

ALVESTON VILLAGE DESPATCH

A few words from Martin...

I hope you have enjoyed the summer so far and managed to cope with the soaring temperatures!

The dry spell has taken its toll on the Memorial Field where the grass and trees are struggling for moisture which will hopefully be relieved by the recent rain.

You may have noticed that 2 large water containers are being used to irrigate the newly planted trees in the field – unfortunately they have been tampered with on several occasions which has disrupted the watering regime.

If you see anyone tampering with them please let us know. The warm weather has also resulted in a few unwelcome guests with wild campers arriving by boat and camping on Swiffen Bank. Given the littering and potential for fire spread in the dry vegetation, a couple of new “no mooring or access” signs have been posted facing the river. In addition chain loop has been fitted to the Swiffen Bank gate post which stops the heavy gate swinging open – it is not locked, so if you want to enjoy the river side, you can simply lift the chain over

the gate post to open the gate.

You may have been wondering what is happening with the empty properties: Fieldings on Alveston Lane and Marendy on Ferry Lane. The good news is that planning permissions have been granted for both properties which will ensure the high quality of family accommodation is maintained in the village.

I look forward to seeing you all at our village Fete. ► **Martin Andrews**

Our Fête is in your hands...

Help is needed to make your Fête a success. As we gear up for this year's much-anticipated Village Fête, here's how you can get involved and help make the day a great event:

Book Donations – Please drop off any books with Meg Sanders at Avon House. You can reach Meg at 07813 785 424 if you have any questions.

Bottle Contributions – Bottles for the popular bottle stall should be delivered to Judith Benney at Jasmine Cottage.

Volunteers Needed – We need enthusiastic volunteers to help set up on the Green at 8:30am on the 31st, and to assist with clearing up after the event. Many hands make light work!

Please Note: The Fête will be **CASH ONLY**

Questions? – Feel free to contact Geoff Benney on 01789 414675 for any further information. Let's make it another memorable day – thank you for your support! ►

Al-Feast-On!

Saturday 11th October 2025

Save the date for the Safari Supper – a fun evening of food and community!

We will meet at The Malthouse for a welcome glass of fizz and there you be allocated a different house to go to for a starter, main course and dessert. You will provide one of the courses for 2 other couples (solo participants also welcome) in your own home (you will have been notified of this in advance!) The host/s provide food and drink for each course. You will be with different people for each of the courses – a great way to meet new friends and enjoy some community spirit.

It costs just £5pp to cover the welcome drinks with any profits going to charity.

For more details about how to book, see attached sheet. Kathryn Deaner ►



Coffee (or tea) & cake... what's not to like?

Macmillan Coffee Morning Thursday, 26th September 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM

The Ferry Pub

Join us for a morning of coffee, cake, and good company in support of Macmillan Cancer Support.

Donations of cakes and raffle prizes are greatly appreciated on the day.

Please remember to bring cash. Sue Hartwell ►



Sip, Pamper, Repeat..

Join Anita and Liane at The Ferry, Alveston on Monday 22nd September from 6:30pm for a fun and relaxing evening with The Complete Tropic Experience.

Try fresh, feel-good Tropic skincare with friends and enjoy a personal, pampering session. All products are certified organic, vegan, and kind to your skin and the planet.

- Bar will be open – bring cash/cards
- Raffle with luxury prizes in aid of Guide Dogs for the Blind
- Tropic products available to purchase
- Snacks available (no main meals)

Why not bring a friend but **Spaces are limited so book early!** Text Anita (WhatsApp): 07815 975186 or call Trish: 01789 295575

We look forward to welcoming you! ►



Memorial Field & Swiffen Bank Update

Memorial Field

Despite the recent high temperatures, I am pleased to report the coronation tree is showing signs of new growth.

The tree stock has been managed throughout the season and the grass around the trees has been strimmed. The new planting along the Wellesbourne Road has established and is growing well, but unfortunately we still have a problem with the fence between the youth hostel and the field.

Swiffen Bank

The river bank is sympathetically managed though we are having a number of wild swimmers and canoeists using this village facility which is a concern of the AVA's with regard to liability

In mid August I will be organising a work party to repair the fence on the top path and clear the path to the Wellesbourne Road.

Peter Gunnell – 07831 096366 ►



Latest news: River Avon Water Testing

Over the summer, 5 villagers have continued to undertake weekly testing of water quality at two points on the River Avon in Alveston as part of the SafeAvon project (<https://safeavon.org.uk/>)

Findings are continuously showing high or very high levels of nitrates, phosphates and electro conductivity which indicate poor water quality.

We've had the results of the first few ecoli and coliform bacteria lab tests – results so far show levels are within the amount permitted by the Environment Agency. Changes can occur very quickly however so we will continue our testing through to next spring.

Many thanks to Steve Dodgson for allowing us to use the youth hostel in late June, to host a meeting of Safe Avon volunteers from across the region. The meeting was organised by Steve Currie who is now liaising directly with Severn Trent Water on our behalf regarding a potential meeting with wider stakeholders during the late summer.

In addition, Steve is working on organising a river summit in the Autumn where we can discuss sewage, pollution, flooding and biodiversity. Hopefully, this will engage with lots of stakeholders, the public and local councillors. It's hoped that a larger public event such as this will make Severn Trent give a thorough account of treatment improvements and future plans.

Renny Wodynska ►



Upcoming events...

As the year winds on, we've got some fantastic events lined up at the Malt House that you won't want to miss, so grab your diaries and save the dates:

Friday 14th November – Quiz Night: Gather your team and test your knowledge.

Sunday 21st December – The Santa Show: A magical family entertainment event to get everyone in the Christmas spirit.

Friday 13th February – Jack's Ashes: A hilarious and heartfelt comedy theatre production.

More details coming soon – but for now, make sure these dates are in your diary! **Jane Dodge ►**



St James' Church – Holidays, Services & Creationtide

There will be no Family Service at St James on August 3rd as the Youth Choir and leaders are on holiday. A Holy Communion will be held instead. Family Services resume September 7th.

- Regular Parish Services (St Peter's 9:15am, St James' 10:30am):
- 1st Sunday: St James – Family Service | St Peter's – Holy Communion
- 2nd Sunday: St James – Holy Communion | St Peter's – Morning Praise
- 3rd Sunday: St James – Morning Prayer | St Peter's – Holy Communion
- 4th Sunday: St James – Holy Communion | St Peter's – Café Church
- Season of Creation 2025 (Sept 1 – Oct 4):

A special joint parish service will be held on Sunday, August 31st at 11:30am at Tiddington Community Centre, with coffee from 11:00am and a Ploughman's Lunch after. Family-friendly – all welcome!

Please bring with you an item of (clean) plastic recycling if you can! ►

AVA COMMITTEE

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