

# Alcester Town Council



## Autumn Newsletter

September 2023 Issue 71

### MAYOR'S MESSAGE

By the time that you read this the summer will be coming to a close, the nights will be drawing in and thoughts turning to winter activities!

Summer in Alcester is always busy with events run by the usual army of volunteers. I always think that the summer season starts with the May Food Festival, an event that I was pleased to open and present prizes for the Schools' Bake Off competition. The Food Festival is a tremendous event and once again shows Alcester punching well above its weight.

It wouldn't be summer without the Court Leet Street Market. This year's theme was the 1980s and it was my privilege to open proceedings and judge the fancy dress contest. This was very hard given the high standard of entries!

On 1 July I joined the launch party for the annual Alcester Duck Race, another mainstay of the summer calendar. This event is the main source of income for Alcester Bunting and Lighting which keeps the town looking festive in both summer and winter alike.

It was my pleasure to award the medals at the annual Alcester Town Football Club Tournament. With 96 teams from all over the region it is one of the largest events run in Alcester and proved to be a great success.



The 19 July saw the naming of the new roads on the northern part of the Alcester Park estate. The roads are named after previous Mayors in recognition of their achievements during both their time in office, and their efforts as Councillors of many years standing. It was great to meet up with the families of the individuals concerned.

On 22 July we held my Civic Service at St Nicholas where I was

delighted to welcome civic heads from the surrounding towns and parishes. Jill Fraser, from one of my nominated charities Kissing it Better, gave a very inspirational talk on the work of the charity. My other charity is the Alcester and District Community First Responders. I was very pleased to see so many people from the town supporting the event.

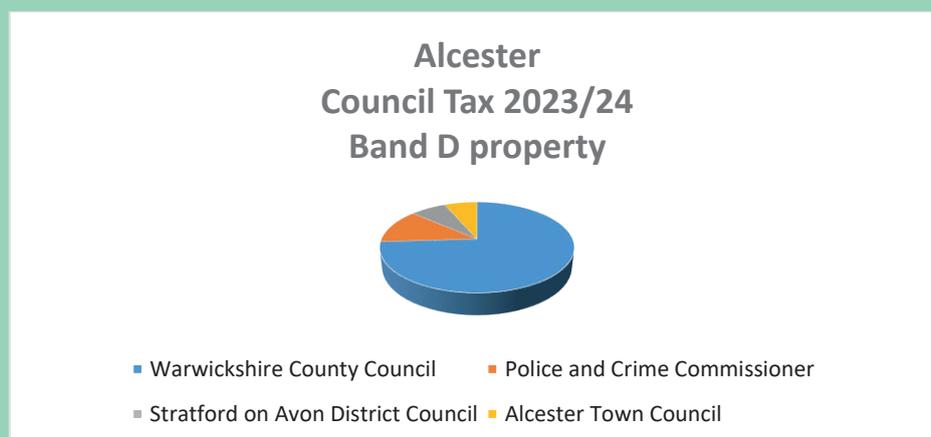
The 'Meet the Mayor' initiative saw the first event on 4 August in the High Street. It was good to meet residents as well as several visitors to the town. Everyone said that Alcester is such a great place to live in and to visit. Several matters were raised and will be investigated. The issue which raised the most concerns was the future of the Three Tuns and there is an update later in the newsletter. As the opportunity to 'Meet the Mayor' proved so popular it is hoped to repeat this in the future.

*Councillor Vaughan Blake, Mayor of Alcester*

## CLERKS CORNER

Stratford-on-Avon District Council is responsible for collecting Council Tax on behalf of various local authorities including the Town Council.

The pie chart below shows how the Council Tax paid by an Alcester Band D taxpayer is split.



Alcester Town Council receives its small share of the Council Tax via the “precept”. This precept is used to run council business and to provide a range of services to residents:

Service	Location
Play Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jubilee Fields</li> <li>Moorfields</li> <li>Collins Way</li> <li>Bleachfield Street</li> <li>MUGA at Eric Payne Community Centre</li> <li>Skate Park</li> </ul>
Recreational open space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Abbey Fields</li> <li>Centenary Field</li> <li>Weir Fields</li> <li>Former railway lines</li> </ul>
Cemetery	Birmingham Road
Community Centre	Eric Payne Community Centre
Allotments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bleachfield Street North</li> <li>Bleachfield Street South</li> <li>Allimore Lane</li> <li>School Road</li> </ul>
Litter and dog bins, benches, signs	Various
Litter picking/grass cutting	Play areas and open spaces
Watering	Hanging baskets and planters
CCTV	via SDC partnership
Civic and Community Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual Parish Meeting</li> <li>Mayor Making</li> <li>Civic Service</li> <li>Awards Evening</li> <li>Remembrance Sunday</li> </ul>
Grants to Community Organisations	via Community Grant scheme
Communication	Website, newsletters, social media etc

*Vanessa Lowe, Town Clerk*

## LITTER FREE ALCESTER

**Come along and help Litter Free Alcester (LFA) with an autumn litter pick on 1 October. We will meet at the Eric Payne Centre at 10 am and will finish at 1pm. Families and children are all welcome to come along to join us.**

*Susan Juned, Chair, LFA*



## PLANNING MATTERS

### South Warwickshire Local Plan (SWLP) – Further Update

The representations received to the consultation have now been published and can be viewed at:

<https://southwarwickshire.oc2.uk/document/124>

Analysis of the consultation responses is ongoing, once this process is complete, both District Councils will publish their response with a summary of key issues in a Consultation Statement which will be available to view on their website.

A second Call for Sites ran alongside the Issues and Options consultation and these submissions are on the SWLP interactive map alongside the earlier Call for Sites 1. **Please note: these sites are presented for information at this stage and have not yet been assessed as to their suitability for inclusion within the plan nor are they endorsed.**

The interactive map can be viewed at:

<https://soadc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=c9f9579706974081a054de1b14a66130>

SWLP expect to issue a revised timetable in Autumn 2023 which will set out the next stages. For more information have a look at the website <https://www.southwarwickshire.org.uk/swlp/>

### Alcester Neighbourhood Development Plan (ANDP) - Review

The SWLP (see above) is a substantial undertaking, and the Town Council will be scrutinising any potential impact on Alcester. With this in mind, we have decided to begin a review of the current ANDP to remain consistent with the District Council's Core Strategy.

To do this a Steering Group will be set up and **ATC would like to encourage residents to be part of this important review process.**

**To register your interest please contact the Deputy Town Clerk before 31 October 2023 by email [administration@alcester-tc.gov.uk](mailto:administration@alcester-tc.gov.uk) or call the Council office on 01789 766084.**

*Councillor Mike Bowe, Chair, Planning Committee*



## ROAD SAFETY AND SPEED AWARE WORKING GROUP

Many residents are rightly concerned about road safety in our area. Although the Town Council has no jurisdiction over highways and traffic there is still a lot that we can do! For example we have

recently formed a Road Safety and Speed Aware Working Group, comprising both town councillors and residents where issues of importance can be discussed and action taken in conjunction with the County and District Councils, the Police and other relevant organisations.

The Working Group had their inaugural meeting in August with key areas of concern being speeding on Birmingham Road, School Road and the High Street, inconsiderate parking on or near Birmingham Road and school buses causing problems on School Road.

The Working Group are determined not to be just a 'talking shop' and have a number of ideas which we hope will help to resolve matters. The group are investigating options for the County Council to conduct local traffic volume and speed surveys which can then be used as evidence for implementing new safety schemes. The group will also be sending out a resident survey which will be via social media, the Town Council website and through the post.

Please look out for the survey as your views on these issues are very important to the Working Group. The group continue to operate community speed watch sessions at key locations around the town. New volunteers are always welcome and will be provided with training by the Police.

*Cllr Andrew Foster, Lead Councillor, Road Safety and Speedwatch*



## THE THREE TUNS

The Town Council is aware of the ongoing concern of residents about the state of The Three Tuns following the fire in April 2021.

Regrettably, the Town Council has no authority whatsoever in respect of the issues required to be resolved prior to the start of rebuilding.

We understand that responsibility for the matter currently rests with the Planning Department at Stratford District Council.

The Planning Department were approached for comment but due to the live enforcement case, were unable to make any comment at this time.

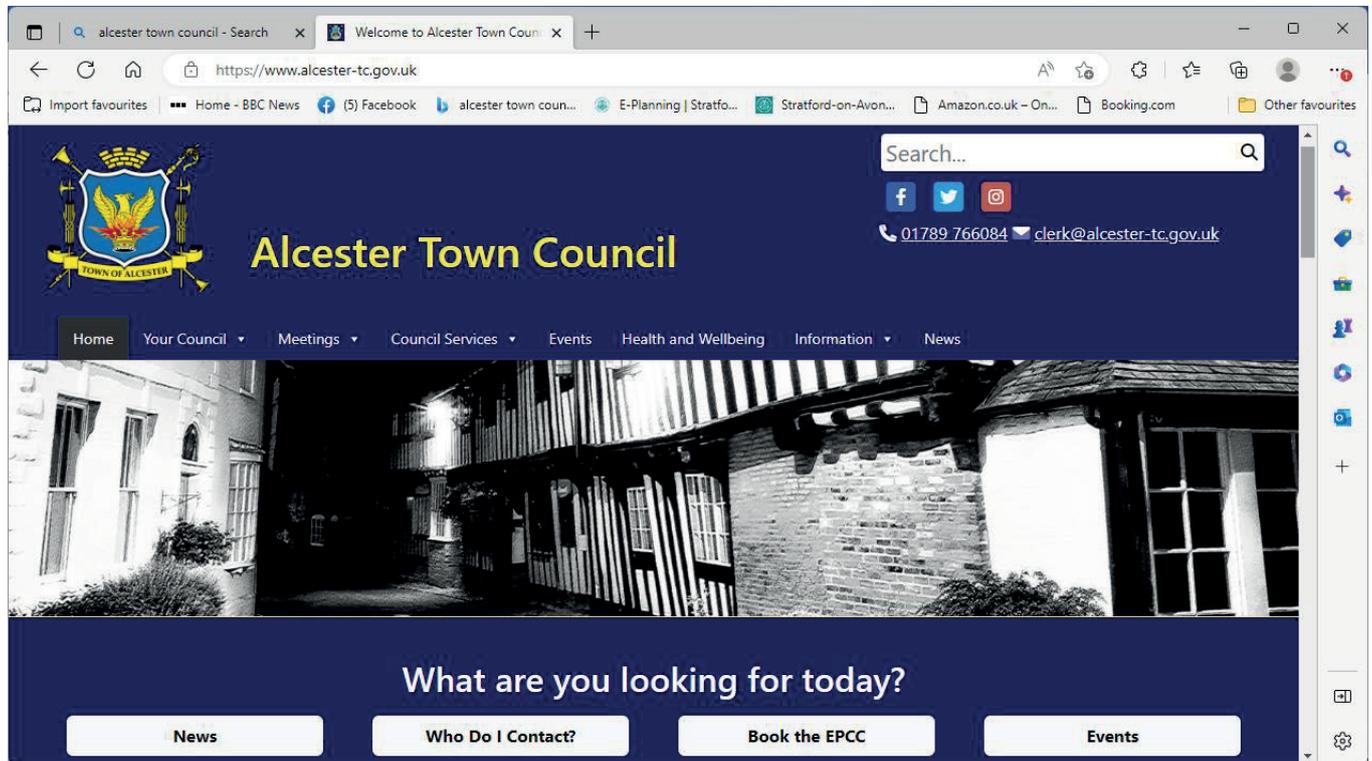
*Correct at 8 August 2023*

## CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!

You can now easily

- Find out who are your local councillors
- Book the Eric Payne Community Centre
- Check who to contact to report a pothole
- See latest news and the events that ATC is organising

For these and more, go to our newly refreshed website [www.alcester-tc.gov.uk](https://www.alcester-tc.gov.uk) which has recently been updated to make it more user friendly and easier to find out about the Council and its services.



*Cllr Wendy Mills, Lead Councillor Communications, Community Engagement and Strategy*

## COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

I was delighted to have the opportunity to extend my support to impactful projects throughout the current year in Alcester and nearby villages using the Councillor Grant. An allocation of £8,000 was distributed across several deserving projects, contributing to their ongoing operation or aiding their establishment. This role's most fulfilling aspect allows me to witness and participate in diverse, engaging endeavours, offering firsthand insights into the dedication and commitment characterising our corner of Warwickshire. This year witnessed an influx of applications. The evaluation team reported that Alcester Division received a significantly higher volume of applicants than other county regions, a testament to the vibrant sense of community and the scale of ongoing projects. Additionally, a new dimension was introduced this year, with smaller grants capped at £350, expediting the funding process and swiftly backing select projects. I am pleased to announce that this year's budget has been fully allocated, a noteworthy achievement that often poses challenges for other divisions in their initial application round.



While only a few applications still needed to secure funding, seventeen initiatives were granted funds. This encompassed support for improvements to the Alcester War Memorial Town Hall, additional aid for the Greig Hall, and bolstering the valuable Crafty Lunch Club. The latter is an invaluable resource, offering tailored weekly activities for disabled community members and caregivers (see photo).

Also, I would like to point out that various other ventures, including the Christmas Lights initiative, the Depot Youth Club, the Community Shed, and the Town Council's Grand Days Out program, secured funding to advance their respective projects.

*County Cllr Piers Daniell*



## ALCESTER REUSES, REPAIRS, RECYCLES AND STOPS FOOD WASTE

Have you ever used a carbon footprint calculator? They are an easy online tool and give a good idea of what we are emitting and useful tips for simple switches to reduce carbon and our household costs <https://footprint.wwf.org.uk/>.

**Alcester Community Fridge** was set up by Alcester Baptist Church in 2022 to reduce food waste. Unbelievably, one third of food produced globally is lost or wasted. The Fridge celebrated its first birthday in July and in only one year saved almost 30 tonnes of food from going to landfill. Congratulations to the 40+ volunteers without whose commitment that would not have been possible. The Fridge is open

every day, except Mondays.

You can learn more here <https://www.facebook.com/groups/alcestercommunityfridge>.

And remember, reducing food waste at home is simple: freeze anything you can't eat while it's fresh or use left over portions for another day; try to buy loose produce so you can select the exact quantity that you need; and get creative with what you make from leftover food.

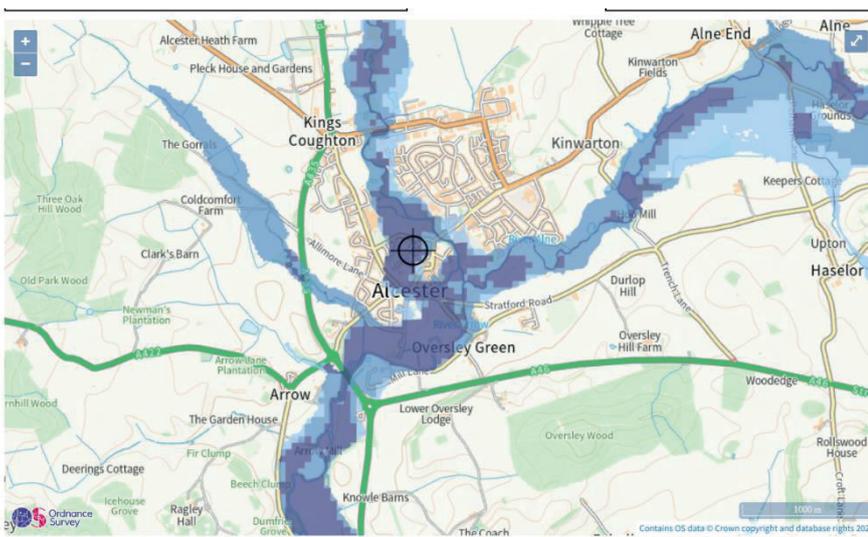
**Alcester Repair Café**- Come along with your broken item to The Depot, Eric Payne Community Centre on the fourth Thursday of the month between 2pm and 5.30pm where our handy volunteers will fix anything from bicycles, furniture or small electricals and make them useable again.

**Recycling** at home is easy and most of us are recycling as much as we can. Our recycling is being taken care of by Stratford District Council's fortnightly kerbside collection. Information on which items to recycle can be found on their website: <https://www.stratford.gov.uk/waste-recycling/our-recycling-collection.cfm>

## ALCESTER FLOOD RESILIENCE

Alcester has flooded 22 times since 1864. In 2007 we saw the worst flood since records began 250 years ago. It was a double event caused both by surface water (a flash flood) and rising river water. It affected around 150-190 homes, several businesses and around 20 people were evacuated but thankfully there was no threat to life.

Our current flood defences mean that the flood risk is 1 in 40 years for surface flooding and 1 in 100 years for river flooding. A flood risk map from a new service at <https://www.gov.uk/check-long-term-flood-risk> shows the risk by location. The highest risk is in the summer months, but flooding can occur at any time of the year. Alcester Town Council continues to engage with the Environment Agency (EA) and Warwickshire County Council to try to get further investment in our flood defences but funding for this is an issue.



Extent of flooding from rivers or the sea

● High ● Medium ● Low ● Very low ⊕ Location you selected

Council offers this support, we all have a personal responsibility to protect our own homes and property. Measures we can all take include staying aware of alerts, positioning valuable items appropriately, having an evacuation plan and helping neighbours if vulnerable. A useful personal flood plan can be found at [www.assets.publishing.service.gov.uk](http://www.assets.publishing.service.gov.uk) or by using this QR code.

The EA issues river flood warnings and you can sign up to receive alerts by phone or email by going to the website <https://www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings>. There are 3 levels of warning: Flood alerts (yellow), flood warnings (amber) and severe flood warnings (red). The Town Council provides help and guidance. It manages a group of flood wardens who respond to warnings and provide sandbags. Sand containers are also located around the town for you to fill your own bags. Although the



*Cllr Clive Neal-Sturgess, Lead Councillor Community Resilience*

## ALCESTER MALE VOICE CHOIR LOOKING FOR MORE MEMBERS AT SPECIAL OPEN EVENING



Alcester Male Voice Choir will once again be holding their Open Evening- a special evening set aside to encourage more men to join their ranks.

Although new members are welcome at any time, the Open Evening is an annual event designed specifically to encourage potential new members to come along, dip their toes in the water, meet the music team, socialise with existing members, and get a real feel for the buzz and excitement experienced when singing in a choir.

Judith Land BEM, the choir's founder and Director of Music, explains "We are always looking for new members. We never put

people through stressful auditions and we welcome men of all abilities from the experienced to those who are trying it for the first time. Once a new member joins there is no pressure. We are a friendly group, and help them to settle in. All we ask that they commit to the weekly rehearsals, and only when they feel ready, take part in the concerts. I guarantee they will have fun, enjoy some wonderful experiences and feel healthier for singing on a regular basis. So, whether you sing high, sing low or sing somewhere in between, come along and meet the choir".

The Open Evening will take place on Wednesday 20 September at the Eric Payne Community Centre off St Faiths Road, Alcester, B49 6AG and anyone interested should call Judith on 07886 139781.



### Come and Sing With Us!

Wil Gee, the choir's newly appointed Musical Director and Conductor, will be preparing the choir for the 2023 Christmas Concert. Rehearsals for the concert will commence on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September.

Rehearsals take place each Thursday in the hall of the Catholic Church, Priory Road, Alcester and begin at 7.30pm.

We are a friendly mixed voice choir and are open to all. We do not require an audition. Both new and experienced singers are welcome.

The Christmas Concert will feature "In Terra Pax" by Gerald Finzi and traditional Christmas favourites. Experience the pleasures of learning these pieces and meeting weekly to sing.

**The Concert is on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 4pm in**

**St Nicholas Church, Alcester.**

Contact

[events@alcestersingers.co.uk](mailto:events@alcestersingers.co.uk)

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

or find us on Facebook.

## 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 we have 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 us **before 1 October** for our **November meeting** and before **1 May**, for our **June meeting**.

If you wish to apply, please email the **Clerk to the Trustees** at [moorfieldsclerk@gmail.com](mailto:moorfieldsclerk@gmail.com) to request an application form.

*Moor Fields Charity No. 228821*



## ALCESTER BRETIVINS

Despite the unseasonable weather, we have been able to hold two of our traditional summer events.

On 17 June, a gathering of the Chevaliers was held at the Welcombe Hills Vineyard, Snitterfield, to bless the budding bunches of grapes and to pray for a good harvest. We were joined by members of the Warwick Commanderie du Taste Saumur, one of whose

members, Fr Patrick Mileham, led the service. After a lusty rendition of 'All things bright and beautiful', we enjoyed samples of the vineyard's sparkling and still wines accompanied by a large slate of homemade 'charcuterie and cheese platter'. A wonderful event enjoyed by all and we hope our prayers will be answered with an excellent harvest!

On 16 July, we met at Alcester Rugby Club for our Bastille Day boules competition. The playing surface meant that winning was more by luck than skill, but this was compensated for by supplies of wine and beer from the club bar to accompany our picnic lunch. Also, the weather, while threatening, didn't spoil the occasion!

Our next event will be on Friday 22 September, again at the Rugby Club, when we shall be challenged to 'Find the Muscadet' in an evening of 'blind' wine tasting. Friends and new members are always welcome and details are available from John Freeland at [bottleandpop@gmail.com](mailto:bottleandpop@gmail.com)

*David Hall*

## STRATFORD ON AVON DISTRICT COUNCILLORS



### Coffee, book sale and councillors surgery

On Saturday 30 September, the three district councillors for Alcester and Kinwarton will be holding a joint surgery for residents who want to raise issues with them, find out more about the work that they do or simply want to come and have a chat.

The surgery will be in Church House, Butter Street Alcester from 10am until 12.30pm.

There will be coffee and biscuits available- and also a book sale.

*Cllrs Susan Juned, Joe Harmer and Thom Holmes*



## ALCESTER & BIDFORD ROTARY

Our Summer Charity Concert in July at St Nicholas Church, Alcester, was a sell out. The massed voices of Alcester Male Voice Choir and Beaufort Choir from Ebbw Vale raised the rafters

and the evening was hugely enjoyed by all who supported the event. A varied programme of music was enhanced by soloists Cressida Dolphin and Connor O'Leary, with a beautiful piece played by concert pianist Irina Chagunava. Aston Cantlow Handbell Ringers provided a brief interlude to warm applause. All who took part gave their talent and skills for free and profits of nearly £2,000 were raised for Rotary Charities. Alcester & Bidford Rotary are truly grateful for the support of all.

Redditch Sports & Social Club was the venue for a spirited skittles match between Redditch Kingfisher and Alcester & Bidford clubs. Alcester & Bidford gained an early lead at the end of round one which was maintained throughout the evening with Alcester & Bidford lifting the trophy. Alcester & Bidford also snaffled the highest male scorer and the lowest female scorer but Nigel was just pipped at

"Killer" by a worthy winner from Kingfisher so some honour was restored. Bangers & chips went down well and we look forward to another enjoyable match next year when Kingfisher will be seeking revenge! Anyone who wants to join us for fund raising and fun times will be very welcome.

[alcesterbidfordrotary@gmail.com](mailto:alcesterbidfordrotary@gmail.com)  
[www.alcesterbidfordrotary.co.uk](http://www.alcesterbidfordrotary.co.uk)



*Kay Blake, Secretary*



## THANK YOU ALCESTER!

Thanks to the support of five local charitable organisations 35 Alcester school children had a remarkable weeklong residential stay at Lower Treginnis Farm in Wales this summer.

Pupils from Our Lady's Primary school pulled together brilliantly as a team and got stuck into every challenge thrown at them. Jobs included collecting eggs, milking goats, chopping wood and feeding pigs, all before they had sat down to breakfast. Children also harvested crops such as

potatoes, beans and onions and cooked their own healthy recipes in the huge farmhouse kitchen and dining room. The group also had chance to go on long coastal walks where they were able to observe wildlife and learn about the local seaweed farm.

A special shout out must go to the three St Benedict's sixth formers who also attended and supported the children brilliantly. One of the sixth formers, Holly, said... *"I want to be a primary school teacher so the skills I have learnt this week will help me in my future career, it has been wonderful to see the children grow in confidence during their time here."*

Many thanks to Alcester Food Festival, Alcester Youth Project, Church Street Properties, Moorfields Trust and Newports School Foundation.

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



## ALCESTER TOWN FC UPDATE

It's been a busy 2023 for the football club as it continues to grow. Preparation is already underway for the upcoming season at all age groups. In June once again we hosted a highly successful youth tournament with 96 teams taking part over the weekend. Lots of great football on display by our Alcester youth teams. (Photo of our Under 12 Juniors).

Things are moving forward with our Clubhouse Project. If you would like to get involved, please contact the club. The result of the project will benefit all players, parents & visitors to our Stratford Road ground as we continue to strive to provide the best facilities in the local area.

As always, the club are on the lookout for sponsors. If you are interested in supporting the club please contact Gary Williams on 07766 664289.

[www.alcestertownfootball.club](http://www.alcestertownfootball.club)

## HAVE YOU VISITED THE GREIG HALL YET?



Six months after the official reopening of the Greig Hall the concept of the Hall as a Community Hub has proved to be a good one.

People have been meeting and greeting others, new and old, at the Hall across an astonishing range of activities. Audiences have filled the Hall for bands and a reunion disco. Musicians have filled the stage to prepare a performance of a Symphony in a Day (see photo). Young actors and singers have braved their first show, such as the School of Rock. Special occasions have been marked. Extended families have come together to celebrate an anniversary or a wedding. Huge amounts of funds have been raised for charities, including the Hall itself of course.

What are you waiting for? We are sure to have an event to please you or a space just right for an activity you are organising; please see full details at [www.greighall.org.uk](http://www.greighall.org.uk) or make enquiries via [events@greighall.org.uk](mailto:events@greighall.org.uk)



**Are you grieving the death of a loved one or struggling with the long-term effects of loss?**

**A six-session course will soon be running in your area.**

**Topics include:**  
 Attachment, separation and loss • The Impact and pain of bereavement  
 Adjusting to change • Anger and guilt • Coping with others' reactions  
 Moving on healthily • And an optional 6th session on Faith questions

Thursdays at 2pm  
 At Alcester Methodist Church  
 Please contact Sally to book a place on 07884191101  
 churchcommunityandoutreach@gmail.com

thebereavementjourney.org

**INVITATION**  
**TO A FREE INTERACTIVE DRAMA PERFORMANCE**

**OPEN TO EVERYONE**

**FIND OUT HOW TO SPOT THE SIGNS OF EXPLOITATION IN YOUR COMMUNITY AND WHERE TO GO FOR HELP AND SUPPORT**

FUNDED BY ALCESTER HEALTH AND WELLBEING PARTNERSHIP

**WORKING FOR MARCUS**

**FREE REFRESHMENTS**

<p style="font-size: x-small;">WEDNESDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER 2023</p>	<p style="font-size: x-small;">GREIG HALL, KINWARTON ROAD, ALCESTER. B49 6AD</p>
<p style="font-size: x-small;">DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 PERFORMANCE STARTS AT 6PM</p>	<p style="font-size: x-small;">TO BOOK, SCAN THE CODE:</p> 

## Cruse Bereavement Support

### CRUSE BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT WARWICKSHIRE

In the West Midlands Cruse have received some funding from Severn Trent Water to support and help men who have experienced a bereavement and are finding the grieving process difficult. Grieving is not an easy process for anyone and if we are struggling to deal with our thoughts and feelings, those emotions can get very hard to understand. Sometimes in society it is considered that men don't feel, but at

Cruse of course we know that's not true. We are here to support men and help to understand what those complex and difficult to deal with feeling are. As part of this project, we are reaching out to men and within the West Midlands have developed a number of support packages to help. Please see the list of events and activities we are doing in the West Midlands and get in touch if you would you like more information about how we can support you. You can find us on on Facebook at [Cruse Bereavement Support West Midlands](#) or phone Simon on 07508 853359.



### ALCESTER YOUTH PROJECT

On Tuesday 20 June Alcester Youth Project (AYP) were delighted to collaborate with Warwickshire Wildlife Trust and LEAF Education to deliver biodiversity training to Alcester Grammar School Biology department on local Town Council land at the Abbey Fields Nature corner.

The training involved showing staff different surveying techniques to measure mammal populations and included demonstrations of how to set humane mammal traps to capture and record mice, voles and shrews. There was also plenty of brilliant advice on how find evidence of otters and owls.

AYP now have a set of mammal traps and a license to capture and survey mammals. If any schools are interested in attending a demonstration of how to use the traps to measure biodiversity, or want to borrow the equipment, then we would love to hear from you.

*Elizabeth Lake, Alcester Youth Project*  
 Email: [Elizabeth.Lake@leaf.eco](mailto:Elizabeth.Lake@leaf.eco)

# ALCESTER WINDOW WANDERLAND 20 - 28 JANUARY 2024

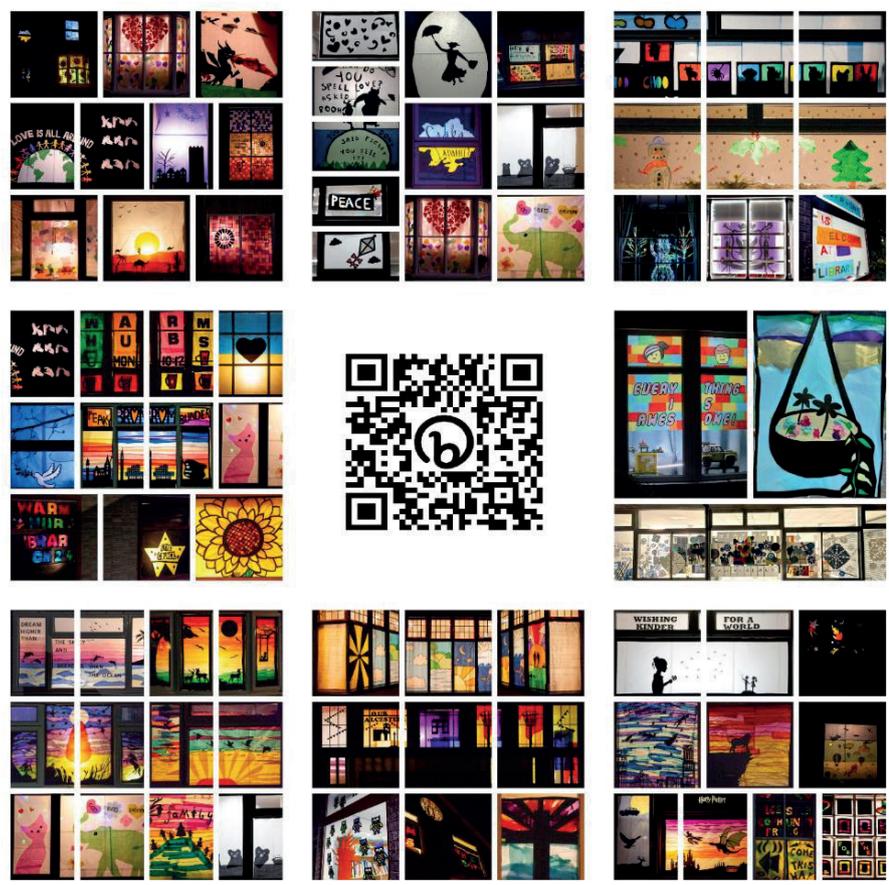
In January this year we had nearly 40 window makers in Alcester and a great feeling of community spirit spread across the town once again. We are excited about this year's event and hope to make it bigger and more accessible to all in our community than ever before. You can help by inviting your friends and neighbours, schools, shops on the High Street, local clubs etc to take part. Spread the message of how much you enjoyed being involved in this community event.

We will once more be hosting some workshops to showcase simple ways of creating your window displays. This year we will have the following categories:

- \* The Creative Award
- \* The Community Window Award
- \* Save the Planet Award
- \* The Positive Message Award

Scan the QR code in the picture to take part in January or visit

<https://www.windowwanderland.com/event/alcester-2024>



## ALCESTER MUSICAL THEATRE COMPANY

**Celebrating 60 years of entertainment!**

Formed in 1963 as 'Alcester Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society', Alcester Musical Theatre Company comprises a relatively small group of people committed to music, theatre and having fun. We have a reputation for being friendly, relaxed but hard-working, committed to achieving high-quality performances and giving members the opportunity to develop their musical, dancing and acting skills. For more info:

- Contact Membership Secretary, Debbie Salkeld, by phone on 07719618864
- 'Contact Us' form on our website: [alcestermusicaltheatre.com](http://alcestermusicaltheatre.com)

• Facebook: Alcester Musical Theatre Company  
 If you wish to join, you'll be asked to do a short vocal audition. There is an annual subscription.

**Our next show is "Legally Blonde" The Musical (from the film of the same name) at the Palace Theatre in Redditch (a London theatre experience on your doorstep!) from 4th – 7 October 2023 Tickets from £21.50 - £23.50 (inc theatre booking fee). Scan the QR code to book your tickets now. Or ring our ticket secretary, Cynthia Hill 01789 763446 - no booking fee! Save £1.50 per ticket. Group rates available.**



**ALCESTER W.I.**  
 As it enters its 99<sup>th</sup> year, Alcester W.I. is returning to holding its meetings in the Lounge at the Greig Hall on the second Thursday of each month at 7.30 pm. If you want to make new friends, get re-acquainted with old friends, appreciate listening to an interesting speaker, enjoy an outing or just want a chat with like-minded people, why not put the date in your diary? You will be warmly welcomed.

A colorful poster for the Alcester Community Fair. At the top, a banner reads 'ALCESTER' in large white letters on an orange background, with 'COMMUNITY FAIR' in red letters below it. The date and time are 'Saturday 16th September 11am - 2pm'. The location is 'ERIC PAYNE COMMUNITY CENTRE B49 6AG'. A red ribbon says 'FREE ENTRY'. Below, it says 'EVERYONE WELCOME' and 'Come and find out about the wide range of clubs, groups and organisations in your community.' It also says 'Calling all local groups - come along and promote what you do and grab a piece of C.A.K.E. Connect. Action. Knowledge. Exchange'. There is a logo for 'ALCESTER HEALTH & WELLBEING PARTNERSHIP' and contact information for Wendy Sherwood.

**ALCESTER**  
**COMMUNITY FAIR**

**Saturday 16th September**  
**11am - 2pm**

**ERIC PAYNE COMMUNITY CENTRE B49 6AG**

**FREE ENTRY**

EVERYONE WELCOME

Come and find out about the wide range of clubs, groups and organisations in your community.

Calling all local groups - come along and promote what you do and grab a piece of C.A.K.E.  
Connect. Action. Knowledge.  
Exchange

For details and to book a display table contact Wendy Sherwood, [info@alcester-tc.gov.uk](mailto:info@alcester-tc.gov.uk) or 01789 766084



One in a million?  
Mayor's Civic Awards 2023

## **ADVANCE NOTICE: MAYOR'S ANNUAL CIVIC AWARDS 2023**

Do you know someone or a community organisation in Alcester who is one in a million?

The Mayor's Awards will be open for nominations in November 2023 culminating in an evening of celebration at the Greig Hall in January 2024.

Categories include Young Person, Community Organisation and Citizen of the Year. This year we have two new categories which include awards for Business and Tourism.

## 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](http://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](http://www.facebook.com/alcester.towncouncil) Twitter: [www.twitter.com/AlcesterTown](http://www.twitter.com/AlcesterTown) and Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/alcestertowncouncil/>

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