

Alcester Town Council



Winter Newsletter

December 2024 Issue 76

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

As I write this winter message, an action-packed October has ended, and an even busier November has begun.

Below is a snapshot of the ten local and six civic events Sue and I attended during October.

The month always gets off to a great start with the arrival of the MOP bringing that much loved fairground atmosphere to the town. After the opening ceremony, we were delighted to join the hordes of children eagerly trailing behind the High Bailiff as he led them through the fair, inviting them to climb aboard the free rides that follow the traditional opening ceremony. The mixed weather failed to dampen the joyful screams, laughter, and excitement of all those youngsters.

We left the Mop to travel across to Warwick to gather with other mayors, civic leaders, and members of the judiciary in celebrating the newly elected High Sheriff of Warwickshire's service of thanksgiving and to mark the start of the new legal year.

Two days later we attended our own Court Leet elections, witnessing the appointment of Tracey Parkes as High Bailiff and Sharon Constable as Low Bailiff - the first female duo elected to these roles in the Court Leet's 700-year history.

The annual 10k race on the 6th October saw more than 700 runners taking part. There are some very fit people in Alcester!

Being in the company of The Crafty Lunch Club members was a really special day for us; the pumpkin competition challenged our best creative skills (see the photo for our attempts!), followed by an exhausting amount of singing and dancing!

Joining 300 others at the Greig Hall, we enjoyed a hearty breakfast at the second of two Big Breakfast events organised by Alcester & Bidford Rotary. This was followed by a really entertaining evening with the Alcester Musical Theatre Company, when we attended their performance of The Addams Family at the Palace Theatre in Redditch.

In the second half of the month, we were pleased to represent Alcester at Civic Events held at Whitnash, Leamington Spa and Kineton; support fundraising occasions in Coleshill; and back in

Alcester, join the new High Bailiff's Halloween party, the 5th birthday celebration of the Repair Café and to officially open the Community Shed located in the former squash courts situated behind the Greig Hall.

October ended with the 103rd Alcester Poppy Appeal which I had the privilege to launch.

November is the time when we remember those that protect us all from the tyranny of others. It was a privilege to be involved in two emotional and moving wreath laying occasions on behalf of the people of Alcester on Remembrance Day and Armistice Day.



May Sue and I wish you a peaceful Christmas.

Councillor Mike Bowe, Mayor of Alcester

CLERK'S CORNER

Alcester Town Council is a member of the Stratford District CCTV Partnership which manages the CCTV cameras in public areas of the town. The Town Council contributes £6000 a year towards the CCTV coverage of Alcester. The monitoring of all cameras, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, is carried out from one location- the Stratford-on-Avon District Council CCTV Control Room.

All of the cameras and the control room have recently been upgraded, guaranteeing high quality pictures that are admissible in court as evidence. All staff work a rotating shift pattern ensuring optimum cover at peak times. CCTV staff have a direct radio link with the Warwickshire Police force control room and officers on the ground.

Footage of incidents is routinely made available to the police for use in the investigation of reported crimes, missing persons or suspect activity and is used to assist in the prosecution of offenders in the courts. Here are some examples of incidents where CCTV played an important role in Alcester:

Public Disorder

CCTV provided evidence and images to the police during a public order incident during the Mop. During the incident, the direction of the CCTV Operators allowed Police to be guided to the offenders and allowed them to make an arrest, which helped restore order and allow families to continue their enjoyment of the Mop.

Careless Driving

CCTV followed up an enquiry after a car drove through a road closure in place for the Remembrance service parade. CCTV were able to find the offending vehicle and pass the details on to the police to make further enquiries.

Driving whilst impaired

CCTV monitored a driver crash into the railings of a park. CCTV contacted the police and as they monitored the situation, they saw the driver get out. He clearly looked intoxicated. The individual then left the vehicle and entered an address that CCTV monitored. They updated the police, who were soon on the scene, and arrested the driver for being unfit to drive through drink or drugs. The CCTV was later provided to police to help with the investigation.

Vanessa Lowe, Town Clerk

STOP PRESS

We are sorry to report that Cllr Lauren Martinson resigned from the Town Council on 26th October 2024. We wish her well in the future.

ALCESTER TOWN COUNCIL CONTACTS

Office of the Town Clerk: Tel: 01789 766084

Town Clerk: clerk@alcester-tc.gov.uk

Mayor's Secretary: mayor@alcester-tc.gov.uk

Facilities Manager: office@alcester-tc.gov.uk

Planning: administration@alcester-tc.gov.uk

Health and Wellbeing Co-ordinator: info@alcester-tc.gov.uk

Website: www.alcester-tc.gov.uk

BEE SQUARED

Thank you to all our "Bee Squared" partners for helping us to distribute 1800 packets of wildflower seeds.

We look forward to seeing your flowers blooming in the Spring and we will be awarding a prize to the best display.

Please send photographs of your flowers to: beesquaredalcester@gmail.com



RURAL ENTERPRISE HUB LAUNCHED IN ALCESTER

Calling ALL Small, Medium and Start Up Businesses based in Alcester, Studley, Bidford and the surrounding areas who would like FREE Business Support!

At the Rural Enterprise Hub based at Minerva Mill Innovation Centre Alcester, we can help. Working alongside Warwickshire and Coventry Growth Hub, Chamber of Commerce and Warwickshire Skills Hub, we are offering a wide range of complimentary services tailored to your businesses needs to help you and your business succeed and grow. Including:

- Access To Finance (Private and Public Sector, Inwards Investment)
- Business Support (One to One Advise, Business Planning, Sales & Marketing, International, Scale Up, and Growth Canvas)
- People & Skills (Training, Apprenticeships, Recruitment)
- Commercial Property (Finding new, Expanding Existing Planning issues)
- Innovation (New Products and Processes)
- Business Collaboration (Targeted B2B Introductions & Networking)

Our vision is to help our Local Businesses Grow and Flourish.

If you would like to take advantage of this fully funded service, contact Vicky for an initial introduction:

✉ vicky@minervamill.co.uk

📘 Facebook: Like, Follow and Share

📄 LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/vicky-griffith-bab39483/>

☎ Phone: 01789 761334

😊 Face to Face: Pop into [Minerva Mill Innovation Centre](#) for a look around and to say hello.

**ARE YOU A SMALL, MEDIUM OR START UP BUSINESS BASED IN
ALCESTER, STUDLEY, BIDFORD AND THE SURROUNDING AREAS AND
WOULD LIKE FREE BUSINESS SUPPORT?**

**AT THE RURAL ENTERPRISE HUB BASED AT MINERVA MILL
ALCESTER WE CAN HELP**

Our vision is to help our Local
Businesses Grow and Flourish.

OFFERING:

- Access To Finance
- Business Support
- People & Skills
- Commercial Property
- Innovation
- Business Collaboration

☎ 01789 761334

✉ vicky@minervamill.co.uk

📍 Rural Enterprise Hub
Minerva Mill, Station Road
Alcester B49 5ET



Alcester Community Shed Opens!

The successful transformation of the old squash courts into the Community Shed is complete and it was officially opened on 25th October by the Mayor, Cllr Mike Bowe.



The project took almost a year and involved many contractors and volunteers who worked together to produce this wonderful community asset. The cost of the work was met by securing grants and generous donations at no expense to ratepayers. It is a welcoming space with a fully equipped workshop where people can join together to make and mend, learning new skills, having fun and making new friends. And, of course, after the work is done there is space to relax over a tea or coffee.

The building is managed by Alcester Town Council and is home to the Alcester Community Shed group. During a busy couple of open days in September many residents showed interest in Shed membership and many have now joined. As well as sessions where members can use the hand tools, we plan to get trainers in to teach how to safely use the machine

tools such as the lathe, plus demonstrations by experienced professionals.

If you would like to know more about the Community Shed, please contact:

alcestercommunityshed@gmail.com or phone 07863 558604. Also check out the Facebook page www.facebook.com/alcestercommunityshed/.

Cllr Wendy Mills, Chair of the Squash Courts Working Group



PLANNING UPDATE

Roofspace Solutions brought forward a planning application to formalise their current working arrangements on the Birmingham Road site. They have addressed some of the issues, especially those for large vehicles, by creating up to 5 parking spaces on-site. Concerns still remain regarding noise and neighbouring amenity. We have therefore objected, until we see the environmental officer's report.

A recent application to convert a garage into additional accommodation for a dwelling would have resulted in insufficient parking spaces and non-compliance with both SDC's policy document and our NDP. WCC highways agreed with our objection that it would be yet another lost parking space and could set a precedent for other in-town properties.

Lloyds Bank submitted an application to remove their cash machine as part of the closure of the bank, which has just been approved. The closure is very disappointing as ATC had worked closely with Lloyds over the years to retain the bank. There are moves afoot to install a banking hub in the Town.

Finally, I have included an application by Pridot Printers in Kings Coughton wishing to increase the available area within their workshop. The officer raised concerns regarding green belt issues and less than substantial harm to the adjacent listed building, the Moat House pub. This application, currently withdrawn, revolves around whether the building is still within the curtilage of the listed building.

Cllr Mark Cargill, Chair of Planning

STOP PRESS....

Newport's Foundation Closure 2024.

Unfortunately, due to excess demand, the Trustees have had to close the Foundation's accounts for new applications until after the 1st of January 2025; please reapply after that date if still appropriate.

Clive Neal-Sturgess (Clerk to the Foundation)

Launch of the 2024-2025 Poppy Appeal



On Saturday 26th October, the 2024 - 2025 Poppy Appeal for the Alcester District was officially launched by the Mayor, Cllr Mike Bowe, assisted by local Veterans and Legion members. The day raised just over £300. It is hoped that around £12,000 can be reached by next August. Poppy Appeal Organiser David Malin said, "We have a fantastic team of 'Poppy People' who volunteer their time to make sure as many people as possible have the opportunity to obtain a Poppy and to donate to the Appeal. I thank them all for their support."

The Alcester Branch of The Royal British Legion are looking for new members especially from the ex-service community. For further information visit www.britishlegion.org.uk



REMEMBRANCE 2024

Another great turn out by Alcester for Remembrance Sunday, 10 November 2024, to remember all those who lost their lives in conflict.

The Parade started at Bleachfield Street car park then marched up the High Street to Church Green. The parade was very well supported - led by Alcester Royal British Legion accompanied by Alcester Victoria Silver Band, followed by serving members of HM forces and veterans, Lord Hertford, Deputy Lord Lieutenant, Alcester Army Cadet Force, Alcester Town Council, other Council representatives, Emergency Services, Alcester Court Leet, Alcester Churches Together, town organisations, youth organisations, schools and junior sports clubs. A short outdoor service was led by Revd Daniel Corlett and Revd Julie Lindsay on Church Green where wreaths were laid, standards presented and lives remembered. The Remembrance Sunday parade was organised by Alcester Town Council in partnership with Alcester Royal British Legion and St Nicholas Church. A short outdoor service on Church Green was also held on Armistice Day, Monday 11 November 2024.





Mayor's Civic Awards 2024



Nominations Required for the following four categories

- Young Person of the Year
- Community Organisation of the Year
- Business of the Year
- Citizen of the Year

Nominations are open from Monday 18th November to Friday 13th December

Presentations will be made at an Awards Evening on Friday 17th January 2025

For more information and nomination forms see <https://www.alcester-tc.gov.uk>

LITTER FREE ALCESTER!



It is ten years since Litter Free Alcester was established. Building on the back of previous community efforts, LFA was set up as a community organisation in 2014. It carries out annual spring and autumn clean ups and helps the Food Festival and other High Street events.

LFA volunteers were out again on October 19th carrying out an autumn litter pick. We were grateful for the volunteers who assisted – both young and old. We have a Litter Free Alcester Facebook page where we post details about our events.

Cllr Susan Juned

Check your flood risk

In July 2007, many properties in Alcester were flooded and despite over a million pounds being spent on improving flood defences, there are still areas of Alcester that are at high risk of flooding.

Alcester Town Council's Flood Working Group is changing its flood risk procedures. More information on this will be available in the spring newsletter but current plans include:

- Specialist training for Flood Wardens (now referred to as Flood Guardians)
- Production of a Flood Guardian Handbook and Emergency Action Plan Sheet
- A lead group of decision-makers including Councillor Leads and ATC Staff will act on agreed criteria (provided in the Handbook and Emergency Action Sheet) with specific tasks devolved to individual volunteers.

If you would like to volunteer to be a 'Flood Guardian' for Alcester please email administration@alcester-tc.gov.uk.

Of course, we all have a responsibility to protect our own properties. Listed below are the roads which are at greatest risk of flooding as shown in Environment Agency (EA) flood maps. If your property's location is on this list we recommend that you sign up for the EA flood warnings via <https://www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings>, and prepare your own flood plans to put into action when you get a warning.

You can check your long-term flood risk from both rivers and surface water by using the Check Long Term Flood Risk Service and entering your postcode. You can also find out if river levels are rising upstream on the River Arrow via <https://check-for-flooding.service.gov.uk/>

Bleachfield Street (south)	Moorfield Road
Evesham Street (mid part)	Newport Drive (parts)
Gas House Lane	Old Rectory Garden
Hadrians Walk (north)	Priory Road (south)
Henley Street (north)	Ropewalk (east)
High Street (south)	School Road (east)
Kinwarton Road (west)	Stratford Road (east)
Malt Mill Lane (south)	Old Stratford Road, Oversley Green
Mill Lane, Oversley Green (part)	Willow Close

Cllr Wendy Mills, Lead Councillor Communications

The Priority Services Register

Alcester Town Council recommends that vulnerable residents sign up to the Priority Services Register (PSR).

The PSR is free to join. It helps utility companies, including energy suppliers, electricity, gas and water networks to look after customers who have extra communication, access or safety needs. It helps utility companies to tailor their services to support households who need extra help with everyday energy matters like bills, and also in the unlikely event of a power cut or gas or water supply interruption.

You only need to register once and your PSR request is updated with your energy supplier (the company you pay your bills to) and your regional network companies including electricity, gas and water.

Further information including how to sign up is available here: <https://www.thepsr.co.uk/>.

Public access water rescue systems

Four new public access water rescue systems/ emergency throwlines have recently been installed along the River Arrow in Alcester. These have been provided in partnership between Alcester Town Council, Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service, Warwickshire Police, Church Street Property Trust, Stratford and Alcester Round Table and the Alcester and Bidford Rotary Club. The four emergency throwlines have been installed along the river at the following locations:

- Two at Jubilee Fields
- Abbey Fields
- Nature Reserve

Instructions for use are provided on the boards, along with location details for the emergency services.



We had a fantastic response to our two Charity Big Breakfasts held at the beginning of October in Alcester and Bidford, raising a total of £3,180 and serving 450 breakfasts over both mornings. This could not have happened without our wonderful army of volunteers, and our incredibly generous suppliers and we thank them all. We will shortly be meeting to discuss how best to share this money in the community and if you know of any organisation or charity in need of funding, please contact us (email below).



We are proud to have supported the Emergency Throwline initiative, contributing to the cost of 4 portsafe kits installed along the River Arrow in Alcester, and we will be supporting Studley First Responders and the Alcester Foodbank, with match funding from Rotary District.

Coming shortly is Alcester Lights Switch On where we will be serving mulled wine and mince pies, followed by Santa's Grotto in the Town Hall on St Nicholas' Night and mulled wine again. We'll be at Bidford supporting their Christmas market with Santa on 7 December.

We were challenged to a skittles rematch against Rotary Club of Redditch Kingfisher who put on a great sausage and chip supper and succeeded in thrashing us in revenge for their defeat last year!

We're always keen to see new members who want to share the fun and fundraising, and if you are interested in being part of this, please get in touch. www.alcesterbidfordrotary.co.uk /alcesterbidfordrotary@gmail.com

Kay Blake, Secretary

SPEND

Support for Parents of children with Educational needs, Neurodivergence and Difficulties.

SPEND is a monthly parent/carer support group for people caring for children with additional needs who feel isolated or overwhelmed in Alcester, Bidford, Studley and surrounding villages.

Come and spend time with people who understand.

NEXT MEETING: FRIDAY 14TH JUNE 2024 - 9.45-11.15AM
AND ON THE 2ND FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH

The Depot, Eric Payne Community Centre
off St Faith's Road, Alcester, B496AG

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED:

SPEND is a monthly parent/carer support group for people caring for children with additional needs, who feel isolated or overwhelmed in Alcester, Bidford, Studley and surrounding parishes. The group is a lifeline for many parents who value the opportunity to chat, share experiences or spend a bit of time in the company of others who understand their challenges.

We need volunteers to help run the sessions – either to provide a hot cup of tea or coffee, or to help arrange for third parties to provide a mindfulness activity or experience.

Please email info@alcester-tc.gov.uk if you think you can help. Thank you.

HAPPY 5th BIRTHDAY TO THE ALCESTER REPAIR CAFÉ!



Alcester Repair Café is 5 years old!!!

Thank you to our volunteers who are amazing and will have a go at repairing almost anything, household, electrical, electronic, furniture, bicycles, toys, clocks, clothes and textiles. We run the café every fourth Thursday of each month from 2pm until 4:30 at the Eric Payne Community Centre.



Throughout the autumn, we may be spending less time outside. Find ways to help boost your wellbeing such as including more activity into daily routines and being outside in nature to help reduce stress and improve mood.

Learn more about ways to improve your wellbeing here: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/wellness>

NEW FOR 2025

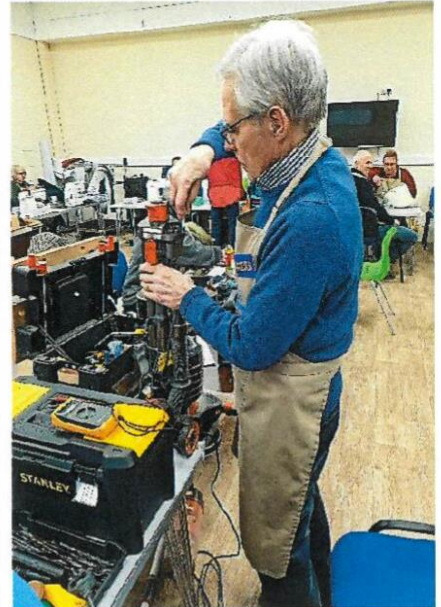
Alcester Repair Café is trialling an evening and weekend session in the brand-new Community Shed. If popular, they can be repeated. Taking place on -

Tuesday 14th January 5pm – 7pm

Saturday 1st February 10am – 12 noon

At the old squash courts, behind The Greig Hall, Kinwarton Road, Alcester B49 6AD

Everyone welcome to come along with items to be repaired. No booking necessary, just turn up.



(Grounds)man with (new electric) van!

Alcester Town Council was delighted to take delivery of its new electric van in October.

Following the demise of the old Town Council van (which was recycled for scrap), the councillors decided that an electric van was the way forward. Not only is this move in keeping with Alcester Town Council's Climate Action Group objectives, it is also more cost effective to run.

The image is of Paul and Jack, our Groundsmen, charging the new vehicle. Paul said, "*The electric van is perfect for what we need; doing small journeys around Alcester. We are very happy with it. The fact it is cheaper to run means it is saving the Town Council money that can be put back into the community.*"

FARM ON TOUR



Many people are unable to visit farms, but everyone should be able to benefit from the joy animals can bring. So, Alcester Town Council asked The Good Day Farm to bring the animals to you!!



Oversley Green Residents Association Update

After over two years in the making, the Oversley Bridge Interpretation Panel finally made its appearance on the 15th of September 2024, when the Mayor of Alcester, Councillor Mike Bowe, lifted the velvet cloth to reveal the finished product.



So, what is an Interpretation Panel?

Well, it's the name the industry gives to the generally colourful information panels you see everywhere, generally telling you something about the immediate area. In our case it's the history of Oversley Bridge, from around the 1400's to the present day. Best to go and see; it's just by Oversley Bridge and don't forget to scan the QR code to see six more pages we couldn't fit on the panel. Panels are expensive so many thanks to our sponsors, Alcester Town Council, The Moor Fields Charity, Bidford and Alcester Rotary Club and the Church Street Property Trust. The picture shows the Mayor of Alcester, Cllr Mike Bowe and Richard Slatter, Chair of Oversley Green Residents Association with the panel.

A Good News Story!

Since moving our monthly meetings to the Greig Hall in 2023, our membership numbers have continued to rise and have now exceeded 350! Maybe it's because more people are finding that Alcester u3a lives up to the u3a movement's motto "Live, Laugh, Learn"? or maybe it's because we make people feel so welcome? (It could, of course, be both!)

The photo shows some of our members entering Castell Coch (part of which is attractively shrouded whilst renovations take place), during a 5-day coach holiday to South Wales. The packed programme of visits also included visiting the Welsh Senedd and the Royal Mint, not forgetting visiting a rehearsal of the superb Treorchy Mail Voice Choir!



Our monthly meetings feature interesting speakers and the chance to socialise, whilst our many and varied Interest Groups offer something for everyone, from "Art for All" to "Yoga". The two newest groups to form are "German Conversation" and "The Elastic Band" (so called because we stretch to include musicians and singers of all abilities!). It is now increasingly recognised that exercise, socialising and learning something new all help to improve our health as we age and our members certainly prove that this is not a myth! (More information can be found on our website: <https://alcester.u3asite.uk>)

Riverside Angling Club Update

It looks like the weather again this year is going to be very changeable with local heavy downpours making the rivers impossible to fish. However, given periods when the rivers are fishable, good nets of chub, roach, dace and perch can be caught. Please be mindful of the wet and slippery conditions of the banks.



Just a reminder that the residents of Alcester can still get a free permit to fish the Alcester Town Council/Riverside stretch of the River Arrow running through Westbury Park down to the end of the playing fields, by contacting the Riverside Angling Club Secretary on 07745 358603.

Enjoy your fishing and be careful on the banks.

WILL YOU BE ALONE THIS CHRISTMAS DAY?
 NEW TO THE AREA AND WANT TO MEET NEW FRIENDS?
 IF SO, JOIN US FOR THE

ALCESTER COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DAY DINNER

ERIC PAYNE COMMUNITY CENTRE
 OFF ST. FAITHS ROAD
 ALCESTER
 B49 6AG

WEDNESDAY 25TH DECEMBER 2024

CALL US OR EMAIL FOR YOUR INVITATION
 07414 851644 ALCESTER-CCD@HOTMAIL.COM

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!
 Can you spare an hour or two on Christmas Day,
 or a few hours prior to the big day?

call 07414 851644
 email alcester-ccd@hotmail.com



Christmas Concert

Christmas Songs & Carols

Including Britten's Ceremony of Carols
 accompanied by Harpist Emily Hopper.
 Festive refreshments during the interval.

Saturday 14th December
4pm

St Nicholas Church, Alcester

Tickets £10. Under 14s free.
 Tickets: Humphries Shoes Alcester (cash only),
 From choir members or on the door.
www.alcestersingers.co.uk
events@alcestersingers.co.uk




Alcester Male Voice Choir

Invites you to come and sing with us and participate in a variety of concerts



Town Hall Alcester



Commonwealth Games



AMVC sing for Worcester Warriors



Joint rehearsal – Royal Albert Hall

Make a New Year's resolution and come and meet us
 Eric Payne Centre Alcester
 Wednesdays 7.30-9.30pm
 Want to know more? Contact 07886139781



ALCESTER MUSICAL THEATRE COMPANY
PRESENTS

MURDER AT THE MUSIC HALL

BEHIND THE VELVET CURTAINS OF THE
60S CABARET, LIES A DEADLY MYSTERY

14th & 15th March 2025
Fri 7.30pm / Sat 2.30pm & 7.30pm

The Greig Hall, Alcester

Murder at the Music Hall is written by Mary McMahon and produced
with the permission of Maverick Musicals and Plays
www.maverickmusicals.com

TICKETS: bit.ly/AMTC24
WWW.ALCESTERMUSICALTHEATRE.COM
FACEBOOK: ALCESTERMUSICALTHEATRE

Alcester Musical Theatre Company

What a spooktacular success our recent show was! The Addams Family brought 5 fantastic audiences to their feet at The Palace Theatre in October. So much scary fun was had by cast, crew and audience alike, with the well-known characters in the Musical Comedy version. The final curtain came down and whilst we were sad to say goodbye to the Addams, we are now excited about our next production!

In March, we roll into the Greig Hall to bring you three performances of 'Murder at the Music Hall'!

A murder mystery performance along with song and dance, should be just the ticket for an afternoon or evening out! Speaking of tickets, they will be available shortly online and in person. Our booking link will be <https://bit.ly/AMTC24>

You can also keep an eye on our website and social media ([alcestermusicaltheatre](http://alcestermusicaltheatre.com)) for the latest news and information. www.alcestermusicaltheatre.com.

THE Greig Hall

WINTER HIGHLIGHTS - MAKE SURE YOU BOOK EARLY!

DEC 03	PRIZE BINGO NIGHT For the Alcester Crafty Lunch Club	
DEC 05	ALCESTER COMEDY CLUB Start your December with a bang!	
DEC 07	PHIL BATES Up Close & Personal with the ex-ELO2 star	
DEC 12-15	ELF The Musical JR A Show for all the Family!	
DEC 28	ROBIN HOOD Our Pantomime for 2024!	
DEC 31	NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY! BJORN IN THE UK - ABBA TRIBUTE DJ C-TRUST & LATE BAR	

THE Greig Hall

GREAT UPCOMING EVENTS FOR WINTER 2025

JAN 26	ANTIQUES FAIR Discover Something Special	
FEB 01	U2 VS SIMPLE MINDS A tribute to 2 of the greatest bands of all time!!	
FEB 08	A CHRISTMAS CAROL Dramatised from the Dickens' novel	
FEB 15	A Night with Tarantara Presented by Bidford & Alcester Rotary	
FEB 20-22	RENT - THE MUSICAL Schools Edition of the popular show	
MAR 01	MUSIC for CHARITY In aid of the Shakespeare Hospice	



www.greighall.org.uk

ALCESTER WINDOW WANDERLAND

10th – 15th January 2025

For more information, use your mobile phone to access the QR code, or visit: www.windowwanderland.com/event/alcester-2025 or phone 01789 766084



Following on from FIVE successful previous events, Alcester will once again be flooded with love, light and creativity. Think garden walkabout, but magical window displays to light up Alcester's roads and neighbourhoods during the festival in January.

Everyone can take part by transforming your house, business, school or even your whole street into a magical outdoor gallery. Families, community groups, neighbourhoods, individuals, friends, businesses, schools, nurseries... everyone is invited to create their very own displays which will be judged during the Alcester Window Wanderland Festival.

The 2025 categories will be:

- Health & Wellbeing
- The Nature / Climate Change
- The Neighbourhood / Community

All awards will be presented at the Mayor's Awards' Evening- how exciting is that!

You don't need to be artistic or creative to take part, anything goes... so long as it's family friendly. You might consider what Community means to you, whether it's being part of a group, family or being tolerant and loving towards others; the way nature inspires you, what nature means to you or how you can protect it. Or you can show off your favourite book, film or music. The sky is the limit!

You can display the windows of your flat, house, business, school, nursery, car, camper van, shop, restaurant, café.... It doesn't even have to be windows, you could also use your front door, your porch, the front of your house or your front garden

Taking part is FREE and EVERYONE of ALL ages is welcome to participate.



Cllr Kathrin Foster

Update from ILEAP charity



ILEAP is a charity based in South Warwickshire, offering creative and innovative activities for people with additional needs.

During the summer holidays we were delighted to welcome them to Alcester for three taster sessions for local children aged 6-11.

The Summer Sparkle events provided afternoons of fun and games, with different feature entertainment at each session. Children were treated to a puppet and ventriloquist workshop, Bhangra dancing and African drumming and a magic workshop and show.



Great fun was had by all! I was especially pleased to be able to support these events with money raised during my term as Mayor.

Cllr K Cargill

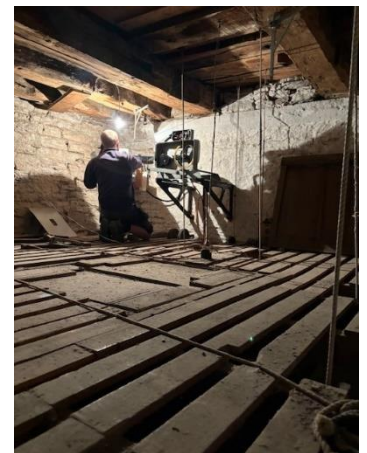
Clock Tower Repair

The clock on the tower of St Nicholas Church, Butter Street, Alcester, decided to change time zones in October and was chiming one hour behind time!

Alcester Town Council organised for it to be repaired, and we are glad to report that it is now back on Greenwich Mean Time!

The following image is taken inside the tower and shows the internal workings of the clock.

Not a sight you see every day!



ALCESTER TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB SECURES GRANT FOR CLUBHOUSE EXTENSION AND SEEKS COMMUNITY SPONSORS

Alcester Town Football Club are thrilled to announce that we have been awarded a grant from the Premier League, The FA and Government via the Football Foundation to support the expansion of our clubhouse facilities. This grant will lay the groundwork for a much-needed extension, enhancing our ability to serve the community.

The clubhouse extension will include a new internal space with seating, new kitchen and a new covered outdoor seating area allowing us to accommodate more members and provide a wider range of programs and activities. However, to fully realise this vision, we are seeking additional sponsors to contribute to the funding.

"We are deeply thankful for this grant, which marks an important step forward for our community. With the support of local businesses and individuals, we can turn our vision into reality and create a vibrant space for all."

Steve McAdam – Chairman of Alcester Town Football Club










We invite local businesses, organisations, and individuals to join us as sponsors of this vital project. Contributions of any size will help us cover the remaining costs and ensure that our clubhouse meets the needs of our growing community. In recognition of their support, sponsors will receive advertising promotionally throughout via sponsor boards, but this also expands onto social media via our numerous channels.

As grant providers the Football Foundation will also be publicising this in partnership with the Premier League and the FA. Construction is expected to begin in early 2025 with a completion target Summer 2025. The new facilities will enhance our capacity for not only club members and players but anyone who wishes to hire the facilities for Private Functions, Dance/Yoga/Pilates classes, Mental Wellbeing groups or anything else it lends itself too, fostering greater engagement and connection among community members.

To learn more about sponsorship opportunities, please contact:
Gary Williams, 07766 664289 or email alcestertownfootballclub@gmail.com

We look forward to partnering with you to create a welcoming space for everyone in our community!

Town Councillors' Contact Details

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