

Alcester Town Council



Autumn Newsletter

September 2026 Issue 83

Mayor's message

Summer is drawing to a close, and Autumn is just around the corner, but what a wonderful Summer it has been. I hope you all had the opportunity to enjoy the sunshine.

My husband and consort, Tim, and I have attended many events over the past few months, both in Alcester and further afield. It has been a pleasure to support so many community activities, particularly those involving our young people.

The Food Festival in May was, as always, a fantastic success. I was delighted to judge and present prizes at the Schools Bake Off competition, where the standard was exceptionally high. In June, I attended Alcester Town Football Club's World Cup youth tournament and the inspiring Strong Voices Concert. July saw St Benedict's School Awards Evening, where I had the pleasure of presenting awards. Throughout the summer, Wendy Sherwood, the Town Council's Health and Wellbeing Coordinator, and I visited five local schools to present "bee hotels" to pupils in recognition of their entries in the Town Council's photographic competition. Congratulations to everyone who took part in these events. What an inspiring, brilliant and talented group of young people we have in our town and I'm sure stars of the future. Well, done to you all.



It was also an honour to attend the Royal British Legion's 105th birthday lunch and Armed Forces Day celebrations in June. In July, I welcomed many of you to the Mayor's Civic Service at St Nicholas Church, with special thanks to Tori Rushton for her beautiful cello performance.

In August, I attended the High Sheriff of Warwickshire's Change Maker 2026 event. I am delighted that five Alcester residents, Andrew Matheson, Gary Williams, Phil Hodges, Tim Cronin and David Malin all received awards for their outstanding contributions to our community. Congratulations to them all on this well-deserved recognition.

Over the summer, I also attended civic events across the county, including mayor-making ceremonies, church services, a graduation ceremony at the University of Warwick, and the Battle of Evesham re-enactment.

Fundraising for my chosen charity, Alcester Day Care, has continued throughout the summer. The charity provides invaluable support for people living with memory issues or dementia, along with their families and carers. Together with former Mayor David Henderson, we set a goal of 100 coffee mornings by May 2027 to raise both funds and awareness. Thank you to everyone who has

already taken part. Whether you host a coffee morning, afternoon tea, or evening gathering, every event helps. Upcoming fundraising events include a Race Night on 26 September, the Male Voice Choir at Coughton Court on 3 October, a Chinese New Year celebration on 6 February 2026, and the return of The Era Boys on 3 April. I hope you will join us in supporting this wonderful local charity.



Councillor Gill Forman - Mayor of Alcester

Clerks Corner

Councillor Clive Neal-Sturgess

With much sadness, Alcester Town Council announces the death of Councillor Clive Neal-Sturgess on 19 May 2026.

Clive was a respected academic, engineer, and dedicated public servant who devoted much of his life to education, public service, and the local community of Alcester. As Emeritus Professor of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Birmingham, he was internationally recognised for his work in automotive safety, injury biomechanics, and engineering research, publishing extensively during a distinguished academic career spanning many decades. Clive was also a long-standing member of the Parliamentary Advisory Council for Transport Safety, contributing expert evidence and technical advice on road safety policy.

Alongside his professional achievements, Clive was deeply committed to community life in Alcester. He joined Alcester Town Council in 2011 over

concerns about the future of the Greig Hall and worked tirelessly on council business ever since. His dedication, thoughtful approach, and strong sense of civic responsibility earned him the respect of fellow councillors and residents alike.

Clive was appointed Mayor of Alcester in May 2015 and greatly enjoyed his year serving the community. During his years on the council, he served as Chair of the Planning Committee and Vice-Chair of the Alcester Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee, where he played an important role in helping shape the future development of the town. He also represented the Town Council on the Warwickshire Association of Local Councils and, until very recently, served as Clerk and Trustee for Newport's School Foundation, a local educational charity established for the benefit of young people either at school or living in Alcester.

Clive will be remembered not only for his outstanding professional accomplishments, but also for his kindness, intelligence, humour, and unwavering commitment to public service. He leaves behind a lasting legacy in both the academic world and the community he cared for so deeply. He will be greatly missed by colleagues, friends, fellow councillors, and all who had the privilege of knowing him.



Vanessa Lowe, Town Clerk

Alcester Civic Society is looking for a new Secretary.

The role requires attendance at one meeting per month providing an agenda and subsequent circulation of minutes and other paperwork arising.

It provides an opportunity to become closely involved with those who aim to preserve and enhance all that is best in the buildings, amenities and traditions of Alcester and its environs whilst also promoting a sense of local pride.

Contact Richard Osborne on rich.gwyn@btinternet.com or via our new Facebook page 'Alcester Civic Society news' or our website www.alcestercivicsociety.org.uk where you can find information about the society's activities, aims and objectives.

Alcester Town Council Contacts

Office of the Town Clerk: Tel 01789 766084

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

Deputy Town Clerk and Mayor's Secretary: Kyla Brown mayor@alcester-tc.gov.uk

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

Planning: Kyla Brown administration@alcester-tc.gov.uk

Health and Wellbeing Co-ordinator: Wendy Sherwood WendySherwood@alcester-tc.gov.uk

Website: www.alcester-tc.gov.uk

Two-Council Plan for Warwickshire Gets Go-Ahead

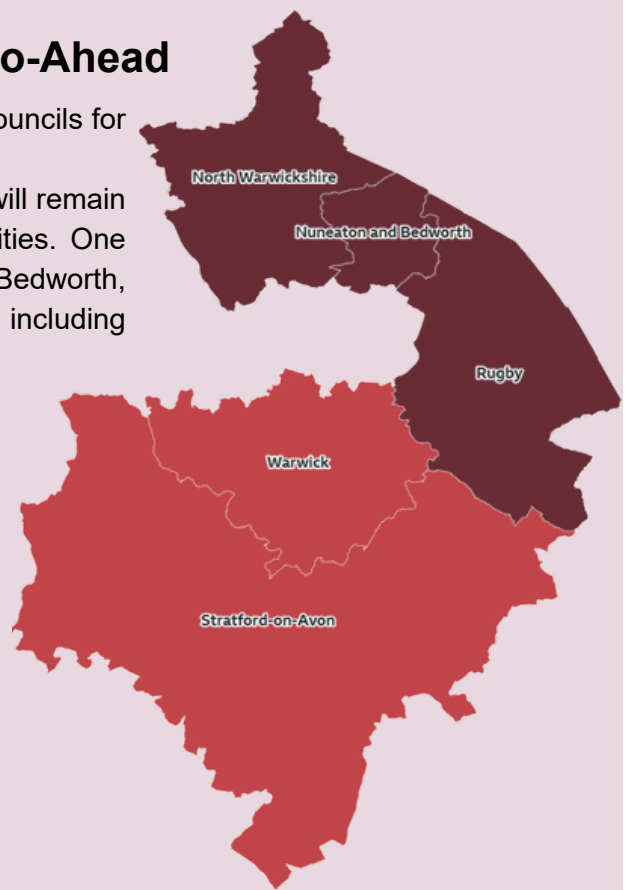
On 16 July 2026, the Government decided to create two unitary councils for Warwickshire.

Under the plan, none of the existing six councils in Warwickshire will remain after 2028 and will be replaced by two larger single-tier authorities. One council will cover the north of Warwickshire, including Nuneaton, Bedworth, and Rugby. A second council will cover the south of Warwickshire, including Stratford-on-Avon and Warwick.

A joint statement was issued by all six Warwickshire councils following the Government's decision. All councils have confirmed they will continue to work together constructively to ensure residents, businesses and communities continue to receive the services they rely on, while supporting a smooth transition to the new councils.

The two new unitary councils are scheduled to come into effect from 1 April 2028.

Town and Parish Councils such as Alcester Town Council are not affected by this change.



**Susan Juned -
Alcester East**

STRATFORD ON AVON DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Help with Energy Costs

Stratford on Avon District Council has introduced the Stratford Energy Support Fund to help vulnerable households struggling to pay increased energy bills.

The Fund will be administered by Act on Energy. The full eligibility criteria list is available on Act on Energy website <https://www.actonenergy.org.uk/support/sesf> or contact Act on Energy on 0800 988 2881.

New Home Choice Register launched

Stratford on Avon District Council is replacing the current Home Choice Register. This was previously run as a partnership with other councils. When these councils ended the partnership, SDC decided to update the Register and address local pressures and local need at the same time. A public consultation supported the need for a clearer, easier system.

The new scheme will be introduced between August and October 2026. Existing applicants will be contacted and supported to transfer to the new system.

Local Government Reorganisation

The Government has recognised the case for a South Warwickshire Council and a North Warwickshire Council to replace the County Council and District Councils from 2028. A transition period has started and will bring together the services of the County and Districts into one new Council.

Elections for councillors to sit on the Shadow Council will take place in May 2027, ready to take over running the new Council from 2028.



Tom Ballinger - Alcester West

I have been made aware of antisocial behaviour in our wonderful town. I have chased this up with the police and they assure me they are looking into this. They would like to remind residents that it's important to call 101 and log issues and, in an emergency, to call 999. Manuela Perteghella MP is also meeting the Chief Constable where she will be discussing Alcester.

I have been busy supporting residents with all types of casework and continue to be a voice for Alcester.

WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE



James Norris

Over the past three months, I have focused on highways, road safety and community issues across Alcester and the surrounding villages.

A key priority has been improving safety on Stratford Road, where I secured funding for a feasibility study into speed reduction measures following discussions with residents, Town Councillors and Highways officers.

I have continued to press Warwickshire County Council on the condition of Birmingham Road, including concerns about the carriageway, pavements near Alcester Grammar School and road markings. While repairs are planned, I continue to seek confirmation of delivery timescales.

I have also worked with Highways officers, schools and local councils to explore road safety improvements around Fortitude School and Alcester Academy, while supporting speed surveys in Alcester, Wilmcote and Wixford to inform future actions.

Recent casework has included pavement repairs, overgrown vegetation, accessibility concerns near Alcester Medical Centre, and highway and footpath defects across the division.

Alongside this, I have supported parish councils on local issues including bus infrastructure, tree and footway maintenance, community woodland concerns and road safety matters. I also continue to represent residents through my wider work at Warwickshire County Council, including scrutiny of Children and Young People services, SEND provision and community grant funding.

Litter Free Alcester



LFA will be carrying out an Autumn Clean Up on Saturday October 24th between 10 am and 1pm. We will be based at the Eric Payne Centre and welcome all volunteers who want to come along to help us keep Alcester clean and tidy.

Keep an eye on the LFA Facebook page for our latest news and updates.

Susan Juned

Riverside Angling Club

The River Arrow managed by Riverside Angling Club from Westbury Park to the end of Jubilee Fields is running, at the time of writing, very low and clear. There are several deep holes along the stretch so be careful if you, or your children go paddling in the river in these hot conditions. We have cleared several areas of the river bank where you are able to see, fish and any wildlife that passes through.

I must take this opportunity and remind you that a FREE permit, to residents of Alcester, is required to fish this stretch along with a valid rod licence from the Environment Agency.

Permits are available from, Robert Jones, Secretary, Riverside Angling Club [07745358603](tel:07745358603)

Alcester War Memorial Town Hall CIO needs a Treasurer and Secretary

Alcester Town Hall is looking for a new Treasurer and Secretary to join the Management Committee at the AGM in October 2026. If you are interested in helping to look after this 600 year old Grade 1 Listed Building in the heart of our community we would like to hear from you.

The role of Treasurer entails managing the hall's income from rental bookings, paying bills and maintaining the cashbook for annual audit. A knowledge of bookkeeping, Excel and the Hallmaster booking system will be an advantage.

The role of secretary entails sending out Agendas for the regular management meetings, circulating the Minutes arising from those meetings and filing the required Annual Return with the Charity Commission.

If you are interested in either of these roles, and would like more detailed information, please apply by email to the current secretary at kbropewalk@gmail.com

GROWING A GREENER, HEALTHIER
ALCESTER TOGETHER

Alcester Climate and Nature Project

WHAT WE'VE ACHIEVED

- Planted new trees and 200 metres of native hedgerow
- Created wildflower and pollinator-friendly areas
- Installed hedgehog highways, hedgehog houses and bee hotels
- Supported river monitoring and environmental education in schools with local partners
- Provided spring bulbs and forest school equipment



COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

- Bee Festival at Coughton Court
- Climate and Nature Day
- Bioblitz
- Photography Competition

THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who has helped make Alcester Connected for Climate and Nature such a success!
Together, we're creating a greener, healthier and more nature-friendly Alcester for generations to come.



<https://www.alcester-tc.gov.uk/information/natural-environment/>

2026 Alcester 10k

paceways #ALCESTER10K
A COMMUNITY INTEREST COMPANY

PROUDLY SUPPORTING:

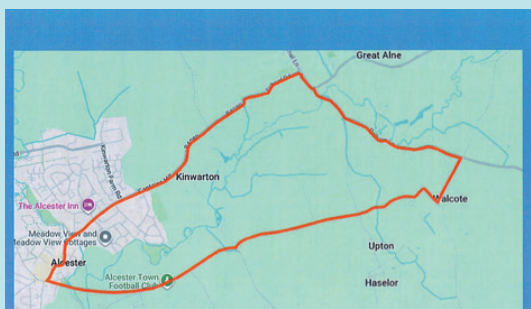
safeine
Presenting & Supporting Sexual Abuse

ENTER NOW:

SUNDAY 11TH OCTOBER 2026

Starting on the High Street the route takes runners out into the stunning country lanes of Warwickshire for a single loop with two drinks stations along the way, finishing with welcome cheers from the friendly locals. We offer finishers medals and OPTIONAL t shirts for all runners, in order to try and do our small part to reduce waste going to landfill.

WWW.ALCESTER10K.CO.UK



The Route and Road closures

Scan me to find out more
about the route and
roads closed:



Scan to see the closure time!

Alcester Food Festival

Alcester Food Festival has welcomed new volunteer Directors to its board, bringing fresh expertise and renewed energy as preparations begin for the 2027 Festival.

The board now combines experience across logistics, finance, hospitality, sales, marketing, education, community engagement, local government and volunteer coordination. Together, the team will focus on strengthening the Festival's organisation, increasing community engagement, supporting exhibitors and raising the event's profile.

Founded in 2010, Alcester Food Festival has become one of Warwickshire's most popular events, attracting thousands of visitors each year to celebrate independent food and drink producers while boosting local businesses. Chair Rowan Mackenzie said: "Alcester Food Festival has always been about bringing people together to celebrate our fantastic local food, drink, businesses and community. All of our committee volunteer their time because we genuinely care about making the Festival something the town can be proud of."

The festival is organised entirely by volunteers and has donated over £17,000 to local causes.

The next Alcester Food Festival takes place on Saturday 15 May 2027. More information is available at www.alcesterfoodfestival.co.uk

Alcester Run 1000



ALCESTER RUN 1000

1,000 miles. 60 hours. Two incredible causes.

Solemate Runners, Aimee and Paul, are leading an incredible community challenge to collectively run 1,000 miles around Alcester in just 60 hours – covering all of the town's roads – while raising funds for Parkinson's UK and The Beyond Recovery Project.

- Aimee and Paul will each take on an impressive 200 miles, contributing 400 miles between them.
- They're calling on fellow runners to help complete the remaining 600 miles.
- Whether you can run a mile or many, every step will bring the community closer to the 1,000-mile goal and support two life-changing causes.

STARTS AT 05:00
FRIDAY 2 OCTOBER 2026

GREIG HALL
ALCESTER, B49 6AD

60 HOURS
1,000 MILES + 1 AMAZING COMMUNITY
2 LIFE-CHANGING CAUSES

Donate here:



Follow our journey: @solematerunners | Solemate Runners

National Heritage Open Days 2026

Five of Alcester's historic properties will be open free to explore on Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th September 2026.

Once again, Alcester will be contributing to Heritage Open Days 2026, England's largest national festival of heritage and culture that provides a free opportunity to explore many of the country's heritage properties, including those that normally either charge admission or are not open to the public - a great family outing!



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 19th Sept. Sun 20th Sept from 12.00noon until 4.00pm.

Free entry!

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

Alcester's Roman Museum, War Memorial Town Hall, St Nicholas Church, St Nicholas Church House, Baptist Chapel and Meeting House, will all be freely open to the public on the same afternoons from 12.00 until 4.00pm. (Church visits subject to service times.) There will be exhibitions to view in some of the properties. Visit www.heritageopendays.org.uk for more details and search for HODs open properties wherever you happen to be during the national festival.

Richard Osborne



Please help shape the future of Alcester by completing and returning this pull out survey

Alcester Town Council is preparing its Corporate Strategy for 2027–2031.

This strategy will guide how the Council invests its resources, delivers services and works with partners over the next four years.

We want to hear from you about:

- what you value about Alcester
- what works well
- what could be improved
- what the Council's priorities should be for the future.

Your views will directly influence the new Corporate Strategy.

The survey should take approximately 10 minutes to complete. You can use this QR code if more convenient for you above. Deadline is 31st October.

Thank you for taking part.



1. Which best describes you?

- ☐ Resident
- ☐ Business Owner
- ☐ Work in Alcester
- ☐ Student
- ☐ Visitor
- ☐ Other (specify below)

2. What is your postcode?

3. How would you rate Alcester as a place?

☐ Very good

☐ Good

☐ Neither good nor poor

☐ Poor

☐ Very poor

4. What are the three best things about Alcester?

5. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the following?

	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied
Play areas and open spaces	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Community events	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Town appearance	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Communication	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Support for community groups	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Allotments	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Cemetery	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

6. How would you prefer to hear from Alcester Town Council? (Tick all that apply)

☐ Facebook

☐ Website

☐ Email newsletter

☐ Printed newsletter

☐ Noticeboards

☐ Public meetings

☐ Instagram

☐ Other

If Other, please specify here.

7. How well informed do you feel about what the Town Council does?

☐ Very well informed

☐ Not very well informed

☐ Fairly well informed

☐ Not at all informed

8. Please choose the five issues that should receive the greatest attention between 2027 and 2031. *Tick 5 boxes only*

☐ Supporting the local economy

☐ Community events e.g. Remembrance Sunday

☐ Improving parks and green spaces

☐ Sports facilities

☐ Road safety

☐ Walking and cycling

☐ Parking

☐ Protecting local heritage

☐ Climate change

☐ Environmental improvements

☐ Flood resilience

☐ Supporting volunteers and community groups

☐ Community safety

☐ Better communication from the Council

☐ Health and wellbeing

☐ Other (please specify below)

☐ Youth activities provision

☐ Activities for older residents

Other issues for attention

9. What are the three biggest challenges facing Alcester over the next five years?

10. Imagine Alcester in 2031. What would you most like to see improved?

11. Are there any new ideas or opportunities that the Council should consider?

Please return this completed survey to: Alcester Town Council, Globe House, Priory Road, Alcester B49 5DZ, or drop into the Office letterbox by 31st October 2026.

After a successful Mardi Gras Street Market we welcomed AG Peter Ramage to our AGM and Assembly, where President Elect Paul set out his agenda for the forthcoming year. President Vaughan's disco followed celebrating the hot hot hot summer of 1976, and the weather duly obliged! The Greig Hall was a brilliant venue, and our DJ Simon donated his time, playing all the golden oldies which had everyone up and dancing all evening, with a backdrop of slides from the era. Prizes for best dressed and table quiz about 70's celebrities and films challenged our collective brains, and the themed raffle brought back memories of products no longer on the shelves!

A profit of £1,120 was donated to Arden Foodbank, bringing President Vaughan's total for his chosen charity this year to £2,620.



It's all change for 2026/27 with a new President, Treasurer and Secretary, and after a summer break we kick off again in October with our Charity Breakfasts in Bidford (3 October) and Alcester (10 October), followed by a new venture, our Charity Family Sunday Lunch on 25 October at the Greig Hall, the brain child of one of our new members Mark. Watch out for all this, and a Tarantara Concert coming up in aid of our new President's chosen charities: Alcester First Responders and Médecins Sans Frontières.

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

Alcester Bretvins

Our Summer programme this year took us off our usual beaten track.

In June, we celebrated the Flowering of the Vine at the Henley in Arden Vineyard at Oldberrow. Twenty five members and guests were welcomed by the Steele family who have been farming at Oldberrow for several generations. The vineyard originates from 2005. After the ceremony of Blessing the Vines, we were treated to samples of their recent vintages, with the opportunity to buy, while we had a picnic lunch in the farm's barn. The weather was breezy but otherwise fine and everyone enjoyed the occasion.



July was more traditional in that we celebrated Bastille Day with our annual boules competition. Following a successful event in 2025, we returned to the petanque pitch beside the river in Evesham. The weather was exceptionally hot but, in the shade of the trees, 18 of us, including five visitors from London, battled it out for our coveted trophy. Once again it was a visiting pair from London who triumphed in the shape of the Bailli de Grande Bretagne and his wife. He subsequently revealed that, several years ago, he had been in a team that had defeated the French Embassy in London. We graciously decided that he had not thereby lost his amateur status and allowed him to take the trophy back to London.

Our next event will be in France at the end of September when we shall be welcoming the new Grand Maître of the Order.

David Hall, Chancellor



The Thursday Club Presents Memory Melodies



Join us for the launch of Memory Melodies, a new programme of relaxed, enjoyable and interactive musical sessions in Alcester.



The first six-week programme begins on **THURSDAY 1 OCTOBER 2026 AT 2.00PM** and will run every Thursday until 5 November 2026 at Alcester Baptist Church Hall, Henley Street, Alcester.

Date in your diary!



The sessions are being organised by Alcester Day Care's Thursday Club and are open to the whole community. They are particularly welcoming to people living with dementia or memory difficulties, together with their carers, family members and friends.



Each session will be led by experienced musical activity facilitator Catherine Priston, using familiar music, singing, gentle movement and enjoyable activities to bring people together, have fun and spark memories.



There is no expectation to sing or perform. People can join in as much or as little as they wish and are equally welcome to listen, enjoy the music and spend time with others in a friendly and supportive setting.



Each session will be followed by refreshments and, importantly, cake with time to relax and chat.



No booking is required; simply come along. The sessions are free to attend, with optional donations welcomed to help support future activities. There is no expectation to donate.



Everyone attending will receive a warm welcome from our volunteers.



Further six-week programmes are planned throughout 2027.

For further information, please contact:

Laura Loy, Trustee
lauraloy@icloud.com
07717 790303

Alcester Day Care

Registered charity number: 1170074
Company number: 09515886

Supporting people with dementia and their carers

Do you have a HOBBY?

STEP AWAY FROM SCREENS AND GET INSPIRED!

We'd love to see it! ♥

Alcester is planning a **HOBBIES & PASTIMES EXHIBITION** and we'd love you to be part of it!

Whether you knit, paint, garden, collect, craft, build, bake or do something completely different – we want to celebrate the amazing things our community enjoys.

Share your hobby. Inspire others. Connect with your community. ♥

- ✓ Book a table
- ✓ Show what you do
- ✓ Chat, inspire and encourage all ages

⇒ This is just to gauge interest at this stage. ⇒

Interested? Please email us to register your interest: office@alcester-tc.gov.uk

Alcester Male Voice Choir



Come and join our friendly choir every Wednesday @ 7:30pm at the Eric Payne Community Centre in Alcester. All abilities welcome. Best to call ahead on 07866 139 781 or visit <https://alcestermvc.org.uk/>

Alcester Musical Theatre Group

The countdown is officially on! Alcester Musical Theatre Company is thrilled to bring the smash-hit Calendar Girls The Musical to The Palace Theatre, Redditch this October. Packed with sharp wit, unforgettable music, and a genuinely touching story of love and laughter, it's a brilliant mix of fun and tears that will stay with you long after the curtain falls.

Dates: 7th – 10th October

Venue: The Palace Theatre, Redditch

Book Now:

Mrs C Hill: 01789 763446

The Palace Theatre: 01527 65203

ALCESTER MUSICAL THEATRE COMPANY
PROUDLY PRESENTS

CALENDAR GIRLS THE MUSICAL

by Gary Barlow and Tim Firth

This amateur production of Calendar Girls the Musical is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd. www.concordtheatricals.co.uk

**7TH - 10TH OCTOBER 2026
REDDITCH PALACE THEATRE**

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



Alcester Court Leet

This year Alcester really turned up the heat to party at our 'Mardi Gras' street market. It was opened by a very special guest, Dan Skelton, and attended by Lord Hertford. There were some awesome fancy dress outfits on display, plus a fantastic selection of market stalls, food and music throughout the day. This included a samba band, who really got the party started with a bang!



Our Ale Tasters were in action in May they sampled ale from a selection of our many pubs for our Inner Ale taste. This was followed by a yard of ale competition.

'Seymour' was our entrant in this year's Duck Race, crossing the line in a very respectable 4th place. We're obviously biased, but we think he was the best dressed duck in the race!

We have attended several events at neighbouring courts in recent weeks, the most distant being in Ashburton, Devon. They perform all their assizes in a single day, including a 'traditional' Ale Taste, which involves leather trousers and sitting in beer!

Coming Up: Mop Fair: 6th October: Come and listen to our proclamation to retain our 750+ year old royal charter. To thank the people of Alcester for your support over the year we shall be providing free beer for adults and free rides for children (and yes – the beer really is free!).



THE
Greig Hall

www.greighall.org.uk



SEP OCT NOV
04 02 06

Contradance



SEP 11&12

SISTER ACT



SEP 19

THE SOUL DEPARTMENT



SEP 18&26

CINEMA



SEP 25

BBC Any Questions?



OCT 03

CRAFT FAIR



OCT NOV DEC
04 01 06

Tea Dance



OCT 09&10

DEAR EVAN HANSEN



OCT 10

BIG BREAKFAST



OCT 17

WE WILL ROCK YOU



THE
Greig Hall

www.greighall.org.uk



OCT OCT NOV NOV
22 24 26 28

CINEMA



OCT 22

BIG ALCESTER QUIZ?



OCT 25

BIG FAMILY LUNCH



NOV 07

Inspired Art



NOV 07

REMEMBRANCE CONCERT



NOV 14

BEATLES COMPLETE



NOV 20&21

SHREK JR



NOV 21

tarantara



NOV 27

ALCESTER ROCK ACADEMY



NOV 29

Quill - LIVE



Alcester Library

Alcester Library
COFFEE MORNINGS

Monday 20th July
 Athor Talk - Sue Moorcroft

Monday 17th August
 Turning Pages - The story of our public libraries

Monday 21st September
 The Panorama - 19th Century immersive entertainment

Monday 19th October
 John Evans - Caricature Artist

Monday 16th November
 Walking the Camino de Santiago

Monday 21st December
 Christmas Sing-a-long

10-11am

Free

Refreshments provided

Drop in, no need to book

Monthly talks by local authors, historians and organisations

Regular events at
ALCESTER LIBRARY

MONDAY

Coffee Mornings (every 3rd Monday): 10:00am - 11:00am
 Board Games & Puzzles for 4-11 year olds: 3:00pm - 5:00pm

WEDNESDAY

Rhyme Time for 0-2 year olds: 10:30am - 11:00am
 Sip & Paint (every 2nd Wednesday): 6:15pm - 7:45pm (Booking required)

THURSDAY

I.T Help: 10:00am - 12:00pm
 Story Stomp for 2- 4 year olds: 2:15pm - 2:45pm

FRIDAY

Crafternoon Tea: 1:30pm - 3:30pm
 Chatterbooks for 7-11 year olds (every 4th Friday): 3:45pm - 4:45pm
 Lego Club for 4-11 year olds: 4:00pm - 5:00pm

SATURDAY

Lego Club for 4-11 year olds: 10:00am - 12:00pm
 Saturday Story Adventures (last Saturday of the month): 3:15pm - 5:00pm (Booking required)

All events are free!

Scan the QR code or check our Eventbrite for all upcoming events

Alcester in Bloom

In 1980 members of the Town Council were interested in brightening up the town for the springtime. £30 pounds was spent on daffodil bulbs which were planted around the town.

Shortly after Alcester in Bloom was formed and hanging basket poles were purchased and the High Street became alive with flowers . Soon spring flowers, summer bedding, plants and trees had been planted around the town, some donated by local residents. There are now 91 hanging baskets adorning the town, 40 planters and 2 Bedding out areas. Hanging baskets are sponsored in memory of loved ones. This is a popular walkabout especially at weekends to see their names.

The hard work put in by the committee and residents has resulted in Heart of England Overall

Winner 1995 and 1997, A National Award in 1998 and Heart of England Winners 7 times.

Today Alcester in Bloom, supported by Alcester Town Council, has a committee of twelve people, They also have 20 non-committee helpers who regularly maintain flower beds and planters. All very dedicated people watering and maintaining planters every day especially in the hot weather and at 5 am every morning Blenheim Nursery water the hanging baskets..

What a difference from all those years ago. The cost over the year is £12,000. We are now desperate to raise funds and receive donations to keep us going for another year for residents and tourists alike.



Alcester Youth Choir

Alcester Youth Choir is going from strength to strength and is welcoming new members!

For young people who enjoy singing, performing and having fun, this is the perfect time to join a growing and vibrant group. New members are always warmly welcomed.

It's a chance to discover voices, make friends and be part of something special.

For more information, please email

alcesteryouthchoir@gmail.com



Cost of Living Support – Help is Available

If you or someone you know is struggling with the cost of living, help is available. Whether you need support with food, finances, energy bills, family services or your wellbeing, there are local organisations ready to help.

Citizens Advice South Warwickshire offers free, confidential advice on benefits, debt, housing, employment and energy costs over the phone or through its weekly Alcester advice surgery (by appointment only).

Tel: 0808 250 5715 www.casouthwarwickshire.org.uk

Local Schools - If you're finding it difficult to make ends meet, speak to your child's school. Schools can help with Free School Meals, uniform support, the Pupil Premium and access to Warwickshire's Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme. Alcester Town Council also provides free Holiday Lunches during school holidays.

The Arden Food Bank at the Eric Payne Community Centre provides emergency food support.

Tel: 07733 551926 www.ardenfoodbank@gmail.com

The **Alcester Community Fridge** at Alcester Baptist Church is open to everyone, offering free surplus food while helping reduce food waste. www.alcesterbaptist.org.uk/community-fridge

Local **Warm Hubs** provide a welcoming place to stay warm, meet others and enjoy a hot drink. Warwickshire Libraries also offer free Wi-Fi, computer access, warm spaces and community activities. For local information visit: www.alcester-tc.gov.uk/health-and-wellbeing/health-and-wellbeing-information-page/

Financial Hardship - If you're experiencing financial hardship, you may be eligible for help through Warwickshire County Council's Crisis and Resilience Fund **Tel: 0800 408 1448 or 0800 408 1449** and/or Stratford upon Avon District Council's Social Inclusion Team. **Tel: 01789 267575.**

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/crisisresiliencefund www.costoflivingwarwickshire.co.uk

www.stratford.gov.uk/benefits-support/cost-of-living-support.cfm

Act on Energy helps Warwickshire residents with free energy advice, home visits, crisis funds and grants to improve energy efficiency and keep bills down. **Tel: 0800 988 2881** (Mon-Fri 9am to 5pm) or fill in the contact form online - <https://www.actonenergy.org.uk/contact>

Financial worries can affect your **mental wellbeing**. If you're feeling overwhelmed, speak to your GP or contact the **NHS Mental Health Access Hub** on **08081 966798**.

Please don't struggle alone. Asking for help early can make a real difference. If you know someone who may be finding things difficult, please share this information with them.

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 X (formerly Twitter) <https://x.com/AlcesterTown> and Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/alcestertowncouncil/>

Town Councillor's Contact Details

Alcester East Ward		Alcester West Ward	
	Gill Forman (Mayor) 01789 763828 gforman.atc@gmail.com		<u>Jo Andrews</u> 01789 335602 jandrews.atc@gmail.com
	Ruth Ashfield (Deputy Mayor) 07894 321084 rashfield.atc@gmail.com		Sharon Bardha Sbardha.atc@gmail.com
	Lucinda Boyd Lboyd.atc@gmail.com		<u>Mike Bowe</u> 07775 500993 mbowe.atc@gmail.com
	<u>Mark Cargill</u> 07988 485050 mcargill.atc@gmail.com		<u>Kathryn Cargill</u> 07745 608567 kcargill.atc@gmail.com
	<u>Doug Gordon</u> 07802 302727 dgordon1.atc@gmail.com		<u>Colleen Chester</u> 07581 029506 cchester.atc@gmail.com
	Keith Greenaway 01789 766818 Keithgreenaway.atc1@gmail.com		<u>David Henderson</u> 01789 765271 dhenderson.atc@gmail.com
	<u>Alison Leask</u> aleask.atc@gmail.com		<u>Vicki Holyland</u> vholyland.atc@gmail.com
			<u>Wendy Mills</u> 07842 596542 wmills.atc@gmail.com
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