

Alcester Town Council

Autumn Newsletter



Issue 55 September 2019

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

It is four months since I became Mayor, and the time has flown by, which shows what an enjoyable time it has been. Tim and I have attended many events in Alcester and in the surrounding towns and have been very proud, at these civic functions, to represent our wonderful town. We have met many interesting people from all walks of life and have found it amazing how many people give their time voluntarily to support their communities and various charities. Alcester is an excellent example of this. As a town we are so lucky that we have so many people who volunteer and I personally would like to thank all of them for giving their time to help make our town a great place to live in with its thriving community spirit. With this in mind, every year the Mayor holds a Civic Awards evening where residents can be recognised for the contribution they make to our town. This year I would like to continue with the format introduced by last year's Mayor, Cllr Andrew Foster, so if you know of any resident or local organisation that you feel should be rewarded for their efforts and service to the town please nominate them. The Civic Awards evening will take place on November 29 at the Jubilee Centre. Details of the award categories and how to make a nomination are included on the inside pages of this newsletter.



**Mayor Cllr Gill Forman's Charity Quiz Night-
Alcester & District First Responders Team**

I have chosen two charities to support in my Mayoral year and they are Alcester and District First Responders and Ekica. In July I held a charity quiz at the Jubilee Centre in order to raise funds for these charities. I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who came along and especially to Ken Probin for setting the questions. It was an excellent evening that raised around £600 for the charity fund. My next charity event will be held on October 26, again at the Jubilee Centre, and this will be a 60's and 70's evening. So come along and dance the night away whilst enjoying the local, and well known, band "The Racketts". The details for this evening will be available on the Alcester Town Council notice boards and the "What's on Alcester" website (www.whatsonalcester.co.uk).

As well as attending civic events and fund raising for my charities, there is also the business element

of being Mayor. I chair the monthly Council meeting and sit on some of the other committees of the council which also meet on a monthly basis. The Council is made up of 16 councillors, but after the elections in May there were only 13 councillors in post. Therefore, in July the Council co-opted 3 more residents as new councillors to ensure that we are now operating a full Council. I look forward to working with all councillors for the rest of my Mayoral year.

As part of Alcester Town Council's Health and Well Being initiative we have been working on a Young People's Mental Health project. The funding for this project has been obtained from Warwickshire Public Health. A Mental Health First Aid training course was delivered by Lifespace to 64 young people in Alcester, 15 young people in Studley and 24 young people in Henley-in-Arden. Wendy Sherwood, our Health and Well Being co-ordinator, organised a follow up project with the young people. The outcome of this was that they felt the next step should be a training session for parents to give them an understanding of mental health issues affecting young people today. A parents training session will therefore take place on Wednesday 25 September 2019 from 5.30pm to 7.30pm at the Jubilee Centre. To book your free space at this event please contact Wendy on 01789 766084 or email info@alcester-tc.gov.uk

Cllr Gill Forman, Mayor of Alcester

Clerks Corner

At the Town Council meeting on 2 July I am pleased to report that the following were co-opted onto the Town Council to fill the outstanding vacancies following the elections in May.

Ward	Councillor
Oversley	Vaughan Blake
Oversley	David Henderson
Oversley	Kathryn Soares

Congratulations to our new Councillors!

I am sorry to report some petty vandalism in one of our play areas. The soft surfacing under one of the swings at Moorfields Park has been so seriously damaged that in order for it to be made safe, it is being entirely replaced at a cost of over £3000.

This money had been allocated to purchase a new piece of play equipment but now regrettably must be spent on repairs instead. I suspect that this damage was caused by children messing around so if you do know who might be responsible, please can you explain to them the error of their ways!



I should like to extend a big thank you to the team at Waitrose for spending a day decorating The Depot at the Jubilee Centre. A job well done!

Now that the summer season is almost over, I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers involved with Alcester in Bloom, Alcester Bunting and Lighting and Litter Free Alcester for their efforts in keeping the town looking so fantastic.

Vanessa Lowe, Town Clerk

UPDATE ON THE ALCESTER NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The Plan contains draft policies on Housing and the Built Environment; Economy; Transport and Infrastructure; Community, Leisure and Well-being and the Natural Environment. When the Plan is finalised, anyone submitting planning applications must follow the policies in order that future development respects the needs and character of the town.

The Plan was submitted to Stratford District Council in April and a six-week consultation undertaken which ended on 12 July. The Plan and related consultation documents were then passed to an independent examiner for review. We expect the examiner's report by the end of September. The Steering Group will then consider any comments raised. One of the final steps will be a local referendum when residents will have opportunity to vote on the Plan.

If you require more information please contact Alcester Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group, c/o Alcester Town Council, Globe House, Seggs Lane, Alcester, B49 5DZ or email administration@alcester-tc.gov.uk

Wendy Mills, Chair Alcester Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group

BUSINESS & TOURISM

The Town Council's Business and Tourism Working Group has recently reconvened with the remit to assess all matters relating to business and tourism in Alcester. The Working Group is made up of representatives from the Town Council, Stratford District Council, Alcester's Chamber of Commerce, Alcester Food Festival and High Street retailers. All our members are dedicated to supporting the economic development of our town and the visitor economy.

At the first meeting, the Working Group discussed a number of initiatives that it believes will benefit the local economy including improving Alcester's presence on local tourist websites, High Street WIFI provision and improved physical access to Town Centre shops and amenities.

The group will also be embarking on a new project jointly with Alcester Community Trust called Window Wanderland. The scheme will coincide with the Christmas lights switch on at the beginning of December. This will give the town a chance to create window-based display walking trails (think Garden Walkabout with night-time window displays). We hope that the scheme will attract visitors and local residents and encourage them to explore our local area. The most important thing is that anyone can join in either as a wanderer or a Windowmaker.

If you have any suggestions or views that you would like to share with the Business and Tourism Working Group then please get in touch.

Cllr Andrew Foster, Chair Business & Tourism Working Group

PLANNING MATTERS

A new Planning Committee was convened following the election of the new Council. Cllr Neal-Sturgess, proposed by Cllr Forman and seconded by Cllr K Cargill was elected as Chair. Cllr M Bowe, proposed by Cllr Forman and seconded by Cllr Neal-Sturgess, was elected as Deputy Chair. Only substantive items and objections are reported.

Meeting 20 May

Mrs Liz Nicholson, Stansgate Planning attended the meeting to propose revised schemes for the two garage sites in Castle Road on behalf of the new developer Mixed Up Ltd. Twelve residents from Castle Road also attended to hear proposals and raise concerns.

Street Naming and Numbering- Request for Road Names- Development SN/04/099 Land off Birmingham Road Alcester. Request for postal addresses- seven new street names required. Presidium had discussed this request at length and proposed the roads be named after deceased former Mayors- Cumberbatch, Payne, Cargill, Madge, Malin and Weatherhead with the main route called Mayors Avenue.

Meeting 3 June

Stratford District Councillors Reports

Gypsy & Travellers Policy- It has been established that there is a requirement for a further 41 pitches giving 70 by 2031. However, sites are not coming forward and some are becoming problematic. There will be a further call for sites.

Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) was passed. SDC currently has a 6.5yrs land supply so is in a reasonably good position (5 years required).

Community Infrastructure Levy- Parish Payments - Alcester Town Council. Notice of CIL money (£1678.50) received by ATC relating to Planning Application 18/00009/FUL- Garages, St Faiths Road, Alcester. ATC were advised subsequently that a potential further £765.00 (17/03334/FUL- 30a High Street Alcester) will be payable in October.

Meeting 24 June 2019

Cllr Cargill is supporting residents and interested parties in objecting to the Planning Application 19/00923/FUL- Land Off Croft Lane Stratford Road. District Cllr S Juned will also be objecting. Whilst this application is in Haselor Parish, it was agreed that ATC would again offer total support for the Ward Member's and Haselor Parish Council's objection to this application.

Meeting 15 July 2019

Mr William Simmonds, Helping Hands attended the meeting to advise the Committee that Helping Hands had submitted a preapplication to SDC, the first of several, regarding a change of use to the offices at 8 Church Street from office space to accommodation for those attending training courses in Alcester.

Stratford District Councillors Reports

District Cllr Susan Juned reported that the SDC Site Allocation Plan (SAP) had been discussed today at Cabinet. The consultation period will run from 3 August- 20 September 2019. It is important that the Town Council responds.

Planning Applications

19/01702/FUL- Garages North of Castle Road Alcester. Proposed: Demolition of all existing garages and construction of five dwellings, creation of associated parking area and all other associated works. For: Mixed Up Ltd. Following concerns similar to the 2018 application (18/01766/OUT) it was agreed to **OBJECT** on the basis of overdevelopment, limited amenity space and issues surrounding refuse collection, concerns over access by emergency vehicles. The Town Council would also be seeking a high quality design.

19/01836/TREE- Butterflies 32A Evesham Street Alcester B49 5DW. Proposed: -T1 and T2 cedars - Remove. -T3 fir - Remove. For: Mrs P Perks. The Committee agreed that more information is required in terms of location and site plans in order to make a decision. It also requests the Case Officer's view on the removal of mature trees in the Conservation Area. **OBJECTION**

Amendment 19/01420/FUL- Apple Barn Old Stratford Road Oversley Green B49 6PH. Proposed: Conversion of an existing garage as additional ancillary accommodation. (Change to design of roof to a half-hipped roof). For: Mrs A Poole. The design is incongruous to the vernacular of the area and would appear to seek a separate dwelling as opposed to the ancillary garage to the main building. **OBJECTION**

Professor Cllr Clive Neal-Sturgess, Chair Planning Committee

MAYOR'S AWARDS EVENING 2019

Every year the Mayor hosts a Civic Awards evening where the contributions made to the town by individuals and organisations are recognised. Nominations are invited from residents ahead of the event which will be held on Friday 29 November at the Jubilee Centre.

If you would like to make a nomination then further details, including the nomination form are available on the Town Council website or from the office in Globe House.

The award categories are 'Citizen of the Year', 'Organisation of the Year' and 'Young Person of the Year' (aged 18 or under). Nominees must be Alcester residents.

The Mayor is keen to hear more about the many contributions made by residents and looks forward to receiving your nominations. The closing date for nominations is Friday 18 October.

WCAVA AWARDS- Congratulations to Maggie, David and Betty!



Warwickshire County Council, Warwick District Council, Stratford-upon-Avon District Council and Warwickshire Community and Voluntary Action (WCAVA) joined forces to stage a special event at Myton School, Warwick in June 2019 in celebration of Volunteers Week and in recognition of the hard work and dedication that volunteers make in the local



community.

Three members of the volunteering community of Alcester were nominated. All were recognised and received awards (above right): Maggie Payne, the Environment Individual award for her work with Alcester in Bloom. David Moulson, MBE received the Community Impact Individual award for his long service to Alcester and a Special Recognition Award was given to Betty Addison (also above left) for Betty's Board Games held upstairs at Globe House on Monday mornings.

CONGRATULATIONS ALSO TO MIKE GITTUS!



The Chair of Alcester Royal British Legion and former county, district and town councillor Mike Gittus has been honoured with a British Empire Medal in the Queen's Birthday Honours List. Mike received the medal for services to the community of Alcester.

The former Stratford District Council Chair and Mayor of Alcester said the inspiration for a life serving the community had come from his grandfather, Harry Gittus.

ST NICHOLAS CHURCH RESTORATION 2017 - 2019

Alcester's community can rejoice that the most extensive restoration of St Nicholas Church since the 19th Century additions and the tower restoration in the 1980's is at last finished.

When the south face scaffolding was erected in May 2017, on close examination all ten 18th Century nave window stone surrounds were found to have such severe decay concealed by successive overlaid repairs, that only complete replacement would prevent eventual collapse of the church walls. With funding already in progress, the Parochial Church Council (PCC) had no alternative but to proceed in two major stages of south and north, postponing less essential work to keep close to expected budget.

Alcester PCC is most grateful for all the support received towards this tremendous project, but remind that funds are continually needed for further work essential to maintain Alcester's historic listed and much loved Place of Worship and community venue fit for its future generations.

Richard Osborne, St Nicholas Church Restoration Fund



Seeking New Members

Joining a choir is good for you! There are numerous benefits from improved health and wellbeing to the joy of learning something new, making new friends and a sense of achievement when, after working hard to learn new songs, you then perform them in a concert, so says Judith Land BEM the Alcester Male Voice Choirs founder and Directors of music and Judith should know.

Judith has been at the helm of this popular choir for over 45 years and is now busy arranging the annual open evening which aims to attract new members to the choir.

The Open Evening takes place on Wednesday 18

September at the Jubilee Centre, St Faiths Road, Alcester at 7.30pm.

To promote the Open Evening the choir will also be at the Kingfisher Centre, Redditch on Saturday 14 September between 11am and 2.30pm and potential new members are welcome to come along and talk to members there. Gentleman interested should call Judith on 07886 139781.



Windsor Castle 2019

ALCESTER ROMAN MUSEUM



Did you know that some of the objects in Alcester's Roman Museum travelled hundreds of miles before being sold here? The red pottery Samian ware in the museum are magnificent examples of fine quality tableware imported from areas of Europe such as France. The museum also has some exquisite examples of Roman jewellery as well as everyday objects.

The Roman Museum is run by a charitable trust of dedicated volunteers who give their time and

enthusiasm to this unique museum. New volunteers are always welcome. You do not need to be a Roman expert, but if you enjoy talking to people and showing them around this may be for you. Come along to the museum, talk to our existing volunteers to find out more, then leave your contact details and we will get in touch.



HERITAGE OPEN DAY SUNDAY 15 SEPTEMBER

Every year volunteers across Alcester prepare to celebrate our fantastic history and culture by joining the Heritage Open Day scheme. This year on Sunday 15 September, why not explore some of Alcester's best-known buildings?

Alcester Baptist Chapel and Meeting House: This attractive Victorian chapel together with the original 18th century meeting house and burial ground will open from 12.30 – 4pm. Refreshments available.

Alcester War Memorial Town Hall: This magnificent grade I listed Town Hall will have an exhibition showing the history and development of the Town Hall over 400 years. Open 10 am – 4pm.

Roman Alcester Museum: The museum has on display beautiful and fascinating artefacts from Alcester's Roman period between the 1st and 4th centuries AD. Open 12 – 4pm.

St Nicholas Church: This Grade II* listed parish church has a 14th-century tower, 18th century Georgian nave, and 19th century traditional 'Oxford revival' Victorian chancel. Open 12.30 – 4.30pm.

Church House: This Grade II listed 15th Century former dwelling is in historic Butter Street. The rear has a fascinating medieval timber-framed structure. Open 12 – 4.30pm.

Talk: On Saturday 14 September at 7pm, Alcester Heritage Trust will host a talk by Paul Booth in Alcester Memorial Town Hall. The talk titled 'A Romano-British 'Small Town' in context' will explore the history of the Roman town within the wider history of the times. Tickets are £5 each, from the Roman Museum.

Susan Juned, Chair Alcester Heritage Trust



ALCESTER 10K – SUNDAY 6 OCTOBER 2019

On Sunday 6 October, over 1000 runners will take on the fifth edition of the Alcester 10K. The event has consistently grown over the years, and demand for spaces is higher than ever, with the majority already sold!



The course starts and finishes on Alcester High Street, and travels through Great Alne, Walcote and Haselor. There are 2 water stations along the way, and a cider station courtesy of Hogan's! After finishing, runners will receive a bespoke medal and t-shirt, plus an Erdinger alcohol-free beer! As with all Raceways' events, the Alcester 10K will

include a free to enter kids fun run, so the whole family can take part!

Seco Tools continue to be the headline sponsor for the event. Joining them are Hogan's Cider, The Turks Head, Sanders & Sanders and Erdinger, as well as two new sponsors for 2019: Yield Health & Fitness, and Theorem Health. Martine Verweij, co-founder of Raceways and Kids Run Free, said 'We are so grateful to have the support of so many fantastic local businesses. Without them the race could not go ahead.'

Visit www.alcester10k.com to enter or for more details. If you would like to volunteer or are interested in becoming a sponsor of the event, please email office@raceways.org.uk.

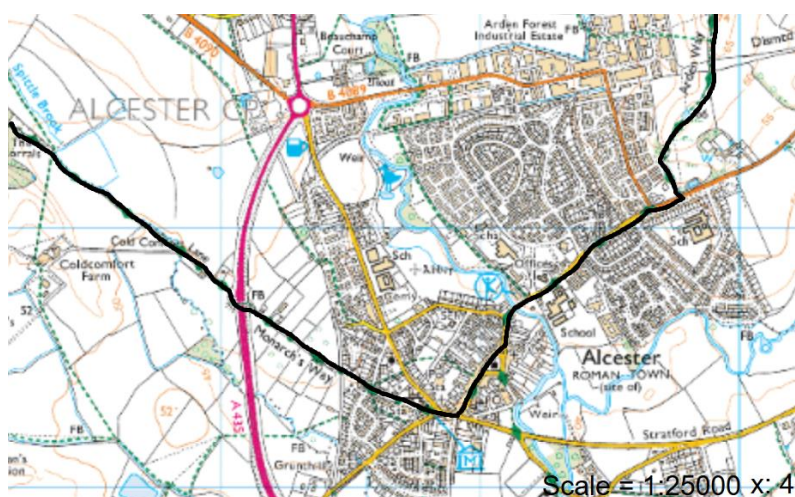


THE MONARCHS WAY

This is a 625 mile long distance walk which follows as closely as possible the escape route followed by the future King Charles II after his defeat by Cromwell at the Battle of Worcester in 1651.

With a £1000 bounty on his head the King spent 42 perilous Days being hotly pursued by the Parliamentary forces under Oliver Cromwell. He travelled first north towards Wales, then through the west Midlands, before turning south through the Cotswolds and the Mendips to the South Coast, and finally along the South Downs to Shoreham (Brighton) where he made his escape to France.

Following the Kings journey enables you to visit many historic sites and buildings connected with his escape. It also takes you through two World Heritage Sites, one National Park and six Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty.



The line in Black shows the route taken through Alcester.

The walk is fully waymarked and is shown on the latest editions of the Ordnance Survey's Landranger and Explorer maps. The route is described in detail in three books by Trevor Antill / The Monarch's Way Association. Each book is divided into sections so enabling you to pick out suitable day walks if you are not intending to follow the complete route.

Book 1 Worcester to Stratford upon Avon

Book 2 Stratford to Charmouth

Book 3 Charmouth to Shoreham (Brighton)

Copies are only available from The Monarch's Way Association.

Email: contact@monarchsWay.50megs.com Website www.monarchsway.50megs.com



Macmillan Coffee Morning
Thursday 19 September
Jubilee Court 10am -12noon



Singing workshop 'Ready, Steady, Sing!'

Saturday 7 September St Nicholas Church 2- 5.30pm. £5 workshop fee. Followed by a concert 6.30-7pm. Free admission.

Christmas Concert- Saturday 7 December St.Nicholas Church Alcester 7.30pm

Performance includes 'Christmas Cantata' by Geoffrey Bush as well as other Christmas songs and carols for audience participation. Tickets £12

Tickets from Humphries Shoes, Alcester or phone 01789 400295 or events@alcestersingers.co.uk



ALCESTER ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Dates for your diary!

100th Anniversary of The Town Hall becoming a War Memorial-Sunday 15 September 2pm.

In 1919 the town of Alcester raised £640 by public subscription to purchase the freehold of the hall from the 7th Marquess of Hertford. It was renamed The Alcester War Memorial Town Hall in memory of those who had given their lives for their country. In 1938 the Plaque on the side of the Hall was unveiled.

To mark the 100th Anniversary a small ceremony will take place at the Hall at 2pm. The Hall will also be open that day as part of the Heritage weekend. All invited (time subject to change).

Annual General Meeting Tuesday 24 September 7pm Town Hall

Poppy Appeal Launch Saturday 26 October 11am till 1pm Methodist Church.

Remembrance Concert Saturday 9 November St Nicholas Church 7pm £10 per person

Remembrance Sunday Parade and Church Service Sunday 10 November.

Remembrance Sunday Lunch Sunday 10 November War Memorial Town Hall. (Contact Kay Blake)

Lighting of The Beacon Sunday 10 November 7pm Centenary Fields.

Armistice Day Parade and outside Service Monday 11 November 10.40am- 12 midday

Legion Musters- Third Friday of the Month 11.30am-12.30pm Unionist Club £1.50 pp

For further information please contact **David Malin, Secretary, Alcester Royal British Legion**

01789 400427 / 07880 319427

PEACE DAY IN ALCESTER 19 JULY 2019



Though November 1918 marked the ending of fighting on the Western Front, negotiations continued at the Paris Peace Conference until the Treaty of Versailles was signed in June 1919.

A National Public Holiday was declared to take place, on the 19th of July that year, and Alcester embraced the day in the true party spirit of the occasion with road races and street parties.

Not all the country were in a celebratory mood as many of the returning service men arrived home to no money, no jobs and little medical care. In some area there were riots and Luton Town Hall was burned to the ground.

The Alcester Branch of the Royal British Legion acknowledged the importance of the

day on the 19 July 2019 by conducting a small service of thanks on our towns newly registered Centenary Field In Trust.

The difficulties of our returning men were understood by the nation and in May 1921 the British Legion was formed to support all those serving and retired men and women who had sacrificed so much for so many in both Peace and War. The Royal British Legion continues to support those same areas of need today.

Mike Gittus, Chair Alcester RBL

HEALTH & WELLBEING



ALCESTER & DISTRICT LIONS

Lions' Club supports Mental Health in Young People projects

Jenny Theobald, President of Alcester & District Lions, presents a cheque to

Wendy Sherwood, Health and Wellbeing Co-ordinator for Alcester Town Council.

Alcester & District Lions have donated £3000 towards the Town Council's programme of events at Alcester Academy, St. Benedict's and Alcester Grammar to raise awareness and support mental health in young people.

As part of our future programme of fundraising activities for this and other deserving causes in the Town, Alcester and District Lions are holding a **Community Concert** on 30 November featuring Alcester Male Voice Choir and other local musicians. For further details of Lions Clubs or our activities contact 0345 833 2794 or alcesterdistlions@gmail.com



On Being a Carer

It started with behavioural change over twenty years ago, then a limp, then a stick and then a chair. I was now the full-time carer of my wife who has Huntington's disease, a genetic, degenerative illness which is relatively rare. For me, being a carer means entering another arena, an Alice in Wonderland parallel universe of commodes, pads, hoists, a rising and falling bed and bath lifts, feeding regimes and medication.

Carers come in all shapes and sizes, men, women, old and young, perhaps pushing chairs around Alcester or Stratford. To some, we are invisible since it's always the person in the chair who is the focus of attention. This can often result in a feeling of isolation. Carers often refuse to acknowledge their role and have great difficulty labelling themselves as carers. At a meeting one lady said to me "Oh no, I'm not a carer I just look after my husband all day" Ask a carer how they are and the reply will be "Fine" or "I'm ok" even though they may be weeping or screaming inside..

Carers need to be tough. I denied the effect caring was having on me. Several years ago, I had a breakdown. This was about grieving loss, yet in a way it was cathartic and eventually I moved to another level of awareness and acceptance. However, a powerful emotional shock can often result in sickness later. Carers, therefore, must look after themselves. physically, emotionally and psychologically and get support in each of these areas. For me, it was and is, the emotional impact which is most difficult to deal with.

It is important to be patient. A symptom of Huntington's and maybe other conditions is repetition of the same phrase, the need for routine, and when wanting something, wanting it NOW. Also, through uncoordinated movement, having the feeding bowl hurled across the room to hit the kitchen wall! All of which, at times, can drive you mad. I just had to get used to it. One book which I would recommend for all carers is "The Selfish Pigs Guide to Caring." Although you don't need to be one to understand it.

The carer's relationship with the medical profession is also very important, since they will know and understand more fully the details of their cared for. Carers will therefore need to work in partnership with their GP or consultant and not just accept, without debate, what the professionals may say. I believe the only people who really understand the carer's job are other carers.

If you recognise yourself in the above narrative or if you look after someone whether full or part time, please complete the survey in this newsletter. Support is available and the first step is to tell someone.

John Cain

Organisations and Services that may help support those with caring responsibilities

Organisation	Description	Telephone	Website
Care Companion	An online resource		www.carecompanion.org.uk
Carers Trust	Support for carers	02476 101040	www.carerstrust.org.uk
Warwickshire Guide to adult care and support services	Advice on care or care homes		www.carechoices.co.uk
Help to live at home	County council adult care services	01926 410410	www.warwickshire.gov.uk/supportforadults
Age UK Warwickshire	Support and advice for over 55's	01926 458100	www.age.org.uk/warwickshire
Care Choices	To find care providers		www.carechoices.co.uk
Warwickshire Directory	Information about local organisations		www.warwickshire.gov.uk/directory
Warwickshire Young Carers	Advice and information for young carers	02476 217740	www.warwickshireyoungcarers.org.uk
Macmillan Cancer Support	Support for those affected by cancer	0808 808 0000	www.macmillan.org.uk
Lifeline	Help at the press of a button	01926 339577	www.warwickdc.gov.uk/lifeline
The Silver line	Helpline for older people	0800 470 8090	www.thesilverline.org.uk
Apetito	Meals on Wheels service	01926 889511	www.apetito.co.uk
Alcester Dementia Café	Local support for those affected by dementia	01789 488088	www.alcesterdementiacafe.org
Carers 4 Carers	Self help group	01926 640202	www.carers4carersonthefosse.org.uk

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS FOR PARENTS

Wednesday 25 September

Jubilee Centre 5.30- 7.30pm

Alcester Town Council and Lifespace have been working with young people in the town to create a mentally healthy and supportive community.

Come along to our presentation and discussion where we will share with you a taste of the Youth Mental Health First Aid and Ambassador training we have delivered to Year 10s and Year 12s at the local secondary schools.

To book your free place, please contact Wendy Sherwood on 01789 766084 or email info@alcester-tc.gov.uk

FLOODING ISSUES

Following the election of the new Council, The Community Care Committee has revamped the Flood Working Group under the chairmanship of Cllr Clive Neal-Sturgess. There are a number of activities underway, but in particular the group would like more residents to join the Working Group – anyone interested contact: c.e.n.sturgess@bham.ac.uk

There will be a briefing meeting for councillors and volunteers on Monday 2 September at the Jubilee Centre from 6- 7.30pm. The Chair will give a presentation and attendees will familiarise themselves with the radios and equipment – all welcome.

Sandbags- Available from the Town Council offices or the Jubilee Centre. Please ring 01789 766084 during office hours or email reception@alcester-tc.gov.uk

Sand- Available from the sand bins outside School Road allotments or the hard standing area next to Centenary Fields on Gas House Lane.

River levels- You can look at local river levels using the web cameras at either: **Gunnings Bridge** or **Oversley Bridge**

Professor Cllr Clive Neal- Sturgess, Chair Flood Working Group

ALCESTER FLOOD SCHEME PROPOSALS



The Environment Agency (EA) held a very successful drop in session in early July, where they discussed the option of developing a new flood scheme with residents. The EA had lots of useful and positive feedback from this event and the information collected will be used during the design process.

To understand whether further improvement works are required to the current flood defences, the EA are carrying out ground investigations along the existing line of the defence throughout the summer/autumn period. You may see EA contractors digging trial holes on various locations during this period. Impacted landowners and residents will receive a formal letter from the EA within the next few weeks.

If you want to be kept informed on progress

and future consultations, please email [imke.goalby@environment-](mailto:imke.goalby@environment-agency.gov.uk)

[agency.gov.uk](mailto:imke.goalby@environment-agency.gov.uk) to request to be added to the EA database.



Alcester & District Friends
of Cancer Research UK



Present
The

**opera
dudes**

"LICENCED TO TRILL"

An evening of great music and humour
"Il Divo meets Morecambe and Wise!"

**Saturday 12th October 2019
7.30 pm**

ALCESTER TOWN HALL

Tickets £15

Grand Raffle and Refreshments

For tickets Tel : 0777 3293968
also available from : PSW, Bulls Head Yard, Alcester
and on-line from : www.alcester-cruk.org.uk



GULP!

Live & Local-Family Show
Presented by The Bone Ensemble

Sunday 20 October 2019

Jubilee Centre 2pm

Maya LOVES water! But, one summer day, she gets sucked up the bathroom tap! taking her on an exciting journey where Maya begins to think about the beauty and challenges of water in an age of oil, plastic and climate change. Expect a paddling pool full of water, a water pistol fight and the mesmerizing sounds of an aqua phone, African mbira and hammered dulcimer. 'Gulp!' is an interactive story for all ages.

**Box Office- Alcester Town Council
01789 766084**



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ALCESTER

Crime prevention tips for using a Cashpoint/ATM

Police advise of two recent incidents in Alcester where a thief has forced themselves in between the member of the public and the cashpoint at the exact moment that the machine is asking how much needs to be withdrawn. They entered £500, stole the money and ran away. Alcester Police give the following tips:

Before arriving at the ATM

Minimise your time at the machine by having your bank card ready in your hand and know how much you wish to withdraw

Try to use ATMs that are located in busy public places and places that are well lit after dark..

At the ATM

Don't use it if it appears visually different from the norm, especially around the card slot. Has anything been added on to the surface? (Tell the bank about your suspicions immediately)

Try to block the view of the keypad from others both behind and to the side.

Is anyone hanging around or somebody sitting in a car near to the ATM?; If concerned about the people near you, walk away and return later or use a different machine. Trust your instinct!

Using the ATM

Be totally focused on the matter in hand. Do not be distracted by incidents around you - people talking to you or offering to assist you, no matter how friendly they appear to be.

When inputting your PIN cover the keypad with your other hand to stop your PIN being seen by people and cameras

After withdrawing cash, don't stand there counting it. Place cash in bag/pocket and walk away immediately.

Report any suspicious behaviour on 101.

After using the ATM

As you walk away from the ATM continue to be aware of the people around you. If possible avoid backstreets or alleys

If you think you are being followed walk into the bank, a shop, or some other busy place.

When getting into your car lock the doors - and don't put your handbags/wallets on the passenger seat!

The next meeting of NHW Alcester will be held on Tuesday 8 October 2019 in St Nicholas Church House, Butter Street at 7.30pm. Contact details: nhwalcester@gmail.com or telephone Dorrie Manders on 01789 762999 Everyone is welcome.

Communicating with the Police : Emergencies dial 999

The Police Non Emergency number :101 To be used to report crime and other concerns that do not require an emergency response. **101** diverts to your local Police. Calls cost 15p per call, (landlines and mobiles)



Alcester South Safer Neighbourhood Team dial 101 or 01789 444816

Please feel free to contact the team direct: Email:

alcestersouth.snt@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk

PS 542 Bob Shaw (Team Sergeant) **01789 444815**

Robert.shaw@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk

PC 1672 Robert Davies (Beat Manager) robert.davies@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk

PCSO 6111 Gary Johnson-Jones gary.johnson-jones@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk

PCSO 6327 Carolyn Davis carolyn.davis1@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk

Twitter- @AlcesterCops

Facebook- Alcester Police

Instagram- southwarwickshiresnts

Facebook- Warwickshire Police

Call **Crimestoppers** anonymously with information about crime on 0800 555 111. Crimestoppers is a charity who will pass on information to police without revealing any details of the caller.

Action Fraud Report a Fraud or Cyber Crime to 0300 123 2040 or visit www.actionfraud.police.uk

Alcester is a relatively crime free area. We work together to keep it that way.

ALCESTER FESTIVAL AND EVENTS CALENDAR 2019

Please find below a list of events due to take place in the next three months. Pick up a Festival and Events Guide from Globe House, or alternatively check local noticeboards, websites, Facebook and Twitter for further information!

7 Sept	Court Leet Casino Night	12 Oct	Cancer Research UK- Opera Dudes
7 Sept	Alcester Singers Workshop & Concert	19 Oct	Food Festival
14 Sept	Court Leet Last Night of the Proms	20 Oct	Live & Local- Gulp!- Family Show
15 Sept	Heritage Open Day	26 Oct	Mayor's Charity 60s and 70s night
19 Sept	Court Leet Ale Tasting	9 Nov	RBL Remembrance Concert
22 Sept	Mayor's Civic Service	10 Nov	Remembrance Day Parade
30 Sept-1 Oct	Mop Fair	11 Nov	Armistice Day Service
2-5 Oct	AMT Company- Made in Dagenham	16 Nov	Christmas Festival
3 Oct	Court Leet Elections	1 Dec	Christmas Light Switch on
5 Oct	Rotary Big Breakfast	6 Dec	St Nicholas Night/ 22 Dec Town Carols
6 Oct	Seco Alcester 10K Race	7 Dec	Alcester Singers Christmas Concert

Town Council Meetings

Full Council Meetings are held on the first Tuesday in the month at Globe House, Library meeting room 4, First Floor (accessed via the Seggs Lane entrance- there is a lift) at 7pm prompt. All other Committee meetings are held on a Monday or a Tuesday in the Council Board room 7pm at Globe House, also accessed via the Seggs Lane entrance.

All agendas are published online at: www.alcester-tc.gov.uk and copies can also be found on the Council noticeboards at Market Place and High Street three days before each meeting.

Members of the public are welcome to attend any of the Council meetings and are given time at the start of the meetings to raise any relevant issues. Minutes from each meeting can also be found on the Town Council web site once they have been signed.

The Alcester Town Council Facebook pages are another source of information regarding Council matters:

www.facebook.com/alcester.towncouncil,

For community health and well-being news see www.facebook.com/ouralcester

For information on other events in the town, go to: www.facebook.com/alcester

Please click "like" and share with your friends. We're on Twitter too: www.twitter.com/AlcesterTown

Town Councillor's Contact Details

Alcester West Ward			
Mark Cargill	07988 485050	Clive Neal-Sturgess	01789 764416
Laura Pusey	07928 327923	Erick Wilson	01789 764366
Emma Randle	randersred@gmail.com		

Alcester-Oversley Ward			
Kirsten Forbes	07810 522920	Andrew Foster	01789 766708
Mike Bowe	07775 500993	Mat Hempell	07939 797582
Gillian Forman (Mayor)	01789 763828	Vaughan Blake	01789 764128
Tim Forman	01789 763828	David Henderson	01789 765271
Keith Greenaway	01789 766818	Kathryn Soares	07551 311528
Oversley Green Ward			
Kathryn Cargill (Deputy Mayor)	07745 608567		

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

Planning: administration@alcester-tc.gov.uk

Facilities: reception@alcester-tc.gov.uk

Community Care: office@alcester-tc.gov.uk

Health and Well-Being: info@alcester-tc.gov.uk

Alcester Town Council offices are located on the First Floor at Globe House- accessed via the Seggs Lane entrance (lift available) and are open:

Monday - Friday 9am- 1pm

If you would like to speak to the Clerk outside of opening hours, please call to make an appointment

Website: www.alcester-tc.gov.uk

