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Parish Churches of Alfold & Loxwood

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	Tuesday & Friday 10.30 am to 1.30 pm. & Wednesday 1.30 pm E-mail: alflox.parish.off@btinternet.com	- 3.30 pm	
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The Magazine of the Parish of St Nicholas, Alfold and St John the Baptist, Loxwood

The Parish News

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Cushing's Column

I was very struck by a story I shared in last Sunday's sermon:

A couple married for 15 years began having more than usual disagreements. They wanted to make their marriage work and agreed on an idea the wife had. For one month they planned to drop a slip in a "Fault" box. The boxes would provide a place to let the other know about daily irritations. The wife was diligent in her efforts and approach: "leaving the jelly top off the jar," "wet towels on the shower floor," "dirty socks not in hamper," on and on until the end of the month. After dinner, at the end of the month, they exchanged boxes. The husband reflected on what he had done wrong. Then the wife opened her box and began reading. They were all the same, the message on each slip was, "I love you!"

Forgiveness is healing. I'm sure the wife in that story was transformed through her husband's love and forgiveness. It would be hard not to be moved by such grace. (Perhaps some of us have used the "fault" box in the past and are now very conscious that we've missed a trick!)

Well, that is how Jesus deals with all our wrongs, even the wrongs aimed at Him. He keeps on replying, time and time again with the words, "I love you..."

Today, I wonder, do you know that you're loved?

We've been watching The Chosen (a film series on the life of Christ) in church on Sunday nights and I was struck this week by Jesus' words to Nicodemus, "God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save it."

How far would you go to show somebody that you love them? How hard would you try to convince someone that you actually forgive them for a hurt they've caused you?

How far is heaven from earth? And how far is the throne of heaven to a rough blood-stained wooden cross?

That's how much love Jesus has for you. It is unquantifiable!

I hope that we, as your local Church, are continuing to be mouthpieces of that love. As ever, please do let us know if there is anything we can help out with. And, if you haven't been for a while, why not use these looming autumn months to come back to a church service – we'd love to see you. Blessings

Rev Greg







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What's happening in autumn 2021?

<u>Sundays at 10am:</u>

Our services alternate between our two church buildings include our kids group Lionhearts and Holy Communion

We also enjoy an Evensong at 5pm on the first Sunday of each month at Alfold Church.

MIDWEEK:

We have 6 different fortnightly Bible study fellowship groups we call Pilgrim:

Springbok: Mondays @ 10am The Rectory: Tuesdays @ 8pm Loxwood Church Room: Wednesdays @ 10am Border Cottage: Wednesdays @ 8pm 11 Farm Close: Thursdays @ 10.45am Alfold Church Room: Thursdays @ 8pm

WEEK BEGINNING:	PASSAGE:
6 th Sep 2021	Zechariah 1-2
20 th Sep 2021	Zechariah 3-4
4 th Oct 2021	Zechariah 5-6
18 th Oct 2021	*Social
1 st Nov 2021	Zechariah 7-8
15 th Nov 2021	Zechariah 9-11
29 th Nov 2021	Zechariah 12-14

Want to find out more about Jesus?

We'll be running

CHRISTIANDINEXPLORED on seven consecutive Thursday evenings 8-9.30pm in Loxwood Church & Church

Room. [30/09, 7/10, 14/10, 21/10, 28/10, 04/11, 11/11]

OUR PRAYER MEETING:

Join us from 8-9pm for our mission partner updates. 29/09 in Alfold Church Room, 27/10 in Loxwood

YOUTH & CHILDREN:

Revved Up runs Mondays 3.15-4.15pm term time at Loxwood Primary School for school years 3-6 Fearless runs Mondays 7-8.30pm term time at Loxwood Church Room for 12-18 year olds

01403 753821 - alflox.parish.off@btinternet.com

Pilgrim Groups

We have 6 different fortnightly Bible study fellowship groups we call Pilgrim:

Springbok: Mondays @ 10.00 am The Rectory: Tuesdays @ 8.00 pm

Loxwood Church Room: Wednesdays @ 10.00 am

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4th Oct 2021	Zechariah 5-6
18th Oct 2021	*Social
1st Nov 2021	Zechariah 7-8
15th Nov 2021	Zechariah 9-11
29th Nov 2021	Zechariah 12-14

Please do contact myself (alflox.vicar@gmail.com) or the Parish Office (alflox.parish.off@btinternet.com) if you would like to join a group

GC

Loxwood Luncheon Club

We have now restarted our monthly Lunch Club, so please make a note of the dates in your diary:

25th October 22nd November 13th December

If you would like to join our very sociable group, please give Gina a ring on 01403 751722.

GM

Alfold Luncheon Club

Due to the current situation, there will not be any Alfold Lunch Club until further notice, but we will let you know as soon as we plan to restart.

Stay safe all.

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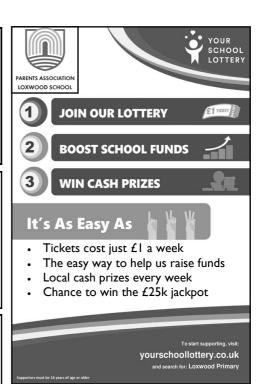
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Mothers Union

Our September meeting was held in Cranleigh St. Nicolas Church to be sure of plenty of space to socially distance! It was a great joy to be able to chat to friends, even though we still were required to wear face masks.



Our speaker was the new Curate of Cranleigh St Nicolas, Tim Clifford-Hill. Tim gave us the potted history version of his life. He was the first born and heaviest of triplets weighing just 1lb 10oz, his brother Oliver died after 1 week and his sister Harriet very sadly 2 weeks later. The first 6 months of life he spent in an incubator. The family moved to Oxford from London when Tim was 5yrs old, his love has always been singing and music.

At University he studied Music, while there he became a cox in the rowing team and told how he had to semi laydown in the boat and steer and always got out thoroughly soaked and the team would always throw him in the river. Tim has taught singing at Canterbury Cathedral, Chichester Cathedral where he met his wife Alexandra they had the same singing instructor! Tim and Alexandra were married in Portsmouth Cathedral and Tim has also taught in Guildford Cathedral all of which led up to him being ordained and becoming a vicar. Tim still sings professionally and has sung on sound tracks for TV series Silent Witness and many stage and studio productions. Tim was thanked for his very entertaining talk.

The Garden Party for the Mary Sumner House Summer of Hope Appeal raised £350.

5th October 'Pilgrimage of Prayer' I I.00am in Guildford Cathedral, this will be the first since Lock down. The names of Members who have passed away are written in the Book of Remembrance.

Our Next Meeting will be our Deanery Service; this moves around, our Cranleigh Deanery and this year we will be hosting this Service at St. Nicholas, Alfold. The Rev'd John Bundock will be taking the Holy Communion Service. A talk about the history of this very beautiful old Church will be given by Sharon and Roger Brockway. After the Service a lunch will follow in the Church Room. The MU Banners will be paraded. Visitors Welcome. (enquiries Barbara Andrews 07791184738)

ВΔ

Alfold Evening WI

We were delighted to have our first face to face meeting at our new venue, The Alfold Sports and Social Club; our thanks to Becky who welcomed us into their newly refurbished club. There was so much to appreciate seeing friends after 15/18 months; catching up with friends is a big part of WI.



The Craft Evenings will begin again at the ASSC September 21st at 7.30

Next meeting is October 4th at 7.30 do come and join us. Our talk is about the Wonderful World of Bees. Daisy Day is a Master Bee Keeper and will have so much to inspire us and hopefully help us learn how to care for bees.

'CHRISTMAS FAIR' yes it's that time of year to put in your diaries our Fair on the 20th November 2021 which is raising money for our WI.

Contact:- Linda Brecke 07786 360129 Email alfoldeveningwi@yahoo.com

LE

Bringing the Parish News out of Lockdown! Can You Help?

We are planning to return to producing this magazine as a paper copy only. In order to do this we need volunteers to assemble the magazine. This takes place in Loxwood Church Room on a Friday towards the end of each month.

We are also in need of extra people to help with the distribution of the magazine.

If you think you might be able to help or require more information, please contact Hazel Gravenstede on 01403 752080. or email gravenstede@outlook.com

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Please ensure that food donated is in date as Food Banks are unable to distribute food that is out of date.

Please <u>do not</u> include donations of Infant Formula.



Lhank don

Proposal for a Parish Open Gardens Event in 2022

St Nicholas and St John the Baptist Churches' PCC has agreed to explore the possibility of organising an Open Gardens event to raise funds for the two Churches. Tentative timing is for a weekend in May/June 2022.

In order to determine whether this is feasible we are seeking expressions of interest from anyone willing to consider opening their garden to support this proposal. Some of you will have visited other open garden events such as that held by Wisborough Green village last May, so you will have an idea of what is involved. For those who haven't it is important to say here that gardens do not have to be carefully primped and perfect. It is better that they have what might be called a 'feeling of place' and are of interest, comfortable and welcoming. Most of our gardens fall into the latter category, expressions of our individual gardening interest and enthusiasm.

If you wish to express an interest in opening your garden please let us know in the near future, with your name and contact details:

Rosemary Curphey: rkcurphey@aol.com or 07729294043 or Ewan Curphey: ecurphey@aol.com or 07871260124

EC

RIKKYO SCHOOL

invite you to our Open Day on Sunday,
20th October from 10.00am to 4.30pm.
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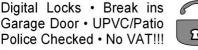
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The Loxwood Society

The Loxwood Society was formally disbanded at its Annual General Meeting held at North Hall, Loxwood on 23rd July 2021 as the current Committee had decided to stand down and there were not adequate nominations to form a new Committee. The Society was formed in 1997 with a Mission Statement defined as "The conservation of the beauty and character of Loxwood. In particular, to complement the Parish Council in ensuring that local development is appropriate to the needs and character of the village"

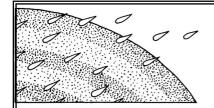
The formation came about after a Government Planning Inspector recommended that the village boundary be extended to allow up to 32 houses, now Willetts Way, to be built against the wishes of both the Parish and District Councils. Dismayed by this, a group of concerned residents from several parts of the village decided to get together to fight this decision.

Since inception, the Loxwood Society has had involvement and influenced many issues i.e. Village Design Statement, change of design of the parapets on the new Wey and Arun Canal Bridge, the Village Voice, a Newsletter, which has been circulated to the Parish on a regular basis, the Kill your Speed campaign, Community Action Plan, Neighbourhood Plan and Litter Picking with the Loxwood Community Gardens Initiative. Donations have been given from the Society to help fight the developments at Dunsfold Park and Crouchlands Farm.

The Society has also hosted many events in the village, such as talks about the Wey and Arun Canal, the Cokelers of Loxwood, Petworth House and has supported initiatives such as delivery of Welcome Packs, the Village Fete and fund raising social events such as a Race Night, Skittle Evening and Annual BBO.

With a strong Parish Council and the inception of the Neighbourhood Plan and many more village social activities the role of the Loxwood Society has diminished considerably and it was no longer fulfilling its initial objectives. However many members of the Society's committee continue to be involved in the management of other activities in the village.

AC & LM



October 2021

Church Services

There will be 10.00 am Services in both Churches on alternate Sundays

Please do find our online services each week on our website: www.alflox.org

Sunday 3rd The 18th Sunday of Trinity

10.00 am Service at Loxwood5.00 pm Evensong at Alfold

Sunday 10th Harvest Sunday

10.00 am Service at Alfold

Sunday 17th The 20th Sunday of Trinity

10.00 am Service at Loxwood

with Baptism of Kathy & Jimi Nontasak

Sunday 24th The Last Sunday of Trinity

10.00 am Service at Alfold

Sunday 31st The 4th Sunday before Advent

10.00 am Service at Loxwood

16.00 pm All Souls Service at Loxwood

All Services are subject to Covid 19 regulations and may change at short notice

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



October 2021

Thursday 7th

8.00 pm Christianity Explored in Loxwood Church

Saturday 9th

7.00 pm Songs of Flanders & Swann in Alfold Church

Thursday 14th

8.00 pm Christianity Explored in Loxwood Church

Thursday 21st

8.00 pm Christianity Explored in Loxwood Church

Thursday 28th

8.00 pm Christianity Explored in Loxwood Church

Wednesday 27th

8.00 pm Parish Prayer at Loxwood Church Room

Every Week

3.15 pm Monday Revved Up at Loxwood School

(Term-time only)

7.00 pm Monday Fearless Youth Group (Term-time only)

Every Fortnight week beginning 6th September Bible Study Groups See page 3 for more details

10.00 am Monday at Springbok8.00 pm Tuesday at The Rectory

10.00 am Wednesday in Loxwood Church Room

8.00 pm Wednesday at Border Cottage, Pigbush Lane

10.45 am Thursday at 11 Farm Close

8.00 pm Thursday in Alfold Church Room



The Emmanuel Fellowship, Spy Lane, Loxwood

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Friends of St Nicholas Hog Roast

The Friends of St Nicholas Alfold Church held a hog roast at the home of Mr and Mrs. Steve Melcher on 10th September 2021

Although I have lived in Loxwood over 30 years, I have never quite understood the significance of the Friends of St Nicholas Alfold.



Roger Brockway has now sent a very informative email to explain that this is a separate organisation to raise funds to care for and maintain the fabric of the lovely ancient Alfold Church. This is certainly an admirable idea. How fortunate we are to have such a historic and amazing Church.

As the weather was not too good in the week leading up to the event,

there were some concerns about if shelter would be needed in case of rain. All worries were proved groundless in that it was a fairly balmy evening with lovely cloud formations in the sky and horses grazing quietly in the adjoining fields to the garden of the Melcher's home where we all gathered for the Hog Roast. I believe there were around 100 people.



The event was very well organised by Roger Brockway and his team. The Hog was roasted by Steve Melcher and carved by Ashley Ward who also provided cuts of lamb as raffle presents.



The pork was quite delicious and tender, served in huge soft baps with salad and trimmings of apple sauce etc. The logistics of queuing for the plates and baps, for the pork, and then strawberries, meringues and cream, all worked effortlessly. Thank you.

Judith Stubley



Alfold and Loxwood Parish Churches are beautiful community assets. We are looking for volunteers, who can give some of their time to help with minor repair works and maintenance. As well as practical skills we are also in need of help with fund raising and marketing, so if you feel you could help your local parish, please email Trevor at trevor@juniperconsult.co.uk.

Thank you.

Wey and Arun Canal Trust



Ash dieback hits trees along the Wey & Arun Canal

As most readers will be aware, native ash trees in Britain have been devastated by ash dieback disease, and those growing along the canal are no exception.

It is forecast that the disease, caused by a fungus imported from Asia, will kill about 80% of ash trees across the UK, and both young and mature trees are affected.

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Dying and dead trees can pose a risk to the public and canal users as their branches become brittle and trunks pappy, making them unstable, so the Wey & Arun Canal Trust brought in an arboricultural expert to survey the Loxwood stretch to identify those trees suffering from ash dieback and create a plan for their safe removal.

Independent arboricultural consultant Mark Welby inspected the canal from Barnsill Bridge to Gennets Bridge and has provided the Trust with a comprehensive guide to the condition of trees in that area.

As a result all ash trees that appear to be in decline as a result of ash dieback have been identified for removal over a three-year period. Those that appear to be healthy will be left in the hope some may have a degree of resistance as a small percentage of ash trees will be tolerant to the disease.

A tree felling licence has been obtained from the Forestry Commission and over the coming winter months Trust volunteers and contractors will be out along the towpath. We aim to keep disruption to a minimum, but please bear with us while we carry out these necessary works.

Earlier this year more than 100 native saplings were planted along the canal thanks to a donation from the Woodland Trust.

Ash dieback symptoms:

Leaves develop dark patches in the summer.

- They then wilt and discolour to black. Leaves might shed early.
- Dieback of the shoots and leaves is visible in the summer.
- Lesions develop where branches meet the trunk. These are often diamond-shaped and dark brown.
- • Inner bark looks brownish-grey under the lesions.
- New growth from previously dormant buds further down the trunk. This is known as epicormic growth and is a common response to stress in trees.

(Source: Woodland Trust)

Plan ahead for half-term and Christmas

A full schedule of boat trips is set to run up until November at the wharf in Loxwood to make the most of the stunning autumnal season, and the boat crew are currently gearing up for the half-term special Halloween trips on Wednesday 27th and Sunday 31st at 12 noon and 2pm. They are also planning for the ever-popular Santa Trips. Bookings for all trips are via the website at www.weyandarun.co.uk and tickets are expected to sell fast.

The Trust's 2022 calendar is also on sale, priced at £8, with all proceeds going to maintaining the canal and funding future restoration projects. This year's features the winners of the photographic competition, which attracted hundreds of entrants, making selection a challenge given the high quality of photos submitted.

Calendars can be purchased from our Canal Centre or via the Trust's website.

SS

When The Film Makers Come To Church

The Revd Dr Gary Bowness continues his tongue-in-cheek letters from ' *Uncle Eustace'...*

The Rectory St James the Least of All The Rectory

My dear Nephew Darren

It has all been excitement and activity here this last week, with a period drama being filmed using our church. It was remarkable how many people felt the need to drop in to church to collect magazines, check the reading rota or arrange flowers, just happening to stumble over the film stars en route. If only they were filming every week, then our brasses would be permanently gleaming, woodwork smothered in beeswax and the notice board kept in a state of perpetual tidiness.

Our Ladies Guild was thrilled to be asked to take part in a crowd scene. I saw little point in the wardrobe department taking hours fitting them out with Victorian dresses, as the result was little different from normal. The only awkward moment came after filming, when Mrs Simms was told she could now remove her bustle. She told the girl she already had.



WOODFORD

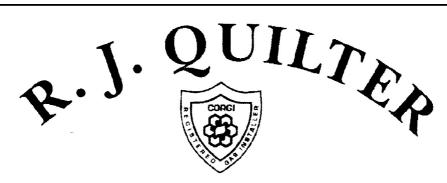
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The producer thanked me for taking the trouble of going round church before they arrived, removing all those modern conveniences that would not have been there in the nineteenth century. I hadn't the heart to tell him that nothing was any different from normal.

Lord Marchmount was thoroughly miffed that they were not also using his castle for filming, even though the producer explained with exemplary patience that they needed a nineteenth century setting, not one which looked as if the cast had just returned from the Crusades. His revenge, getting the farm staff to spread slurry in all the surrounding fields throughout filming, has apparently meant that film stars now have a clause in their contracts protecting them from rural life. The issue of whether the outbreak of salmonella poisoning in the cast had anything to do with the catering caravan being liberally coated is to be settled in the courts.

When all was finished, I thought it only right to invite the film crew and actors to the vicarage for sherry. When the producer left, I was delighted to be told he had just discovered the perfect home for filming his next project – which is about Elizabethan poverty.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace



...if you have been affected by any of the issues raised in this sermon...

Church Cleaning Rota

October 2021

Alfold		Lowood
2nd	Jenny Sizzy	Mrs M Wheeldon
9th	Sandra Covey	Mrs H Williams
l 6th	Margaret Newland	Mrs M Simmonds
23th	Jenny & Graham Hughes	Mrs H Williams
30th	Camilla Oram	Mrs C Venn

Church Flower Rota

	Alfold	Lowood
2nd	TBA	Linda Beadle
9th	TBA	Linda Beadle
l 6th	TBA	Hilary McGuinness - Smith
23th	TBA	Hilary McGuinness - Smith
30th	TBA	Debbie Hadden

Magazine Copy Dates

Please note the copy dates for the next two issues of Parish News.

Month of Issue	Preferred copy date	<u>Final</u> date for copy
November	IIth October	18th October
December/January	8th November	15th November

It would greatly help the editors if copy could reach the Parish Office as close to the preferred date as possible. It is very much regretted that copy delivered after the final date <u>will not</u> be included.

Copy can be delivered to the Parish Office on Tuesdays or Fridays between 10.30 am and 1.30 pm, or Wednesdays between 1.30 pm and 3.30 pm.

For preference, please e-mail your contributions to alflox.parish.off@btinternet.com

Magazine Working Party

Under the current restrictions we may not be meeting to assemble the magazine in October



Mouse Makes

The boxes are full of harvest food for Harvest Thanksgiving, but only two have exactly the same things in them... can you find them?....And can you find the harvest mouse?



'May the peoples praise you, God! May all the peoples praise you.

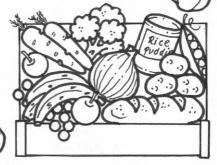
The land yields its harvest; God, our God blesses us."

Psalm 67:5-6



'Honour the Lord with your wealth and the first part of your harvest'.

Proverbs 3:9



Let us **fear** and **respect** the Lord our God. He gives us autumn and spring rains at the right time. He makes sure that we

He makes sure that we have the harvest at just the right time.'

Jeremiah 5:24



'God...gives you rain from heaven and good harvests at the right times. He gives you plenty of food and fills your hearts with joy' Acts 14:16-17





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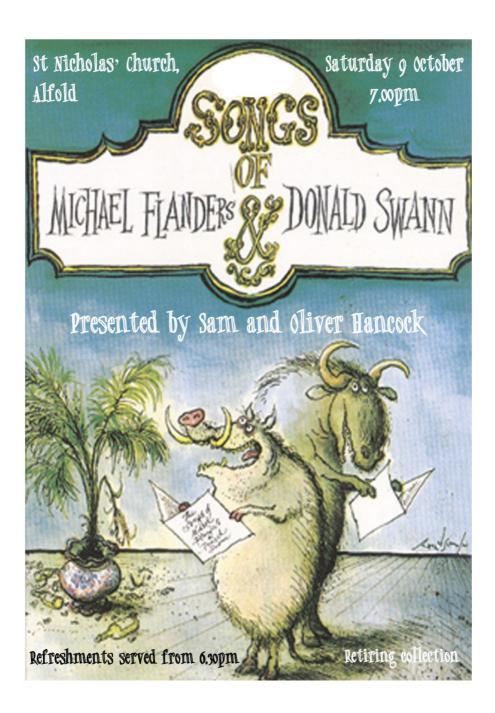
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	Hall Secretary:		01403 753827
	Website	www.loxwoodvillage	hall.org.uk
Pilates	Mondays	Liz Fielden	07879 643310
	Wednesdays	Liz Fielden	07879 643310
Bridge	Wednesdays	Graham Moore	01403 751722
Junior Art Club	Tuesdays	Kim Venter	07590 210178
VMA Dance	Tuesdays	Vicky Freeman White	07879 773705
Caterpillars	Wednesdays	Maxine Paddock	01403 752905
The North Singers	Wednesdays	Jean Spira	01403 752534
Badminton - Ladies	Thursdays	Jill Johnson	01403 752787
Table Tennis	Thursdays	Peter Winney	07951 623273
Performing Arts	Thursdays	Tash Black	07717 398797
Zumba	Wednesdays	Michelle Vorster	
		michelle77.zu	ımba@gmail.com
Luncheon Club	4th Monday	Mrs G Moore	01403 751722
Jazz Club	3rd Tuesday	Anita Bates	01403 752954
Film Night	2nd Friday	Peter Winney	07951 623273

Hire & Bookings Secretary: Kathy Cook

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CARRIAGE DRIVING FOR THE DISABLED	Wednesdays 10.00 - 1.00 pm, Tismans House, Tismans Com		01403 741355	
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LOXWOOD SPORTS				
Cricket Football Stoolball Squash Snooker	Secretary: Secretary: Secretary: Secretary: Secretary:	Mr A Dudman Mr G Read Mrs M Edwards Mr D Edwards Mr I Parsons	07772 079352 01798 343839 01403 752973 01403 752973 01403 752922	
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LOXWOOD COMMUN	IITY GARDENS INITIATIVE:	Graham Moore	01403 751722	
LOXWOOD & ALFOLD RELIEF IN SICKNESS TR		Helen Collis	07799 415595	
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VILLAGE HALL:	Booking Secretary:	Mr A Erricker	01403 753102	
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Youth Club		Sue Parker	01403 753948	
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		E-mail: alf	oldssc@mail.com	
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Cub Scouts	Thursday 6.00 pm }	For details contact		
Scouts	Thursday 7.45 pm }	Wayne Richardson	01428 683250	
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Sunday 10th October

10.00 am at St Nicholas, Alfold

For suggested Harvest offerings please see page 7

