

# The Parish Magazine

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



APRIL 2024

60p

# **Johnathan Booton**

*Landscape Specialist*

**Blockpaved Drives, Patios, Water Features, Brick and Stone Walling, Maintenance Free Gardens, etc.**

*For a Personal, Professional and Friendly service*  
**Telephone 01746 780 778 or 0796 640 1178**

## **Perry & Phillips**

**Funeral Directors Tel: Bridgnorth (01746) 765255**

An Independent Family Business Caring for the Community since 1835

**24 Hour Service**

**Provider of**

**“The Shropshire Pre-payment Funeral Plan”**

**Main office and Private Chapels at 4 Underhill Street, Bridgnorth**

Monumental Masonry Service. Written estimates always given. Members of the NAFD and BIFD.



**01746 780923**

### Our Opening Hours

#### **Restaurant Hours**

Wednesday 6pm - 8pm

Thursday, Friday & Saturday

12 - 2pm & 6pm - 8pm

Sunday 12 - 4pm

#### **Bar Hours**

Monday 4pm - 8pm

Tuesday 4pm - 10pm

Wednesday 4pm - 10pm

Thursday 12 - 10pm

Friday 12 - 11pm

Saturday 12 - 11pm

Sunday 12 - 10pm

## ***Snowdrop Home Care Ltd***

We are a home care company providing a high quality personal and professional service tailored to fit the individual needs of our clients enabling them to live as independently as possible in their own homes. All staff are DBS cleared and fully trained.

We take great pride in the friendly, professional and self-motivated service we provide.

We cover Alveley Bridgnorth and all Surrounding areas.

Please ring Denise for more information or an informal chat on:

**Office: 01299 861576**

**On call mobile: 07535 251051**

**email:**

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

## **C-D-I Electrical Solutions**

**All work undertaken**

**Big or small**

**Clean reliable service**

**No call out charges**

**Tel: Paul**

**07454993095. 01746219352**

## The Archdeacon Writes

April marks the 100th anniversary of the first broadcast by a monarch of the United Kingdom, when King George V opened the British Empire Exhibition at Wembley in north London in April 1924. The speech lasts about six and a half minutes, and you can hear it in all its scratchily-recorded glory on YouTube. I wonder if anyone then had any idea how much broadcasting would change in the coming century? We now take for granted the fact that we can see and hear almost anyone in public life at any time thanks to a 24-hour media. TikTok and Instagram have brought broadcasting within reach of any of us with a smartphone. Communication seems to be hard-wired into us as human beings. That shouldn't surprise us, because our God is a God who communicates. Back in the earliest chapters of Genesis, it's the voice of God that brings creation into being. When Jesus is awoken by his terrified disciples in the middle of a storm, it's his words shouted into the tumult that calm the winds and the waves. When the Holy Spirit comes upon the apostles at Pentecost, they speak the message of Christ crucified and risen in words their hearers can understand. The story is told of a rabbi who could never get further in his reading of the Scriptures than Genesis 1:2, "And God said." The wonder of a God who speaks was too much for him to take in. I wonder if that's why we love podcasts, audiobooks, and the radio so much, because it's as if someone were sitting next to us and chatting? As if we're listening in on a conversation that we're invited to be part of? I wonder, too, if that's why words can wound us as well as heal us – because they go deep into the heart of our being? The apostle James talked about the power of speech, how hard it is to tame the tongue, and how inconsistent we are when we say, "Praise God," in one breath and in the next run down another human being. Those are challenging words in an era where talk is easy, but we do well to take them to heart.

There are other times when we are slow to speak, perhaps out of anxiety or fear. One such time can be when we try to talk about our faith. In this, our Diocesan Year of Faith, we are all encouraged to have confidence that the story we have to share in our Christian faith is one people want to hear, and to become more comfortable talking about our faith. We may never become those who broadcast to the world, as King George V did 100 years ago, but I wonder how we could learn to "broadcast" our faith in simple ways, and speak words of life to those who are longing to hear them.

*Fiona Gibson*

## 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>Retired Clergy</b>	<b>Rev. Dr. Wendy Rylance</b> , Roughton Farmhouse	<b>01746 716399</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>

---

## Contact for Alveley & Quatt Methodists

<b>Deacon Becky Lovatt</b>	<b>01299 826641</b>
----------------------------	---------------------

---

## St. Mary The Virgin, Alveley, WV15 6ND

<b>Churchwarden</b>	<b>Penny Jenkins</b> , 34 Birch Grove, Alveley	<b>01746 780660</b>
<b>Deputy Warden</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>

---

## St. Andrew's Quatt

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

---

## From the Parish Registers

<b>Confirmations</b>	<i>We affirm our faith</i>	
March 17	Jackie Campbell, Bob Campbell, Keith Pearson, Paul Walford, Viv Walford	St. Mary's
<b>Funerals</b>	<i>Jesus said: 'I am the Resurrection and the Life'.</i>	
March 16	Linda Anne Edwards	St. Mary's
March 22	Thomas Paul Rochelle	St. 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 780369

**COVER PICTURE**

Cowslips under a Quatt hedge - a sure sign of spring.

Photo by Anne Edwards

*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.*

## APRIL SERVICES

**Duty rotas for St. Andrew's are on page 6 and for St. Mary's on page 20.**

### **Sunday April 7**

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

### **Sunday April 14**

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

### **Wednesday April 17**

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

### **Sunday April 21**

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

### **Sunday April 28**

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

**N.B. All April services will depend on Rev Jon's return to good health or clergy availability.**

## THE HOWARD THOMPSON BEQUEST

The Howard Thompson Bequest donates funds to local organisations (not individuals) for promoting Christian faith education and training.

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](mailto:howardthompsonbf@gmail.com)

Applications need to be received by Wednesday 8th May 2024 when they will be considered by the Trustees.

*Jackie Hampson*

*After the baptism of his baby brother in church, Jason sobbed all the way home in the back seat of the car. His father asked him three times what was wrong. Finally, the boy replied, "That preacher said he wants us brought up in a Christian home, but I want to stay with you and Mum."*

## NEWS FROM ST. ANDREW'S, QUATT

At last the days are lighter, the weather is getting warmer, the garden is springing into life and the grass is growing. This will be my first spring and summer in my new home. The cherry tree in my front garden is a mass of beautiful pink blossom and I am keen to see how the shrubs in the back garden develop.

The grass in the churchyard is growing fast and soon the arrival of a new mower should make life a little easier for Rob. I am always so proud of our wonderful churchyard and I thank Chris and Rob for all the hours they give voluntarily. I also appreciate the work done by other volunteers who come along to help them occasionally.

I would like to arrange a day this month for a good spring clean in church. If you can help in any way please contact me and we can get together - many hands make light work!

Last month Bishop Richard came to St Mary's to confirm five candidates from Alveley. It was a lovely service and it's always good to meet up with the Bishop.

Our Annual Parochial Church Council meeting will be held at 7pm on Tuesday 23rd April at St Andrew's.

I hope that you all had an enjoyable Easter.

*Ann Lee*

### ST. ANDREW'S ROTA

Date	1st Reading	2nd Reading	Refreshments
April 14	Sara Douglas	Paula Tristham	Ann Lee Jean Jones
April 28	Carole Hubbard		Sara Douglas Yvonne Miles

### N.B. READINGS TO BE ADVISED

## QUATT VILLAGE HALL

Quatt Easter Walk, Sunday April 7th. Join us for a lovely walk around the local Quatt Malvern Parish. Two walks will take place, a toddle for little legs and one to stretch out grownup legs. They will start at 2pm from the village hall and entry is £2.50 per person and can be paid on the door. There are prizes to be won and chocolate to be eaten.

Teas, scones and cakes will be available to purchase at the hall. Non-walkers can come for afternoon tea.

Friday, May 10th. Join us for an evening of live music performed by The Last Picture Show. This event showcases classic Americana music and starts at 8pm. Book via the Quatt Village Hall website.

*Steph Hinton*

## **MESSY CHURCH**



Mothering Sunday provided the ideal topic for March's Messy Church. Our biggest group ever of children and families enjoyed an afternoon of craft making – including beautiful flower pots, flower bouquet cards and Mary & Jesus figures. This was followed by lively songs [accompanied by some very talented young musicians!] and praise. Everyone then enjoyed an afternoon tea of sandwiches, pizza, sausage rolls and cakes – what a feast!

The next Messy Church will be on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April. Although this is the weekend after Easter, we still plan to focus on the Easter message.

All the children of Alveley and Quatt are welcome; they must be accompanied by an adult. There is no charge but all donations to St. Mary's Church are welcome. *Alison Pearson*

## **ALVELEY AND ROMSLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

The next meeting of Alveley and Romsley Parish Council will be on the 2nd April followed by the May monthly meeting on the 7th of May. Both meetings start at 7.30pm with 15 minutes of open forum. Also on the 15th May we will be holding the Annual Parish Meeting. All 3 meetings will be held in The Pavilion.

*Isley Jakeman*

*Chair, Alveley and Romsley Parish Council.*

*A musical concert was about to be performed in a prison. The Governor was talking to a titled lady guest, explaining that the orchestra was made up of murderers, embezzlers and other hardened criminals. The lady then pointed to a man in the corner, holding a trombone. "He looks a tough customer," she whispered. "Whatever has HE done?" The Governor paused and smiled. "Ah, actually, he is the chaplain."*

## WHITTALL MEADOWS TRUST

The Trust's next meeting will take place on **Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> May 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](mailto:jan.higgins@btinternet.com)

Applications should arrive no later than **22<sup>nd</sup> May 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.***

*Jan Higgins*

## D DAY CELEBRATIONS - GRANTS AVAILABLE

If any voluntary organisations in the village and Romsley are thinking of organising events to honour the 80th anniversary of the 6th June 1944, Alveley and Romsley Parish Council would be happy to receive applications for grants to help fund those events. The grant application form can be found on the website.

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





## ALVELEY STROLLERS AND STRIDERS WALKING GROUP

By the time you receive this magazine it will be the beginning of April. This is a time of year when we avid walkers look forward to the longer days giving us more outdoor time, and perhaps better weather. Unfortunately, as we all know from the rhyme "April showers bring May flowers", it can also be a period of unsettled weather and, really, haven't we had enough of that already this year?

I was curious about the origin of this saying and discovered that it first appeared in print in 1562, in Elizabethan England. Although the saying may well have been spoken for many years before that, it was first published in a printed instructional poem called "*Five Hundred Points of Good Husbandry*". The author was one Thomas Tusser, and his poem was a homely mix of instructions and observations about farming and country customs. It offers insight into life in Tudor England, and records many terms and proverbs in print for the first time. The two lines in question went like this, "Sweete April showers, Doo spring Maie flowers", and we might think how little that has changed since the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Except of course that our calendar is different to the Elizabethan one - and the equivalent of their April is our March!

*Do feel welcome to join us at any time throughout the year. We meet for a 10.00am start every Tuesday morning in The Three Horse Shoes car park (arriving a little earlier to register). For more information you can ring Norma and myself on 01746 780478 or text on 07712389131.*

*Andrew Crabtree*

## CHAPEL CRAFTERS

The ladies are continuing with the Christmas Wreath, it is amazing to see the different shades and patterns of green material for the leaves, they certainly are all different but stunning.

We are planning our trip to the Malvern Spring Quilt Show on Friday 17th May, lifts will be arranged. Each time I attend I say to myself NO MORE MATERIAL! but my resolve always weakens when I start browsing.

If you would like to learn a new craft, we are a friendly bunch with lots of laughter, tea and cakes, dates of our next meetings are at the back of this magazine.

Please call Jenny or Angie for more information.

Happy Crafting. *Jenny and Angie*

## SEVERN VALLEY COUNTRY PARK

Our rangers and volunteers have been beavering away creating a small area of wet woodland in Hall Close Coppice. In this area, below the boardwalk, the team have been mimicking the actions beavers would naturally carry out. They have built several 'leaky dams' across the stream to flood part of the woodland and create a new pool. The pool will be great for invertebrates, and also slow the flow during heavy rain so doing our bit to reduce flooding downriver.

Some of the alder trees that are standing in this new pool have been 'ring-barked', which will eventually cause them to die. The process of ring-barking involves removing bark around the circumference of the tree which disrupts the movement of water between the roots and the top growth.

This seems destructive but will provide a valuable habitat in the form of 'standing deadwood' which we would expect to happen in the next 12 months. We normally have to remove dead trees if they are close to paths, but here they are a safe distance from the boardwalk so can be left standing to the benefit of burrowing beetles, cavity-nesting birds and roosting bats. This new watery world can be viewed and enjoyed from the boardwalk.

The visitor centre and café will be open every day for the Easter holidays, from Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March to Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April. The times will be Monday to Friday 11am-4pm, Saturday 9.30am to 4pm and Sunday 10.30am-4pm.

For the Easter holidays we will have a number of ranger-led events. On Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March, there is an Easter Pond Dip, 11am-12.30pm and on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April there is a Spring themed Scavenger Hunt, 11am-12.30pm. Both are £4 per child, accompanying adults free. Wild Toddlers continues on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April and goes through to Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May. It's £5.50 per child which includes toast and squash in the price. Please call 01746 781 192 to book your place on any of these events.

Parkrun continues every Saturday at 9am and our Nordic Walking group meets every Wednesday at 10am. The last Wednesday of the month, the group will meet at Comer Woods and the other Wednesdays they meet at the park.

We're looking forward to drier months ahead and welcoming more visitors to the park.

*Susie Comaish, Severn Valley Country Park Visitor Centre Manager 781192*

*Sign seen in a store: Unattended children will be given espresso and a puppy.*

## ALVELEY ART GROUP

February proved a good month for our art group members - the Wave theme went on to inspire more than just pictures of waves, there were some sketches of people with beautiful wavy hair and a great painting inspired by the poem 'Drowning not Waving' by Stevie Smith.

March's theme is 'Spring' so you can imagine we are already looking at blossom and flowering bulbs in our gardens, and a rusty coil spring! We've looked again at some art by famous artists, and Van Gogh's 'Flowering Almond Branch in a Glass with a Book' from 1888 inspired a beautiful acrylic painting by one member, with a little artistic licence used for what to keep in and what to leave out.

In London recently, at the exhibition 'Impressionists on Paper', it was good to see an ink and graphite sketch by Van Gogh called 'Thatched Roofs'. This Royal Academy of Arts exhibition was an interesting opportunity to see quick and loose sketches by famous artists and to realise that all artists create sketches, not always accurate, and the masterpieces we know so well have taken a lot of time and effort to create - this gives us art group members hope!

We are looking forward to a couple of trips this Spring - a glass fusion workshop and a visit to the International Watercolour Masters event at Lilleshall Hall - I'm sure we'll come back all inspired.

For information on the art group, please contact Deb on 01746 780243 or Colin by email on [xalv7973@gmail.com](mailto:xalv7973@gmail.com)

*Deb Parker*

## ALVELEY VILLAGE HALL

**Annual Village Quiz, Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm.** Thank you to the organizations and club secretaries who have sent back their entry forms for this year's third Annual Village Quiz. If you belong to a village group or organization and haven't received an invitation and would like to take part in this light hearted, fun quiz please contact me on 780 478 or email me at [n.crabtree@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:n.crabtree@yahoo.co.uk) The questions have been set and are under lock and key and the oak wood trophy is eagerly waiting for the addition of the 2024 winning team.

**Annual General Meeting, Thursday 18th April at 8.00pm.** Please do come along to this meeting if you are interested in hearing how the village hall is run by a voluntary committee of trustees for the benefit of the residents of Alveley and the surrounding area. If you are not familiar with the hall you are most welcome to come and have a look at what is available for hire. Cheese, wine and biscuits will be provided and the opportunity for an informal chat.

*Norma Crabtree*

## FUN FOOTBALL EVENT - RECREATION GROUND - MAY 6

I am giving you a final update on the Fun Football event on the Recreation Ground. As I hoped, more clubs have asked to join in. The Squirrel Bowls, the Petanque Boules and the Tennis Club are all inviting you to have a go at their sports and an invitation to do some Maypole dancing has come from the school -that should be fun.

Kyle Graham is doing some penalty shoot-outs and obstacle courses for all ages, so if you want to do these you can contact Kyle on Facebook or just turn up on the day.

The event will start at 12.30 p.m. and end at about 5.00 p.m., so please come and join in and make it a success. The Pavilion will be open. The Social Club and the Village Hall will be open for drinks.

Bring a picnic if you like -and pray for good weather!

We hope to see you there. *Una Coombs (780536)*

## ALVELEY LADIES' GUILD

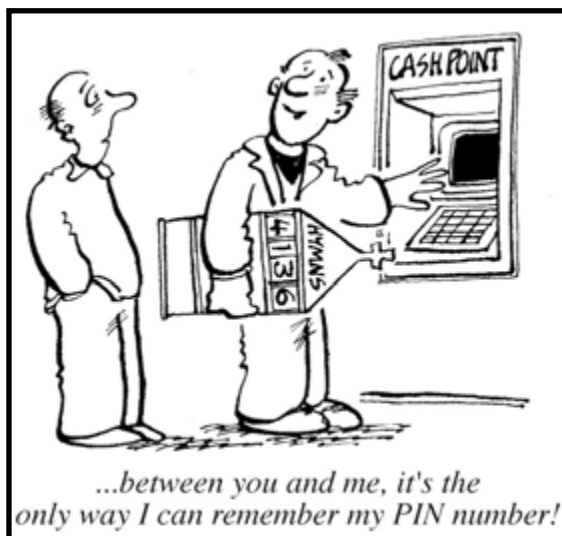
Hello to you all

Our talk in March was about a trip to Nepal to the leper colony by John Butterworth.

Our next talk in April is Richard Churchley on the subject of 'Wayside wonders and countryside curiosities'.

All are welcome to join us on April 22nd at 2.30pm in the Village Hall.

*Kath Bishop*



## ALVELEY W.I.

We welcomed Mr Barry Picken to our March meeting. He very kindly came to talk to us about the Tettenhall Wood House when the booked speaker was unable to attend. The house was built by Theodosia Hinckes and was set in 91 acres. Today the beautiful Gothic Victorian house built in 1833 would have been given listed status but in 1969 this status was not around and the empty house was demolished to make way for a housing estate. Unfortunately many of the wonderful features were lost in the process.

At our next meeting **On 10th April** We are looking forward to our open meeting when Reg Moule, a well known horticulturalist will be joining us to give us some gardening tips. As Reg delights in answering gardening questions we are opening the meeting to all would be gardeners. We have 20 tickets available for anyone who wishes to join us. Tickets will cost £3 for visiting WI members and £5 for non WI visitors. They will be available from Sue Taylor (07973 343491). There will be a raffle on the evening (£1.00 per ticket). Any money raised at the evening will be donated to charity - Alveley First Responders. Light refreshments will be provided.

Please can I remind members that subscriptions are due in April. The cost will be £24.40, cheques should be made payable to Alveley WI. Anyone wishing to join our happy band would be very welcome.

**9th April** will see us enjoying our bi-monthly breakfast at Quatt Farm Shop. They really do look after us with some wonderful food to set us up for the day.

**On 8th May** at our members meeting, Angie Astell will, we hope, finally be able to join us to tell us all about her life in Show Business. For different reasons we have had to cancel Ms Astell twice before so we have our fingers crossed that all will run smoothly in May. Tea hostesses will be Diana Hadley, Judy Horton and Joyce Roberts.

**15th May** will see members going for luncheon. This time we are going to try the Wagon and Horses at Iverley. If you are interested in joining the group please do put your name on the list.

Finally good luck to all the teams taking part in the Village Quiz. I'm sure it will be a fabulous night.

*Pam Worton*

*A Sunday school teacher said to her children, ' We have been learning how powerful kings and queens were in Bible times. But there is a higher power. Can anybody tell me what it is?' One child blurted out, 'Aces!'*

## THE BROKEN STONE

The British Museum were very helpful and set me on the right track, but they do not have one in their collection. A bookshop in Carlisle had a copy of an unusual and obscure book. A historian at Chester Cathedral, where they have several examples, gave me a very good clue. Andy Harrison, a geologist of this very village, identified the material and a trip to Haughmond Abbey confirmed his diagnosis. They also have several. I found a talk on 'You Tube' by a senior lecturer in archaeology at York university which was fascinating. Finally a thank you to Tim White and colleagues who some years ago had the foresight to move it into the church before it became decayed and unreadable, like so many others around the country. It is believed that only 10 percent maybe just 2 percent of these survive.

So what am I talking about?

If you look underneath the altar in the side chapel at St Marys you will see a broken piece of stone. (See photo on page 15). It is the remains of a recumbent grave stone properly called a cross slab. (A slab with a cross). They were popular in the 12th and 13th centuries until replaced by effigies and brasses. They would have been expensive to have carved and so are associated with the nobility. They only rarely had inscriptions at a time when most people couldn't read and those would be in Latin, and because of this when the person was long forgotten these slabs were frequently broken up and used as building material. There are the remains of at least two cross slabs made from Alveley red sandstone set into the south wall to the right of the main entrance to St Mary's.

The next part of this article is speculative, but here goes. The cross slab is not Alveley red sandstone or the greyer Highley sandstone. It is from the Grinshill quarry just north of Shrewsbury. A superior building material so good that the door posts and lintels of number 10 Downing street are made from it, as is Haughmond Abbey just to the east of Shrewsbury.

The l'Estrange family (Guy who founded our church and his son Ralph who founded the hospital in Bridgnorth) were wealthy benefactors of Haughmond Abbey.

Ralph's sister Margaret married the Sheriff of Staffordshire and his father founded Ranton Abbey which was associated with Haughmond Abbey. The large cross on the stone shows it is a Christian burial. The cross pattee ( Maltese cross) could represent a Christian (but why two crosses?) or a symbol showing that the person was a supporter of the Knights Templar which the

l'Estranges were. The two circles enclosing the cross pattee may represent eternal life, but when taken together with the cross pattee is a recognised Templar symbol. The four Fleur de Lys (a stylised lily) that are carved within the cross pattee could represent a Roman Catholic person, but at that time everyone was a Roman Catholic OR someone of French origin, which of course the l'Estranges were. The missing bottom piece of the slab probably had a carving of steps said to represent the steps to Solomon's temple in Jerusalem and the inscription that is partly missing is in Latin, in Lombardy script and says 'Here lies'. Or does it ? The normal spelling for 'Here lies' is hic iacet, our is hiciMcet. So do we have a spelling mistake or does it say something different ? I haven't got to the bottom of that yet.

And lastly the final clue. The historian at Chester Cathedral tentatively said he thought the style of our slab was from 1220 to maybe 1260. And Margaret, the daughter of Guy and sister of Ralph, died in 1222. So this enigmatic cross slab has survived (just!) the medieval builders, Henry V111's reformation, Oliver Cromwell's men and almost 800 years of British weather. And one final thought. Either side of the main cross are carved two flowers. They are slightly different and I have pondered their meaning. Are they just decoration? What could a flower represent?

Then I found that Margaret l'Estrange, a very high status medieval lady married to the Sheriff of Staffordshire, in an age when women had multiple children, had just two daughters , Alice and Joan. Or am I making the facts fit the story ?

*Roy Page*



## NEWS FROM ALVELEY SCHOOL

The weather is starting to warm up, the mornings and evenings are getting lighter and the field is becoming slightly less water-logged, which means only one thing at Alveley Primary School – the summer term is nearly upon us! Since half term, our classes have been busily working through their current topics and enjoying additional experiences. In Elm Class, our Year 3 and 4 pupils have had a visit from a Roman soldier, complete with sword, shield, spear and full set of chain mail! Cedar class have been immersed in the history of flight, learning about early trailblazers such as the Wright Brothers and Amelia Earhart. In Years 5 and 6, our oldest pupils have studied the deserts of the world, identifying key features of desert landscapes and the way that the land is utilised by people (and animals) who live there.

This term, we have had a huge focus on our reading provision. Having invested in our library and new books, we are fully focused on developing our 'reading for pleasure' culture, with pupils actively taking part in the process of choosing and pushing themselves to read more. There is a real 'buzz' around school regarding reading, and I'm now hearing books being recommended in corridors, characters being discussed in the lunch hall and parents chatting to each other about which books they think other families would enjoy. This whole community approach to enjoying reading and children's literature is a hugely important foundation to developing our school further.

Our Friends of Alveley School PTA recently hosted a successful after school disco, and earlier in the term, a movie night. Both were well attended, with the proceeds from which going directly back into school. We have also hosted a book 'giveaway', where all of our pre-owned library books were offered to parents, either for free or for a small donation. Again, having a community approach to reading and ensuring books can find their way into people's homes is incredibly important to me.

We are all looking forward to the Easter holidays to recharge our batteries and to come back ready for the summer!

*Mr C Marsh, Head of School, Alveley Primary School*

*(Can you guess who the Roman soldier is in the photo on p 17? Editor)*

*A bishop was visiting a small church in his diocese. He wanted the young people to understand what he had to say about the Good Shepherd, so he dressed up in his bishop's long, flowing robes and carried his crook. "Now," beamed the bishop, "do you know who I am?"*

*After a moment's silence, one child ventured "Little Bo Peep?"*





**ALVELEY VILLAGE BAND**  
*Play*  
**THE CLASSICS**

Featuring all your favourite classical music  
 including  
 Gabriel's Oboe, Carmen, Swan Lake

**St Mary Magdalene Church,  
 Bridgnorth**  
 Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2024 - 7.30pm

All seats £10.00, (Children under 12 - Free)  
 Available at the Theatre on the Steps Box Office  
 or on the door (cash payment only.)

[www.alveleyvillageband.weebly.com](http://www.alveleyvillageband.weebly.com)



## SUSTAINABLE BRIDGNORTH

Sustainable Bridgnorth, an entirely voluntary group, has organised a successful Bridgnorth Green Festival for the last two years. We can't under-estimate the valuable contribution that all our volunteers, whether on the committee or on the day, or both, have made to running these events. Last year we had over 1000 people pass through the Gardens. The dedication and support of volunteers was instrumental in the success, and the time and effort of all these people is truly appreciated. Due to the availability of such volunteers and clashing commitments, we have agreed to defer the Green Festival until spring 2025 (April?). Thank you for all the eco-heroes who have so far offered their help.

If you have events management/coordination experience and would like to be involved next year, then please get in touch as soon as possible - we'll probably want to get the ball rolling in the latter quarter of 2024. Anyone who is a whizz on social media or promotion who can support us as well, let us know. Additionally, we are actively seeking sponsors to help us sustain and enhance our festival. If you or someone you know is passionate about supporting environmental initiatives and would like to partner with us as a sponsor, please feel free to reach out to us. Your support will not only benefit our festival but also contribute to the well-being of our community and the planet.

On Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May, the Shropshire Climate Conference entitled "Accelerating Change: Spurring on climate action in our communities" will take place at Shrewsbury Town Football Ground. The Conference will also have stalls and displays from Climate and Community groups across Shropshire. Due to its proximity to the Conference, which will include a themed discussion panel and workshop on Energy and Housing, the planned Bridgnorth Energy Reduction Public Presentation will be delayed until later in the year. In the meanwhile, we will be concentrating on the Energy Reduction Subcommittee, who are aiming to help people reduce heat usage and gas bills at home, and enthuse residents to address insulation and efficient heating, by guiding them to grants and support. Training is being offered for volunteer Energy Advisors. In order to get involved, please email:

[energyreductiongroup@sustainablebridgnorth.org.uk](mailto:energyreductiongroup@sustainablebridgnorth.org.uk) if you would like further information.

It was also agreed to support Our Green Shop during their transition to, and settlement in, High Town. If you are not yet aware, their new home is Waterloo Terrace, and we would encourage you to visit them there. *Kath Norgrove*

*Seen in a parish magazine: 'Next Sunday the choir will give a recital, after which the church will be closed for repairs.'*

## ALL IN THE MONTH OF APRIL

300 years ago, on 7<sup>th</sup> April 1724 German composer Johann Sebastian Bach's St John Passion was performed for the first time, at a church in Leipzig.

200 years ago, on 19<sup>th</sup> April 1824 Lord Byron died. One of the greatest British poets and a leading figure in the Romantic movement, he died of sepsis/fever while fighting for Greek independence from the Ottoman Empire. Aged 36.

175 years ago, on 10<sup>th</sup> April 1849 American mechanic Walter Hunt was granted a US patent for his invention of the safety pin. He immediately sold the rights for \$400, which is about \$12,000 today. The company he sold it to made millions from it.

150 years ago, on 5<sup>th</sup> April 1874 Johann Strauss II's operetta Die Fledermaus was performed for the first time, in Vienna.

125 years ago, on 29<sup>th</sup> April 1899 Duke Ellington, American jazz/swing pianist, composer and orchestra leader, was born.

90 years ago, on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 1934 British inventor Percy Shaw patented the Cat's Eye reflective road stud. He set up a company to manufacture them in 1935 and in 1937 he was awarded a government contract to mass produce them for national use.

75 years ago, on 4<sup>th</sup> April 1949 the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) was founded.

Also 75 years ago, on 7<sup>th</sup> April 1949 the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical South Pacific opened on Broadway.

70 years ago, on 26<sup>th</sup> April 1954 the Soviet Union transferred Crimea from Russia to Ukraine. In 2014 Russia annexed Crimea, but it is not recognised internationally, and a number of sanctions were imposed on Russia as a result.

60 years ago, on 15<sup>th</sup> April 1964 twelve men convicted of carrying out the Great Train Robbery in England in August of 1963 were jailed for a total of 307 years. They were given some of the longest sentences in British criminal history.

50 years ago, on 6<sup>th</sup> April 1974 the Swedish pop group ABBA won the Eurovision Song Contest with their song Waterloo. It was the first time that Sweden won the contest. ABBA went on to be one of the most successful groups in music history.

40 years ago, on 17<sup>th</sup> April 1984 British police officer Yvonne Fletcher was shot dead during a demonstration outside the Libyan Embassy in London. This led to an 11-day siege by the police.

## ST. MARY'S CHURCH ROTA APRIL 2024

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

Date	1st Reading <b>Readings to be advised</b>	2nd Reading <b>Readings to be advised</b>	Intercessions	Chalice	Sidespersons	Refreshments
April 7	Colin Taylor	Jean Marshall	Jackie Hampson	Dale & Sue Chidwick	David & Jackie Hampson	Irene Orford Pat Bowyer
April 14	Paul Walford				Diana Kennedy. Jenny Sirrell	Carol Wall Jenny Sirrell
April 21	Jackie Hampson	David Hampson	Jackie Campbell	Jackie Hampson Carol Wall	Pat Haw. Hazel Leach	David Hampson Jackie Hampson
April 28	Pauline Cooper				Dale Chidwick Colin Taylor	St Mary's Ladies & Keith & Alison Pearson

## DIARY 2024

<b>April</b>	3	Spring Scavenger Hunt, SVCP, 11am– 12.30pm (p 10)
	5	Chapel Crafters, Old Chapel, 10.30am-12.30pm
	6	Messy Church, St Mary's, 3pm (p 7, 21)
	6	Alveley Village Quiz, Village Hall, 7.30pm (p 11)
	7	Quatt Village Walk, Quatt Village Hall, 2pm (p 6)
	9	Alveley W.I. breakfast, Quatt Farm Shop (p 13)
	10	Alveley WI OPEN meeting, Pavilion 7pm (p 13)
	15	Be café, Old Chapel, 2pm-4pm
	18	Alveley Village Hall A.G.M. 8pm (p 11)
	19	Chapel Crafters, Old Chapel, 10.30am-12.30pm
<b>May</b>	3	Chapel Crafters, Old Chapel, 10.30am-12.30pm
	3	Alveley Cricket Club Race Night
	6	Fun football event, Recreation Ground 12.30pm (p 12)
	7	Alveley & Romsley Parish Council meeting, 7.30pm, Pavilion (p 7)
	8	Alveley WI meeting, Pavilion, 7.30pm (p 13)
	9	Sustainable Bridgnorth meeting
	10	The Last Picture Show, Quatt Village Hall (p 7)
	15	WI lunch, at Iverley (p 13)
	17	Chapel Crafters Malvern trip (p 9)
	17	Alveley Entertainers' Film Night, Village Hall 7.30pm
	18	Shropshire Climate Conference, Shrewsbury (p 18)
	20	Be café, Old Chapel, 2pm-4pm
	22	Alveley Ladies ' Guild, Village Hall 2.30pm (p 12)
	31	Alveley Cricket Club live music event

### Alveley and Claverley

**County Councillor:**

**Colin Taylor.**

**Phone 07581 066956**

**Email:**

[colin.taylor@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:colin.taylor@shropshire.gov.uk)





**DR CHARLIE GREENWOOD BVM BVS MRCVS  
DIRECTOR & VETERINARY SURGEON**

**Email:** [charlie@alveleyvillagevets.co.uk](mailto:charlie@alveleyvillagevets.co.uk)

**Tel:** 01746 400595

5a COOKS CROSS, ALVELEY,  
BRIDGNORTH WV15 6LS

**DOUBLE GLAZING REPAIRS**

MISTED UP GLASS,  
LOCKS, HANDLES, HINGES,  
DOORS ADJUSTED

**Telephone Fred Barnfield**

Alveley 01746 781912

Mobile 07971 788489

ALVELEY RECREATION ASSOCIATION

**PAVILION**

*Ideal For Club Socials, Parties,  
Weddings, Meetings etc  
Kitchen & Bar Facilities  
(If required)*

**Terms and bookings -  
MARGARET SHAW**

**Tel: 01746 780 459**

**Embroidery & Printing Services**  
for businesses, charities & schools

**Your local one stop shop for  
all your embroidery &  
printing needs**

**Embroidered & Printed Workwear  
Labels, Banners & Vehicle Graphics  
Promotional T-Shirts & Bags  
Leaflets, Posters & Business Cards**

**Based in Alveley Village**

**amd promotions**

[www.amdpromotions.co.uk](http://www.amdpromotions.co.uk)

[enquiries@amdpromotions.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@amdpromotions.co.uk)

**t: 07825133056**



**Full Range of Quality Garden Products Delivered to your door.**

Miracle Gro Peat Free 40ltr 2 bags **Only £15**  
Levington Organic Manure 50ltr 2 bags **£14**  
Levington Peat Free Planter 2 bags **Only £16**  
Erin Peat Reduced Compost **70ltr** 2 for **£18**

**SylvaGrow Peat Free 50ltr 2 bags - £20**  
Decorative Bark 75ltr. 4 bags only **£36**

**\*Stockists of SHL Professional Composts\***

Large Selection of Bird Food & Feeders

**You Click - We Deliver**

**[www.paulsgardensupplies.co.uk](http://www.paulsgardensupplies.co.uk)**

**Call: Paul on 01562 741820**  
**Mob: 07704 346506**

Delivery Just £3.50  
**Fast & Friendly Service**

## **MJ & A Electrics Ltd**

Domestic, Commercial, Industrial  
and Agricultural Electrical Specialists  
Over 20 Years Experience

All Aspects Of Electrical Work Undertaken

Qualified Electric Vehicle Charge  
Point Installer

All Works Fully Certified, Insured And  
Completed To The Latest  
Regulations (BS 7671)

Call Michael To Arrange A Free  
No Obligation Quote

 **07462 333682**  **[mjaelectrics.co.uk](http://mjaelectrics.co.uk)**



**Available all year round**  
**ALVELEY TENNIS CLUB**

**3 all-weather floodlit courts**

**LTA accredited coaching for all ages**  
**via Richard Wheeler 07941 722980**

**Children especially welcome**

**For membership contact**  
**Roger Whitworth 07946 094488**



**Lynn Vowles**

Tel: 07495 930822

E-mail: [lynn@lmvwills.co.uk](mailto:lynn@lmvwills.co.uk)  
[www.lmvwills.co.uk](http://www.lmvwills.co.uk)

Wills and Lasting Powers of Attorney dealt with in a  
sympathetic and understanding manner.  
Appointments take place in the comfort of your  
own home.



# **C. M. R.**

## **Cookley Motor Repairs**

**MoT Servicing & Repairs**

**12 LONGACRE • KIDDERMINSTER • DY10 2HA**

Gary's Kidderminster premises

All Makes for MoT, Service & Repair

**FREE** courtesy car available, or **FREE** collection  
and delivery service if required

**Tel: 01562 745 320 Mobile: 07811 130 261**



## Bradeney House

### BRADENEY DRIVE RETIREMENT LIVING

Luxury two bedded bungalows in a gated development, low maintenance, high specification with optional care packages for extra support.

Bradeney Drive Pavilion has a village hall facility with underfloor heating a well fitted kitchen, craft room and hospitality suite available for the use of residents and guests of Bradeney Drive.

For sales details contact Berrimon Eaton - 01746 766499

Bradeney Drive Pavilion is available to hire for keep fit classes, yoga, pilates, painting classes etc.

Please contact Louise on 01746 717920 for prices and availability.

*Bradeney House Care Home, Worfield, Bridgnorth WV15 5NT*

[www.bradeneyhouse.co.uk](http://www.bradeneyhouse.co.uk)

Telephone 01746 716686

email: [reception@bradeneyhouse.co.uk](mailto:reception@bradeneyhouse.co.uk)

## Bradeney House

At Bradeney House Care home we are dedicated to providing professional, kind and compassionate nursing and dementia care ensuring residents needs, happiness and wellbeing are at the centre of everything we do.

You are most welcome to come and have a chat at your convenience, no appointment necessary.

*Bradeney House Care Home, Worfield, Bridgnorth WV15 5NT*

[www.bradeneyhouse.co.uk](http://www.bradeneyhouse.co.uk)

Telephone 01746 716686

email: [reception@bradeneyhouse.co.uk](mailto:reception@bradeneyhouse.co.uk)



Registered Plumbing  
& Heating Engineers

Stoves, Plumbing, Fireplaces, Heating  
& Fully Fitted Bathroom Suites  
Local Family Business, Established For Over 50 years

*For All of Your Home  
Improvements & Energy  
Efficiency Advice*

### Contact Us:

Mark: 07976 899432 Richard: 07852 178365

Email: [marksmailman80@gmail.com](mailto:marksmailman80@gmail.com)

STOURBRIDGE ROAD, BRIDGNORTH



**TMG Building & Roofing**

Tyler Goodall

07961313982

[tylergoodall96@hotmail.com](mailto:tylergoodall96@hotmail.com)

FREE NO OBLIGATION QUOTATIONS

## WINDOWS & DOORS



Installed  
**DOMESTIC  
COMMERCIAL**

Locks, Misted Units, Soffits, Fascias, Gutters  
& PROPERTY MAINTENANCE WORK

**DEAN CHAMBERS**

**07985 301956 01562 827712**

Insured. FENSA Qualified, Traders Register



# **Barn Owl**

## **Pest Control Services.**

**RATS, MICE, MOLES, WASPS, BEES & SQUIRRELS**

**Licensed for chemical weed control**

**CALL Bryan: 01299 861 611 & 07443 744335**

**bryt@hotmail.co.uk**

**N.P.T.C.**

**R.S.P.H.2**

**LANTRA**

### **Andrew Stark**

## **Carpentry**

Cupboards, Wardrobes, Shelving  
Doors & Floors  
Kitchen refurbishments  
Interior and exterior repairs and  
renovation

**Website: [www.ascarpentry.co.uk](http://www.ascarpentry.co.uk)**

**Tel (01746) 764246**

**Mobile 07854 626586**

## **Regis Roofing Ltd.**

**Re-Roof & Maintenance**

20 Peacock Hill,  
Alveley,  
Bridgnorth,  
Shropshire  
WV15 6JX

**Chris Hadley**  
Phone: 01746 781673  
Mobile: 07946 396940

## **Alveley Old Chapel**

**WE ARE OPEN**

**Tuesdays & Wednesdays**

**11:00am – 3:00pm**

Serving hot and cold drinks  
and delicious home-baked cakes.

Light lunches.

Gluten-free cakes.

Free Wi-Fi.

Photocopying. Printing.

Second-hand books.

Family friendly.

Available to hire for your own  
party or event.

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

**01746 781277**



### **Sarah's Dog Walking and Pet Services**

**Alveley, Bridgnorth, Claverley,  
Six Ashes and surrounding areas**

- Dog walking – solo and group walks
- Pet sitting and holiday care
- Cats, chickens and small animal 'pop-ins'

Fully insured, DBS checked, trained in pet first aid

To discuss your pet's needs:



**07852 533086**



**[sarah@packalert.co.uk](mailto:sarah@packalert.co.uk)**



**[www.packalert.co.uk](http://www.packalert.co.uk)**





**Andy  
Arbuckle**

**Exterior & Interior Decorating  
No Job Too Small  
Free Estimates**

Tel: 01746 764423  
Mobile: 07790 043207



**SEVERN VALLEY  
FLOWERS**  
FLOWER FARM

**Flower farm, Alveley  
Natural funeral flowers  
Sustainable floristry  
Events. Gifts  
Free local delivery  
07983 500076.**

sarah@severnvalleyflowers.com @severnvalleyflowers.com

## REPAIR

PHONES>TABLETS>LAPTOPS>PCS>GAMES\_CONSOLES



**Microsoft**  
CERTIFIED  
Professional

**CALL: 07595226612**

**Severn Edge**  
VETERINARY GROUP

**+ 24hr Veterinary Hospital in Bridgnorth**



- Digital x-ray
- Ultrasound
- CT scanning
- Operating facilities
- Dental care
- Free nurse clinics
- Free parking
- Open on Saturdays



01746 763 998  
www.sevg.co.uk



**Local financial  
advice**



**Pensions ■ Retirement Planning ■ Investments  
Long Term Care ■ Equity Release  
Life & Critical Illness Protection ■ Income Protection**

**Taylor  
Haines**



**FINANCIAL PLANNING**

01746 765215 admin@taylorhaines.co.uk  
Smithfield Centre, Whitburn Street,  
Bridgnorth WV16 4QT

Equity Release will reduce the value of your estate and can affect your eligibility for means tested benefits

## THE VILLAGE GARDENER

**Hedge Trimming, Mowing, Strimming,  
Weeding, Garden Tidy Ups,  
Garden Maintenance, Pressure Washing.**

**NO JOB TOO SMALL**

**HONEST AND RELIABLE SERVICE.**

**Fully Insured. Please Call Ash Roberts**

**07701 320550**

**01746 781919**



## EDWIN HARRIS & SONS LTD

Funeral Directors - Est 1897

Independent family run business  
covering all areas of the  
Wyre Forest and | West Midlands

1 Crane Street, Kidderminster DY11 6XT

Tel 01562 822625

24 hour personal service

Email: [contactus@edwinharris.co.uk](mailto:contactus@edwinharris.co.uk) web: [edwinharris.co.uk](http://edwinharris.co.uk)

## P. HAYCOX & SON

*Funeral Directors*

Stourbridge Road, Wootton, Near Bridgnorth

**BURIALS & CREMATIONS**

**PRIVATE CHAPEL OF REST**

**Tel: Quatt (01746) 780 438**

*24 Hour Service*

Undertakers in Alveley & District for over 60 years.

### Caroline McGuinness

BSc (Hons) Podiatrist M.Ch.S  
Health Professionals Council  
Registration No: CH28379



#### **MOBILE: PODIATRY / CHIROPODY**

Nail & Foot Care  
Corns, Callus, Cracked Heels  
Ingrown Toe Nails  
Thickened / Fungal Nails  
Verrucae  
Diabetic foot healthcare advice  
and treatment  
Vascular and neurological  
assessments and advice  
Extensive NHS experience

*Professional foot care in the comfort  
of your own home*

**Caroline 07989 964854**



The Society of  
Chiropodists  
and Podiatrists

*Nightingales*

**RESIDENTIAL HOME  
WOLVERLEY**



Magnificent 18<sup>th</sup> Century Grade II listed home situated in over 6 acres of beautifully maintained gardens and woodland.

Family owned for over 14 years. We pride ourselves on providing the highest quality residential/long term care.

All rooms are en-suite ensuring a level of independency and privacy. Residents are encouraged to retain their individuality and to personalise their rooms with their own belongings.

Home style cooking, catering for a variety of special dietary requirements.



**Philosophy of Care:** Privacy, Dignity, Independence, Choice, Fulfilment, Security, Respect and Equality

For more information please call

**01562 850201**

or email [office@nightingalesrh.co.uk](mailto:office@nightingalesrh.co.uk)

**MJGREEN**  
Accountancy  
Services Ltd

**FREE** Consultation  
Accounts and Audit  
Book Keeping and Payroll  
Tax Returns and Advice

**Tel: 01384 265930**

Email: [enquiries@mjgreenaccountancy.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@mjgreenaccountancy.co.uk)

Web: [www.mjgreenaccountancy.co.uk](http://www.mjgreenaccountancy.co.uk)

Unit 10

Silver End Business Park

Brettell Lane

Brierley Hill

West Midlands

DY5 3LG

**ACCA**

## Carr's FootCare

For the professional treatment of foot related problems in the comfort of your own home

Mrs Ann Carr  
S.A.C.Dip  
FHPT FHPP

Johnathan Carr  
S.A.C.Dip  
FHPT FHPP

- CALLUS (HARD SKIN)
- CORNS
- FUNGAL INFECTIONS
- THICKENED NAILS
- INGROWING TOE NAILS
- NAIL TRIMMING
- DIABETIC FEET

**Call now for a quick and easy  
appointment anytime**

**07542 601165**

[carrsfootcare@gmail.com](mailto:carrsfootcare@gmail.com)



## Castle & Blinds & Awnings

- Vertical Blinds • Venetian Blinds •
- Roller Blinds • Roman Blinds •
- Plantation Shutters • Pleated Blinds •
- Conservatory Blinds • Shade Sails •
- Child Safety Blinds •
- Awnings • Canopies •

**FREE**  
QUOTATION  
& Home Visit



**make it  
safe**

**BBSA**  
BRITISH BLIND & SHUTTER ASSOCIATION

Call us **0800 163 429**  
**NOW**

**Showroom: Portway House, Stream Road, Kingswinford, West Midlands. DY6 9NT**

## WHO'S WHO - A GUIDE TO ORGANISATION CONTACTS

Alveley Art Group	Deb Parker	780243
Alveley Bellringers	Roy Page	07704 362285
Alveley Charities	Daryl Cooper	780378
Alveley Cricket Club	Richard Twigg	780437
Alveley Day Centre	Sue Taylor 07973343491	
	Angela Lander 07952 172691/	Pat Bowyer 07964 581966
Alveley Entertainers	Ian Maddock	780936
Alveley First Responders	Martin Hill	780794
Alveley Flower Classes	Barbara Twigg	780016
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	Mo Morgan	781277
Alveley Parish Council/Street Lights	Chloe Martin	07355 092770
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 Singers	Penny Jenkins	780660
Alveley Tennis Club	Roger Whitworth	07946 094488
Alveley Village Band	Eleanor Andrews	761238
Alveley Village Hall	Norma Crabtree	780478
Alveley Village Hall bookings	Carol Hatfield	780576
Alveley W.I.	Sue Taylor	780652
Arden Allotments Association	Sally Neville	780931
Chapel Crafters	Angela Lander 780041/Jenny Sirrell	780369
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 Valley Park Ranger	Ed Andrews	781192
Squirrel Bowling Club	Hilary Smith	780609
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

Apart from the almost incessant rain recently, another topic regularly hitting the headlines is that of potholes and, though I have touched on this on a Back Page of some years ago, I cannot but help think about the topic in a somewhat different context. Some years ago The Head Gardener and I undertook a fabulous journey which took us to Singapore, Australia, New Zealand and South America over a period of about three months.

In Peru, after visiting Macchu Picchu - by car and train, then bus up to the citadel, not walking the Inca trail, I'm afraid - we undertook a wonderful journey on the Andean Explorer train, which took us to Lake Titicaca. The next stage was overland from the lake, across the mountains and into Bolivia, whose capital, La Paz, sits in a bowl amidst the mountains. The final part of the adventure was into Buenos Aires and then Rio de Janeiro, but that is another story. It is the drive through the Andes to La Paz which comes to mind when I fail to avoid a pothole on our deteriorating roads.

We were being driven by Bolivian tour guides and the route was, of course, on twisting mountain roads and there were inevitably quite a number of potholes. We saw two different methods of dealing with the problem.

The first was a seemingly elderly gentleman whose mode of transport was a bicycle. We were amazed, because we were at quite an altitude and there were no electric bikes then. Presumably he took a long time to get to work but got home in record time. His method of filling potholes seemed to be with a dustpan and brush. He collected gravel and tipped it into the hole. Presumably the next rain shower or passing vehicle undid all his work and he was back to square one.

The second method was employed by a small group of workers. They mixed concrete by hand using shovels, for there was no cement mixer, then filled in the potholes. These repairs would last a little longer of course. The remarkable thing was that the group consisted of both men and women and the men were all sitting around smoking while the women were putting their backs into mixing the concrete!

Is that what you call gender equality?

*Ian*

Please send items for the **May edition by 9 am on Thursday April 18th** 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))



## INDEPENDENT GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

**Fully Insured Grounds Maintenance  
Contractor & Tree Surgeon since 1996.**



**All Aspects of Tree Surgery for Domestic & Commercial Clients.**

Tree & Hedge - Pruning, Stump Grinding, Felling, TPO Approved Works.

Grounds Maintenance to Schools, Academies, Retail & Industrial Parks

**Sale of Seasoned Logs £ 150-00. Sale of Woodchip £ 40-00**

We offer quality & value for money, & our highly trained staff are DBS cleared.

**FREE NO OBLIGATION QUOTATIONS**

**Telephone: 01746 781308**

**Mobile: 07876 454310**

**Email: [mike@igm-limited.co.uk](mailto:mike@igm-limited.co.uk)**

**[www.igm-limited.co.uk](http://www.igm-limited.co.uk)**



## LONDIS

*Alveley Food Stores and  
Off Licence*

*Newsagents and Lottery*

**2/3 Cooks Cross  
Alveley WV15 6LS**

**Tel: 01746 780773**

CONSERVATORIES

***The Real*  
Bridgnorth Windows™**

**Martyn Donnelly**

Managing Director

Unit 10, Livestock & Auction Centre Wenlock Road,  
Bridgnorth. WV16 4QR

T 01746 762855 T 01746 769944 E [sales@bridgnorthwindows.co.uk](mailto:sales@bridgnorthwindows.co.uk)

**[www.bridgnorthwindows.co.uk](http://www.bridgnorthwindows.co.uk)**

*Vivians*  
**Mobile Hairdressing**



- \* Ladies, Gents & Children*
- \* Reliable Service*
- \* Competitive Rates*
- \* Established over 20 Years*

**Tel: 07990 721584**



## ALVELEY VILLAGE HALL

Available for Dances, Parties & Meetings

Capacity 120 people

Kitchen & Bar Facilities if required  
and China & Cutlery

Terms and Bookings contact:

**Carol Hatfield**

**Tel: 01746 780576**

**email: carolhatfield66@sky.com**

## KEEP FIT CLASSES LOOK FIT - FEEL FIT - STAY FIT



with  
**JEAN**



**at the ALVELEY PAVILION**

**Monday 7.00 to 8.15pm**

**Tel: 780 198**



**The Little Paint &  
Garden Company**

*A friendly, reliable & flexible service*

Painting, decorating, garden maintenance  
and much more.

**Matthew Crossland**

**Mobile: 07854 830051**

**email: mattcrossland@icloud.com**



We do most things to help make  
sport possible, but most of all helping  
people to play sport and encouraging  
them to keep coming back. Junior  
coaching for children aged 5 upwards

Sport England Clubmarked and a  
great environment for the whole family.

**Simply visit [www.alveleycc.co.uk](http://www.alveleycc.co.uk)  
or call 01746 781639**

## A. C. Causer

Property Improvements & Maintenance

- ◆ Kitchens     ◆ Carpentry     ◆ Fascias
- ◆ Bathrooms   ◆ Plumbing     ◆ Guttering
- ◆ Tiling        ◆ Fencing       ◆ Landscaping
- ◆ Painting      ◆ Windows
- ◆ Decorating   ◆ Doors

*Job Portfolio and References available on request*

*Public Liability Insurance*

**Email: andy.causer@live.co.uk**

**Mobile: 07909 229605 Office: 01746 780162**

## Private tuition

in English, Maths and the  
three Sciences GCSE

Eleven Plus and Common  
Entrance also catered for.

**peterfry54@gmail.com**

**07778 561678**

# Severn Valley Storage Ltd.

Private and Commercial Self Storage

Alveley Industrial Estate

**Tel: 01746 781 177**

**Email: [severnvalleystorage@gmail.com](mailto:severnvalleystorage@gmail.com)**

**KDM print**

**(01384) 424850**

**[info@kdmprint.co.uk](mailto:info@kdmprint.co.uk) [www.printersstourbridge.com](http://www.printersstourbridge.com)**