

Albury Parish News

December 2023

Number 405



**Serving the local communities of Albury,
Albury Heath, Brook, Farley Green,
Little London and Newlands Corner**

Services/events in Albury and Farley Green for December 2023

At the Parish Church, Church Lane, Albury
unless stated.

‘Worship for everyone’

9.30 services are livestreamed

All are welcome in church. For the livestreaming link on relevant Sundays, if you cannot get there in person, please visit www.alburychurches.org

3	8.00 am Holy Communion Book of Common Prayer
	9.30 a.m. Advent Sunday Worship for everyone Looking forward, not back
10	9.30 a.m. Communion Service A forlorn hope?
	4.00 p.m. Messy Christmas Intergenerational worship and activity
17	8.00 am Holy Communion Book of Common Prayer
	9.30 a.m. Worship for everyone It's not about me
	5.00 p.m. Carols at the Old Church In Albury Park. Dress warmly and bring a torch.
21 (Thursday)	6.00 p.m. Carol singing fun - The Drummond
24	9.30 a.m. Communion Service God keeps his promises
Christmas Eve	4.00 p.m. Christingle Service See and experience the Christmas Story. An Albury highlight.
25	9.30 a.m. Christmas Worship for all ages At the Parish Church, Church Lane
Christmas Day	11.00 a.m. Communion at the Barn At St Michael's, Farley Green
31	9.30 a.m. Communion Service The baby who saved the world

Front cover: Early morning on Farley Heath—Lynne Chamberlain

From the Minister

“ ’Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house
Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse...”

That’s certainly our hope, especially after my wife opened a cupboard last week and a mouse popped out. After investigation (and washing of crockery etc.) we discovered said mouse had been dining on Quaker Oats and chocolate Minstrels, with not even an IOU left for the cost. Not a bad existence.

Whatever warm fuzzy feelings I have towards our cute furry friends, best advice is not to let them feast on your breakfast cereal and walk over your plates. We were however soft-hearted enough to buy a trap to take them alive rather than the sort that terminates them with a sudden crack.

The next morning I came downstairs to find a bored and fed-up mouse sitting in the trap, and released it far away, in open country with good cover for mice. Find your own berries and nuts, scrounger. He didn’t look the slightest bit grateful for the lightness of his sentence compared to summary execution.

It’s early days but the traps have since remained empty, so perhaps the mice will give us a quiet Christmas.

We’re very ambivalent about such creatures, aren’t we? On the one hand we love their big black eyes and wuffy noses. On the other, there’s no way we’re going to let them share space with our foodstuffs. They get a bad rap in the Bible, too - they are carriers of plague and destruction and aren’t even considered clean to eat. I’m sure people back then found them cute too, but they kept that quiet.

Mice, strangely, help us think about what God did for us in the event we remember at Christmas. Because we’re way worse than mice.

Mice mess up the place through instinct. It’s their programmed lifestyle. If we create stores of things they like, how are they to know it’s not a natural phenomenon open for the taking? They have no concept of our interests. We, on the other hand, can choose how we act towards other people. We can work out the consequences. And yet we often hurt and disadvantage others anyway.

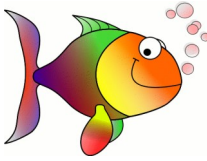
But God values us even though we haven’t got big black eyes and wuffy noses. He sets our value so high that he was prepared to enter the world in a human baby to re-establish the contact with himself that human beings had rubbished. And the baby born at Bethlehem grew into a man who would not let go of God’s love for humanity even when it led him to a Roman cross.

Christmas has so much that’s fun, happy, and sentimental, including poems about mice and St Nicholas. They give the season a feel unlike any other. May we also remember the much deeper message of Christmas - a love for the unlovely so deep that God entered our broken world to remake our broken bond with him.

Happy Christmas

*Andrew Pearson,
Resident Minister*

Little Fishes



Little Fishes is temporarily suspended owing to low numbers, but that we will be meeting in the Barn church on Friday 15th December at 9.30 for anyone who is able to come. For further details, please email pennycrandall@hotmail.com

Hark & Ride

If you would like a lift to church when services resume, then please phone 01483 202210 or 01483 203208

If you can help in this way occasionally, please contact Theresa Channer on 202210 or Penny Randall on 203208

Defibrillator Information

The Parish Council have installed defibrillators at the following locations.

Albury Memorial Library
Corner

Little London (William 1V)

Newlands

Farley Green (Bus Shelter)

Main Door, St Peter and St Pauls, Church
Lane

Hear Here

The Hear Here clinic runs once a month in Shere Surgery, from 1 till 3pm on a Tuesday afternoon, usually the first or second Tuesday in the month. This is a volunteer led service intended for those with NHS hearing aids needing minor repairs or new batteries. Please remember to bring your NHS booklet if you have one.

To book an appointment please call the surgery on 01483 202066.

Dates for upcoming session: 5th December, 9th January and 6th February.

Penny Randall

Advertise in the Albury Parish News

If you are a local company or supplier, you could place an ad in the Albury Parish News. We distribute over 600 magazines in the parish – everyone receives a copy.

Quarter page (9 x 6 cm portrait)	Annual insertion fee	£110,
	Monthly insertion fee	£12
Half page (9 x 12cm Landscape)	Annual insertion fee	£220,
	Monthly insertion fee	£25
Full Page (18 x 12 cm portrait),	Annual insertion fee	£450
	Monthly insertion fee	£50

For any further information, please contact me.

*Denise Chamberlain
ads@alburychurches.org*

Remembering at Messy Church



There are many reasons we remember people - such as ways they have helped us, or lives they have shaped for us, or just because we love them.

In a season of remembering, on Remembrance Sunday, Messy Church thought about the importance of remembering and loving family even if things haven't always been plain sailing.

Some fantastic activities were topped off with a chance to think and some lovely things to eat.

The next Messy Church at 4.00 p.m. on 10 December is a special Christmas edition complete with a DIY drama

in which we will meet Festive Fred!

Parish Of Albury Henry Smith Charity

The local Committee of the Henry Smith Charity distributes small gifts of money every year to those in financial need, or who need help because of illness, disability, or age. Covid19 and a big rise in the cost of energy has brought hardship to many more Parishioners.

If you know of somebody in the Parish of Albury (which includes Newlands Corner, Brook, Little London, and Farley Green) who is experiencing financial need and not already on the list of recipients, or if you are in that position yourself, please write to the Committee at the address below for a simple application form or alternatively contact by email: floyd@rfandco.com.

The sums of money are not large but can be helpful for small needs.

Please contact:

Linda Floyd, The Secretary of the Albury Parish Committee

Henry Smith Charity

29 Roseacre Gardens

Chilworth

GUILDFORD GU4 8RQ

December Eco tips

Recycle right this Christmas (and beyond!) Since more waste ends up in landfill over Christmas than during the rest of the year, it's a great time of year to review and improve your own recycling set up at home. Different boroughs offer different recycling provisions, but you can find out exactly what you can recycle at home by entering your postcode here: recyclenow.com/recycling-locator For more practical ways to enjoy, nurture and defend nature, sign up to A Rocha UK's Wild Christian email at: arocha.org.uk/wild-christian

Food Banks Need Your Help More Than Ever In 2023! Not Just Food.



Hunger in the UK isn't about food. It's lack of income and the main drivers of foodbank use are:-

- Problems with the benefits system (delays, inadequacy and deductions)
- Challenging life experiences or ill health
- Lack of informal or formal support
- Now in 2023.- soaring energy, food and general cost of living prices.

How You Can Help? What items you can donate?

Think about food stuffs that do not require heating e.g.

Cereal	UHT Milk	Tinned Fish
Tinned Fruit	Biscuits	Tinned Beans
Long Life Fruit Juices		

Other Items / Ways you can Help?

Household Cleaning Products	Sanitary Items	Nappies/Baby Wipes
Cooking Oils	Tinned Soups/Meat /Stews	
Condiments / Spices	Pasta	Rice Pasta Sauce

You can give money in an Envelope to help Guildford Food Banks to put money on users' Fuel Cards - **Just mark your envelope and give to Harry in Pratts Stores.**

DONATION POINTS IN ALBURY.

Pratts Stores in Albury Village:- contact Harry on 01483 202123 to donate £5/£10 by card, and Harry will select items for you to place in the Food Bank Collection Box.

OR purchase items from Harry to donate to the Food Bank.

OR in St Peter & St Paul's Church in Albury in the Lobby- on Saturdays 10am - 4pm or Sunday mornings, 9am - 11am.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

DIANN ARNFIELD 01483 203464.

SALV gets to the heart of the matter ...

Despite a filthy autumnal night as Storm Babet began to move across Britain, around 100 friends and supporters of the Shere And Local Villages (SALV) health trust packed into Shere Village Hall on October 18 to hear a fascinating talk by consultant cardiologist Dr Mike Hickman entitled *Look After Your Heart*.

The latest in SALV's successful biannual Open Evenings, this meeting began with a short, informal AGM at which Chairman Adrian O'Loughlin reported that the year up to March 31st, 2023, had been "quiet but interesting". Shere Surgery's plans for a much needed extension, to be called the Graham Tyrrell Wing in memory of the much loved late Head of Practice, had made some progress but were currently bogged down in NHS bureaucracy, with many other local projects competing for priority and for scarce funding. Adrian also welcomed two new SALV Trustees - Jo Kelly and Sarah Ingram - following the resignation of long-serving member Lesley Austin.

Our new Treasurer, Sue Edwards, gave her first report since taking over the role from her late father Terry, telling us that reserves had depleted in the year under review, with donations down from £26,000 to £16,000. This was no cause for alarm, Sue said, as the bank balance was still healthy, but she would be looking at ways of increasing revenue. When the time was ripe, we would also be asked if we could donate for the new extension, which would be a major project.

The next item on the evening's agenda was a short but excellently executed presentation by 18-year-old Felix Shetty, the son of Dr Emma Watts, on research he had done about why there had been reluctance among some local patients to use Brenda the Vendor, the Dispensary's prescription vending machine. Felix told us that the oldest user was aged 99 and, very much on the positive side, "Brenda is now a proper part of the community!"

Dr Hickman, a fluent and informative speaker, then told us about the many exciting developments in cardiac treatment over the ten years since he had last addressed SALV. Heart disease was still well at the top of the list of global causes of death and he analysed some of the risks and most frequent causes with a helpful PowerPoint presentation. He strongly advised the over-50s to take statins to reduce the risk of heart attacks and strokes (as he himself does) and said that the host of new drugs in the cardiac field in the past three years had been "absolutely amazing" - but they are hugely expensive, he warned us. A moral dilemma for society and the NHS - similarly posed by the proliferation of new weight loss drugs - was that "we have to work out who can have them" in light of their high cost. Over time, these new advances would make a major improvement in cardiovascular treatment - and Dr Hickman predicted that still more important developments would come in the next ten years.

A lively Q&A session followed the talk before the meeting ended in SALV's time-honoured tradition of audience, speakers and the medical team from our wonderful Surgery mingling over a glass of wine or fruit juice. A hearty way to end another very successful community evening!

Tim Austin



GIVE A REAL ADVENT CALENDAR

THE REAL ADVENT CALENDAR



"A GREAT IDEA."
Alan Titchmarsh

INCLUDES **FREE** CHRISTMAS
STORY-ACTIVITY BOOK

NEW 2023 DESIGN

MEANINGFUL FEATURES

- Free 24 page Christmas story-activity book
- A line of the story behind each window
- £300 children's prize competition
- 30% quality Fairtrade Milk Chocolate
- Palm oil free
- 25 festive chocolate shapes
- Charitable donation
- Packed in hygienic wrap
- Recyclable box & tray

WHAT IS A REAL ADVENT CALENDAR?

The Real Advent Calendar was created in 2013 in response to surveys which revealed that 36% of 5-7 year olds did not know whose birthday was celebrated at Christmas.

To help spread the Christmas story the Real Advent Calendar has a line of the Christmas story behind each of the 25 doors and a corresponding page in the Christmas story-activity book which expands the story.

Kids love the Fairtrade chocolate and they love the book. Parents enjoy reading it with their kids and learning more about the Christmas story and traditions.

Where to Buy

The calendar is no longer available in supermarkets so please order direct from

WWW.REALADVENT.CO.UK

FUNZIBODO
THE FUNZI AND BODO TRUST

You can order your advent calendar from Sheena, please email
sheena.pearson@btopenworld.com

Your garden in December

Yule marks the waning of the year, Anglo Saxons refer to December as Ærra Geola, before yule. They honoured their gods with a festival of food, ale, mead, wine and song. As Christianity spread, many of these pagan rites died out, but some were incorporated into Christian celebrations. Christmas is now celebrated with much eating, drinking and merrymaking.

Gardeners celebrate the winter solstice, December 22nd welcoming the coming of longer days and shorter nights not only with a few celebratory drinks, but possibly with a bonfire to get rid of all the winter prunings. You may wish to decorate your potting shed with evergreens and turn it into a mead hall for yule.

Now is the time to sharpen your secateurs, don your thornproof coat, gloves and thermals and get down (or up) for winter pruning. It may be a good idea to start with the lower growing shrubs to ease yourself into it. Most deciduous shrubs benefit from winter pruning, with the leaves gone you can see the structure of the plant. Cut out all dead and crossing branches. If there is anything left, prune to a goblet shape, cutting just above an outward facing bud on each twig. Decide that you need to remind yourself what a goblet looks like and take your half frozen self to the potting shed for a restorative goblet of mead.

Once you have finished those, it is time to tackle the roses. Before doing this, check that your tetanus shot is up to date. Resharpen the secateurs and head for the rose garden. The principle is the same, cut out dead wood and crossing branches. Prune out thin weak growth and shorten strong, healthy shoots. If you didn't prune your rambling roses at the end of summer, you can renovate them now. Put on a safety helmet and goggles before tackling climbing and rambling roses. Those long, whippy branches have one thought as you approach them with the secateurs, revenge. They will try to wrap themselves round your arms, legs and head as they are separated from their parent plant. Those that don't will be entwined around their support, an adjacent tree or have gone over the neighbour's fence to see if they have a better garden than you. Back to the potting shed for the sticking plasters and some liquid anaesthetic.

Now it is time to get out the ladders. Check that your life insurance is up to date. It is time to winter prune wisteria, apple and pear trees, deciduous ornamental trees and your grape vine. You may wish to refer to your gardening tomes for pruning advice, how many buds to leave, how hard should you prune and have you missed the deadline. Remember your plant has not read the book, it has wended its merry way around the garden with no idea that it isn't following the rules. Most illustrations show the professional gardener holding a bare twig with the requisite number of buds below his secateurs, his feet are set firmly on the ground. His plant has read the book, there are no twenty foot whippy growths in sight. This gardener has a grape vine, each year it produces lots of small, tart black grapes that make an excellent jelly. Each year it aims for world domination, I take the secateurs to it every two weeks so that I can walk along the paths without getting drowned if it has been raining or caught in its tendrils. I am careful to keep moving just in case. It tries very hard to be an indoor vine, doors and windows are kept firmly shut so it can't get in. I think the only book it has read is The Day of the Triffids.

Happy gardening, a merry Christmas and a pest free New Year.



**The Friends of St Michael's Barn Church,
Farley Green**
invite you to

Christmas wreath workshops
11 and 12 December



Book your place now

When?

Monday 11 December

10 am to 12 noon

7 – 9 pm

Tuesday 12 December

7 – 9 pm

Costs? £40.00

(refreshments included)

Bookings are non-refundable and are confirmed on a first paid basis

We'll provide you with all the materials and locally sourced beautiful fresh seasonal foliage, dried seedheads, berries, fir cones and everything else you need to create your festive decoration under Sally Godfrey's friendly guidance.

To book your place,
please email farleybarnevents@gmail.com

Organised by The Friends of St Michael's Barn Church

News from the Barn Church



HAPPY CHRISTMAS!

The Friends of St Michael's Barn Church wish you the very best for Christmas and the New Year and thank you for your support, not only at our Café Food Bank collections but actively taking part in the various events bringing our community together and making newcomers welcome to Farley Green.

We hope to see you at 'Bubbles in the Barn' on Friday 12th January 6.30-8.30 and at future events throughout 2024.

Dates for your Diary:

Bridge Evening	£8	2 December
Christmas workshops		11/12 December
Bubbles in the Barn 2024		12 January

*Liz Cooper, Trustee
Friends of St Michael's Barn Church:
secretary@thebarnchurch.co.uk*

Do you like to play Bridge?

Come and join us in the Barn Church, Farley Green for a friendly Charity Bridge evening on Saturday 2nd of December 2023 at 7.30 pm.

All funds raised go towards the St Michael's restoration fund. Cost £8 per person or £32 per table. Tea and cakes provided, along with a Raffle.

Please come as a 4 if you can. We will have a partners list for those without a partner. To book your place please phone Marion on 07909 764613. Fun FUN FUN!

Details on payment will be sent to you following your telephone or text message.

The Friends of St Michael's Barn Church, Farley Green

Messy Christmas



December 10th at 4pm

**Come and join in our 'instant' nativity play
'Festive Fred finds the Greatest Gift'**

Plus fun activities for all ages

Then tea for the children. A cuppa & cake for adults!

**Children please come dressed as Mary, Joseph, shepherd or
an angel. Some clothes available**

Please bring your friends, everyone is welcome!

**Please let Sheena know by December 4th if you can join us!
sheena.pearson@btopenworld.com**

St Peter & St Paul's Parish Church, Church Lane, Albury

Parish People - Prince Albert (Junior)



Christmas is a time for mystical beings, but it is also a time for real people. Human beings, who have had just as great an impact on Christmas as any of the creatures of Christmas. And perhaps the most significant of these humans was Prince Albert, the Prince Consort. We are joined here today by his eldest son and namesake, Prince Albert (Junior) to discuss the mark his parents left on Christmas.

Interviewer: Good morning! Thank you so much for agreeing to talk to us today. I know you must be especially busy around this time.

Albert: It's no trouble at all. I love to talk about my parents, and everything they did.

Interviewer: Well, they certainly brought quite a few traditions to life! Why don't we talk about Christmas trees? One of the most famous contributions to British Christmas, I hear!

Albert: I recall, throughout my childhood, my father setting up the Christmas tree at Windsor Castle each year. When I grew older, I was shocked to discover that most people hadn't experienced *der Weihnachtsbaum* from as early an age as I had. Ever since my father started this, Christmas trees grew in popularity, and now it's rarer to find a house without a Christmas tree in than with. Even if it did mean the castle got pine needles all over the floor!

Interviewer: I can sympathise with that! What else did your parents popularise?

Albert: Christmas cards, *and* presents. They're something so integral to Christmas nowadays, but, once upon a time, they simply weren't. My parents liked to send cards and gifts to one another during the holiday season, and it simply caught on. Sometimes, it strikes me that my parents quite literally invented Christmas as we know it. It's remarkable.

Interviewer: Interesting! What was your personal favourite family - and I suppose, now nationwide - Christmas tradition?

Albert: Carolling. Another thing my father popularised. He certainly waged a war on Christmas as the people knew it! Nothing was better at Christmas time than going to church, and singing. Not, of course, that me or any of my relatives sound very good, but it was fun, nonetheless. One simply had to make sure they weren't sitting next to my brother, Leopold, who sang like a dying cat. Though I wasn't much better!

Interviewer: I'm sure you weren't *that* bad!

Albert: Well, I appreciate your faith.

Interviewer: You mentioned that Christmas cards and presents were a big part of your holiday season. Do you have any cherished Christmas cards or gift-giving memories from your family celebrations?

Albert: Oh, absolutely! They were such heart-warming aspects of our Christmas. I remember, one year, me and my siblings all getting a handmade card from my father. Mine was a winter scene, with a few snowmen in the background. He had evidently spent some time on each one, and I keep it among my most treasured possessions.

Interviewer: We've talked about the traditions your parents brought to Britain. Are there any lesser-known customs or practices from your family's Christmases that you'd like to share with our readers?

Albert: That's a great question. Every family has some, don't they? One unique tradition we had was the crafting of Christmas ornaments. My parents were both great lovers of the arts, and they instilled these values in us as well. Each of us, every year, would spend hours crafting our own ornaments out of simple materials like paper, clay, and fabric. They hold such sentimental value, and added a personal touch to our Christmas tree year after year.

Interviewer: That sounds lovely. How about Christmas dinner? That is an essential part of the holiday. Can you describe what Christmas dinner was like in your family? Were there any special dishes or must-have recipes on your table?

Albert: Christmas dinner, every year, was a delicious affair, the table groaning with goodies. Many families cooked a goose, whilst poorer people made do with rabbit. We usually had roast beef and a Royal Swan or two! Oh, and roasted turkey, which proved itself to be my personal favourite food. My mother was especially fond of Christmas pudding, and personally set it alight each year. This meal was a favourite of mine because it signified my whole family coming together, which didn't happen as often as I'd have liked. These meals were a symbol of warmth and togetherness.

Interviewer: What would you say your happiest ever Christmas memory is?

Albert: Despite all the family atmosphere, there was certainly a significant amount of bickering, us being siblings. We would quarrel all the time on Christmas morning. Nonetheless, we still had games just before lunch, some invented by my father to help us burn off some energy. One year we had a snowball tournament. I would have liked more white Christmases. That particular tradition strikes me as the best Christmas memory. My mother didn't join in with that one, though. She was, in her trademark way, not amused!

Interviewer: What kind of things would you quarrel over?

Albert: Oh, all sorts. You know how siblings are. And there were an awful lot of us. Usually it was because someone was singing, and someone else wanted quiet to read a book, and a third person was trying to organise

a theatre performance, and no one could quite agree on what we should be doing, and who should get their way. Usually Victoria - my sister, that is - would end up settling the debate, but another one would soon spring up. I remember those times with fondness, though. There was no malice of any sort.

Interviewer: How was Christmas different in a castle? Did you see anyone important around Christmastime?

Albert: In the season, certainly. It was quite usual to have some lord or lady or another sitting in the dining room when you went down for supper. On Christmas Day itself, they were all with their own families. Frankly, I much preferred it that way. I didn't know any of them!

Interviewer: Just a couple more questions. How do you feel about your parents' legacy, knowing that millions of people around the world celebrate Christmas in ways that your family helped establish?

Albert: It's rather a wonderful feeling. I had such lovely memories of Christmas throughout my life. I think it is incredible that these lovely memories have spread to so many more families worldwide. While Christmas, at its core, is about Jesus, it has come to have a deeper meaning as well; a meaning of unity, compassion, and love. Spreading these traditions helps spread these messages, and they are certainly worthy ones.

Interviewer: Finally, as someone who grew up with these traditions, what advice would you give to families and individuals looking to create meaningful and memorable Christmas celebrations today?

Albert: That the greatest Christmases are built of one's own traditions. My father brought over some incredible things, and has popularised them. But the way to have the best Christmas is to make your own traditions, or adapt current ones. Personalise your holiday season, and make it exactly what you and your family value.

Interviewer: That's a very important message. I'll try to keep it in my heart this year! Thank you for coming and sharing your stories.

Albert: It has been a pleasure. MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE!

NOTE: *In all humility, Queen Victoria and Prince Albert named the first two of their nine children after themselves (Victoria & Albert). The second child, and eldest son, interviewed above, was born on 9th November 1841, christened Albert Edward, and (like his grandson King George VI) was affectionally known as 'Bertie'. He was appointed Prince of Wales when one month old but excluded from affairs of state until aged fifty. He succeeded to the throne as King Edward VII upon his mother's death on 22nd January 1901 and proved a popular monarch during his short reign. He died on 6th May 1910.*

Written and illustrated by Ivy Harrison, aged 15.

Chilworth C of E Infant School & Nursery

Reception Class - Yellow Chicks



During the first half term, the Yellow Chicks' exploration was centred around understanding one another, their personal preferences, family structures, and delving into the school environment. The children actively engaged with key figures within the school community, understanding the significance of their roles in a broader context. Their learning extended beyond the school and home spheres, venturing into the local community, learning about various individuals who provide essential assistance. The children eagerly absorbed knowledge about diverse professions, such as the roles of a Police Sergeant and a veterinary nurse. Their dedication shone through in the preparation of a song for the Harvest Church Service, complemented by the joy of baking delicious bread while continuing their exploration of the harvest theme. After the half-term break, the learning journey continued with a focus on the reasons behind celebrating the 5th of November and Guy Fawkes. Presently, their focus lies on the festivities of Diwali, engaging in hands-on activities such as crafting diva pots using clay and the upcoming experience of making chapattis. Their excitement for the upcoming Christmas nativity is evident, as they enthusiastically practice for their roles in the performance.

Year 1 - Red Robins

In Year 1 this half term we have been learning about pets. The children have thoroughly enjoyed visits from a range of pets and their owners and finding out how to care for a pet. In science, we have been focusing on the features of different animals, whether they are birds, fish, mammals or reptiles, herbivores, carnivores, or omnivores. Our role play area has been transformed into a veterinary surgery containing posters and leaflets we have written to give people information about their pets and how to care for them.

In the lead up to Christmas we will be learning about the Christmas story and practising our school play. In Design Technology we are learning to sew and will be designing and creating our own Christmas stockings as well as a range of other Christmas art and craft projects using 2D and 3D shapes.

Year 2 - Bluebirds

This half term is called Flickering Flames as we learn about Guy Fawke's failed Gun Powder plot as well as the devastation cause by the Great Fire of London. As part of this learning, we will be exploring the Chilworth Gun Powder Mills to find out what life was like in the past. We will also be making our own Pudding Lane in Design Technology and setting it alight to experience, from a safe distance, our own mini fire of London! We will be having a busy time as we are also already in the midst of rehearsing for this year's Christmas Production which is called Super Star.

Puddle Ducks Nursery

In Puddle Ducks we continued with the 'All about Me' theme and talked about our families and all the special people around us, including our friends. We then talked

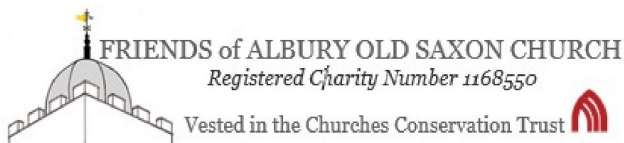
at great length about emotions. We daily used, and still do, the 'Colour Monsters' book and soft toys to explain and learn about different feelings so that children can understand, recognise and empathise with the emotions they feel and see in others. During this half term we moved to 'traditional tales'. The children not only have been learning new vocabulary, recreating stories with different media, figurines, finger puppets and sequencing cards but have enjoyed eating porridge after reading 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' and making gingerbread biscuits after listening to the 'Gingerbread Man' story. These activities have been really popular and have been the source of great conversations. We're now getting ready for Christmas, learning our song for the School Nativity and can't wait to sing it in front of everyone!

Coralie Mankel

Headteacher

Chilworth Infant School & Nursery

www.chilworth.surrey.sch.uk



Events for the rest of the year!

Thursday, 7 December: Christmas Lights Switch-On! 6:00pm.

Wrap up warm and come along for a glass of warming mulled wine, a mince pie and a few traditional songs from the lovely **Kim Collins** to celebrate the start of the festive season!

RSVP: secretary@alburyoldsaxonchurch.org

Saturday, 16 December: "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens -

The final performances this year by **This Is My Theatre** after a very successful summer season. **5:00pm Performance SOLD OUT!**

7:30pm Performance, some tickets still available, book online - use 'CCTFriend' for Friends discount.

Sunday, 17 December: Annual Candlelit Carol Service, 5:00pm

in the Saxon Church. Dress up warmly, arrive early. Mulled wine & warm mince pies after the service will help to keep out the cold!



What's on in December

Date	Time	Event	Location	Page
2	3.00 p.m.	Ladybirds Choir Christmas Concert	Dorking	26
2	7.30 p.m.	Bridge Evening	St Michael's Barn Church	10
3	12.30 p.m.	QRMW Christmas in the Woodland	Holmbury St Mary	22
7	6.00 p.m.	Christmas Lights Switch on	The Old Saxon Church	17
9	4.30 p.m.	Dorking Choral Society Christmas Concert	Dorking	26
10	7.30 p.m.	Shere Village Cinema Grease	Shere Village Hall	25
11 & 12	10.00 -12 noon & 7.00–9.00 p.m.	Christmas Wreath Workshop	St Michael's Barn Church	10
16	7.30 p.m.	A Christmas Carol	The Old Saxon Church	17
16		Band "Blurred"	Gomshall Club	24
17	12.00–2.00 p.m.	Christmas Party	Gomshall Club	24
17	5.00 p.m.	Carols at the old Church	The Old Saxon Church	17
20	6.00 p.m.	Carols at the Drummond	The Drummond	2
24	3.00 p.m.	Pop up Nativity	Gomshall Club	24

Peaslake Free School

The children enjoyed a slightly prolonged half term as the staff returned to school to update their First Aid training, specifically designed with young children in mind. It taught us how to cope with emergencies both indoors and outdoors. We undertake training every three years to refresh our knowledge and skills but also to keep up with new legislation.

Once the doors opened the children bounced back full of Hallowe'en stories and sweets! We then took them on a trip to Winchester Science Museum where they explored a huge variety of exhibits with their science hats on. Our workshop taught us about the changing state of matter through the media of slime which was very hands-on and sticky! Another highlight was a visit to the planetarium, taking off from our seats, leaving Earth behind to visit the different planets in our solar system. Needless to say, there were some sleepy children on the coach on the way home.



Back at school we like to join in the celebrations of different religions and Diwali has become a favourite, not only for its unique story, but for all the colour and light it brings into school. The children enjoyed an afternoon retelling the story of Rama and Sita through dance, drama and singing, creating coloured rangoli patterns along the way.

We are now in full swing preparing for the Nativity play at the end of term whilst trying to keep the children focused on their learning, this inevitably becomes harder as the excitement of Christmas takes over!

We are always delighted to show parents of prospective pupils around the school. Please contact us to arrange an appointment: info@peaslakefreeschool.com Tel. 01306 730411 or via our website www.peaslakefreeschool.com

Sara Dangerfield

Meet Our Fantastic Nursery Team!

It's about time that I introduced you to the incredible individuals who make Peaslake Nursery a place of laughter, learning, and endless joy. Our amazing Nursery Team, a group of dedicated professionals who bring sunshine into the lives of our little ones.

Sian: *The Culinary Maestro*

Sian has been a cherished part of our Nursery for many years. She is the mastermind behind our little chefs' culinary adventures! Whether it's whipping up savoury delights or sweet treats, Sian's cooking activities create a hub of delicious exploration. From mini chefs to budding bakers, she guides them all with a smile. But the kitchen isn't her only domain; Sian's nurturing heart extends to cuddles, stories, and energetic outdoor play. It's no wonder our little ones adore her!

Becky: *The Smiling Serenity*

Becky is the queen of calming influence at our Nursery. With a perpetual big smile, she's the warm, welcoming presence that makes our little ones feel right at home. Her nurturing nature is legendary, and she's full of wonderful ideas, turning every day into a journey of exploration and discovery. Becky's serene aura is truly the heart of our Nursery.

Eve: *The Sunshine Enthusiast*

Eve may help on an ad-hoc basis, but her impact is anything but sporadic. She brings sunshine to our nursery in more ways than one, and it's not just about the weather! With a passion for children's yoga and a love for the great outdoors, she inspires our little ones to embrace the world around them. She even has a special "Mr. Sun" song that brightens up everyone's day.

Louise (Me): *The Magical Mess Maker!*

Well, I've got more years of experience under my belt than I'd care to admit - let's just say it's long enough to see a few generations of little ones pass through Nursery.

But it's not just about the years; it's the passion that keeps me going. I'm a firm believer in the magic of story time, and I've been known to make a fairy tale or two come to life in our Nursery. Finding out what makes each little one tick is what it's all about, evoking imaginations, questions and ideas, which usually leads to us creating a fantastic mess with all sorts of creative learning!

Our Nursery Team is truly a dynamic force to be reckoned with. Together, we create a nurturing environment where children thrive, laugh, and learn every day. So, here's to more giggles, more mess, and more magic in the wonderful world of Peaslake Nursery and to the incredible individuals who make our Nursery so special, thank you for all that you do!

If you're looking for a nurturing and inspiring learning environment for your child and would like to learn more about our Peaslake Nursery, please get in touch. You can visit our website www.peaslakenursery.com or contact us at 01306 730411 to arrange a visit.

Louise Collins

Sums up Christmas

Three phrases that sum up Christmas are: 'Peace on Earth'; 'Goodwill to Men'; and 'Batteries not included'.

HARRY EDWARDS

healingsanctuary

Wherever You Are, We're Here For You

We have a number of events during December and would love to see you in person and online:

Friday 1st - Healing Circle on Zoom at 7.30pm on zoom. Meeting ID 355 462 8759

Thursday 7th - 7pm Carol Service in our Chapel followed by drinks and mince pies

Sunday 10th - Healing for You on Zoom at 7.30pm on zoom. Meeting ID 355 462 8759

Online Activities over the Festive Period

Healing Minute - 9.55am every day on facebook @HarryEdwardsHealingSanctuary

We remain open for contact healing appointments which can be booked through our friendly reception team on 01483 202054 or by email: healingreception@burrowslea.org.uk. Why not follow your healing appointment with a cuppa and a bite to eat in our cosy Coffee Shop, complete with warming fires.

Wishing you a very happy Christmas. May 2024 be a wonderful year for you.

Alison McWhinnie

Director of Development

The Harry Edwards Healing Sanctuary





**QRMW, Pasturewood Rd,
Holmbury St Mary RH5 6LG
JOIN US FOR CHRISTMAS
AT THE WOODLAND
SUNDAY 3rd DECEMBER AT 12.30
FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY**

**Childrens Treasure Hunt at 12.30pm
Followed by a visit to see Santa in his
Grotto and receive a present
Adults Treasure Hunt**

**Tombola
Raffle
Childrens Lucky Dip
Christmas Stalls
Hot drinks and Hot dogs**

**Please Register the children its only £8 each Child to join in
and receive a goodie bag on
completion of the treasure hunt plus a gift from
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TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT—NUMBERS ARE LIMITED
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Email: debbiehornblow@yahoo.co.uk Tel: 07778873806**

All Proceeds go to help Veterans in Need

QRMW

We had a moving Remembrance Service in memory of those brave men and women who served in two World Wars at the Memorial Woodland on Saturday 11th November. We were joined by many Veterans from various Regiments, the children from St John's C of E School, Dorking who read poems and sang so well the famous We Are The Dead from the Fields of Flanders Also a great turnout by the Cadets from The Boundaries Army Cadet Corp. We also thank Elizabeth Sands who read a poem in memory of all of the animals who also served and suffered.

We were delighted to be joined by local residents and several Veteran's families whose loved ones are honoured at the woodland. Grateful thanks to our bugler Brian Cohen, to Rev David Grundy, Deacon James Snyder and Bernette Raphael for their prayers.

Thanks also to all of the Trustees and their good Wives who made hot drinks and manned the very successful poppy stall and of course we cannot forget to thank Roy Pickering for making sure we all kept warm! Thank you all for your incredible support.

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM.

Another very busy year for QRMW and an even busier one to look forward to as 2024 will be our 10th Anniversary of the opening of the Memorial Woodland. So put Saturday 1st June in your diaries to join us at the Woodland for a very special 10th Anniversary celebration and Commemoration Service.

I wish everyone a Very Happy Christmas and Healthy 2024 and look forward to seeing you at the Woodland.

Paul Cooling
Chairman
QRMW

PEASLAKE PANTO - SLEEPING BEAUTY & THE 40 WINKS

Yes, folks, it's not far off being Panto time again, and the legendary Peaslake Players Pantomime will be returning in January 2024. This time, we're pleased to present 'Sleeping Beauty' (complete with her 40 Winks), bringing with them a hamper full of gags, songs, dances, and all-round family entertainment - and of course, the odd surprise scattered amongst the boo's, hisses and 'behind-you's'. Will the dashing Prince find the Princess who it is rumoured has been asleep for 100 years? Will the good Fairies rediscover their magic and save the day? Will the evil Maleficent ever have her name pronounced properly? And who is the mysterious creature, TAFKAP? Well, there's only one way to find out - join us at the Peaslake Village Hall in late January/early February for one of our eight shows and all will be revealed (well, nearly all)!

Tickets are now on sale via the Peaslake Players website - www.peaslakeplayers.co.uk - where you will also find full details of performance dates. So we hope to see you in the New Year - and in the meantime, sleep tight and sweet dreams!

Gomshall Village Club

Another successful Sal's Poker night took place mid-October with more players this time.

The Children's Halloween Party, hosted by Rachel and Sam was very well supported and successful. There was Fun and Games for the children. The fancy dress competition, judged by Max, had Marion as winner but disqualified as she is an adult! Oh well you can't win them all. Sam was also an adult entry. He is pictured here with his daughters Emily and Grace.



Chris as 'Elvis', returned to the building for a successful evening with a small but very engaged audience.

15 people took part in another of Will's Bingo Nights, the last one of the year. There were 4 successful winners. Everyone taking part enjoyed the evening especially the amusing bingo calling on the e Bingo App.

UP COMING EVENTS

Sun 10th December Grand Christmas Meat

Sat 16th December - Band 'Slurred' an opportunity to brush off your Glam Rock Fancy Dress outfits

Sun 17th December Children's Christmas Party 12.00-2.00pm

Sun 17th Grand Christmas Draw

Sun 24th December Pop up Nativity 3pm

Sat 17th February Band 'Flip the Bird' 8.00pm

Members are politely reminded that membership renewal was due on October 1st, 2023. If you haven't done so, please pop in and renew your membership.

We open at 6pm - 10.30pm Monday - Thursday

Friday 4.30pm to 11.30pm

Saturday noon to 11.30pm

Opening times are prominently displayed on the front door.

Please come along and join us. Non-members pay £1 signing in fee. New members are always welcome.

Runs over

A father gave his daughter a young puppy for Christmas. An hour later, he found her in the kitchen, looking sadly at a puddle in the centre of the floor. "Look Dad," she said, "My pup runneth over!"

From the Parish Pump

Shere Village Cinema (SVC)

Book now for films in December 2023 and January 2024



**SHERE
VILLAGE
CINEMA**

At the time of writing, we are half way through November and looking forward to celebrating the 10th anniversary of the SVC on Sunday 10th December, with a singalong version of *Grease* - see below for details.

To sign up to our newsletter and/or to book tickets for future films please go to the website: www.sherevillagecinema.com). You can also buy tickets from the shops: Crumbs and/or the Surrey Hills Beer & Gin Company in Shere. All tickets, except where indicated, cost £5/adult and £3.50/child.

On Sunday 10th December - we will be showing the singalong version of *Grease* (2006 version) to celebrate 'our' 10th anniversary. Come and join us and sing along to all the favourites - *Summer Nights*, *Greased Lightnin'*, *You're the One that I Want* and many more, as well as the original *Grease* by Frankie Vallie and the Four Seasons. Fancy Dress is encouraged, but optional - Dress up as a pink Lady or T-bird, a beauty school dropout or even *Grease* Lightening! Tickets cost £8 per adult (£6.50 per child) to include popcorn and 'hot dogs' (tasty sausage in a roll). Seating will be in rows, but with space in the aisles on either side, and at the front, for dancing! Doors will open at 7pm, when food will be available. **The film will start at 7.30pm.**

Grease is a nostalgic rock'n'roll high school musical, set in California in 1959, with a great plot line and incredible music. Many of you will know and love the film (you know who you are!). For those of you who don't know the film, Olivia Newton-John plays Sandy Olsen and John Travolta plays Danny Zuko, who enjoyed a more-or-less platonic beachside romance, but didn't expect to see each other again as Sandy and her family were going back to Australia. However, her family's plans changed and when Sandy shows up at the local high school the next term, she is astonished to see Danny Classification: PG (Running time is 1 hour 50 minutes). Book early as this is likely to be a 'sell-out'!

In January we will be showing the following films:

Thursday January 4th - Indiana Jones and The Dial of Destiny - is the 5th film in the Indiana Jones series, starring Harrison Ford. The story starts in the late 1960s, where 'Indy' is now a grumpy old man, but it soon goes back to 1944 where 'Indy' and the oddball Prof Basil Shaw (Toby Jones) do battle with a Nazi contingent led by Jurgen Voller (Mads Mikkelsen) for possession of a legendary (2-part) dial. Meanwhile, back in the 60s, Basil's daughter Helena (Phoebe Waller-Bridge) has her own monetary designs on the dial. Helena is Indy's goddaughter, setting the stage for much lively quasi-familial bickering as everyone hotfoots it around the globe, racing to find the ancient artefact with mysterious powers that will change the course of history From the very beginning, this action-packed adventure takes you on a pulse-pounding journey with intriguing mysteries and unforgettable characters. Classification: 12A (Running time is 2 hours 22 minutes) Start time: **7.30pm**

Sunday 21st January - Oppenheimer - is Christopher Nolan's formidable film about the so-called 'father of the atomic bomb'. The film jumps through several timelines, following 'Oppie' (Cillian Murphy) from the 1920s and into old age, as it builds into a brilliant drama about 'genius, hubris and error'. Although this dense and intricate period piece weaves together courtroom drama, romantic liaisons, laboratory epiphanies and lecture hall personality cults, it is perhaps a 'monster movie'. 'Oppie' is a man captivated by the boundless possibilities of science, who realises too late that his creation has a limitless capacity for destruction! Overall an essential viewing experience about historic events that still remain very relevant to this day. Classification: 15 (Running time is 3 hours). Please note that as this is a long film, the start time is: **7pm** (earlier than usual)

Do join us for our films in December and January if you can. Thank you for your support in 2023 and over the past years, we very much hope that you will continue to support us in the future.

Shere Village Cinema Team

The Ladybirds Choir Christmas Concert

Directed by Helena Twentyman

Saturday 2 December at 3pm

United Reformed Church Hall, West Street, Dorking RH4 1BS

Tickets £7.50

Raising funds for The Meeting Room

A big thank you to everyone who came to the Ladybirds Choir's summer concert - together we raised £400 for The Meeting Room, a charity which supports homeless, socially isolated and vulnerable people in the Mole Valley and Epsom areas. We are delighted to be supporting their work again at our Christmas concert.

The concert will be held on Saturday 2 December at 3pm in the United Reformed Church Hall in West Street, Dorking, and the choir will present a variety of songs both well-known and less familiar. Numbers you will hear include *Deck the halls*, the beautiful *When a child is born* and, with a slightly jauntier flavour, *The happiest Christmas tree*.

There will also be a few tributes to some legendary musicians who sadly have passed away year, including Tony Bennett (*I left my heart in San Francisco*), Harry Belafonte (*Mary's boy child*), Vince Hill (*Edelweiss*) and Roger Whittaker.

Tea and mince pies will be served after the performance. Tickets are priced at £7.50 and are priced at £7.50 and are available on the door (cash or cheque) or in advance from Sue Scarrott on 01306 877256.

The Christmas stars

Any astronomer can predict with absolute accuracy just where every star in the universe will be as the clocks chime midnight on Christmas Eve. He can make no such prediction about his teenage daughter.



CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Saturday
9th December
4.30 pm

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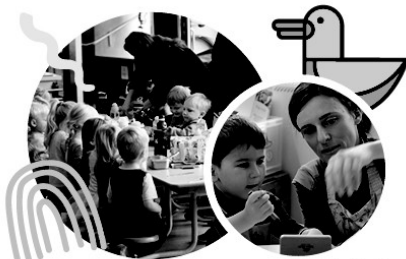
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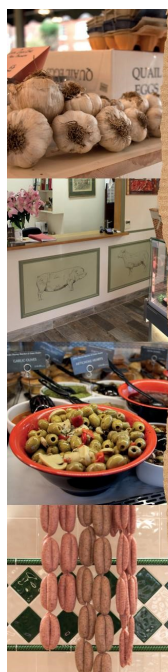


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Your Parish News

Contributions for the next issue of the Parish News to
parishmag@alburychurches.org

or post to

Shire Cottage, Farley Heath, Albury, Surrey, GU5 9ER

by the 14th of the month please

Front cover photographs, articles, events
and reports of local organisations are all welcome

Sudoku

Each of the nine blocks has to contain all the numbers 1-9 within its squares. Each number can only appear once in a row, column or box.

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

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

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Diann Arnfield 203464

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bookings@alburyparish.org

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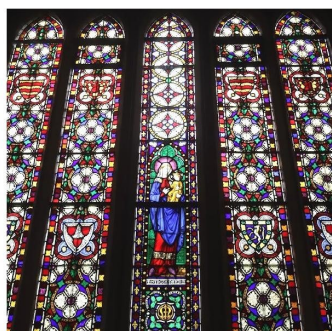
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Captured in a moment of time by Mike Hutchinson, his photograph shows a beautiful winter's scene with a light dusting of snow setting off the ancient Saxon Church of St Peter & St Paul.

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A delightful photograph by Victor Keech shows the stained glass windows on the south wall of the Drummond Chapel.

With money raised by kind donations, the Drummond Chapel is currently undergoing some major conservation/restoration work that will keep it in good condition for the foreseeable future.

Both of these Christmas Cards are available from the Old Saxon Church in Albury Park, Harry at the Post Office or Monica Cassels on 01483 202962