

FROM THE EDITOR

Just to remind you, we do not produce a newsletter for the end of December so the next one will be printed at the end of January 2022.

I would like to thank our band of willing volunteers for distributing the newsletter every month and to John for printing it for us. I would also like to take this opportunity to wish everyone in the village a Happy Christmas and New Year.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS www.aldertonparishcouncil.org.uk

PARISH PLANNING – One new application has been received: 9 Beckford Road, Alderton (21/01179/FUL) - Variation of condition 2 (drawing schedule) of application 20/01282/FUL to allow for alterations to walling stone, roof tiles and the floor plans/elevations. Revised drawings have been submitted for 5 St Margaret's Drive, Alderton (21/01121/FUL) - Proposed replacement flat roof to hipped roof to rear extension.

TEWKESBURY BOROUGH PLAN - The Borough Council is seeking the public's views on changes that are required to be made to the Tewkesbury Borough Plan before it can be formally adopted by the Council. The Plan provides detailed and locally specific planning policies on issues such as housing, employment, retail, the urban and natural environment and transport. When adopted, the plan will form part of the Council's Development Plan together with the Joint Core Strategy. The consultation runs until 4th January 2022. Further details can be found at: www.tewkesbury.gov.uk/tewkesbury-borough-plan-main-modifications-consultation

ALDERTON ALLOTMENT SITE – COMMUNITY RIGHT TO BID. In 2016 the Parish Council successfully submitted a Community Right to Bid application for the allotment site. This has now expired and the Parish Council will be submitting a new application for the site. The Localism Act of 2011 introduced the Community Right to Bid which aims to ensure that buildings and amenities can be kept in public use and remain an important part of community life. Under this legislation if the owner of a listed asset (in this case Gloucestershire County Council) wants to sell the asset a moratorium period of 6 months will be triggered, during which the asset cannot be sold. This allows community groups time to develop a proposal and raise the required capital to bid for the asset, when it comes onto the open market at the end of 6 months.

ALLOTMENT PLOTS – The site is currently full and we are operating a waiting list. However, if you are considering taking on an allotment in the new year, then please contact the Clerk to add your name to the list.

VILLAGE DEFIBRILLATOR – Alderton's defibrillator can be found in the old phone box in Cambridge Square, Alderton, GL20 8TZ. Cambridge Square is at the junction of Blacksmiths Road, Beckford Road and School Road in Alderton. The defibrillator is available 24 hours per day, 365 days per year. To use it you must call 999 to get a code to access the defibrillator. Note: you can't call 999 from the telephone box - as the line doesn't work – so you will need to either call on a mobile, or at home first, to get the definition code. The defibrillator is designed for use by non-experts and will talk you through its use.

FREE PARKING - Tewkesbury Borough Council will be offering some days of free parking in council-owned car parks in Tewkesbury town and Winchcombe to encourage people to shop locally in the run-up to Christmas. The dates for Tewkesbury are 4th and 18th December. The Winchcombe dates are: 4th, 11th and 18th December.

Next Parish Council Meeting: 21st December 2021, 7.30pm, in the Village Hall, thereafter 18th January 2022 (both subject to Government guidelines at that time).

Parish Clerk: Tamsin James, 9 Bowler Road, Northway, Tewkesbury, Glos, GL20 8RZ
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SAFETY ADVICE FROM NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

With dark evenings can I remind householders, to be vigilant when leaving home; to shut curtains and where possible leave a light on. It's also been brought to my attention that walkers and cycles are not wearing appropriate clothing to be seen by motorists in our country lanes, particularly Beckford Road. We have had a number of near misses lately. Where possible please wear light clothing or better still a yellow tabard when out walking in the dark, particularly where there is no pavement.

ALDERTON VILLAGE SHOP .01242 620201

Hello everyone, I am back and **THE SHOP IS OPEN**. Thank you all for your welcome messages. It is SO good to be back. (we are so pleased to welcome Yari back to the village after his recent travels) Although the shop was opened on 15/11/21, getting back to normal has been slower than I thought, due to problem with supplies of some products. Especially we had some problem with supplier of our newspapers, "Smithnews" which did not restart our orders until 22/11/21. But we are now **nearly** back to normal. I am afraid, my journey has put me behind for Christmas. However, Christmas Stamps and cards are available now. Meanwhile, I like to thank all of you, who supported your local shop during hard times. Looking forward to seeing you in the shop soon.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Cobalt Christmas cards and calendars are on sale from 7 Church Road until 20th December. Ring 01242 620560 or call by. Stocks are getting low so don't delay!

CHURCH NEWS

Saturday December 4th: Christmas Fair in the Village Hall **2 - 4pm**. Do come and enjoy a variety of craft and food stalls, together with children's games and a visit from Father Christmas. There will be no entry fee this year. We would encourage everyone to wear a mask for your own and everyone's health. All the stall holders will be wearing masks.

Christmas Services: Sunday December 12th at **4pm** will be the combined Candlelit Carol Service and Christingle in Church. Please do join us to sing some carols in our lovely church where the collection will be for the Children's Society.

Wednesday December 22nd at 4pm - please come and enjoy some outdoor carol singing in the Churchyard. We would love the children to set up the Nativity scene for the blessing of the crib so do bring them along.

Christmas Day Saturday 25th: 10.30am Family Communion in Church

Church Bells: there will be a special peal rung on bells of our Church Tower on Monday December 27th in the afternoon from 2.30pm by a band of visiting ringers from Worcestershire - a lovely celebration of the Christmas season.

ALDERTON GARDENING CLUB

In November we heard a fascinating talk by Dominic Hamilton about Painswick Rococo Gardens and discovered what the Rococo period actually means in garden terms. Members were encouraged to visit, particularly to see the thousands of snowdrops that are on display in the early spring.

Our next meeting is on December 9th and David Morgan will give a talk about the National Open Gardens Scheme - '**Is my garden good enough?**'. Could there be Open Gardens in Alderton in the future? Something to debate. We welcome everyone and will finish with a drink and mince pies to celebrate the season.

On **January 13th** Roger Umpelby's topic is '**Useful, beautiful, but unloved: an alternative look at weeds**'. Something we all have very different ideas about and we are looking forward to hearing about this challenge.

Annual Membership fees are also due in January 2022 and remain at £10.00 for one year. Please arrive in time for us to process membership fees before the meeting. Meeting fees for members will remain at the current rate.

Both talks sound very interesting, and we look forward to catching up with our members.

The venue will be at the village hall as usual and we will be complying with village hall Covid requirements. Alderton Gardening Club Membership is extended for everyone who was a member at our last meeting (back in 2020) – until January 2022.

The Village Hall will open at 7.00pm for a 7.30 pm start. Entry £2.50 for members and £5.00 for Guests.

OAK HILL CE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS www.oakhill.gloucs.sch.uk

This half term is always a busy one with a lot going on in school. There has been a lot of singing, a creative art day and a non-uniform day to raise money for Children in Need. Children have really enjoyed the after-school clubs on offer; art, cookery, Italian and football club have been a huge success!

Our wonderful staff throw themselves into organising and providing the best possible education, opportunities and care for our children and it is really nice to enjoy assemblies together and practice singing for Christmas celebrations. We have carried on with our safe Covid procedures but haven't had to restrict classes to bubbles which has meant that break and lunch times have been noisier and more enjoyable!

Reception Class and Year 1 and 2 are at our Dumbleton base in the middle of the village surround with beautiful countryside. Outdoor learning has been good fun with nature shape spotting walks and a visit from two local chickens who turned up unannounced and made themselves at home in Dumblewood. Pigeons, a robin and even a buzzard were spotted using binoculars which was very exciting! The children really enjoyed joining a live session with Michael Rosen who talked about his latest book "Sticky McStickstick" which is all about his recovery from Covid and how useful using a stick was to help him with this.

Over in Alderton, our Year 3 and 4 and Year 5 and 6 children have also been very busy. Year 3 and 4 have been learning about the Stone Age and Bronze Age and made some clay pots which looked fantastic. They have also spent time looking at video games, writing reviews of the games and discussing online safety. Year 5 and 6 went to Devon on their residential trip straight after the October half term holiday and had a wonderful time. Staff and parents were so glad they were able to go after postponing the trip twice due to Covid. The children were able to go cycling, surfing, rock scrambling, canoeing and had a go at archery and fencing. They thoroughly enjoyed themselves and can't wait to go again! Our staff were very proud of them; they were so well behaved, put huge effort into all the activities and pushed themselves, even when scared.

All the children wrote prayers or poems and some created artwork for Remembrance Day. We observed the two-minute silence and thought about those who had sacrificed so much for our future and those who are affected through war and unrest today.

There is a lot of excitement in the run up to Christmas and staff, governors and children are looking forward to taking part in the festivities.

As always, if you would like to contact the school, please do so on 01242 620448 or email admin@oakhill.gloucs.sch.uk.

THE ACORNS PRE-SCHOOL AND TODDLER GROUP

Xmas Party is on Tuesday 21st December 10.30am - 12.30pm in the Village Hall. Only 21 (or thereabouts!) sleeps to go to this very special Christmas event for our pre-school and primary age children! Small and large bouncy castles, Xmas craft and other activities, children's lunches plus light refreshments for parents - not forgetting that all-important visit from Santa - are all included in the ticket price of £7.50 per child. Early booking is essential. You can do this via [Facebook.com/aldertonacorns](https://www.facebook.com/aldertonacorns) or text giving name and number of children to Lauren 07961551098. NB. booking and pre-payment by Friday 10th December please.

ALDERTON ACORNS

The month of November has been a very busy and exciting one at Preschool. We enjoyed celebrating the festival of lights 'Diwali' at the start of the month with our little acorns creating some beautiful glass tealight holders using bright ceramic paints with a sprinkle of glitter too...so pretty and great fun too. We also celebrated bonfire night with our little acorns creating some amazing firework pictures, using black card as their night time sky backdrop, coloured paints, glue and glitter...they certainly sparkled just like the real thing. The creative crafts just haven't stopped this month with lots of beautiful poppy creations in respect of Remembrance Day. Our little acorns created some beautiful paper plate poppies as well as some apple print poppy field pictures which looked so colourful and very pretty. We have also enjoyed another fabulous Boogie beat session too this month, which is always a fun and energetic hit with our little acorns. This month has also seen lots of outside fun, puzzle solving, story sharing, music making, role playing and of course messy fun too! We are all very much looking forward to lots of festive fun and creations next month as we build up to the 'C' word! As this is the last newsletter of the year, we would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and we very much look forward to lots more Preschool fun in the new year.

Our next fundraiser is for the fabulous Christmas Family Night in Hamper. The hamper will be on display in the village shop from 1st December and raffle tickets at £2 each will be available to buy from Preschool, Yari in the shop or if you wish to pay by bank transfer please email stryner@btinternet.com for the banking details.

Another easy way to help us raise money is to use the following link whilst Christmas shopping. You can raise FREE donations for us every time you shop online. Over 6,000 shops and sites will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself! You can even set up a donation reminder to help you remember.

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/aldertonacornspre/?invite=3KICXA&referral-campaign=s2s>
Date for your Diary. We are hoping that next year will see the return of our famous Quiz and Curry night. Pencil in your diaries the 5th February 2021 for an evening of fun, food and facts!

Thank you for all your support. It really does make a difference to Preschool

If you would like your child to join our lovely group, please contact Steph on 07842 161159 (term time only) or by email aldertonacorns@gmail.com to arrange a visit.

MARRIED V SINGLE FANCY DRESS CHARITY FOOTBALL - Mon Dec 27th, 11am kick-off

Once again the Married folk of Alderton will take to the field of play against our Single 'friends'. We can't guarantee much quality football but we can provide fancy dress, penalty shoot outs, hot dogs, mulled wine and hot drinks. The match kicks-off at 11am with all welcome afterwards in the Gardeners Arms for ceremonies and refreshments.

If you'd like to play email Rupert at rupert@davidbrucerecruitment.com. Football talent is not a requirement.

SUSTAINABLE ALDERTON - 'PUT YOUR STUFF ON THE PAVEMENT DAY' ON 30 JANUARY

Anyone else feeling bogged down by 'stuff'? January feels like a great time for a declutter, along with all the benefits that brings - a calmer environment, discovering lost treasures and a space that's easier to keep tidy. We're taking inspiration from Germany and Switzerland and having a special day where you can give things that you don't want to your neighbours.

How does it work? On 'Put your stuff on the pavement day', please put anything items that you are happy to give away outside your house before 9am. Leave them out there until 2pm and hopefully some of your neighbours may give them a new home. In the meantime you can take a wander around Alderton and see what's up for grabs. You'll need to take any of your items that are left at 2pm back in to your house, or please dispose of them sustainably.

The day will take place on Sunday 30 January from 9am-2pm, with a backup date of Sunday 6 February 9am-2pm in case of rain.

Please get in touch if you have any questions or suggestions - moira.halstead@gmail.com.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Joyce Kerions in Magnolia Nursing Home Tewkesbury wishes all her old friends in Alderton a very Happy Christmas and a Healthy New Year. She thinks of you all often and still misses the village activities.

Ivona of Blenheim Close wishes all her friends in the village ,a very Happy Christmas and Healthy New Year .A donation in lieu of cards will go towards the printing of the Village Newsletter.

NEXT NEWSLETTER Deadline for copy is Tuesday 25th January 2022 . All items must have Name & Tel No. of sender. Our e-mail address is: AldertonNewsletter@googlemail.com or deliver to Caroline Page, Corner Cottage, Stow Road. The newsletter is also available at www.aldertonvillage.co.uk
