

# The Parish Magazine

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



JUNE 2025

60p

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## The Rector writes

Dear Friends

Many of you will have heard about Pentecost, which comes on June 8<sup>th</sup> this year. Or if not Pentecost, you may well have heard of the Holy Spirit. Pentecost is the day when the Holy Spirit came upon the apostles while they were gathered for prayer in Jerusalem.

Coming 10 days after Jesus' Ascension into heaven, the descent of the Holy Spirit turned the apostles from a collection of fearful followers looking for some direction into a band of courageous witnesses ready to declare their faith in Christ to the whole world.

Pentecost is the birthday of the Church because that was the day when newly filled with the Holy Spirit, St. Peter preached the first Christian sermon, inviting his listeners to turn to Jesus as their Saviour and their Lord. Those who accepted the invitation were baptized and "were added" to the Church (Acts 2:41). That day marked the beginning of the Church's public mission, which continues to the present.

But the Holy Spirit's actions in the Church were not limited to the apostles in an ancient time. He remains active down to the present, guiding Christians in their daily lives.

The Spirit, moreover, acts not only in the Church as a corporate body, but also in the lives of individual Christians. The Spirit unites us more closely to Christ, increases the spiritual gifts we have been given, and strengthens us to spread and defend the faith.

Ultimately, Pentecost is more than simply a feast celebrating something that happened a long time ago. Of course, the coming of the Spirit we read about in Acts 2 took place just once. But the Holy Spirit remains active today, guiding the Church as a whole, but also working in the life of each individual Christian.

Maybe you don't feel as if the Holy Spirit is working in your life. Well, God the Father gave us free will, so we can choose whether or not we'll obey Him. And God the Holy Spirit, being united in the one Godhead with the Father and the Son, honours that freedom. He'll never force us to turn away from sin or compel us to obey God's commandments. The Spirit offers us grace. He will beckon us toward heaven, and occasionally we may feel Him nudging us along, but we always have the freedom to choose God or to reject Him.

Perhaps you've made a commitment to worship at Communion at least weekly and spend some time each day in prayer. Maybe you have promised to use some of your talents in parish ministries and service to the community. Or maybe you are just wondering what all this means. If you have questions about Jesus, about faith we will be holding an Alpha course in the Autumn, to help answer those questions, more details to follow.

Every blessing

Rev Jon

## United Benefices of Alveley and Quatt

<b>Rector</b>	<b>Rev. Jon Aldwinckle</b> , The Rectory, Alveley (email: revjonaldwinckle@outlook.com)	<b>01746 562159</b>
<b>Reader</b>	<b>Sue Chidwick</b> , 28 Greenway Avenue, Alveley	<b>01746 781786</b>
<b>Lay Pastoral Worker</b>	<b>Wendy Aldwinckle</b> , The Rectory, Alveley	<b>01746 562159</b>
<b>Safeguarding Officer</b>	<b>Jackie Hampson</b> , South View, 23 Daddlebrook Rd	<b>01746 780034</b>

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## Contact for Alveley & Quatt Methodists

<b>Deacon Becky Lovatt</b>	<b>01299 826641</b>
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## St. Mary The Virgin, Alveley, WV15 6ND

<b>Churchwarden</b>	<b>Penny Jenkins</b> , 34 Birch Grove, Alveley	<b>01746 780660</b>
<b>ChurchWarden</b>	<b>Alison Pearson</b> , Brookfield, Daddlebrook Rd, Alveley	<b>07882 888875</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Anne Simms</b> , Willowell House, Quatford	<b>01746 768955</b>

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## St. Andrew's Quatt

<b>Churchwarden</b>	<b>Ann Lee</b> , 7 Brook Hollow, Bridgnorth	<b>01746 761138</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Steve Jones</b> , 72 Manor Road South, Kidderminster	<b>01562 753828</b>

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## From the Parish Registers

<b>Baptism</b>	<i>We welcome you.</i>	
May 10	Alfie Tomson	St. Mary's
<b>Weddings</b>	<i>Those whom God has joined together.</i>	
April 24	Oliver George and Hannah Ford-Thomson	St. Mary's
April 26	Dominic Stevenage and Lesley Morgan	St. Mary's
<b>Funerals</b>	<i>Jesus said: 'I am the Resurrection and the Life.'</i>	
May 22	Kathleen Lowe	St. Mary's
<b>Service of Thanksgiving</b>		
May 9	Sheila Richards	St. Mary's
<b>Interment of Ashes</b>		
May 18	Jean Hanson	St. Mary's
May 25	Rosemary Hampson	St. Mary's

### COVER PICTURE

Flowering cherry tree in St. Andrew's churchyard, Quatt  
Photo by Anne Edwards

### 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 07484806605

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



## JUNE SERVICES

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

### Sunday June 1

10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion	St. Mary's
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### Sunday June 8

10.30 a.m.	Worship For All Ages	St. Mary's
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10.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer	St. Andrew's
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### Sunday June 15

10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion	St. Mary's
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### Sunday June 22

8.00 a.m.	Holy Communion	St. Mary's
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10.30 a.m.	20-20-20	St. Mary's
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4.00 p.m.	Teatime Praise	St. Andrew's
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### Wednesday June 25

10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion	St. Mary's
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### Sunday June 29

10.30 a.m.	Joint Holy Communion	St. Andrew's
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## FATHER'S DAY

Father's Day began because in 1909 there was a woman in Spokane, Washington, U.S.A., named Sonora Louise Smart Dodd. That year she heard a church sermon about the merits of setting aside a day to honour one's mother. Mother's Day was just beginning to gather widespread attention in the United States at this time. But Sonora Louise Smart Dodd knew that it was her father who had selflessly raised herself and her five siblings by himself after their mother had died in childbirth. So the sermon on mothers gave Sonora Louise the idea to petition for a day to honour fathers, and in particular, her own father, William Jackson Smart. Sonora Louise soon set about planning the first Father's Day celebration in Spokane in 1910. With support from the Spokane Ministerial Association and the YMCA, her efforts paid off, and a 'Father's Day' was appointed. Sonora Louise had wanted Father's Day to be on the first Sunday in June (since that was her father's birthday), but the city council didn't have time to approve it until later in the month. And so on June 19<sup>th</sup>, 1910, the first Father's Day was celebrated in Spokane. Gradually, other people in other cities caught on and started celebrating their fathers, too. The rose was selected as the official Father's Day flower. Some people began to wear a white rose to honour a father who was dead, and a red one to honour a father who was living. Finally, in 1972, President Richard Nixon signed a presidential proclamation declaring the third Sunday of June as Father's Day – a permanent, national holiday in the United States.

## NEWS FROM ST. ANDREW'S, QUATT

I can hardly believe that June is here and we are half way through another year. As I write this I have been enjoying the chance to sit in the garden and enjoy the glorious weather we have had over the last few weeks. Long may it last! I'm sure that the farmers and gardeners would really appreciate some rain though. Wouldn't it be nice if it rained all night and was sunny all day - sadly life isn't like that.

Our VE Day celebrations last month were well supported and greatly enjoyed by all who came along. Our evening service and lighting of the Peace lantern was a special occasion and Roy and the team of bell ringers certainly gave us a very special start to the evening. Thank you to Laurie for placing two of the military silhouettes on the metal gates at the church entrance. It was a most appropriate reminder of all those who sacrificed their lives for our freedom.

I would also like to thank Rob Powick who has decided to retire from churchyard mowing duties. He has kept the churchyard looking immaculate for many years. We are lucky that we now have Simon to take over this task.

We are holding a Summer Fête on Saturday 28th June in the village so please come along and join us.

Good luck to all those taking important exams this month! Enjoy the rest of the summer!

Many of you will know that I had an unexpected stay in hospital recently and I would like to say a huge thank you to all of you who prayed for me and sent love and best wishes. It meant a great deal to me.

*Ann Lee*

### ST. ANDREW'S DUTY ROTA - PLEASE CONTACT ANN (01746 761138) IF YOU CANNOT BE THERE. ST. MARY'S ROTA ON PAGE 20.

Date	1st Reading	2nd reading	Intercessions
June 8	Acts 2.1-21 Ann Lee	John 14.8-17 Rita Vernon	Ann Lee
June 22	Luke 8.26-39 Carole Hubbard		Wendy Aldwinckle
June 29	Acts 12.1-11 Paula Tristham	Matthew 16.13-19 Alison Pearson	Keith Pearson

## **MESSY CHURCH**

The theme for Messy Church in May was Jesus walking on the waters of lake Galilee. The children made a beautiful collage of the disciples in a boat with Jesus walking towards them [this is on display in church], as well their own pictures with Jesus moving across the water and a model of Jesus standing on the water. However, the favourite craft was pizza making! Everyone built their own pizza with their choice of toppings. During the story time and praise, led by Rev. Jon, they were cooked and we all enjoyed tucking into them at teatime. (Photo on page 16).

Next month the theme will be “Jesus feeding the five thousand”, and its likely there will be more cooking involved. All are welcome to join us, the meeting starts at 3pm at St. Mary’s Church on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June. All those under 18 years must be accompanied by an adult.

*Alison Pearson*

## **ALVELEY AND ROMSLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

The next meeting of Alveley and Romsley Council will be on 3rd June, at the Pavilion starting at 7.30pm with Open Forum. Everyone is welcome to attend the meeting and Open Forum is your opportunity to raise village matters that are of concern to you.

I would also like to thank everyone who attended the Annual Parish Meeting on May 14th, and especially the groups that turned up to tell us about themselves; it was very informative. Annual Parish Meeting Update While attendance was small, the atmosphere was engaged and constructive. Representatives from the Parish Pathways Partnership (P3), Strollers and Striders (Walking Group) and Art Club shared highlights of their work over the past year. Though their activities vary, each group contributes in its own way to improving health, wellbeing and social connection within our community — something we are proud to support.

The meeting also included the presentation of the Annual Report from the Chair of the Parish Council, providing an overview of the council’s activities and progress over the past year, as well as the Romsley Report, which offered additional insight into key local matters.

In addition, we trialled a new Consultation Corner, offering attendees the chance to share feedback and ideas for future projects and improvements. Thank you again to all who participated and presented.

*Isley Jakeman, Chairperson, Alveley and Romsley Parish Council.*

## ALVELEY LADIES' GUILD

Emma Spencer came to visit us in April to tell us all about the Women's Land Army. It was very interesting, more so when she dressed the part. It was a good afternoon. The May meeting will have been about chair exercise with Jean, our local exercise guru.

On 23rd June our speaker will tell us all about 'Spirits of Shelton: the history of Shelton Hospital including any resident ghosts'. Do come and enjoy the talk and refreshments including our splendid biscuits. It's at 2.30 pm in Alveley Village Hall.

Kath



It was unfortunate that the water was mysteriously off at the Village Hall on the day of the planned film night in May. Although the engineers had been notified of the problem and gave an estimated time of arrival, sadly that failed to materialise and the only safe decision was to postpone the event for it would not be in order to run a function with no toilets available. We did notify as many attendees as possible, but apologies to those who had a wasted journey.

We have rescheduled the film to be shown on Friday, June 20th at the usual time: 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

£5 entry to include tea/coffee and cake. We hope that this time the event will run smoothly as planned and we hope to see you.

Ian Maddock

*A couple who worked at the circus wanted to adopt a child. Social workers had doubts about their suitability, but the couple produced photos of their large motorhome, which was equipped with a beautiful nursery. As for education, not only was there a nanny, but also a full-time tutor to teach the child all the usual subjects along with French, Mandarin and computer skills. Finally, the social workers were satisfied and had only one last question. "What age child are you hoping to adopt?" "Oh, we don't mind at all," the couple assured them. "As long as he or she fits in the cannon."*

## SEVERN VALLEY COUNTRY PARK

It's June again and the wildflower meadows are in full bloom at the park. It is always lovely to see the orchids and oxeye daisies. I especially love the thrill of finding the bee orchids and it is always fun to discover in which area of the park they have seeded this year. Last year they were just outside the visitor centre which made it very convenient to take a look at them.

Our volunteer Bill Watkins pointed out the location of the bee orchids to me last year. We'll soon be saying goodbye to Bill as he moves away from the village to be closer to his family. He has volunteered with us since the 1990s and over the last three decades and has given so much of his time, knowledge and expertise to help develop the park into the beautiful place it is today.

A number of years ago Bill was asked by Shropshire Council what volunteering meant to him. Bill was pleased that he was able to make a significant contribution to enhance the wildlife at the park and said that volunteering gave him a 'huge sense of satisfaction and well-being which far outweighs [his] time and effort'. Bill's volunteering went far beyond his time at the park and we would like to thank him for all his contributions to village life. We will all miss Bill's friendship and kindness and would all like to wish him well as he embarks on this new adventure.

In June the cafe and visitor centre will be open Wed to Sun and our events such as Wild Toddlers, Nordic Walking and parkrun will continue as usual. If this edition gets to you before the end of May, we have a Pet Photo Shoot on 1<sup>st</sup> June where local crafts will be on sale. The photo shoot is a lovely way to round off our calendar competition. The spring photos will be judged in June and then we will have all the winners for the 12 months of the calendar. We will have them displayed in the visitor centre over the summer.

The team is looking for a kingfisher photo for the front cover of the calendar. If you have a kingfisher photo you have taken between 1<sup>st</sup> June 2024 and 31<sup>st</sup> May 2025, please consider sending it in - see [www.svcpcalendarcomp.com](http://www.svcpcalendarcomp.com) And finally, there is an exciting opportunity at the cafe. Shropshire Council are looking for a lease holder to take over running the café in the visitor centre. We think it will be a great opportunity to help the café go from strength to strength. All the details can be found on McCartneys Estate Agents website. (Easiest way to find the link is to Google 'Severn Valley Country Park McCartneys').

*Susie Comaish, Visitor Centre Manager, Severn Valley Country Park, Alveley*

## ALVELEY TENNIS CLUB

Summer is here and we are restarting our tennis mixing sessions on Thursday evenings all through the summer starting on Thursday June 5th, from 7pm to 9pm for both ladies and gents. Here is a chance to get plenty of exercise and a chance to keep fit throughout the summer months.

There is also tennis mixing on Mondays, Tuesdays and Saturdays - see below for times.

\* The increase in new tennis members is amazing, including lots of new lady members. Membership is now up to 84 (2 years ago it was 37) including ladies, gents, juniors and family memberships.

\* Membership fees are due on June 1st and has been kept the same for the second year running.

\* For Rusty Racquets, Junior sessions and one to one please contact our professional tennis coach Jack Fletcher on 07496 177385 or email [Jack.fletcher.1302@gmail.com](mailto:Jack.fletcher.1302@gmail.com)

\* We have 3 All Weather Floodlit Tennis Courts and we play all year round, day & evening.

\* For the first time ever on a Saturday morning tennis session recently we saw ladies outnumbering the gents.

### TENNIS SESSIONS

MONDAYS Evenings (Gents 7-9pm, under floodlights if needed).

TUESDAYS Afternoons (Ladies & Gents 1 to 3pm).

THURSDAYS Evenings (Ladies & Gents 7 to 9pm , under floodlights if needed).

Saturdays Mornings ( Ladies & Gents 10am to 12 mid day).

For further Information or for new membership enquires contact Roger Whitworth on 079460 94488 or Ron Whitfield on 07816 322469.

*Brian Davies*

## ORGAN RECITAL

On Sunday July 6th, starting at 3pm. Andrew Crabtree will be giving an organ recital in St. Mary's Church. The theme of the recital will be a celebration of hymn tunes. There will be refreshments available after the recital.

*Beware of the new Amazon scam. I asked my husband to order me some expensive jewellery, but motorcycle parts came instead! Thankfully, they fit his bike.*



## SUSTAINABILITY NEWS

On Saturday 7th June Bridgnorth will be hosting another Repair Cafe at St James Church Hall , Lodge Lane, The Grove 10am - 1pm. Take along your broken or damaged small household electricals and textiles and the volunteer repairers will try to fix them, for free. Enjoy a cuppa and biscuit while you wait or learn how to repair them yourself. No microwaves, white goods or safety equipment. Just turn up - no booking needed! Questions? Interested in volunteering? Please contact: [bridgnorthrepaircafe@gmail.com](mailto:bridgnorthrepaircafe@gmail.com)

World Environment Day on 5th June has been celebrated annually since 1973 and, this year, is focusing on the urgent issue of plastic pollution. With an estimated 400 million tonnes of plastic waste generated last year, the crisis significantly impacts ecosystems and human health. Single-use plastics, such as water bottles and takeaway bags, are major contributors to this problem, overwhelming waste systems and harming wildlife. As countries negotiate a legally binding agreement to combat plastic pollution, this year's World Environment Day will emphasise preventing plastic waste and redesigning products for longevity. Addressing plastic pollution can enhance both environmental health and economic opportunities. Join the movement to #PreventPointlessPlastic and #BeatPlasticPollution—reduce your plastic use and advocate for sustainable practices in our community! <https://www.worldenvironmentday.global/>

Similarly, World Refill Day, celebrated annually on 16th June, is a global campaign aimed at reducing plastic pollution and promoting refill and reuse systems. This day of action encourages individuals and businesses to move away from single-use plastics and adopt sustainable alternatives. The campaign highlights the urgent need to shift from a throwaway culture to a more sustainable, circular economy. By joining the Refill community, businesses can attract eco-conscious customers and contribute to waste reduction. Encouraging customers to bring their own reusable containers and offering incentives for doing so can foster a more sustainable shopping experience. The Refill App helps users locate water refill stations, access discounts for using their own coffee cups, and other reuse options. Together, we can make a significant impact by embracing reuse and refill practices. Join the Refill Revolution today—small changes can lead to big results! <https://www.refill.org.uk/world-refill-day/> and <https://www.refill.org.uk/refill-bridgnorth/>

*Kath Norgrove*

## YOURS?

The names of things can tell us a great deal about them. Alveley comes from a Saxon woman's name " Alfith." Field names tell us if a field is poor. "Clem gander" means it would starve your geese. "The enclosure" means that it was once common ground before the act of enclosures in 1773.

People's names are just the same. There are 7 types of surnames.

**Patronymic.** Derived from a father's name eg JOHNSON, WILSON, PEARSON, STEPHENSON.

**Toponymic.** You originate from a place eg WOOD, HILL, KNOWLES. (a knol is a small hill or mound)

**Occupational.** This reflects the trade of an ancestor eg BAKER, SMITH, MILLER, COLLIER.

**Characteristic** eg LONG, BLACK, WHITE.

**Ancestral** or clan names eg STEWART, CAMERON.

**Estate names,** common among the aristocracy eg WINDSOR.

**Bynames,** which describe a particular characteristic such as BROWN or LITTLE.

Here's a random selection of mostly local names. LEWIS. From old French or middle English the anglicised form of the Welsh name Llewelyn. LEACH. From middle English when physicians used leeches in the medieval practice of blood letting. ALDWINCKLE. Originates from a place in Northamptonshire and refers to "old" and "wincle" a prominent bend in the river Nene. SUTHERLAND. Obviously from Scotland. Did they settle in Shropshire after the infamous Highland clearances of 1750 when people were evicted to make way for sheep? HYDE. Refers to someone living on a hide of land which was a medieval unit of measure, approximately 120 acres. BAXTER. From the old English word baecestre meaning Baker which is the masculine form or bakster the feminine form. SHERRY. Could be from sheriff with the 'f' dropped. Or from Jerez in Spain where fortified wine is made or most likely from Macsherry meaning son of seartha, an Irish form of geoffrey. ARCHER. Someone who uses a bow and arrow. BOWYER. Someone who makes the bows. ARROWSMITH. Makes the arrows. FLETCHER. The person who makes the flights on an arrow called fletchings made from goose or turkey feathers. STRINGFELLOW. Makes the string for the bow. THORLEY. Probably from a location where thorny vegetation had been cleared to make way for a settlement or for agriculture. RUDD. From the old English meaning someone with a red or rosy complexion. Ruddy. ARMSTRONG. A common name

from the Scottish Borders. A nickname for someone of great strength or prowess in battle. NORGROVE. Comes from 'Northern Grove' or from two places in Worcestershire. Norgroves End Farm or Norgrove Court. WAGSTAFF. A beadle or clerk who would waggle his staff or stick, which may have a sort of medallion attached to the top, to show his authority. This is my mother-in-law's maiden name and may be appropriate or not. You decide.

FRANCE. Literally someone who originates from France. At the time of the Norman conquest? KENNEDY. Has Irish and Scottish connections from 'O'Cinneidigh or mac'cinneidigh. 'O' and 'mac' both mean son of. And Cinneidigh means head or helmeted chief. CRESSWELL. Comes from the old English carse (cress) and wieland (stream) likely a place in either Staffordshire, Derbyshire or Northumberland where watercress grows near a stream. SIRRELL. Likely from Normandy before the time of the conquest in 1066. And my own name PAGE. From middle English and old French meaning a young servant or attendant particularly in the courts of the nobility. Since at least two of the bellringers claim descent from royalty this seems appropriate. And last but certainly not least the name SCRIVEN. Scriveners were scribes or clerks known to have helped compile the Domesday book of 1086 that recorded the land and villages and people that William had conquered in 1066. This article is dedicated to the memory of Bill Scriven who did so much to record the past and present history of this village. R.I.P.

*Roy Page*

## **ALVELEY COMMUNITY PROJECT TO SHOWCASE PLANS AT OPEN DAY**

A community open day will take place at Alveley Village Hall on Saturday 28th June to showcase early plans for a new community building that would bring the Parish Memorial Hall, Sports Club, and Recreation Association together under one roof. The event will be from 10am to 3pm.

The proposal, led by a newly formed Community Interest Company (CIC), aims to create a modern, flexible facility on the existing Village Hall and Sports Club site. Funding would come from the sale of a nearby field, currently owned by the Sports Club, for housing development.

The open day will offer residents a first look at architectural illustrations and emerging ideas, with opportunities to provide feedback and get involved. Further details on the session content will be shared in the coming weeks. This is about shaping a future for Alveley that reflects its heritage while meeting the wishes and needs of today and tomorrow's local community for leisure, recreational and sporting facilities.

For more information, visit: [www.alveleyhub.co.uk](http://www.alveleyhub.co.uk)

*Doug Portsmouth*

## ALVELEY CRICKET CLUB

**Women's Softball Cricket - Every Thursday night at 6:30pm** Our women's softball cricket sessions are back and open to players of all abilities. It's a fantastic way to stay active, socialise, and have fun in a relaxed environment.

**Family Fridays - Fridays throughout the summer - 6:30pm** Our popular 'Family Fridays' will be back throughout the summer. These evenings will feature cricket and multi-sport activities for children and families, providing a fantastic opportunity to get active, have fun, and meet new friends in a welcoming environment.

Live music 21st June - Starting at 7pm with Dale Von Minaker

Live music Friday 4th July with the Follicles 7pm

**Facility Hire** Our facilities are available to hire for parties, christenings, and events. If you choose to have the bar open, the venue is free to hire — making it the perfect choice for your next celebration.

**Get Involved** Whether you want to play cricket, support from the sidelines, or volunteer, we'd love to hear from you. Alveley Cricket Club is a proud part of our community, and your involvement helps us continue to thrive.

*Richard Twigg*

### ALVELEY CRICKET CLUB FIXTURES JUNE & JULY 2025

**Wed June 4** Midweek XI v Kinver (H) 6.30pm (T 20)

Sat June 7 1st XI v Kidderminster 3rd XI (A) 12.30pm

2nd XI v Lye 3rd XI (H) 12.30pm

Sat June 14 1st XI v Burghill, Tillington & Weobley 2nd XI (H) 12.30pm

2nd XI v Alvechurch & Hopwood (A) 12.30pm

**Wed June 18** Midweek XI v Horn & Trumpet (A) 6.30pm

Sat June 21 1st XI v Cookhill 1st XI (H) 12.30pm

2nd XI v Stourbridge 4th XI (A) 12.30pm

**Wed June 25** Midweek XI v Stone (A) 6.30pm

Sat June 28 1st XI v Colwall (A) 12.30pm

2nd XI v Stourport-on-Severn 3rd XI (H) 12.30pm

Sat July 5 1st XI v Bromsgrove 3rd XI (A) 12.30pm

2nd XI v Halesowen 4th XI (H) 12.30pm

**Wed July 9** Midweek XI v Oldswinford (H) 6.30pm

Sat July 12 1st XI v Claverley 2nd XI (H) 12.30pm

2nd XI v Stone 1st XI (A) 12.30pm

**Wed July 16** Midweek XI v West Hagley (A) 6.30pm

Sat July 19 1st XI v Stourbridge 3rd XI (A) 12.30pm

2nd XI v Enville 2nd XI (H) 12.30pm

**Wed July 23** Midweek XI v Kinver (A) 6.30pm

Sat July 26 1st XI v Belbroughton 2nd XI (H) 6.30pm

2nd XI v Romsley & Hunnington 2nd XI (A) 6.30pm

**Wed July 30** Midweek XI v Horn & Trumpet (H) 6.30pm



# **FREE!**

## **Pet Photography Shoot in the Park**



**Local Crafts will be on Sale**

**Sunday 1st June 2025 11am - 3pm**

**At the Visitor Centre**



**Images available for a donation towards fundraising  
for the 2026 Country Park Four Seasons Calendar**

**To obtain a digital image of your pet  
(or make a donation to the community page of the calendar)  
follow the Just Giving link on the Facebook page.**



**Severn Valley Country Park Calendar Competition**

[www.svcpcalendarcomp.com](http://www.svcpcalendarcomp.com)





*May Messy Church*

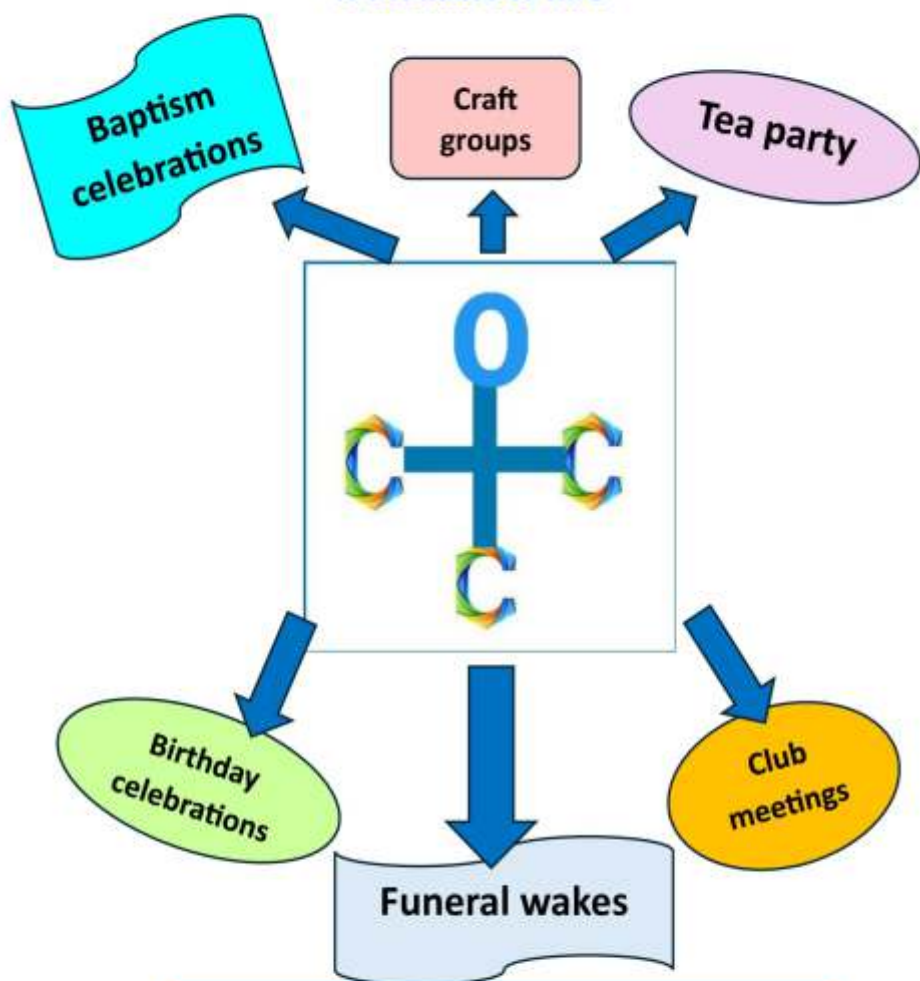


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## Old Chapel Community Centre

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## Be Café

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

Our next meeting will be 16<sup>th</sup> June

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,  
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Saturday June 7th

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

Jo Weaver-Jackson

Telephone: 01746 551137

Email: joanne.weaver-jackson@sehs.net

Louise Linning

Telephone: 01746 551127

Email: louise.linning2@sehs.net

## BEFORE

I saw the summer flowers on a bright and sunny day,  
I heard the sound of birdsong as they fluttered on their way  
I thought all this was science, only nature's rules at play –  
And that was such a shame.

I saw the stars of winter shining in a velvet sky  
I knew creation's wonders, but I never wondered 'why?'  
I thought that life was just for now and will finish when I die;  
Life had no point, no gain  
Before I knew your name.

I had a lot of company, of friendship I'd no lack  
(I always had the feeling that they wanted something back)  
Of what I spent on parties I could struggle to keep track;  
My life was just a game.  
I made a lot of money – I knew every business trick  
I could earn it easily – I could spend it just as quick  
It should have made me happy but instead it made me sick.  
I lived without an aim  
Before I knew your name.

I thought that church was not for me, I didn't trust a word  
I thought the things they said and did were really quite absurd!  
I really thought I understood, but in fact I hadn't heard –  
I just dismissed their claim.  
And then one day a truer friend came in and sat by me,  
And told me things of Jesus Christ with simple clarity  
Their total faith in what it meant enabled me to see  
That I was most to blame  
Before I knew your name.

Before my birth you came to earth because you loved me so  
My sin was why you had to die but still you chose to go  
To Calvary to die for me despite my sin and woe  
And then you rose again.  
Your triumph saved me from the grave and now from sin I'm free,  
I've raised my gaze from my old ways and now I really see!  
To live for you is what I'll do and that eternally  
And so, to live is gain  
Because I know your name.

*Nigel Beeton*

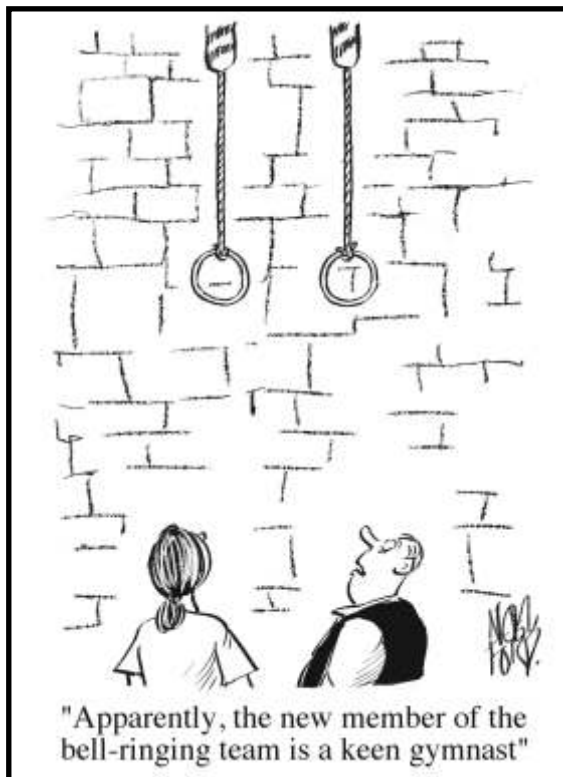
## ST. MARY'S CHURCH ROTA JUNE 2025

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

Date	1st Reading	2nd Reading	Intercessions	Chalice	Welcomers	Refreshments
June 1	Acts 16: 16-34. Ian Maddock	John 17.20-26 Paul Walford	Keith Pearson	Alison & Keith Pearson	Dale Chidwick Colin Taylor	Carol Wall Jenny Sirrell
June 8	John 14.8-17 Alison Pearson				Pat Haw Lynn Madden	Alison & Keith Pearson
June 15	Proverbs 8.1-4,22-31 Colin Taylor	John 16.12-15 Liz Bullas	Penny Jenkins	Dale & Sue Chidwick	Diana Kennedy Carol Wall	Pat Bowyer Irene Orford
June 22	Luke 8.26-39 Laura Simms				Keith Pearson	Pat Haw Lynn Madden Jenny Sirrell Alison Pearson

## DIARY 2025

<b>June 1</b>	Pets being photographed, S.V.C.P. from 11am-3pm (p 15)
3	Alveley & Romsley Parish Council Open Forum, Pavilion 7.30pm (p 7)
6	Chapel Crafters, Alveley Old Chapel 10.30am-12.30pm
7	Repair Café, St. James's Church Hall B'north 10am-1pm (p 11)
7	Messy Church, St. Mary's 3pm-5pm (p 16,18)
16	Be Café, Alveley Old Chapel, 2pm-4pm (p 18)
20	Chapel Crafters, Alveley Old Chapel 10.30am-12.30pm
21	Alveley CC Family Friday, music with Dale Von Minaker 7pm (p14)
20	Alveley Entertainers' Film Night, Village Hall 7.30pm (p 8)
23	Alveley Ladies' Guild, Alveley Village Hall 2.30pm (p 8)
28	St. Andrew's, Quatt Summer Fête (p 6)
28	Alveley Community Project Open Day, Village Hall 10am-3pm (p 13)
<b>July 4</b>	Alveley CC Family Friday, music with The Follicles 7pm (p 14)
6	Organ recital with Andrew Crabtree, St Mary's Church 3pm (p 10)
11	Chapel Crafters, Alveley Old Chapel 10.30am-12.30pm
25	Chapel Crafters, Alveley Old Chapel 10.30am-12.30pm
<b>August 8</b>	Chapel Crafters, Alveley Old Chapel 10.30am-12.30pm
22	Chapel Crafters, Alveley Old Chapel 10.30am-12.30pm



## ALL IN THE MONTH OF JUNE

500 years ago, on 13<sup>th</sup> June 1525, German Protestant Reformer Martin Luther married Katharina von Bora, a nun whom he had helped to escape from a convent.

250 years ago, on 14<sup>th</sup> June 1775, the Second Continental Congress established the Continental Army. Later it became the United States Army. On 15<sup>th</sup> June, George Washington, who would become first President of the USA, became the Army's Commander-in-Chief. This army would defeat the British army, and America would declare independence the following year, on 4<sup>th</sup> July 1776.

175 years ago, on 24<sup>th</sup> June 1850, Herbert Kitchener, the 1<sup>st</sup> Earl Kitchener, was born. This Irish-born British Army officer and politician became Secretary of War during WW1, when he appeared on an iconic poster asking people to join the army. He was killed in 1916 when his ship was hit by a German mine.

90 years ago, on 1<sup>st</sup> June 1935, driving tests became compulsory for all new drivers in Britain.

70 years ago, on 11<sup>th</sup> June 1955 the Le Mans disaster took place. A car spun off the track during the Le Mans 24 Hour race in France, and the driver, Pierre Levegh, and 83 spectators were killed, with 100 more injured. It was the greatest loss of life in the history of motorsport, but bizarrely, the race was not stopped. The survivors carried on for the full 24 hours, while the dead and the injured were removed from the site.

65 years ago, on 28<sup>th</sup> June 1960, the Six Bells Colliery disaster took place in Monmouthshire Wales. 45 coal miners were killed by a gas explosion.

50 years ago, on 7<sup>th</sup> June 1975, the first Cricket World Cup to be held in England began.

Also 50 years ago, on 18<sup>th</sup> June 1975, the first North Sea oil was pumped ashore to Britain.

40 years ago, on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1985 UEFA banned all English football clubs from playing in European competitions following the Heysel Stadium disaster of 28<sup>th</sup> May. The ban was lifted after five years.

25 years ago, on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2000, the Millenium Bridge opened in London. It closed for a while two days later, when it was found to sway uncomfortably when people walked in step.

15 yeas ago, on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2010, the US Supreme Court ruled that American citizens have the right to own a gun, regardless of which state they live in. The right is protected by the Second and the Fourteenth Amendments. There are an estimated 393 million privately owned guns in the USA, and about 340 million people.





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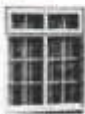
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Alveley Charities	Daryl Cooper	780378
Alveley Cricket Club	Richard Twigg	780437
Alveley Day Centre	Sue Taylor 07973 343491	
Angela Lander 07952 172691 Pat Bowyer 07964 377840		
Alveley Entertainers	Ian Maddock	780936
Alveley First Responders	Martin Hill	780794
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Alveley Ladies' Guild	Barbara Spragg 780200 Kath Bishop	780707
Alveley Mining Heritage	Andrea Edwards	862064
Alveley Old Chapel		07777624664
Alveley Parish Council/Street Lights	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
B'north Community Transport - Alveley Minibus Mon-Fri 9.30-12.30 only)		768539
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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	Andrew Crabtree	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

On the day after Pope Francis's funeral the Head Gardener and I flew to Rome, arriving in the early afternoon. Our taxi from the airport to our overnight hotel took us past the Basilica Santa Maria Maggiore where he was laid to rest. There was a VERY long queue of people waiting patiently to file past his tomb. The following morning the taxi taking us to Civitavecchia to meet our cruise ship also passed the Basilica and the queue was equally long and equally patient. The Pope died on April 21st. On May 8th, just seventeen days after the death of Pope Francis, the conclave elected the new Pope, Leo XIV - and the official process, the Conclave, had only started after Pope Francis's funeral.

On 6th January this year Justin Welby resigned as Archbishop of Canterbury and now, 128 days later, we still don't have a clue who will be his successor. I suspect it will be much later in the year that we will eventually find out, after a long, drawn out process.

It is similar with interregnums in the Church of England. Rev. Neil Dunlop took his last services in the parishes in November 2021 - although it was known he was leaving some time before that - and our new Rector, Rev Jon, took up his post in January 2023, some 14 months later. That is not unusual in the Church of England - a friend in Salisbury Diocese tells me that we were lucky it was only 14 months.

Whilst the church powers-that-be will say that the process is to ensure the right person is appointed, the cynic in me suggests that it's a good way to save money - though not necessarily for the parish, and it places a huge burden on church wardens and others. If a pope can be appointed in 17 days or less one must wonder about the current position with the Archbishop of Canterbury as well as the long interregnums in parishes.

The Head Gardener and I enjoyed our cruise, visiting, among other places, Pompeii. This had been on our bucket list and we found it fascinating. The only disappointment was that it was very busy and full of tourists. When I mentioned that to the Head Gardener she quickly pointed out that we were two of them!

Later in the cruise we visited Dubrovnik. There seemed to be little evidence of the war. We wandered through the old town and I marvelled at the sight of the city walls, about 1.2 miles long and with 1080 steps, and was amazed to remember that I had done that walk on my previous visit, about 40 years ago when Dubrovnik was in Yugoslavia. 40 years on and my knees informed me that there was no way they were going to attempt that walk with over a thousand steps to climb! *Ian*

Please send items for **July** edition by the morning of **Tuesday June 17th** to the editor (email [ianmaddock@btinternet.com](mailto:ianmaddock@btinternet.com) or phone 01746 780936). For advertising please contact David Hampson (telephone 01746 780034 or email [david.hampson2025@gmail.com](mailto:david.hampson2025@gmail.com))



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