

# All Saints' Croxley Green

Parish Magazine  
January 2026





# All Saints' Croxley Green

## **Sunday Worship in Church**

**8am      Holy Communion BCP  
(Second Sunday of the Month)**

## **9.45am    Parish Communion**

## Weekdays

## **Morning Prayers 8am in Church**

Thursday 9.30am Holy Communion

**The Church is Open Daily** for private prayer and meditation.

**The Parish Office** is open for enquiries from 9am to 12 noon, Tuesday to Friday. Answerphone available outside these hours. Tel: 772109

**Parish Administrator:** Judith Man

**Website:** [www.croxleygreenallsaints.org](http://www.croxleygreenallsaints.org)  
**Email:** [office@croxleygreenallsaints.org](mailto:office@croxleygreenallsaints.org)

## Magazine

## Vicar:

Revd. Canon Miriam Mugan  
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## Assistant Curate

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## Churchwardens

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Anne Oke Tel: 220782

## **Assistant Churchwardens:**

Ann Palmer  
Gill Main

## Sacristan:

Chris Oke Tel: 220782  
Assistant: Chris Fagan Tel: 720319

## **Parochial Church Council:**

**Secretary:** Chris Fagan  
Tel: 720319

**Treasurer:** Andrew Nobbs

Tel: 770039

**Hall hire email;**  
hall@croxleygreenallsaints.org



## January 2026

### Revd. Canon Miriam writes:

Dear Friends,

I pray that you have enjoyed a blessed and peaceful Christmas. Thank you so much to everyone who helped in any way with the various services and events during Advent and to those

who decorated the Church so beautifully for our Christmas celebrations. Advent was a very busy time in our Church with five school carols services, Christingle, Carol Service, Christmas Afternoon Tea, Quiet Church, Midnight Mass, Christmas Day services and a visit by Croxley Mummers. Each event was attended by so many people from our local community and beyond. It was wonderful to welcome them and share the Christmas message of God's love, welcome and acceptance. Reflecting back on these events and the people who attended fills me with so much joy and hope because, in their own way, each person came with a spark of inquisitiveness and even faith, looking for that 'something' that brings them hope and joy, comfort and peace. I give God thanks for the conversations we were able to have with them, and I pray that God will continue to nurture and guide them and draw them back to our Church to explore further what it means to know Jesus and follow him.

I wonder if you have made any New Year resolutions? I always find that the 'in-between time' between Christmas and New Year, when we are in a post-Christmas daze and not in our normal routine, enables us to think about what we hope the New Year will bring. What are our hopes and aspirations? What are our worries or fears? I am not one to make New Year Resolutions but I do take time to reflect on where I am in life, what are my hopes and desires, worries and fears, and how do I enable and allow God to work in and through me to shape who I am so that in my life, in all that I do, his love, joy and compassion will be known. Perhaps, as we start a New Year, this is something that you too might like to reflect on. God still has so much to give each one of us and in receiving what he gives to us we are enriched and enabled to give his love, compassion and care to others. But to do this effectively we have to be open and ready to receive from him in the first place.

I am looking forward to our Carols and Christmas Cocktails event on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> January at 4pm. It is a great opportunity to sing much-loved Christmas carols. Why not bring along your friends and family, you never know, it may be that someone you know who came to one of our services over Christmas is longing to be invited back to another event but too shy to come alone.

The week of Prayer for Christian Unity starts on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> January. It is the custom of Churches Together in Croxley green to hold a joint service at one of the churches to mark our commitment to working together as churches as we serve this community. This year we will be hosting the service on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 3pm. We will be exploring people's favourite hymns, so do put this date in your diary and come along and join us.

Our new Family Worship Service, 'Alive @All Saints', will take place on February 1<sup>st</sup> at 4pm. If you know of any families who might like to come do please let them know and invite them along.

As we go into 2026, you may like to use this prayer:

*Heavenly Father,*

*As I step into this new year, I thank You for the gift of life,  
for the lessons of the past, and for the hope that lies ahead.*

*Fill my heart with peace, my mind with wisdom,  
and my days with purpose.*

*Help me to walk in kindness, speak with grace, and act with courage.*

*Guide my steps so that I may grow in faith, love deeply,  
and serve others joyfully.*

*Bless my family, friends, and all those I meet,  
that together we may shine Your light in the world.*

*May this year be a season of renewal, healing, and abundant  
blessings.*

*Amen.*

With my love and prayers

*Miriam*



# Gospel Readings for January 2026

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> January  
Epiphany

## Matthew 2 v 1 – 12

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> January  
Epiphany 1

## Matthew 3 v 13 – end

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> January  
Epiphany 2

## John 1 v 29 – 42

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January  
Epiphany 3

## Matthew 4 v 12 – 23

\*\*\*\*\*

# Churches Together

The Churches Together AGM, to which everybody is invited, is at All Saints' Church on January 15<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm. Please come along if you can.

\*\*\*\*\*

# The week of Prayer for Christian Unity

This year, All Saints' Church will be holding the **Churches Together Service on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> January at 3pm**. Everyone is invited to come along and join in this special service.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (WPCU) takes place each year from 18th to 25th January. This ecumenical celebration provides an opportunity to focus our prayers on Christian unity and to know that we are joining with international siblings in Christ. WPCU is also a great chance to speak about and experience Christian unity personally and in the village or town where you live. We are guided during this week to pray for Christian Unity within the church and to live lives that encompass humility, gentleness, patience and love.



# Safeguarding at All Saints' Church

In November, we held our Safeguarding Sunday which gave us the opportunity to prayerfully remember how important it is that we care for and support each other as members of this church family. It also reminded us that not just chatting but genuinely listening to someone is such an important part of the conversations we have. We also asked that if you have any concern about your own or someone else's welfare, to please report it in confidence to one of the Safeguarding team immediately.

**Your Parish Safeguarding Officers are Anne Oke and Sam Jones. Miriam, Paul and Tolu are also fully trained to respond to any safeguarding concerns.**

A number of the congregation completed the questionnaire 'Characteristics of a healthy and safe church'. Thank you for your responses to what was not the most user-friendly form. We are reflecting on your feedback.

As we begin a New Year, let us hold this prayer in our hearts:

*Dear God,  
Helps us to always be a church that  
Loves, welcomes, protects.  
Listens, learns, serves.  
Repents, transforms.  
Values, cares, believes.  
God of Justice and Compassion, hear our prayer.  
Help us, heal us, guide us, we pray.  
In Jesus name.  
Amen.*

*Anne Oke and Sam Jones*



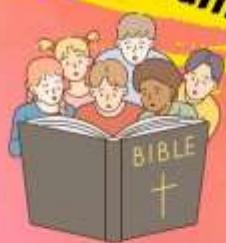
# Alive@AllSaints'

## Croxley Green



**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February 4.00pm - 5.15pm  
in the Church**

*Lots of  
bible-based engaging  
and creative activities  
and stories to support  
children and their  
families.*



*Create fun crafts,  
make new friends and  
ask questions about  
God in a safe and fun  
space.*



**For families with children up to 11 years old**



# Notes from the PCC Meeting 3rd December 2025

## Church Organ

The PCC was informed that following repairs, work to the organ would take place on 10-12th and 17-18th December.

## Committee Room Piano

The piano, which has been little-used, has been disposed of locally to a new owner

## Finance Report and 2026 Budget

Our Treasurer, Andrew Nobbs, reported a forecast outcome for the year 2025 of a surplus of £10,655 over expenditure, compared with the original budget forecast of a £9,100 deficit. Some events had still to take place. Income almost universally exceeded the budget, while expenditures were broadly close to their budgets. The proposals for the 2026 budget were based on this figure. The proposed budget for 2026 is currently showing a small surplus. There is an area of uncertainty about the terms of a new rental contract for the telephone equipment in the Church spire due to commence in the late months of 2026, which might adversely affect the level of income to be received for the contract. Further information was expected to be known by March 2026

## Safeguarding

Safeguarding officer, Anne Oke, reported that she had signed her acceptance of the Diocesan Safeguarding Hub Service Agreement on behalf of the PCC. This would ensure that she had full access to the information held within the Hub. She was also focussing on ensuring that all PCC members completed their essential Safeguarding training, including the module on Awareness of Domestic Abuse. The Safeguarding Team could offer help with members experiencing technical difficulties in completing the training modules.

## Charities to be Supported During 2026

The PCC resolved to adopt the following four charities for support, each for three months:

Friends of the Holy Land  
Watford Workshop  
Chiltern Music Therapy  
Service Dogs UK.

## Meetings Calendar for 2026/27

The PCC adopted a calendar for meetings of the PCC and the Annual Meetings of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meetings for the period from January 2026 until May 2027.

### Reports from Committees

The Hall Committee had been informed of an increase in the price of the Committee Room curtains to £787. The decision had been taken to purchase the new curtains using £700 raised by the Afternoon Tea and £87 from the Hall Committee budget. Ironwood Flooring have visited to examine areas of potential concern in the Hall floor.

The Social and Fundraising Committee wishes to organise additional publicity for the Christmas Carols and Cocktails event on 4th January 2026. A sign-up sheet for people to enter carols is at the back of the Church.

*Chris Fagan*





## An Amazing Trip to South Africa

I have been given the amazing opportunity at college to go on a 14-day trip to Sibuya Game Reserve in Port Elizabeth, South Africa with Gap Africa Projects next June.

This trip will include many incredible educational opportunities including:

- Lion monitoring
- Elephant monitoring
- Rhino monitoring
- A trip to the coastal dunes and rocky shores
- Kayaking down the river
- Fencing and alien plant clearing
- Insect identification
- SANCCOB seabird rescue visit
- A trip to the local community and visit to a local school

### **The Bush**

We will be helping to monitor key species which will include locating the ecologically significant terrestrial species (lions, white rhinos, lions), identifying individuals using identikits and then monitoring their behaviour.

We will also be helping with reserve maintenance including fence and road maintenance as well as alien plant removal which are all important tasks on the reserve where we will have a chance to be physical and get hands on and help.

Another thing we will be partaking in is insect surveys with tasks including collecting data on insects, reptiles and anything else crawling along the ground. We will be digging the holes, finding the specimens and identifying them and we will be part of this exciting research.

### **Ocean & Estuary**

We will be going to the rocky shores and coastal dunes to learn about and monitor the coastal marine environment's biodiversity which includes the largest dunes in the southern hemisphere.

We will also have an outreach project which will take place with the coastal village's community and will be helping with beach and riverside clean-up



I am fundraising for this opportunity by doing a sponsored swim of 200 lengths (5km) over a few weeks and would be very grateful if you feel able to sponsor me, any donations will be very much appreciated and I will update you on everything I got up to in detail when I get back.

*Samantha Martin*

\*\*\*\*\*

## **Social and Fundraising Committee Diary**

Thank you to everyone who has supported our events over 2025, we had a very successful year and managed to raise a lot of money for the Church as a result.

The committee will be meeting at the beginning of January to plan our calendar for 2026 and look forward to another year of varied and, hopefully successful, events for you to enjoy.

Our first event will be **Carols and Christmas Cocktails on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> January at 4 pm**, when for another year we will be bringing the Christmas season to a close by celebrating all our favourite Christmas Carols.

Following the carol singing we will be serving a variety of Christmas Cocktails (including non-alcoholic choices) for you to enjoy.

If you have a favourite Christmas carol you would like to sing along to please add it to the sign up sheet at the back of the Church.

On **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January** we will have the first of this year's social evenings at **The Red House** from **7 pm**. Everyone is welcome. There is no need to book, just come along if you can and enjoy an evening of conversation and fellowship.

Finally, on behalf of the committee I would like to wish you all a very Happy New Year!

*Ann Palmer*

## Sunday Coffee

Good morning,

I am writing to thank you for your kind donation of £407.86 to Sands on behalf of All Saints' Church, Croxley Green, we are so incredibly grateful. Please find attached your certificate.

It is because of generous supporters, like you, for the past 45 years we have been able to support bereaved parents and families across the UK. And Sands will continue to be there for anyone experiencing pregnancy or baby loss, so they receive the best care and support.



Sands also support and fund pioneering research, listening to bereaved families and healthcare professionals to understand why babies die. Finding answers and improving

maternity safety is crucial to making sure every family has the best opportunity to see their baby grow up. Your gift will make a lifesaving difference, and we are so grateful.

With your support, Sands can save more babies' lives and ensure every parent, family member and healthcare professional has somewhere to turn. Thank you on behalf of everyone at Sands and if we can be of further assistance in any way, please do not hesitate to contact us.

With best wishes

Maria

## **Smile Lines *from Parish Pump***

### **That well known pilot**

At Sunday school, the younger children were drawing pictures to illustrate a biblical story. The teacher was startled to see one little boy was drawing an airplane. “This is the Flight into Egypt,” the little boy explained. “See, here is Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus. And this,” he said, pointing to the figure in the front of the plane, “is Pontius. He’s the Pilot.”

### **The Wrong Gift**

A young couple began to assemble a special Christmas gift they had bought for their children. They had bought a kit for a tree house, but it didn’t make sense. Then they realised that the materials were for a sailboat, so they wrote to the company to complain. The company’s reply was brief: “While we regret the inconvenience this mistake must have caused you, we are more concerned about the man who is out on a lake somewhere, trying to sail your tree house.”

### **Let’s play**

Four-year-old to her two-year-old sister: “Let’s play Christmas. I’ll be Father Christmas, and you can be a present and I’ll give you away.”

### **Stronger**

Statistics show we’re getting stronger. 50 years ago, you needed an estate car to hold £50 worth of Christmas presents. 20 years ago, it took two people to carry £20 worth of groceries. Now a five-year-old can do it.

### **Oops!**

A vicar gave his daughter a 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.”

### **Light**

A fellow nurse at my hospital received a call from an anxious woman. “I’m diabetic and I’m afraid I’ve had too much sugar today,” she said.

“Are you light-headed?” my colleague asked.

“Oh no,” the caller answered, “I’m a brunette.”

## January Prayer Diary

<b>Date</b>	<b>In our Church Family</b>
1st	Karen, Paul, Amelie and Olivia Jarvis
2nd	Sam, Simon, Carys and Nerys Jones
3rd	Adam and Asia Keene
4th	Valerie Kindle
5th	Margaret and Roger Kircher
6th	Anni and Tom Lowery
7th	Lorraine, Nigel and Isobel McCobb
8th	Jean McLaughlin
9th	Sue and Roger McKeague
10th	James McShane
11th	Gill and Brian Main
12th	Jude, Yin and Alex Man
13th	Jane, Ed, Joseph and Ben Manning
14th	Janet, Graham, Zoe and Samantha Martin
15th	Sue Middleton

16th	Jan Mills
17th	Miriam and Rao Mugan
18th	Judith and David Muir
19th	Faith Nazir
20th	Sheila Newman
21st	Andrew Nobbs
22nd	Anne and Chris Oke
23rd	Margaret and Dick Paddick
24th	Paul, Siu and Kelly Palmer
25th	Lyndon and Anne Palmer
26th	Wendy and Peter Rennoldson
27th	Francesca Sams
28th	Cathy Scarborough
29th	Sarah and Cameron Selleck
30th	Wendy Shafe
31st	Revd. Anne and Don Shaw



# The Run-up to Christmas Day



**Advent Sunday**  
30th November



Thank you to the Parish Council Rangers who delivered our Christmas trees and helped to erect the large one outside Church ... we really appreciate the time they spent on this. Many hands really did make light work!



**Christingle**  
Sunday 14th December



Many thanks to Waitrose for donating the oranges for our Christingle and thank you to everyone who helped to get everything ready.



## Afternoon Tea and Carols

18th December



The tables had been set and looked really festive for the annual Christmas Afternoon Tea. It was a really joyful event which was enjoyed by a Hall-full of locals who had to 'sing for their supper' before

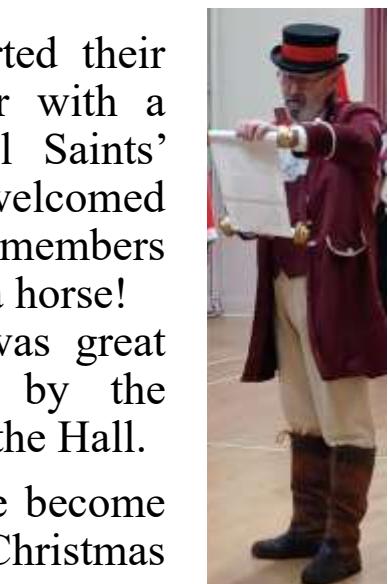
tea was served. Thank you to David Heath who accompanied the singing. Thank you also to everyone who helped with this event by setting up, making and preparing food, serving, washing up and clearing away. It really was a wonderful afternoon that got everyone in the festive spirit.

# The Annual Mummers Performance Sunday 21st December



The Mummers started their 2025 Croxley Tour with a performance at All Saints' Church Hall. We welcomed several new cast members this year - one was a horse! The performance was great fun and enjoyed by the audience that filled the Hall.

The Mummers have become a Croxley Christmas tradition and have raised more than £13,000 for Rennie Grove Peace Hospice over the years they have been performing.



We look forward to your return next year!

# **Carol Singing**

## **Churches Together Saturday 20th December**

### **Outside the Library**



## **Christmas Post Box**

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Christmas Post Box by posting their cards or by delivering around Croxley.

We raised £163.50 to send to Shelter to support their work over Christmas.

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## **The Children's Society**

Thank you to everyone who donated at the Christingle Service and Friday Coffee. We have sent £433.94 to help with the important work of The Children's Society.



## **Methodist Church**

### **Christmas Tree Festival**

The Festival was a great success and £465.62 has been raised for Crisis.



## Mouse Makes

### DID YOU KNOW ?

Stars shine different colours, the colour we see depends on the temperature of the star. The hottest stars shine blueish-white, then yellowish-white, yellow, orange and the coolest stars shine red.

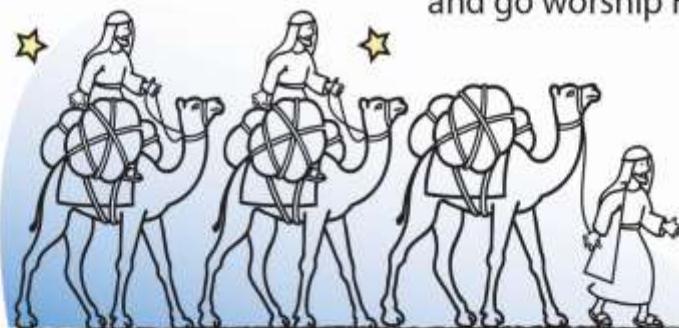
### WISE MEN FROM THE EAST

The Wise Men came from a land far away, they had seen a star that shone brighter than day.

The star was a sign of the birth of a king, so they followed that star to pay homage to him.

They found him in Bethlehem as the prophets foretold, they gave him three gifts: myrrh, frankincense and gold.

The star led to Jesus our saviour and king, let us join with the Wise Men and go worship Him!



Read the story of the Wise Men in Matthew 2:1-12

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

Can you find these words in the word search?

WISE MEN • MAGI  
STAR • SIGN  
JOURNEY • BETHLEHEM  
VISIT • JESUS • MESSIAH  
CHRIST • KING  
GIFTS • GOLD • MYRRH  
FRANKINCENSE  
WORSHIP • JOY  
EPIPHANY



## Work continues to renovate the Organ

On 10-12th and 17-18th December, further work was carried out on the Church organ.

It was amazing to see just some of the pipes that had been taken out and cleaned ready to be put back. It is hard to believe that there are over 2000 pipes stacked inside the organ.

The planned work was completed and the sound of the organ was much enjoyed at our Christmas week services. Thank you to Simon Dunn for all the support and advice he has given with this project.



# STRENGTH & BALANCE EXERCISE CLASS



**Every Tuesday 11.45am-12.45pm and 1pm-2pm  
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Are you 65 over years of age?

Are you worried about falling?

Have you had a fall in the last year?

Do you feel unsteady?

Do you have brittle bones (osteoporosis)?

Do you feel weakness in your legs?

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**£10  
per  
class**

Join a **physiotherapist** led 60 minute exercise class to help improve your strength, balance and confidence and **reduce your risk of falls.**

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FOOT CARE

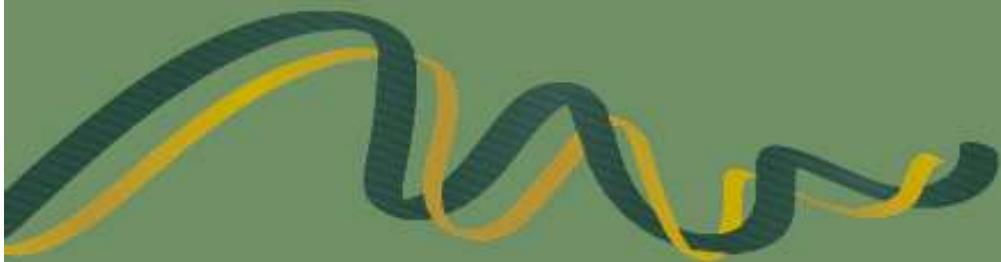
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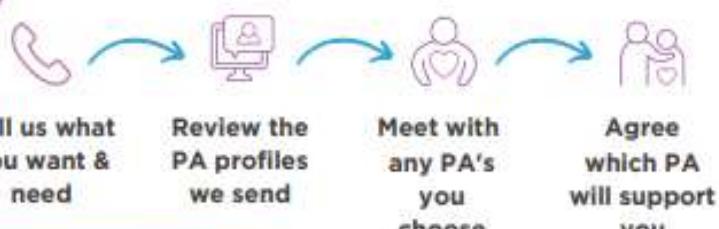
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**Croxley Parish Nurse  
and Macmillan Cancer Support  
Churches Together in Croxley Green**

**Nurse-led Cancer Support Group Croxley**

**First Thursday of the month  
All Saints' Church Hall  
2.30-4pm**

**No meeting in January**

**We will be meeting on:  
Thursday 5th February  
Thursday 5th March**

**We welcome anyone who has been affected  
by cancer. Join us to meet others, share your  
experiences and learn coping  
techniques in a warm and friendly group.**

**For more information  
please call 01923 436326  
or [croxleyparishnursecathy@gmail.com](mailto:croxleyparishnursecathy@gmail.com)**



**Croxley Parish Nurse  
Cathy Scarborough  
07562 515791**

**[croxleyparishnursecathy@gmail.com](mailto:croxleyparishnursecathy@gmail.com)**

**[www.croxleyparishnurse.org](http://www.croxleyparishnurse.org)**

## All in the month of January *from Parish Pump*

It was:

250 years ago, on 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 1776 that, according to tradition, George Washington raised the first American flag, the Grand Union Flag, at Prospect Hill in Charleston, Somerville, Massachusetts.

200 years ago, on 30<sup>th</sup> Jan 1826 that the Menai Suspension Bridge was first opened. It links the island of Anglesey to mainland Wales, and was the world's first major suspension bridge.

125 years ago, on 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 1901 that the Commonwealth of Australia was established when the six British colonies of New South Wales, Northern Territory, Queensland, South Australia, Victoria and Western Australia were federated.

Also 125 years ago, on 22<sup>nd</sup> Jan 1901 that Queen Victoria died, and was succeeded by her son, Edward VII.

100 years ago, on 13<sup>th</sup> Jan 1926 that Michael Bond, children's writer, was born. He created the characters Paddington Bear and Monsieur Pamplemousse.

Also 100 years ago, on 26<sup>th</sup> Jan 1926 that Scottish engineer and inventor John Logie Baird gave the first demonstration of his TV system to members of the Royal Institution.

Also 90 years ago, on 20<sup>th</sup> Jan 1936 that King George V died and was succeeded by his son Edward VIII, who abdicated that December.

80 years ago, on 8<sup>th</sup> Jan 1946 that Elvis Presley received his first guitar on his 11<sup>th</sup> birthday. (Apparently, he would have preferred a bicycle.)

65 years ago, on 20<sup>th</sup> Jan 1961 that John F Kennedy was inaugurated as the 35<sup>th</sup> President of the USA.

60 years ago, on 17<sup>th</sup> Jan 1966 that the album *Sounds of Silence* by Simon and Garfunkel, was released.

25 years ago, on 12<sup>th</sup> Jan 2001 that Swedish football manager Sven Goran Eriksson became the first non-Briton to coach the England Men's national football team.

## MAGAZINE EDITORIAL TEAM

Wendy Shafe	461142
Shelagh Booth	779932

Please e-mail contributions to [magazine@croxleygreenallsaints.org](mailto:magazine@croxleygreenallsaints.org) by the copy dates below. If you have any queries, please contact one of the team above. Thank you.

Final copy date:	January 15th	for	February
	February 15th	for	March

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**This month's cover** is a design from *Parish Pump*

### **Acknowledgement**

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*We encourage articles from a wide range of contributors and the opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the editors.*

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