

The Parish Magazine

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



NOVEMBER 2024

60p

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The Rector writes

Dear Friends

November is very much a month for remembering in the Christian calendar. We begin with the remembrance of All Saints and All Souls where we recall those who have gone before us, both the saints of old and those we have known and loved in our own lives.

We mark Remembrance Sunday so that we may not forget the sacrifices made by so many in wars past and present.

And, at the end of the month we mark "Christ the King", reminding us of this particular role of Jesus as the revealer of God's Kingdom here on earth.

All of these remembrances bring with them a challenge. A challenge that we remember honestly and that we try in our own way to honour the legacy left to us.

The Bible calls all God's people "Saints". This is not a title for an elect few only, but a recognition that each who choose to follow Jesus have a special role to play in God's ongoing work of creation.

Likewise, Remembrance Sunday can cause us to reflect how as a nation we live with the legacy of wars fought and sacrifices made in the freedoms we enjoy today. Our stewardship of those freedoms for ourselves and future generations is our real act of honouring those who died. During our services (10th November 10.30am in St Mary's and St Andrew's) the names of those who came from our community will be read out. Each of the names represents a different individual. A person who has been born, who has developed knowledge and gifts, with hopes and aspirations, loves and fears, joys and griefs. For each of these, their dying was also an individual moment, some in fear, trauma and violence, some in peace. Christians believe that every person, every individual is created and loved by the God who made all things. And so, at the end of life, that unique and individual life is held within the eternal and fathomless love of God.

Likewise, when we reflect on the kingship of Jesus, we are challenged to consider what that kingship means. What does Jesus want us to understand when he talks about the Kingdom, and what kind of King is he?

As we approach Christmas and begin once more to rehearse its stories we may begin to get a clue.

May our remembering not just allow us to dwell on the past, but also to reflect upon it, and in the light of that reflection to understand our task in the present all the more.

Every blessing

Rev Jon

United Benefices of Alveley and Quatt

Rector	Rev. Jon Aldwinckle , The Rectory, Alveley (email: revjonaldwinckle@outlook.com)	01746 562159
Retired Clergy	Rev. Dr. Wendy Rylance , Roughton Farmhouse	01746 716399
Reader	Sue Chidwick , 28 Greenway Avenue, Alveley	01746 781786
Lay Pastoral Worker	Wendy Aldwinckle , The Rectory, Alveley	01746 562159
Safeguarding Officer	Jackie Hampson , South View, 23 Daddlebrook Rd	01746 780034

Contact for Alveley & Quatt Methodists

Deacon Becky Lovatt	01299 826641
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St. Mary The Virgin, Alveley, WV15 6ND

Churchwarden	Penny Jenkins , 34 Birch Grove, Alveley	01746 780660
Churchwarden	Alison Pearson , Brookfield, Daddlebrook Rd, Alveley	07882 888875
Treasurer	Anne Simms , Willowell House, Quattford	01746 768955

St. Andrew's Quatt

Churchwarden	Ann Lee , 7 Brook Hollow, Bridgnorth	01746 761138
Deputy Warden	Sara Douglas , 1 The Dower House, Quatt	01746 781825
Treasurer	Steve Jones , 72 Manor Road South, Kidderminster	01562 753828

From the Parish Registers

There are no entries this month

COVER PICTURE

A rare October day of sunshine: the River Severn from the bridge
at Severn Valley Country Park

Photo by Malcolm Philpotts

For all church enquiries please visit our website

<https://www.alveleyandquattchurches>. In an emergency please call

Rev Jon Aldwinckle (07484806605)

For Alveley burial ground enquiries call Jenny Sirrell 07484806605

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.

NOVEMBER SERVICES

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

Sunday November 3

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

Sunday November 10

10.30 a.m. Remembrance Service St. Andrew's

10.30 a.m. Remembrance Service St. Mary's

Wednesday November 13

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

Sunday November 17

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

Sunday November 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 November 27

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

MESSY CHURCH

The autumn season is a special time for all of us who live in the countryside as we watch the fruits and harvest being gathered in by our local, hard working farming community. Messy Church celebrated the Harvest festival this month with crafts inspired by autumn and farming, giving thanks for the bounty of the land. Everyone joined in with the songs of praise with loud voices and noisy instruments before sitting down to a tea of hot dogs with onions, followed by cake and fruit – I don't think anyone went home hungry! On Saturday November 2nd Messy Church will be focused on Remembrance Sunday, but we will also be making some crafts for the Messy Church Christmas Tree, on display at the festival at the beginning of December. All the children of Alveley and Quatt, with their families and carers, are welcome.

The fun starts at 3pm, we hope to see you there

Alison Pearson

Have you heard about the agnostic dyslexic insomniac who lay awake at night wondering; "Is there a Dog?"

NEWS FROM ST. ANDREW'S, QUATT

I must start this month by thanking all those of you who came along to support our recent Harvest service and lunch. I have had many lovely messages and would like to thank all those who helped to make it such a success.

I have lots of dates for your diaries -

We will be holding our Christmas lunch in the Village Hall on Thursday 12th December at 12.30pm with good food, crackers and carols. As usual, please bring along your own drinks. Please ring me on 01746 761138 to book your place. It will be a lovely start to our Christmas celebrations.

Our Remembrance Service will be held on Sunday 10th November at 10.30am. Please come along to this very special service. We will serve refreshments afterwards .

We are having a stall at Quatt Village Hall Christmas Fayre on Sunday 17th November so why not pop in and support us?

Our Carol Service will be held on Sunday 22nd December at 3pm. Hopefully, this will give you the chance to arrive in the daylight. The charity tractor run is the same day and so you might like to stay on and watch it afterwards .

I now have an urgent plea for help. We are looking for a volunteer to help with the cleaning of the church. It involves a maximum of a couple of hours per week. Please contact either me on 01746 761138 or Sara on 781825.

Ann Lee

DUTY ROTA AT ST. ANDREW'S (ST. MARY'S ROTA IS ON PAGE 20)

Please let Ann know if you cannot be there. 01746 761138

Date	1st Reading	2nd reading	Intercessions
November 10	Christopher Douglas Jonah 3.1-5	Paula Tristham Mark 1.14-20	Ann Lee
November 24	Carole Hubbard Daniel 7.9,10,13,14		Volunteer please

Little Alex was staring up at the large brass plaque that hung on the side wall of the church. The plaque was covered with names, and seemed to fascinate the seven-year-old. "All those names," he said to the minister. "Who are they?"

"Well, they were people who used to go to this church," explained the minister. "This is a memorial to all the men and women who died in the services."

Soberly, they stood together, staring at the large plaque. Little Alex's voice was barely audible when he finally asked, "Which service, the 8 o'clock, or the 10.30?"

WHITTALL MEADOWS TRUST

The Trust's next meeting will take place on **22nd November 2024** when the Trustees will be pleased to consider requests for financial support from village organisations. Applications should be made in writing or by email to:

Jan Higgins

Clerk to the Whittall Meadows Trust

11, Mallards Close, Alveley, Bridgnorth, WV15 6JL

Email: jan.higgins@btinternet.com

Applications should arrive no later than **15th November 2024**.

Applicants should be aware that the Trustees favour grants which support purchases of specific equipment or services rather than general running expenses. Applications should give full details of your project and its costs.

ALVELEY AND ROMSLEY PARISH COUNCIL VACANCIES

Have you ever thought about becoming a parish councillor? We currently have two vacancies so if you are interested please contact the Clerk, Steve Kerry at clerk@alveleyandromsleyipc.org.uk.

No experience is needed and you would be made very welcome.

Isley Jakeman, Chair, Alveley and Romsley Parish Council

ALVELEY AND ROMSLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next meeting of Alveley and Romsley Parish Council will be on Tuesday November 5th in the Pavilion. As usual the meeting will begin with open forum at 7.30pm. This is your opportunity to comment on agenda items or village matters of concern to you. Everyone is welcome to attend the meeting.

I look forward to seeing you there.

Isley Jakeman, Chair, Alveley and Romsley Parish Council.

ALVELEY OLD CHAPEL

We are now into Autumn properly with hot food and soups along with filled jacket potatoes, toasties and not forgetting our fabulous home made cakes and sandwiches.

Thank you to the person who returned the apron to the Chapel. If anyone has a Chapel apron at home it would be most appreciated if it could be returned as our new volunteers are having to share aprons.

We will be welcoming the Alveley Strollers and Striders for their annual Christmas Meal on Tuesday 10 December and the Chapel will close on Wednesday 11 December for its Christmas break and grand clean. We will be reopening on Tuesday 7 January. *Mo Morgan, Manager, Alveley Old Chapel Tearoom*

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

This year Remembrance services will be held at both St. Andrew's and St. Mary's at 10.30 a.m. on Sunday November 10th.

Did you know that a poem inspired the use of a poppy as a symbol of Remembrance? Shortly after losing a friend in Ypres in 1915, a Canadian doctor, Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae was inspired by the sight of poppies growing in battle-scarred fields to write his now famous poem 'In Flanders Fields'. The poem inspired American War Secretary, Moina Michael, who bought poppies to sell to her friends to raise money for Servicemen in need after the First World War.

This was adopted by The (Royal) British Legion in 1921 who ordered a million poppies from Anna Guérin in France and commissioned a further 8 million to be manufactured in Britain. These were sold on November 11th that year in the first ever Poppy Appeal. The poppy has been adopted as a symbol of Remembrance ever since.

ARMISTICE DAY WREATH LAYING

On November 11th, Armistice Day, the council will be laying a wreath on the Memorial Planter. The short ceremony will commence at approximately 10.50am and the wreath will be laid by our Shropshire Councillor, Colin Taylor. The Reverend Jon will say a few words.

Everyone is invited to join us on this very special day.

Isley Jakeman

Chair, Alveley and Romsley Parish Council.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

Hello everyone

Please see our poster for the Christmas Tree Festival at St Mary's Church on page 10. We are open for longer this year and our theme is 'Christmas Carols or Music.'

If you would like to enter your group or association but have not received an invitation form, then please contact either me via email wendyaldwinckle@outlook.com or Jenny Sirrell or Penny Jenkins our churchwarden.

We do look forward to seeing you there.

Wendy and St Mary's Team

It isn't easy for an idea to squeeze into a head filled with prejudices. - Anon

ALVELEY VILLAGE HALL

We are delighted to welcome the professional touring company, Just Some Theatre to perform their new comedy thriller **"The Plot Thickens" on Friday 8th November at 7.30pm.** It's inexperienced Alex's first day on the job. Before he can even get to grips with the tea urn and stationery cupboard, he is given his first task-which proves to be absolute murder....

Just Some Theatre ensures "A Good Night Out" with fun, laughter and escapism for their audiences. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available in the interval.

Tickets for this Arts Alive sponsored production are £12 adult, £6 child/student and are available by calling Norma on 780 478, Una 780 568 or from the Londis Foodstore. Also available from www.artsalive.co.uk

Christmas Market on Saturday 7th December starting at 12am. You are warmly invited to the village hall to enjoy this popular annual event. There will be many stalls selling an amazing variety of original handmade gifts and seasonal produce plus a raffle and bumper tombola. Homemade soup, crusty bread, mince pies and hot drinks will be on sale and Andrew and Brian will be playing live seasonal music. *Norma Crabtree*

QUATT VILLAGE HALL

Nicholas Collett returns to Quatt on Friday November 1st after previously performing three of his brilliant plays, "Spitfire Solo", "Your Bard" and "Nelson, the Sailors Story". This time he has support from the very excellent Gavin Robertson in 'Done to Death'. This is another "not to be missed" show. The performance starts at 7.30pm. There will be refreshments available to be purchased at the performance, but please bring along your own tippie.

Sunday 17th November sees the Quatt Christmas Fayre in the Village Hall from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. There will be a variety of stalls including artisan crafts, jewellery, clothes, homemade cakes and jams, books and jigsaws. Entry is free.

On 23rd November 'Make Good' comes to Quatt Village Hall. This is a new musical telling the story of the Post Office scandal. The show starts at 7.30pm.

Tickets for the performances can be bought at our Box Office at Quatt Farm Shop or online at Ticketsource.

Steph Hinton

ALVELEY LADIES' GUILD

It was nice to see you all return to guild in September for our talk about love and marriage traditions. In October we had a talk about 1000 years of cooking and cookbooks.

For our November meeting we welcome Jean who is teaching us how to keep fit with chair exercises, so dig out your leotards! The meeting is on November 25th at 2.30pm in the Village Hall

Everyone is welcome. You don't need to join. Just come along to any meeting. £4 entry with tea, coffee and biscuits. *Kath*

VILLAGE PLANTERS

There are a number of planters in the village that need someone to "adopt" them. All materials are paid for by the parish council but they currently need tidying up for the winter, then come the spring they will need planting. The designs, plants and colours are up to you. During the rest of the year they will need watering and caring for.

If you are interested please contact the clerk giving him your phone number. You can contact him at: clerk@alveleyandromsleypc.org.uk.

Isley Jakeman Chair Alveley and Romsley Parish Council.



The next film night will be on Friday November 15th in Alveley village Hall at 7.30pm. £5 to include tea/coffee and cake. For more information about our final film of 2024 please call Carol Hatfield (780576) or Una Coombs (780568).

We hope to see you.

Ian Maddock

We were celebrating the 100th anniversary of our church, and several former pastors and the bishop were in attendance. At one point, our minister had the children gather at the altar for a talk about the importance of the day. He began by asking, "Does anyone know what the bishop does?"

There was silence. Finally, one little boy ventured: "He's the one you can move diagonally."

SEVERN VALLEY COUNTRY PARK

Our volunteers are currently working on a project to create an artificial kingfisher nesting bank in the wetlands. Over recent years, kingfishers have been incredibly active in the area and our visitors have been taking the most wonderful photographs. The bank will hopefully encourage the kingfishers to nest and the plan is to have the project completed by next breeding season. Currently you can see the frame for the nesting bank from the wetland bird hide. When the construction is complete, the water level will be dropped, some reeds removed and the island will be partially cleared to help encourage breeding. Our volunteers already have their eye on their next project, which will be to extend the bird hide.

In the visitor centre and café, we are reducing the number of days we open as we head into winter. From week commencing 4th November, the visitor centre and cafe will open Friday 11am-3pm, Saturday 9.30am-3.30pm and Sunday 10.30am-3.30pm. Our Nordic Walking sessions (each Wednesday except for the last of the month) will continue and our Wild Toddler sessions will run every Wednesday in November.

We have still have some spaces on our Christmas Wreath Making on Wednesday 11th December. The sessions on 4th December are now fully booked. Call us on 01746 781 192 to see if we still have availability on Wednesday 11th.

We are looking to hold our Volunteer Christmas Fayre on Sat 16th and Sun 17th November. Our volunteers will be selling reindeers, snowmen, Christmas trees and other festive items. They will be joined by Alveley Chapel Crafts, Alveley Art Society, Keith Dawes with his bespoke wood turned items and textile artist Georgia Jacobs. Come down and see if you can pick up something special for Christmas.

Our calendar competition is continuing. On Sunday 17th November the calendar team will be at the park taking pet portraits. Bring your special pooch down for a photoshoot. It can be either in 'studio' conditions or an all action shot. For a donation, you will be able to have a copy of the photo/s and all money donated will go towards projects around the park.

Also, if you did want to enter our calendar competition, we are taking 'autumn' entries. The last date for any autumn themed photograph is 30th November. The judge will choose the 3 photos for the September, October and November pages of our calendar on 8th December. If you want more information about how to enter, email the calendar team at svcpcalendarcomp@gmail.com.

Susie Comaish, Severn Valley Country Park Visitor Centre Manager 781192

ALVELEY W.I.

It was quite a poignant meeting on the 9th October. It was the last time we would have a speaker as our WI is closing. However, what a speaker to finish with. Max Keen gave us a most animated, energetic and informative talk on the life and times of Lord Nelson and then to top it all, he raved over our home made cakes - well done to our tea hostesses.

Our Institute won't officially close until after our AGM on 13th November when a representative from County will be attending to ensure that everything is completed satisfactorily. As our rent is paid until the end of year and our member subscriptions are valid until March 2025 we are organising a farewell afternoon tea party on **Wednesday 11th December (1.30 for 2.00pm) in the pavilion**. Would members please let either Sue Taylor (07973343491) or myself (01746218753) know by the end of October if they cannot join us. There will be a charge of £5.00 per person for this event.

Until that very sad day when Alveley Women's Institute is no more, we intend to carry on with our social events and also help village organisations in their Christmas festivities, so please note the following in your diaries.

Wednesday 20th November. Lunch at the Mare and Colt, Kidderminster. If your name isn't already recorded and you would like to go, please let Sue Taylor know by 8th November.

Friday 29th November. We have had a donation of a Christmas tree and decorations so we will be joining other organisations in St Mary's to deck the church out with trees. Judith Lees is leading this initiative and I'm certain she would welcome your help.

Saturday 7th December is the Village Hall Christmas Market. Members decided that they would like to donate and raffle a hamper for one more time (with proceeds going to the First Responders). Any donations for the hamper would be welcome at our **AGM meeting on Wednesday 13th November**.

Tuesday 10th December breakfast 9.30am at Quatt Farm Shop. Whilst you don't have to book for this, Liz Bullas would appreciate you letting her know if you would like to join us so that she can give the Farm Shop an idea of numbers.

Pam Worton

God may have made our relatives - but thank God we can choose our friends!

ALVELEY TENNIS CLUB

Since 2022 membership has doubled at the Club with lots of new members of all ages joining, most coming from Alveley, Bridgnorth and Kidderminster. Helen and Jon, new members from Shatterford, have just sent in a lovely letter thanking the members for welcoming them. Our latest member to join is from London, so we must be doing something right.

TENNIS SESSIONS

Mondays (Gents) Evenings 7-9pm .

Tuesdays (Afternoons) 1-3pm .

Thursdays (Evenings) 6.30 to 8.30pm

Saturdays (Mornings) 10-12 midday .

For further information contact Roger Whitworth on 07946 094488 or Jan Higgins (01746) 780259 or Email Jan.higgins@btinternet.com.

Brian Davies

MUSIC WITH ANDREW AND MO - NEW DATE

Mo & Andrew welcome you to an evening of songs from the Great American Song Book at the Village Hall on Saturday 23rd November at 7.30pm. Tickets are now on sale from Mo at the Chapel and Andrew on 01746 780478. Doors open at 7pm.

Please bring your own drinks and nibbles. We look forward to seeing you there. *Andrew Crabtree and Mo Morgan*



THE BELLRINGERS' OUTING

At the end of the pandemic the belfry at St Mary's was down to just three regular ringers. We put out an appeal for some new recruits and nine people came to have a go. Four dropped out for various reasons but the remaining five have stuck with us. We practise twice a week and are now able to ring for services, weddings and the occasional funeral. There was only one thing left that we hadn't done since Covid. A bellringers' outing.

Years ago these were almost a whole village affair. There are old black and white photos of men and women and children seated in a charabanc or nicely lined up alongside a 52 seater coach. If the churches are close enough the outing could be walked or cycled but on ours we squashed into cars and set off. Years ago you had to have a detailed set of directions but now with post codes and sat-navs it is much easier.

Ringers can come from all walks of life and we had four pensioners, two of them octogenarians, a teacher, a museum curator, a metal fabricator, an insurance broker, an insurance underwriter, an accountant, an environmental activist, and a lorry driver. We had five churches booked for the day so an early start was made at Quatt for 9 o'clock. Many of you will have heard the bells there, they sound pleasant enough and go well - i.e. they are not difficult to ring. The interesting item at Quatt is the belfry carpet. Many years ago one of our ringers worked at the Eagle Star insurance company offices on the Hagley Road in Birmingham. When they decided to have a new boardroom carpet he acquired the old one for just £3 (delivered!) and it was installed in the belfry at St Mary's, Kingswinford where he was a ringer. Some years after that they decided to upgrade and the Eagle Star carpet was then laid in the belfry at St Andrew's, Quatt where it has been for some time. It is now, er, a little worse for wear but is sporting some very pretty coloured duct tape.

The next tower to ring at was Morville. Some years ago the writer Katherine Swift wanted the bells restored. The poor condition of the old oak frame (probably 1759) made the bells unringable. A man living near the church took up the challenge and eventually raised over £100,000. Enough to pay for a new steel frame, the refurbishment of the existing bells plus two new ones and the complete upgrading of the ringing room and belfry. While the new frame was being installed and the bells were at the Whitechapel foundry in London the ringers from Alveley and Upper Arley taught a new group of ringers from Morville so that they were ready to ring when the work was completed. The bells and ringing room are beautifully maintained and it was a pleasure to ring there.

The next tower was the one I was most worried about. I didn't want any of the towers to be too challenging for our relatively new ringers but one of them works for the Ironbridge Gorge museums and particularly wanted to ring at Coalbrookdale. This church was built by Abraham Darby the fourth and he also paid for a very nice set of eight bells, later augmented to ten in memory of a relative killed in the First

World War. The Darby family were Quakers, a sort of offshoot from the Church of England and they believed in equality and looking after their workers. They not only built the church in Coalbrookdale but also houses, schools, social centres and pubs. It's a pity some of our overpaid CEOs today don't take a leaf out of their book! The largest bell, the Tenor, is just over 18 hundred weight or 900 kilograms, about the same as a small car, so I thought it wise to stick to the front 6. However, as these were rung well I thought we'd have a go at all 10. The Tenor needed raising to the ringing position and not wishing to delegate this hard work to anyone else I caught hold of the rope. Knowing it needed two people to get the bell moving one of the Coalbrookdale ringers stepped forward. A tall, Scottish man with a white beard. Between us we heaved on the rope and when it was perhaps half way up I was able to do it on my own. It was only afterwards they told me that he's in his 90th year! It has to be said that all ten rung together sound beautiful and we didn't disgrace ourselves ringing them.

We then went to the Black Swan at Jackfield for a light lunch. It just so happens that the landlady there was a ringer at Broseley and her daughter still is. What a coincidence! She even made another batch of chips when we'd scoffed the first lot.

The fourth church was Dawley. The ringers there are trying to keep the bells going and are teaching new ringers but we quickly found that the two first bells were 'flighty' and not for novice ringers. One of their ringers has now broken three stays. This is the piece of wood designed to break if a bell is mishandled rather than a more expensive part of the equipment. On the day we called he was sat out with a broken leg. Let us hope his leg and his ringing both get better quickly.

The final church was at Chetton and here we found a scene that must be repeated in a thousand country churches around the UK. Two white haired ladies armed with brooms, mops and dust pan and brush were giving the church a jolly good clean before Sunday morning service, even though I suspect it would only be the first few pews that are used. The bells sounded sweet enough but perhaps because we were getting tired one or two of us thought the bells didn't 'go' very well. Although not a heavy ring, the Tenor is 12 hundredweight, a little heavier than Alveley's which is 10 hundredweight - they felt heavier. One of our ringers who is midway through her pregnancy said she was having to really pull the bell when she was double dodging. I have heard no more excuses from anyone else after that remark. The day was rounded off by a meal at the Three Horseshoes where some wives, husbands and partners were able to join us and be told in unrestricted detail the finer points of Hastings stays, ground floor rings, polyethylene topped bellropes and how to count your double dodges up and down in bastow. - which is a bellringing method not a bellringing person!

Well rung Roy Page.

A sexton is a man who minds his keys and pews.



CHRISTMAS MARKET

ALVELEY VILLAGE HALL

SATURDAY 7th DECEMBER 2024

DOORS OPEN AT 12-00 NOON

A WIDE VARIETY OF STALLS OFFERING
BEAUTIFUL, UNIQUE GIFT IDEAS

HOME-MADE SOUP, MINCE PIES, TEA, COFFEE
TOMBOLA, AND LIVE SEASONAL MUSIC



Be Café

Bereavement Café
meets at The Old Chapel
every 3rd Monday afternoon of the month
2pm until 4pm

Our next meeting will be 18th November

This is a safe space for those who need to chat
and an opportunity to meet others and share experiences
of your loss

Our aim is to listen over a cup of tea and cake



What we can offer: a safe space, to listen,
opportunity to get out of the house for a while,
bereavement literature, memory craft ideas to remember your loved
ones, prayer if required

The café is run by the ladies of St Mary's Church
There is no cost or admission

You will be assured of a warm and comforting welcome

St Mary's Church, Alveley
Saturday November 2nd
3pm – 5pm

Crafts

Worship

Messy Church

Games

Food

Family Fun

FREE TO ATTEND

Young people under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult



St Marys Church, Alveley
Invite you



Christmas Tree Festival

29th November to 2nd December

Opening times:

Friday 29th & Saturday 30th November
10.00am until 4.00pm

Sunday 1st December 12noon until 4.00pm
Monday 2nd 10.00am until 4.00pm



Our theme is Christmas Carols and Music

Win a Christmas Hamper

Craft stall

Refreshments

Memory tree



We look forward to seeing you!!



CALLING ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS

Under 10 years, Under 16 years
and Adults

Spring



Summer



FOUR SEASONS CALENDAR COMPETITION

Show us your photographs of wildlife, insects,
flowers or beautiful views depicting
the Country Park.

Autumn



Winter



Photographers selected will receive
a free copy of the calendar.

Full details on how to enter can be found on our website at

www.svcpcalendarcomp.com

or request an entry form by emailing svcpcalendarcomp@gmail.com

or pick one up from the Visitor's Centre.

SPONSORS: PEZ Concrete Pumping, PEZ Development, BERRIMAN EATON Estate Agent 01746 766499,
W F Head & Sons Alveley, Red Lion Bobbington, Dominique's Restaurant Shatterford,

Three Horseshoes Alveley, Severn Valley Railway, Alveley Village Vets, Nick Goodwin (petsmakeportraits.co.uk).

Community sponsor page donations also welcome.

*My granddad always said, "When one door closes, another door opens."
Lovely man. Terrible cabinet maker.*

ALL IN THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER

250 years ago, on 22 Nov 1774 Robert Clive, 1st Baron Clive (Clive of India), died. He was the British general who helped found the British Empire in India.

150 years ago, on 23rd Nov 1874 Thomas Hardy's novel *Far from the Madding Crowd* was published. It was his first major success.

125 years ago, from 2nd Nov 1899 to 28 Feb 1900 the Siege of Ladysmith, a British Colony of Natal, took place. The Boers surrounded the town and cut off the rail link, starving the British defenders. A relief party, which included future British Prime Minister Winston Churchill, arrived on 28th Feb. British victory.

100 years ago, on 2nd Nov 1924 the first crossword puzzle to appear in a British newspaper was published in the Sunday Express.

Also 100 years ago, on 4th Nov 1924 Gabriel Fauré, the French composer, died.

Also 100 years ago, on 29th Nov 1924 Giacomo Puccini, Italian composer, died. Known for his operas, including *La Boheme*, *Tosca* and *Madame Butterfly*.

90 years ago, on 30th Nov 1934 the British steam locomotive, *Flying Scotsman*, became the first train officially to reach 100 mph.

65 years ago, on 1st Nov 1959 the first stretch of the M1 motorway opened in Britain. Britain's first motorway service station also opened at Watford Gap.

60 years ago, on 23rd Nov 1964 the Second Vatican Council allowed the use of vernacular languages (such as English) in Roman Catholic sacraments and rituals, including the Mass. It had insisted on using only Latin for several hundred years. Most people welcomed the change, and the use of Latin quickly dwindled.

50 years ago, on 8th Nov 1974 British aristocrat Lord Lucan disappeared from his home in London after his children's nanny was bludgeoned to death and his wife was attacked. There were hundreds of claims of sightings around the world in the following years, but none substantiated. He was never found and is presumed dead.

Also 50 years ago, on 20th Nov 1974 British politician John Stonehouse faked his death by leaving a pile of clothing on a beach in Miami, Florida. He was found alive and well in Australia on 24th Dec, and was arrested on suspicion of being Lord Lucan.

Also 50 years ago, on 25th Nov 1974 South African heart surgeon Dr Christian Barnard performed the world's first double heart transplant. The original heart was left in place and a donor heart was connected to it to support its workload.

40 years ago, on 25th Nov 1984 36 musicians gathered in London to record the Band Aid single *Do They Know It's Christmas* to raise money for famine relief in Ethiopia.

30 years ago, on 14th Nov 1994 the first fare-paying passengers travelled through the Channel Tunnel linking England and France.

Also 30 years ago, on 19th Nov 1994 Britain's first National Lottery draw was held.



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At a drinks party at a wealthy golf club, the conversation turned to the subject of ancestry. "Of course, we trace our family back to coming over with William the Conqueror," observed one lady with satisfaction. She turned to a second woman, who was new to the club, and asked, "What about you dear? Can you go back very far?"

"Not very far," came the reply. "You see, all the early family records were lost in the Flood."

ST. MARY'S CHURCH ROTA NOVEMBER 2024

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

Date	1st Reading	2nd Reading	Intercessions	Chalice	Sidespersons	Refreshments
November 3	Ian Maddock Deuteronomy 6: 1-9.	Wendy Aldwinckle Mark 12: 28-34	Benoit Ritzenthaler	Keith & Alison Pearson	Dale Chidwick Colin Taylor	David & Jackie. Hampson
November 10	Colin Taylor Jonah 3: 1-5, 10.	Jackie Hampson Mark 1: 14-20			Keith & Alison Pearson	David & Jackie Hampson & Anne Simms
November 17	Kirsty Ritzenthaler Daniel 12: 1-3	Sue Chidwick Mark 13: 1-8	Wendy Aldwinckle	Jackie Hampson Sue Chidwick	Pat Haw Carol Wall	Pat Bowyer Irene Orford
November 24	Pauline Cooper Daniel 7: 9-10, 13-14				Diana Kennedy Carol Wall	St Mary's Team & Carol Wall Anne Simms

DIARY 2024

- Nov 1** 'Done to Death', Quatt Village Hall 7.30pm (p 9)
- 2 Messy Church, St Mary's, 3pm-5pm (p5, 18)
- 5 Alveley & Romsley Parish Council Meeting Open Forum 7.30pm (p 7)
- 8 'The Plot Thickens', Arts Alive presentation, Alveley V. Hall 7.30pm (p 9)
- 10 Remembrance Services, 10.30am at St Andrew's **and** St Mary's (p 5,8)
- 11 Wreath laying, Alveley Memorial Planter, approx. 10.50am (p 8)
- 13 Alveley W.I. AGM, Pavilion 7pm (p 12)
- 15 Alveley Entertainers' Film Night, Village Hall 7.30pm (p 18)
- 16/17 S.V.C.P. Volunteer Christmas Fayre (p 11)
- 17 Pet portraits taken at S.V.C.P. (p 11)
- 17 Quatt Village Hall Christmas Fayre, 10am-4pm (p 6,9)
- 18 Be Café, Old Chapel 2pm - 4pm. (p 16)
- 22 Dementia Information Day, Bridgnorth Rugby Club, 10am-3pm (p 19)
- 23 Songs from Great American Song Book, Alveley Village Hall 7.30pm (p 13)
- 23 'Make Good', story of Post Office scandal, Quatt Village Hall 7.30pm (p 9)
- 25 Alveley Ladies' Guild, keep fit with Jean, Village Hall 2.30pm (p 10)
- 29 Christmas Tree Festival, St Mary's (till December 2nd) (p 8,16)
- December 7** Alveley Village Hall Christmas Market, from 12 noon (p 9,16)
- 10 Alveley W.I. breakfast, Quatt Farm Shop, 9.30pm (p 12)
- 11 Christmas wreath making, S.V.C.P. 10am-12.30 & 1pm-2.30pm (p 11)
- 11 Alveley W.I. farewell tea party, Pavilion, 1.30pm for 2pm (p 12)
- 11 St. Andrew's Christmas lunch, Quatt Village Hall, 12.30pm (p 6)
- 22 St Andrew's Carol Service, 3pm (p 6)



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PLEASE NOTIFY THE EDITOR (780936) OF ANY CHANGES

THE BACK PAGE

The Head Gardener and I have just returned from holiday. This one should have taken us along the Moselle and Rhine rivers, but Mother Nature had other plans. If you think we've had a wet summer, it may be comforting to know that we were not alone! In the weeks preceding our holiday there had been so much rain that the rivers were much higher than usual and this meant that our cruise ship was too big to get under the bridges on the Moselle.

I'm glad I was not responsible for rearranging the itinerary for it will have made a lot of work. We did visit all the places on the original plan, though in a totally different order. Sites on the Moselle involved coach tours and we had an additional bonus, a visit to Bonn, birthplace of Beethoven, that was not on the published itinerary.

Given that other river cruise operators will have had the same problem at the same time it must have been a logistical nightmare for staff, organising coaches where they hadn't previously been needed, cancelling local tour guides and booking them for different dates. However, it all went smoothly and with excellent hospitality on board a good time was had by all.

We cruised on the Rhine some years ago, partly to satisfy the Head Gardener's desire to see the Lorelei which she had heard about as a small girl in school and so I spent a lot of money on that occasion just so that my wife could see a rock!

This latest cruise also took in the Rhine Gorge and the Lorelei so she was able to see it again. An even more expensive rock we visited was Uluru in Australia, formerly known as Ayers Rock.

Normally the Head Gardener doesn't have particularly expensive tastes, but when she wants to see a rock.....I did suggest Blackpool rock, but strangely it didn't seem to have the same attraction!

Ian

Please send items for the **December edition by 9 am on Saturday November 16th** to the editor (email ianmaddock@btinternet.com or phone 01746 780936). For advertising please contact David Hampson (telephone 01746 780034 or email david.hampson2025@gmail.com)



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