

Arle Valley Voice

November
2025

Church & Community Magazine

£1.60





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Editorial

Sarah Mullally has been selected to be the next Archbishop of Canterbury. Whatever you think of the choice it is a momentous and historic moment to have a woman as the Head of the Church of England. In the same way whatever you think of Margaret Thatcher it was for women an amazing step forward to have a woman as a prime minister. As someone who is in favour of women's ordination I rejoice.

On a more personal note I rejoice that our dog, Alife, is well on the road to recovery. Thank you for all the prayers and good wishes.

There is lots going on in our Benefice both with the churches and the communities so do join in with something. An eminent psychiatrist once said that even the party you didn't much like was better for your mental health than no party.

And on liking if you have a story or article in you about anything even vaguely connected to our Benefice we would love to hear from you. In the meantime enjoy.

Charlotte

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

Please email contributions and comments to 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 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. 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

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This magazine only keeps going with the quality it has because people subscribe each year so please do consider that. Contact Caroline Hawkins chawkins826@sky.com
Each issue costs £1.60 but a year's subscription is an economic option at £15.00.

November Church Services for the Arle Valley Benefice

NEW ALRESFORD St John the Baptist

Sunday 2 November: All Saints' Day

09.30 Parish Communion
14.00 Service of Comfort and Hope
16.00 Families @ 4

Sunday 9 November : Remembrance Sunday

08.00 Holy Communion
09.30 Breakfast Church
10.50 Remembrance Service
18.00 Sunday @ 6

Sunday 16 November: Second Sunday before Advent

09.30 Parish Communion

Sunday 23 November: Christ the King

08.00 Holy Communion
09.30 Celtic Service of the Word

Sunday 30 November: First Sunday of Advent

09.30 Benefice Service at St Mary's

Every Tuesday

09.00 Morning Prayer

Every Wednesday

10.00 Midweek Holy Communion (Service of the Word on 5th)

OLD ALRESFORD

St Mary the Virgin

Sunday 2 November: All Saints' Day

11.00 Village Family Praise

Sunday 9 November : Remembrance Sunday

10.45 Remembrance Service

Sunday 16 November: Second Sunday before Advent

11.00 Parish Communion

Sunday 23 November: Christ the King

09.30 Holy Communion BCP

Sunday 30 November: First Sunday of Advent

09.30 Benefice Service



OVINGTON

St Peter's

Sunday 2 November: All Saints' Day

11.00 Café Church

Sunday 9 November : Remembrance Sunday

10.00 Remembrance Service

Sunday 16 November: Second Sunday before Advent

10.00 Morning Prayer

Sunday 23 November: Christ the King

11.00 *No service*

Sunday 30 November: First Sunday of Advent

09.30 Benefice Service at St Mary's

Every Thursday

09.00 Morning Prayer

BIGHTON

All Saints

Sunday 2 November: All Saints' Day

11.00 Morning Prayer

Sunday 9 November : Remembrance Sunday

10.50 Remembrance Service

Sunday 16 November: Second Sunday before Advent

11.00 Morning Prayer

Sunday 23 November: Christ the King

11.00 Parish Communion

Sunday 30 November: First Sunday of Advent

09.30 Benefice Service at St Mary's

Calendar

- ◆ Oct 29th 7.30pm Flower Club
- ◆ Oct 30th 7.00pm Men's Supper Club
- ◆ Nov 1st 12noon Michael Project Coffee Morning in JPH
- ◆ Nov 1st 4.00pm Light Party in the JPH.
- ◆ Nov 2nd Service of Comfort and Hope @ St Johns
- ◆ Nov 5th 7.00pm WI Flower Arranging
- ◆ Nov 7th 7pm Rotary Fireworks and Bonfire
- ◆ Nov 8th 10.00am Table Top Sale at the Methodist Church
- ◆ Nov 8th 7.30 ACC Remembrance Concert
- ◆ Nov 9th Last date to give names for Benefice Christmas Card
- ◆ Nov 12th 7.30pm Horticultural Society Seasonal Demonstration
- ◆ Nov 13th 4.00pm 1st Day of Hampshire Medical Fund Xmas Fair
- ◆ Nov 14th 9.30am 2nd Day of Hampshire Medical Fund Xmas Fair
- ◆ Nov 14th 7.30pm Home Start Quiz Night
- ◆ Nov 16th 2.30pm Solos Sunday Tea
- ◆ Nov 21st 12 noon Table Talk
- ◆ Nov 22nd 10.00 am Walkies for Life
- ◆ Nov 22nd 8.00pm Cheriton Singers Mozart Requiem
- ◆ Dec 6th 8.00am Rotary Christmas Tree Sale
- ◆ Dec 10th 5.00pm Father Christmas comes to Alresford
- ◆ Dec 11th Gospel Choir Concert
- ◆ Dec 21st Christmas Farmer's Market



The Arle Valley Benefice takes its duty and obligation to protect everyone, extremely seriously. If you have any safeguarding concerns or issues of a safeguarding nature our Safeguarding Officers are: Sarah Wilding (St. John's) or Alison Mayne (St. Mary's/All Saints/St. Peter's) e-mail: arlevalleysafeguarding@gmail.com

Leader

Well, here we are into my first full interregnum as a churchwarden – strictly speaking I only had a month last time!! I have enjoyed every moment of the last 4 and a half years serving you all and working within a team with Heather and many others; during this time, I have laughed and cried with many of you. Although we move into a time of uncertainty, the most reassuring thing for me is that although circumstances change, God doesn't change.



Now especially, James and I will need your encouragement and support; particularly over the next few months.

I am taking on the lead and organisation of services and worship and hoping to keep the smooth running of this aspect of church life running smoothly.

As many of you know, I am passionate about encouraging others to get to know Jesus and deepen their own faith and I will be carrying on supporting others in their faith journey. Help is always appreciated with this aspect.

Inevitably a few things may not run as smoothly as we would like so we ask you for patience and fellowship in working together to carry on the amazing life and strength that we have in all of our 4 churches in the Arle Valley Benefice.

The most important thing of course is spending time in prayer – for each other, your churchwardens, your ministry team, all those who give so freely of their time and energy and for every single person known and unknown who live in our town and villages.

Let us laugh and cry together and be grateful for when things go well and tolerant of when there may be a few hiccups in our planning!!

Rosie



As a new churchwarden at this time, I am also going to be carrying on and leading the mission of St John's in a different way to Rosie. Part of our serving others is to ensure we have a safe and welcoming church and hall in which to share fellowship and to worship together. We might groan at so called 'Health and Safety' regulations but they are a vital part of keeping everyone safe and showing how we care for each other in a practical way.

Many visitors comment in our Visitors Book on how welcoming and peaceful the church is and also how well kept and cared for is the fabric side of our discipleship. This again is a team effort and we are so grateful for all your extra offers of help to keep everything in good order.

James

We will of course be doing some mixing and matching of our responsibilities, but we wanted to give you an overview of what we will be doing as well as working alongside the LLMs and all the other wonderful teams and individuals in our parish.

James Lees and Rosie Waring Green - Churchwardens of St John's Alresford

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 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 – Rory the dog will draw one from the pile randomly when all have been received.

Don't miss out on a church community initiative – it's a lot cheaper than sending out a multitude 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 until Sunday, Nov 9th.**

Benefice Christmas Card 2025

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 12th to November 9th.

Any cheques should be made payable to **PCC of New Alresford**.

Church Events and Activities

11:00am - 12:00pm,
2nd November
St Mary's Church, SO24 9DX



A service of Morning Praise for
the whole family.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH NEW ALRESFORD

IT'S TIME FOR BREAKFAST CHURCH

9th November

2ND
SUNDAYS
@ 9.30AM

FAMILY FRIENDLY
WORSHIP + FUN

AGES 0 - 100!

St. John's Church
Alresford

Celtic Service of the Word

This quiet, reflective service contains music, hymns, bible readings and periods of silence in the Celtic tradition.

You don't have to be "religious" to attend. Those with faith, those without faith and those who are searching, are all very welcome.

Fourth Sundays at 9.30am

Please join us for refreshments afterwards.

WEDNESDAY MIDWEEK HOLY COMMUNION

10am
St. John's, Alresford

*An oasis of calm
during the busy week.*

Coffee, cake and
fellowship following
the service.

Church Events and Activities



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.



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



SERVICE OF COMFORT & HOPE

St John's Parish Church, Alresford
Sunday 2nd November at 2pm

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



Bible Study

If you are interested in exploring the Bible and having some help reading and understanding it do consider getting Bible notes. You can order notes from Pearl Page—her email is pearljpage@aol.com

There will be an Alpha and a Youth Alpha course running in the Autumn.

These courses are designed to help you grow in your Christian faith, to give you an opportunity to ask any questions you have and to enjoy friendship and good food!! For more information and discussion about dates please contact Rosie Waring Green rosie@22rwg.co.uk or 07891120662



Saturday November 1st
4-6pm

in the John Pearson Hall
and finishing in the church.

This is a fun alternative to Halloween involving crafts, fire-pit, friendship, food and a torchlight treasure hunt in the church.

Please sign up via the Parish Office stating any dietary requirements - arlevallychurches@gmail.com

Free entry with an optional donation. Children need to be accompanied by an adult.

Flower Club

Last Wednesday in the month @7.30

Next meetings

29th October & 26th November

St Gregory's Church Hall

Contact Maureen on
gskayman@gmail.com



MEN'S SUPPER CLUB

FOR WIDOWERS

WE MEET ON THE LAST THURSDAY
OF THE MONTH AT 7PM

IF INTERESTED, PLEASE CONTACT
ROGER WHIFFEN ON 01962 734045



Church Events and Activities

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

Every third Friday

Friday 21st November

All Welcome



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

Solos Sunday Tea

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

Come and
join us

Every Third Sunday 2.30pm—4.30pm

Next meeting:

Sunday 16th 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



Michael Project Coffee Morning

Saturday 1st November

10am to 12 noon

John Pearson Hall

Do join us for coffee,
tea, scones and cakes



Also sale tables and a Raffle

Further information Margaret

On 01962 735 185

Our mission is to advocate for orphans and children at risk by mobilizing the church to biblically care for vulnerable children.



Community Events

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. 201122

SOUTHERN VOICES
Jamal Sutton, Director

Saturday 8th November
St Paul's, Winchester 7.30pm

A Concert of Hope:

Songs of Farewell

Hubert Parry: *Songs of Farewell*
Ian Venables: excerpts from *Requiem*

Madrigals and part-songs by
Ramsey, Tomkins, Briggs and Harris

Book now southernvoices.co.uk
0333 666 3366
booking fees apply registered charity 1086868

Tickets: £18
ages 21 and under: £10

Senior Citizens' Lunch Club

The Lunch Club meet
in the Methodist Church Hall
every Thursday from 12.00 to 2.00pm.

New members are warmly welcomed so
do come and enjoy a main course and
dessert, followed by tea or coffee for just
£10.

Social events are organised from time to
time and transport is available.

Pre-booking is essential.

For more details contact: **01962 736810.**



**ALRESFORD FIREWORKS AND BONFIRE
FRIDAY 7 NOVEMBER**



TORCHLIGHT PROCESSION FROM THE TOP OF BROAD STREET AT 7 PM

BONFIRE & FIREWORKS AT 7:45 AT ALREBURY PARK

BUY TICKETS EARLY AND SAVE!

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

.....
UNDER 5's FREE
OCTOBER
CHILD £ 4.50
ADULTS £ 9
.....
NOVEMBER
CHILD £ 6
ADULTS £ 12

Alresford Rotary 

www.alresford-rotary.org

Supporting local and Rotary charities
Charity no: 1014447

Community Events

Alresford & District Horticultural Society Talk



Wednesday 12th November
From 7.30pm to 9.30pm
St Gregory's Parish Hall,
Grange Road, Alresford, SO24 9HE

A Seasonal Demonstration
by Val Ramshaw, one of our members



Visitors welcome - Refresh-

able. come, £3. ments avail-

Further information
at www.alresfordhorticultural.org

ALRESFORD ART SOCIETY



Thursday 27th November
7.30pm

Bishop Sutton's Village Hall
Alresford Road SO24 0AH

Nigel Halliday: Christmas in Art



Non-members welcome –
admission £3 and a small donation requested for refreshments.

For further information: 01962 732043 or visit

www.artsociety.alresford.org

QUIZ NIGHT

Friday 14th November – 7.30pm
Itchen Abbas Village Hall

Bring a team of eight or join a team
on the night (*pre-booking is essential*)
There is a raffle and prizes for the winning team

Tickets £17.50pp

Includes a hearty ploughmans supper*
Beer, wine and soft drinks available

BUY HERE:



Scan the code or visit:
www.is.gd/HSW_Quiz

Or call: 07976 686979

Or email:
info@home-startwinchester.org.uk



Our fundraising event is kindly
sponsored by IVC Cars.

*gluten free alternative available



Terra Organica wines kindly
donated by Watermill Wines.

**HOME
START**
Winchester
and Districts
Registered Charity 1108170



the **WI**
INSPIRING WOMEN

NEW ALRESFORD
WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



Next Meeting
Wednesday 5th November
Flower arranging
A demonstration and have a go
with Mary Bee



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
Sue Dinnis 01962 732309
Jude Cowen 01962 738755



ALRESFORD ROTARY CHRISTMAS TREE SALE

6th December Broad Street Alresford

from 8 am until all are sold



Please join us
Hampshire Medical Fund
Christmas Fair
2025

SHOP, EAT AND MEET WITH FRIENDS

Thursday 13th November
16.00 - 21.00

Friday 14th November
9.30 - 16.00

Pinglestone Barn, Old Alresford, Hampshire, SO24 9TB

All ticket proceeds go to the Hampshire Medical Fund, raising money to purchase cutting edge medical equipment for your local Hampshire Hospitals

Tickets available from www.hampshiremedicalfund.org/events/



HAMPSHIRE
MEDICAL FUND

Browse a fantastic range of stalls offering gifts for everyone on your list! From home & garden finds to gadgets, toys, pampering treats, clothing, jewellery, art, quirky treasures, and accessories, you're sure to find the perfect present for anyone. Plus, there is a delicious on-site cafe so you can refuel! Tickets from £6 (when purchased in advance). 13th November 16.00 - 21.00. 14th November 9.30 - 16.00.

Visit www.hampshiremedicalfund.org/events for more infor-

Community Lunch on Christmas Day at Makins Court 2025

Those living in or around Alresford who would otherwise be on their own are invited to a Traditional Christmas Day lunch at Makins Court

Please book your place by phoning **Patricia Walker on 01962 732629**

Lifts will be available to and from Makins Court if required

A contribution of £5 per person is requested

We also need Volunteers to help

preparing vegetables on Christmas Eve, help with setting up the table, taking guests to their seats, serving lunch, washing up, putting away, leaving Makins Court clean and tidy.

Please telephone or message Patricia on **07704 723 888**.



THE WALKIES FOR LIFE

SATURDAY 22ND NOVEMBER, 10AM
OUTSIDE THE NORTHBROOK ARMS, EAST STRATTON

JOIN OUR BIG AND BRIGHT DOG WALK TO
HELP RAISE MONEY FOR NAOMI HOUSE &
JACKSPACE CHILDRENS HOSPICES!



SCAN HERE TO MAKE A
DONATION AND JOIN IN! ALL
AND ANY DONATIONS ARE
WARMLY WELCOME



Meet on the village
green opposite The
Northbrook Arms,
East Stratton. 22nd
November, 10am



Dress in bold and
bright colours,
with wellies,
bright umbrellas
and big smiles!



All friendly dogs
welcome but not
compulsory so
join in even
without a dog!



Prizes for the
best dressed and
everyone gets a
rosette for taking
part on the day!

When we get back from our group walk we'll have
warm food & drinks at The Northbrook Arms



CONTACT LUCY OR FOLLOW OUR FACEBOOK PAGE
COUNTRYSIDEPAWSHAMPSHIRE@GMAIL.COM
FACEBOOK - "THE WALKIES FOR LIFE"
FOR MORE INFORMATION

TABLE TOP SALE

Alresford Methodist Church
Saturday 8th November
10am-2pm
Table £10, Half Table £5
Phone 01962 734481 to book a table

Chatty Cafe Scheme



At a loose end?
Fancy a cuppa?

The 'Chatter & Natter table' is a wonderful way of encouraging people of all ages to talk to others. During the day and time below, the table will be hosted by a friendly volunteer. Do come along and sit for a chat.

Where: The Arlebury Cafe
Arlebury Park, The Avenue,
New Alresford,
Alresford, SO24 9EP

When: Every Monday
1:30pm - 3pm

*Royal Air Forces Association
Alresford & District Branch*



We are the local branch of the RAFA and we are looking for new members to join our team. Whether you are an ex serving member of the RAF or not you are welcome to join us. We are an active team of people holding many social events and we meet in Alresford each month.

**For more information or details of how
to join please call Mike Trevelyan on
07920772781 email yann_221@yahoo.co.uk
Registered Charity 1071073 (England & Wales)**



Remembrance Concert

performed by

Alresford Community Choir

**St. John the Baptist, New Alresford
Saturday 8 November 2025
7.30pm**

**All tickets: £10.00 available online at
www.ticketsource.co.uk/alresford-community-choir**

or call 01962 776476

**RETIRING COLLECTION in aid of the
Royal British Legion and
SSAFA The Armed Forces Charity**



**PAYING BAR AVAILABLE
before the Concert and
during the interval**

This is not a Remembrance Service but a Concert in memory of times past and people we will not forget. There will be songs such as Crossing The Bar and Let Us Now Praise Famous Men, as well as less solemn pieces such as The Bold Grenadier, La Mer and Moon River.



Children's Activities

Monday Meet + Eat

Join Us

Mondays @ 3.30pm
Everyone Welcome

Organised by
CTIA

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.



Please inform us of any dietary requirements

Please book a place at:
e. rosie@22rwg.co.uk
or t. 07891 120662

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



We run full day activity camps during the school holidays for children aged 5-12. Children can sign up for one day or multiple days, the woods offer something different every day!

<https://hampshirebushcraft.com>

Join the Adventure



soul  children

Youth Gospel Choir
 in Alresford

Thursdays
 4.00pm to 6.00pm
 St John's Church Alresford
 For young people aged 10-18
 hello@timuffindell.co.uk

soulchildreuk.com

CAN YOU HELP US SUPPORT A CHILDREN AND FAMILIES WORKER?

The churches of St. John's, New Alresford, St. Mary's, Old Alresford, St. Peter's, Ovington and All Saints, Bighton are seeking to appoint a Children and Families Worker to help them realise a vision of seeing their existing ministries grow and flourish in the midst of their local communities.



Our Benefice has to pay for this. Of course we have applied for various grants and charitable funding but need YOU to help as well. Can you either make a one-off donation or give a regular monthly amount. If everyone in the Benefice gave a little we would soon raise the money and it wouldn't cost any individual that much. To find out more contact Penny on arlevalleychurches@gmail.com. Thank you.

Christmas shoeboxes!

Although the “traditional” Churches Together Shoebox Packing Party is not taking place this year Alresford Rotary remains fully committed to making a significant contribution to the 2025 Wessex Rotary Scheme bringing happiness at Christmas to disadvantaged & displaced children in Moldova, Montenegro, Romania and, via Poland, Ukraine. Please help!

Full details and instructions are on the scheme leaflet - see www.wessexrotaryshoebox.org.uk or request a copy from me (wjrp@hotmail.co.uk – 01962 738788). The leaflet includes the important list of what items cannot be included – most importantly No Food, No Sweets, No Liquids. All items must be for education, health and hygiene purposes and be new or “as new”.

It is now mandatory for a supplied standard size box to be used, available upon request (contact details above). Because of the current unrest in eastern Europe the deadline for this scheme is earlier than it used to be and all involved are asked to have their boxes available for collection or delivered by **18th October**. Please get involved and don't delay! If you're unable to make up one or more boxes but have a few small items you wish to donate please let us have them and we'll make sure they're put to good use. The scheme does ask that everyone who makes up a box also donates £2 towards transportation and administration costs. While most do, there is normally a shortfall so any donations are also welcome upon the basis that any surplus will be used by Wessex Rotary for the benefit of disadvantaged children worldwide.

Thank you – remember your gift may be the first gift the recipient ever receives!

James Pinniger

Please note that St Mary's Old Alresford are packing shoeboxes after their 11 o'clock service on Sunday 19th October. They will have a box at the back of the church for items to go in the boxes from 12th October



Address by The Rt Revd and Rt Hon Dame Sarah Mullally

Today, as I respond to the Call of Christ in this new ministry, I remain rooted in my first calling: to follow Christ, to know him – and to make him known to the world.

Reflecting on the experiences which have prepared me for this role, I am deeply thankful to the people, the churches and communities of the Diocese of London. It is my deep privilege to have shared ministry with you for almost eight years. In discerning this step, it has not been easy to accept that I will be leaving you.



Washing feet has shaped my Christian vocation as a nurse, then a priest, then a bishop. In the apparent chaos which surrounds us, in the midst of such profound global uncertainty, the possibility of healing lies in acts of kindness and love. With humility and grace, we uphold and support those in need of our help. We do this to the best of our ability, in small ways and big, according to our own very particular gifts. That too is the service which I offer to the Church today.

Given the many struggles of our Church and of societies here and around the world, I am often asked where I see hope. I have the privilege to see hope in communities, chaplaincies and churches in the Church of England and across the wider Anglican Communion. In parishes across this nation, I see faithful clergy and congregations worshipping God and loving their neighbours. I see thousands of churches running food banks and home-

less shelters. I see hospitals and prison chaplains caring for people and families in times of desperation. I see Church of England schools educating a million children across this country.

I hear parishioners ringing bells and inviting people to pray. I hear the quiet hum of faith in every community, the gentle invitation to come and be with others, and the welcome extended to every person. In all of this, I see hope – because I see the person of Jesus Christ, reaching out to us all.

Last summer, I found myself in three Anglican churches—in three different countries—in rapid succession. In Brazil, Canada and Barbados.

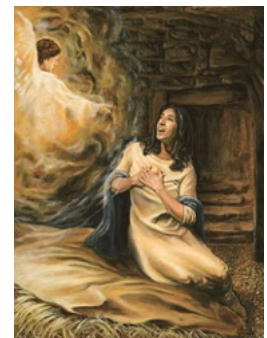
In each one I was able to follow the liturgy without hesitation: Morning Prayer, the Eucharist, collective prayers for the people; the rhythms of Anglican worship echoed with familiar grace. I saw something deeply distinctive, coupled with mutual understanding: a shared inheritance of history, of family of worship, Sacrament and Word—made real in global diversity. Anglican Churches and networks around the world working together in mission, joining their voices in advocacy for those in need.

In an age that craves certainty and tribalism, Anglicanism offers something quieter but stronger: shared history, held in tension, shaped by prayer, and lit from within by the glory of Christ. That is what gives me hope. In our fractured and hurting world, that partnership in the Gospel could not be more vital.

Hope is made of the infinite love of God, who breathed life into creation and said it was good. Hope shimmered in the courage of Abraham and Sarah and the challenging call of the prophets. Hope resounded through Mary's 'yes' to God's call to bear His Son. Hope is found in Christ's triumph over sin and death.

Hope doesn't skip over grief, pain and messiness of life but enters into it, and tenderly tells us that God is with us.

Across our nation today, we are wrestling with complex moral and political questions. The legal right of terminally ill people to end their own lives. Our response to people fleeing war and persecution to seek safety and refuge. The pressures on communities who have been overlooked and undervalued. The deep-rooted question of who we are as a nation, in a world that is so often on the brink.



Mindful of the horrific violence of yesterday’s attack on a synagogue in Manchester, we are witnessing hatred that rises up through fractures across our communities. I know that the God who is with us draws near to those who suffer. We then, as a Church, have a responsibility to be a people who stand with the Jewish community against antisemitism in all its forms. Hatred and racism of any kind cannot be allowed to tear us apart.

In every church you will encounter Jesus Christ, and his teaching to love one another: our source and our standard. This is both gift and responsibility. Jesus Christ is the life-changing hope that brings us together as church, even in our own brokenness and messiness – and sends us out into the world to witness to that Love.



I long for that same hope for all those around the world caught up in war. For those living in extreme poverty. For those on the front lines of the ever-worsening climate crisis. For our Palestinian Christian brothers and sisters, and all the peoples of the Middle East. For the people of Ukraine, Russia, Sudan, Myanmar and the DRC. May God end the horrors of war, comfort those who mourn, and bring hope to those living in despair. And I pray especially

for Anglicans in those places, as they suffer alongside the people they seek to love and care for.

The Christian faith is unwavering in its teaching that we are all made in the image of God. Each one of us deserves to be treated with dignity, compassion and respect. Christ commands us to love God, and to love our neighbours as ourselves.

In living in the service of others, we must also confront the dynamics of power— an issue brought into sharp focus by the recent safeguarding reviews and reports. As a Church, we have too often failed to recognise or take seriously the misuse of power in all its forms.

As Archbishop, my commitment will be to ensure that we continue to listen to survivors, care for the vulnerable, and foster a culture of safety and well-being for all.

This will not be easy. Our history of safeguarding failures have left a legacy of deep harm and mistrust, and we must all be willing to have light shone on our actions, regardless of our role in the Church.

Since my ordination, I have witnessed a significant professional and cultural shift in safeguarding. I know the National Safeguarding Team continues to work tirelessly alongside diocesan professionals and countless parish volunteers, to ensure that we are a Church that not only prevents abuse, but responds well when it is reported.

Safeguarding is everyone’s business. But for those of us in senior leadership, it carries an added weight of accountability.

The role of the Archbishop of Canterbury is complex and challenging. But there is also something very simple about it. Along with my colleague bishops, I am called to share the hope that we have found in Jesus Christ – and what it means for us all as individuals, and as a society.



The role that I will take on next year is one that can only be done together. I look forward to sharing my ministry with the Archbishop of York, with Bishop Rose, the wider College of Bishops, and with Primates and Bishops across the Anglican Communion.

I will share it too with the clergy, congregations, schools and people of Canterbury diocese. And I am especially grateful to the students of Archbishop’s School. Thank you for being here today as we begin this new chapter together.



Our ministry, our ministry as Christians is always shared. The proverb tells us if we want to go fast, go alone, but if we want to go far, go together.

I'm told that there will be much talk today of this being an historic moment – and a joyous one for many. I share with you in that joy – not for myself, but for a Church that listens to the calling of God and says: yes, we will follow you.



Some will be asking what it means for a woman to lead the Church of England, and to take on the Archbishop of Canterbury's global role in the Anglican Communion. I intend be a shepherd who enables everyone's ministry and vocation to flourish, whatever our tradition.

Today I give thanks for all the women and men – lay and ordained; deacons, priests and bishops – who have paved the way for this moment. And to all the women that have gone before me. Thank you for your support and your inspira-

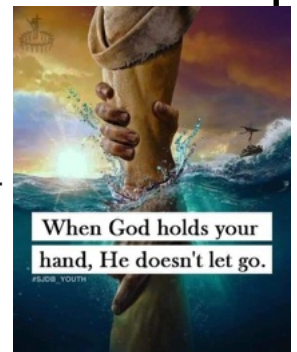
tion.

I was recently asked, if I was called to this role what would my legacy be. I said that I would want to nurture and cultivate confidence in the Gospel—both with- in individuals and across churches, in the Church of England and in the wider Anglican Communion.

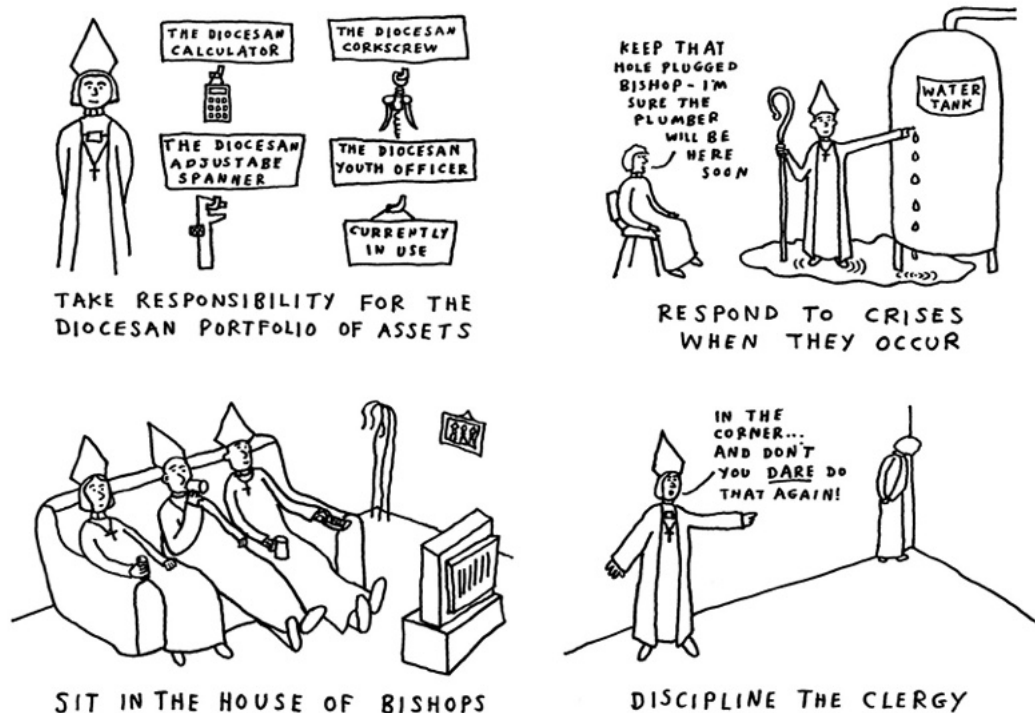
I humbly offer myself, and the gifts and experience that God has given me, in service to God's world and God's Church.

I will not always get things right. But I am encouraged by the psalmist who tells us that, 'Though you stumble you shall not fall headlong, for the Lord holds you fast by the hand.'

I trust in the truth of those words for me, for you, for the Church of England, for the nation, for the Anglican Communion and for the world.



BISHOPS WHAT THEY DO



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Archbishops of Canterbury

The Archbishop of Canterbury is the senior bishop and principal leader of the Church of England and at present the ceremonial head of the worldwide Anglican Communion. This last may well change as the plan is being formed to have the ceremonial head position rotate through the various Anglican churches across the world. The Archbishop is also the bishop of Canterbury and a member of the House of Lords. As the Church of England is an established church the



Archbishop is appointed by the monarch as Head of the Church of England on the advice of the Prime Minister (who may or may not be a member of the Anglican church or even Christian) through the Crown Nomination Commission which is an organ of the Church of England. Over the last fifty years the appointment has alternated between Evangelicals and Anglo-Catholics.

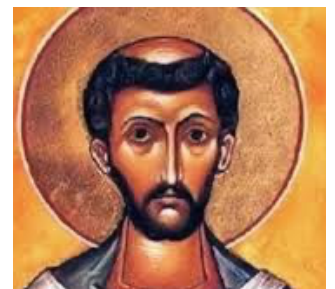
Though the Archbishop is the titular head of the church he or now she does not have much actual power. The ruling body of the church is the General Synod of which the Archbishop is the chair. They are seen though as the spokesperson for the church by the media and are active in national ceremonies such as coronations. They also speak for Anglicans in ecumenical and interfaith dialogues.

Of course like any bishop the Archbishop has a number of other royals as patron or visitor of various organisations such as schools, hospitals, and charities and is president of Churches Together in



England. One major role that the Archbishops have played since 2002 is to be part of the Alexandria Middle East Peace process with Muslims—including the Grand Mufti of Egypt, Jews and Christians. In 2008 the King of Saudi Arabia convened a conference in which the delegates spoke of the moral values that were common to all of them which they hoped might bring about a lasting peace. Alas, as we see today, with no avail.

The first Archbishop of Canterbury was St Augustine who arrived in Kent in 597AD. He was sent by Pope Gregory who seemed unaware that there were already Christians in England either left over from the Roman era or converted by the Celtic saints in Ireland, Scotland and Northumbria. Of course the medieval Archbishops were part of Western Catholicism and were appointed by the Pope.



Most of the early Archbishops were canonised—St Lawrence, St Mellitus and so on. They were all also officers of the crown holding positions such as Chancellor. This caused problems when their loyalty to the church and to the crown clashed most famously with St Thomas Becket who ended up being killed in Canterbury Cathedral probably on the orders of Henry II.



Then came the Reformation. Thomas Cranmer was the first Protestant Archbishop under Henry VIII and Edward VI. He wrote the first edition of the Book of Common Prayer, was excommunicated by the Pope and when Mary became Queen was burnt at the stake as a heretic in 1556. William Laud was Archbishop when Cromwell came to power and was executed. Cromwell did not believe in bishops so the see was vacant until the Restoration with Charles II.

In 1896 Frederick became Archbishop of Canterbury a somewhat controversial choice as he had forty years earlier written an article welcoming the insights of evolution and was a friend of Darwin (this rather contradicts the fallacy that evolution caused a giant split between religion and science).

Frederick Temple was the father of another archbishop—William Temple.

William Temple: A previous Archbishop of Canterbury

During the Second World War, Winston Churchill was Britain's Prime Minister. At the same time, William Temple was Archbishop of Canterbury. While Churchill led the country against Germany, Temple encouraged the British people to trust the Lord for their deliverance and strength. Like Churchill, Temple was a great leader, a gifted orator and a prolific writer. He was also a theologian and social activist.

Temple was born on 15th October 1881 in Exeter, Devon. He was educated at Rugby School and Balliol College, Oxford, from 1900 to 1904. He loved the music of Bach; the poetry of Browning and Shelley, and Shakespeare. He was an avid reader and possessed a near-photographic memory.

He became president of the Oxford Union and after graduation, was a lecturer in philosophy at Queen's College, Oxford. He was a member of the debating society and was a skilled and balanced debater. Following his ordination in 1909, and priesting in 1910, Temple was headmaster of Repton School for four years. He married Frances Anson in 1916. They were childless.

From 1921-29 Temple was Bishop of Manchester. During this time he was seen as a pioneer of the Ecumenical Movement and gradually became a national figure. In 1926 he urged the British government to seek a negotiated agreement to the General Strike.

Temple excelled as a moderator; a teacher and a preacher and his appointment as Archbishop of York (1929-40) was a popular one. His influence also led to the formation of the British Council of Churches and the World Council of Churches. During the 2nd World War he jointly founded the Council of Christians and Jews to combat anti-Semitism and other forms of prejudice in Britain.

As Archbishop of Canterbury (1942-44) Temple became an outspoken advocate of social reform and became involved in the campaign against unemployment, poverty and poor housing. He believed in the rights of all people, whether rich or poor, and was a leading force for social justice. He was grounded in the problems of the working man and in his book *Christianity and Social Order* (1942) he shared his vision for all to have access to healthcare, education and decent housing. His radical thinking and activism played a foundational role in the formation of the British Welfare State.

Temple died aged 63 at Westgate-on-Sea, Kent on 26th October 1944. He was the first Primate of All England to be cremated and his ashes were buried in the cloister garden of Canterbury Cathedral. He is the last Archbishop of Canterbury to have died while in office.



Dame Sarah Mullally—Archbishop of Canterbury to be

Dame Sarah Elisabeth Mullally yet again makes history. She was the first female Bishop of London and now she is the first female Archbishop of Canterbury. The glass ceiling in the Church of England if not broken certainly has a massive crack.

Dame Sarah was born in Surrey one of four children and educated at a comprehensive school and then at Woking Sixth Form College. At first she wanted to be a doctor but then her Christian faith moved her to change to nursing as she wanted to apply a holistic approach to patient care. She studied for her nursing degree at South Bank Polytechnic with clinical placements at St Thomas's Hospital. Gaining her degree and nursing qualification in 1984. Later on, in 1992, she completed a master's degree in interprofessional health and welfare studies.



Dame Sarah worked at various London hospitals soon being promoted to ward sister and other senior posts before becoming Chief Nursing Officer in 1999. So she is used to dealing with large, unwieldy organisations. In 2005 She was made Dame Commander of the British Empire for her work for nursing.

At my last church there was a retired senior nurse, Judith, who had worked with Dame Sarah and when that lady became Bishop of London Judith talked about her as being a hard worker with a real commitment to patient care.

Also one member of that church was made deacon this summer in St Paul's Cathedral by Dame Sarah as the Bishop of London. As that candidate was disabled she needed help moving around in the service especially with kneeling and Dame Sarah was extremely kind and supportive of her .

Dame Sarah is married to an architect and has two children.

From the age of sixteen Dame Sarah was a committed Christian and in 1998 she began part-time training for the ordained ministry at South East Institute of Theological Education and at the University of Kent and gained a Diploma in Theology. She was ordained deacon in 2001 and priest in 2002. She served her curacy as non-stipendiary minister in Battersea. In 2004 Dame Sarah left her work in the NHS to become a full-time Church of England priest. She served a second curacy and at the same time gained an MA degree in pastoral theology from Heythrop College, University of London.



In 2006 Dame Sarah became team rector at St Nicholas Church, Sutton. Alongside this she taught ethics in Southward Diocese. In 2012 she became canon treasure in Salisbury Cathedral

In 2012 Dame Sarah became the next Bishop of Crediton – a suffragan bishop in Exeter diocese. She, along with Rachel Treweek, were the first women to be consecrated as bishop in the Church of England. Then on 18th December 2017 it was announced that Sarah Mullally would be the next Bishop of London succeeding Richard Chartres. As Bishop of London she is also a Privy Councillor of the United Kingdom, a member of the House of Lords, Dean of the Chapel Royal. It was in the last role that she played her part in the coronation of King Charles III.

Now she has been chosen to be the next Archbishop of Canterbury – the first woman to hold such a post, also only the second since the Middle Ages not to be a graduate of Oxford or Cambridge.

Of course her appointment is controversial. There are still some in the Church of England who reject the idea of women being priests or bishops. Other churches in the Anglican community especially in Africa and Asia have voiced their dismay. This is not solely because she is a woman but also because of some the views she has expressed concerning same sex relationships and abortion.

Dame Sara is herself a feminist and is obviously fully in support of women's ordination and consecration but she has said, "I am very respectful of those who cannot accept my role as a priest or a bishop. My belief is the Church diversity throughout London should flourish and grow with everybody able to find a spiritual home."

More controversially she has supported those in same sex relationships being able to be blessed though she maintains the Church of England's traditional teaching as being between one man and one woman. On abortion she refused to be labelled as pro-choice or pro-life saying that her position is in the middle of the continuum of opinion and it depends on the circumstances. Recently she has spoken out about the euthanasia bill calling it dangerous and against Christian ethics.

Leaving aside any issue concerning the fact that she is a woman Dame Sarah faces huge challenges as Archbishop of Canterbury. There is the whole issue of abuse, the treatment of the survivors and the attitude of largely male hierarchy. Then there are concerns about the leadership culture in the church with senior clerics being accused of being coercive. The image of the Church of England is of an old, out-dated institution bedevilled with discord and limited by unnecessary canonical red-tape. Of course this is not entirely accurate as there are vibrant, youthful communities within the church but nevertheless this image is one that has rather too much truth.

So we wish Dame Sarah every blessing in her future work as Archbishop of Canterbury and naturally we pray that she will with God's grace find a path through all the different issues and conflicts.



We are losing our peregrine falcons

Our peregrine falcons are dying. We have lost 80pc of our UK population in the past 50 years. That make them one of the most-at-risk British birds.

Their numbers were at an all time low in 1960s due to human persecution and the impact of pesticides. They have recovered somewhat but there are worrying signs that are in decline again. According to recent statistics from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, our peregrine falcon population is shrinking at a rate of about seven per cent a year. As an apex predator at the top of the food chain they absorb huge amounts of pesticide.

A cereal crop may have as much as 1mg of active pesticide on each grain. Blackbirds may eat about 60 grains thus taking in 60mg of pesticide. The falcon eats two or three blackbirds and so ends up with 180mg of pesticide. Some of the chemicals kill the birds, some affect their behaviour e.g. their ability to see and fly and some affect their ability to reproduce. This is true for all birds but affects the top predators like falcons most as they ingest the most.

Pesticides do not distinguish between the good bug or the bad bug but kills them both and anything that eats them. They are tested but not for the long-term affect nor how they affect the whole food chain (which by the way includes us).

The Peregrine is also directly persecuted by humans as they kill racing pigeons and game birds such as pheasants. Their eggs are also taken by collectors and falconers. It is illegal to kill them or take their eggs as they are listed under the Wildlife and Countryside Act.

Why does this matter? We humans are also part of the food web and the ecology of the planet and what effect our wildlife affects us. Research is beginning to show how pesticides affect our health. There is also research showing that the richer our wildlife the better our mental health will be. Walking in the woods or hills, watching the birds flying help us to keep our mental and spiritual balance.

Also as Christians we are commanded in Genesis to take care of creation and if we destroy some of God's beautiful creatures we will be held responsible.

Peregrine Falcons usually nest on cliffs in the north and west but recently they have moved south and have used Winchester Cathedral for a nest though not apparently this year. They are however nesting nearby so you might see one when you visit the Cathedral.



Read about that on <https://www.winchester-cathedral.org.uk/peregrines>



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Life without God is like an unsharpened pencil – it has no point. – Billy Graham

News from OLD ALRESFORD

HARVEST FESTIVAL Sunday 21st September



After a service in St. Mary's Church people gathered in Pinglestone Barn for a Harvest lunch.

Gifts were donated for the Basics Bank

It's **CHRISTMAS QUIZ** time again! Your support will help to raise funds for our toilet and servery project. Copies of the quiz will be available from Saturday 15th November at Six West, Oxleys, the surgery, St. Mary's Church and the Benefice Office at St. John's.

St Peter's Ovington

St. Peter's Church
Ovington

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Michael Project Prayer Letter



PRAYER REQUESTS

Thanksgiving

✨ We thank God that the 3rd school term opened smoothly – **30 children** on full TMP scholarships and **100+ preschoolers** attending our Early Learning Centers.

✨ Growing partnerships and support enabled us to increase our capacity to respond to children in need. During the past 12 months, we welcomed a record **11 new children** into our Shalom family and saw **6 placed** into forever families.

Please Pray

🙏 For our children sitting for final exams. Especially for wisdom as we consider high schools for one of our Grade 7 boys who is gifted in football. We would love to find a school that has both a strong academic and sporting program.

🙏 For the reunification of a little boy with his paternal grandparents. His family situation is complex as both his parents are in the picture but unstable. Pray for smooth integration and healing within his family.



Prayers

Let us pray with the Spirit to the Creator in union with Christ

Loving God we hold before you our broken and fractured world. We pray for your good creation that we have so grievously damaged through ignorance or greed. Help us all to put the needs of the planet before our convenience and profit. We pray for peace in Israel and Palestine my a true and just solution to their issues be found. We give thanks for the fragile peace in Gaza praying that it will continue and grow and that aid will get through. We pray for peace between Ukraine and Russia and for peace for all the other places of conflict.

We pray for all people who are looking to find you whatever their faith or lack of it. We pray especially for the Anglican Community at this time and for Bishop Sarah as she prepares for her new role. We pray for own benefice in this vacancy. Give courage, strength and wisdom to the church wardens, the lay ministers, the focal ministers and all who work to maintain the worship and witness of our four churches. And we pray for the process of finding a new rector.

We give thanks for our communities of Alresford—Old and New, Bighton and Ovington. Help us to maintain a real sense of community and help us be aware of and assist those in need. Help us all stay safe as we celebrate Bonfire Night. As we prepare for Christmas we pray for business and charities that they may flourish in this season.

Healing God we raise all who suffer to you that you may touch them at their point of need. Comfort those who are sad, support those who are struggling, and walk with those who feel alone. We give thanks for all who do so much to make this world a better place. Give them the strength that they need. We remember those who are ill that may have your grace and those who mourn may know that death is not the end but a beginning for their loved ones.

We give thanks for those who have gone before us and shown us the way and we pray for all who have died that they may rest in peace and rise in glory.

We join our prayers with St John the Baptist, St Mary, St Peter and all the saints

Merciful God Accept these prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen

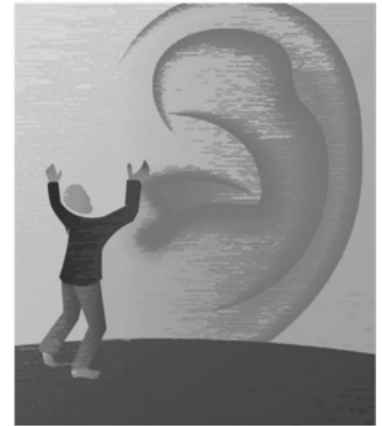


Praying With the Prayers of the Bible: when your prayer is not answered

2 Cor. 12:8; 'Three times I asked the Lord about this ...but...'

Paul is talking about one of the most mysterious and one of the most baffling aspects of prayer – when God does not say yes.

On the face of it, Paul's prayer was very modest. For some time he had been troubled by 'a thorn in the flesh.' He doesn't tell us what the 'thorn' was and down the centuries theologians and commentators have made suggestions. Most of them have thought that the affliction was physical because Paul says it was 'in the flesh.' Some have suggested that he suffered from epileptic fits which caused him to fall down, while others have suggested that he was laid low by constant fevers or that he had very poor eyesight, the last based on his remarks in Galatians 6:11. We do not know what this 'thorn' was. But in spite of this great servant of the Lord praying earnestly three times that the thorn would be removed, God did not answer as Paul expected. A number of things in this passage (verses 7-10) are very helpful to all of us in the matter of prayer.



First, although God's answer was not what Paul asked for, God did answer him. God is never indifferent to the prayers we utter from the depth of our heart. Unlike the idol Baal in the Old Testament story about Elijah, (1 Kings 18) the God and Father of our Lord Jesus is not on a journey, nor is he busy elsewhere, nor is he sleeping. He hears our prayers and our cries when we come to Him in our need and pain and distress.

Second, although Paul did not get the answer he wanted, God made him a wonderful promise. He said, 'My grace is sufficient for you' (v.9). This was not what Paul asked for, yet what a promise it was! God said in effect. 'I will not take the thorn away – but my daily grace is all-sufficient.' In spite of the thorn, Paul will triumph. When God gives us all-sufficient grace, it will take care of everything in our lives.

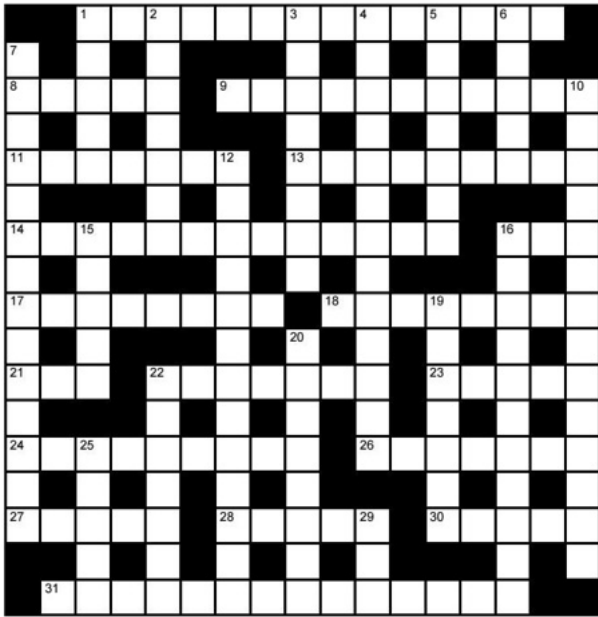
Thirdly, Paul learnt that God's wonderful grace meant that in his weakness 'the power of Christ' (v.9) would be with him, the power that would make him effective and fruitful in his ministry.

Fourthly, this experience taught Paul that he could be 'content with weaknesses and insults' (v.10) because it was for Christ's sake, and when he is weak in himself, he is strong in Christ (v.10).

So what about unanswered prayer? Unless our prayer was selfish and not for our good in the first place, God does answer our cry. When the answer is not what we expected, then it means that our loving Father has something for us even better and more important than what we asked for.

And yet sometimes we still beg God for help as the Psalmist puts it 'How long o Lord, how long?' The lack of apparent answer can make us doubt God's existence or think he doesn't care.

There is a story from one of the Nazi death camps: a group of Jewish rabbis debated whether God exists or cares for his people. Their answer was logically 'No' and yet when one said look the evening star they all turned and began the evening prayer. In another camp was written the words 'I believe in the Sun though it is not shining. I believe in love, even when I don't feel it. I believe in God, even when God is silent'



Across

- 1 Acquire personal spine in retaliation (3,4,3,4)
- 8 Peonies regularly pruned by my adversary (5)
- 9 Testing rough changing with initial letter (11)
- 11 Zealot is in fact a criminal (7)
- 13 Royal wrapping the present on purpose (9)
- 14 Religious high point? (6,7)
- 16 Main spot on the radio (3)
- 17 Current and potentially endless obstacle to Labour (8)
- 18 Copper ring in standard tap (8)

Down

- 21 Head in large cask turned up (3)
- 22 Runner adapting the tale (7)
- 23 Yoga flower position (5)
- 24 Quiet revenues mixed up - have to interfere (9)
- 26 Broken biro in a city in Africa (7)
- 27 O pups spilt gravy needs clearing (3,2)
- 28 Way to receive honour, wearing formal garb (5)
- 30 Model with lofty part of leg (5)
- 31 A place of many mansions (2,7,5)

Down

- 1 Great really essential earth nature initially ecological (5)
- 2 Attempt quiet spasm for enzyme (7)
- 3 Possibly brilliant firework (8)
- 4 Batting averages, possibly, that might be seen on oriental china (6-7)
- 5 Conflagration has no fibre to be burned off (7)
- 6 Hang on to cold fish (5)
- 7 Proficient sets troubled those difficult to please? (14)
- 10 Regular November event, seeing a rebellious chap get fired (3,6,5)
- 12 Expensive our planet! (5,3,5)
- 15 Learner in military group not exactly bright (5)
- 16 Brief warning gives little time for action (5,6)
- 19 Forecaster on hand (7)
- 20 Recall fire residue after dream period (8)
- 22 Roman general has a hold over father (7)
- 25 Flanders flower. (5)
- 29 Note the return of the brick-carrier (3)

Find the word below in the grid

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

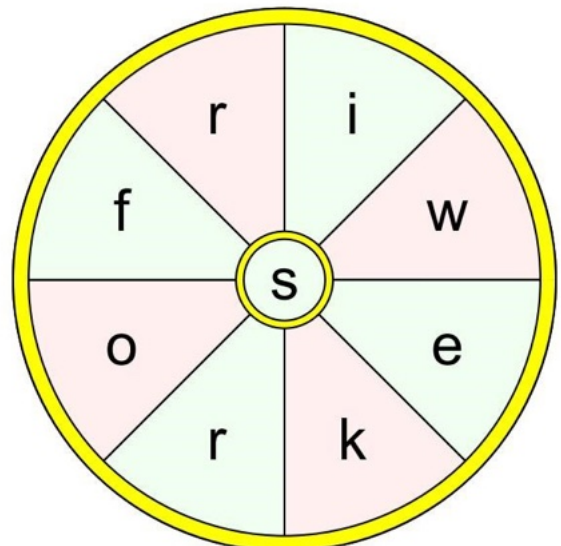
Andrew, Apostolic, Band, Baptist, Come, Disciple, Fife, First, followed, God, Jesus, John, Lamb, Message, Patron, Peter, Saint, Scotland, See,

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

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With the wordwheel find as many words of four letters or more. Each letter may only be used once and the centre letter must be included. On this occasion plurals are allowed.

40—brilliant, 30—good, 20— fair



Pearl Court

Pearl was born in July 1943. She was the first child of David and Joan; her brother Melvyn was then born 5 years later. For the first few years of her life, she lived with her mother and grandparents in Midhurst. Due to the War, Pearl did not see her father until she was 2½ years old, as he was posted abroad on military service.

After her father was discharged, he worked for International Stores in Midhurst. The family then moved to Ropley when Pearl was 3 years old, initially living above The Dene Stores which her



father ran, before moving two doors down to Oak View. She had a very happy childhood being brought up in the village - one memory she often spoke about was when sweets came off rationing in 1953 and the local children forming long queues outside the shop before school.

Pearl attended schools in Alresford, including Perins, after which at 15 she undertook a hairdressing apprenticeship in Four Marks. She never fully retired from hairdressing and will be missed by many of her customers.

Pearl enjoyed old time dancing, which was where she met Keith in 1961, and they married five years later in Ropley church. That same year though she sadly lost her mother, and so from then on helped look after her father and younger brother. Keith and Pearl spent the first 15 years of their married life in Kings Worthy, and during this time their two daughters were born - Angela and Janette. In 1979 they moved to Alresford, where they had rebuilt the house that had been the home of Keith's family for two previous generations, living there for the rest of their married life.

The year 2004 brought both sadness and joy for Pearl - her brother Melvyn died suddenly, but she was also blessed with her first grandchildren, twins, Eleanor and Isaac. Harvey was then born 3 years later. In their earlier years they spent much time at '*Nana and Granfa's*' house whilst Janette was working; Pearl and Keith very much enjoyed looking after their grandchildren.

Being happily married for 49 years they liked spending time together, gardening, walking, and family holidays, also enjoying trips away with close friends. In 2015 Keith sadly passed away and he has been very much missed.

Pearl's interests included dressmaking, knitting, reading and gardening. Even this Spring she could be found tending to her flower borders and growing vegetables. She was also a great

cook, often in the kitchen making the family roast on a Sunday and was known locally for her cake making skills.

Pearl was a caring person throughout her life, often looking after others. She was also a sociable person; she enjoyed entertaining at home and going out, meeting with friends and family for coffees, lunches, shopping trips and WI holidays. She was also a member of Alresford Flower Club for over 25 years - in this time she served as Chairman, President and many other positions on the committee. She had the honour of being asked to create displays for the Flower Festival at Winchester Cathedral and to judge the arrangements at Cheriton village show. Pearl also entered her own floral displays at Alresford show, some years winning prizes. She additionally belonged to Alresford Ladies group, and more recently had joined the Mothers Union.

As a respected member of the congregation at St John's, Pearl arranged the church's flowers as part of the flower rota. Always willing to lend a hand when needed, she also helped on the coffee rota, children's Meet & Eat sessions, the Watercress festival and several other activities and events.

Pearl will be sadly missed by her close family and friends, as well as others who knew her. Her family would like to thank Reverend Heather Brearey for the thoughtful funeral service, and also Pearl's friends and neighbours for all their kind messages and support, as well as their donations to charity in her memory.

David Carr



Hilary, Ed, Emily and their families were so very grateful for the large congregation who filled the church for David's thanksgiving service in September and for all the help they received in preparing the church and the hall for the reception afterwards.

David was born in Liverpool and his family moved across the Mersey when he was 2 years old to New Brighton and thus started his passion for the sea. He grew up in the 1950s with freedom to cycle all day, swimming and playing in the dunes of the Wirral. He left school at 17 to join the RAF, his other passion being aviation but unfortunately his eyesight precluded him from being a pilot and he became an engineer whilst continuing his education.

David had the opportunity to travel extensively, to the US, Canada, bases in Cyprus and Malta and in 1970 he was stationed in Singapore where he enjoyed Far Eastern life and travel to the full especially the sailing.

Just a week before returning home in 1972 he travelled to his favourite beach on the island of Penang in Malaysia and there in the most romantic setting he met Hilary who was on holiday from Singapore where she was living. They met up for just 4 days before David returned to the UK, writing letters for some months, blue airmail ones, no internet in those days, before Hilary returned home. Just one day later, after meeting in London they decided to get married, a marriage that lasted 52 years. They were lucky enough to return to Penang several times and celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary in a grand hotel on the same beach.

For David's last posting at Brize Norton, Oxfordshire they moved to Finstock a small village whose claim to fame is that TS Eliot was baptised in the church and the novelist Barbara Pym was a neighbour. Ed and Emily were born there. They loved village life straight out of the Archers, their house was called Grey Gables, familiar to any addicts...

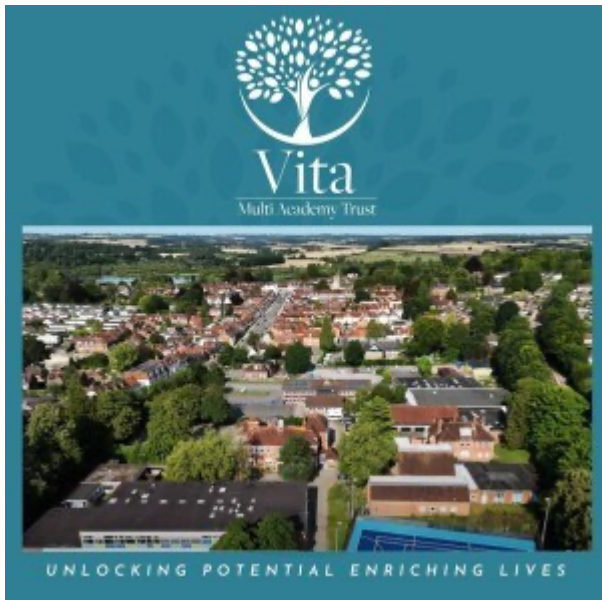
After leaving the RAF David became a full time student at Bath obtaining an MBA and became a management consultant. After 15 happy years in the Cotswolds the family moved to Alresford in 1988, a metropolis compared to Finstock and they became very involved in the life of St John's. David travelled extensively with 2 computer companies Digital and Oracle, later working for Business Link and then ran his own consultancy.

He was so thrilled when Ed met his French wife Astrid and him and Hilary enjoyed many years of exploring France. When Emily married Dom and with the arrival of Willem, Elio and Hope his happiness was complete throwing himself into grandfather duties making planes and lots of play. Until this summer he was still playing football in the garden.

David was a youth leader, World Team leader, organiser of the Historic Churches bike ride for many years and PCC secretary for 10 years. He and Hilary enjoyed study tours with Graham especially the trip to Jordan in the footsteps of T E Lawrence and later to Northumbria in the footsteps of Bede. With Phil they went on an amazing trip to India staying in a leprosy hospital. His U3A History group continued another passion especially military history and he set up a U3A Aviation group. He was a member of Probus and he was secretary twice. David was a volunteer coastguard for nearly 12 years climbing the 100' ladder to the top of Calshot Tower. He faced his illness with such positivity helped by his strong faith and he continued as long as possible with all his activities. We all miss him so much.

Hilary, Ed, Emily and their families.





Good News for Perins School and Sun Hill Junior School

We're thrilled to announce that Vita Multi Academy Trust has secured £5.5 million in capital funding through the government's Condition Improvement Fund (CIF)

This latest investment will support essential fire safety upgrades and electrical works across our schools, including Perins School and Sun Hill Junior School, ensuring our learning environments are safer, smarter, and future-ready.

This brings our total CIF funding to over £12 million, powering a transformation that includes:

- A brand-new Maths block and Canteen
 - Refurbished Science & Technology blocks
 - Roof replacements across sites
 - Two new resource provisions
 - Solar energy initiatives
 - Enhanced security fencing
 - Outdoor covered spaces for flexible learning

“We are delighted to have secured this latest round of funding, which enables us to continue delivering high-quality, safe, and inspiring environments for our students and staff,” said Steve Jones, CEO of Vita Multi Academy Trust.

16th November St Margaret of Scotland

Margaret of Scotland has been called 'The Pearl of Scotland', She was born in Hungary in about 1045 to the expatriate English prince Edward the Exile. The family returned to Wessex in 1057, when she was 13, and following the death of King Harold II in 1066, her brother Edgar Aetheling should have been King of England. Instead, the family fled north, to Scotland, where she married Malcolm III of Scotland by 1070. As a Scottish queen she went on to become mother of three kings of Scotland, and of a queen consort of England.



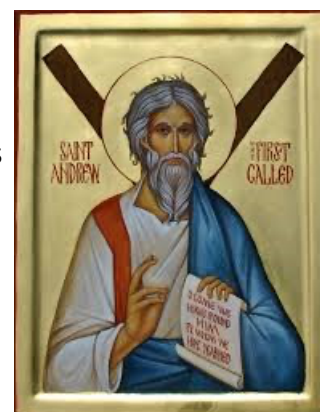
Margaret was a Christian, and became a good friend of Lanfranc, a future archbishop of Canterbury. Her biographer tells of how she read narratives from the Bible to her husband, thus helping to 'civilise' him. He was illiterate, but so admired her reading, that he had her books decorated with gold and silver. She was also helped her youngest son, the future King David I, become a just and holy ruler.

Margaret introduced the worship and practise of the Church of Rome into Scotland. She also helped the many pilgrims travelling in Scotland to where St Andrew was believed to be buried and so she established a ferry across the Firth of Forth,

Margaret performed many charitable works for the poor, and she interceded for the release of English exiles who had been forced into serfdom following the Norman conquest. She also began the restoration of Iona Abbey. In private life, Margaret spent much of her time in prayer, using a cave on the banks of the Tower Burn in Dunfermline as a place of devotion and prayers. Margaret died in 1093, and in 1250 Pope Innocent IV canonised her.

Nov 30 Andrew (d. c.60) – patron saint of Scotland

The apostle Andrew is patron saint of Scotland. According to the gospel of Matthew, Andrew and his brother Simon Peter were the very first two disciples whom Jesus called. 'Come, follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.' (Matt 4:18,19) Without more ado, they obeyed. 'At once they left their nets and followed him.' The story is touching for the simple but total faith that they had in Jesus.



Whenever the gospels mention the disciples, Andrew's name is always in the first four. Rather than a boisterous leader of men (like Peter), he seems to have been an approachable person who wanted to help people. It was Andrew who helped introduce a group of Greeks to Jesus (John 12:20-2) and Andrew who offered Jesus the five small barley loaves and two small fishes when Jesus challenged them to feed the five thousand. (John 6:8) His faith in Jesus over small things was richly rewarded, and this faithful, kindly Galilean fisherman turned disciple went on to become one of the 12 apostles of the Christian Church.

Andrew never settled back in Capernaum by Galilee. Instead, his 'fishing for men' seems to have taken him far. One ancient tradition links him with Greece, where both Scythia and Epirus claimed him as their apostle. Another place in Greece, Patras in Achaia, claimed to be the place where Andrew was eventually martyred. Like Jesus, he was crucified, but the story goes that during the two days it took him to die, he preached earnestly to the people about Jesus. Andrew was not afraid of death on a cross – he had seen it before, and knew one thing for certain: because of Jesus, there was nothing but eternal life ahead of him.

In the West, Andrew's feast-day was universal from the 6th century, and hundreds of churches were named after him. But how did he end up as patron saint of Scotland? Well, according to one ancient legend, his relics were taken from Patras to Scotland in the 8th century, and ended up in Fife, where a church dedicated to him was built and became a centre for evangelisation and later pilgrimage. As Andrew was the only apostle to make it as far as Scotland, he was chosen as patron saint.

The poppies of Remembrance

In late 1914, WW1 erupted across Northern France and Flanders. Great swathes of previously green fields and forests were blasted and bombed, leaving them bleak and barren, with seemingly every living thing destroyed.

But then in the Spring of 1915, something beautiful began to come out of all the destruction. Tens of thousands of bright red Flanders poppies began to put out tentative shoots across the endless vistas of mud. These resilient little flowers had actually flourished in the middle of so much chaos and destruction, because their seeds grow when exposed to sunlight, through disturbances to soil.

We all know that these endless fields of cheerful poppies, growing in the midst of such misery and destruction, were what inspired the Canadian doctor, Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, to write the now famous poem 'In Flanders Fields'.

And it was McCrae's poem which inspired an American academic named Moina Michael to adopt the poppy in memory of those who had fallen in the war. She got it adopted as an official symbol of Remembrance across the United States, and worked with others who were trying to do the same in Canada, Australia, and the UK.

A French woman, Anna Guérin who was in the UK in 1921, caught the same vision, and planned to sell the poppies in London. There she met Earl Haig, the founder of the Royal British Legion, who was persuaded to adopt the poppy as its emblem in the UK.

The Royal British Legion, which had been formed in 1921, ordered nine million poppies and sold them on 11 November that year. Ever since then, the red poppy has been a symbol of Remembrance, of support for the Armed Forces community, and also of hope for a peaceful future.



In Flanders Fields

BY JOHN MCCRAE



**In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.**

**We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,
In Flanders fields.**

**Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.**



5th November - Guy Fawkes, an early terrorist or freedom fighter?

Guy Fawkes is not considered a saint by anybody, but he is remembered on this day each year. In 1570 he was born into a Protestant family, but on his father's death, his mother remarried and chose a Catholic husband. Guy Fawkes then converted to Catholicism, and became such an enthusiast for the Pope that he went on to join the Spanish Army, fighting for a time against the Protestants in Spain. He had travelled to Spain to seek support for a Catholic rebellion in England but without success. Back in England, he decided to do all that he could to bring down the then Protestant government and restore a Catholic to the throne.



And so, in 1605 he joined a plot led by Robert Catesby to blow up the Houses of Parliament at the State Opening, with the intent of killing both James I of England and his parliament. They leased a cellar underneath the House of Lords and stockpiled gunpowder there. Guy Fawkes' role was to light the fuse on the barrels of gunpowder as he was the most experienced with explosives having used them in the Spanish Army.

Fawkes was described by the Jesuit priest and former school friend Oswald Tesimond as "pleasant of approach and cheerful of manner, opposed to quarrels and strife ... loyal to his friends". Tesimond also claimed Fawkes was "a man highly skilled in matters of war", and that it was this mixture of piety and professionalism that endeared him to his fellow conspirators

An anonymous letter warned the authorities so they searched the cellar and found Guy Fawkes and the gunpowder. Fawkes was arrested and questioned. He admitted his intention to blow up Parliament and to replace King James with a Catholic monarch. His steadfast manner impressed the King but nevertheless he was sent to the Tower of London to be questioned under torture to reveal the names of his fellow conspirators. He bravely remained silent for two days to allow the others to escape but on the third day revealed all.

Along with the other conspirators he was found guilty of treason and condemned to be hung, drawn and quartered.

Was he a terrorist? If he had lived in our democratic society the answer would be yes but in those days there was no way that they could alter a government by argument or voting. Guy Fawkes believed he was doing God's work to restore the Catholic faith.

An Act of Parliament decreed that November 5th should be kept as a day of rejoicing with bonfires. It was only repealed in 1859. Fawkes was only one of the thirteen conspirators but he is the one we remember.



Remember, remember!
The fifth of November,
The Gunpowder treason and plot;
I know no reason
Why the Gunpowder treason
Should ever be forgot!
Guy Fawkes and his companions
Did the scheme contrive,
To blow the King and Parliament
All up alive.
Threescore barrels, laid below,
To prove old England's overthrow.

Holiday Fun with Rory – Part Four



In the last magazine editions, the nightmares that beset our first Dartmoor holiday have been laid bare before you. To sum up thus far, we have already delighted in and laughed fit to burst at:

The outsized waterproof jacket that was actually a pair of trousers and the consequent utter soaking received;

Traffic chaos turning a 50 minute crawl through Devonshire lanes into a 5 hour epic;

Cheapskatery-inspired procurement of non-functioning second-hand GPS device and subsequent efforts to procure a new GPS with one-time-passcode delivery to the hotel where the lovely staff were helpful but without English as their first language);

Efforts to convince new GPS device that we were on Dartmoor and not in central New York City;

And my favourite part of all – deep into the North Dartmoor wilderness; Rory's snapped harness and his abscondment into the wilds, taking with him my mobile phone and car key, and the valiant assistance of numerous members of His Majesty's Armed Forces to locate the fugitive dog and his precious cargo.

We left off our last instalment with the return to the Okehampton Battle Camp guard room of our miscreant hero, transported after an absence of several hours in the front seat of a gold 4x4 by a lady who had found him roaming the moors, happily innocent of any livestock tormenting, smugly pleased with his days' adventures but, less-happily, unaccompanied by the pack of phone and keys with which he had vanished.

After considerably more time had passed, the army officers were becoming understandably less enchanted with our company. Finally, an officer eventually telephoned our hotel once again to say "Look, it's been a while now - what's the ETA on this taxi for your guest?" (the army having previously contacted the hotel to explain our predicament and secure their help in arranging a taxi from the camp off the moor). The hotel chaps replied that they "weren't able to get any taxi firm to accept the job. It's too far away. We've been trying to ring Miss Page to let her know, but we haven't been able to get a reply. She's not answering her phone..." No. No, she isn't. There's a reason for that. Only Army Officer Luke's impeccably good breeding kept him from responding to this latest setback in the time-honoured fashion.

I was exhausted after at least four to five hours of this, heaped upon the initial distress (plus the guilt at having had to pretend to consume but conceal a chocolate bar to which I was allergic; the kind gift of Luke). Fortunately, Luke continued to let me have free use of his phone. We looked up all the local taxi firms and I tried each one. None of them answered – until the sixth one, Acorn Taxis (not related to the antiques business). After hearing about my situation, she said she could be with me in half an hour and would take me all the way to my hotel near Plymouth for £55. I was profusely thanking her until I heard "oh, wait, hang on. Did you say you had a dog with you? I'm not sure I – "

I almost broke down. To be so near help and then to hear that it might be denied was nearly more than I could bear. I began "oh, no, PLEASE, no-". Hearing my obvious distress, the lady asked me to describe Rory and after the first few sentences she said that it would be fine. It turned out that a very large, hairy and slobbery dog had once unexpectedly accompanied a booked ride and all but destroyed her car interior; she was fond of Staffies and French Bulldogs and as long as he was seated on a towel, Rory was welcome. I couldn't have been more thankful.

It turned out that the taxi lady was an angel in more ways than one. After I had left the guard house expressing my deepest gratitude to Luke and his wonderful colleagues, and was explaining the full history of the afternoon whilst towels for Rory were laid on the back seat of the taxi, she said that her husband worked on a vehicle recovery truck and had a mate who did emergency car key replacement. She offered to telephone her husband and get the number for me. The key man, James (from keytomycar.co.uk, God bless them and their sweet, sweet spanners) was

out on another job at the time, but she kindly left a message for him to call me at the hotel, or via her if we were still *en route*. We formulated a plan that she would get me and Rory back to our hotel that evening, hopefully Key Man could make a replacement key, which he would deliver to taxi lady. Once done, Rory and I would get ourselves to Okehampton (ideally the train station), where taxi lady would meet us and hand over the key and then take us up onto the moor where our car would still be waiting.

So, I had renewed and thankful hope. I had resigned myself to the fact that the phone and original keys would not be recovered. I was having minor palpitations about all the work contacts and data stored on my phone but, most especially, all the photographs. Holidays, memories, almost all of the offline photographs I had of late previous dog Gisele-Stephanie were stored on that phone, as well as some of my dad – the thought of losing those was a real sadness. At least Rory was safe. **NEXT TIME: We haven't got to the chicken bit yet. Awful.**



GOOD NEWS FOR OUR ALUMINIUM COLLECTION

This is now going to be collected to raise money for The Hampshire & Isle of Wight Air Ambulance.

This is a very worthy cause, so please keep saving your tin foil and bringing it to St John's.

This can include:

- aluminium wine bottle tops (no need to remove the small inside disc)
- aluminium tea-light holders (with wax removed)
- aluminium trays (folded small)
- aluminium squeezable drink cans (squashed as flat as possible – maybe stamp on them).

BUT remember - all that's silver is not foil – please make sure it tears and stays scrunched when screwed up in the hand! Also definitely **no pill blister packs** – they look like foil but won't tear as they have a thin layer of plastic over the foil - these can be recycled at large Boots stores.

Across Hampshire there are over 650 collectors and since 2019 over £35,000 has been raised for The Hampshire & Isle of Wight Air Ambulance. Currently this is co-ordinated by a couple who live in Kings Worthy.

Just to remind you the collection bin at St John's is outside the Parish Office.

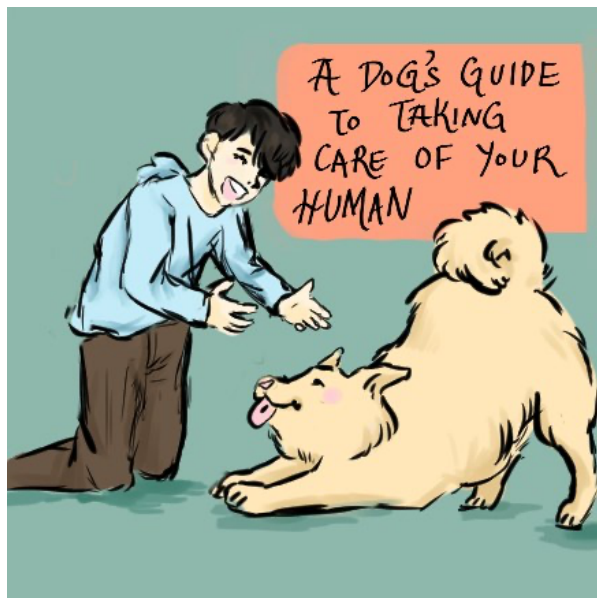


A Dog's Guide to Humans

By Alfie Roberts-Ryton

The first thing a dog needs to understand is that humans like to make things complicated. For example they say breakfast, lunch, tea, supper, dinner instead of the obvious word—food.

Remind them that God created them to look after us so when they start doing something other than playing with you or petting you bark repeatedly, jump up and down and make sure they cannot concentrate on anything else.



They are not very good time-keepers either. If your food is supposed to be arrive at 5 o'clock it should arrive by five o'clock and not one minute past. Bark loudly to remind them. And if that doesn't work use the beseeching eye routine—being suggestible creatures most can't resist that one. They should also understand all food is ours.

Walks should also happen on schedule apart from anything else humans need exercise

Humans are also not very good at looking after themselves they will spend hours looking at a flickering screen instead of doing something sensible like going for a walk.

It is up to a dog to make sure that they have the exercise

they need. Again bark, run to the door, do the beseech bit until they get the hint.

On a walk keep them on the lead so they don't wander off or get distracted by chatting to other humans. Keep them on their toes by stopping and sniffing regularly—alas the poor things cannot appreciate the beauty of smells such as fox poo, rotting birds and other delights. Remember to leave your pee-mail regularly so other human's dogs can know what you have been up to. Every so often remember to pull energetically so your human has to run—this is called interval training and is good for them. Do not allow your human to choose the route or shorten the walk but when you do allow them to go home remember to give them a good lick as a reward.

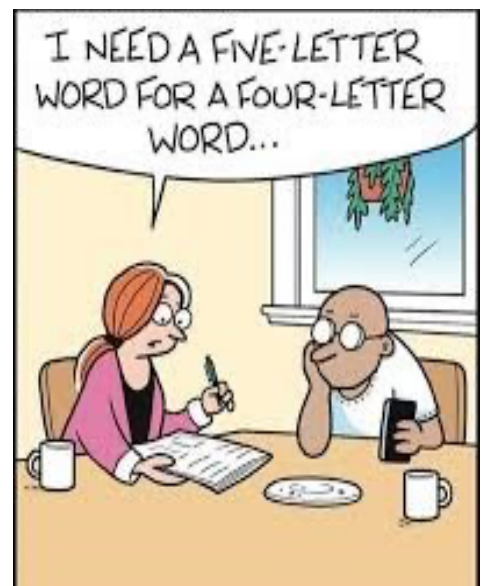
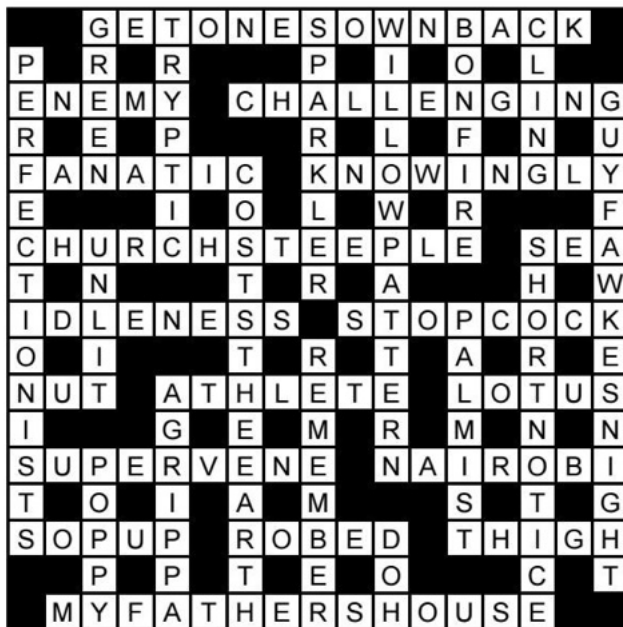
Humans like to shout certain words. Come for example means they want you near them because they feel lonely and abandoned if you are too far away. It is up to you whether you respond at once or not. Sit is another favourite word which I think means they want to stop and have a rest. One word they use a lot is 'No'. They use it often so I think that they mean to encourage a dog in what he or she is doing so carry on whatever it is you are doing and wag your tail to show you appreciate their encouragement.

Humans do get easily upset so when they make funny noises and get wet eyes get close to them, lick them and let them stroke you as this will make them feel better.

Puzzle Answers



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



eros, errs, firers, fires, fireworks, firs, foes, forkers, forks,
friers, fries, frisk, frisker, frowsier, irks, oiks, osier, owes,
resow, reworks, rise, riser, risk, risker, roes, rose, rosier,
rowers, rows, serf, serif, serow, sire, skew, skier, soke,
sore, sorer, sower, swore, weirs, wires, wise, wiser, woes,
workers, works, worries, worse

APPLE & WENSLEYDALE PIE



With a slightly guilty shake of my wand, I offer you yet another apple recipe. There are so many about this season – so here's something a little different to try, and I promise there will be no mention of apples next time! Paul Hollywood (for 'tis he who created this recipe) says "There's a saying in Yorkshire that 'apple pie without cheese is like a kiss without a squeeze'. I couldn't agree more – tangy, salty cheese and sweet apple go beautifully together." The recipe suggests using a mixture of cooking and eating apples in this pie, in order to create a varied, interesting texture, but feel free to use any that you have to hand. The recipe makes six servings.

* Shop-bought ready-made shortcrust pastry will be fine if you want to skip these steps (don't tell Paul).

Ingredients

For the shortcrust pastry *

350g/12oz plain flour

175g/6oz cold unsalted butter, cut into roughly 1cm cubes, plus extra for greasing

For the filling

500g/1lb 2oz cooking apples

500g/1lb 2oz eating apples

100g/3½oz caster sugar

125g/4½oz Wensleydale cheese, crumbled

To finish

a little milk

about 1 tbsp caster sugar



Method

To make the pastry*, put the flour in a bowl. Add the butter and rub it in lightly with your fingertips until the mixture resembles fine breadcrumbs. Alternatively, do this in a food processor or a mixer and then transfer to a bowl.

Using a table knife, work in just enough cold water (about 75ml/2½fl oz) to bring the pastry together. When the dough begins to stick together, use your hands to gently knead it into a ball. Wrap the pastry in cling film and rest in the fridge for about 30 minutes.

Preheat the oven to 200C/400F/Gas 6. Lightly butter a baking tin, about 26x20cm/10½x8in and 3cm/1¼in deep.

For the filling, peel, quarter and core all the apples. Slice into a large bowl and mix them together.

Once the dough has rested, cut it into two pieces, roughly one-third and two-thirds of the total. Lightly dust a work surface with flour. Roll out the larger piece of pastry so it's a good centimetre larger all round than the tin. Line the base and sides of the tin with the pastry, leaving the excess hanging over the sides.

Lay a third of the apple slices in the pastry-lined tin and sprinkle with a third of the sugar. Repeat with the remaining apple and sugar. Now scatter the crumbled cheese evenly over the fruit.

Roll out the remaining pastry to make a lid. Brush the edges of the pastry in the tin with milk then put the pastry lid on top. Seal the edges with your fingertips and trim off the excess pastry neatly. Brush the pastry with milk and sprinkle over a little sugar. Make two slits in the top to allow steam to escape.

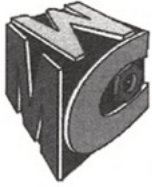
Bake for 30-35 minutes, or until the crust is golden-brown. Leave for at least 15 minutes before slicing. The pie is delicious hot or cold and needs no accompaniment.

For a sprinkle of fairy-dust try:

Who is Paul to deny us accompaniment?! A scoop of vanilla ice-cream would be a nice addition with a piece of this pie, or a dab of clotted cream.



Time to fly! Fairy Cake



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Alresford Methodist Church



November 1st - Bacon Butties

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.



November 3rd – Memory Lane Café

The Monday Memory Café was initially set up with the specific purpose of supporting those suffering memory loss and their carers. However, we also welcome anyone who finds life a little lonely and would therefore welcome an additional social opportunity in their diary. If you would like to join us, you will find a warm welcome awaiting you. We offer 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 us on: 07711066116.

November 8th - Table Top Sale

Saturday, 8th November From 10.00am to 2.00pm

Alresford Methodist Church, Jacklyns Lane, Alresford. SO24 9JJ

Tables £10 each. Half tables available

Coffee and biscuits

To book a table please ring 01962 734481

November 14th - Women's Fellowship

The 'Women's Fellowship' group will meet in the Methodist church hall at 2.30pm.

This meeting will be followed with tea and cake. A warm welcome is extended to everyone.



November 15th – Church Prayers

The church is open on the third Saturday of each month from 10–11am. All are welcome to join us in a time of reflective prayer, as we share concerns both local and worldwide. At the close of prayer time, we invite everyone to stay and chat over a coffee and biscuits in the coffee lounge.



Volunteers needed

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES - LOTS OF CHOICES TO SUIT...



A variety of help needed please for St John's - It is the time of year when we are beginning to do rotas for the autumn!!!

If you or anyone you know would be able to help with any of the below it would be VERY much appreciated.

Please contact Rosie 07891 120662 rosie@22rwg.co.uk.

(All below occur approximately once every 6 weeks or so.)

Church Locking - the church needs locking, lights out etc at about 5pm each night for a week at a time.

Monday, Meet and Eat in term time - Either making tea, washing up or playing games with the children or cooking a simple meal for approx 15.

Chatterbox on a Thursday in term time - Time to welcome and chat to families of children under 5.

St John's Tech Team - Help needed to either control the sound or click on the service overheads or set the livestream on the camera. *Full training given.*



Opening shortly in Alresford, retail volunteers are needed and hold a vital role in ensuring the ongoing running of our stores, assisting with tasks including serving customers and sorting donations.

Please contact for further information on **01256 844744** or email **volunteer@stmichaelsospice.org.uk**



Alresford Men's Shed

Volunteers needed

We are open weekdays 10-12.30pm

For those considering joining us as a volunteer, we would warmly invite you to join us as a taster morning. Meet everyone, have a cuppa and a chat about how we can use your help. Bennett House, The Dean, Alresford.

<https://www.alresfordmensshed.org.uk>

--o0o--

Community Growing Allotment

Anyone is welcome to volunteer on the plot located at Spring Gardens. Whether you would like to offer your experience and advice or join in to learn how to grow; whether you can water crops and carry heavy loads or would prefer to start seeds off at home; whether you want to get your hands dirty or just chat about growing veg, you are invited to take part. If you would like to volunteer, please email enquiries@newleafalresford.org



You will be invited to join our WhatsApp group for communication.

<https://newleafalresford.org/community-growing>

--o0o--



Age Uk Charity Shop

Volunteers needed. Please call in to the shop at 21a Broad Street...beside the Italian. or call 01962 735242

--o0o--

Traditional Christmas Day Lunch at Makins Court

For those living in or around Alresford who would otherwise be on their own on Christmas Day

Volunteers are needed to help prepare vegetables on Christmas Eve, set up tables, take guests to seats, serve the lunch, washing up, and putting away afterwards. Please contact: Patricia 07704 723 888



The Poppy Appeal – could you help by giving some time this autumn?

The 2025 Poppy Appeal will be launched this month.

The Poppy is a powerful symbol worn by people right across the UK to commemorate the sacrifices of our Armed Forces and to show support to those still serving today.

The Royal British Legion was first set up to help those returning from the First World War. Almost a century on, they're still helping today's Service people, veterans, and their families coping with bereavement, living with disability or finding employment.



However, the Poppy Appeal would not be able to continue without the dedication of the teams of volunteers who stand in the streets, shops and supermarkets. Each town and village has their own Poppy Appeal Organiser - also a volunteer - who runs these teams, arranges for cover, drops off and collects the boxes.



The Poppy Appeal is always grateful for the work of these dedicated people, but the volunteers say they are proud to be selling Poppies to show support for those who sacrificed their lives for us.

If you want to volunteer, or if you would like a visit from a local volunteer who can speak to your community/church group, please go to: <https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/volunteer>.

Why we wear a poppy - remembering at the library

Alresford library will be remembering in November with a special window display by the Craft and Conversation group, in conjunction with the library staff.

Why do we wear poppies and who are we remembering? If you do not already know, come and find out.

Come in and join the library, if you are not already a member, there is no charge and the service is friendly and helpful. Borrow a book or two, or more, or just browse for something of interest. If you cannot find what you are looking for, ask the knowledgeable library staff.

On a Friday between 2 and 4 pm, meet the group members, learn to knit or crochet or just chat. No age limit, everybody welcome. We should love to hear your experiences, whether you are a military or a civilian survivor.

Remember with us.





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

**For friendly, professional, proactive advice
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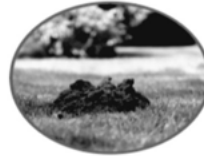
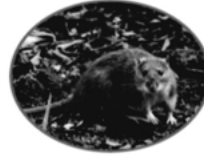
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Funerals/Interments

21st August
Stephen Pinch
Funeral
St. John's

3rd September
Valerie Newell
Interment
St. John's

4th September
Joan Holland
Interment
St. John's

9th September
John Palmer
Interment
St. John's

19th September
David Carr
Thanksgiving Service
St. John's

20th September
Gregory Thistlethwaite
Memorial Service
St. Mary's

23rd September
Alan Binfield
Thanksgiving Service
St. John's

27th September
Antonia Booth
Interment
St. Mary's

30th September
Peter Radford
Graveside Service
St. John's

2nd October
Robin Gorham
Funeral
St. John's

Baptisms

30th August
Lane baptisms
St. John's

31st August
Frank Earnest Peris
Gilbertson
St. Peter's

Weddings

20th Sept
Miles Holt &
Alice Donatantonio
St. John's

20th Sept
Nicholas Finney &
Sophie Mayne
All Saints



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contact@befriendtheend.co.uk

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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

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

Alresford Methodist Church

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)

BENEFICE CONTACTS

BENEFICE OFFICE Tel. 01962 733545 *Please leave a phone message or email the office.*
Office hours 10am to 12 noon Monday to Friday.

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

www.arlevalleychurches.org.uk email: arlevalleychurches@gmail.com Facebook/
StJohns Alresford & ourplaceyouth Phone numbers unless otherwise stated are 01962

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T. 732105

arlevalleyrector@gmail.com

Licensed Lay Ministers

Ian Waring Green

T. 733237

iwg@robinhoodmusic.com

Peter Colquhoun

T. 733035

pscalquhoun@googlemail.com

Sue Armstrong

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susanarmstrong@btopenworld.com

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Alresford: St. John's

Churchwardens

Rosie Waring Green

T. 733237

rosie@22rwg.co.uk

James Lees

James@lees92.plus.com

01962 732574

PCC Secretary

Jo Whiteman

joanna.whiteman@yahoo.co.uk

Ovington: St. Peter's

Churchwarden

Roger Harrison

T 732761

arlevalleychurches@gmail.com

PCC Secretary

Vacant - Contact Benefice Office

T. 735455

arlevalleychurches@gmail.com

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Churchwarden

Roger Parsons T. 734561

rwjparsons@gmail.com

Bighton: All Saints

Churchwardens

Bob Ellis T. 773427

robert.sally120@gmail.com

Chris James

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crjathome@hotmail.com

Baptisms

Benefice Office T. 733545

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Funeral Enquiries

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kathryn.lockyer@talktalk.net

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dix.house@btinternet.com

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Caroline Hawkins

chawkins826@sky.com

Bible Reading Notes

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pearlpage@aol.com

Bookings: St. John's Church & John
Pearson Hall

Benefice Office T. 733545

Churchyard Volunteer Co-ordinator

Ben Howlett

alresfordchurchyard@gmail.com

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Miranda Pinch T. 732064

events@stjohnsalresford.org.uk

Flower Co-Ordinator

Maureen Skayman

gskayman@gmail.com

Fundraising Co-ordinator

Miranda Pinch T. 732064

events@stjohnsalresford.org.uk

Giving & Gift Aid Secretary

David Griffiths

BENEFICE CONTACTS continued

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Continued on next page

Hospital Visiting

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Pastoral Visiting

St. John's Pastoral Team Leader

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Sue Clarke T 733597

Prayer Ministry Team

Rosie Waring Green

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rosie@22rwg.co.uk

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Assistant Safe Guarding **Alison Mayne**

T. 07900 884125

arlevalleysafeguarding@gmail.com

Treasurer

Jon Whale

T. 734941

sjtreasurer@arlevallychurches.org.uk

Youth Work

Rosie Waring Green

T. 733237 e: rosie@22rwg.co.uk

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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



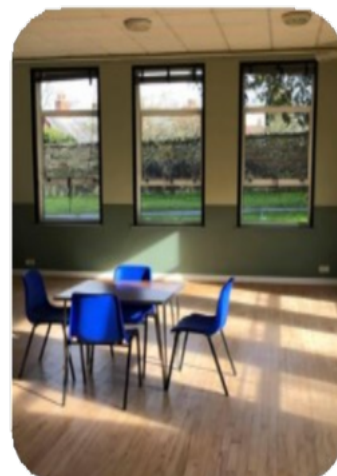
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For more information regarding regular and ad-hoc hiring of the church and hall, please call the Benefice office on 01962 733545 or email: arlevallychurches@gmail.com





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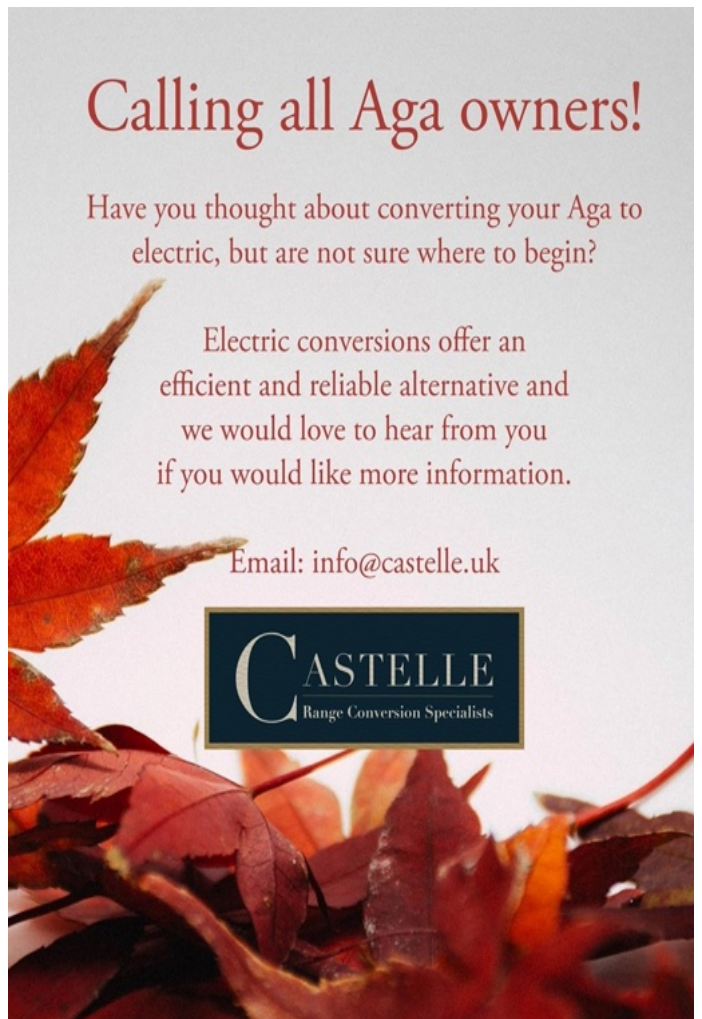
Email: alresfordvolcare@gmail.com

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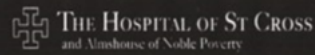


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