

Sunrise

A monthly magazine for the Parish of the Resurrection, Alton



February 2025

A donation
will be appreciated



The Parish of the Resurrection, Alton
Vicar: Reverend Canon Andrew Micklefield, 88794
St Lawrence Vicarage, Church St, Alton GU34 2BW

Sunday Services

Details of Sunday services for the month can be found on the back cover. You will find that there is a variety of services intended to meet the needs of people of many different ages and backgrounds. You are welcome to worship with us.

Family Worship

The church wants to make it as easy as possible for families with children to become part of the worship life of the church. To find out more contact one of the clergy.

Marriage and Baptism Enquiries

Enquiries should be made to the Parish Office by telephone 01420 513881 or by calling at the Parish Office or email: office@potr-alton.co.uk

Parish Centre Bookings

It is possible to book St Lawrence Parish Centre or All Saints Parish Hall for functions and other events. Bookings for all Church Buildings and Halls should be made to the Parish Office.

Parish Administrator (9am - 12noon)

Philippa Penfold (Mon-Wed) **07453 590569**

Ellie Elder (Thurs & Friday) **07865 292401**

PCC Secretary

Philippa Penfold 01420 513881

PCC Minute Secretary

Sue Hubbard 01420 513881
office@potr-alton.co.uk

Treasurer

Craig Stolton treasurer@potr-alton.co.uk

Parish Office: Tel. 01420 513881

Email: office@potr-alton.co.uk

All Saints Church Hall

Open Monday to Friday

9.00am-12.00 noon

Parish Web Site:

<http://www.potr-alton.co.uk>

Associate Vicar

Revd David Chattell 07775 462029

David@potr-alton.co.uk

Assistant Priests

Revd Jon Rooke 07519 046593

Revd Martin East 549595

Revd Lynn Power 07850 232995

Revd Bruce Nicole 07974 021764

Revd Peter Brown 07890 067198

Revd Wendy Burnhams
07514 280362

Licensed Lay Minister

Elaine Brown 549943

Anna Chaplain Pioneer

Debbie Thrower 07865 292401

Anna Chaplain

Vacancy

Churchwardens

Matthew Bayliss 07920 002328

Helen Walters 07766 076899

Clive Muller 86064

Angie Briggs 544138

Magnus Weighton 07902 877335

Sarah Neish 565696

Deanery Synod Representatives

Derek Gurney Tori Hewitt

Keith Arrowsmith Oliver

PCC Special Interest Members

Robin Kemp (SL)

Sarah Neish (St. P)

Anne Mason (All S)

Lisa Hillan (HR)

Parish Donations Coordinator

Tori Hewitt 07554 428100

Pastoral Visiting

c/o The Ministry Team via the Office

Youth, Children & Family Worker

Vacant

The Parish of the Resurrection lies within the Winchester Diocese of the Church of England & is in covenant partnership with Alton Methodist Church in the Greater Alton Project

First thoughts

Dear friends,

As signs of spring are beginning to show in the garden and precious daylight time is extending, I've been thinking about other hints of hope; the hints of hope that we might have heard in December at Christmas services.

A common quiz question is 'Guess the novel with this opening quote' and you might recognise this one;

"It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife",

These are the well-known opening words from Jane Austen's novel 'Pride and Prejudice'. I wonder how often we hear the familiar start of a book but don't follow the narrative to its' less well-known, end?

Only about a month ago, many of us heard well-known words from the beginning of a much older book, "In the beginning was the Word and the Word was made flesh...and dwelt among us..." Those words from start of the Gospel of John continue on, to recount wonderful things about the Word (Jesus) who lived amongst his people, who did and said truly amazing things.

Mark's gospel is the shortest of the four and a great one to read through by Easter or before. It is shorter to read than 'Pride and Prejudice', yet it involves both pride and prejudice! Its' central figure, Jesus, God with us, shows his love in word and deed with compassion and power for the good of many people. Following the gospel story to the end, shows us the immense love of God for us, through the cross and resurrection of Jesus and the blessing that that will be for all who will receive his message.

As we approach Lent and Easter, let us pick up the 'God story' of his activity among us today in our villages and town, in all our communities. May I propose you read Mark's gospel, completing the story we began at Christmas. May it bring you hope, joy and peace as you read about Jesus, the one who came and dwelt amongst us. And let us enjoy both the signs of Spring in the hedgerows and the reasons for hope in the Bible!

*Every blessing
David*

Message from Andrew

This announcement was made in our church services recently and I want to share it widely with you.

Following an application and interview, the Bishop of Winchester has offered me, and I have accepted, the post of Canon Treasurer at Winchester Cathedral. This is subject to the due processes of references and safeguarding formalities. This is a full time stipendiary position in which I will have responsibilities to oversee the work of the Learning Team, to enhance the Cathedral's role as Mother Church in the diocese, to share oversight of the communications function of the cathedral, and to work with the cathedral guides in their work of outreach – alongside the ministry of leading services and preaching, hospitality and welcome.

I will be installed at the Cathedral in a Service of Evensong on Saturday 5th April at 3.30pm. My last service here in The Parish of the Resurrection and Bentworth, Lasham & Shalden is likely to be on Sunday 9th March.

Please join me in praying for us as a family as we make this transition; for the Cathedral and its Chapter as they continue their ministry; for those who will work with Bishop David and our Archdeacon, Richard Brand, in finding and appointing a new vicar for our worshipping community here; and for God's kingdom to grow throughout.

This does not affect Fiona's position as Headteacher of St Lawrence CE Primary School – so you will still see her around. I know that we have a good and strong Ministry Team who will serve you well through the vacancy and into the future.

Thank you for all your love and support over what has been nearly 11 years. As a family, we have always felt immensely privileged to be on our Christian journey together with all of you. I am looking forward to the opportunities this new post at the Cathedral has to offer me in my ongoing ministry but I am sad that it means leaving such wonderful church communities and so many friends.

*With my love and prayers
Andrew*

Also from Andrew: I am so grateful to Lynn for the enormous amount of time, energy and enthusiasm she has given to her ministry here in the parish. She has spent time with people at crucial moments in their lives, has always been ready with a listening ear and pastoral heart, has prepared numerous thought provoking sermons and has enjoyed her many sessions with children and toddlers in church and school. So we say thank you Lynn. We will enjoy seeing you around. Don't become a stranger – in fact you are a good neighbour to us all.

Retirement.

On Sunday 25th September 2016 I was licensed to the Parish of the Resurrection by Bishop David in a Songs of Praise service in St Peter's Beech. Little was I to know that this would be the beginning of a special relationship with that community and the wider parish of POTR (and more recently BLS and St Nicholas' Chawton) that has lasted nearly 9 years. Two days before this I was licensed as chaplain of Treloar School and College in a very different but equally precious service. I will treasure this latter role forever and only regret that I didn't come to it earlier in life. I remember going to look round Treloar's and realising that this was the place that God was calling me to serve in.

Having served my curacy in the neighbouring North Hampshire Downs benefice and with a certain Revd. Andrew Micklefield as my pastoral tutor, a move to Alton was meant to be. Initially I worked (in addition to Treloar's) as the schools' minister, employed by GAP. I quickly made contact with our many schools and helped to set up Open the Book groups, Service After School at All Saints and a prayer support network culminating in a 'Pray for Schools Service'. Working across the parish and Treloar's I encouraged and facilitated the Treloar's students attendance at Church at 4.

Whilst trained as a secondary Religious Studies teacher, I have found great joy in working with younger children and devising worship services and activities for them. Encouraged by Sarah Broadbent, I helped to run the Teddies' group, which I still do today with our eldest daughter. I love the honesty and wonder of the young mind as they start to learn about Jesus and his love for all.

When I retired from Treloar's just before the pandemic, I was able to play a more regular role in parish ministry assuming pastoral responsibility for St Peter's. I feel that my calling has always been shaped by chaplaincy. Coming alongside people in times of need and as a consequence the occasional offices of baptism, marriage and funerals have always been special as has just listening to and being with people.

As some of you know the last six months have been quite challenging as a routine and successful cataract operation has left me with severe dry and sore eyes that has made reading for any length of time a strain. This, plus growing family commitments, has led to my decision to retire from parish ministry. I am hugely thankful for all those who have supported me especially Sarah Neish, Andrew and the Ministry Team (both past and present). I will continue my work in the cathedral where I serve as, and head up, the volunteer chaplains and where I get to simply welcome, be and pray with whoever, as Bishop Trevor once said, God blows in through the doors.

Ian and I have no intentions of moving from Alton so you haven't seen the last of us!

God bless, Lynn

Bible Readings for the month of February 2025

Taken from the Church of England lectionary – readings to use daily

| | | | |
|---|---|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Saturday 1 st | Psalm 68 or 147 | Hosea 8 | 1 Corinthians 12: 1 - 11 |
| Sunday 2nd Candlemas | Candlemas | | |
| Monday 3 rd | Psalm 1 | Azariah and Song 1 - 27 | John 13: 1 - 11 |
| Tuesday 4 th | Psalm 5 | Song 28 - end | John 13: 12 - 20 |
| Wednesday 5 th | Psalm 119: 1 - 32 | Susannah 1 - 27 | John 13: 21 - 30 |
| Thursday 6 th | Psalm 15 | Susannah 28 - end | John 13: 31 - end |
| Friday 7 th | Psalm 19 | Bel and the Dragon or Nahum 1 | John 14: 1 - 14 |
| Saturday 8 th | Psalms 23 | Prayer of Manasseh or Obadiah | John 14: 15 - end |
| Sunday 9th 4 before Lent | Elijah - From death to life 1 Kings 17: 7-16 Luke 5: 1-11 | | |
| Monday 10 th | Psalm 30 | Joel 1: 1 - 14 | John 15: 1 - 11 |
| Tuesday 11 th | Psalm 36 | Joel 1: 15 - end | John 15: 12 - 17 |
| Wednesday 12 th | Psalm 34 | Joel 2: 1 - 17 | John 15: 18 - end |
| Thursday 13 th | Psalm 37 | Joel 2: 18 - 27 | John 16: 1 - 15 |
| Friday 14 th | Psalm 31 | Joel 2: 28 - end | John 16: 16 - 22 |
| Saturday 15 th | Psalm 42 | Joel 3: 1 – 3, 9 - end | John 16: 23 - end |
| Sunday 16th 3 before Lent | Elijah - From fear to hope 1 Kings 18: 1-10, 17-19 Luke 6.17-26 | | |
| Monday 17 th | Psalm 30 | Ecclesiastes 1 | John 17: 1 - 5 |
| Tuesday 18 th | Psalm 36 | Ecclesiastes 2 | John 17: 6 - 19 |
| Wednesday 19 th | Psalm 34 | Ecclesiastes 3: 1 - 15 | John 17: 20 - end |
| Thursday 20 th | Psalm 37 | Ecclesiastes 3: 16 – end of 4 | John 18: 1 - 11 |
| Friday 21 st | Psalm 31 | Ecclesiastes 5 | John 18: 12 - 27 |
| Saturday 22 nd | Psalm 42 | Ecclesiastes 6 | John 18: 28 - end |
| Sunday 23rd 2 before Lent | Elijah - From unanswered to eternally spoken 1 Kings 18: 2-40 Luke 8.22-25 | | |
| Monday 24 th | Psalm 71 | Ecclesiastes 7: 1 - 14 | John 19: 1 - 16 |
| Tuesday 25 th | Psalm 73 | Ecclesiastes 7: 15 - end | John 19: 17 - 30 |
| Wednesday 26 th | Psalm 77 | Ecclesiastes 8 | John 19: 31 - end |
| Thursday 27 th | Psalm 55 | Ecclesiastes 9 | John 20: 1 - 10 |
| Friday 28 th | Psalm 76 | Ecclesiastes 11: 1 - 8 | John 20: 11 - 18 |

Lent Course 2025

A new Lent Course is being prepared by our church leaders in Alton, planning to meet at 'The Maltings' on Thursday nights during Lent, 7.30 to 8.45pm

There will be a time of worship, a talk and opportunity for discussion.
The theme is 'Table Talk'

Conversations with Jesus around the table.

March 20 – Welcome to the Table

March 27 – Dinner at the Table

April 3 – Turning over the Tables

April 10 – Supper at the Table

April 17 – Breaking Bread around the Table

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE



THE LIGHTHOUSE


**10.30am - 11.30am at the Parish
Centre, next to St Lawrence Church.**

Whilst you worship in church,
we invite your children to worship with us at The
Lighthouse.

We welcome all children aged between 0 - 11 years to join us every
Sunday of the month in term time.
At the end of the session, the children will be brought back to church to
enjoy the last part of the service.

All our leaders are DBS checked.

www.potr-alton.co.uk



Learning to Live the JESUS WAY

A monthly course led by Revd Peter Walker on the 4th Sunday of each month (January - June) in St Lawrence Church, Alton
6pm - 7.15pm followed by refreshments

*worship... teaching...discussion... prayer...
fellowship*

Peter is a gifted teacher and communicator who feeds hearts and minds when he opens the Scriptures.

We hope many will join us for a feast of biblical theology that will give us fresh confidence to continue on the 'Jesus Way'

Copies of the book available for £8.00 (50% discount)



For more information, or to register your interest in the course, email office@potr-alton.co.uk

Date for your Diary

The World Day of Prayer Service
will be at
St. Lawrence Church on Friday 7th March at 2pm
more details next month.

Eco Church for February

**Grant us inspiration in waste reclamation,
and in the reuse and recycling of resources.
Bless those who work in the recycling industry,
and those who work in charity shops.
Help us to find new homes for unwanted items.**

Safeguarding Statement

The PCC of PoTR has adopted the Church of England Safeguarding Policies and Practice Guidance, "Promoting a Safer Church: Safeguarding Policy Statement". We take very seriously the welfare and protection of everyone involved in any church activity and are committed to promoting a safe environment and culture for all. Access to all Parish Safeguarding policies is available through the POTR website. Each person who works within this church community will agree to abide by the Safeguarding Policy and the guidelines established by this church.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and business, but here it is overseen by the Parish Safeguarding Officer, Sally Kemp, in conjunction with the incumbent, Andrew Micklefield.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Sally Kemp, PSO, on 07944 587 597 or via potr.safeguarding.com or via the Parish Office.

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- Moving forward healthily
- Faith questions (optional)

To find out more visit:
thebereavementjourney.org

Running soon:

Friday Mornings

10am - 12 noon

Jan 24th - 7th March

Alton Maltings Centre 

To book your place, email
bereavement@potr-alton.co.uk
or phone Wendy Burnhams
on 07514 280 362

Suggested Voluntary contribution
£20 for the whole course





GLW

Year 3 to year 6
 Thursdays 3:15pm-4:30pm
 St Lawrence Church, Galilee
 Chapel

Games | Toast | Bible Study |
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Contact the Parish Office on
office@potr-alton.co.uk



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For more info contact
 Rev David Chattell
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Sunday 26th January
 Sunday 23rd February
 Sunday 23rd March
 Sunday 27th April
 Sunday 25th May

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2025 PROGRAMME



ALTON WALKING CHURCH FOR MEN

Monday 17th February 10.30am meeting at The Sun Inn
in Bentworth

Wednesday 9th April 6.30pm meeting at The Binsted Inn

Wednesday 4th June 6.30pm meeting at The Flower Pots
in Cheriton

Friday 18th July 6.30pm meeting at The Three
Horseshoes in East Worldham

Saturday 30th August 2.30pm meeting at The White Hart
in Holybourne with family and friends invited

Friday 3rd October 10.30am meeting at The Hawkley Inn
in Hawkley

Friday 14th November 10.30am meeting at The Rose and
Crown in Farringdon

ROBIN KEMP

familykemp@tiscali.co.uk
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and reflect. Refreshments after at the pub
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We are looking to expand our network of puppy fosterers. Come along to our open evening and find out more about how you could help us in our work.

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From 7pm to 8pm



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For more information, email: volunteering@dogsnhomes.org.uk

News from Alton Methodist Church

The CAMEO (Come And Meet Each Other) group, for people living on their own, enjoyed a delightful concert of Christmas music from local music students Rosalie Meers (viola) and Rosie Carr (cello) before sitting down to Tea at their December meeting. The January meeting was a film afternoon, with 'Quartet' the popular choice of viewing. For more information, please phone Judy Nicholls on 01420 89956 or email 12rosecottage@gmail.com.

The Girls' Brigade sang carols to an appreciative audience of residents of Austen Place in December and raised £85.41 for Action for Children. Meetings are on Monday evenings for girls from 4½ to 18. Please see the church website (www.altonmethodist.org.uk) for further information or email altonmethodist@hotmail.com. We also now have an open Facebook page where you can follow our activities (2nd Alton Girls' Brigade).

The Boys' Brigade offered their Christmas Post service to addresses in Alton and Holybourne during December and delivered more than 800 cards at a bargain price of 35p each. Some older lads enjoyed a few days hill-walking in the Peak District during the holidays, in better weather than Hampshire was experiencing!

The BB sponsored expedition training has started this month, with 15 participants tackling DofE Bronze and Silver awards and several more enrolling for the Young Venturers expedition programme for those in school years 7 and 8. For further information please see the church website or contact David Allan.

Services at AMC in February

All services start at 10.00am

Sunday 2nd: Morning Worship with Communion led by Rev Philip Simkins

Sunday 9th: Morning Worship led by Mrs Terri White

Sunday 16th: Morning Worship led by Rev Philip Simpkins with Ian Scott from Good News for Everyone (formerly Gideons)

Sunday 23rd: Morning Worship led by Mrs Liz George

What's On . . .

Friday Coffee Morning

**Friday 7th February
St Lawrence Church**

Monthly Coffee Mornings (first Friday in month), at St. Lawrence Church, from 10.30am until 12.00am.

The informal sessions are open to everyone, with plenty of cake and conversation.

Please come along, and meet-up with old friends, and make new ones.

POTR St Lawrence Monthly Market

**Saturday 1st February
In the Parish Centre**

Books, puzzles, toys, bric-a-brac, plants, garden produce.

We are looking for new items to boost our tables and give our customers a good shopping experience. If you have any unwanted items you wish to donate we are at the Parish Centre from 5pm - 6pm on the Friday evening before the sale or anytime after 8am on the morning of the sale. Your help would be much appreciated

We also serve refreshments including coffee, tea, hot chocolate with a biscuit for 50p. If your feeling peckish you can also purchase a bacon bap (brown/white) for £1.50p, cooked fresh to order.

St Lawrence Organ Concert

**Tuesday 4th February at 7.30pm
George Herbert
New College, Oxford**

GAP Ladies Lunch

Wednesday 26th February at 12.15 for 12.30pm Swan Hotel

If you have not already booked and ordered your main course, please contact Norma Duke on 01420 84722. This is an excellent way of getting to know more people. You are very welcome to join us and to invite a friend to come long too. But don't forget to book the friend and their main course.

Men's Breakfast

We will be meeting again at the White Hart public house, Holybourne at 8.30am on **Saturday 22nd February** for our usual delicious 'full English' breakfast, all for just £10. Come and enjoy some lively banter and listen to our excellent speaker, the Revd. David Chattell, whose talk is titled "How Can a Loving God Allow Suffering?" If you have not attended the breakfast for a while we would love to see you again. Please reply to Tim Codling by email: tim.codling@hotmail.co.uk or telephone him on 01420 617293 by **Wednesday 19th February**.

Church of the Holy Rood Holybourne Every Tuesday 10am until 12 noon

Please join us and perhaps bring along a friend, for our time of coffee, tea, cake and chat from 10am, followed by a short time of prayer from 11:45 am to 12:00 noon. You will be assured of a warm welcome.

All Saints Coffee and Conversation

**(2nd & 4th Wednesdays 11am to 11.30am
after Communion at 10am)
*for friendship and sharing faith.***

All welcome at any time, come and just enjoy the company and join in the sharing if you wish. Our sharing includes at the moment an overview of Jesus life and also people sharing their their own delights, difficulties and questions. Anything is allowed, it is very informal and open to anyone to just come and see." No experience necessary ! " led by Anne Mason"

GAP Traidcraft Coffee Morning

**Every Tuesday from 10-12 noon
Alton Methodist Church.**

All profits to local charities. Come and catch up with friends over coffee.

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Parish of the Resurrection Quiz Holyrood Church Holybourne on

Saturday 15th February 2025
6.00 pm for a prompt start at 6.30 pm

The cost of the quiz is £13.50 per person. Fish and Chips or Chips and Plain Sausage or Battered Sausage and a glass of prosecco is included in the cost.



If you have any dietary requirements that prevents you from eating any of the above, please say so when you book in and we can look at alternatives. You can have up to 8 people in your team. Last year's quiz with quiz master Rosemary (back by popular demand) was well supported and proved to be a resounding success.

To sign up please email Keith Arrowsmith-Oliver
keithnorman@btinternet.com
or What's App or Text Keith on 07769332985
On receiving your communication, you will be sent details of how to pay.



Anna Chaplaincy Update

Kate has now left her post as Anna Chaplain to take up her new role as Chaplain to Seafarers in Southampton so we are busy recruiting her successor. A job advert has been posted and, as soon as we have any news, we will share it. In the meantime, please rest assured that the Anna Chaplaincy work will carry on as normal with the Anna Friends continuing their ministry around Alton. Sarah Neish, who was both part of the Anna Chaplaincy Team and Kate's Support & Advisory Group, has kindly agreed to hold the Anna Chaplaincy reins until a new Anna Chaplain is recruited so please don't hesitate to contact her via the POTR office if you have any concerns about an older people you know.



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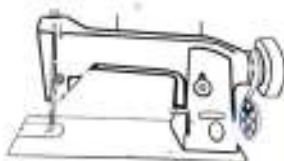
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Eco Corner

When I took the Eco Corner over from the late Bob Weighton, the issues centered round things which technically might be done to combat Global Warming. Choices of the most promising technologies have now been made. Climate Change has now become much more a political subject, following the Government's publication of a Clean Power 2030 Action Plan with a target of 100% clean power by 2030.

So, how are we doing? Currently, 58% of our energy comes from clean sources - our highest ever figure but way below the 100% target. 16.1 Gigawatts (Gw) comes from offshore wind but that needs to go up to 43-50 Gw. Battery storage capacity need to go up from 4.0 Gw to 23-27 and, like it or not we will need to retain a reserve of gas power to cover demand until other sources have been expanded. We should not forget that the Grid will require major upgrading. These sorts of changes require a huge investment of effort and avoidance of the planning delays currently occurring.

A wide range of independent sources have been consulted to obtain a view on whether this transformation is really achievable. Experts agree that 95% clean is just about manageable, the last 5% being highly unlikely. However, taking a motoring analogy, getting there on time will require the brakes to be taken off, the accelerator to be floored and motorway tail-backs removed.

We can expect that we will all be affected by the changes required in the planning process, maybe including unpopular items like on-shore wind, electricity pylons etc. We can only hope and pray that all nations will take an equally serious approach towards the zero carbon world needed if the human race is to survive.

Nigel Hughes

With acknowledgement to Professional Engineering Magazine for the numbers

All Saints Hard of Hearing Group

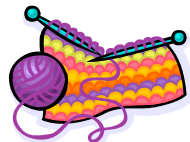
Lip Reading

Watch My Lips!



So – a new year, have you kept your new year resolutions? Remember there are regular Lip Reading Sessions held at All Saints Church hall, Queens Road, which can be of great help to you if you have a hearing loss. Led by Maggie Short, Lip Reading Tutor the next session is on Tuesday 4th February at 2pm. Why not give it a try? You will be made most welcome!

kaddando@gmail.com 01420 83514



Knitters Anonymous

Congratulations to all our Bliss Knitters!! You are amongst the many, many local knitters who have donated to the Christmas deliveries to sixty two premature baby units here in the south! Thank you all so much. We were also able to send two big bags full of warm knitted and crochet blankets to be included in the latest delivery to the Ukraine (smaller items, hats, scarves etc, are to follow this month). Please continue to support these two most worthwhile causes, your skills and kindnesses are most appreciated. Our group has also recently received very generous donations of wool, do come and make use of it. The next meeting of the group, at All Saints Church hall, is on Tuesday 18th February from 2pm, or alternatively your donations may be left in the box at the back of All Saints Church.

For further details contact Kate kaddando@gmail.com 01420 83514



HARD OF HEARING GROUP ALL SAINTS CHURCH HALL

At our first meeting of the year on 28th January, we heard about the work of the Citizens Advice Bureau, and the type of assistance provided. For our second meeting on 25th February we move on to 'The Good, The Bad and the Downright Funny.'
No, not a description of my life but the title of our next talk which will be given by Jackie Dimmock, a former Police Officer.

Our meetings are very very sociable – so obviously tea/ coffee and biscuits are on the agenda, as is a bumper raffle – with items donated by members. Entrance to the meeting is £2 [£3 from April] and the raffle is £1 a 'strip'. So a fun and entertaining afternoon for a minimum of £3!! Where else could you find such value!
If you do not have a 2025 Programme then do get in touch with me and I can send one to you. The start time for the meetings is 2pm and the venue is usually at the hall unless the Programme states otherwise.

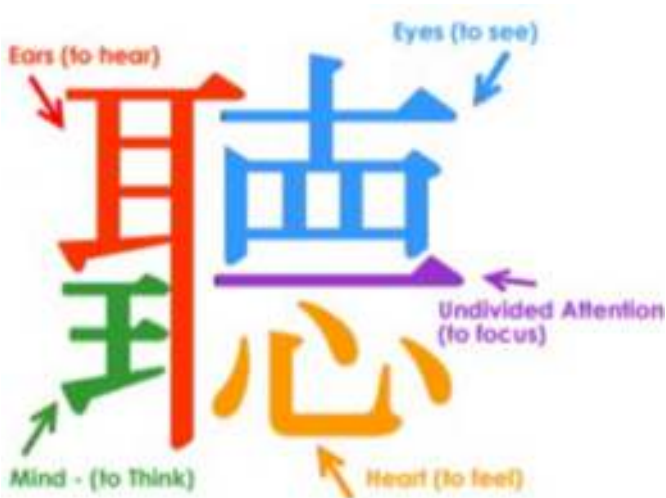
**Contact: Annette Blackman 01420 543219
ablackman4@googlemail.com**

News From St Lawrence CE Primary School

Dear Readers,

We hope you are looking forward to the Springtime! The children have returned with smiles on their faces and are working hard. With Mrs Micklefield and our teachers, we have been talking about showing listening bodies and used the Chinese symbol (see below) to help us remember their expectations for listening: using not only our ears to hear but also our eyes to see, our hearts to feel, our undivided attention to focus and our minds to think, making the point that listening is an active action, not a passive one!

The Chinese symbol for listening



At the very end of term, we had a few events which we want to share with you. One of the highlights was a very successful second Poetry Slam. This time some of the Governors were invited in to judge the competition. They heard a range of poems being performed by each class: some that were funny and some that were poignant. The poems that were memorised by the children were: Year R – Twinkle, twinkle Christmas Lights; Year 1 – A little frosty snowman action song; Year 2 – Someone by Walter de la Mare; Year 3 - Silly Old Baboon by Spike Milligan; Year 4 - Windrush child by John Agard; Year 5 - It was the Night before Christmas by Clement Clarke Moore; Year 6 - Invictus by William Ernest Henley. The Governors found it such a hard job to choose one winner that they broke with tradition and awarded a Key Stage 1 winner which was Willow Class and a Key Stage 2 winner which was Maple Class. Well done to all the children and staff who put so much effort in to this.

Just before the Christmas break, Year 5 completed a two-week project with the DT department at Amery Hill and created some amazing motorised buggies. They learnt skills (see below) such as using a glue gun, sawing, various joining techniques and how to adapt their designs to make their buggies unique .



Congratulations to Ruby Brooks-Abrahamsen for winning the primary category of the ACAN Pollinators Poster competition. We heard this exciting news on the last day of term that Ruby had produced a beautiful poster and has been invited to the community centre to collect her prize. The email we received said, “The judges said your poster was really informative and beautifully presented.” Well done Ruby!

In Collective Worship, we have been looking at Epiphany and the tradition of chalking the door. Our Collective Worship Crusaders created signs to go over each of their classroom doors with the symbols: 20 + C + M + B + 25. This means “in 2025, may God bless this house” It is also the initials of the three Kings and helps us to remember the Christmas story beyond December.



We look forward to writing to you again soon. Thank you for reading our article.

*From your Head Boy and Head Girl,
Josh and Pip*

Lo, he goes with clouds descending

At the risk of blowing our own trumpet here, you all know how fortunate we are in St Lawrence to have such a good parish church choir with a dedicated musical director and a brilliant organist. However, not every church has a vicar that supports the choral tradition as much as Andrew has and it was with a degree of alarm and shock that we learned of his departure to Winchester, SO SOON!!

A musically talented incumbent is a rare and precious thing to a church choir and over the past 11 years Andrew has encouraged and supported us in so many ways. He has a lovely tenor voice and knowing that as cantor at evensong he will end up in the same key as us is a great relief. (It might not be the right one but it will be the same one!) He can play the organ and piano which is handy if he needs to sub in for Tony or Will or the organ decides to blow a fuse. He also likes a bit of Stanford et al. Perfect.

So, as a parting gift, lets see what we can recall about Andrew's time with us... Like the time Andrew was on a stage in a church drama one Sunday and created his own drama by falling through the garden chair he had (previously) been sitting on. Oh, how we laughed!

The time we got though 19 bottles of red wine at a post Advent carol service choir party.

The evensong where I had to gently but firmly push him back down into his seat during a repeat phrase in the Warmisley Magnificat as he thought we'd reached the Gloria? Silly boy.

When we deputised for the Cathedral choir in Winchester at evensong and watching his little blue shirted chest almost burst with pride for his choir! Watching him take his rightful seat as Canon in the Cathedral and having about 24 St Lawrence chorister faces looking round and beaming with pride for him! "Truth be told" as Nessa would say, we're feeling a bit bereft already. Andrew will be a hard act to follow and we sincerely hope that the bishop keeps his word when he said "we shall do our level best to find an excellent successor in Alton" Tidy!

The Micklefield family motto is "Favent Numine" apparently, which translates as "By the favour of Providence." This seems quite appropriate in the circumstances and which "fulfils the prophecy" that one day Andrew would be called to the Cathedral Close. Of course, we are all delighted for him and Fiona and I believe they get to live in a sixteenth century mansion with a wood-panelled library. I'm also looking forward to a few coffees in that kitchen! You know I love a bit of medieval.

God speed Andrew and go with our love. Thank you for all the fun, laughter,

support, wine, inspiring sermons and other causes of endless exultation! Enjoy your new post and see if you can get us an evensong fixture as part of your communications and outreach role. It's always who you know...

Elaine Cook



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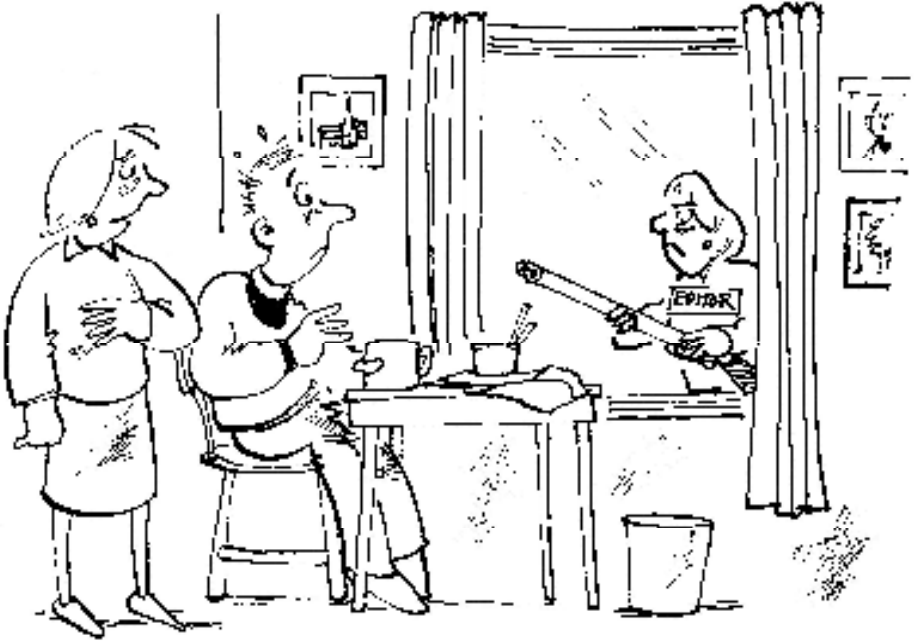
St Lawrence Flower Team

We are recruiting! Our team numbers are falling and we would welcome new members who would like to join us. Our aim is to make the church attractive and welcoming for services and visitors. No previous experience is needed, only a love of flowers and a willingness to learn. Support would be happily available from current members so why not give it a go? We normally work in pairs although for festivals like Harvest, Christmas and Easter the whole team get together to decorate the church. We usually meet on a Friday but this can be flexible. Obviously the bigger the team the less frequency our duties come round. Do please consider this, as it would be a shame if there were no fresh floral displays each week. For more details please give me a call, Marilyn Russell on 01420 86089. I look forward to hearing from you.





The most recent donation from the GAP (Greater Alton Project) Tuesday Coffee Morning was made in November, the recipient being “Stop Domestic Abuse.” Two project workers received a cheque for £500 from regular customer Di Wright. The money was to be spent on Christmas decorations and activities for the women and children.



...are you late with your 'Vicar's Letter' again, dear?

Sunrise
IT'S MORE OF THE SAME AGAIN

**The March Copy Deadline is Noon
Sunday 16 February - Please no late articles**

Articles can be emailed to the editor sunrise.alton@gmail.com
left in Parish Office or taken to 31 Shipley Close.

Editor Peter Hicks 07768 041 622

Advertising Please contact the Editor

Printing Digitus Printing Alton 541839

Donations towards printing costs will be much appreciated -- Thank you

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Tony Willman 543628

Organist

Will Nisbet

Head Server

Clive Muller 86064

Captain of the Bell Tower

Matthew Watts 543886

Teddy Bears

Lynn Power 07850 232995

The Lighthouse

Fiona Micklefield 88794

All Saints Church

Organist & Choir Leader

Ken Jackson

Bellringing

Matthew Watts 543886

St Peter's Church Beech

Organist

Gloria Wills 02420 571508

Sacristan

Sarah Neish 565696

Church of the Holy Rood

Bellringing

Matthew Watts 543886

Flowers

Wendy Hunt 56505

Sacristan

Alan Armstrong

St Lawrence Organisations

Community Market

Clive Muller 86064

Children's Society

Carol Williams 588565

All Saints Organisations

Hard of Hearing Group

Annett Blackman 01420 543219

or Julia Poole 07840 066211

Children's Society

Judy Brown 82289

St Lawrence (CE) Primary School

Headteacher

Fiona Micklefield 84400

Chair of Governors

Paul Whitty 84400

Andrews' Endowed CE Primary School

Headteacher

Mrs Gemma Gundry 83094

Chair of Governors

Caroline Wallis 83094

Other Organisations

Busy Bees @ St Lawrence (Pre-school)

Debbie Morgan 07561 346521

Rainbows, Brownies & Guides

Catherine Morgan cathmorg@outlook.com

Organ Society

Tony Willman 543628

Girls' Brigade (at Alton Methodist)

Amy Evans 07818 623405

Boys' Brigade (at Alton Methodist)

David Allan 84739

DofE

David Allan 84739

February Services for POTR & BLS

2nd February

| | | |
|---------|---|----------------------------|
| 8am | BCP Communion Service | St Lawrence Church |
| 10.30am | POTR Altogether Communion Service with The Air Training Corps | St Lawrence Church |
| 10am | Communion Service | St Mary's, Lasham |
| 10am | Communion Service | St Peter & St Paul Shalden |
| 10.30am | Butts Church Service | All Saints Church |

9th February

| | | |
|---------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 9.15am | Communion Service | St Peter's Church |
| 9.30am | Morning Worship | Holy Rood Church |
| 10.30am | Communion Service | St Lawrence Church |
| 3pm | Afternoon Worship | All Saints Church |
| 6pm | Prayers for the Vacancy | St Lawrence Church |
| 4pm | BLS Evensong with Bishop Philip | St Mary's Church, Bentworth |
| 10.30am | Butts Church Service | All Saints Church |

16th February

| | | |
|---------|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 9.30am | Communion Service | Holy Rood Church |
| 10.30am | Communion Service | All Saints Church |
| 10.30am | Morning Worship | St Lawrence Church |
| 6pm | Choral Evensong | St Lawrence Church |
| 10am | Communion Service | St Mary's Church, Lasham |
| 6pm | Evensong | St Peter & St Paul, Shalden |
| 6.30pm | Butts Church Service | All Saints Church |

23rd February

| | | |
|---------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 9.15am | Communion Service | St Peter's Church |
| 10.30am | Communion Service | St Lawrence Church |
| 4pm | Afternoon Worship | Holy Rood Church |
| 6pm | Informal Evening Worship | St Lawrence Church |
| 10am | Communion Service | St Mary's Church, Bentworth |
| 10.30am | Butts Church Service | All Saints Church |
| 6.30pm | Butts Church Service | All Saints Church |

Every Wednesday:

| | | |
|---------|---------------------|-------------------|
| 10.00am | Said Holy Communion | All Saints Church |
|---------|---------------------|-------------------|