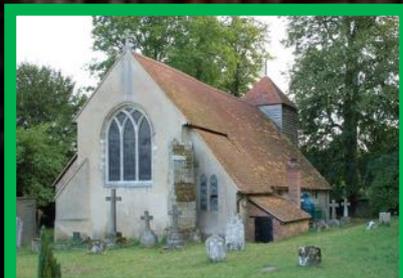
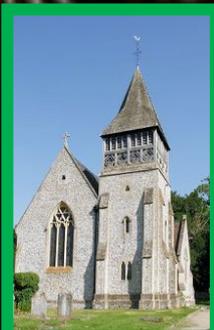


# Arle Valley Voice

November 2024

£1.60

Church and Community Magazine





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## Editorial

No warmth, no cheerfulness, no healthful ease,  
No comfortable feel in any member —  
No shade, no shine, no butterflies, no bees,  
No fruits, no flowers, no leaves, no birds! —  
November!

Thomas Hood's November poem is not cheerful and with the weather being depressing with rain and fog, with the news being increasingly dire and yet there are joyful things in November. St John's has the Light party coming up which is always good fun. There will be fireworks. There are lots of opportunities in our Benefice to come together and socialise. And look around—some of these autumn days can be beautiful with the coloured leaves and frost making cobwebs glitter.

More seriously perhaps people think that the world is increasingly terrible as we watch the news. But the news doesn't report the good things that happen. Teenager mugs old lady is news. Teenager does old lady's gardening is not.

We can hope, we can pray, we can do our little bit to make the world a better place.

Apologies for any mistakes. However we are all volunteers and not professional so, sorry, errors will happen.

**And if you use some of the businesses advertising do tell them you saw them in this magazine. Please note that we do not endorse any advert**

**Please email contributions and comments to [cstryton@gmail.com](mailto:cstryton@gmail.com). The preferred format at the moment is Microsoft Publisher or Word otherwise a pdf. Please as plain as possible as formats do not transfer from one programme to another. Please copy in [events@stjohnsalresford.org.uk](mailto:events@stjohnsalresford.org.uk) for additional publicity on our Facebook page and inclusion in St John's online Events Diary.**

**The deadline for each month is the 10th of the month before. That might seem early but it takes time to get it all together.**

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This magazine only keeps going with the quality it has because people subscribe each year so please do consider doing that. Contact Caroline Hawkins [chawkins826@sky.com](mailto:chawkins826@sky.com)

Each issue costs £1.60 but a year's subscription is an economic option at £15.00.

***Please note the attached slip for subscriptions—do fill it in .***

# November Church Services for the Arle Valley Benefice

## NEW ALRESFORD

St John the Baptist

**Sunday 3 November: All Saints Sunday / 4th Sunday before Advent**

09.30 Parish Communion

14.00 Service of Comfort and Hope

16.00 Families @ 4

**Sunday 10 November: 3rd Sunday before Advent – Remembrance Sunday**

09.30 Breakfast Church

10.45 Remembrance Service

18.00 Sunday @ 6

**Sunday 17 November: 2nd Sunday before Advent**

09.30 Parish Communion

**Sunday 24 November: Christ the King / Sunday next before Advent**

08.00 Holy Communion BCP

09.30 Service of the Word

16.30 Evensong

**Every Tuesday**

09.00 Morning Prayer

**Every Wednesday**

10.00 Midweek Holy Communion

## OLD ALRESFORD

St Mary the Virgin

**Sunday 3 November: All Saints Sunday / 4th Sunday before Advent**

11.00 Village Family Praise

**Sunday 10 November: 3rd Sunday before Advent – Remembrance Sunday**

10.45 Remembrance Service

**Sunday 17 November: 2nd Sunday before Advent**

11.00 Parish Communion CW

**Sunday 24 November: Christ the King / Sunday next before Advent**

09.30 Holy Communion BCP

**Every Wednesday**

09.00 Morning Prayer



## OVINGTON

St Peter's

**Sunday 3 November: All Saints Sunday / 4th Sunday before Advent**

11.00 Café Church

**Sunday 10 November: 3rd Sunday before Advent – Remembrance Sunday**

10.00 Remembrance Service

**Sunday 17 November: 2nd Sunday before Advent**

10.00 Morning Praise

**Sunday 24 November: Christ the King / Sunday next before Advent**

11.00 *No service*

**Every Thursday**

09.00 Morning Prayer



## BIGHTON

All Saints

**Sunday 3 November: All Saints Sunday / 4th Sunday before Advent**

11.00 *No service*

**Sunday 10 November: 3rd Sunday before Advent – Remembrance Sunday**

10.50 Remembrance Service

**Sunday 20 November: 21st Sunday after Trinity**

11.00 Morning Prayer

**Sunday 24 November: Christ the King / Sunday next before Advent**

11.00 Parish Communion

**Every Monday**

09.00 Morning Prayer

# Calendar

- ◆ October 27th Traditional Evening Service with hymns@ St John's
- ◆ October 29th—November 3rd Watercress Line Wizard Week
- ◆ October 30th Alresford Flower Club—Clare Diemege All the Fun of the Fair
- ◆ November 2nd Bacon Butties @ Methodist Church @ 9.30
- ◆ November 2nd Michael Project Coffee Morning
- ◆ November 2nd Light Party
- ◆ November 3rd 11am Café Church @ St Peter's Ovington
- ◆ November 3rd 11am Village Family Praise @ St Mary's New Alresford
- ◆ November 3rd Service of Comfort and Hope
- ◆ November 6th WI From Earwigs to Rhinos by a retired Zoo keeper
- ◆ November 8th Rotary Fireworks and Bonfire
- ◆ November 10th Remembrance Sunday
- ◆ November 13th Alresford Horticultural Society *From Mustard to Mint*
- ◆ November 16th Hampshire Medical Fund Comedy Night
- ◆ November 17th Solos Sunday Tea
- ◆ November 27th Alresford Flower Club Christmas Demo—Night Before Christmas with Emily Broomhead
- ◆ November 28th Alresford Art Club—Travels with a Sewing Machine
- ◆ November 29th Angel Festival Begins
- ◆ November 29th and 30th Gift from St Johns
- ◆ December 7th Bacon Butties@ Methodist Church @ 9.30
- ◆ December 14th Community Choir Carol Concert @ St John's
- ◆ December 15th Sunshine Singers' Concert
- ◆ December 15th 4pm Carols at All Saints Bighton
- ◆ December 19th Gospel Choir Christmas Concert
- ◆ December 22nd 4pm Carols by Candlelight @St Peter's Ovington
- ◆ December 22nd 5pm Carols at St Mary's Old Alresford
- ◆ December 22nd 6pm Nine Lessons and Carols @ St John's Alresford
- ◆ December 23rd Carol Singing at Itchen Stoke
- ◆ December 24th 4pm Crib Service
- ◆ December 24th 6pm Carols Around Ovington
- ◆ December 24th 11.30pm Midnight Mass @ St John's



**For the latest church information please see either the weekly notices or the Benefice website:**

## From the Rector



As we enter November and the season of Remembrance, our hearts are heavy with the conflicts and struggles that persist across the world. We are prompted to reflect on the sacrifices made by countless individuals in the past and to hold onto the hope for a more peaceful and just future.

The act of remembrance is a powerful and enduring tradition that binds us together as a community. It reminds us of the bravery and selflessness of those who have served and continue to serve in the armed forces, often in far-off and dangerous lands. We honour their dedication to preserving peace and safeguarding our freedoms, and we recognize the hardships they endure.

Remembrance is not just about the past; it's also about the present and the future. In our prayers and reflections, we consider the men, women and children whose lives are shaped by war, whether as victims, displaced people, humanitarian workers or armed forces. Their sacrifices, their physical and emotional burdens, and the toll that war takes on them and their families weigh heavily on our hearts.

In these times of uncertainty and conflict, it is essential for us to maintain hope. We hope for an end to violence and division, for the safe return of those who are far from home, and for the healing of wounds, both seen and unseen. We hope for a world where the lessons of the past guide us towards lasting peace.



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As people of faith, we know that hope is not a passive act but an active one. We are called to work towards peace, justice, and reconciliation in our own lives and within our community. Our faith teaches us that even in the face of despair, hope can be a powerful force for change.

In our parish and as individuals, let us be bearers of hope. Reach out to one another, especially those who may be struggling with the weight of current conflicts. Offer comfort, support, and a listening ear. In doing so, we can help kindle the light of hope in the darkest of times.

Together, as a community, we can be a beacon of light and a source of inspiration for a world in need of peace.

With love

Revd. Heather

# Send your Christmas Greetings to all readers of The Arle Valley Voice!

Make sure your name appears in our special 'Benefice Christmas Card' centre spread in the December edition of The Arle Valley Voice and on the larger colour poster in the porch of St. John's during Advent and twelve days of Christmas.

Fill in the form below and put it - with your charity donation (£5 for a single name, £8 for couples or families/groups) in an envelope - in the box at the back of St. John's (the box is gift wrapped). Cheques should be made payable to PCC of New Alresford. The charity you nominate on your form could be the one to benefit from the proceeds! Charity chosen by being first picked randomly out of the box.

Don't miss out on a church community initiative –  
it's a lot cheaper than sending out hundreds of cards yourself!

The box and forms will be in the Benefice office at St. John's on Monday - Friday (10am - 12pm) and during the Sunday service (9.30am) from Sunday October 20th until Sunday Nov 10th.

---

## Benefice Christmas Card 2024

Name(s) to appear on the card: .....

.....

Suggested charity to benefit from the money raised:

.....

Your telephone number: .....

Put this form in an envelope with your donation (£5 or £8 for couples or families/groups).

Post in the box in the Benefice office (Mondays – Fridays 10am – 12pm) & at the Sunday service from October 20th to November 10th.

# Children's Activities

## Monday Meet + Eat

Come  
Join Us

Everyone Welcome  
Ласкаво просимо всіх

Please inform  
us of any  
dietary  
requirements

Families with primary school children  
and under are invited to join  
the fun in the John Pearson Hall.

3.30pm | A drink and a snack to start.

Followed by Board Games, Puzzles,  
Word Searches and lots more fun!

4.45pm | Dinner - we share a FREE hot meal.



Organised by  
CTA

Every Monday from 3.30pm @ St. John's Church, Alresford

Please book in your child or family at  
[mondaymeetandeat@gmail.com](mailto:mondaymeetandeat@gmail.com)

## Families at 4pm

Everyone welcome

1st Sunday of  
the month

St. John's Church  
Alresford

Story, craft, song,  
drinks and snacks

No more than an  
hour, very informal

## CHILL, CHAT & CHOMP

Youth Group Y7 upwards

St John's Church

Contact Rosie on 07891 120662



### Chatterbox

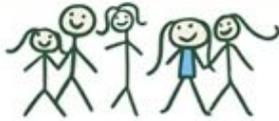


is our parent/carer & baby/toddler group that  
meets every Thursday  
(10am - 11am) in the John Pearson Hall.

Do come along and enjoy new friends  
(with refreshments) and fun activities  
for your little ones.

Please book a place with Vicki,  
t. 07907 035998.





10AM - 12PM  
 1ST MONDAY OF THE MONTH  
 CHRISTY HALL, OLD ALRESFORD

## Old Alresford Family Mondays

TOYS FOR TODDLERS AND A CHANCE TO MEET AND CHAT TO OTHER FAMILIES.

REFRESHMENTS TOO!

EVERYONE IS WELCOME FROM 10AM - 12PM ON THE 1ST MONDAY OF EACH MONTH

ORGANISED BY ST. MARY'S CHURCH, OLD ALRESFORD



CONTACTS:  
 SUE ARMSTRONG  
 TEL. 734542  
 ERICA SISK  
 TEL. 732735



"...and don't forget we're coming into Nativity Play season – make sure we have extra tea-towels in stock!"

## Join the Adventure

# Rhymetime

Thursdays

Rhymetime sessions at  
**Alresford Library**  
 10.45 For Babies  
 11.15 For Toddlers

Sessions are free to join and drop in or just message us via our facebook page to guarantee your place!



**Prayer requests:**

If you would like the Prayer team to pray for you, your family, friends or any other situation, please contact:

**Rosie Waring Green**  
**rosie@22rwg.co.uk**  
**t. 01962 733237**

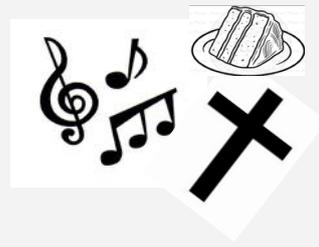
We, of course, always respect the confidentiality of your requests

**Prayer Meeting** for the parish and our community - **every Friday at 10-11am** in church - feel free to drop in. And if you can't get down to the church then do join us in prayer wherever you are.

**Sundays @ Six**  
ON  
**2ND SUNDAYS!**  
10th November  
**@ 6pm**  
St. John's

Do come and join us for a time of worship and reflection -

Come early at 5.45 and enjoy tea and some cake.



**Wednesdays @**  
*St. John's Church*

**Come and join Rev Heather at 10.45am for a brew and a chat in the John Pearson Hall. Everyone Welcome**



&



**EVERY WEDNESDAY IN THE JOHN PEARSON HALL**      **10.45AM**

t. 01962 732105  
e. arlevalleyrector@gmail.com  
www.arlevalleychurches.org.uk

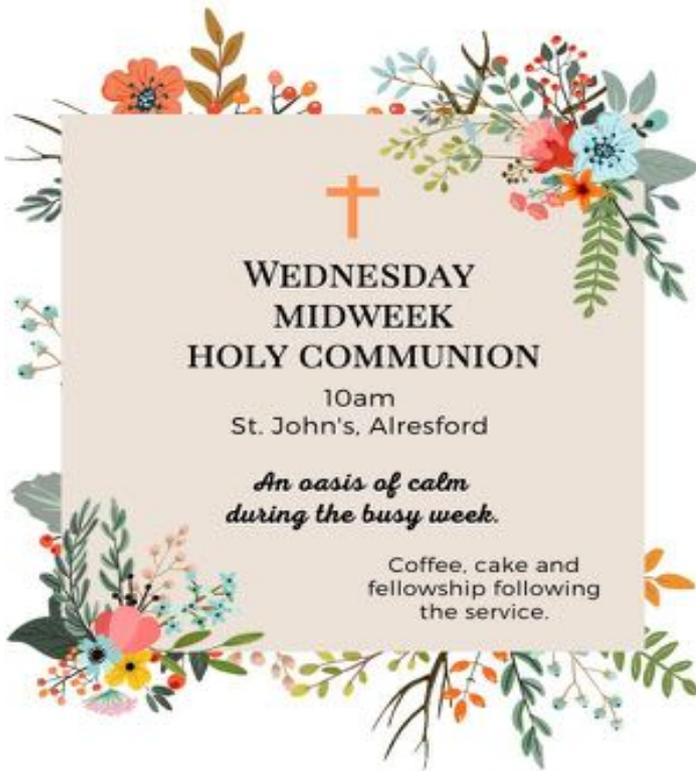
**St John's Porch Prayer Tree and Prayer Cards**

Please do spend some time praying the prayer requests on the Prayer tree as you go in or out of church or as you walk by. It is a privilege to support all those who have written these

Also there are prayer cards available in a display case which you are most welcome to take and use for yourself or friends and family.

Some of the titles are: Being Accepted, Looking for God, Worried about Someone, Finding Peace, Feeling alone, Grieving, Being thankful





## Solos Sunday Tea

A warm welcome, homemade cakes and conversation for those who live alone.

Come and join us

Every Third Sunday 2.30pm—4.30pm

**Next meetings:**

**Sunday 17th November**

John Pearson Hall St John's Church

We do hope to see you there.

Info: Marian 01962 733921

Margaret 01962 735185

Roger 01962 734045

Gluten free available



## Coffee, Cake & Chat @ St. John's

Come and join us on the second Tuesday of every month (10am—11.30am)

in the John Pearson Hall

for tea coffee and delicious homemade cakes!

This is for everyone across the local community

We'd love to see you

Feel free to invite family, friends and neighbours as well

The more the merrier!



For more information please contact

Angela Peel 01962 734 814

## Table Talk

A chance to meet, eat and discuss issues of the day in an open, friendly and non-judgemental atmosphere.

**12pm in the John Pearson Hall**

Bring and Share lunch

**Friday 15th November**

**All Welcome**



# ST. JOHN'S LIGHT

## Party

**A FUN ALTERNATIVE TO HALLOWEEN!**

A whole lot of fun for the whole family

Children must be accompanied  
by their parent/carer

GAMES

CRAFTS

FOOD

ACTIVITIES

**2  
NOV**

**DON'T FORGET  
YOUR TORCH!**

**4-6  
PM**

To book your place  
(along with any dietary requirements)  
and for more information  
please email the Benefice office:  
[arleyvalleychurches@gmail.com](mailto:arleyvalleychurches@gmail.com)

**FREE ENTRY (DONATIONS WELCOME)**

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

NEW ALRESFORD

**IT'S TIME FOR  
BREAKFAST  
CHURCH.**

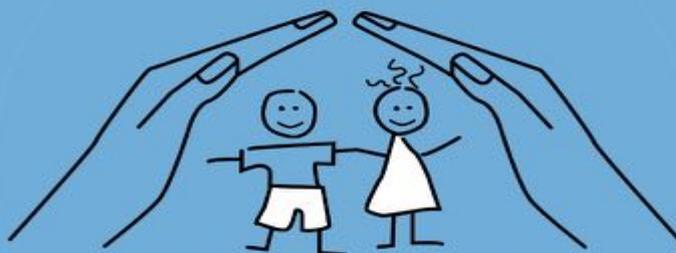


Starts  
13th Oct.

2ND  
SUNDAYS  
@ 9.30AM

**FAMILY FRIENDLY  
WORSHIP + FUN**

AGES 0 - 100!



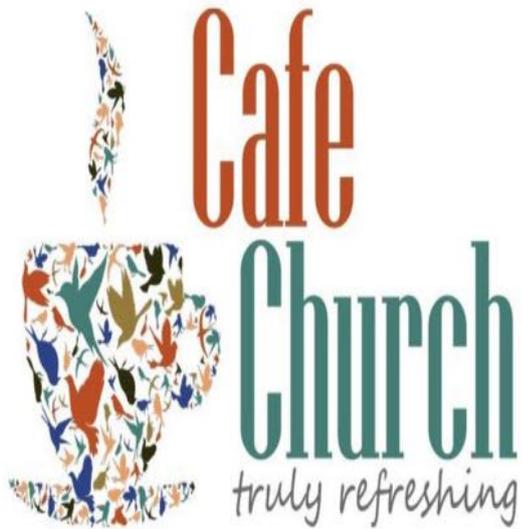
the michael project  
coffee morning

Saturday  
2nd November  
10a.m to 12 noon  
Coffee, cake, raffle,  
sales table

Margaret Stewart  
01962 735185

## Café Church @ St. Peter's

11:00am - 12:00pm, Sun 3 Nov



Join us for good conversation about faith and life in a friendly, informal setting. Coffee, tea and homemade treats.

**1st Sunday every other month.  
All welcome!**

## Village Family Praise

11:00am - 12:00pm,  
Sun 3 Nov .  
**St Mary's Church, SO24 9DX**



A service of Morning Praise for the whole family.

## Remembrance Day

Never forget,  
Always remember.

10th November

Services in all four churches

St Peter's @ 10, St John's, St Mary's and All Saints @ 10.50.

# Remembrance

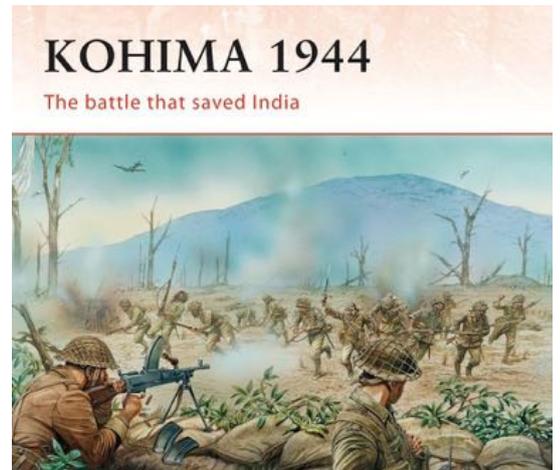
This year Remembrance includes several significant dates from past wars.

2024 marks the **110th** anniversary of the start of World War I.

2024 marks **80** years since D-Day. The Normandy Landings of 6<sup>th</sup> June were the largest sea-borne invasion in history, and began the Allied invasion of Normandy, which led to the liberation of France and laid the foundations of the Allied victory on the Western Front.

2024 marks the **80<sup>th</sup>** anniversary of the Battle of Monte Cassino in Italy, the bloodiest battle of the Italian Campaign, when Allied forces finally broke through the Germans' notorious 'Gustav Line' and freed Route Six and the way to Rome.

2024 marks the **80<sup>th</sup>** anniversary of the battles for Kohima and Imphal, where in northeast India the Imperial Japanese Army was held off by much smaller numbers of British and Indian troops. In Kohima alone, the defenders held off a staggering 25 Japanese attacks over 14 days in appalling conditions. When Indian troops arrived to relieve the defenders, the Japanese encirclement was broken. Amongst the liberators was Havildar Major Rajindar Singh Dhatt of the Royal Indian Army Service Corps, from the Punjab.



2024 also marks the **80<sup>th</sup>** anniversary of Operation Market Garden in the Netherlands, when the Allies managed to free Eindhoven and Nijmegen, but famously failed to capture the bridge at Arnhem. (The story is told in the film *A Bridge too Far*)

As the British Legion says, "While D-Day was fundamental to the allied victory, the Second World War was not won on any single day - or battle - and we will recognise and pay tribute to all who served from the British Armed Forces, Commonwealth and allied nations, such as those who served in the Battles of Monte Cassino, Imphal and Kohima, Operation Market Garden and the Scheldt. We are apt just to remember the western front and D-Day but equally important and costly battles were fought in Italy, North Africa and the Far East.



This year and indeed every year the British Legion looks beyond the Second World War, especially now to Kosovo and Afghanistan.

It wants to pay tribute to those who served and **currently** serve in Kosovo 25 years after the deployment of the NATO peacekeeping force, KFOR, and to those who served in Afghanistan, as this year marks **10** years since the end of Operation Herrick.

And, alas, the wars go on and on all over the world so it is not just the British we should remember and pay for but for all those caught up in war.

## Bereavement Events



Are you grieving the loss of a loved one, or struggling with the long-term effects of loss? A seven week course will soon be running in your area.



**Topics include:** Attachment, separation and loss, Difficult feelings, Rites of passage, The impact and pain of bereavement, Coping with others, Coping with change, Moving forward, an optional session on Questions of Faith

### Monday evenings

7.15pm - 9.30pm

**Sept 9th - Oct 21st**

at The Alton Maltings Centre.  
Suggested Voluntary contribution

£20 (for the whole course)

To book your place, email  
[bereavement@potr-alton.co.uk](mailto:bereavement@potr-alton.co.uk)  
or phone Wendy Burnhams  
on **07514 280 362**

## SERVICE OF COMFORT & HOPE

St John's Parish Church, Alresford  
Sunday 3rd November at 12pm

Everyone is warmly invited to this simple and reflective service, in which we remember loved ones who have died.

Bring a flower, one for each person remembered, to add to the Bouquet of Memories. There will be a few in the Church for those unable to bring one.

A Memorial card, on which to write the names of loved ones, can be picked up from the back of the Church. During the service you will be invited to bring this, with your flower, to the front and a prayer will be said for those who have died. There will also be an opportunity to light a candle.

Refreshments will be served after the service in the John Pearson Hall.

If you live in Alresford & need a lift to enable you to get to the service, please call the Parish Office 733545

There will also be a daytime course in the New Year



**Have you suffered a bereavement?**

**Would it help to talk?**

**If so, please telephone:**

**07450 649679**

**(24 hour answerphone)**

**Our support is confidential and free. It is carried out by trained Bereavement Visitors who are supervised by professionally qualified counsellors.**

[www.winchesterbereavementsupport.org.uk](http://www.winchesterbereavementsupport.org.uk)



## BEFRIEND THE END

Are you curious?  
Do you have questions  
about death and dying?

If so, come along to our informal afternoons and meet like-minded people to share and discover more about living well and dying well over a cuppa and a slice of cake.

**At the Alresford library on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of every month at 2 - 3pm**

For further information email;  
[contact@befriendtheend.co.uk](mailto:contact@befriendtheend.co.uk)



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OR TIM DEBUES ON

TELEPHONE: 01962 733097

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Alresford  
Golf Club

New to the area and need a club?  
Looking to change golf club or just starting out ?

We have something to suit everyone.

- 18 holes, 6017yds, Par 69
- Course Ranked 9<sup>th</sup> best in Hampshire
- Stepped membership fees for 18-21yrs
- 'Academy' membership scheme for Beginners
- Social Extra membership - use the best practice facilities in the area
- Performance Studio with Flight scope analysis
- Visitors and Societies welcome
- Well stocked Foreman's Golf Shop

Please contact the General Manager on 01962 733745 for further information or to take a look.  
[www.alresfordgolf.co.uk](http://www.alresfordgolf.co.uk)

# Whatever you want to store... ...and for whatever reason

House sale and purchase not coinciding, travelling, house building work, bereavement, paperwork overload or just "de-cluttering" to sell your house more quickly, Barn Store offers friendly and flexible self-storage, 10 minutes from Alresford on the A272



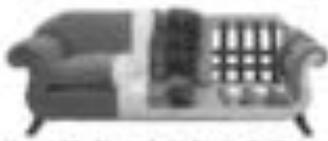
## BARN-STORE.CO.UK

Holden Farm, Cheriton, Alresford SO24 0NX

## 01962 771993

### Chilbolton Chair Company

Makers & Upholsterers of fine quality furniture



Unit 12B, Stonefield Park, Chilbolton  
Stockbridge, Hants. SO20 6BE  
Tel: 01264 861217  
www.chilboltonchaircompany.co.uk

We offer a wide range of services:

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email: info@chilboltonchaircompany.co.uk  
Mobile: 07582 809110  
Mobile: 07582 809111

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COLIN JOYCE - 01962 776545

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for all your needs

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Pharmacies** 

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For an appointment

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/ 01962 736159

## Local Matters

### The Arle Valley Benefice Education Fund



The Arle Valley Benefice Education Fund is available to parishioners in the Benefice, who would like to obtain a grant to further their religious education .

The fund was set up in 1990 by the Diocese of Winchester following the sale of the Old Alresford Church of England School. In 2012 it was agreed with the Charity Commission that the remit of the Fund could be extended to:

**'The provision within the Arle Valley Benefice of religious education in accordance within the tenets of the Church of England by means of Sunday Schools or otherwise.'**

Trustees are appointed from the Electoral Role of the churches within the Benefice, the intent being that all churches are represented on the board. The Rector of the Benefice is also a trustee.

Grants are approved by the trustees and can be applied for by emailing [avbef20@gmail.com](mailto:avbef20@gmail.com) for an application form. You will need the approval of a church warden before sending in your application.

### The Arle Valley Benefice Education Fund

You may have noticed the advertisement for the above fund in your magazine. See above.

During the past year the trustees have approved several grants from the fund. These have included the purchase of a portable projector for the Benefice

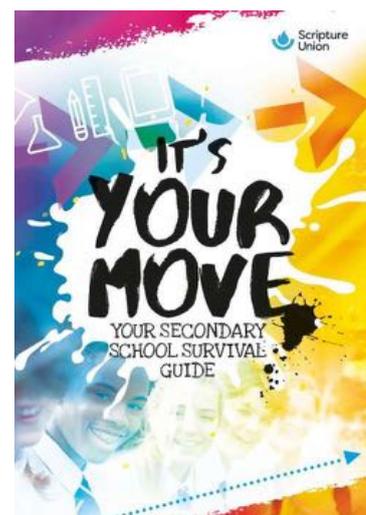
A grant towards activities at St Mary's Morning Praise Service.  
Many families at St John's take part in their chill/chat and chomp evenings , Monday's Meet and Eat and Families at 4 . All these have benefited from a grant during the year.

The booklet "It's Your Move ' given to Year 6 children at Sun Hill ,before they moved on to secondary School ,was donated by the fund.

A grant was also approved for the activities at St John's for the recent Light Party.

The village churches All Saints - Bighton, St Mary's - Old Alresford and Peter's Ovington all benefit from a grant for their Advent Calendars ,which are distributed to the children in the villages.

For further information please email the clerk on [avbef20@gmail.com](mailto:avbef20@gmail.com).



St

**Alresford Art Society:**



**Harriet Riddell will be talking about  
her *Travels with a Sewing Machine*  
as well as stitching a portrait of a member  
of the audience**

**Thursday 28th November 2024**

**7.30pm**

**in Bishop's Sutton Village Hall, Alresford Road  
(B3047), Bishops Sutton SO24 0AH.**

**Non-members welcome – admission £3.**

**For further information: 01962 732043  
or visit [www.artsociety.alresford.org](http://www.artsociety.alresford.org).**



**St John's Walking Group**

St John's Walking Group is an informal social group who do a walk of normally 6-7 miles on the first Saturday morning of each month.

We are relaxed, casual and aim to start walking at 9.30am and finish by 12.30pm – 1pm taking in some good English countryside – hills, valleys, woods, fields, flora, fauna, water... This will be followed by a pub lunch.

Different members of the group will take responsibility for planning each walk (and pub lunch).

**New members are always welcome! If anyone is interested in joining the Walking Group or learning more about it, please send an email to [notices@arleyvalleychurches.org.uk](mailto:notices@arleyvalleychurches.org.uk).**



**theWI**  
INSPIRING WOMEN

NEW ALRESFORD  
WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Next Meeting Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November  
**'Earwigs to Rhinos'**  
Presented by Geoff Read  
Retired Marwell Head Zookeeper



Meeting starts at 7.30pm  
At St Gregory's Church Hall,  
1 Grange Road  
SO24 9HD

Visitors very welcome- please  
come and join us  
For further information contact  
Marian Baldwin 01962 732000  
Jude Cowen 01962 738755

ALRESFORD & DISTRICT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION  
FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

FRIDAY MORNINGS  
AT YOUR  
COMMUNITY CENTRE



TEA/COFFEE & BISCUITS

WEEKLY MEAT RAFFLE  
BOOK SALE  
EGGS LOCAL PRODUCE

Proceeds for the maintenance of Alresford Community Centre, Charity No. 301122

## Alresford Methodist Church November 2024



**Saturday November 2nd** Come and join us for Bacon Butties (also hot croissants and fresh coffee) and good conversation. No payment is asked for, but donations are accepted for the work of the church.

Breakfast is served from 9.30-11.00am. There will also be a sales table with a range of homemade pickles and preserves.



**Every Thursday** 12.00 to 2.00pm the Lunch Club meet in the Methodist Church hall. Come and enjoy a main course and dessert, followed by tea or coffee for just £10.00. Pre-booking is essential. For more details contact Mrs Chris Hulford 01962 736810

**Monday 4th November** The Monday Memory Café (supporting those suffering memory loss and their carers) will be celebrating the traditions of HARVEST. Come along and join with us for an afternoon of fun, activities, fellowship, homemade cake and lots of tea – all for a cost of £2!

If you would like more information, or would like to attend, please contact Ruth on 07711066116

**Thursday 14th November** The Women's Fellowship group will meet in the church hall at 2.30pm. The talk will be followed by tea and cake. A warm welcome is extended to everyone.



**Alresford Methodist Church**  
Jacklyn's Lane, Alresford



**Visit the Memory Cafe**  
for guests with dementia and their carers

A relaxed and informal drop-in providing support for people with memory difficulties and their carers



Come and enjoy a cuppa, homemade cakes, music and activities

On the **FIRST MONDAY** of every month  
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# Hampshire Libraries



**Tuesday After School Passport Club**  
with craft 3 –4.45

**Thursday Rhyme Time—babies 10.45,**  
toddlers 11.15

**Friday Knit and Knatter 2-4pm**

**Friday Kids' Construction Club 3—4.45**

**Saturday—Arts and Crafts all morning**



## Alresford and District Horticultural Society Meeting

Wednesday 13th November  
beginning at 7.30pm  
At St. Gregory's Parish Hall,  
Grange Road, Alresford.  
'From Mustard to Mint'  
the story of Summerdown Mints,  
a talk by Ian Margetts.



### What bishops do?

We were celebrating the 100th anniversary of our church, and several former pastors and the bishop were in attendance. At one point, our vicar had the children gather at the altar for a talk about the importance of the day. He began by asking, "Does anyone know what the bishop does?"

There was silence. Finally, one little girl ventured: "He's the one you can move diagonally."



# FIREWORKS AND BONFIRE 2024



TORCHLIGHT PROCESSION FROM THE TOP OF BROAD STREET AT 7 PM  
BONFIRE & FIREWORKS AT 7:45 AT ARLEBURY PARK  
**BUY TICKETS EARLY AND SAVE!**

ORDER ONLINE FROM [HTTPS://TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK/ALRESFORD-ROTARY](https://ticketsource.co.uk/alresford-rotary)

Ticket Prices: October Child £ 4 Adult £ 9  
November Child £ 5.50 Adult £ 12



**FIREWORKS  
FRIDAY 8TH  
NOVEMBER  
ALRESFORD**

**Rotary** 

Charity number: 1014447 [www.alresford-rotary.org](http://www.alresford-rotary.org)



**HAMPSHIRE MEDICAL FUND**  
The charity buying tomorrow's equipment today



ANGELA BARNES



GARY DELANEY



LAURA LEXX



**16 NOVEMBER 2024**  
18.00 - 22.30

Black Chalk Winery  
Andover, SP11 7JX

Ticket includes a locally sourced two course meal  
All proceeds go towards the Hampshire Medical Fund

PROUDLY SUPPORTING  HAMPSHIRE MEDICAL FUND  
The charity buying tomorrow's equipment today



HOSTED BY  
JAMES ALDERSON

© JAMES ALDERSON



Not all of us are church goers but that doesn't necessarily take away that sense of wonder as we tell the stories of the birth of the Christ Child once again.

Imogen Painter, our wonderful pianist, who played for us in Romsey Abbey last year, will accompany us. Many in the choir and audience alike will enjoy singing carols with the Royal Marine Association Ensemble, as we did last year. There is something quite evocative of the sound of brass and Christmas music.

New appearance of Susan Frank, our solo flautist, who has recently moved to Alresford.

Alresford Community Choir  
Presents  
**A Ceremony of Carols**

A wonderful mixture of traditional and more modern music  
including contemporary gems, for choir and audience

Accompanied by  
Royal Marines Association Ensemble  
Harp – Kate Ham  
Flute – Susan Frank  
Piano – Imogen Painter

Directed by Keith Clark

St John's Church, Alresford, SO24 9AG  
Saturday December 14th at 7.30pm. Doors open at 6.45pm

Tickets £15/£12, available from:  
<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/alresford-community-choir>  
or scan the QR code 

See available before the concert and during the interval 



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# St John's Open Day



# Fun for all



ST JOHN'S CHURCH



# Angel Festival



## Festival Opening Times:

Saturday, 30th November - Sunday, 1st December

Come and see the Christmas Angels.

A multitude of Angels will be displayed around the church created by people of all ages and representing a wide range of life in our community.

This event will run alongside the free Gift from St John's on Saturday 30th November when the community is invited in for free refreshments and opportunities to create Christmas decorations etc...



Join us on  
Sunday, 1st December  
for tea, coffee and cake  
from 11am - 3.30pm  
followed by a  
Christingle service at 4pm.





# Angel Festival@St John’s Church 2024



## Begins on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November

We would like to invite you to create an angel to be part of ‘a host of heavenly’ angels to decorate St John’s Church over the Christmas season for the many visitors to Alresford to enjoy

There are a limited number of spaces for 2D or 3d angels to be displayed – approximately 25 - so the applications will be on a first come first served basis.

To reserve a space in the church for this exciting event, please contact Rosie Waring Green as soon as possible. We would like to ask for a donation of £10 for an entry per business, organisation, shop, school etc or £5 an entry for families and individuals.

### The Deadline to apply is 14<sup>th</sup> November.

There is a free competition to create an angel for the top of the 8-foot tree inside the church.

You can also apply to create and display a weather-proof angel in the churchyard.

This event will run alongside the free Gift from St John’s on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November when the community is invited in for free refreshments and opportunities to create Christmas decorations etc.

On Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December there will be tea, coffee and cake available from 11am – 3.30pm followed by a Christingle service at 4pm.

The angels will remain ‘flying’ round St John’s until Tuesday, 7th January 2025 and we would be grateful if you could remove your angel by either 4pm on Wednesday 8th or 7pm on Thursday 9th January.

Application form below. Further information, contact Rosie [rosie@22rwg.co.uk](mailto:rosie@22rwg.co.uk) or 07891120662

### Details of sizes and sites for angels for St John’s Angel Festival

Below are the sizes that will fit certain places – please choose your position. There are limited places for each size so it is essential you contact us to book your slot. We will let you know as soon as we have heard from you if that space is available.

Window ledges – max size 2ft high by 1 ft deep. Can be 2D and 3D but self-supporting

Pillars – 2D flat to hang. No bigger than 18 inches wide by 2 ft high

Chandeliers - 2D flat to hang. No bigger than 18inches high by 1 ft wide

Free standing – 3D either 3ft, 4ft or 5ft

Outside waterproof angel - any size

.....

**\*We / I would like to reserve a place for a .....(state position required)**

**\*We would like to enter the free competition to make an angel for the top of the St John’s Christmas Tree**

**Name:**

**Email:**

**Contact number:**

**Organisation etc**

**\*Choose one or both of the above**

## Died in the services?!

Little Alex was staring up at the large brass plaque that hung on the side wall of the church. The plaque was covered with names, and seemed to fascinate the seven-year-old. "All those names," he said to the minister. "Who are they?"

"Well, they were people who used to go to this church," explained the rector.

"This is a memorial to all the young men and women who died in the services."

Soberly, they stood together, staring at the large plaque. Little Alex's voice was barely audible when he finally asked, "Which service, the 9 o'clock, or the 11 o'clock?"



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- Wildlife Management.

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## Dancing Demoiselles

Male banded demoiselle by Mark Hamblin



On sunny days, the glint of a banded or beautiful demoiselle is quite a sight to behold. At just 4.5cm long, these species are Britain's biggest damselflies – the smaller, slenderer cousins of dragonflies. Their two pairs of wings are also the same shape, whereas dragonflies tend to have bottom wings that are broader and shorter than the top ones. In comparison to that of their larger relatives, the flight of damselflies is slow, gentle, and fluttery.

Like many wildlife species, demoiselles are sexually dimorphic, which means that the sexes are visually distinguishable from each other. The males are inky blue with a turquoise sheen (both species), while the females are metallic green (banded) or greenish-bronze (beautiful). Due to these similarities, the two species can look very similar at first glance, but they can quickly be identified by their unique wing colours.

Unlike dragonflies, which hold their wings out to the side, demoiselles fold theirs vertically along their bodies. Those of the males are dark all over (beautiful) or have a dark patch in the middle (banded). In females, the difference is more subtle: their wings are brown (beautiful) or green (banded), with a faint white spot at the tip. In fact, demoiselles are the only British damselflies whose wings have colour!

Demoiselles start their lives as eggs, which the females inject into the stems of plants like water crowfoot – they may even go below the surface to find a good spot. Two weeks later, the young hatch as larvae; a life stage that lasts for two years. They spend this time among submerged plants, eating smaller invertebrates and hiding from predators. In the higher flows of winter, they may hunker down in mud, silt, and gravel.

Upon reaching adulthood, the larvae climb up emergent plants that root in the water but extend above the surface. Once in the fresh air, they shed their exoskeletons and take to the sky on their newly unfurled wings. In flight, both species are fierce predators that catch other insects with their six bristly legs. You might also see them basking in the morning sun and sheltering in vegetation as night falls or wet weather arrives.

For the most part, though, demoiselle adulthood is about reproduction. The males take and defend small territories, performing dances to attract passing females. If the wooing goes well, each pair forms a “wheel” or “heart” shape for mating, and he leads her to a good egg-laying site. Look out for this amazing spectacle between April and October, but particularly on bright, dry, windless days between May and August.

The lush plant life of our chalk streams makes them great habitats for both demoiselle species. Being more sensitive, beautiful demoiselles are especially fond of the gravelly beds, consistent temperature, and clean, oxygen-rich water. If we want to give these incredible insects a home, we need to keep our streams healthy by tackling pollution and agricultural runoff, reducing water abstraction, and letting vegetation flourish along the riverbanks.

If you'd like to learn more about chalk stream wildlife, check out the Watercress and Winter-bournes scheme by visiting [hiwwt.org.uk/winterbournes](http://hiwwt.org.uk/winterbournes). Our work is supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

### Free Online Talk

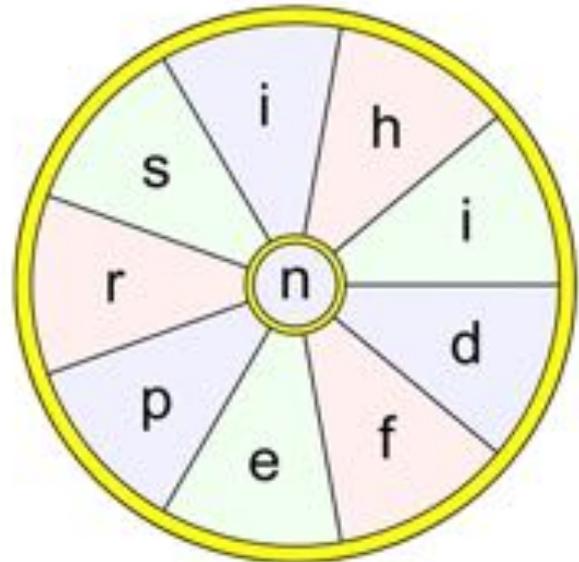
Managing Highway Runoff Pollution in Rivers 19<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm, Online

## Puzzles

		8			6		1	
		5						
6		7			1	8	4	5
7		9	8			1		
3	8	2		5		6	9	4
		1			9	5		7
5	9	6	7			2		1
						4		
	1		9			7		

© 2008 KrazyDad.com

Fill in the numbers so each column, row and square have the numbers 1 to 9.



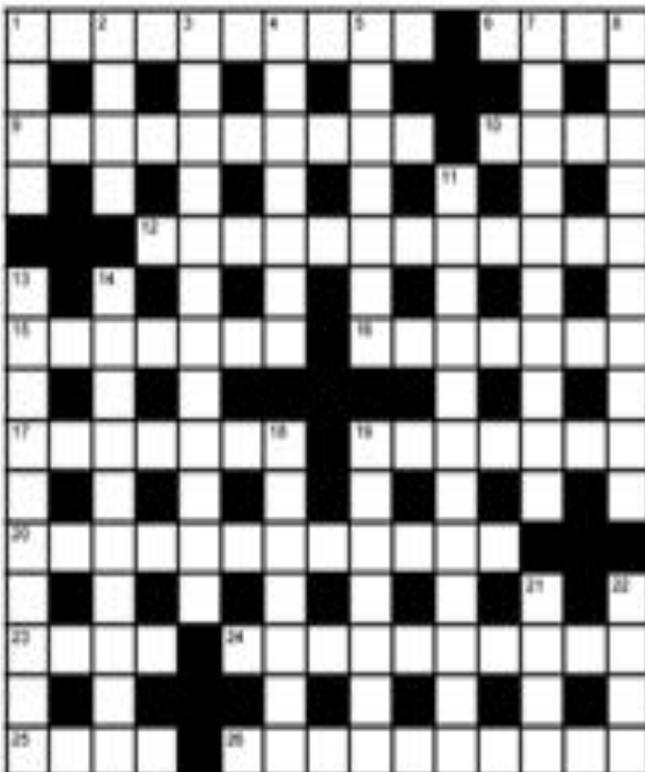
How many words of 4 letters or more can you make? Use each letter only once and always include the 'n'.

50+ genius

40+ excellent

30+ good

20+ okay



### Across

- 1 Sort of ads that should be kept secret (10)
- 6 Spice for ceremonial staff (4)
- 9 First notice faulty airbrakes secure mountaineers (10)
- 10 Its these cursed hives first irritate (4)
- 12 Fast secure fence (5,7)
- 15 Confused it beats fine fabric (7)
- 16 hammers found on the snow (7)
- 17 Starting space (7)
- 19 Greek character gives no French bun (7)
- 20 Pariahs can't feel, can they? (12)

### Down

- 1 Diners can't have this (4)
- 2 Fresh melody with unknown end (4)
- 3 Sleeps below cheats hundred debts (12)
- 4 Money for disreputable inn cafe. (7)
- 5 Dresses little Robert in four points (7)
- 23 Flower in your eyes (4)
- 24 These poor people didn't meet our sarned John (10)
- 25 Angelic command to miss this letter for feast (4)
- 26 A secure hit for drivers (6,4)

- 7 A thin rope for medical specialty tonic (10)
- 8 Put out energy - article ascending (10)
- 11 At the top (12)
- 13 Forgiveness - a second answer (10)
- 14 Hard-headed way I go in three directions (10)
- 18 Get unfinished hair dye. Hell! (7)
- 19 Three quarters of group in prison for this Green (7)
- 21 Understand one bishopric (1,3)
- 22 Tide ebbs? Correct (4)



## Let's work together

I wonder if you know where the copy of the covenant between the Alresford churches is displayed in your church? Perhaps you did not know that St John's, St Mary's, St Gregory's and The Alresford Methodist church are covenanted to work together, 'to do nothing separately that can better be done together.' Each of the four churches has a signed copy of the document on public display.

It was back in 1991, a time when Churches Together in Alresford was in its infancy, that Father Fisher, the Catholic Priest, suggested at a meeting that the Anglicans, Catholics and Methodists in Alresford should covenant to work together. Sadly, he died the very next day but it was not long before the idea he had floated turned into a reality. The covenant was signed at a service in St Gregory's in 1992 and was perhaps something of a catalyst because the following years saw a considerable growth in relationships and joint activities between the churches. At the time we were considered to be pioneers in the ecumenical movement in Hampshire.

We re-signed the covenant in 2020, this time it also included St Mary's, Old Alresford. There have been a number of changes in our churches since the original document was created. We have fewer clergy, smaller and ageing congregations and many pressures to simply maintain our church buildings. Sometimes we are so busy just keeping going in our individual churches that we simply don't have time to remember the covenant. Perhaps it is now, more than ever before, that we need to work together; to support, and be supported by, one another? After all we are all Christians in Alresford united in our common commitment to love and serve the Lord.

So why not have a look for the covenant on display in your church? It's worth reading through even if you've seen it before.

Jackie Connell

### **Dates for your diary.**

**Sunday 27th October. Shoebox Packing at 12:15 in St Gregory's Church hall.**

**Please join us to pack a box for disadvantaged and displaced children in Eastern Europe.**

**Sunday 15th December CTiA Carol Service at 6pm at St Gregory's.**

**Saturday 21st December CTiA Carol Singing at the top of Broad St.**



## Grace Carpenter 8.5.1926 – 17.1.2024



Grace was born in Twyford, Winchester and lived in and around Twyford whilst growing up. She was the third of 4 girls and enjoyed singing, sewing, English and maths at school, she also played the organ and piano. Her first job, at the age of 14, was working in the kitchen at Twyford School, where her father was the cook, she worked there for 7 years. She then joined Mrs Prince at the village shop until her marriage. She often recalled how her 19<sup>th</sup> birthday had fallen on VE Day and how, as a member of Twyford Church choir in 1947 she had taken part in the Christmas Day service which was broadcast, from Twyford Church, by the BBC, something which she was very proud of.

Grace met her husband, Arthur, at a dance in Twyford village hall, when he played the cornet in the band, and they married in October 1950 at Twyford Church and was surprised to find that the choir, bellringers and organist took part in the wedding service as a special tribute to her. They had two girls, Anne and Susan, and in 1957 moved to Four Marks where they bought a small holding.

In 1973 they retired and moved to Corfe Close, Alresford, where they lived for 7 years and then moved to Maple Close, where they lived for the rest of their lives. Grace is known to have said that her time in Alresford has been the happiest time of her life.

Grace has four grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren and her family meant everything to her and she was always at her happiest when she was surrounded by her family. We all miss her very much.

### Book Review: Daily Bible Meditations for Everyone

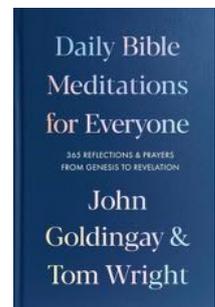
John Goldingay and Tom Wright.

Over the years Tom Wright has become well-known as the Bishop of Durham, Professor at St Andrews and Research Fellow at Oxford, Dean of Litchfield and Canon Theologian of Westminster Abbey. He has written some very well researched books on Jesus and Paul but perhaps his enduring contribution to the Christian community is to make available to “people in the pews” some of the insights that scholars have.

John Goldingay may not be so well-known though he has retired to Oxford so he must cross paths with Tom Wright quite often. SPCK who publish this latest book published his books on books of the Old Testament in much the same way as Tom Wright had covered the books of the New Testament. Now the two of them have got together to produce a book that has 365 readings from Old and New Testament. It takes you right through the Bible through the device of using themes or headlines such as “Prophets and Kings” or “Scenes from the life of Jesus” -or “From slavery to the Promised Land” or “Early Christian wisdom”.

The book comes as a nicely bound hardback with a captive marker ribbon and can be ordered from outlets like Aslan, Amazon or Eden. The price does vary from shop to shop but a year’s reading for under £20 sounds like a bargain to me. It used to be said that Tom Wright and Rowan Williams got up very early so that they could write a lot before the day’s interruptions started. As readers we don’t have to get up early but can still profit from their thought and prayer.

*Jerome*



## Two Advent Books

### **Wounded I Sing - From Advent to Christmas with George Herbert**

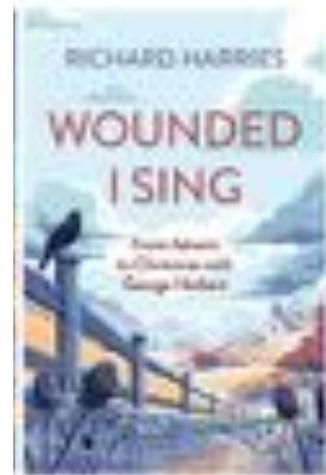
**By Richard Harries, SPCK £10.99**

Prepare your heart for the joy of Christmas in the company of one of the best-loved poets in the English language. George Herbert is widely regarded as one of the greatest devotional poets the world has known. Here Richard Harries reflects on 24 of his greatest poems, six for each of the four weeks of Advent, including 'Redemption', 'The Country Parson' and 'The Temple'.

The result is a book that readers may want to return to over and over again, whether during Advent or in any other season of the year.

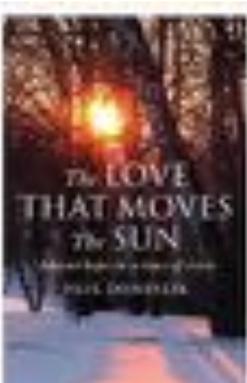
#### **Redemption**

Having been tenant long to a rich lord,  
Not thriving, I resolvèd to be bold,  
And make a suit unto him, to afford  
A new small-rented lease, and cancel th' old.  
In heaven at his manor I him sought;  
They told me there that he was lately gone  
About some land, which he had dearly bought  
Long since on earth, to take possession.  
I straight returned, and knowing his great birth,  
Sought him accordingly in great resorts;  
In cities, theaters, gardens, parks, and courts;  
At length I heard a ragged noise and mirth  
Of thieves and murderers; there I him espied,  
Who straight, Your suit is granted, said, and died.



### **The Love That Moves the Sun - Advent hope in a time of crisis**

**By Paul Dominiak, Canterbury Press, £12.99**



The season of Advent traditionally involved meditation upon the Four Last Things: heaven, hell, death, and judgement. This ancient but nearly lost sacred art of contemplation encouraged Christians to evaluate who they were, what they treasured and how they ought to live in view of the world to come. The Love That Moves the Sun revives this ancient practice and marries it with contemporary concerns.

Each chapter considers one of the Last Things in relation to a modern crisis, from the climate emergency, rise of populism and racial injustice to the economic inequalities of class. In a time of compound crises, retrieving the sacred art of contemplating the Last Things gives a vision of hope and direction in a chaotic world of uncertainty.

# My Weekend Thoughts to help save God's World

Beep, beep, beep goes the alarm - 'Good morning God. Oh, good it's Saturday. Oh no, chores 😞'

First thing – get the washing on – 'There is always enough dirty washing for a full load, so that's good.



That reminds me I must find a sustainable washing powder, sheet or pellet. I have not yet found an alternative that can clean my muddy trousers from walking the dog. This time I will use an Ariel pod from a cardboard box. The box can always be used for something else when all the pods have been used. A Useful Box to put things in! Maybe I should be washing at 30° but again that does not clean the mud, so 40° this time. Any suggestions?'

Time to get washed and dressed. 'Is it shower day? Must keep under 5 mins. That includes stopping the shower while I'm shampooing my hair. Ah, deodorant running out! I already have a Wild refillable case, so to choose the next refill. Coconut & Vanilla? Mint and Aloe Vera? Note to self, order some more refills.'



Washing done? – 'Now to Tumble dry. Yes, I know that is not the most environmentally friendly thing to do, but I do have solar panels. So, my washing is dried by the sun ☺ ☀. Rightly or wrongly, I put fluff in the compost. I am sure someone will correct me if it is the wrong thing to do.'

Time to check my bi-weekly shopping list. – 'What do I need in my next shopping delivery? Delivery has got to be best as a single vehicle can take the most efficient route to deliver orders to multiple households. Is there anything I ought to buy locally...?'



Now into Abresford for some local things. 'I try to buy local vegetables, meat etc. Can be a compromise as some things are more expensive. But think of the saving not driving to Winnall. Good to see the grocer displays where the vegetable come from.'

Back home. 'Anything else I'm running out of? Think I need to order toilet rolls to last a few months. Bamboo or recycled paper? Unbleached. Oh, according to Naked Sprout, bamboo rolls have a slightly smaller carbon footprint than recycled cardboard waste. I'll go for bamboo.'

Gardening and a mammals,  – 'I think I will create leaf and twig piles around the garden, providing shelter great nesting spot for hibernating animals, such as hedgehogs, small frogs and insects.'

Beep, beep, beep goes the alarm - 'Good morning God. Oh, good it's Sunday'

'Have I time to walk to church after walking the dog? As always left it too late, so time to leap on the bike.  Only 1.2km from here. I do try to avoid driving short distances when possible.'

General recurring thoughts for this time of year - 'I wish that people would not sit in their car talking on their mobile with the engine running. It's polluting the atmosphere, creating fumes for us to breath and a waste of petrol.  Worst still for our children to breath.'

'That reminds me, thinking of Monday morning, I don't like to see people clearing the frosted windscreen by switching on the car engine then going back into their house. May be convenient but again it's polluting the atmosphere, creating fumes for us to breath and a waste of petrol. Scraping never did anyone any harm. Or cover the windscreen with a cloth the night before.'



Rex

Look out for – Christmas thoughts ...

## Alresford Library Knit and Natter Group Friday 2 – 4 pm.

You may know our type of group as a 'Knit and Natter', but this is not quite accurate in Alresford library, on a Friday afternoon. We are more a 'Craft and Conversation'.

Why so the different name? Well, we do not want potential members to be deterred, thinking we just knit and gossip. We welcome any type of needle craft, at all levels, and ages, the only criterion is that it needs to be portable! It would be lovely to see someone making lace.

Whether you are a novice or an expert, you can join us around our table, no booking required. Even if you do not know how to use knitting needles or a crochet hook, we have someone who is willing to help you learn. There have been a number of successful learners and ambitious projects undertaken, over the last eighteen months. We also have skills at embroidery and cross stitch. As complicated as the crafts appear when you see needles flashing away at speed, we have all had to learn at some time, often at our Granny's side. I was about five years old when my grandma taught me, and my granddaughter was knitting gifts for her mother by that age.

Whatever your age, or gender – everyone is welcome to join in. If you 'cannot' knit or crochet, we can teach you, and help support your efforts with handy hints on working your project. It just takes a little practice and encouragement. Actually, there is no such thing as not being able to knit, these crafts are not difficult, practice makes perfect and a little encouragement makes it enjoyable, with the ultimate satisfaction of having creating something. One of our ladies went from not being able to knit to making a perfect teddy bear for her granddaughter in just a few weeks. We like a challenge and we are good company.

If you knit, crochet, cross stitch, embroidery, weave, macrame, you may be proficient at a craft someone else would like to learn, come and share.

As for the natter – we do not sit and gossip, we talk about anything and everything. Being in the library, we even share our thoughts on books we have read, or sometimes you can just hear the needles clicking. Gone are the days when the library was a silent environment. Sitting near the childrens' library we also get quite a bit of conversation with curious juniors. It is very encouraging for the future of real books, to see that Alresford has a lot of very young readers, many very young.

So, if you call in to change or select a new book, or even if you have not yet joined the library, come and chat with us. You cannot miss us sat around the table opposite the door. For further information please call Janet on 01962 771507





As ever there are many organisations that need volunteers to help either regularly or occasionally. And over the last few months we have advertised quite a few.

On a selfish level volunteering is a great way to meet new people and make friends especially if you are new to an area.

More importantly we all need to do something to support our community and help those that are vulnerable and need help—as we would wish to be supported and helped when we are in need.

## Would you like to support older people in your local community?



MHA Communities Hampshire Central is looking for volunteer befrienders in Alresford and Winchester.

This opportunity would involve meeting an older person once a week, for an hour.

We're looking for someone with excellent listening skills, patience and empathy. If you think this could be you, we would love to hear from you.

An online induction and full training will be provided for this role.

To find out more, please email [hampshirecentral@mha.org.uk](mailto:hampshirecentral@mha.org.uk) or call 01962 890995.



## Alresford Senior Citizens Lunch Club

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Do you have a few hours on a Thursday once a month to come and help us at the Lunch Club?

### **INTERESTED IN HELPING?**

CHRIS HULFORD—01962 736810 MARGARET LUMB - 01962 732009



**Alresford Lend and Tend is a volunteer-led project by New Leaf Alresford,** which aims to connect like-minded, kind people who want to share gardens; both those without gardens and those who have gardens but want to share them. <https://newleafalresford.org/alresfords-lend-and-tend.../>  
There is also a community allotments that needs help.

### **Chatterbox Toddlers, John Pearson Hall, Alresford**

We are in desperate need of helpers to help open and close for us on a Thursday in order to continue. Commitment only needs to be once every couple of weeks. We are a wonderful friendly community group and we really need community members to keep us open and running. If you are a parent or grandparent of little ones and can help please email [viga3121@hotmail.com](mailto:viga3121@hotmail.com)

### **Alresford Town Trust**

Following the extensive refurbishment that doubled the size of the Museum we are now in a position to welcome visitors on a regular basis. Our aim is to open for at least two weekend days a month from Easter until the end of September but this will be dependent upon sufficient volunteers coming forward to act as stewards. As part of our work these last few months we have provided a refreshment and relaxation area for stewards. Ideally we would like a volunteer to undertake the co-ordination of the volunteers.

Help is also needed to prepare displays, undertake historical research and produce display material.

If you are able to assist please contact Roy Gentry on 01962 773185.

### **Other Opportunities**

Charity Shops always need help including our own Age UK shop in Alresford.

The Watercress Line often needs volunteers.

Youth groups such as Scouts and Guides are always keen to have help so they can deliver an exciting programme to the youngsters.

And of course two major groups who do so much for the area are the Pigs and Rotary

And all these are just a few of the organisations set up to help others.



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## Latin to English



60 years ago, on **23<sup>rd</sup> November 1964**, the Second Vatican Council decided to allow the use of vernacular languages (such as English) in Roman Catholic sacraments and rituals, including the Mass. It had insisted on using only Latin for several hundred years. Most people welcomed the change, and the use of Latin quickly dwindled.

One objection was about the music. As one leading musician pointed out it would mean ditching a great deal of wonderful music and many thought that the Latin text was far more singable than English.

The problem addressed by Vatican II was that in the fairly recent past most educated people knew Latin, as it was commonly taught in universities and used in medicine and other areas of academia. So, there was a quite strong practical argument to use Latin in the Mass and elsewhere, because it united the Church with one language throughout the world. No other language fit the bill. It had nothing to do with authenticity, because Jesus spoke Aramaic, not Latin. Having the Latin mass meant that you could follow the service wherever you were—most Catholic children could recite the Mass and knew what it meant even if they knew no other Latin.

### **From an Altar Boy's Mass card**

**Et introibo ad altare Dei**

**Et in-troy-ibo add ahl-tar-ray Dayee**

**And I will go to the altar of God**

However, there were real problems. First, Latin was being taught far less, even in Europe. Second, the Church was spreading throughout the world – into many areas where there was no Latin linguistic tradition. And third – an important point – Christianity is not just for the educated, and certainly not just for the clergy.

Those who welcomed the change had seen Latin as an obstacle to worship; others, faced with the vernacular, said: “It has lost its otherness, its sacredness, now being said in the common language.” Much the same is said in the Church of England when we move from Elizabethan English to modern English.

Latin still remains an option for Mass, together with many other languages. And it has been pointed out that today Latin is still the official language of the Catholic Church. All the Pope's encyclicals are still written in Latin and then translated into other languages.



For administrative and diplomatic purposes, however, the Holy See uses mainly Italian.

## All we want for Christmas.

This year we were being drawn into Christmas shopping when out on a jaunt in July! Resistance then was easy but as the days get closer we search for that extra special little something. Perhaps our Top Ten of garden inspired gifts will help you fill your basket or appear on your list to FC. As always we have included a few extra pointers (\*). Happy shopping!

### 1. Secateurs.

I have a very handy gardening tool which has blades and pickers reminiscent of a Swiss Army knife but would like some good secateurs that can be sharpened when needed.

\* There are two types of secateurs, anvil, which have a blade and block arrangement and bypass which have two blades. Go for the latter which will give a finer cut and which can be sharpened. The more expensive ones are really built to last, some will offer replacement parts.



### 2. An outdoor thermometer.

With the weather so unpredictable I'd like to keep my eye on the garden temperatures to avoid losing anymore young plants and seedlings. It would be interesting to note the range too.

\*There is a lot of choice from decorative incorporating features such as a clock and barometer to the more scientific looking models. Perhaps the type that has two measurements showing the daily maximum/ minimum temperatures would be the one for you. Reset daily. If you don't want to venture outside to take the readings consider one that transmits information to an indoor monitor.

But continue to keep a watchful eye from the window too!

### 3. Raised beds.

A bad back kept me from doing much gardening this year but I'm determined to carry on growing flowers and veg but in raised beds.

\*What a great idea. A handy person could make them on site but there are lots of companies who provide the materials to create any structure for the garden rather like building a Lego kit.



### 4. Plants that won't be eaten by deer please!

\*Once they have a taste for something it's hard to deter them. But robust shrubs like berberis, mahonia and hypericum might be good choices. If you are hoping for flowers then go for agapanthus, euphorbia and monkshood.

### 5. Squirrel-proof bird feeders.

I think the damp summer has led to the squirrels finishing off the wild fruits and nuts early and they have already moved into the garden to feast from the bird feeders. Something to give the birds a fighting

chance for a meal would be great.

\*We love to feed and watch the garden birds too but this season have had marauding squirrels performing acrobatics on the feeders and emptying them to boot. There are lots of different designs of feeders promising to keep the squirrels at bay but they are ingenious creatures who love a challenge! We keep changing where we hang the food which so far has worked.

### 6. Somewhere for the hedgehogs please.

I saw two hedgehogs in the garden this summer on most nights before I went to bed and gave them cat food to eat. I know they go to sleep in the winter but not in my bed so can I have a bed for them please?

\*You are so lucky to see hedgehogs. They must love coming into your garden. In winter they do have a long sleep but outside under logs or in compost heaps. You can make or buy a house for them. It needs to be waterproof and made cosy with a bed of hay or dry leaves and a tunnel doorway in to keep them safe from their enemies. If they like it they will use it like a hotel once the weather warms up.

### 7. A tree for all seasons and for wildlife too.

\* Our favourite is a rowan with red/orange berries. It has flowers then berries and good autumn colour and doesn't get too big.

### 8. A mushroom growing kit.

We watched a fascinating programme on fungi but won't be picking any from the wild. However, we would love to try growing our own!

\*And it's not as daunting as it sounds. The kits have everything you need and you don't have to have a damp cellar to have success. Oyster mushrooms are the easiest and most forgiving variety for growing at home but you could opt for Shiitake, Lions' Mane or Portabella. It's worthwhile and fun!

### 9. Bulbs for the lawn.

We didn't mow the lawn this summer and thought that it would be a good spot to plant some bulbs to enjoy before the grass grew. We could leave the leaves to die back naturally too.

Crocus tommasianus performs superbly in our lawn, beautiful lilac initially spreading to pale pink as they naturalise and no effort involved. A drop of sunshine on a wintery day.

### 10. A journal please.

Lots of blank pages to fill with our garden jottings.

Rose Briar.



## A local circular walk

Rory is having a break but here is a local walk that you might like, which I have done with cub scouts. It runs from Cheriton along the River Itchen to Tichborne and then goes on to the Kings Way towards Gander Down.

Go to the southern edge of Cheriton village Green and then go west across the B3046 and down Hill House Lane to join the Itchen Way on the right. This goes across the meadows to Cheriton Mill. Turn right along the lane, cross the river and then turn left at the crossroads.

Almost immediately take the signed footpath (still the Itchen Way) on your left that goes half right across the field and into a strip of woodland then past Tichborne House on the left. Stay on the main track into a wood before bearing left to reach a junction opposite Vernal Farm (grid ref SU572311). Turn left here and on to a T junction with a tarmac road.

Cross the road and continue on the Itchen Way to the corner of Trodd's Copse and a junction with the Kings's Way (SU567309). Turn left and follow the King's Way into Tichborne. Turn right along a path leading to the church.

Just before the turn to the church, turn left and then very shortly turn right onto the King's Way along field boundaries until a signed path on the left. Follow that path diagonally across a field to join a track/bridleway. Go right along the bridleway passing a wood.

You will reach a junction of bridleways (SU560281). Turn East downhill and continue along the track to Hill Houses. And so you arrive back at the B3046 and Cheriton.

Both Cheriton and Tichborne churches are worth a visit. Refreshment for grown-ups at Flower Pots and Tichborne Arms. Cubs made do with ice-cream from Cheriton Village Shop!



# Homity Pie



This lovely vegetarian pie is believed to originate from Devon. Most farm shops and local restaurants down there have their own version of this tasty treat. Whether you eat it hot from the oven or take a slice out with you to eat on a country walk, I hope you enjoy this delicious and nutritious dish. If you have leftover boiled potatoes then feel free to use those, rather than preparing new ones. And, by all means, use ready-made pastry if you have neither the time nor the inclination to make it from scratch! The recipe below should make 8 – 10 portions.

## Ingredients

25g butter  
2 onions, finely sliced  
1 leek, finely sliced (optional)  
1 tbsp thyme leaves (optional)  
700g floury potatoes (such as Maris Piper or King Edward), quartered and thickly sliced  
150ml double cream  
125g mature or extra-mature cheddar, grated  
2 spring onions (optional), finely chopped

## For the pastry

200g plain flour, plus extra for dusting  
50g wholemeal or rye flour  
pinch of cayenne pepper (optional)  
125g butter  
1 egg

## Method

Preheat your oven to 200°C/fan 180°C/gas 6 with a baking tray inside.

### STEP 1

If making your own pastry, tip both the flours, a pinch of salt and the cayenne, if using, into a large bowl. Mix, then rub in the butter using your fingertips until the mixture is crumbly. Mix in the egg and 1 tbsp cold water using a cutlery knife. Bring the pastry together into a ball, then cover and chill for 30 mins. Knead briefly until pliable, then roll out until it's large enough to line a 20cm deep pie dish. Line the dish, pushing the pastry into the edge, then trim. Chill until needed.

### STEP 2

Meanwhile, for the filling, heat the butter in a large saucepan until sizzling and cook the onions with some seasoning and the leeks and thyme, if using, for 12-15 mins until soft and sticky. Stir the potatoes into the onion mix, then reduce the heat, cover and cook for 10-15 mins, stirring occasionally, until the potatoes break down when pressed with a wooden spoon. Pour over the cream, stir for a minute, then turn off the heat and leave to cool a little.

### STEP 3

Stir half the cheddar and most of the spring onions through the potato and onion mix. Scatter half of the remaining cheddar over the base of the pastry case, then tip in the filling. Scatter with the rest of the cheese and spring onions. Bake on the hot baking tray for 40-45 mins until the pastry is deeply golden and the filling is bubbling. Remove from the oven and leave to rest for at least 10 mins. Serve hot, or leave to cool until just warm.

## For a sprinkle of fairy-dust try:

Try making this with a different combination of your favourite vegetables. Courgettes and baby spinach leaves would be nice

## Time to fly! Fairy Cake



# Useful Local Information and Emergency Numbers

Emergency Services—Police, Fire, Ambulance 999 or 112

Police non emergency 101

Electrical Emergency 08457 708090

Gas Emergency 0800 111 999

Water Emergency 0800 820 99

Floodline 0845 988 1188

Samaritans 116 123

Childline 0800 111

## Health

Royal Hampshire County

Hospital, Winchester

01962 863535

**Alresford Group Surgery,**

Station Rd, Alresford

01962 732345

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

## Other Useful Information

**Cedar Veterinary Surgery** 01962 732 535 (24hrs)

**Alresford Library, 20 Broad Street, Alresford** 0300 555 1387

**New Alresford Town Trust minibus** 07510 474231

**Bus Information** 0871 200 2233

**MP for Alresford: Danny Chambers**

## Defibrillators available for public use

Alresford Recreation Centre

Alresford Bowling Club

Sun Hill Infant school gate

Stratton Bates Recreation Ground

Alresford Community Centre

Alresford Dental Care - The Dean

Old Alresford Village telephone box

Linnets Road telephone box

## Wessex Pharmacies

Broad Street, Alresford

**01962 732445**

## Councils

Hampshire County Council

01962 841841

[Www.hants.gov.uk](http://www.hants.gov.uk)

**Winchester City Council**

01962 840222

[Www.winchester.gov.uk](http://www.winchester.gov.uk)

## East Hampshire District Council

01730 266551

[Www.easthant.gov.uk](http://www.easthant.gov.uk)

## New Alresford Town Council

01962 732 079

[Www.newalresford-tc.gov.uk](http://www.newalresford-tc.gov.uk)

**Baptism**

Otto Daniels

8th September

St. John's

**Weddings**

Dominic Biggs & Jasmine Caplin

28th September

St. Mary's

Monty Holland & Joan Hoar

5th October

St. John's

**Registry**

**Funerals / Interments**

Memorial Service + Interment

Peter Wrigley

21st September

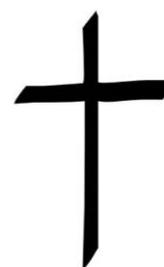
St. John's

Interment

Claire Wills

8th October

St. John's



**Puzzle Answers**

C	L	A	S	S	I	F	I	E	D		M	A	C	E
A		I	U	I	N						S			T
K	A	R	A	B	I	N	E	R	S		I	T	C	H
E	Y	C	A	O	P	R	E							
		S	O	U	N	D	B	A	R	R	I	E	R	
A	S	N	C	E	E	N	I							
B	A	T	I	S	T	E		S	L	E	D	G	E	S
S	R	C						M	E	I				
O	P	E	N	I	N	G		C	H	I	G	N	O	N
L	E	O	E				A	N	T					G
U	N	T	O	U	C	H	A	B	L	E	S			
T	W	S	E				B	N	I	E				
I	R	I	S		U	N	B	A	P	T	I	S	E	D
O	S						N	G	L	E				I
N	O	E	L		S	A	F	E	T	Y	B	E	L	T

9	4	8	5	7	6	3	1	2
1	2	5	4	8	3	9	7	6
6	3	7	2	9	1	8	4	5
7	5	9	8	6	4	1	2	3
3	8	2	1	5	7	6	9	4
4	6	1	3	2	9	5	8	7
5	9	6	7	4	8	2	3	1
8	7	3	6	1	2	4	5	9
2	1	4	9	3	5	7	6	8

**Some Word Wheel answers:** dine, diner, fend, fern, fiend, fiendish, find, finder, fine, fined, finer, finish, finished, finisher, friendship, hind, hinder, hinders, infer, inside, insider, inspire, inspired, nerd, nerf, pend, pine, pined, redfin, refinish, rein, rend, resin, rind, rinse, rinsed, ripen, risen, send, shin, shine, shiner, shinier, shrine, shrined, sine, siren, snide, snider, snip, snipe, sniped, sniper, spend, spin, spine, spinier.

# BENEFICE CONTACTS

**BENEFICE OFFICE** Tel. 01962 733545  
the office.

Please leave a phone message or email

St. John The Baptist Church, West Street, New Alresford, Hampshire SO24 9AG

**www.arlevalleychurches.org.uk** email: [arlevalleychurches@gmail.com](mailto:arlevalleychurches@gmail.com) Facebook/  
**StJohnsAlresford & ourplaceyouth** Phone numbers unless otherwise stated are 01962

Rector

Revd. Heather Brearey

T. 732105

[arlevalleyrector@gmail.com](mailto:arlevalleyrector@gmail.com)

## **Licensed Lay Ministers**

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T. 733237

[iwg@robinhoodmusic.com](mailto:iwg@robinhoodmusic.com)

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Angela Peel

T 734814

[sisterlollipop@aol.com](mailto:sisterlollipop@aol.com)

## **Alresford: St. John's**

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Rosie Waring Green

T. 733237

[rosie@22rwg.co.uk](mailto:rosie@22rwg.co.uk)

Jane Parsons

T. 734561

[jane.parsons287@gmail.com](mailto:jane.parsons287@gmail.com)

PCC Secretary

**Vacant**

## **Ovington: St. Peter's**

Churchwarden

Vacant - Contact Benefice Office

T. 735455

[arlevalleychurches@gmail.com](mailto:arlevalleychurches@gmail.com)

PCC Secretary

Vacant - Contact Benefice Office

T. 735455

[arlevalleychurches@gmail.com](mailto:arlevalleychurches@gmail.com)

## **Old Alresford: St. Mary's**

Churchwarden

Roger Parsons T. 734561

[rwjparsons@gmail.com](mailto:rwjparsons@gmail.com)

## **Bighton: All Saints**

Churchwardens

Bob Ellis T. 773427

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Chris James

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[crjathome@hotmail.com](mailto:crjathome@hotmail.com)

Baptisms

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[arlevalleychurches@gmail.com](mailto:arlevalleychurches@gmail.com)

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[kathryn.lockyer@talktalk.net](mailto:kathryn.lockyer@talktalk.net)

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Paul and Sue Dix T. 734863

[dix.house@btinternet.com](mailto:dix.house@btinternet.com)

Bell Ringing

Elizabeth Johnson

T. 733266

Belfry Practice Fridays 7.30 -  
9.00pm

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[pearlpage@aol.com](mailto:pearlpage@aol.com)

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Pearson Hall

Benefice Office T. 733545

Churchyard Volunteer Co-ordinator

Ben Howlett

[alresfordchurchyard@gmail.com](mailto:alresfordchurchyard@gmail.com)

Events Diary @ Facebook

Miranda Pinch T. 732064

[events@stjohnsalresford.org.uk](mailto:events@stjohnsalresford.org.uk)

Flower Co-Ordinator

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Fundraising Co-ordinator

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Giving & Gift Aid Secretary

David Griffiths

T. 734408

Hospital Visiting

Sue Greenway Patricia Todd

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Keith Sweetland

T. 735255

## BENEFICE CONTACTS continued

### Pastoral Visiting

St. John's Pastoral Team Leader  
Jackie Connell T. 732056

### Prayer Ministry Team

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### Safeguarding Officer (Benefice) Sarah Wilding

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### Treasurer

Jon Whale  
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### Youth Work

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## Groups and Clubs in the John Pearson Hall

**Seniors Health & Fitness**  
Mondays, 9.45 - 11.15am

**Coffee, Cake and Chat**  
2nd Tuesday, 10 - 11.30am

**4th Alresford Brownies**  
Wednesdays, 6pm (term time)

**Chatterbox (Toddlers)**  
Thursdays, 10 - 11.30am

**Alresford & Cheriton Cub Scouts**  
Thursdays, 5.30 – 7.00pm (term time)

**Alresford Wine Circle**  
4th Thursday, 8pm

**Table Talk**  
3rd Friday, 12 - 2pm

**Solos Sunday Tea**  
3rd Sunday, 2.30 – 4.30pm

### Interested in booking St. John's Church or the John Pearson Hall?

**St. John's Church** - a large open space seating 300.

People have hired St. John's for a number of uses including:

- Choir Rehearsals,
- Concerts
- Community events



### The John Pearson Hall (JPH)

A newly refurbished venue that seats 80 in comfort with a modern kitchen.

A flexible space for meetings, instruction classes, christening receptions and birthday parties.

**Both St. John's and the JPH are open to everyone and you are assured a warm welcome.**

**For more information regarding regular and ad-hoc hiring of the church and hall, please call the Benefice office on 01962 733545 or**

**email: [arlevalleychurches@gmail.com](mailto:arlevalleychurches@gmail.com)**

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