

Alcester Town Council



Autumn Newsletter

September 2025 Issue 79

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

It's hard to believe that summer has almost gone and autumn is nearly upon us. Having just been appointed as your Mayor when the last newsletter was published, I find myself nearly six months into the role already - little did I realise how quickly the time would pass. The summer has been a busy time for Lesley (my wife and Consort) and I. The Mayor is Chair of the Town Council for their year in office, but the primary role is representing Alcester at a range of very different events. These include neighbouring councils' formal civic engagements and charity fund-raising events, but my priority is, and will always be, attending and supporting events in our town. The following are a few highlights we have been privileged to enjoy during our time in office so far.

The Alcester Branch of the Royal British Legion has delivered a number of events this year, including VE Day, Armed Forces Day, and VJ Day. It has been a real honour to be invited to support these events.

June saw the opening of Alcester's temporary Banking Hub in the Greig Hall and the launch of the Neurodivergent Friendly Town project (more on these later in the newsletter). At the end of June, the Deputy Mayor, Cllr Gill Forman and I, along with our Consorts, attended Alcester Town Football Club's annual tournament to present trophies and medals. Lesley and I were also honoured to attend the service at Coventry Cathedral to celebrate the installation of the new Bishop of Coventry.

July was a memorable month, with the Mayor's Civic Service taking place in St. Nicholas Church. All present were spellbound by a piano recital given to us by Samuel Harper-Mills, an extremely talented pupil from Alcester Grammar School. Later in the month, Lesley and I were invited to celebrate a graduation ceremony at the University of Warwick.



We have also held our first fund-raising event for our nominated charity, Alcester Day Care, which took the form of a quiz night. We successfully raised a significant sum of money to get us started. A big thank you to all who made it happen and those who came along and donated their money to this wonderful cause.

I also had the pleasure of starting our annual Duck Race along with the Court Leet's Low Bailiff. It's not often you get asked to launch hundreds of ducks off a bridge into the river! The following week, we had a tour of the Ragley Estate during National Open Farm Day and then dashed back to Alcester to judge the Fancy Dress competition at the Annual Court Leet Street Market.

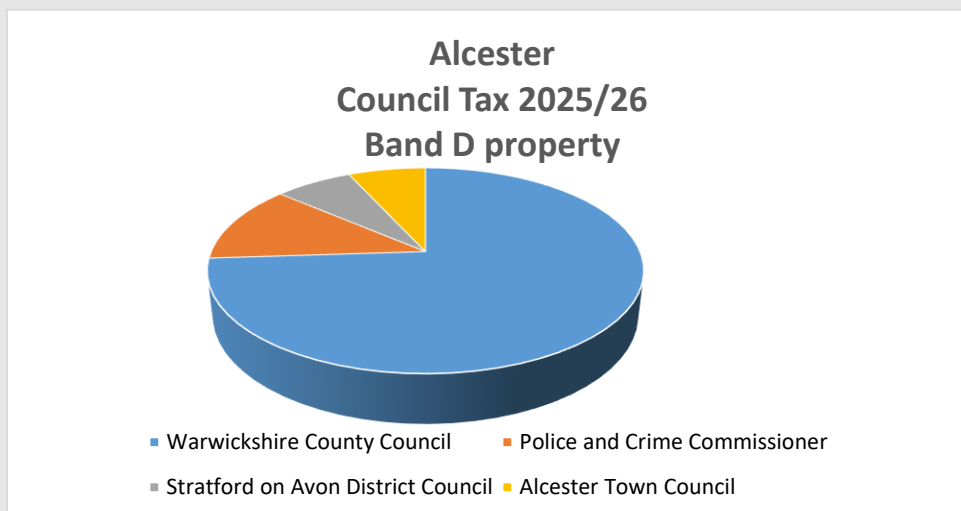
Before I close, I would like to mention some important upcoming events. By the time you read this newsletter we will have commenced the launch of 100 coffee mornings due to run through to April 2027, to support Alcester Day Care. All are invited to join us, so keep an eye out for the posters around town and in the newsletters and join us when you can! We are planning a Cocktail Masterclass on 14 November and a Burns Night on 24 January 2026. More information to follow very soon.



Councillor David Henderson, 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 above 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"> Jubilee Fields Moorfields Collins Way Bleachfield Street MUGA at Eric Payne Community Centre Skate Park
Recreational open space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abbey Fields Centenary Field Weir Fields Former railway lines
Cemetery	Birmingham Road
Buildings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Globe House offices Eric Payne Community Centre Alcester Community Shed
Allotments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bleachfield Street North Bleachfield Street South Allimore Lane School Road
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"> Annual Parish Meeting Mayor Making Civic Service Awards Evening Remembrance Sunday
Grants to Community Organisations	via Community Grant scheme
Communication	Website, newsletters, social media etc

Vanessa Lowe, Town Clerk

ALCESTER TOWN COUNCIL CONTACTS

Office of the Town Clerk: Tel: 01789 766084

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

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

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

Planning: administration@alcester-tc.gov.uk

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

Website: www.alcester-tc.gov.uk

STOP PRESS

We are sorry to report that Cllr Andrew Foster resigned from the Town Council in June. We thank Andrew for his time and commitment as a Town Councillor for 10 years, and for his year as Mayor of Alcester in 2018. We wish Andrew well for his future endeavours.

ALCESTER WELCOMES THREE NEW TOWN COUNCILLORS

We are delighted to announce that three new Town Councillors were co-opted at Full Council on 3rd June 2025.

Joining the team of councillors representing Alcester West are Jo Andrews (jandrews.atc@gmail.com) and Vicki Holyland (vholyland.atc@gmail.com).

Ray Howells (rayhowells.atc@gmail.com) joins the existing team of councillors representing Alcester East.

We are sure you will extend a warm welcome to Jo, Ray and Vicki as they settle into their new roles.

STRATFORD ON AVON DISTRICT COUNCILLORS



Local Government Reorganisation – The District Council's public engagement on the preferred option for Local Government Reorganisation will be open from 7th August - 12th September. Details and information are on the District Council's website.

Stratford-on-Avon District Council App - A reminder to residents to download the District Council app, to get up to date news, councillor details, waste collection updates and other useful information.



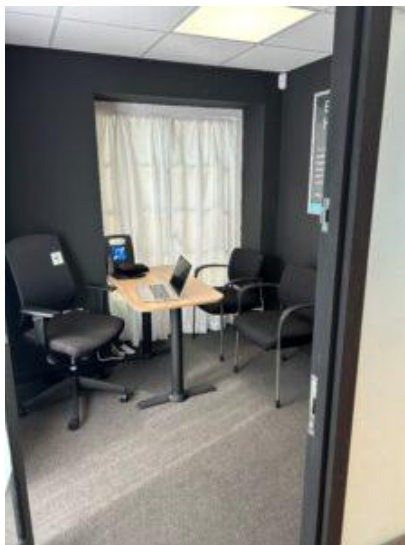
Warm Homes Local Grant - is a Government funding scheme for local residents and replaces the previous Home Upgrade Grant 2 (HUG2) scheme. The grants are to enable lower income households or those in hard-to-heat properties to keep their homes warm and reduce the costs of energy bills. Unfortunately, the Government funding was reduced from previous levels, so SDC has agreed to top-up the funding. Please email advice@actonenergy.org.uk or Tel: 0800 988 2881 for more information.

Three Tuns – Although Cllr Juned has supported with this for many years, since being elected, Cllr Ballinger has been in regular contact with officers at the District Council to find a resolution for this long pressing local matter. Cllr Ballinger is concerned that the pavement has been out of use for some time and with the overall street scene. The Enforcement Team in the District Council have also been involved in trying to find a solution, which they continue to do. As the ward member, Cllr Ballinger will keep residents updated with progress.

Cllrs Susan Juned (Alcester East) and Tom Ballinger (Alcester West)

ALCESTER BANKING HUB

We are delighted to announce that the temporary Banking Hub opened on 19th June, at The Greig Hall. The Banking Hub is open Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm. A leaflet explaining the services available can be found on the Alcester Town Council News section of the website.



There is a rota of Community Bankers as follows:

Community Bankers	
Weekday	Member Firm
Monday	Barclays
Tuesday	NatWest
Wednesday	Lloyds & Halifax
Thursday	HSBC
Friday	Lloyds & Halifax

As previously reported, Alcester Town Council received the news on Friday 28th June 2024 that the Alcester branch of Lloyds Bank would be closing in June 2025. The Town Clerk immediately made enquiries with the appropriate authorities explaining that this was the last bank branch in the town. Thankfully, news was received that Cash Access UK had confirmed that a new Banking Hub would be set up in Alcester. A permanent site for the Banking Hub is still being sought.

ARMED FORCES DAY – SATURDAY 28 JUNE 2025



On Saturday 28th June, Alcester honoured Armed Forces Day at a service arranged by the Alcester Branch of the Royal British Legion.

The Mayor, Cllr David Henderson, joined the Flag Raising Ceremony at 11am on Centenary Field.

During the service, the Mayor thanked all members of the Armed Forces for their service, on behalf of the townspeople of Alcester.

Wreath laying also took place.



ALCESTER LEADS THE WAY WITH NEURODIVERGENT FRIENDLY TOWN INITIATIVE

Alcester is taking bold and compassionate steps to become one of the UK's first *Neurodivergent Friendly Towns*, and the community is already feeling the impact. The **Neurodivergent Friendly Town Initiative**, launched in partnership with local organisations and neurodivergent families, aims to create an inclusive environment for people with autism, ADHD, dyslexia, dyspraxia, and other neurological differences.

The initiative includes the creation of a film to use for staff training in local shops and businesses and the promotion of sensory-friendly spaces, clear signage, and quiet areas. These small adjustments can make a huge difference for those who experience the world in a different way. Neurodivergent individuals and their families have had direct input into shaping the town's approach, ensuring it's not just *for* the community, but *with* it. Local schools are also onboard, helping to build understanding and awareness from an early age. The response has been overwhelmingly positive. Alcester's shops, cafes, and public services are coming together to break down barriers and embrace diversity. It's not just about accessibility; it's about acceptance and celebration. Alcester is showing that when a town listens, learns, and leads with empathy, it becomes better for everyone. Alcester's example is hoping to inspire nearby towns and villages to consider similar initiatives, proving that change is possible when people work together with empathy and intention. You can watch our film on the news section of the Alcester Town Council website <https://www.alcester-tc.gov.uk/latest-news/>. If you would like further information, contact Alcester Town Council on 01789 766084.



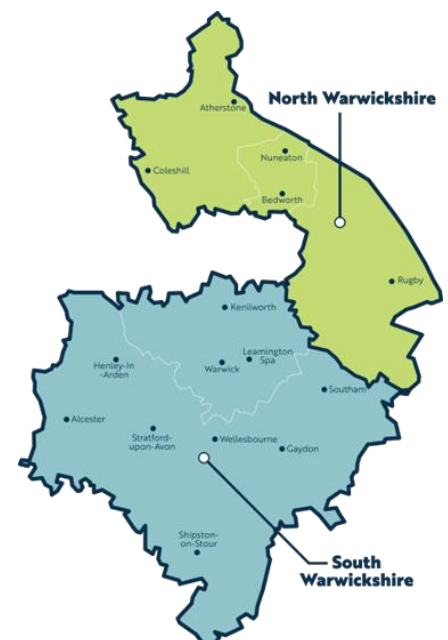
WARWICKSHIRE LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION – YOUR VIEWS MATTER

Central Government plans to restructure local government. It aims to remove the current two-tiers of county, district and borough councils and replace them with a single tier of councils; called unitary councils. Four of the five local borough and district councils across Warwickshire, including Stratford District Council, have united to reach a preferred option: to split the county in half with a single council in the north and a single council in the south of Warwickshire. The map below shows the districts' preferred option for local government reorganisation in Warwickshire.

Local councils and the services they provide have an impact on residents' lives, and it is important that you have a say on possible changes to how these services are delivered in the future. There is an engagement document ('Shaping the future of our Councils') available online (<https://shapingourcouncils.co.uk/get-involved/>), which provides further details about the proposals.

Feedback is being sought from residents in the form of a short questionnaire which is available by clicking '[Take part in the consultation](#)' online at the above website address. Hard copies of the questionnaire are also available at the Alcester Library on Priory Road, or from the Town Council's offices (behind the library). This public engagement exercise is running until **Sunday 14 September**.

Once the results have been analysed, the district and borough councils will submit their final local government reorganisation proposal to Central Government on 28 November 2025. We will continue to keep you updated on devolution and local government reorganisation via Alcester Town Council's website - www.alcester-tc.gov.uk, the quarterly newsletter and our social media platforms.



HERITAGE OPEN DAYS



Bring friends and family to explore Alcester's heritage!
Roman Museum, Town Hall, St Nicholas Church, Church House, Baptist Church
all open on Sat 13th Sept. Sun 14th Sept from 12.00noon until 4.00pm.*



Where can you try on a Roman toga?

Who paid for this building in 1618?





Where can you see a Civil War shot hole?

Where was the Rector's coach kept?





Where did non-conformists first meet?

*Full details on <https://www.heritageopendays.org.uk/> Search 'Alcester'

Please visit www.heritageopendays.org.uk for more information, and search for properties open wherever you happen to be. Locations, times, and access details are on property pages. The heritage festival provides a great family outing for all ages!

Richard Osborne



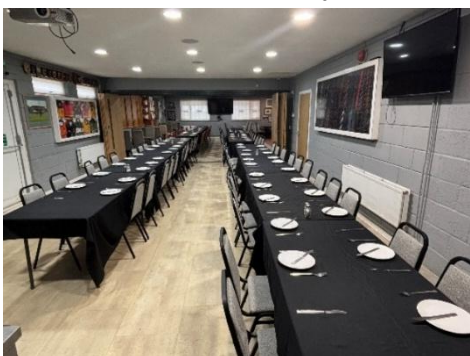
DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY - ALCESTER ACADEMY

Alcester Academy will be celebrating the school's diamond anniversary in the coming academic year. If you or family members have any significant photos from the last 60 years, please send them to the school at admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk. The school will publish a list of events in the new academic year.

ALCESTER RUGBY CLUB

We are a community-focused rugby club welcoming participants of all ages and skill levels, from our Atoms group (ages 4–5) to our Veterans team. This year, for the first time in several years, we have entered two teams into the 'Counties League' structure. Our 1st XV is now competing at its highest level to date, following our most successful season on record last year.

The Mini & Junior section will resume activities on Sunday, 7th September, while the Senior section is currently in pre-season training. Interested individuals are welcome to



visit the club on Tuesdays or Thursdays for Seniors, or on Sunday mornings for Minis & Juniors (starting from 7th September), to participate in rugby. Earlier in the year, renovations were carried out at the club, partially funded by grants from the Town Council. The club is available for all to hire and now has capacity for up to 80 attendees at formal events, as indicated in the picture. We can also accommodate larger groups for occasions such as birthday parties or christenings.



We look forward to welcoming all guests as well as new and old players. If you need any additional information please contact Mike Walmsley, Hon Secretary – alcesterRFCsecretary@gmail.com.

Mark Walmsley, Hon Secretary

ALCESTER & BIDFORD ROTARY



It's been a busy couple of months with our Pimms Stall at the Alcester Food Festival and then Splat the Rat at the Street Market, where we donned hard hats and high viz jackets, as our theme was 'Bob the Builder'. We didn't win but had great fun participating and raising funds for our local community.

We sold teas, coffees and cake at the Ragley ABR Festival at the end of June and raised a whopping £3,800 for our worthy causes. Some 20,000 bikers attended the event over the weekend and they proved to be an amazing and generous crowd.

We were delighted to support Fortitude, our local SEND nurturing school. A group of these youngsters were taken by coach on an outing to Twycross Zoo, and for many of them this was a first-time experience which they loved. The staff at Fortitude do an amazing job, and it was great to be able to support them.



After such a successful year, our President Nigel Curtis handed over to our incoming President Vaughan Blake for the forthcoming year. Vaughan is already planning some events in support of his President's Charity, Arden Foodbank (Alcester). Watch out for these and hopefully come along and support this very worthwhile and necessary organisation.

Any information about our forthcoming events and how you can join in can be found on our website www.alcesterbidfordrotary.co.uk, or email us at alcesterbidfordrotary@gmail.com, including for any requests for funding.

Kay Blake, Secretary

ALCESTER WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Discover friendship, fun and inspiration with Alcester Women's Institute. We are group of women who meet monthly at the Greig Hall, usually every second Thursday of the month, at 7:30pm.



During the summer months Alcester Women's Institute has been very busy: in June we had a tombola stall at the Alcester Street Market; in July we met with other local Women Institute groups and shared a wonderful evening enjoying a meal and entertainment. Also in July, we visited the garden of local gardener and potter, Louise Darby. Louise made us very welcome, showcasing her garden and work. She also



provided the ladies with tea and cake and a shady area to sit and enjoy her garden. Later the same month we were involved in the Warwickshire Federation's Chairmans Challenge, and hosted a Women's Institute from Eckington by providing them with a guided tour of Alcester followed by afternoon tea.

If you feel Alcester Women's Institute is a group that you would wish to join, come along as a guest to see what we are about: you will be made very welcome. Our calendar of meetings up until the end of this year includes:

11 September - a speaker "Looking at local churches"

10 October - a hands-on activity - making festive mosaic decorations

13 November - a speaker - "Capturing the moment" - Prose and Poetry

9 December - Christmas celebrations with balloon craft and a sharing supper

For further information contact our President: Joan Hughes - 07970 648505 or email:

joanhughes57@hotmail.co.uk

*Joan Hughes (President)
Alcester Women's Institute*

SUMMER HOLIDAY FUN!

Alcester Town Council has been busy this summer supporting local families with a range of free events and initiatives.

Our weekly *Wednesday Holiday Lunch Club* has been a great success, offering free hot lunches, fruit, and treats for children and their parents to enjoy together. We also ran *Bikeability Level 1 and 2*, helping children build confidence and essential cycling skills. In preparation for the new school year, we hosted a *School Uniform Swap Day*, giving parents the chance to donate and collect school uniforms, helping reduce costs and support sustainability.

Thank you to everyone who took part and made these events such a success!



BARRY ISLAND DAY TRIP 2025 – TUESDAY 5TH AUGUST 2025

This year, our Alcester families returned to Barry Island for a fun-filled day out. We took 3 coaches carrying approximately 150 people to the seaside and everyone had a fabulous time. We were very lucky with the weather again (although it was a bit windy!). We have had some lovely feedback:



"...this year was the best..."

"...it's the only time we can all go out together as a family of four generations..."

"...thank you for all the time and effort you put into it, you will never understand just how much it means to myself and my mom to have us together just once a year at the seaside...."

We would like to thank our amazing donors: Camilla Jones, Jacksons, Bonners, David & Carol Edwards and Clare & Stan Barley for their amazing generosity without whom we would not have been able to offer the trip to our local families.



We are actively looking for more volunteers who would be willing to help fundraise for next year together with more support from our local community to ensure we can continue to offer these day trips.

Please contact either Ali Buchanan, Ali Brown or Mel Birrell if you can help, by emailing info@alcester-tc.gov.uk.

THE Greig Hall

www.greighall.org.uk



SEP 19

EVENING WITH JANIE FRAMPTON

An Alcester Town Football Club Event

SEP 20

LADIES' DAY

A Fabulous Fun-Filled Day!

SEP 26-27

LEGALLY BLONDE

The fun-filled Musical

OCT 04

TEXAN PEACOCKS

Warwickshire's Premiere Band!

OCT 05

ANTIQUES FAIR

Come and find something special!

OCT 11

BIG BREAKFAST

From Bidford & Alcester Rotary

OCT 17-18

BRING IT ON!

Cheerleader Musical

OCT 19

AFRAID OF THE DARK

An Evening of Ghost Stories & Frights!

OCT 30-NOV 1

THE ADDAMS FAMILY

Schools Edition Musical Comedy



www.greighall.org.uk

THE Greig Hall

NOV 08

FLEETWOOD MAC SONGBOOK

Live 6-piece Tribute Band

NOV 09

STRATFORD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

With music by Smetana, Grieg and Brahms

NOV 14

iDance

2-room Freestyle Dancing

NOV 15

INSPIRED ART

From local artists

NOV 22

ALL-REQUESTS DISCO

Dancing to all the best tracks!

NOV 23

Afternoon Tea Dance

Dancing in good company

NOV 29

CHRISTMAS FAIR

All your Christmas Shopping!

DEC 03

ALCESTER COMEDY CLUB

Another great line-up of comedians

ALCESTER MUSICAL THEATRE COMPANY
PRESENTS



7TH - 11TH OCTOBER 2025
REDDITCH PALACE THEATRE

Book, Music and Lyrics by

JIM JACOBS

and

WARREN CASEY

'Hopelessly Devoted to You',
'You're The One That I Want',
'Sandy' and 'Grease'

used by arrangement with
ROBERT STIGWOOD

'GREASE' is presented through special arrangement with and all authorised performance materials are supplied by Theatrical Rights Worldwide (TRW), www.theatricalrights.co.uk



NODA
For every stage

www.alcestermusicaltheatre.com
www.redditchpalacetheatre.co.uk



ALCESTER MUSICAL THEATRE COMPANY

We have been busy rehearsing for our next show, and are very excited about it!

A very energetic and fun show - Grease, is coming to The Palace Theatre, Redditch 7th - 11th October!

We are an award-winning society with 3 recent Best Musical Award Nominations and winning the award in 2023 for 'Legally Blonde'.

Tickets can be purchased via The Palace Theatre directly or via our own ticket hotline - 01789 763446. You won't want to miss it!

THE GREEN PAGE – CARING FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT

NATURAL FLOOD MANAGEMENT (NFM)

Warwickshire Wildlife Trust is managing a NFM project which is underway between Studley and Alcester. In brief, this involves river restoration and floodplain enhancement using natural flood management techniques to slow the flow, such as large woody debris structures, shallow banks, inlet expansion and floodplain excavations. This is expected to be completed before the end of 2026. These are small but important steps to help alleviate flood risk in Alcester.

Additional funding is being sought for a much wider project to further support reducing flood risk in Alcester, Kings Coughton, Oversley Green, Great Alne and Henley in Arden. If funding is obtained, this would add to the existing flood defences in and around Alcester.

For anyone interested in volunteering with the River & Catchment Restoration team, use the email link volunteer@wkwat.org.uk.



BE FLOOD READY

Alcester is a resilient and historic town - and while flooding isn't a threat across the whole of Alcester, certain areas, particularly near the rivers, face real and recurring risks. If you live or work in one of these flood risk zones, the message is clear: being flood ready isn't optional - it's essential.

Individual property protection remains a critical obligation for homeowners.

What You Can Do If You're at Risk:

- Check your long-term flood risk from rivers and surface water by using the Check Long Term Flood Risk Service: <https://www.gov.uk/check-long-term-flood-risk>
- Sign up for Environment Agency flood warnings and alerts via <https://www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings>
- Sign up for MET Office weather warnings - <https://service.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKMETOFFICE/subscriber/new>
- Prepare a household flood plan: to stay safe, protect key documents, elevate possessions, and stock emergency essentials like torches and bottled water. Examples of personal flood plans are available online e.g. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/personal-flood-plan>
- You can also find out if river levels are rising upstream on the River Arrow via <https://check-for-flooding.service.gov.uk/>

REMEMBER: Not every part of Alcester is at risk of flooding. But if you're in a vulnerable area, your preparedness could protect your property and help safeguard the wider community. Flood resilience starts with informed residents and ends with a stronger town.

RIVER ARROW & ALNE REVIVAL PROJECT

Following a successful funding application from Stratford District Council's Community Climate and Nature Fund, a new project will soon be launched by a volunteer group known as the River Arrow & Alne Revival (RAAR). RAAR will lead community action on river restoration in Alcester, starting with a specific project near Gunnings Bridge on the River Arrow. There are two main elements to the project, running from autumn 2025 to summer 2026, weather permitting:

1. **Removal of Himalayan balsam** – as described by the Wildlife Trusts, it is “*an invasive weed of riverbanks and ditches, where it prevents native species from growing.*” Its shallow roots reduce bank stability, and its explosive seed pods spread the plant downstream. Correct removal will help native species recover, improve bank resilience, and create additional capacity for flood water.
2. **Green engineering to stabilise bare earth** – where Himalayan balsam has been removed near Gunnings Bridge, bare ground has been left vulnerable to erosion. RAAR intends to plant native wetland species in these areas to help stabilise the soil, slow water flow, and support biodiversity by improving water quality and habitat structure.

The project will also create opportunities for community engagement. Planned activities include creative nature-based workshops, educational sessions for schools, and collaborations with wellbeing organisations to support mental and physical health through outdoor activity. There is already strong local interest, and no specialist skills are needed to join in. If you would like to learn more or volunteer, please contact administration@alcester-tc.gov.uk.



WARWICKSHIRE CHANGEMAKERS

On August 15th, 103 people received awards at the first Warwickshire ChangeMakers Awards in Warwick to recognise unsung heroes and frontline champions. The event was hosted by The High Sheriff of Warwickshire, Karen Lynch MBE. The county's Mayors (including the



Deputy Mayor of Alcester, Cllr Gill Forman and her Consort, Mr Tim Forman), Lord Lieutenant of Warwickshire, Civic Leaders and the community joined the day, featuring an awards ceremony at St Mary's Church, followed by a procession through town and a garden party at Warwick Castle.

Congratulations to three volunteers from Alcester, Becky Gribben, Bill Goodall and Beth Clarke, who all received a prestigious ChangeMakers award from The High Sherriff, having been nominated by the Town Council.



ALCESTER SINGERS

Our Christmas concert will feature Fantasia on Christmas Carols by Vaughan Williams and the first movement of the Magnificat by Taylor Scott Davis. There will also be a selection of traditional Christmas favourites.

Both new and experienced singers are welcome. We would be particularly pleased to welcome additional tenor voices.

Our Christmas Concert is on Saturday 13th December 2025 at 4pm in St Nicholas Church, Alcester.



Come And Sing With Us!

Rehearsals restart on Thursday 4th September 7:30-9pm; Church Hall, Priory Road, Alcester, B49 5DY.

We are an open and friendly mixed voice choir with no audition, why not come along to a rehearsal and decide if you like our approach to singing & learning together.

**Message us or visit our website for more details
www.alcestersingers.co.uk**



MAYOR'S CHARITY

Coffee Morning

THE 1ST OF 100 COFFEE MORNINGS
WITH ALL DONATIONS GOING TO

Alcester Day Care 
Supporting people with Dementia and their carers

ADULTS

£5

1 DRINK & CAKE



CHILDREN

1ST DRINK & CAKE

FREE

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

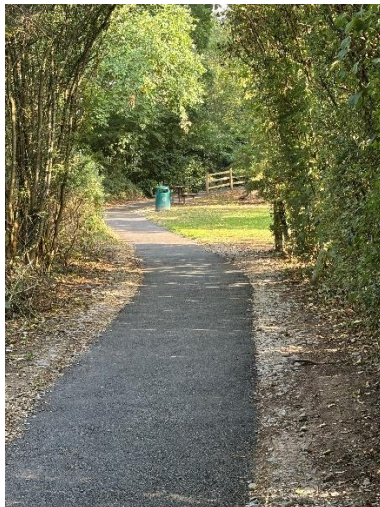
**SUNDAY 7TH
SEPTEMBER 2025**



Alcester War Memorial Town Hall

NEW FOOTPATH

We are pleased to report that the Town Council has recently completed the tarmac resurfacing of footpaths in Jubilee Fields/Weir Fields from the Black Bridge to Kingfisher Way. This project was funded by s106 funds from the Bloor Homes development, which were allocated to improve local public open space. We hope that this new surfacing will mean that the paths are more accessible all year round.



OLD LIBRARY UPDATE



We are pleased to report that we signed the Lease for the Old Library in March this year. We have completed some necessary works to ensure the building is watertight and secure. There has been a flurry of surveys, and our appointed Architects have now completed the design works for the transformation. Planning permission is expected to be awarded any day, and we are out to tender for the build of the Centre. We have a Facebook page and also a new website www.facesltd.org.uk where you can see an artist's impression of the finished site. We are still in the process of raising funds and no doubt will be for some time; so if you want to help the community project in any way please see our website for contact details and how to get in touch.



Tara Parker, Director, FACES for All CIC

ALCESTER MOP FAIR

The Mop Fair rolls in on October 5th for its two-day residency. Tuesday 6th October is the official mop night, with the proclamation being read out by the Court Leet's High Bailiff to protect the market charter for another year.

The Court Leet will tour the fair and test the rides; kids get on for free if we do!

Later that evening, we assize goods and auction victuals off and give away a barrel of ale.

A road closure will be in place from 5th to 7th of October for the High Street, Church Street, Henley Street and associated roads.

Marc Venables
Bearer of Tidings, Court Leet



COURT LEET HALLOWEEN NIGHT FUNDRAISER

The first Court Leet fundraiser is a 'Day of the Dead' disco at the Alcester Town Hall on Saturday 1 November 2025 from 7pm- 11pm.

Tickets cost £23.50 including a Jamaican food bar and Prosecco Sisters' Disco.

All proceeds will go to the High Bailiff's fund for distribution to local organisations and charities.

Marc Venables
Bearer of Tidings, Court Leet



We need a volunteer in Let's Play!

Alcester Children & Family Centre

**Can you spare a couple
of hours on a Wednesday
morning to help?**

Please email
liz.dovey@barnardos.org.uk
for more details



**Scan QR code
to apply**



BARNARDOS
Changing childhoods.
Changing lives.



Well Connected Alcester Computer Group
<https://www.facebook.com/WellConnectedAlcester>

Every Wednesday
09:30 - 11:30
Alcester Unionist Club
46 High Street
Alcester B49 5AB

How do I write a letter or create a document?

How do I talk to my grandkids on FaceTime or Video Call alternatives?

What's smart about this phone? I just want to ring someone or text them?

Come and get help from our friendly volunteers. Always here to help. Pop in to one of our weekly drop-in sessions

YOUR LOCAL REPAIR CAFÉS

Bromsgrove

1st Saturday of the month
2:30pm - 5:30pm
(last entry 4:30pm)



Address:
All Saints Church
Burcot Lane
Bromsgrove
B61 1AD

6th Sept 2025
4th Oct 2025
1st Nov 2025
6th Dec 2025

Contact:
repaircafebromsgrove@gmail.com
facebook.com/RepairCafeBromsgrove

Redditch

Last Saturday of the month
10am - 2pm
(last entry 1pm)



Address:
Webheath Village Hall
Heathfield Rd
Redditch
B97 5SQ

30th Aug 2025
27th Sept 2025
25th Oct 2025
29th Nov 2025

Contact:
repaircaferedditch@gmail.com
facebook.com/RepairCafeRedditch

Alcester

4th Thursday of the month
2pm - 5pm
(last entry 4:30pm)



Address:
The Depot
Eric Payne Community Centre
St Faiths Rd
Alcester
B49 6AG

28th Aug 2025
25th Sept 2025
23rd Oct 2025
27th Nov 2025

Contact:
wendysherwood@alcester-tc.gov.uk
facebook.com/RepairCafeAlcester

Studley

2nd Saturday of the month
10am - 2pm



Address:
Studley Parish Centre
Old Vicarage Gardens
Needle Close
Studley
B80 7SG

13th Sept 2025
11th Oct 2025
8th Nov 2025
13th Dec 2025

Contact:
emailus@studley.itsbroken.help
facebook.com/StudleyRepairCafe

OVERSLEY GREEN RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

What do you do with an old barbeque? In Oversley Green, you fill it with flowers!

This July, the village hosted its very first *Blooming Marvellous Oversley*, an inventive celebration of gardening and upcycling. Residents were invited to turn discarded household items into flowerpots - and the results were nothing short of spectacular. More than 30 entries transformed everything from golf bags to wheelbarrows, and wellington boots to barbeques into blooming works of art.

A special highlight was the *Children's Day* on 13th July, featuring the "Find the Flowerpots" trail where young explorers could win a sunflower, discover gardening tips, and dive into summertime projects via the online information hub.



Parents enjoyed a well-earned break at the cosy *Flowerpot Café*, where the prized sunflowers were ready for collection.

Huge thanks go to the wonderfully creative residents of Oversley Green for making this inaugural event so memorable. And keep your eyes peeled - there are 50 young sunflowers scattered throughout Alcester just waiting to bloom.

Richard Slatter, Chairman

TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS















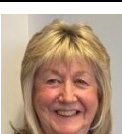
Full Council and Committee meetings are held in person at Globe House. Planning Committee meetings are sometimes held online via Zoom or by email.

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. Minutes from meetings can 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 Councillors' Contact Details

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 <p><u>Ruth Ashfield</u> 07894 321084 rashfield.atc@gmail.com</p>	 <p><u>Mike Bowe</u> 07775 500993 mbowe.atc@gmail.com</p>
 <p><u>Gill Forman</u> (Deputy Mayor) 01789 763828 gforman.atc@gmail.com</p>	 <p><u>Kathryn Cargill</u> 07745 608567 kcargill.atc@gmail.com</p>
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