

ALVESTON VILLAGE DESPATCH

“ A few words from Tim...

Isn't it just great that Spring is here? Pete Gunnell has, of course, wasted no time and has already rustled up the first working party of the year.

There has been a delay in getting the new chairs for the Malt House but we are assured that delivery will be 'soon'... apparently 'our' container has had a very unusual journey to the UK!

Perhaps you have already noticed that speeding strips have been installed on Wellesbourne Road as well as new signs but we are now

awaiting the new road surfaces to be installed at the Pimlico Road junction.

Remedial roadworks have been undertaken on Boundary Lane but, after all the work, it's a shame to see the deterioration of Pimlico Lane.

We are looking to reinforce the river bank at Swiffen Bank to protect that wonderful area.

The deadline has passed for us all to respond to the South Warwickshire Local Plan for an expansion of up to 5,500 new dwellings in South East Stratford

which could affect Alveston and would have implications for housing and congestion in the surrounding area. A total of 19,000 responses were received and the preferred options are expected to be announced in September with a draft plan issued early next year.

On a similar subject, pleasingly, SDC is opposing the development of the Wellesbourne Airfield though we feel that central government may overrule this.

See you at the AGM on Monday 7th April. ► **Tim Hayter**



It might be a bit early to talk about the Fête but make a note in your diary: Sunday August 31st. The Sunday after the August Bank Holiday weekend.

The long range forecast is sun, sun, sun (but hopefully not TOO hot!)

The Fête has supported, with your help, various charities over the years. Helping people cope with Dementia, assisting disadvantaged youth into work, Shakespeare Hospice and last year the Air Ambulance. This year the Fête will be supporting 'Home Start South Warwickshire'.

This is a charity supporting, on a needs led basis, local families with children under five.

As you know the Fête is a great day out for all the village, so start saving your cash now for the big event!

Any queries to: Please email: geoff@thebenneys.co.uk or call 01789 414675 ►

AVA Update

Don't forget The AVA AGMs are on Monday 7th April starting at 7.30pm – everyone is welcome!

The Notice has already been delivered with a link and password to the website, however, if you need a copy the papers please contact: info@alvestonvillage.co.uk or call 07710 602036.

**Alveston Quiz Night
Friday 16th May with our brilliant Quiz Master – Tony Scott**

Doors open at 7pm and the quiz starts promptly at 7.30pm. Teams of 4 – £15 per head including a fish and chip supper.

To book your place please contact:

jane@janedodge.co.uk. As usual a cash bar will be available with beer, wine and soft drinks.

Want to keep in touch?

There are a number of ways to find out information about what's going on in the village. This newsletter is produced bi-monthly in April, June, August, October and December. There are also two WhatsApp Groups – Alveston Chat and Alveston Crimewatch and we also have an email circulation list if the deadline for the newsletter is missed. If you'd like to join any of these groups please WhatsApp Jane Dodge on 07710 602036 and for the email circulation list – send an email to: info@alvestonvillage.co.uk ►

Alveston Calling...

The phone box will re-open for summer on the 1st of May as a book exchange once again. From the 26th of April please put books into the box inside the phone box ready for us to sort and open on May 1st.

Thank You

Val, Meg, Marilyn ►

News from The Ferry...

Come and enjoy the very clean deck area and patio. New garden furniture will be added to the deck area very soon.

My humble thanks to everyone in Alveston and surrounding areas for all your continued support.

We have a new phone number: 01789 507244.

We will be hosting *The Ferry Quiz* on the first Wednesday of the month – all welcome.

David Dharma ►



Memorial Field & Swiffen Bank Update

Memorial Field

Early in March a group of village volunteers helped plant 200 hedging plants and trees supplied by the Woodland Trust. The wood chippings and cardboard used to reduce weeds growing around the young plants and help with water retention has been a great success. I am pleased to report many of the new transplants are now in bud. In and around the village the daffodils are in full bloom. The 2000 bluebells planted in the Memorial field are starting to emerge.

Swiffen Bank

The river bank is drying out and we are undertaking a project to reclaim the bank following winter flooding and erosion, this is a experimental project involving willow wickets and we're relying on silt building up behind the wickets.

Another volunteer party will be organised in the near future to replace some of the broken spars in the fencing running along the top path. This is not a strenuous job so if you fancy some fresh air and contributing to the upkeep of the village, please consider volunteering, all enquiries are welcome. ►

Peter Gunnell – 07831 096366

In support of
Guide Dogs

Please donate your foreign and out of date UK currency to Guide Dogs

Small change can change lives. Thank you for your support.

Guide Dogs

Caroline Gunnell and Trish Lee are once again raising funds for Guide Dogs, they will be doing another coffee morning in the near future.

In the meantime they are collecting foreign currency, both current and obsolete – coins and notes, out of date British currency mainly but obviously they would be very happy to receive any notes and coins of current legal tender.

If you have any of the above which is just hanging around and doing nothing why not do a spring clean and donate to a very just cause.

Please leave your donations with Caroline at No.1 Avonfields Close or Trish at Grove House. ►

St James' Churchyard 2025

Our spring churchyard working party is on March 29th hoping some of you will be able to come along and fingers crossed for spring sunshine! Our summer mow and BBQ will be on July 26th, and our autumn tidy-up will be November 22nd this year.

We are also planning an event for June 7th which is the start of Great Big Green Week and also Caring for God's Acres "Churches Count on Nature". This will probably be a children's' bug-hunting event together with our annual churchyard survey and we're hoping to include moth and small mammal trapping too.

A plea for help here from any of you living in the parish – we desperately need some volunteers to help with the mowing of the North and East sides of the churchyard, just in the areas not covered by wildflower meadow. If anyone is able to volunteer to help, or if you know someone who would, please let me know on email: sarahcoton@btinternet.com Looking forward to summer! ► **Sarah Coton**

St James' Church
WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Saturday March 29th 9.00-12.00am
CHURCHYARD WORKING PARTY

Jobs for the morning include general tidying, mowing, weeding paths and preparing the wildflower meadow areas for this summer

Do you have a mower or strimmer you could bring with you?
If not, just a pair of hands and maybe some weeding tools

But if gardening isn't your thing:

Come along anyway and make posies for the Mothering Sunday service or help with brass polishing and spring cleaning inside the church

Tea, coffee and cake provided – and for everyone still standing at the end of the morning there will be lunch – hot soup and bacon or cheese sandwiches!

Please do come along if you can, even if just for part of the morning – we need help to maintain our beautiful church and churchyard.

Save the Date

**SATURDAY
11th OCTOBER
AL-FAEST-ON**

We will be running a re-visit of the popular Safari Supper within the village.

Wine, dine and meet new friends – starting at the Malthouse for a welcome fizz, then starter, main and dessert in different homes around Alveston. Further information will follow in the next newsletter!

Friday 20th June

From Asti to Champagne – Sparkling wine tasting in church with proceeds going to Friends of St James' Church. Praying for a glorious evening around the summer solstice. There will be food and plenty of strawberries

AVA COMMITTEE

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