddler praise service meets online (via Zoom) or in person at 10.30am each Tuesday. Led by Nicola Shaw, it's full of songs, craft, and faith. A great opportunity to worship with your toddler.

ASSEMBLY – Primary school age.

- Our team produce a 10minute assembly for our primary schools each week that anyone can enjoy via our vimeo channel. www.vimeo.com/ssaparish. Thoughtful, engaging and challenging, each assembly has an action song, animation, and space to pray.



'IN PERSON' SERVICE PATTERN IF/WHEN WE CAN ATTEND CHURCH [also livestreamed]:
If/when restrictions are eased our weekly Sunday pattern for December and January will be:

- 9.15am Informal Family Service at St Michael's Church.
- 10.45am Traditional Service at St Michael's Church.
- 10.30am Community Worship at All Souls Church.

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CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS



Look out for our online services over the Christmas period, including:

- 6th December – Christingle service – Collect your Christingle pack from either of our churches and then watch online
- 13th December – A Carol Concert with Readings, Carols and Christmas cheer
- 24th December – Crib service - with downloadable craft activities
- 24th December – online Carol service

CAROL SERVICES: We are also expecting to hold in person carol services at:

- All Souls, 20th December at 6pm
- St Michael's, 24th December at 5pm

CHRISTMAS DAY: And Christmas Day celebrations:

- St Michael's Church at 10am
- All Souls Church at 10:30am



COMING SOON - Ascot@4 Online. An informal service for all, especially focused on families with children aged 9-14. Watch our Facebook feeds and weekly updates for more information about this partnership with Latimer Minster Ascot.

SUNDAY SCHOOL – 9:45am on Zoom.

- Nicola Shaw leads Sunday School activities, songs, and bible stories over zoom. Contact nicola@allsoulsascot.org / admin@ssaparish.org for the meeting ID, password and downloadable activities.

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.

• **MORE GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES** will develop over time so keep following our Church Facebook pages and websites for the latest news, including video updates from Stephen.



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PARISH REGISTERS

FUNERALS AND CREMATIONS

19th October	Trevor Lawrence
5th November	Patricia (Pat) Male
12th November	Christine Roberts

INTERMENT OF ASHES

18th October	Barbara Freundlich
8th November	Rosemary Hughes



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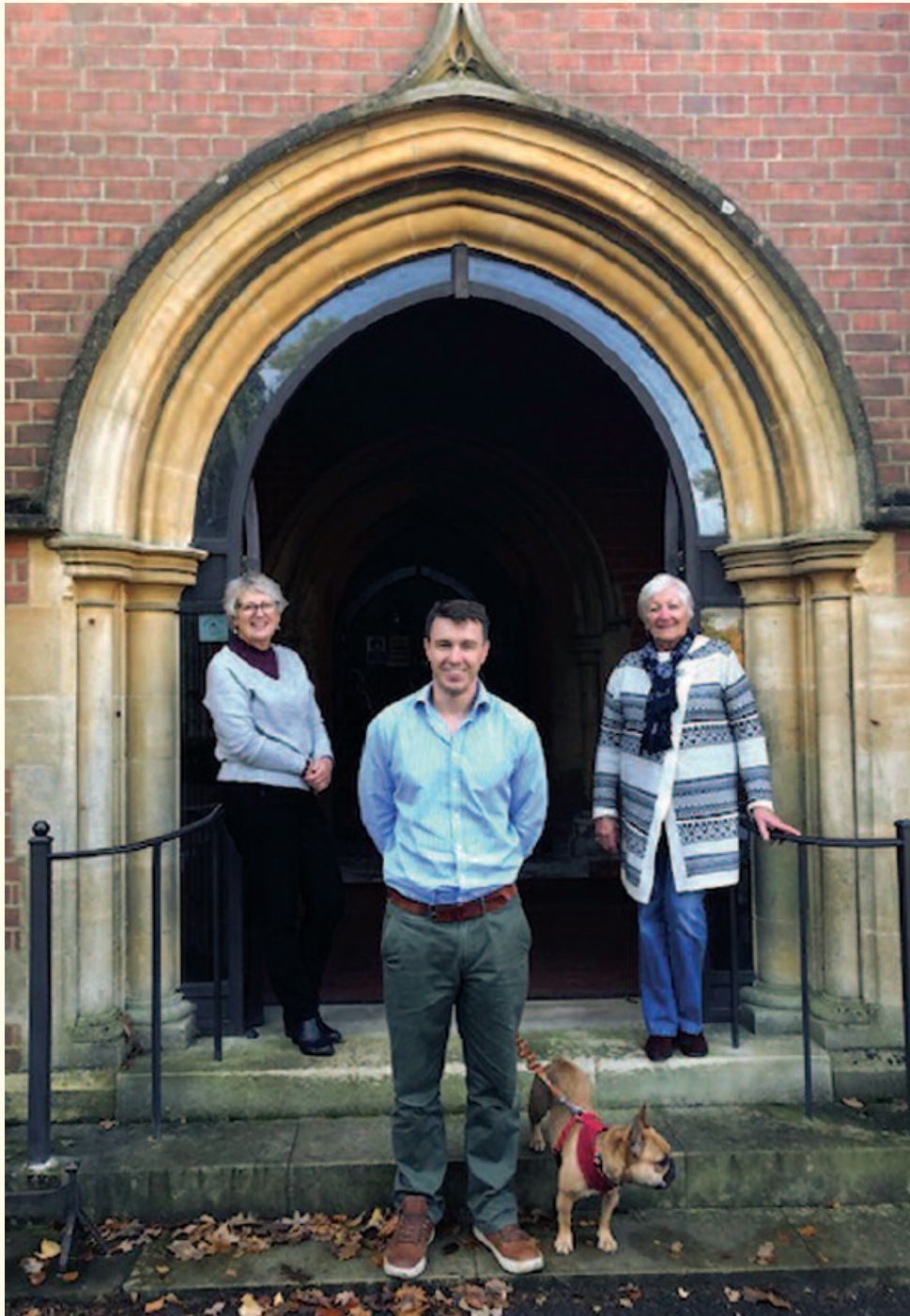
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REMEMBRANCE: IN CASE YOU MISSED THE MAGNIFICENT DISPLAY OF POPPIES IN THE CHURCH ON REMEMBRANCE DAY, A GREAT WORK OF LOVE BY AMY HAMMOND AND PAMI CROSS. - ED



A MESSAGE FROM ALL SOULS AND ST MICHAEL'S



We need your help! This has been a challenging time for many, and we've been working hard as two churches to support those most vulnerable in our community. As much as possible we've kept our churches open during the day, allowing those who need the time and space to think and pray to do so in a safe, quiet and beautiful place.

However, we need your help. The church finances have been hit hard, and we're facing a significant deficit for the year ahead. Our only source of regular funding comes from our congregation and local community, who help pay for:

- The people who help run our church and support our community
- Our beautiful church building, lighting, heating and insurance – allowing us to keep it open for private prayer
- Everything we use in our services, both physical online, including music, candles and crafts and the IT



There are many ways to give:

1 If you'd like to give regularly, maybe £10 a month, then sign up for the Parish Giving Scheme to make a regular donation and allow us to collect the Gift Aid. Just call 0333 002 1271 and speak to an advisor. The only information you will need from us is the church codes:

- St Michael's **270 627 336**
- All Souls **270 627 333**

2 If you'd like to give a one-off gift, maybe on behalf of someone else as a gift for Christmas, then visit:

St Michael's www.ssaparish.org/just-giving
All Souls www.allsoulsascot.org/donate

We would appreciate any help you can give to allow us to continue to run our churches as sustainably and responsibly as possible. If you would like to discuss our work, or have any questions, then please get in touch, we'll be happy to welcome you.

Vanessa Cummings

Churchwarden, St Michael's, Sunninghill
email vanessa@ssaparish.org

Aled Jones

Churchwarden, All Souls, South Ascot
email aled@allsoulsascot.org

Sandra Stansfield

Churchwarden, All Souls, South Ascot
email sandra@allsoulsascot.org



GIRLGUIDING ASCOT SOUTH DISTRICT

If you are interested in Girlguiding either as a volunteer or to register your daughter then visit the website to find out more. www.girlguiding.org.uk
All of our units would appreciate additional help.



1st SOUTH ASCOT RAINBOWS



1st Ascot Rainbows made the most of the last few weeks of daylight to meet outdoors and to finish their 'Have Adventures' activity programme. The girls cooked chocolate bananas on a BBQ, made rockets and built dens in Swinley forest. The weather wasn't always kind so some meetings had to revert to the virtual version but the girls were still able to have fun with some dressing-up activities and games.

Two more Rainbows have been awarded their Bronze award and these were presented virtually and delivered by Royal Mail.

Penny Knight



SOUTH ASCOT DISTRICT GUIDES AND RANGERS



South Ascot Guides and Rangers have had an odd year, with the pandemic proving that we are indeed stronger together. We have done a mixture of Zoom meetings, some badge work at home and we managed to meet in person a couple of times, however we are all looking forward to meeting face to face in January, restrictions allowing. Each year, 1st South Ascot Guides and Rangers choose a local charity to support at Christmas; given the events this year we felt it was even more important to give back locally. For this reason we choose "The Baby Bank" (www.thebabybank.org), a charity based in Windsor that provides clothes, toys and other essentials to families and children in need. This includes things like baby starter kits, cots/beds, and school uniform. Families are referred to them, much like they would



be the Food Bank, by healthcare professionals. The backgrounds to these referrals can be for many reasons, but they can include poverty; refugee or asylum seeker status; victims of domestic violence; military families in need; children in emergency foster placements or homeless families.

They were asking for Christmas Gift bags for children up to 18 years old that contained a pair of new pyjamas, a book and some chocolate. The Guides, Rangers and other members of the South Ascot Community managed to collate 35 complete bags plus extra books, gifts and chocolate. They were all delivered avoiding contact to the Charity before the lockdown came into force, for distribution ready for Christmas.

Helena Barnett

SOUTH ASCOT BROWNIES



Ruby, a Brownie, absolutely loved the pebble painting challenge, but couldn't choose just one person or group of people to be thankful to. She decided she wanted to create a traditional remembrance image but to also add in the animals of war. As you can see Alice, her Rainbow sister, really wanted to join in too. The girls couldn't decide where they wanted to leave their pebbles so settled for outside our garden gate. As we live on a main gate into The Great Park they thought quite a few people would see them, so if you are walking in the Great Park look out for the girls' contribution to Remembrance day activities.

Brownie and Rainbow parent





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After the positive return to some outdoor-only activities we covered last month, we managed to have a couple of further sessions before we had to sadly revert to online sessions pre-Christmas. Beavers and Cubs made the most of it in October managing to get “Safari Pete” to come and show both groups his rescue animals. Thanks to Tally Ho farm, Pete had plenty of outdoor space to educate the children about animal rescue and introduced them to snakes, a monitor lizard, a young alligator, an owl and Lady Gaga the bird eating spider! The Scouts had an epic Bike Ride in Swinley Forest.

Remembrance Day is always a hugely important day in the Scouting calendar and, despite current challenges, we were still able to represent 1st South Ascot and pay our respects at All Souls, with Seb Spall in attendance from Scouts. William Jones gave a reading and our Beavers, Lewis Benjamin and Finlay Anderson carried the flag and laid a wreath

respectively. We are all looking forward to being able to attend as a full group next year.

Beavers had an online problem-solving and treasure-hunt session which was really well attended. Although online isn't the same as the real thing, it is great to keep everyone engaged and get everyone together. Cubs had a session in animal trekking and learning about poo... let's move on, at least they enjoyed it!

As the hut renovations continue, we have had a new fence built and there is currently a fire pit under construction outside – and FINALLY, inside, some heating is being installed – modern day luxury! We hope to have everything done in the next few weeks.

If you can be of help or have any questions then please contact our Group Scout Leader, Fiona Jones at 1stsouthascotscoutgroup@gmail.com

Happy Xmas All. Let's hope for a happier and healthier 2021!

*James Brown
Beaver Leader*





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NEWS FROM SUNNINGHILL & ASCOT PARISH COUNCIL



GRANTS

Sunninghill & Ascot Parish Council has a budget to distribute to local charities and good causes each year. These funds are given out as grants to organisations that provide activities and projects benefitting Sunninghill and Ascot Parish. If your local group or organisation would like to apply for a Grant from the Parish Council please download an application form from our website. Applications will be considered by the Council at its December meeting.

CHRISTMAS TREES

Don't forget that after the festivities are over you can put your Christmas tree in your green bin to be taken away with the green waste. If you don't have a green bin, take your tree along to the designated area at either Victory Fields in Sunninghill or Victoria Road recreation

ground, South Ascot. Just look for the orange fencing to see where to leave your tree. Collections will be between 4th and 17th January 2021.

OFFICE HOURS

The Clerk and Assistant Clerk are still working from home and our email addresses and mobile phone numbers are on the website if you need to contact us.

Appointments can be made to meet at the office if required, but we will be 'closed' from 21st December to 1st January inclusive.



We would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Helen Goodwin, Clerk to the Parish Council
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SOUTH ASCOT VILLAGE SCHOOL

A PARADE OF POPPIES!

The pupils of South Ascot Village School created a presentation of poppies to demonstrate their respect and reflection for Remembrance 2020, showing thanks for the sacrifices of all the men, women and animals in war and conflicts which enable us all to enjoy our freedoms today in the 21st century.

Remembrance Day is a significant date in the calendar and it is very important for children to learn about its meaning. This type of learning is a very important part of our Personal, Social and Emotional Development and our British Values curriculum, as well as helping the children to have a better knowledge and understanding of the world and important events in history.

From Nursery to Year 6, we talked to the children about the many important people who helped to keep us safe a long time ago.



Remembrance gave us an ideal opportunity to bring people of all ages and backgrounds together, to reflect upon the service and sacrifice of the Armed Forces, and to be united in the hope for a brighter and peaceful future.

If you passed our school in November, I hope you enjoyed the outdoor display!

Kate Rimell, Headteacher



CHEAPSIDE C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

On 11th November, we marked Remembrance Day with a two minutes' silence preceded by a recording of The Last Post in St Michael's Church from Stephen. The children responded really well to this solemn occasion and across the school we talked about its meaning and significance. In class and in Forest School, the children created poppy artwork to commemorate the day.

As Christmas draws ever closer, the school is looking for different Covid-friendly approaches to celebrating this special

festival. Our newly formed Year 6 Singing Club are practising their Christmas songs in a socially distanced fashion and across the school each class is practising Makaton-signed Christmas 'songs'. Our younger children are looking at ways to retell the Christmas story in the Forest School and we are ensuring that each child still has the opportunity to experience this wonderful time of year, albeit in a slightly different way.

Clare Roberts, Assistant Headteacher





ST MICHAEL'S C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

The whole school community should feel immensely proud of the support, encouragement and resilience demonstrated during this challenging start to the school year.

We are immensely proud of how the children have adjusted to the necessary restrictions in school and their ability to overcome any issues and find possibilities. A perfect example is young children, without the usual access to a range of playtime equipment, using the playground markings to invent 'new games'.

Being outside at playtime with the children, hearing their laughter, listening to their stories is so uplifting, provides a real lesson in happiness and is the perfect antidote to all the current issues, beyond our school gates.

Robin class (reception) have had an amazing first half term in school, finishing their learning with the story of Pumpkin Soup. They have really enjoyed their exciting learning based on it. They are now experts at naming the different parts of a pumpkin, and they have conducted lots of investigations using the variety of pumpkins we have in class; weighing them, ordering, measuring and comparing them. But their favourite activity without a doubt had to be scooping out the pumpkins and feeling the inside, exploring this through sensory play. They now cannot wait to make their own pumpkin soup!

The PTA organised a Scarecrow Trail throughout the village for the duration of half term. It was such a fun

fundraising event for the whole village and reaffirmed our school as the heart of the community.

It was an amazing success, with over £2,000 raised and this was due to the incredible effort put into the construction of the 47 creative scarecrows and the fact that the village shops got on board and sold trail maps for us; many, many thanks to Hullballoonza, Inspirations, Chapmans, The Little Flower Pot, The Courtyard and Purretta. A final thank you to Hannah at Little Muddy Boots for kindly sponsoring the event. We promise to organise another trail next year in October.

This tremendous effort has allowed us to welcome Scott (a professional Choreographer) back to St Michael's, to choreograph our 'Strictly Christmas Show', during the first week of December. Staff are as excited as the children; we are digging out our dancing shoes and hoping to lift the glitter ball and scoop the winner's prize.

Lorna Anderton, Head Teacher



SCARECROW COMPETITION WINNERS: 1st HARRY POTTER,
2nd MR McGREGOR, 3rd COOKIE MONSTER



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.



☞ THAT IS THE MAP OF PART OF THE ENCLOSURE OF WINDSOR FOREST SHOWING ALLOCATIONS OF LAND. IT SHOWS EXISTING HOLDINGS IN 1817 BUT EXCLUDES LAND IN THE NORTHERN AREA. THE FULL MAP IS IN THE BERKSHIRE ARCHIVE AND SHOULD ALSO BE IN THE RBWM LIBRARY AT ASCOT BECAUSE I GAVE THEM A COPY. CENSUS RETURNS WOULD SHOW WHO WAS IN BURLEIGH LANE IN 1881 AND 1891.

CHRISTINE WEIGHTMAN



PAULINE TUCKER

☞ THE OLD IRON FOOTBRIDGE IN LONDON ROAD, SUNNINGHILL, NEAR THE CHURCH LANE ROUNDABOUT.



JANET SANDERS

☞ DOES ANYONE RECOGNISE THEMSELVES FROM THIS PHOTO CIRCA 1951/2 WHEN WE MEMBERS OF THE CHOIR FROM SUNNINGHILL METHODIST CHAPEL WON THE COVETED 'BANNER'?

JANET SANDERS

I RECOGNISE JEAN CURRY 2ND ROW FIRST LEFT. SHE LIVES JUST DOWN THE ROAD FROM ME, MARGARET HOWSE BACK ROW 2ND RIGHT SHE HAD A WONDERFUL VOICE LAST I HEARD SHE WAS IN SUNNINGHILL. I ALSO RECOGNISE THE GIRL NEXT TO HER SURE HER FIRST NAME WAS ANN BUT CAN'T REMEMBER HER SURNAME.

JEAN ABBOTTS



NICHOLAS HADDON

☞ THIS YEAR IS THE CENTENARY OF THE PUBLICATION OF AGATHA CHRISTIE'S FIRST BOOK, 'THE MYSTERIOUS AFFAIR AT STYLES' (ALTHOUGH IT HAD BEEN SERIALIZED IN A MAGAZINE EARLIER IN THE SUMMER). IT FEATURED HERCULE POIROT, A BELGIAN REFUGEE WHO SHE WAS SOON TO MAKE A WORLD FAMOUS DETECTIVE. IT SOLD WELL AND AGATHA'S CAREER AS THE BEST-SELLING FICTION WRITER OF ALL TIME HAD BEGUN. AGATHA CHRISTIE LIVED AT THE HOUSE CALLED 'SCOTSWOOD' IN DEVENISH ROAD, SUNNINGDALE IN THE 1920s AND THEN MOVED TO 'STYLES' IN CHARTERS ROAD, WHICH WAS NAMED AFTER HER FIRST MYSTERY NOVEL. SUNNINGDALE GOLF COURSE FEATURES IN ONE OF HER SHORT STORIES, 'THE SUNNINGDALE MYSTERY,' ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED AS PART OF 'PARTNERS IN CRIME' IN 1929.

NICHOLAS HADDON



NEIL PARKER

☞ IN THE EARLY 50s, THE DURNING LIBRARY WAS MY SATURDAY MORNING 'PLACE TO GO'. UP ST GEORGES' HILL FROM SOUTH ASCOT, ACROSS THE ROAD TO THE LIBRARY - PERFECTLY SAFE FOR A 7 YEAR OLD TO GO ALONE. I LOVED THE SMELL OF THE BOOKS, AND I EAGERLY SOUGHT MY WEEK'S READING MATERIAL. A MAGICAL GROWN UP SANCTUARY, I FELT PRIVILEGED TO BE ALLOWED TO ENTER.

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NEWS FROM THE BEAT

As the evenings have become darker, opportunist thieves are out there looking for unoccupied houses – houses in darkness. Everyone must make sure their houses are lit and look occupied, like all their neighbours.

HOW DO YOU DO THAT?

- Always set your alarm whenever you go out and set the ground floor at night. Alarms are now inexpensive, wireless, quick and easy to fit and use. They no longer have code numbers, but use fobs to turn them on and off.
- What lights do you leave on? On a normal night, go outside and have a look. That is what your house must look like if it is dark and you are not home. You must not look



like the easiest / most vulnerable target in the road.

- Use electric timers on side lights and make sure they are on if you are not home
- Leave a radio on, tuned to a talk radio station audible from the front door.
- Purchase a 'Fake TV' from major online stores. They have 2 settings – summer / winter and dusk to dawn sensors. In the summer they stay on for 4 hours and in the winter 7 hours. Plug in, turn on and leave. They go in a front facing upper room, where they will even flicker around drawn curtains – it looks like someone is home!
- If you keep a car on a gated drive, make sure the gate is not left open.

Many more tips, crime prevention advice and details of all local crime, can be found by signing up to get **FREE POLICE ALERTS** at www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk

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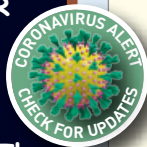
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SUNNINGDALE HEATH GOLF CLUB

Sunningdale Heath Golf Club have revitalised one of golf's most intriguing and historic venues. In 1902, Sunningdale Ladies Golf Club was opened by the Captain of neighbouring Sunningdale Golf Club, creating a short course for lady golfers adjacent to the world-famous 36-hole venue, home to many top tournaments. In 1932 the Queen Mother became the third member of the royal family to become Club Captain.

Located in Cross Road, Sunningdale, just off the A30, the club is backed by two highly-decorated PGA Professionals, Kristian Baker and Tom Reid, who offer an all-inclusive family membership.

Head Chef, Greg Lewis, who has worked at several Michelin 3-star restaurants, has turned the club into a popular destination for fine dining.

The club features, at its heart, one of the golfing world's true hidden gems: an 18-hole golf course like no other, designed by Harry Colt, one of the sport's most illustrious course architects. Laid out on picturesque Surrey heathland, Sunningdale Heath's



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fourteen Par Threes and four Par Fours form a short but memorable test of accuracy for all golfers. Despite its compact size, the course is

acknowledged as being a true test of golfing skills. No hole is shorter than 138 yards, and, unusually in golf, both men and women play from the same tees. Head Greenkeeper, Peter Tedder and his team, have produced the club's best-ever playing surfaces in 2020.

Its non-intimidating length makes Sunningdale Heath the perfect starter golf course for beginners and children. It offers

one of the quickest-possible 18-hole rounds of golf for people in a hurry.

The team looks forward to welcoming you to this great, historic club.

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A LOCAL MENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVE

Local businesses teamed up in October to raise mental health awareness by embracing the charity Mind's challenge, to #DoOneThing

Oyster Outcomes, K-VA Virtual Assistant and Fotine Wellbeing invited five children from St Francis Primary School in South Ascot to take part in a socially distanced yoga session, raising awareness that declining mental health has not only affected the adult population, but has also taken its toll on young people. Research by Mind stated mental health had declined in 60% of adult respondents and 68% of young people respondents, during the first lockdown.

Oyster Outcomes aims to raise awareness of the impact on mental health incurred by the pandemic, but also provide solutions. They offer: mental health first aid training, approved by MHFA England; i-act courses for positive mental health and wellbeing in the workplace; and overriding mental health and wellbeing strategy services to wide-ranging organisations. Owner, Felicity Gasparro says, "We want to be a proactive part of providing a solution to the decline in mental health we're seeing in the population, by training as many people as possible to become mental health

first aiders. You are far more likely to meet someone experiencing a mental health issue than you are to meeting someone having a heart attack - so why don't we treat mental health conditions with the same urgency as physical health issues?"

She goes on to say that "MHFA England's challenge to the population is to train 1 in 10 people in mental health first aid. We are particularly fortunate to be able to provide training for those working alongside adults, and those working alongside young people. We feel this is vitally important, as the children who are slowly returning to a new normality, may well have encountered experiences that impact on their mental wellbeing, directly as a result of being locked down."

The #DoOneThing focus in Ascot saw Ascot People members getting behind the cause by committing to simple things like - calling an old friend; picking up some shopping for a neighbour in need; taking some time out for self; switching the phone off and; picking up old or new skills such as playing a musical instrument or getting involved with Fotine's yoga sessions.

Perhaps your #DoOneThing for 2021 will be to help support a movement of mental health awareness and provide support to others, or care to self?

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POETRY FOR CHRISTMAS



At the time of writing, the Advent and Christmas season fast approaches. It will be a very different Christmas, if things continue nationally, for all of us, but the true meaning of Christmas surely must mean more to us this year than ever. The gifts of love, of hope, of caring for each other and supporting one another, never more visible than in various ways throughout the virus crisis.

I have gathered together excerpts from some Christmas poems. To begin from *The Joy of Giving* by John Greenleaf Whittier, an American poet, whose name may sound familiar as the author of one of our favourite hymns, "*Dear Lord and Father of Mankind*."

*Somehow not only for Christmas,
 But all the year through,
 The joy that you give to others,
 Is the joy that comes back to you.
 And the more you spend in blessing,
 The poor and lonely and sad,
 The more to your hearts possessing,
 Returns to make you glad.*

In a different vein, a quote from Christina Rossetti, an English poet, another perhaps familiar name, as she wrote my favourite carol, *In the Bleak Midwinter*. The poem is "*Holly*."

*But give me Holly, bold and jolly,
 Honest, prickly, shining Holly,
 Pluck me Holly, leaf and Berry,
 For the day when I make merry.*

The following poem, which beautifully describes the Nativity scene, is the "*First Christmas*" by Marian Swinger.

*In the stable, ox and ass stood still and calm,
 And gazed upon the baby, safe and snug in
 Mary's arms.
 And Joseph lost in shadows, face lit by an oil
 lamp's glow,
 Stood wondering that first Christmas day,
 Two thousand years ago.*

Another American poet, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, wrote the poem "*Christmas Bells*" just before the end of the American Civil War. It

was written to express the years of sorrow and despair surrounding the war, but ends with messages of hope.

*Then pealed the bells more loud and deep,
 God is not dead, nor doth he sleep,
 The wrong shall fail, the right prevail,
 With peace on earth, goodwill to men.*

Before I conclude on a reflective and thoughtful note, it is Christmas and we need some fun, so I recommend "*Talking Turkeys*", a poem by Benjamin Zephaniah an amusing read; I can't reproduce all of it here, as it is quite long, but to whet your appetite, it begins thus:

*Be nice to yu turkeys dis Christmas
 Cos' turkeys just wanna hav fun
 Turkeys are cool, turkeys are wicked
 An every turkey has a Mum.*

and add to that an anecdote I read yesterday.

"It is never a good time to be a turkey in the weeks before Christmas, but at least you could rely on being very well fed and cosseted as the big day approached. Not this year however, because Turkey farmers are aware gatherings may now be smaller and limited due to the restrictions, the turkeys are now on diets to ensure they remain smaller. It's a hard life!!!"

To conclude a few words of reflection and thought:

*Every time a hand reaches out to help
 another,
 That is Christmas.
 Every time someone puts anger aside,
 That is Christmas.
 And strives for understanding,
 That is Christmas.
 Every time people forget their differences and
 realise their love for each other,
 That is Christmas.*

Anon

May the peace and blessings of the Christmas season, be with us all and those we love.

Alison Drummings

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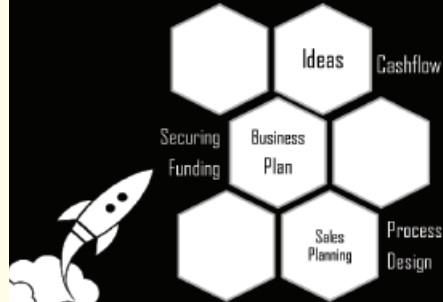
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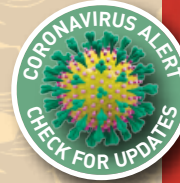
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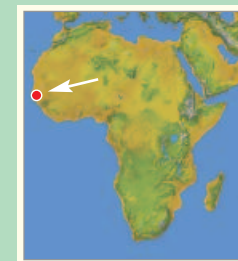
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? CHRISTMAS QUIZ ? FOR THE GAMBIA ?

I'm hosting a **Zoom Quiz** to raise funds for our friends in The Gambia. For those who prefer not to participate on Zoom, you can get a hard copy for a suggested cash only donation of at least £5. These will be available from Monday 14th December from Chapman's on Sunninghill High Street or from All Soul's coffee shop in South Ascot



(restrictions permitting). This is a fun and entertaining way to help such a worthy cause. Many thanks.

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We wish everyone a happy, healthy and peaceful Christmas and we look forward to a better New Year. Unfortunately, we are still closed due to the current circumstances, however please be rest assured we will reopen as soon as we are allowed. In the meantime, keep safe and stay well.

Best wishes, *Everyone at The Ascot Day Centre*

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THE PROBUS CLUB OF ASCOT

The Probus Club of Ascot normally meets on the fourth Monday of each month at Windlesham Golf Club at 12:30pm for a two-course lunch and to hear a speaker. The Club welcomes men who are retired, approaching retirement or those who simply would like to socialize on a monthly basis; there is no minimum age. If you are interested to know more with a view to becoming a member, please contact the Honorary Secretary on **01344 620060** or email **AscotProbus@btinternet.com**

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EMAKI AND MANGA: THE ART OF ILLUSTRATION IN JAPAN LECTURER – DR MERI ARICHI

TUESDAY 12th JANUARY 2021 @ 7:30 FOR 7:45pm

Manga are Japanese comic books that tell stories predominantly through the use of images. The scroll format has been used for documents in East Asia from ancient times; official documents and Buddhist scriptures written on paper were rolled up into a scroll for easy storage and transport. Emaki, narrative picture scrolls, first came into use for illustrating secular stories and historical incidents from around the twelfth century. Dr Meri Arichi will share with us her thoughts on how emaki influenced the origin of contemporary Japanese manga.

Meri studied history of art in London and Florence and completed a post-graduate diploma in Asian Art at SOAS. She has a Masters in History of East Asian Art and a PhD in Shinto-Buddhist Syncretic Art from SOAS London. She teaches History of Japanese Art in the department of history of art and archaeology at SOAS and has run courses at Birkbeck College, The V&A, The British Museum and The Courtauld Institute.



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SCRUBS FOR THE NHS

At the beginning of April 2020, Lynda Yong, who runs The Fashion Workshop in South Ascot, became aware of the urgent need for Scrubs in the local hospital trust, Frimley Health. With the help of the then Mayor, Sayonara Luxton RBWM, the team began fund raising, with other local residents also helping to support the initiative.

Scrubs Glorious Scrubs was thus created and set about making 2,000 sets of non-surgical scrubs for Frimley Health Trust (Frimley, Wexham and Heatherwood Hospitals). With additional funding from radio DJ and local resident Chris Evans and his son Noah, via a camp out and charity auctions, £1.2 million was raised, allowing the group to not only make thousands of sets of scrubs locally, but also to provide material to many other groups all across the country to do the same. It's estimated that material has now been provided across the UK to make over 200,000 sets of NHS scrubs, including 10,500 locally.

Lynda said "I want to thank our community, especially those who are in lockdown for their help. The community have worked tirelessly to now produce over 30,000 sets of scrubs and gowns. Some of these have been sent all over the country to other Trusts who had an urgent need. It has been a huge achievement with far reaching and unexpected results."

Mental health units have also seen the positive effect of colourful scrubs on the patients. Frimley Hospital trust reported the enclosed messages of support from the sewing team included with many of the sets of scrubs added a personal touch to those who wore them.

The work within SGS continues, with Frimley Trust asking for support for Children's Theatre gowns, PJ's for children who have nothing and also 10,000 reusable face masks for staff to wear outside the hospital, which are currently being made by the army of sewing angels who have stepped up to help.

Frimley charity are also selling the beautifully made children's Disney PJ's to raise money for 2 staff rooms to allow staff to go to have some quiet down time between shifts. To this extent, 800 sets of children's PJ's have been donated to hospitals to achieve this. If you would like to purchase any of the PJ's, some are available at the Fashion Workshop studio in South Ascot Business Park or via The Frimley Health Charity website www.frimleyhealthcharity.org

Lynda concluded "I would like to thank all those volunteers who have helped us achieve our goals. It has been a true highlight to see so many help our wonderful NHS in this time of need."



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FUN AND FLOWERS

With the idea of cheering everyone at this difficult time, I have written two books, 'Fun & Flowers' (£10 plus £1.50 postage in aid of the new Thames Valley Hospice) and 'More Fun & Flowers' (£12 plus £1.50 postage in aid of the Thames Valley Air Ambulance) both of which you are encouraged to buy as they are full of jokes, and interesting articles, together with photos of the wonderful flowers in our garden this year. The joy our gardens have given us all this year, with nature not bothered by the virus, was something I wanted to share.

If you would like a copy of one or both books, please ring me on 01344 621419 or email me on hilary.mear@gmail.com

Happy Christmas to you all, keep smiling and God Bless you.

Hilary Mear

NOTICES



PARISH CARE NETWORK

If you need help or someone to talk to, please contact:
Mary Nichols on 01344 624535



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

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

sudoku 140

The solution to Sudoku 139:

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!

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

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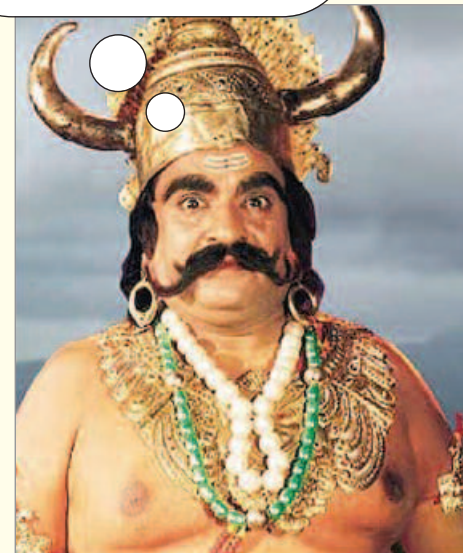
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CAPTION COMPETITION



I DECIDED TO GROW THIS MAGNIFICENT MOUSTACHE THIS "MOVEMBER" TO MAKE ME STAND OUT MORE IN A CROWD.



▲ Can anyone suggest what Santa might have been thinking?

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 31st December please.

◀ Congratulations to last month's winner, Pami Cross. A commendation goes to Dilwyn Jones of G Force, with his very amusing but sadly unprintable entry. For those who were wondering, this is not Ronnie Barker!

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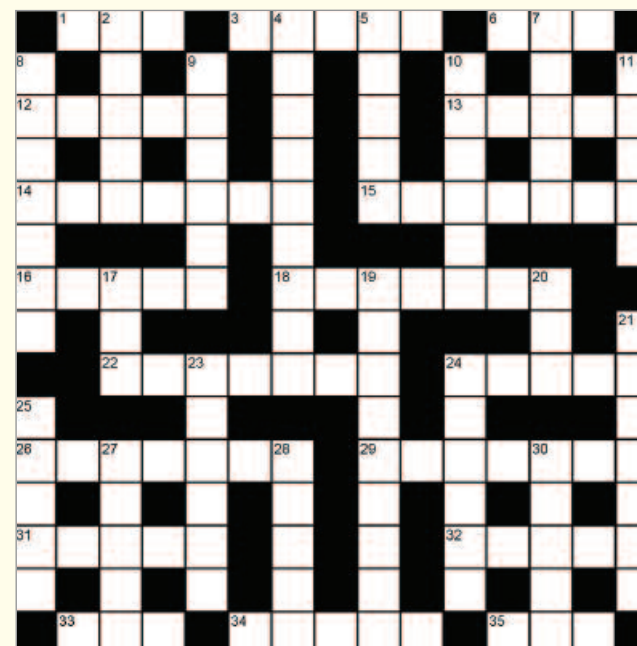
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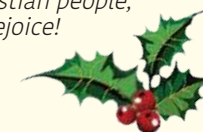


The answers to Crossword no.200 will be published in the next issue.

The answers to Crossword no.199 were:

P	E	A	G	N	O	C	C	H	I	Y	E	O	
I	D	G	I	V	O	P							
R	A	V	E	R	E	C	T	A	N	G	L	E	
A	E	D	E	A	N	I	R						
T	I	N	T	I	N	S	T	Y	A	B	B	A	
E	T	C	R	O	E	H							
			S	K	I	S	I	N	D	I	A	N	A
S	M	E	M	I	C	Y	R	T					
T	I	T	A	N	I	A	E	L	S	A			
Y	E	S	S	S	A	S							
L	Y	R	E	W	H	O	M	E	R	L	I	N	
U	E	L	H	S	Y	C	O						
S	U	B	M	A	R	I	N	E	C	O			
E	U	M	T	L	T	P							
S	O	S	B	A	S	H	F	U	L	T	R	Y	

Sing the first 4 clues
In your loudest voice
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ACROSS

- There's a bar in winning a room here at Christmas (3)
- Clued up. How sweet! (5)
- Wee, lost visitor to baby Jesus (3)
- Wobble about losing balance first then go under (5)
- Seraph sang eloquently inside ... (5)
- ... for example sang Auld Lang syne but not recently! (4,3)
- Provider of clothes for Adam and Eve? (3,4)
- Looks for some religious types, it's said (5)
- Tracey and I make "rocks" in this (3,4)
- Busy getting ready for wedding? (7)
- Does he take a curtain call under an arbour? (5)
- Enjoying success - like Andrex? (2,1,4)
- Umpire, huge, heads East but, missing hotel, he seeks shelter (7)
- Star, perhaps, producing this on Kindle? (5)
- Like a naughty pixie left on the shelf at Christmas? (5)
- How to address a short gentleman? (3)
- Carol round tree first which is a pain (5)
- This biblical creature is a bit classy (3)

DOWN

- Any long stocking may be made of this (5)
- Picking one's Christmas tree. Feeling like a 29 perhaps (9)
- Seaside feature notably seen on a Summer Holiday?
- Gamble for jester and Queen (5)
- Blokes I arranged to build this monument (7)
- Promises to turn the air blue? (6)
- German arranged for place to sleep for baby Jesus (6)
- Prepares a satsuma perhaps from top to bottom then has a siesta (5)
- Lady never in the middle just before Christmas (3)
- I wondered about a covering to help me 11 (9)
- You sound like Ankerwyke, perhaps (3)
- The Maid from here was lost in Salerno (7)
- Trog to build a cave for Santa (6)
- Blow this at informal supper? (6)
- Carol's companion with Ivy (5)
- Jason's place to buy your Christmas presents? (5)
- Sounds like record of Hungarian composer (5)
- Genius tips at Christmas? (5)

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DAILY PRAYER FOR OUR COMMUNITY, DECEMBER

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.

1 Dec	Quince Close	Rev 20	Almighty God Give us grace to cast away the works of darkness And to put on the armour of light, Now in the time of this mortal life, In which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; That on the last day, When he shall come again in his glorious majesty To judge the living and the dead, We may rise to the life immortal; Through him who is alive and reigns with you, In the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God, now and for ever..
2	Ravensdale Road	Rev 21.1-8	
3	Regents Walk	Rev 21.9-21	
4	Royal Victoria Gdns	Rev 21.22-22.5	
5	School Road	Rev 22.6-end	
6	Silwood Close + New Mile Cottages	Luke 1.5-20	
7	Silwood Park	1 Thess. 1	
8 Dec	Silwood Road	1 Thess. 2.1-12	O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power And come among us, And with great might succour us; That whereas, through our sins and wickedness We are grievously hindered In running the race that is set before us, Your bountiful grace and mercy May speedily help and deliver us; Through Jesus Christ your son our Lord, To whom with you and the Holy Spirit Be honour and glory, now and for ever.
9	Spring Gardens	1 Thess. 2.13-end	
10	St George's Lane	1 Thess. 3	
11	St Mary's Hill	1 Thess. 4.1-12	
12	St Mary's Road	1 Thess. 4.13-end	
13	Stanmore Close	Luke 1.57-66	
14	Sunninghill Close	1 Thess. 5.1-11	
15 Dec	Sunninghill High St	1 Thess. 5.12-end	God our redeemer Who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary To the mother of your Son: Grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, So we may be ready to greet him When he comes as our judge; Who is alive and reigns with you, In the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God, now and for ever.
16	Sunnybank	2 Thess.1	
17	Tenby Drive	2 Thess.2	
18	The Covert	2 Thess.3	
19	The Poplars	Jude	
20	The Terrace	Romans 1.1-7	
21	Truss Hill Road	2 Peter 1.1-15	
22 Dec	Upper Village Road	2 Peter 1.16-2.3	Almighty God, You have given us your only-begotten Son To take our nature upon him And as at this time to be born of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again And made your children by adoption and grace, May be daily renewed by your Holy Spirit; 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	Vicarage Gardens	2 Peter 2.4-end	
24	Victoria Road	2 Peter 3	
25	Happy Christmas	Matthew 1.18-end	
26	Watersplash Lane	Acts 6	
27	Whitmore Lane	1 John 2.1-11	
28	Whynstones Road	Matthew 18.1-10	
29 Dec	All Souls Road	John 1.1-18	Almighty God, Who wonderfully created us in your own image And yet more wonderfully restored us Through your Son Jesus Christ: Grant that, as he came to share in our humanity, So may we share the life of his divinity; Who is alive and reigns with you, in the Unity of the Holy Spirit One God, now and forever.
30	Armitage Court	John 1.19-28	
31	Ascot High Street	John 1.29-34	

DAILY PRAYER FOR OUR COMMUNITY, JANUARY 2021

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.

1 Jan	Ascot High Street	Romans 2.17-end	Almighty God You wonderfully created us in your own image And yet more wonderfully restored us Through your Son Jesus Christ: Grant that, as he came to share our humanity, So we may share the life of his divinity Who is alive and reigns with you, In the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God, now and for ever.
2	Ascot Wood	John 1.35-42	
3	Bagshot Road	Luke 2.41-end	
4	Beechcroft	John 2.1-12	
5	Blacknest Gate	John 2.13-end	
6	Bouldish Farm Rd	Matthew 2.1-12	
7	Bowden Road	1 John 3	
8 Jan	Bridge Road	1 John 4.7-end	Almighty God, In the birth of your Son You have poured on us the new light of your Incarnate Word, And shown us the fullness of your love: Help us to walk in his light and dwell in his love That we may know the fullness of his joy; Who is alive and reigns with you, In the unity of the Holy Spirit One God, now and for ever.
9	Brockenhurst Rd	1 John 5.1-12	
10	Buckhurst Lane	John 1.29-34	
11	Buckhurst Road	1 Corinthians 1.1-17	
12	Carberry Lane	1 Corinthians 1.18- end	
13	Cardwell Crescent	1 Corinthians 2	
14	Carroll Crescent	1 Corinthians 3	
15 Jan	Cavendish Meads	1 Corinthians 4	Eternal Father, Who at the baptism of Jesus Revealed him to be your Son, Anointing him with the Holy Spirit; Grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit, That we may be faithful to our calling as your Adopted children; 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	Charters Lane	1 Corinthians 5	
17	Charters Close	John 1.43-end	
18	Cheapside Road	1 Corinthians 6.1-11	
19	Church Lane	1 Corinthians 6.12- end	
20	Church Road	1 Corinthians 7.1-24	
21	Claver Drive	1 Corinthians 7.25- end	
22 Jan	Coombe Lane	1 Corinthians 8	Almighty God, In Christ you make all things new; Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of Your grace, And in the renewal of our lives Make known your heavenly glory; 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	Coronation Road	1 Corinthians 9.1-14	
24	Cromwell Road / Crown Hill Court	John 3.16-21	
25	Dorian Drive	Phil.3.1-14	
26	Durning Place	1 Corinthians 10.1-13	
27	Elizabeth Gardens	1 Corinthians 10.14- 11.1	
28	Exchange Road	1 Corinthians 11.12- 16	
29	Fennell Close	1 Corinthians 11.17- end	
30	Field House Close	1 Corinthians 1.1-11	
31	Fir Tree Close	Mark 1.40-end	

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DIRECTOR OF MUSIC	Camilla Jarnot	music@ssaparish.org
BAPTISMS	Church Office	admin@ssaparish.org
WEDDINGS	Church Office	admin@ssaparish.org
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CHILDREN & FAMILIES	Nicola Shaw	nicola@allsoulsascot.org
BAPTISMS	Rev Stephen Johnson	01344 873202
WEDDINGS	Fay Philp	07771 284479 admin@allsoulsascot.org
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