

Alcester Town Council



Summer Newsletter

June 2023 Issue 70

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

I am very honoured to have been elected as the Mayor of Alcester by my fellow Town Councillors. I would like to thank Councillor Kathryn Cargill for her hard work over the last two years. I would also like to offer my congratulations to Councillor Mike Bowe on being elected as Deputy Mayor for the 2023/24 year.



I was first co-opted to the Town Council in 2019 and have enjoyed serving on the committees for Community Care, Planning and Finance & General Purposes. I will continue to serve as Lead Councillor for Business & Tourism and will seek to promote Alcester for both aspects wherever possible.

I have lived in Alcester for over thirty years and am still impressed by the community spirit shown by the army of volunteers who help to make this town so special. Without them, there would be no Food Festival, Alcester in Bloom, Christmas Lights or bunting or the Court Leet Street Market.

It was very gratifying that Alcester was awarded National Star Council of the year for 2022/23. Being selected from over 10,000 councils reflects the efforts of both Councillors and its staff.

I have chosen to support two charities in my Mayoral year. The first is Alcester & District Community First Responders. This is a team of volunteers who respond to 999 calls and provide vital initial treatment

whilst awaiting the arrival of emergency services. Given the constraints under which the ambulance service operates, this is literally a life-saving organisation.

My second charity is 'Kissing it Better'. This is a healthcare charity and training provider, working to end the isolation of old age by bringing the generations together, helping both young and old feel valued and valuable. This is designed to improve the confidence, communication skills and self esteem of young people whilst at the same time ending the isolation and indignities of age by helping the generations understand and support each other. I do hope that you will be able to support my events that will raise funds for these two worthwhile charities.



I am looking forward to representing Alcester Town Council together with my wife Kay at the many town events during the forthcoming year. It will also be a great privilege to be able to promote our town at events in the surrounding area.

Councillor Vaughan Blake, Mayor of Alcester

CLERK'S CORNER

The elections for Alcester Town Council on 4 May 2023 were uncontested and I am pleased to announce that the following were elected as Town Councillors:

Ward	Councillor
Alcester West	Vaughan Blake
Alcester West	Mike Bowe
Alcester West	Kathryn Cargill
Alcester West	Corin Elliott
Alcester West	Andrew Foster
Alcester West	David Henderson
Alcester West	Wendy Mills
Alcester West	Gavin Smithers
Alcester West	Clive Neal-Sturgess
Alcester East	Mark Cargill
Alcester East	Gill Forman
Alcester East	Kathrin Foster
Alcester East	Keith Greenaway
Alcester East	Alison Leask
Alcester East	Emma Randle
Alcester East	Erick Wilson

Good luck to all the Councillors for their term of office.

We are very fortunate in Alcester to have a full complement of Councillors with no vacancies.

At the Mayor Making event on 16 May, I was very pleased to oversee the election of the new Mayor, Cllr Vaughan Blake and the Deputy Mayor, Cllr Mike Bowe.

Congratulations to both of them on their appointment. I am sure that they will do an excellent job in representing Alcester.

Vanessa Lowe, Town Clerk

ALCESTER TOWN COUNCIL CONTACTS

Office of the Town Clerk: Tel: 01789 766084

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

Planning: administration@alcester-tc.gov.uk

Website: www.alcester-tc.gov.uk

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

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

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

ALCESTER WELCOMES NEW TOWN COUNCILLOR



You may have seen Corin in a red vest running or leading runs around Alcester at some point during the last 8 years!

After moving to Alcester in 2015, the following year Corin and his wife founded "Run Alcester" running club. As keen marathon runners, they wanted to share their passion for the sport and help others enjoy the same benefits of running as they did. Since starting the club, they have been joined by a committee of Run Leaders and helped hundreds of people start their running journey. Corin has completed over 20 marathons, including as a guide runner accompanying a visually impaired athlete to achieve their dream of running the London Marathon in 2019.

Corin and his wife have 5 children, 3 of whom attended Alcester schools and 1 of them now works for a local business in Alcester.

Aside from running, Corin spends his spare time watching his football team Nottingham Forest as a long-standing season ticket holder.

Professionally, after graduating from university in the mid 90's, Corin embarked on a career in Intellectual Property with a Birmingham based company and continues to provide professional services to new and existing

businesses nationwide.

Corin recently noticed a gap in the area for local businesses to meet and network so set-up Alcester Business Club in conjunction with Minerva Mill. The Club now holds monthly sessions at Minerva Mill which have been a great success and will hopefully continue to be a great platform for local businesses going forward.

COMMUNITY GRANTS 2023-24

	ORGANISATION	PURPOSE OF GRANT	GRANT AWARDED £
1	Alcester Bunting and Lighting Executive (ABLE)	Replacement Christmas lights	1000
2	Alcester Singers	Local musicians competition	250
3	Alcester Community Fridge	Running costs	1500
4	Alcester Bowling Club	Replacement patio	400
5	Citizens Advice South Warwickshire	Alcester outreach	1000
6	Alcester Town Football Club	New goal posts	800
7	Alcester War Memorial Town Hall	External paintwork/gutters	800
8	Heart of England Town Criers Championship	Running costs	400
9	Alcester Rugby Football Club	Refurbishment clubhouse	800
10	Oversley Green Residents Association	Interpretation board	390
11	Alcester Musical Theatre Company	Digital sound system	250
12	Alcester-Vallet Twinning Association	Restoration wine press	865
13	St Nicholas Church - Warm Space	Running costs	200
14	Alcester & District First Responders	Defibrillator costs	646
15	Alcester Heart Safe	Public defibrillator costs	200
16	Alcester in Bloom	New hanging basket poles	500
	TOTAL		10,001



PLANNING MATTERS

Housing Needs Survey - Update

In the Spring edition of the newsletter, my report focused on the Housing Needs Survey which has now closed. Thank you to those who responded to the survey. Warwickshire Rural Community Council administered the consultation on behalf of the Town Council and have concluded their analysis of the comments submitted from Alcester residents. The Town Council has recently received their report and the Planning Committee will

consider their findings at the scheduled Planning Committee meeting in June. The information will be important when forming our policies at the time of the Alcester Neighbourhood Development Plan update.

South Warwickshire Local Plan – Update

The Town Council's Planning Committee formulated and submitted a response to the second stage of the South Warwickshire Local Plan (SWLP) that covered the Issues and Options public consultation. Stratford and Warwick District Councils are currently processing the responses and their submissions will be published in due course.

The Issues and Options consultation provided a second opportunity for residents and stakeholders to have their say on the emerging Local Plan and included different options for selecting preferences to planning policy issues and the policy options to address them. It also set out broad options for consideration on where to best accommodate new development in the future.

The third stage of the SWLP will be the Preferred Options public consultation likely to be between July and October 2023.

When published, the Town Council's Planning Committee will scrutinise the Preferred Options to ensure that Alcester's best interests are represented.

Councillor Mike Bowe, Chair, Planning Committee

ALCESTER HEALTH & WELLBEING PARTNERSHIP



Alcester has a nationally recognised reputation for providing innovative Health & Wellbeing initiatives for its residents. To complement and further focus these efforts, the new Alcester Health & Wellbeing Partnership has been launched.

The goal of the partnership is to bring together like-minded people and organisations to develop Health & Wellbeing projects to benefit all residents of the town.

The Partnership recognise that, post Covid, the health landscape has changed dramatically. We therefore concluded that a 'bottom up' approach using the knowledge and expertise of our partners on the ground would better inform us of the right strategies. We are looking for partners to join us on this journey. Your commitment to the partnership will be:

'To provide better health outcomes for the residents of Alcester'

Our commitment will be to provide a collaborative space, support for meetings and facilitate any actions either through the Town Council's Health & Wellbeing Co-ordinator, the working group or through your own organisation. The goal is to become a trusted brand, instantly recognisable by the new logo.

Cllr Mark Cargill, Chair of Alcester Health & Wellbeing Partnership
Email: mcargill.atc@gmail.com Tel 07988485050



WORKING FOR MARCUS

Alcester Town Council is pleased to announce we have been successful in receiving funding from the Police and Crime Commissioner to deliver some training in schools for pupils, teachers and parents/community leaders. We intend to work in partnership with Alcester Youth Project and Loudmouth to offer the training, called 'Working for Marcus' which is all about using drama and discussion workshops to help young people increase their knowledge and ability to safeguard themselves against child exploitation, grooming and exploitation into crime, e.g., knife crime and county lines.

The project also aims to deliver a session to all parents and local professionals/ community members so they can recognise and support any young person experiencing any of the above.

For further information contact, Wendy Sherwood, Tel: 01789 766084 Email: info@alcester-tc.gov.uk

Alcester & District Friends of CRUK

ALCESTER

GARDEN WALKABOUT

Sunday 25th June 2023

ADMISSION from 12.00 to 5.00pm

Around 20 gardens large and small will be open for viewing behind the ancient houses in the centre of this historic town. Also open the award-winning Malt Mill Lane area and St Nicholas Church.

CREAM TEAS, MUSIC AND
PLANTS FOR SALE AT BARGAIN PRICES!

TICKETS £6 EACH (Cash Only)

(Accompanied Children under 12 Free)

ON SALE AT OUR STALL IN CHURCH STREET



Sorry, but dogs are not allowed in the gardens.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT
SUE BLACKBURN
TEL 01789 764756

cruk.org

In aid of
CANCER RESEARCH UK

Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

Cancer Research UK is a registered charity in England and Wales (1089464) and Scotland (SCO416663).



HEART OF ENGLAND TOWN CRIERS' CHAMPIONSHIP

A wonderful day in the sunshine on Easter Saturday in Alcester when Criers from all over the country gathered for the first competition of the Heart of England Town Criers' Championship. The quality of the contestants was excellent, and John Griffiths from Sleaford took the first prize, closely followed in second place by Peder Nielsen from Bromyard who also took the best dressed prize. Third place was hotly contested by Adrian Holmes from Lichfield and Mike Wabe from Watton in Norfolk, with Mike taking the honours in the 'Cry Off'. Criers and Judges enjoyed a lunch post event in the Town Hall, and thanks go to Alcester Court Leet and our own Town Crier Dave Parkes for supporting this annual event.

Cllr Vaughan Blake, Championship Co-Ordinator



THE FOOD STORY

A leading national farm education charity called LEAF (Linking Environment And Farming) Education awarded Our Lady's primary school with a Silver Level Demonstration School award, in recognition for its commitment to using food production, farming and the environment as part of its broad and balanced curriculum.

The school were praised by the Mayor, Cllr Kathryn Cargill, who came to celebrate with the school, for collaborating with numerous local farms including Ragley Hall Estate farm, Cleeve Prior Community Orchard, and Oversley Hill farm to give students fantastic opportunities to learn about how food can be

produced with consideration for the environment. In addition, the school are embarking on a pioneering new approach to their summer residential by taking part in a week-long trip to Lower Treginnis Farm in Pembrokeshire. Year 5 and 6 children will be able to experience first-hand how to manage livestock, feed lambs, take part in woodland studies, collect eggs and harvest food to cook healthy recipes in the onsite kitchen with help from farm staff and charitable groups such as LEAF Education and Farms for City Children.

Head mistress, Mrs Maggie Gourlay said "We are very proud to have been recognised by LEAF Education for our work in connecting children to the story of their food. We believe children should be inspired to learn about food, farming and the environment to ensure they grow up with the values and motivation to promote sustainability."

Elizabeth Lake, Central Regional Education Consultant / LEAF (Linking Environment and Farming)



HELP PLEASE!

Could you inspire girls in Alcester to learn new skills, grow in confidence and make friends?

We urgently need new volunteers in Alcester. We're a small team of friendly Girlguide leaders who care about inspiring girls to be the best they can be.

You don't need any experience, just enthusiasm. Volunteer with us for just a few hours a week and help support girls in your local community to thrive.

In return you get support, friendship, training, as well as leadership and skills development. It's very rewarding watching the girls make friends, build confidence and grow as people and it is great for your CV too!

We need helpers for our Alcester Girlguiding groups: Rainbows (4-7), Brownies (7-10), Guides (10-14). Our Wednesday Brownie unit needs at least one more regular Girlguide leader, to stay open.

Girlguiding has been making a difference to girls' lives in the Alcester area for nearly 100 years and we want to continue. But some of our groups will face closure if we don't get some help soon.

Any help you can offer could support us. We're really flexible and we need people who can become leaders in our groups and as administrators to help keep the wheels turning!

So, why not find us online to sign up: www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved/

Find us on Facebook: [@GirlguidingAlcesterAndAvonDistrict/](https://www.facebook.com/GirlguidingAlcesterAndAvonDistrict/)

Or drop us an email today: alcester.avonguiding.dc@gmail.com



REMINDER- NATIONAL ALLOTMENTS WEEK 2023

National Allotments Week 2023 will run from 7 - 13 August and Alcester's allotment judging will take place during this week.

For information about the four allotment sites at Bleachfield Street North and South, Allimore Lane and School Road in Alcester please contact Tim by email on office@alcester-tc.gov.uk or phone 01789 766084

Happy gardening!



ALCESTER MALE VOICE CHOIR - AN EXCITING YEAR AHEAD!

Our choir year draws to a close at the end of August, and we look back with both pride and satisfaction over the last twelve months. We have recovered well from the enforced break and disruption caused by the pandemic and have maintained our commitment to regular monthly concerts helping various charities raise much needed funds.

In September we start our 50th year. The choir was formed in 1974 by our founder and Director of Music, Judith Land BEM, and we shall be marking the occasion in style with a special concert at Ragley Hall over the weekend of 20-21 April 2024. There are other events planned to mark this special anniversary and more details will be announced in the autumn.

Since the choir was formed, there have been many very special moments with appearances at some of the most prestigious venues and events in the country the latest of which was joining the mass choir at the opening ceremony of the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham in July last year (see photo).



The choir are always looking for new members- it may seem daunting to come and join a well established group, but we are very welcoming. We guarantee you will have fun, make new friends and have some wonderful experiences. There are no auditions, all we ask is that members commit to the weekly rehearsals and only when they are ready join in at the regular concerts. Gentlemen interested should contact Judith on 07886 139781



MOOR FIELDS CHARITY - APPLICATION FOR GRANTS

The Moor Fields charity was set up for the general benefit of the inhabitants of Alcester and the upkeep and repair of the Parish Church of St Nicholas and its churchyard. The charity is able to award grants to individuals or to organisations, (but not usually to businesses) for the benefit of the town.

In the past it has supported town celebrations, requests for Covid funds, and many other local organisations who want to start or continue particular projects. Applications for grants of up to £2500 will be considered, and the distribution of the funds will depend on the number of applications and the funds available at the time.

Applications should reach the charity before 1 May, for their June

meeting, and before 1 October for their November meeting.

If you are eligible to apply, please contact: Clerk to the Trustees via email on moorfieldsclerk@gmail.com

Moor Fields Charity No. 228821



RIVERSIDE ANGLING CLUB

The start of the new coarse fishing season will soon be upon us and hopefully the rivers will be in a fishable condition after all the recent rain we have had.

Just a reminder to all residents of Alcester who go fishing that they can contact Robert Jones (some already have) to receive their free permit to fish the River Arrow from Westbury Park down to the end of the playing fields. This stretch belongs to Alcester Town Council who have kindly asked Riverside Angling Club to look after this part of the river.

Riverside Angling Club also control a stretch of the River Alne and a few pegs of the River Arrow elsewhere in Alcester.

For Alcester residents who require a permit, or anyone interested in joining the Riverside Angling Club, please contact Robert on the number below.

Have a great season and hope you catch your P. B!

Robert Jones, Hon. Secretary, Riverside Angling Club (Tel: 07745358603)



ALCESTER BRETIVINS

We welcomed guests from Vallet, London and Cardiff as we held our 29th Chapter in the Town Hall on Sunday 30 April. The Conetable of the Order, Alain Genestal, came from France bringing with him three traditional Breton musicians, as well as other members. We also had the Bailiffs of Grande Bretagne and Pays de Galle (Wales) present for the proceedings.

Following recent custom, we assembled at a member's house in Evesham Street for a glass of Muscadet before processing via the wine press by the Museum to the Town Hall. Ably

marshalled by our Prevot, we made a fine sight as we processed, with banners aloft, behind our musicians along the High Street to the Town Hall.

We intronised (inducted) two new members, including by tradition the Low Bailiff (in recognition of the role of the Court Leet in our formation) and, after more Muscadet, some fifty plus reassembled at the Eric Payne Community Centre for our Chapter lunch (traditional roast beef) washed down of course with more wine. We said farewell to our French guests on Monday morning.

Our next event is on Saturday 17 June when we shall be meeting at a local vineyard with colleagues from Warwick who belong to the Commanderie de Tastevins of Saumur for the traditional 'Flowering of the Vine' when the vines are blessed to produce a bountiful harvest in the autumn. Guests are most welcome and further information can be had from John Freeland at bottleandpop@gmail.com

David Hall



WARWICKSHIRE VISION

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO IS VISUALLY IMPAIRED, WHO LIVES IN AND AROUND ALCESTER?

Would you like to help us support more visually impaired people?

Warwickshire Vision Support is also known as Warwickshire Association For The Blind. We are a registered charity which was founded in 1911.

We are based in Warwick town centre, but

work across the county with over 3,200 people. We offer a variety of community-based services to support blind and partially sighted people in their everyday lives.

One of our main services is providing 4 weekly and 7 monthly 'Vision Support Centres' across Warwickshire. These are meetings of predominantly older, blind and partially sighted people, where we organise activities, training and demonstrations, and provide important information, advice and guidance.

In Alcester, we run a monthly 'Vision Support Centre' on the third Tuesday of each month 1.30pm to 3.30pm at Malt Mill Lane Community Centre, Malt Mill Lane, Alcester, B49 5QR.

If you are visually impaired, or know someone who is, feel free to pop into the support centre and speak to our staff and volunteers about what we do and how we can help. We are also keen to hear from people who could volunteer some time to help run our support centres, and our social clubs.

Please call us directly on 01926 411331 or visit our website: <https://www.warwickshire.vision>

STOP PRESS: Councillor Keith Greenaway would like to extend his sincere thanks on behalf of Alcester Male Voice Choir to all those who attended the April concert at the Greig Leisure Centre. £500 was raised in support of a charity for research into Motor Neurone disease. Thank you.



CORONATION CELEBRATION WEEKEND 2023

Alcester celebrated the coronation of His Majesty, King Charles III and Her Majesty, Queen Camilla in its usual inimitable style!

Friday 5 May- Unveiling of two benches at Centenary Fields to commemorate King Charles III and the late Queen Elizabeth II

Saturday 6 May- Ring for the King- Full peal of bells at St Nicholas Church

Sunday 7 May- Alcester Court Leet Street Party

Monday 8 May- Photographic exhibition and film show from 1953 to the present at the Eric Payne Community Centre



STRATFORD ON AVON DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

The following were elected in May 2023 as District councillors representing wards:



ALESTER EAST- Councillor Susan Juned (Liberal Democrat).

Email: susan.juned@stratford-dc.gov.uk

ALCESTER WEST- Councillor Joseph Harmer (Liberal Democrat).

Email: joe.harmer@stratford-dc.gov.uk





OVERSLEY GREEN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

By the time of publication, the April showers, “Going on for hours and hours”, will be forgotten and we will all be looking forward to a long, hot summer. This year, in addition to our ever-popular Scarecrow competition OGRA will be joining with Oversthree to bring you our very own Open Gardens event, centred on the Green, where visitors will be welcome to browse some of the lovely gardens created by Oversley residents and refresh themselves with cakes and drinks on the Tea Lawn. These events are run on consecutive weekends so please mark them in your calendar now: Open Gardens, Sunday 9 July from 12 to 5pm with Scarecrow results and a special Treasure Hunt for children, and then from 2pm on Sunday 16 July.

Meanwhile, for followers of the “History of Oversley Bridge” project we have been making headway researching the history of our most famous listed monument. Data has been mined and an artist recruited for the wonderfully named “Interpretation Panel” that will stand by the bridge. Oh.... and how many arches does it have? It’s not easy.

Richard Slatter, Chair, Oversley Green Residents Association

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN JOINING A MEN’S SHED IN ALCESTER?

Men’s Sheds is all about creating a community space for men (and women) to meet regularly for craftwork, company and camaraderie. The movement originated in Australia around the 1980s as a way to improve the health and wellbeing of older men.

There are now more than 600 ‘sheds’ in the UK providing the opportunity to create something in the company of other likeminded folk. Men’s Sheds also get involved in community projects, such as building things for schools or libraries or individuals in need.

For more information, please see <https://menssheds.org.uk/>

If you are interested in woodworking, metalworking, repairing, and restoring, electronics, model building and community projects, please get in touch with Wendy Sherwood at Alcester Town Council.

Email: info@alcester-tc.gov.uk Tel: 01789 766084

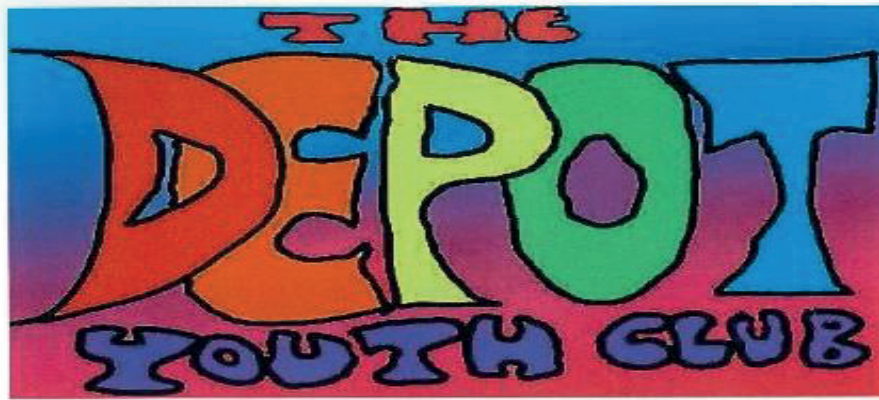


COST OF LIVING HUBS

Alcester Town Council received funding from Warwickshire County Council to offer four cost-of-living hubs at the Eric Payne Community Centre, Alcester over a period of six months. The first three were very well attended and took place during February half term and twice in the Easter Holidays. The final one was held during May half term.

Families were offered a hot lunch and treats, while bringing everyone together to share in craft activities. Bags of fruit and vegetables were available to take away. For anyone worried about the cost-of-living or in need of advice, a new service is operating through a freephone number, 0808 250 5715 from Monday – Friday 9am- 5pm

or, out of hours on a Monday evening 5- 7pm on 0800 995 6047. (Funded by Warwickshire County Council and Citizens Advice).



Volunteer Youth Club Assistants needed at The Depot Youth Club in Alcester

Are you passionate about helping young people?

Interested in sport, mentoring, music or games?

Would you like to make a difference to young people's
lives?

Are you available on Tuesdays between 6:30 -
8:30pm?

No experience necessary, just enthusiasm

For more information, either pop along one evening
and ask for Becky or Phil, or email the Town Council:

info@alcester-tc.gov.uk Tel: 01789 766084



ALCESTER'S ROMAN MUSEUM WILL SOON BE TWENTY!

A crucial part of the history of the Museum was the acquisition of Globe House by Stratford on Avon District Council. It had been the Magistrates Court until it closed in 1989. The district council bought the building in 1999 and renovated it.

Warwickshire County Council, Stratford on Avon District Council and Alcester Heritage Trust formed a partnership and, in August 2000, a successful bid was submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund. Finally, in 2004, the Roman Museum was able to open its doors to the first visitors.

Volunteers have run the museum since the day it opened. Alcester Heritage Trust is run by volunteers. Volunteers greet visitors, give talks and help to deliver school visits. Many children have visited the museum with their schools and enjoyed the experience of seeing how life was lived in Roman Britain. Next year we will celebrate our opening. We are already planning an exciting programme of Roman-style activities. Keep an eye on our website (romanalcester.org) for the latest information.

We are also planning for the next twenty years. We need new volunteers to take us forward and we need a wide range of skills. Why not drop into the museum and leave us your details? Our email is alcesterheritage@gmail.com. Join us now and help us celebrate our birthday!

Susan Juned, Chair, Alcester Heritage Trust



ALCESTER COUNTRY MARKET

Located on the High Street, the market had a makeover during the Christmas shut down. The internal area was re-decorated. The outside area is now starting to be built up as new produce becomes available. There are new producers in the craft and baking area and there is a plentiful supply of gifts and baking to choose from. Baking products range from pies to biscuits, cakes as well as other items. Craft items include coloured glass, knitted items, cards, woodwork and original artwork.

Open every Friday 09.00 - 13.00hrs

1st and 3rd Saturday each Month. 10.00 - 13.00hrs

Every Friday and Saturday in May & December 10.00 - 13.00hrs

Also open for Alcester Street Markets and Food Festivals.

Ian Flear, Manager



Alcester & Bidford

ALCESTER & BIDFORD ROTARY

We've had a busy few months, including fund raising for Shelterbox at Bidford Meadow on 29 April. The Rotary Shelterboat sailed from Stratford upon Avon to Tewkesbury via Bidford and Evesham- a three day voyage down the River Avon in a precarious homemade dinghy built around a green plastic crate called a shelterbox. Funds raised provided emergency shelter and tools to support families overwhelmed by disaster.



We continue to support our young people with opportunities in Rotary youth competitions, this year with Youth Speaks – a Debate and Young Chef. We hope to run a Young Photographer competition later in the year – contact Jackie on 07775 975316 if you have a youngster who might be interested.

We provided support for a fund-raising event for Small Cell Lung Cancer Research at Alcester's Ascot in June, and we're reprising our popular Pimms Stall at the Court Leet Street Market.

Alcester Male Voice Choir are joining with Ebbw Vale for a concert on 8 July at St Nicholas Church as a fund raiser for our Rotary charities, so definitely one for the diary!

We are a small and friendly group and would welcome anyone interested in joining us in helping our community. We have alternate morning and evening meetings at Kings Court Hotel and The Royal Oak. Contact Jackie for details on 07775 975316, or alcesterbidfordrotary@gmail.com

www.alcesterbidfordrotary.co.uk

Kay Blake, Secretary



COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

As the weather warms up, the focus has been on getting the parishes engaged with litter picking and improving the state of our roads. Residents put this as a high priority and I have been focused on getting signs repaired, markings repainted and improving safety. For example, we recently installed new bollards at the entrance and exit of Hopkins Precinct to help prevent cars parking on the pavement and blocking access. Unfortunately, not all schemes go to plan and businesses were upset with the apparent impact to their trade. So further reviews are taking place to help with the other issue, the quantity of parking spaces. Another major challenge is school drop off and pick up which is

being enforced from September onwards by a new team that County are supporting. In the meantime, it is important parents and pupils know where it is safe to park and help to always maintain access. Therefore improving signage, repainting restrictions and deploying 'police buddies' help to raise awareness.

On a side note, I wanted to have a shout out to the Alcester Community Fridge, which I supported using the Councillor Grant, which is providing a fantastic service to residents in helping to battle against food waste and food poverty. If you haven't visited already, I would highly recommend it.

Councillor Piers Daniell, County Councillor

LEGALLY BLONDE



The Musical



Palace Theatre Redditch 4th -7th Oct 2023

Tickets £21.50 & £23.50

*PLEASE NOTE: Palace Theatre fee included,
box office booking conditions apply.*

Palace Theatre box office 01527 65203

or scan the QR code

Early bookings (no fee) phone 01789 763446



**Alcester Musical Theatre Company
60th Anniversary Show**

Music and Lyrics
Laurence O'Keefe
and Nell Benjamin

Book by
Heather Hach

Based on the novel by Amanda Brown
and the Metro-Goldwyn-Meyer motion picture



This amateur production is presented by arrangement with
Music Theatre International

All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI
www.mtishows.co.uk



www.alcestermusicaltheatre.com and on Facebook

Alcester CAFÉ

Climate Action For Everyone

Join Alcester Town Council and be a part of the decision on which actions we can take together to tackle climate change.

Saturday 24 June

1.30pm to 5pm

Eric Payne Community Centre,
off St Faiths Road, Alcester, B49 6AG

Register now
scan the QR code!



Part of the South Warwickshire Climate
Engagement Programme

www.stratford.gov.uk/climatechange
swclimate.engagement@warwickdc.gov.uk



ALCESTER CAFÉ – YOUR INVITATION AWAITS CLIMATE ACTION FOR EVERYONE

Alcester Town Council is in the fortunate position of being part of a pilot project for local engagement on climate change.

In this case Café stands for Climate Action for Everyone. We will be opening our doors for an afternoon event on Saturday 24 June which starts at 1.30 until 5pm. We would love you to join us for a cuppa and a piece of cake whilst telling us what is important to you when it comes to climate change and what we can do at a local level. On this occasion we are limiting places to a maximum of 40- so please apply for a free place as soon as you can.

Since declaring a Climate Change Emergency in June 2021, the Town Council's Climate Change Working Group has had three meetings at the Eric Payne Community Centre where we discussed what can be done locally. Altering our behaviours even in small ways provides opportunities for us all to tackle climate change as well as lessen the impact of recent huge increases on fuel and energy

costs. The Café event will be your opportunity to contribute towards shaping these actions. We are happy to be able to provide childcare cover for this event if you need it. Please apply for a free place at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/alcester-cafe-climate-action-for-everyone-tickets-633937884277>

FREE



MENOPAUSE KNOWLEDGE

HELPING COMMUNITIES & EMPLOYERS NAVIGATE
PERIMENOPAUSE AND MENOPAUSE



Scan Me!

MENOPAUSE AWARENESS

Saturday 17th June - 1pm - Stratford

Bishopton Community Centre - Drayton Avenue - CV37 9PB



**COMMUNITY
FUND**



**Stratford
Town Trust**
creating a vibrant and
connected community



Neighbourhood Watch Network is a charity registered in England & Wales, CIO no. 1173349

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ALCESTER

I regret that I have not been able to find someone to take over Neighbourhood Watch, Alcester and will no longer be sending out the weekly incident reports and similar crime prevention messages. I would ask those of you who recognise the benefits of receiving regular local information from the Police to sign up to the Police website www.warwickshireconnected.com where you can arrange to receive the weekly Alcester South Crime Report. Because of the restraints of Data Protection, I am unable to do this automatically on your behalf. I would also recommend that you join the national Neighbourhood Watch Scheme at www.ourwatch.org.uk.

May I take this opportunity to thank the Town Council, the Police and yourselves for your support over many years. Regards Dorrie Manders.

WHATSAPP ACCOUNT TAKEOVER SCAM

Criminals are targeting WhatsApp users by posing as a friend and asking for a security code. Action Fraud has received over 60 reports relating to this scam.

The scam begins when a criminal gets access to another WhatsApp account which has you listed as a contact. The criminal, posing as your friend or someone that's a member of a WhatsApp group you're in, will then send you seemingly normal messages to try and start a conversation with you. However, around the same time you will receive a text message from WhatsApp with a six-digit code. This is because the criminal has been trying to login to WhatsApp using your mobile number. The criminal will claim that they sent you their code by accident and ask you to help them by sending it to them. Once the criminal has this code, they can login to your WhatsApp account and lock you out.

The criminal will then use the same tactic with your WhatsApp contacts in an effort to steal more accounts and use them to perpetrate fraud.

- **Set up two-step verification to give an extra layer of protection to your account: Tap Settings > Account > Two-step verification > Enable**
- **THINK. CALL.** If a family member or friend makes an unusual request on WhatsApp, always call the person to confirm their identity
- **Never share your account's activation code (that's the 6 digit code you receive via SMS)**
- **You can report spam messages or block a sender within WhatsApp. Press and hold on the message bubble, select 'Report' and then follow the instructions**

If you have been a victim of fraud or cyber crime, report it to [Action Fraud](http://ActionFraud.org) or 0300 123 2040



COMMUNICATING WITH THE POLICE:

Emergencies and to report a crime in progress dial **999**

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

Online reporting services: <https://www.warwickshire.police.uk/ro/report>

Alcester South Safer Neighbourhood Team dial 101 or 01789 444815/ 444816

Please feel free to contact the team using the team email: Alcestersouth.SNT@warwickshire.police.uk

SGT 1685 David Ebbs

PC 1672 Beat Manager Rob Davies

PCSO 6111 Gary Johnson- Jones

PCSO 8195 Aadila Hussain

Twitter [@AlcesterCops](https://twitter.com/AlcesterCops) Facebook [Alcester Police](https://www.facebook.com/AlcesterPolice) Instagram [southwarwickshiresnts](https://www.instagram.com/southwarwickshiresnts)

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

Contact Warwick Trading Standards on 01926 414040 to report a rogue trader. For general advice on scams and rogue traders contact 0845 4040 506.

Action Fraud Report a Fraud or Cyber Crime to 0300 123 2040

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









TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

Full Council and Finance & General Purposes Committee meetings are held in person at Globe House. Planning Committee meetings are generally held online via Zoom or by email. Agendas are published on town noticeboards and online at www.alcester-tc.gov.uk three days before each meeting.

Members of the public are welcome to attend Council meetings and are given time at the start of the meetings to speak. Draft and approved Minutes from meetings can also be found on the Town Council website.

Social media is another source of information regarding council matters- we are on Facebook www.facebook.com/alcester.towncouncil Twitter: www.twitter.com/AlcesterTown and Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/alcestertowncouncil/>

Town Councillor's Contact Details

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 <p><u>Gill Forman</u> 01789 763828 gforman.atc@gmail.com</p>	 <p><u>Mike Bowe</u> (Deputy Mayor) 07775 500993 mbowe.atc@gmail.com</p>
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