The Parish Magazine

St Mary's, Alveley • St Andrew's, Quatt



AUGUST 2025



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The Rector writes

Dear Friends,

I suspect that one of the most frequent topics of general conversation is the weather, especially after the last few weeks' high temperatures!

Another topic is where do we holiday and for some the question might be, do we holiday?

Rest is a vital part of what it means to be human – we are, after all human beings, not human doings – something I find tricky to remember at times!

Sabbath rest is a concept we have distanced ourselves from over time. We are a driven race living in a competitive, success driven culture and so taking proper rest can be viewed as being self-indulgent and even lazy but it is crucial to our well-being.

Even God took a day off! (Genesis 2:2)

So, whatever your plans over the summer, sit back, relax and enjoy! Throughout August you will find a warm welcome at our Sunday services in St Mary's and St Andrew's.

So as we are right in the middle of summer - whether you're standing at the BBQ, sitting in your garden, laying on the beach or working as normal - I offer you this prayer:

For the Good Use of Leisure

O God, in the course of this busy life, give us times of refreshment and peace; and grant that we may so use our leisure to rebuild our bodies and renew our minds, that our spirits may be opened to the goodness of your creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (Book of Common Prayer p.825)

Every blessing, Rev Jon

United Benefices of Alveley and Quatt

 Rector
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 01746 562159

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 Sue Chidwick, 28 Greenway Avenue, Alveley
 01746 781786

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St. Mary The Virgin, Alveley, WV15 6ND

ChurchwardenPenny Jenkins, 34 Birch Grove, Alveley01746 780660Deputy WardenAlison Pearson, Brookfield, Daddlebrook Rd, Alveley07882 888875TreasurerAnne Simms, Willowell House, Quatford01746 768955

St. Andrew's Quatt

ChurchwardenAnn Lee, 7 Brook Hollow, Bridgnorth01746 761138TreasurerSteve Jones, 72 Manor Road South, Kidderminster01562 753828

From the Parish Register

Baptism We welcome you

July 27 Theodore Collier St.. Mary's

Funeral Jesus said: 'I am the resurrection and the life.'
July 24 Isobel Pugh St. Mary's

Service of Thanksgiving

July 12 Sue Hart St. Mary's

Interment of Ashes

July 7Pauline EllinghamSt. Mary'sJuly 12Sue HartSt. Mary's

For all church enquiries please visit our website

https://www.alveleyandquattchurches. In an emergency please call Rev Jon Aldwinckle (01746 562159)

For Alveley burial ground enquiries call Jenny Sirrell 07484886605

COVER PICTURE

Summer calm in Severn Valley Country Park
Photo by Don Bannister B.E.M.

Views expressed in this magazine do not necessarily reflect those of the Rector, PCCs, retired clergy, Hereford Diocese, the editor or the Church of England.

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AUGUST SERVICES

Duty rotas for St. Mary's are on page 20.

Sunday August 3

10.30 a.m. Holy Communion St. Mary's

Sunday August 10

10.30 a.m. Holy Communion St. Andrew's 10.30 a.m. Worship 4 All Ages St. Mary's

Wednesday August 13

10.30 a.m. Holy Communion St. Mary's

Sunday August 17

10.30 a.m. Holy Communion St. Mary's

Sunday August 24

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion St. Mary's
10.30 a.m. 20/20/20 St. Mary's
4.00 p.m. Teatime Praise St. Andrew's

Wednesday August 27

10.30 a.m. Holy Communion St. Mary's

Sunday August 31

10.30 a.m. Combined Holy Communion St. Andrew's

ST. MARY'S CHURCH HEATING

We just wanted to give you a quick update on the heating. As many of you will know the boiler in St Mary's broke down last winter and was unrepairable. We are therefore looking at a new ecofriendly way of heating your church. We are, as I write this short article, awaiting an independent assessment on which way forward we should take. We have had an initial meeting with the DAC (Diocesan Advisory Committee) who have given us some ideas of how to make St Mary's ecofriendly for us and future generations. But until we have an assessment completed we cannot move any further forward. This process is not going to be quick or cheap, but we need to be certain that the correct system is installed. We will give an update in next month's magazine.

Rev Jon & PCC.

BOB HIGGINS

Jan and family wish to express their heartfelt thanks to all friends and neighbours who sent cards, flowers and lovely messages on the passing of my husband, Bob. Such kindness at a difficult time was truly appreciated.

Thank you all so much.

Jan, Russ and Caroline

FOR NEWS FROM ST. ANDREW'S, QUATT—SEE PAGE 16 THIS MONTH ALVELEY & ROMSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The next meeting of Alveley and Romsley Parish Council is on 2nd September, starting at 7.30pm with Open Forum. As usual the meeting will be held in the Pavilion. The agenda will be on the notice boards nearer the date. Isley Jakeman

Chair, Alveley and Romsley Parish Council

HOWARD THOMPSON BEQUEST

The Howard Thompson Bequest donates funds to local organisations (not individuals) for promoting Christian faith, education and training. The Trustees are pleased to have been able to support a number of local groups over the last year. The trustees favourably consider grant requests for one-off projects rather than general running costs of clubs and groups.

This is a benevolent fund dedicated to supporting local organisations and voluntary groups. The trustees are happy to receive applications for grants from eligible groups.

Please put your application in writing to Jackie Hampson at:

howardthompsonbf@gmail.com

Applications need to be received by Wednesday $\mathbf{1}^{\text{st}}$ October 2025 when they will be considered by the Trustees.

Jackie Hampson

ALVELEY CHARITY

Our remit is to provide relief for members of Alveley & Romsley Parishes, by making grants to reduce either need, hardship or distress.

Having absorbed an educational charity in the past, we also consider Educational assistance grants which are typically considered in our autumnal meeting.

For grant applications, you can contact me, Daryl Cooper by phone (01746-780378) or by email: alveleycharities@gmail.com, and I can advise on next steps.

Daryl Cooper

Some tourists touring the north of England stopped to visit a Priory. The Prior gave them a tour of the buildings, ending in the kitchen, where one monk was making fish and chips. One tourist said brightly: "You must be the fish friar," to which the monk gravely replied, "No, I am the chip monk."

ALVELEY VILLAGE HALL

The theatre company Ropetackle Storytellers will be performing their production of 'Jekyll & Hyde' on Saturday 25th October in the village hall. With the nights drawing in it is a very fitting time of year to thrill to Robert Louis Stephenson's classic tale.

"Utterson, the lawyer, has a strange case on his hands. One involving blackmail, murder and his close friend Doctor Henry Jekyll. Through interviews, overheard conversations and confessions, Utterson uncovers the grisly facts that link the celebrated doctor to the monstrous Mr Hyde. But in this unbelievable story, what can possibly be the truth?"

The performance will start at 7.30pm and tickets cost £12 adult and £6 child. Please ring Norma on 01746 780478 or call in at the Londis where they will be on sale.

There will be more details in the September magazine about this production plus news of a brilliant evening of folk music performed by a young Canadian duo who will be visiting the hall next March.

Norma Crabtree



SEVERN VALLEY COUNTRY PARK

There are exciting times ahead at Severn Valley Country Park. No. 92 Coffee Lounge will be running the café from September onwards. You may know them already as they have 3 successful cafes, including one at Mary Stevens Park in Stourbridge.

They are family run and know the park well as they already regularly visit. They will be offering a breakfast and lunch menu and will be opening the café 7 days a week and for longer hours. They have their own bakery so will have a great selection of cakes and sweet treats. And I've been told they do an amazing breakfast.

We are so delighted to be welcoming them to the park. With the current financial climate, there was some uncertainty about the café so the fact that No. 92 are taking over the reins is fantastic. It's great news for our visitors and also great news for our current café staff who will now work for No. 92.

We'll looking forward to seeing you when you pop down for a visit.

During the summer holidays, the current café will be open every day. We have a reduced menu to see us through the summer. Monday to Friday we'll be open 11am-3pm, Saturday, 9.30am-3.30pm and Sunday 10.30am-3.30pm.

We will be holding children's events each Wednesday and Friday. There are free craft drop-in sessions on Fri 25th July, Fri 8th Aug, Wed 13th Aug and Fri 22nd Aug. Drop in any time between 11am-12.30pm. You'll need to book for all our other events. Call us on 01746 781 192. We'll be pond dipping, mini beast hunting, orienteering, going on a rock and fossil hunt as well as on a summer scavenger hunt. It's £4.50 per child (accompanying adults free), all from 11am-12.30pm. Dates and more details can be found on our website – www.shropshiresgreatoutdoors.co.uk/severn-valley/whats-on

Also, Rain or Shine Theatre Company will be back with us on Friday 8th August. This year they are performing Sheridan's 'The Rivals'. It's a Restoration comedy adventure. When fashionable London society comes to take the waters in the spa-town of Bath, comic confusion, daring duels and romantic entanglements are abound.

Tickets are £16 Adult, £8 Child (ages 5 to 15). Doors 6pm, Performance 7pm-9.30pm (including interval). Tickets available via www.ticketsource.co.uk or via the credit card hotline 03306 600545.

Susie Comaish, Visitor Centre Manager, Severn Valley Country Park Tel: 01746 781192 Visit <u>www.shropshiresgreatoutdoors.co.uk</u>

NEW LIFE NEPAL SUPPORT TRUST

The children at Shikhar Hostel, which was New Life House are currently experiencing weather similar to the last few weeks in the UK. We recently received some lovely pictures of the younger children trying to cool off in a paddling pool and playing with hose pipes.

The two older girls who took their final school exams have passed and are now able to look for college places, one to study nursing and the other, science.

The children on scholarship grants from the Trust are also on holiday. Those about to leave the primary stage of schooling will be funded to go on to secondary level.

James Dixon from Thame recently ran the London marathon and raised well over £1000 for the trust. There was also a display of photos at Quatt Summer Fair set up by Nick Armstrong, Barbara Pryce, daughter of the late Bill Pryce, and Janette Dixon from Thame. They also had some craft goods to sell to raise money for the trust.

Janette Dixon will once again produce Christmas puddings to order. Please see Penny Jenkins or phone on 01746780660 if you would like to know more.

A huge thank you to those readers who already support the work of the Trust. If you are interested in hearing more about the work of the Support Trust in bringing help to the poor in the far west of Nepal, do contact me or visit newlifenepal.org.

Penny Jenkins

POPE LEO IS A DISTANT COUSIN OF MADONNA

Pope Leo has some surprising relatives.

For one, he is related to the pop singer Madonna, who has clashed with the Roman Catholic Church over her use of religious imagery.

But the Pope is also related to politician Hilary Clinton, actress Angelina Jolie, pop star Justin Bieber, former prime ministers Justin and Pierre Trudeau, and novelist Jack Kerouac.

It was a recent New York Times investigation into the Pope's family tree that found the connections. The celebrities all share one common ancestor with the pope – a Canadian called Louis Boucher de Grandpre. He was born about six generations ago and lived in the late 1500s.

Pope Leo also has some African American ancestors.

ALVELEY TENNIS CLUB

Coming Soon to Alveley Tennis Club: "PICKLEBALL" (Watch This Space). LA-DIES TENNIS MIXING. We have had a request via a committee member to see if there is an interest for a Ladies Tennis Mixing Session. If we have a good response we would like to know whether it's best on a morning, afternoon or evening and which day of the week. (If you are interested please respond on our new Facebook Page).

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES AT THE CLUB

MONDAYS :Tennis mixing, evenings, gents, 7pm to 9pm. Under floodlights if needed.

TUESDAYS: Afternoons Tennis mixing, ladies & gents, 1 pm to 3pm.

WEDNESDAYS: Rusty Racquets with tennis coach Jack Fletcher, 12 noon to 12.45 pm.

THURSDAYS: Evenings, Tennis mixing ladies & gents, 7 to 9pm, Under floodlights if needed.

FRIDAYS: Tennis coaching for juniors with tennis coach Jack Fletcher. Ages 5 to 10: 5.35pm to 6.20 pm. Ages 11 to 14:-5.35pm to 6.20 pm.

SATURDAYS: Mornings, Tennis mixing ladies & gents, 10am to 12 noon.

TENNIS LADDER

Recently started with nine players on it: Harry Pitt, Roger Whitworth, Cameron McLeod, Ben Spicer, Mark Skidmore, Isaac Williams, Jeff Gillam, John Duffell and Mike Carter.

If you want to join the Tennis Ladder please ring Mark Skidmore on 07901 105163.

- * For Rusty Racquets, Junior Tennis Coaching or One To One Coaching phone our professional tennis coach Jack Fletcher on 07496 177385 or email Jack.fletcher.1302@gmail.com
- * For more information on the Club call Roger Whitworth on 079460 94488.
- * For new membership enquires including Family Membership phone Ron Whitfield on 07816 322469 .
- * Why not follow Alveley Tennis Club on their New Facebook Page (started on June 1st) with Day to Day Posts, Photos Past & Present, Features and Up & Coming Events .

Brian Davies

THE VICAR WHO WON WIMBLEDON

Ninety years ago, on 21st August 1935, John Hartley, the British tennis player, died. He was the only clergyman ever to win Wimbledon and was World Number One in both 1879 and 1880 – winning Wimbledon both years.

The Revd John Thorneycroft Hartley was born in 1849 in Wolverhampton and was well connected: his parents were both from Staffordshire industrial business families, and he married Alice Lascelles Murray, daughter of the 4th Earl of Mansfield and a granddaughter of Henry Lascelles, 3rd Earl of Harewood. They had no children.

He won the 1879 Gentlemen's Singles title against Irish champion Vere St Leger Goold in three sets on 15thJuly, retaining his title the following year. But in attempting the hat-trick in 1881 he lost the shortest ever men's final, 0-6, 1-6, 1-6, in 37 minutes. He was said to have been ill at the time.

Hartley had become a priest in 1873. He was firstly curate of Christ Church, Southwark, and then became vicar of Burneston, a village in North Yorkshire, from 1874 to 1919. In 1891 he became Rural Dean of East Catterick, and later he was Honorary Canon of Ripon Cathedral.

In those days it was an amateur tournament, so he received no cash for his Wimbledon wins, and in the course of his first finals win he caught a train to Yorkshire so that he could do his duty and take his services at Burneston on the Sunday. Not only that, but he stayed with a dying parishioner until he passed away on the Monday – the day of the semi-finals. A rain delay helped him to get back to London in time. At the Golden Jubilee Championships in 1926 he received a silver medal from Queen Mary as one of 34 surviving champions.



ONE VOLUNTEER IS WORTH TEN PRESSED MEN

The coal mine at Alveley closed in 1969. Around 1986 it was noted that water coming from Romsley was running onto the site and the coal spoil and slag was threatening to start sliding down the hill towards the river and something needed to be done. In 1988 there was talk of turning the area into a country park and so Bridgnorth council and Shropshire County Council with help from the European Union started to flatten the ground and a drainage and water scheme was put in designed to last at least 100 years. In 1991 Don Bannister was working as an analytical chemist at GKN when he was offered voluntary redundancy which he took. Don and his friend Chris Butterworth had been checking public footpaths in Alveley, Romsley and Quatt. Chris became the first ranger and Don the first volunteer. There was much to be done and they soon realised they needed more help. They advertised for more volunteers and eventually got about 40 people. Between them they planted trees, built bridges, laid paths, erected fencing, made pools and did some coppicing. An existing woodland from Hall Close Farm was also added to the park. Hundreds of trees were planted from the car park right down to the river. Now, 30 years on, there is a wonderful variety including oak, willow, birch, ash, chestnut, hazel, blackthorn, dogwood, wild rose, and silver birch. In 2006 an area by the existing river bridge was cleared and the new bridge was cast on site. The main section was swung into place by one of the biggest mobile cranes in Europe. The area was then replanted by the contractors with saplings and shrubs.

At its inception the whole area of the country park was covered in dreary grey/black spoil, there was no wildlife. Over the years Don and the volunteers have made almost 200 bird boxes. They have made 12 barn owl boxes and 12 tawny owl boxes as well as bat boxes. Dormice were found on site and boxes bought in for them and put along the river bank. The barn owls came and went, probably too many people for them to settle but the tawny owls have stayed. Kestrels also came but were evicted by the grey squirrels. They are, of course, an invasive species and can be a nuisance, eating the shoots of growing trees. Don says in one 5 week period they destroyed 30 hanging bird feeders! In the last 6 years kingfishers have started visiting the wetland area so 12 months ago a project to build a bank for them to nest in was started. Wet weather has caused difficulties in the build and it has to be constructed so that mink could not get in and destroy the nest and chicks. They are another invasive species. The kingfishers have not yet used the bank but they

are in the area. A bit like looking in an estate agents window! They are probably too late to nest this year. There is a resident heron and there were swans but they were moved on by the Canada geese who have produced 7 goslings this year. In the last 2 years red kites have appeared and it is hoped they will settle. There is quite a list of birds to be seen in the park among them green woodpeckers, greater spotted woodpeckers, wrens, robins, mallard, moor hens, bullfinches, sparrows, blackbirds, thrushes, long tailed tits, blue tits, great tits (but sadly not my wife's favourite, the bearded tit), tree creepers, nut hatches, pied wagtails and grey wagtails which are, of course, yellow. In the first few years of the park an extremely rare bittern visited but only stayed a week or two. There are only about 14 breeding pairs in the fens of Norfolk, their typical home.

Some years ago it was realised there were grants available to the country park but the rangers were unable to apply for them as they were council employees. So the volunteers formed a committee with Don as chairman and they secured £30,000. One of the grants of £10,000 was used to buy a new bird hide and some trail cameras. More of these cameras have been bought since and they are recording even more wildlife including otters, badgers, foxes, polecats, mink and Muntjac deer which are a nuisance as they damage young trees. In the early days a children's group (including parents) was started, called Greenies, to introduce kids to conservation and wildlife. Don says he used to race these kids to the visitor centre but that he would now need a go-kart to do it! One of these Greenies went on to become a ranger. James also happens to be a bellringer. (You knew there'd be a bellringer somewhere in this article didn't you ?) When Don was chairman of the volunteers he applied for an award for voluntary service for the whole group and they received it from the Lord lieutenant of Shropshire Sir Algernon Heber-Percy of Hodnet Hall. Don will receive his British Empire Medal from the current holder of that office Anna Turner, and I would say it's richly deserved. I chatted with Don and his wife Pat at their home in Alveley and their enthusiasm for the country park and this village was clear. Any mistakes in this article are mine and due to poor note taking. Roy Page.

Teacher: Donald, how do you spell crocodile?

Donald: K-R-O-K-O-D-I-Á-L Teacher: No, that's incorrect.

Donald: Maybe it is, but you asked me how I spell it.

ALVELEY CRICKET CLUB AUGUST & SEPTEMBER FIXTURES All matches start at 12.30 p.m.

- Aug 2 1st XI v Old Elizabethans 3rd XI (A) 2nd XI v Harborne 3rd XI (H)
- Aug 9 1st XI v Himley 3rd XI (H) 2nd XI v Himley 4th XI (A)
- Aug 16 1st XI v Hanley Castle & Upton 1st XI (A) 2nd XI v Netherton 3rd XI (A)
- Aug 23 1st XI v Kidderminster 3rd XI (H) 2nd XI v Lye 3rd XI (A)
- Aug 30 1st XI v B'hill, Till'ton & Weobley (A) 2nd XI v Alvech & Hopwood (H)
- Sep 6 1st XI v Cookhill 1st XI (A) 2nd XI v Stourbridge 4th XI (H)
- Sep13 1st XI v Colwall 2nd XI (A) 2nd XI v Stourport-on-Severn 3rd XI (H)

ALVELEY ART GROUP

Art Group continues over the summer months, alternate Mondays between 10am and 1pm in the Village Hall.

We said goodbye to one of our longstanding members, Bill Watkins, who has moved out of the village. He will be missed by us all.

This October we will be holding an exhibition of our recent artwork, on 11th and 12th October, where we hope to see many visitors. For details please contact me on 780280.

Jane Hunt

ALVELEY LADIES' GUILD

There are no meetings now till September. The exact date for this is yet to be decided due to holidays.

Kath

DEAR VICAR....

- I know God loves everybody but then he never met my sister. Yours sincerely, Arnold. Age 8.
- Please say in your sermon that Peter Peterson has been a good boy all week. I am Peter Peterson. Sincerely, Pete. Age 9.
- My father should be a minister too. Every day he gives me a sermon about something. Robert Anderson, age 11.
- My mother is very religious. She goes to play bingo at church every week even if she has a cold. Yours truly, Annette. Age 9.
- I would like to go to heaven someday because I know my brother won't be there. Stephen. Age 8.

MESSY CHURCH

The theme of Messy Church in July was the less well-known story of Zacchaeus. He was an unpopular tax collector in Jericho, and a very short man. He wanted to see Jesus, but because of the crowd, he couldn't see over them. So, he climbed a sycamore tree to get a better view. When Jesus passed by, he looked up and called Zacchaeus by name, telling him to come down because he was going to stay at his house. Everyone was surprised that Jesus would visit a tax collector, but Zacchaeus was so happy! He promised to give half of his money to the poor and repay anyone he had cheated four times the amount. This story teaches us that Jesus loves everyone, no matter what they have done, and that we can always change for the better.

The children really enjoyed making crafts about Zacchaeus, including a brightly coloured, twirled ribbon picture of the tree with a moving Zacchaeus; this is on display in church, please take a look.

After story time and praise, we had a picnic tea of sandwiches, sausage rolls, pizza and cake, sat on rugs in the Lady Chapel [the weather was a bit too unsettled to sit outside].

There is **no** Messy Church in August so we return on Saturday, 6th September, with the story of baby Moses in the basket.

We look forward to seeing all the children of Alveley and Quatt; there is no charge but all children must be accompanied by an adult.

Alison Pearson





NEWS FROM ST. ANDREW'S, QUATT

Are you enjoying the very hot weather? As I write this we are enjoying a break in the recent heatwave with a much needed light shower and I can almost see the grass returning to green by the minute - isn't nature just wonderful!

Our fete last month was very successful and I must thank all those who supported us - especially our friends from Alveley and those who manned stalls, made cakes, sold raffle tickets in advance, donated prizes and worked incredibly hard on the very hot day. I would also like to thank James Williamson for allowing us to use the field. We have a very small Parochial Church Council and such events are very difficult without additional help so it was team work at its very best and as a result we made an amazing £873.10. We are very grateful for this amount.



We have a large selection of books left over

from the stall and these will be placed on the table in the porch giving you the opportunity to place a small donation in the wall safe and enjoy a good novel or two. In next months magazine I will give you some forward dates for your diaries.

If you are going away on holiday have a wonderful time and if you are just choosing to spend time at home enjoy the lovely weather and relax!

Ann Lee

ST. ANDREW'S DUTY ROTA—PLEASE INFORM ANN IF YOU CAN'T BE THERE

Date	1st Reading	2nd reading	Intercessions
August 10	Isaiah 1.1.10-20 Steve Jones	Luke 12.32-40 Paula Tristham	Ann Lee
August 24	Luke 22.24-30 Yvonne Miles		Wendy Aldwinckle
August 31	Jeremiah 2.4-13 Benoit Ritzenthaler	Luke14.1,7-14 Penny Jenkins	Keith Pearson

QUATT VILLAGE HALL

Saturday 20th September:

"Mettle" is a new play which celebrates and commemorates the true story of a man and those who served with him on one of the most infamous Atlantic convovs of World War Two.

November 1942

HMS Vanessa is detached from Convoy HX213 to join Convoy SC107. The convoy is attacked by a wolfpack of U-boats - over 4 days they sink 15 ships. It is the heaviest loss of ships from any trans-Atlantic convoy through the winter of 1942-43.

Gordon Collett is 19, from Sheffield - the city of steel. Determined to join the fight against the advancing forces of fascism, he volunteers for the Royal Navy in February 1940. He serves on HMS Vanessa and in November 1942 they are sent to escort Convoy SC107.

Starts at 7.30pm £12 per person

Refreshments to purchase. Please bring your own drinks

Saturday 27th September

Joe Bayliss with Mike Seal.

21st century folk -inspired music from Joe Bayliss.

Influenced by John Martyn, Damien Rice and Nick Drake, Joe is really at home interacting with his audience.

By his own words...

"the oldest - 'new kid on the block' in the folk world in the last 12 years", he brings a life's experience, portrayed in a contemporary way, weaving humorous back-stories with sensitive, thought provoking songs, soothing melodies and imaginative metaphors that intersperse, carefully crafted lyrical pictures.

He can have you laughing at the introduction and crying three minutes later from the beauty of an emotional experience.

A singer songwriter who absolutely, writes and performs from the soul.

Starts at 8pm £12 per person

Refreshments to purchase. Please bring your own drinks.

Tickets for both events available online or at Quatt Farm Shop.

Steph Hinton

Music festival as parent drops off teenagers...

Daughter: Did you ever hear anything so amazing as that band? Father: Well, I once heard a collision between a milk float and a little van filled with ducks.



Dementia 'Drop In' and Older Person's Support Service

Jo Weaver Jackson (Dementia Care Co-ordinator) and Louise Linning (Health and Wellbeing Coach) will be available from

10am until midday on the fourth Wednesday of every month at:



Number Seven

West Castle Street

Bridgnorth

WV16 4AB



This is a drop in service to provide help and advice to anyone diagnosed with or caring for someone with Dementia, or for those seaking support or help with activities of daily living due to age.

Jo Weaver-Jackson
Telephone: 01746 551137
Email: joanne.weaver-jackson@nhs.net

Louise Linning
Telephone: 01746 551127
Email: louise.linning2@nhs.net

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SUSTAINABILITY

August 9th is the UN International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples, acknowledging around 476 million individuals across 90 countries. While they constitute less than 6% of the global population, indigenous peoples represent over 15% of the poorest. They embody around 5,000 distinct cultures and speak a significant portion of the world's 7,000 languages. Historically marginalised, many choose to live in voluntary isolation to protect their cultural identities and traditions, relying on their diverse natural environments for sustenance through traditional practices like hunting, fishing, and gathering. Their extensive ecological knowledge and landscape management expertise has contributed to sustainable agricultural techniques, such as the milpa ('Three Sisters') system in Mesoamerica and agroforestry in West Africa, which promote biodiversity and resilience to climate change, offering valuable insights for modern climate solutions. Protecting their rights is essential for preserving these unique cultures and learning from their sustainable practices.

In other news, urban gardens are transforming parking spaces into green havens, with three parklets winning awards at the Hampton Court Palace Garden Festival. At the Global Tipping Points conference, climate scientists discussed strategies for positive climate action, highlighting the need for decisive policies. Research shows that younger ash trees in Britain are becoming more resistant to Ash Dieback. Overseas, the US Supreme Court has denied oil giant ExxonMobil's attempt to overturn a civil penalty for breaches of the Clean Air Act at a Texas refinery. Lastly, the University of Queensland has launched a groundbreaking map to aid in the conservation of migratory marine animals, tracking over 100 species and providing crucial data for global conservation efforts, including the UN High Seas Treaty (protect marine biodiversity and share resources equitably in international waters) and the 30x30 goal to protect 30% of the Earth's oceans and land by 2030.

Kath Norgrove

After cleaning his young patient's teeth, the dentist accompanied the five-year -old boy to the reception area, only to see him struggle with the oak door. "It's heavy, isn't it?" asked the dentist.
"Yes," he said. "Is that so children can't escape?"

ST. MARY'S CHURCH ROTA AUGUST 2025

Please ring the churchwarden (see page 4) if you are unable to carry out your duty.

Refreshments	Anne & Laura Simms	Alison & Keith Pearson		Pat Hae Lynn Madden Sally Page Jenny Sirrell
Welcomers	Dale Chidwick Colin Taylor	Pat Haw Lynn Madden	Diana Kennedy Carol Wall	Keith Pearson
Chalice	Alison Pearson Carol Wall		Dale & Sue Chidwick	
Intercessions	Wendy Aldwinckle		Penny Jenkins	
2nd Reading	Luke 12.13-21 Ian Maddock		Luke 12.49-56 Colin Taylor	
1st Reading	Hosea 11.1-11 Laura Simms	Luke 12.32-40 Alison Pearson	Isaiah 5.1-7 Liz Bullas	Luke 22.24-30 James Woolley
Date	August 3	August 10	August 17	August 24

DIARY 2025

August 4	Alveley Art Group, Village Hall 10am-1pm (p 14)
8	Chapel Crafters, Alveley Old Chapel 10.30am-12.30pm
8	Free craft drop-in session, SVCP 11am-12.30pm (p 8)
8	Rain or Shine Theatre present 'The Rivals', S.V.C.P. (p 8)
13	Free craft drop-in session, SVCP 11am-12.30pm (p 8)
18	Alveley Art Group, Village Hall 10am-1pm (p 14)
22	Chapel Crafters, Alveley Old Chapel 10.30am-12.30pm
22	Free craft drop-in session, SVCP 11am-12.30pm (p 8)
September 1	. Alveley Art Group, Village Hall 10am-1pm (p 14)
2	Alveley & Romsley P. Council meeting/Open Forum, Pavilion 7.30pm (p 6)
6	Messy Church, St. Mary's, 3pm-5pm (p 15)
15	Alveley Art Group, Village Hall 10am-1pm (p 14)
15	Be Café, Old Chapel 2pm-4pm (p 15)
19	Alveley Entertainers' Film Night, Village Hall, 7.30pm
20	'Mettle', Quatt Village Hall, 7.30pm (p17)
27	Joe Bayliss with Mike Seal, Quatt Village Hall, 8pm (p 17)
29	Alveley Art Group, Village Hall 10am-1pm (p 14)
October 11	Alveley Ar Group exhibition, Alveley Village Hall. (and Oct 12) (p 14)

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'Jekyll & Hyde', Ropetackle Storytellers, Alveley Village Hall, 7.30pm (p 7)

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ALL IN THE MONTH OF AUGUST

1,700 years ago, on 25th August 325 the First Council of Nicaea ended with the adoption of the Nicene Creed. It summarised the Christian faith and established the doctrine of the Holy Trinity.

250 years ago, on 5th August 1775 the first Europeans entered San Francisco Bay. Spanish explorer Juan de Ayala and his crew on the ship San Carlos explored and mapped the bay.

Also 250 years ago, on 23rd August 1775 King George III issued the Proclamation of Rebellion. It stated that the American colonies were in a state of open rebellion, and must be suppressed.

150 years ago, on 4th August 1875 Hans Christian Andersen, Danish writer, died. Best known for his fairy tales, such as *The Emperor's New Clothes, The Little Mermaid, The Princess and the Pea, The Snow Queen, The Ugly Duckling,* and many more.

125 years ago, on 25th August 1900 Friedrich Nietzsche, German philosopher and philologist, died. His work had a major impact on modern intellectual history. One of his most prominent concepts was the 'will to power', which he believed was the main driving force in humans.

100 years ago, on 5th August 1925 the Welsh nationalist political party Plaid Cymru was founded. Today it holds four of the 32 Welsh seats in the UK Parliament, 12 of the 60 seats in the Senedd, and 202 of the 1,231 principal local authority councillors.

80 years ago, on 6th August 1945 the US Army Air Forces dropped an atomic bomb on the city of Hiroshima in Japan. The centre of the city was totally destroyed, and about 80,000 people were killed immediately. A further 60,000 died by the end of the year, from injury or radiation. Hiroshima was the first city in history to be hit by a nuclear weapon.

Also 80 years ago, on 9th August, the US Army Air Forces dropped an atomic bomb on Nagasaki, killing 40,000 immediately and more than another 33,000 by the end of the year. It was (so far) the last nuclear bomb to ever be dropped.

75 years ago, on 15th August 1950 Princess Anne, the Princess Royal, was born.

65 years ago, on 6th August 1960 the Twist became a national sensation in the US, and triggered one of the biggest dance crazes, when singer Chubby Checker performed the song on the show American Bandstand.

60 years ago, on 6th August 1960 the Beatles' Album HELP! was released.

50 years ago, on 1st August 1975, the Helsinki Accords were signed by 35 nations in an attempt to improve relations between the Communist Bloc and the West.

40 years ago, on 22nd August 1985 the Manchester Air Disaster took place when a British Airtours Boeing 737 burst into flames after an engine caught fire and a fuel tank ruptured. 55 people were killed.

30 years ago, on 24th August 1995 Microsoft released both Windows 95 operating systems and also Microsoft Office 95.



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WHO'S WHO - A GUIDE TO ORGANISATION CONTACTS

Alveley Art Group	Jane Hunt	780280				
Alveley Bellringers	Roy Page	07704 362285				
Alveley Charities	Daryl Cooper	780378				
Alveley Cricket Club	Richard Twigg	780437				
Alveley Day Centre	Sue Taylor 07973 343491					
Angela Lander 07952 172691 Pat Bowyer 07964 377840						
Alveley Entertainers	Ian Maddock	780936				
Alveley First Responders	Martin Hill	780794				
Alveley Historical Society	Lorraine Heath	07970 637727				
Alveley Ladies' Guild	Barbara Spragg 780200 Kath Bishop	780707				
Alveley Mining Heritage	Andrea Edwards	862064				
Alveley Old Chapel		07777624664				
Alveley Parish Council/Street Light	s Steve Kerry	07711788782				
Alveley Patient Group	Chris Noble	780715				
Alveley Pétanque Club	David Voysey	780356				
Alveley Rec Assn/Pavilion	Margaret Shaw	780459				
Alveley School	Mr. P. O'Malley	780284				
Alveley Tennis Club	Roger Whitworth	07946 094488				
Alveley Village Band	Harry Jones	07747 612318				
Alveley Village Hall	Norma Crabtree	780478				
Alveley Village Hall bookings	Carol Hatfield	780576				
Arden Allotments Association	Debbie Walker	07484 238616				
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Chapel Crafters Angela	a Lander 07952172691 Jenny Sirrell	07484806605				
County Councillor	Colin Taylor	07581 066956				
Friends of Alveley School	Sarah Carr	780284				
Howard Thompson Bequest	Jackie Hampson	780034				
Music in St. Mary's	Andrew Crabtree	780478				
Quatt Cricket Club	Jim Williamson	07790 033662				
Quatt Malvern Parish Council	Bill Griffiths	766941				
Quatt Village Hall bookings	Steph Hinton	781214				
St. Mary's Choir	Brenda York	780144				
St. Mary's Flowers	Wendy Aldwinckle	562159				
Severn Park Ranger	Guy Border	781192				
Squirrel Bowling Club	Roger Ford	780413				
Strollers & Striders Walking Group		780478				
Voluntary Car Scheme Community	Transport (Mon-Fri 9.30-12.30 only)	768539				
Whittall Meadows Trust	Jan Higgins	780259				

PLEASE NOTIFY THE EDITOR (780936) OF ANY CHANGES

THE BACK PAGE

It being the holiday season, the Head Gardener and I have just returned from France. We had our usual visit to Champagne, staying in a wonderful B and B, dining in a lovely restaurant (both of which we have been visiting for many years) and visiting our favoured producers of champagne. Over the years we have visited many of the smaller producers but there are two we go to every year, receiving a warm welcome - and a 4 euro a bottle discount as we are regular customers, albeit only once a year!

We then moved on to a lovely holiday let in Saumur, a part of the Loire Valley which we had only visited briefly in the past. The beautiful surroundings of the property were idyllic and, given the heat, the swimming pool was well used.

Chateau visits took us to some wonderful properties we hadn't visited previously. If eating out we prefer to do so at lunchtime and we found some lovely restaurants. The French enjoy a decent lunch hour and, unlike councils over here, allow free parking from 12 noon to 2pm to allow you to lunch at leisure. How civilised!

There was one occasion we found somewhat unnerving, however, and that was when either the car or my phone (we aren't yet sure which) decided to butt in to our conversation. We were discussing the situation with regard to the EU and the latest announcements about the relationship between the UK and the EU when all of a sudden a voice said: 'You clearly have strong opinions about the EU.'

With the arrival of AI it appears you can't have a personal conversation without Big Brother listening in and commenting. No doubt we were reported to the thought police, so BEWARE - be careful what you say anywhere you may be heard by AI, even in your car.

It appears that George Orwell's '1984' has arrived some 41 years late! Ian

Please send items for the **September edition by 9 am on Sunday August 17th** to the editor (email ianmaddock@btinternet.com or phone 01746 780936). For advertising please contact David Hampson (telephone 01746 780034 or emaildavid.hampson2025@gmail.com)



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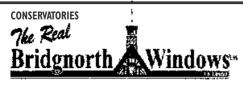


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