

The Grapevine

THE PARISH MAGAZINE OF ST LAURENCE CHURCH ALVECHURCH



MARCH 2015

Online at www.alvechurch-stlaurence.org

St Laurence Church Alvechurch

SUNDAY SERVICES

8.00.am Holy Communion

9.30.am Family Service

***with Holy Communion on the 1st Sunday
and Baptisms on the 4th Sunday***

11.00.am Parish Eucharist

6.00.pm Evensong

At Rowney Green Shared Church

9.30.am Methodist/Anglican Service

with Holy Communion on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month

DAILY SERVICE

9.00.am Monday to Friday

In St Laurence Church

ORGANISATIONS

Sunday Club	Sundays at 9.30.am in the Church and Ark (445 1854)
Choir	Thursdays at 7.45.pm in Church (445 3569)
Bellringers	Sundays at 10.30.am and 5.30.pm Tuesday Practice at 7.30.pm (01527 64077)
Women's Fellowship	4th Wednesday of the month at 2.00.pm in Tanyard Lane Community Centre (445 2125)
Mum's the Word	Thursdays at 9.30.am in The Ark (07773509390) Tiny Tots Service 10.15.am 2nd Thursday of the month
Ark Café	Thursdays during term time at 12.15.pm (447 7017)
Home Group	Thursdays, 7.30.pm at the Coach House (445 2547)

THE ARK

Enquiries to Ian Price 0121 447 7955

Registered as a Charity in England and Wales: Charity Number 1131783



Rev Richard Bubbers Writes...

Being busy

I was licensed by the Bishop of Dudley in a special service at St Laurence on Thursday 12 February as Priest-in-Charge of the parish of Alvechurch and as a workplace chaplain in the Bromsgrove area with Faith at Work in Worcestershire, and Sally and I have really appreciated the welcome we have received from so many.

As Bishop Graham said at the licensing service, much thanks goes to all those who have worked hard in so many different ways in the parish during the last 18 months of the vacancy since David Martin's retirement. I am very aware that a constant challenge facing us today is how we deal with the ever-increasing pace of life. We are not designed as human beings for the business of earning a living and/or the "busyness" of our lives to be constant.

The busyness of our 21st century culture has been described like this: more and more people use their mobile devices in bed, when having a shower, and in other previously private situations. The pace rarely seems to decrease. Burnout or stress-related depression may be the result. It is increasingly difficult simply to be, and to be present in the moment - to enjoy the moment. The result of a lifestyle which is 100% different from how people have lived for thousands of years, is a lack of peace and contentment.

Some of you may have seen the tv series, *"The Big Silence"*: about half a dozen people were taken out of their ordinary lives, to live on a silent, monastic retreat for a limited

period - the only contact they were supposed to have was one hour a day with their spiritual director: the programs showed their spiritual progress. The effect of being away from all the usual distractions, and actually engaging with themselves, had a remarkable effect on their lives, and for some was truly transformational.

On Thursday evening Bishop Graham referred to Mark 6. 31, which says this: *"then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, Jesus said to them, 'come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest.'" Never think that Jesus and his disciples had a stress-free life - that somehow life was just much easier for them than it is for us now. Mark tells us that there were so many people "coming and going" that they did not even have a chance to eat. But amid all this what does Jesus remind them of: the need to go with him "by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest."*

It is important amid the busyness of our lives that we seek to find ways of discovering some space away from the usual pace of life. It was said long ago that an unreflective life is a life not worth living. If we want not only to help ourselves cope with the anxieties and stresses of daily life, but also to fulfil our potential and become the people God intended us to be, it is important that we seriously seek to make this a priority on at least a weekly basis. If it was important for Jesus in his earthly life, how much more important it is for us today. Jesus said that he wanted us to have life and have life in all its fullness (John 10.10): Jesus knew that there is a healthy rhythm of work and rest, which we need to seek if we want to know wholeness in our lives.

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Events at Alvechurch Library

Steve R Dunn, Barnt Green author is paying us a return visit to tell us about his new book *The Coward? The Rise and Fall of the Silver King*.

The Coward? Is the first ever biography of Rear Admiral Ernest Troubridge and is a powerful story of how one decision changed a man's life forever, costing him everything – his career, his social standing and his wife.



Barely three days after Britain declared war on Germany in August 1914, Rear Admiral Ernest Troubridge – a rising star of the British Navy - made a decision that seemed inexplicable and was to dominate the rest of his life and naval career. Commanding the 1st Cruiser Squadron, heading for an engagement with the German battle cruiser Goeben in the Mediterranean and having clearly signalled his intention to engage the German ship, Troubridge suddenly changed his mind, turned his vessels away, and allowed the enemy ship to escape.

Steve R Dunn unpicks the mystery with his customary meticulous research and analysis. Was Troubridge a coward who avoided a fight, or a hero who put aside empty patriotism to save his ships and their crews from almost certain destruction? The Navy and its First Lord, Winston Churchill, made their views clear by ensuring he never commanded at sea again while his wife chose to abandon him in favour of her lesbian lover. Rather than facing up to the negative press and constant rumours, Troubridge left Britain for France, where he died in 1926.

Please join us on Saturday 14th March 2015 at 11am to meet Steve at a book selling and signing event and hear how he went about writing his latest book.

Call 01905 822722 to book a space.

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When? Tuesdays at 9:30am in The Ark

Contact: Telephone Alison on 0121 4483303 or 07790916947

Email: alibenford@yahoo.co.uk

FACEBOOK: 'Exercise with Alison Benford'

Alvechurch Village Society

Ray Yarnell writes...

The March walk will be at 2.30pm on 1st March and will be "*Signs of Spring -- A Wildlife Walk*" which is another of a series of my favourite local walks. The walk will start at Tanyard Lane car park Alvechurch, and will be led by Mary Green (0121 445 5957).

The March evening event will be The Annual General Meeting which will be held at 7.45pm on Wednesday 18th March in the Village Hall. Everyone is most welcome, whether you are an AVS member or not.

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Parish Prayers

Prayers will be offered at St Laurence Church, Alvechurch for the residents of the following roads on the dates listed.

- 1st March – The Buckleys
- 8th March – The Drive
- 15th March – The Gaunts
- 22nd March – The Holloway
- 29th March – The Rise



St Laurence Women's Fellowship

Jill Woolley writes...

At the first meeting of the New Year we celebrated with a fun afternoon with seasonal refreshments and a visit from a Pantomime Dame. Richard Westcott, who played Dame in Panto for many years, gave us a demonstration of his stage make-up and then dressed in one of the striking costumes he makes himself (complete with wig, hat, jewellery and high heeled boots) gave us a Panto sketch and taught us a couple of songs. It cheered us up on a gloomy January afternoon.

On March 25th we welcome Sheila Tremellen M.B.E her talk entitled From Kennels to Buckingham Palace via Television.

Come and join us at the Tanyard Centre at 2pm but beware of the parking restrictions. We will welcome you.

Alvechurch Historical Society

Our most recent meeting was the AGM, where business included recording our thanks to retiring secretary, Margaret Gardner. AHS has a varied programme of talks, and Margaret has excelled at transcribing and summarizing them, reminding us each month of the talk we enjoyed the month before.

The AGM was followed by slides of Alvechurch in the 1970's, taken by Wayne Harris and Nancie Bason. To complete the evening there was a talk about two cycling tours of England, undertaken by Nancie Bason in 1933 & 1934.

Our next meeting will be on Monday 2nd March 2015 when Ron Gallivan will give a talk on *"The Victory Harvests 1940-1954"*.

We meet on the first Monday of the month in the Museum, School Lane at 7.45pm. There is plenty of parking behind the Catholic Church, with their permission. New faces are always welcome, just come along or contact our chairman, Anne Humphries on 0121 445 5955.

The Women's World Day of Prayer



What's it all about?

A world-wide movement led by Christian women of many traditions in more than 170 countries!

Each year women of a different country prepare a service, and it is used all over the world, on the first Friday in March.

Usually there is a flavour of the culture and environment of the country, and always the life and challenges of the women in that country are included.

This year the service has been prepared by the women of the Bahamas. Many resources have been made available to help those (not just women) who are preparing, taking part or attending the service. Most of us may think of the Bahamas as a wealthy place and a tourist destination. We are learning of the history of the 700 islands (only about 23 inhabited) and the current challenges that Bahamians, especially the women, face in terms of poverty, illness, unemployment and other social needs.

The service in Alvechurch this year will be on 6 March at Alvechurch Baptist Church, where there will be refreshments and a chance to chat informally at 3.15pm, followed by the service itself at 4 pm. It's not just for women, we invite you all to take part. Other services will be held in the area. See www.wwdp.org.uk.

For more details of the Alvechurch events, e-mail Judy Lakeman at administrator@alvechurchbaptist.org.uk

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER for Alvechurch & Rowney Green



This year's service has been prepared by the women of The Bahamas

Alvechurch Baptist Church
6th March

Refreshments at 3:15pm
Prayer Service at 4pm

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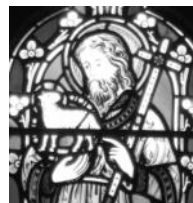
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Rowney Green Horticultural Society

We meets at the Peace Hall on the second Thursday each month at 7.30pm. On March 12th the speaker will be Mike Dunnett, who comes highly recommended and his subject will be "Easier Gardening". Mike and his wife open their 2 acre garden near Martley in the NGS Scheme. Guests are always welcome - £3.50 including refreshments. For more information please contact Janet Barnett on 01527 69399.

Stained Glass Windows Appeal

Margaret Haste writes...



Thanks to Graham and Lynne Clark as the fundraising events for 2015 got off to a great start on 31st January with a quiz and fish and chip supper in the Ark. Those attending had to grapple with some real brain-teasers but all the teams rose to the occasion and seemed to enjoy the challenge. Visitors from St Marys Alvechurch and St Anne's West Heath helped to swell the numbers and their support was much appreciated.

The fish and chips also went down well so, all in all, it proved to be a very enjoyable evening, as a result of which some £350 was raised. This included donations from two members of St Laurence who were unable to attend.

By the time this goes to press the auction, scheduled for Saturday the 21st February, will also have taken place so let us hope that was very successful.

A further event for your diary is a family fun evening, with lively music to dance to, on Friday 8th May, so do please put this on your calendar.

If anyone has any ideas for further events which they would like to share, I would be more than pleased to receive them so.....onwards and upwards.

Family Fortunes Quiz & Supper

Alvechurch Baptist Church is holding a 'Family Fortunes' quiz evening on Friday March 20th at 7pm. Tickets are £8 each (children free) and will include a Fish and Chip Supper. Contact 0121 445 1146 for tickets.

Post Lent Gathering

Thursday 30th April at 7:00pm in the upper room of the ARK
Sue Phillips writes...

Lent groups are now underway, in six different venues. Each year these ecumenical groups provide an excellent opportunity to reflect together on a Christian theme in an informal setting. Personally I really enjoy them, and it's for a number of different reasons. **SEE PAGE 15** for a list of the Lent groups.

At the forefront is the way a regular meeting during Lent helps me to focus on the journey towards Easter with its both solemn and joyful celebration of Christ's death and resurrection; then there is the stimulating and thought provoking lens through which the groups are viewing that journey, which changes each year, this year it's called *'Walking and praying with Christians from the Middle East'*; and the third key feature for me is the whole business of sharing this journey in a small group setting. It's so enriching to travel this journey with others, and our ecumenical Lent groups provide an excellent opportunity to walk the path with people with whom I, as a member of St Laurence, don't regularly worship. I find this particularly enriching, though past experience of leading Lent groups tells me that challenging discussion rarely occurs along fault lines that distinguish our different denominational traditions, far more significant in the way we see things is the personal life story each one brings to the discussion.

So as I write this before the groups start later this week I'm full of anticipation (and rather glad that this year I'm not running a group so am free to choose which one to join!).

In recent years we've found a way to share the different group experiences by concluding with a post-Lent gathering, a celebration of the ways in which the six groups have travelled towards Easter. It's always fascinating; no two groups are the same. This year St Laurence's will be hosting that event on Thursday 30th April at 7:00pm in the upper room of the ARK. You are warmly invited, and if you've been unable to attend a Lent Group, but are curious to see how this works then please call me, Sue Phillips on 0121 445 3620, for details of how you can participate.

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NOTICE OF VACANCY - The Trustees of the above Charity give notice that a vacancy exists at the premises in Station Road, Alvechurch known as "Lewkner Houses"

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Applications are invited from persons, aged 60 or over, who have lived in the Parish of Alvechurch for at least twelve months, whose present residence is not appropriate to their physical needs and who are in difficult financial circumstances.

Applications forms should be requested in writing from the Clerk to the Trustees or can be obtained from the Parish Council Office.

Closing date for applications is 20th March 2015.

Mrs C Johnston, Clerk to the Trustees, 44 Withybed Lane, Alvechurch, B48 7NY

The Macular Society

Did you know that the Macular Society, the leading charity for people with macular disease, has a local support group? The Barnt Green Group usually meets on the last Friday of the month except December from 2pm to 4pm at The Friends Meeting House, Sandhills Road, Barnt Green, B45 8NR. We have an outing on 26th June and our Christmas Lunch on 27 November. The August meeting will be on 21 August

We have a varied programme of speakers, not all to do with macular disease but there is always an opportunity to share experiences and coping tips with others. Mr Jag Gandhi, Consultant Ophthalmologist, Worcester Acute Hospital will be our speaker on 27th March.

Though I say it myself, we're a lively friendly group. Why not come and give us a try? The first meeting is free so that you can see if you like us. We then charge £1.50 per person a meeting to cover our costs. New members and visitors are always welcome.

If getting to our meetings is a problem, ring Rural Rides run by the Royal Voluntary Service on 01527 879290 to register and find out what the cost would be.

The Ark Café



The Cafe remains open as usual during March and the menu is as follows:

March 5th Roast Pork

March 12th Roast Lamb

March 19th Somerset Chicken

March 26th Beef Carvery Lunch - Ticket Only £10

There are plenty of tickets left for the Beef Carvery Lunch on March 26th, so if you would like an excellent three course lunch at a very reasonable price, please contact Ian Price for a ticket on 447 7955 Mon - Fri at the Ark 9am - 2pm or from the Ark on a Thursday lunchtime.

We thank you all for your continuing support during 2015 and hope you are enjoying our meals every Thursday lunchtime. We will reopen on April 16th.

Election Turkey Lunch



As you are probably aware May 7th is an important day in our calendar as it is the date of our General Election, so in order to complement this day, we are holding a special **'Election Turkey Lunch'** on Thursday, 7th May at 12.30pm in the Ark. It will be a three course meal and tickets will cost £10 and are available from Ian Price at the Ark Mon-Fri 9am-2pm 447 7955 or on a Thursday lunchtime at the Ark. We hope you will be able to support this event and it will include the usual raffle.

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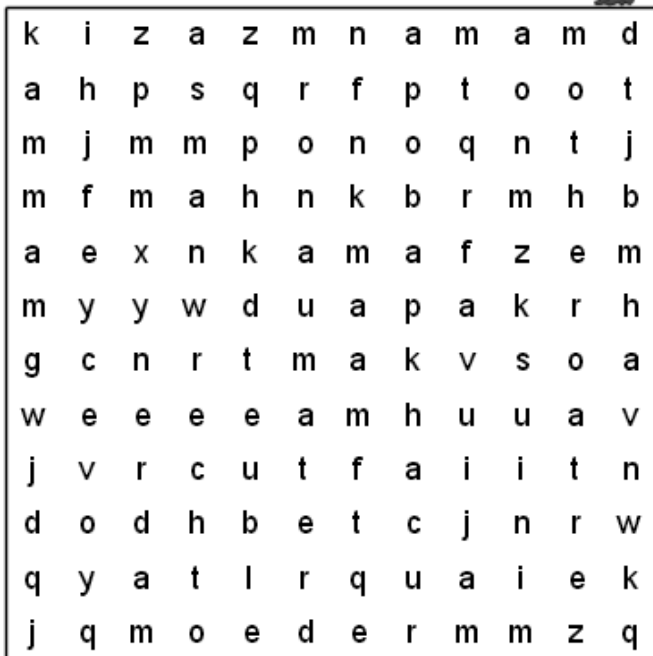
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Mother's Day Wordsearch

Can you find the word for Mother in all these different languages?



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Haakui (Maori)

Madre (Spanish)

Maji (Hindi)

Makuahine (Hawaiian)

Maman (French)

Mamma (Italian)

Mater (Latin)

Moeder (Afrikaans)

Mother (English)

Muter (Yiddish)

Mutter (German)

Mzazi (Swahili)

Okaasan (Japanese)

Pabo (Punjabi)

The Midland Sinfonia

8th Young Musicians' Showcase

Sunday 15 March 3:00pm

St Laurence Church, Alvechurch, B48 7SB

TMS encourages young musicians by offering a platform to young people 18 years and under to perform on their chosen instrument.

Do join us for a pleasant afternoon of music

Tickets: no charge ~ donations appreciated
Sponsored by St Laurence Church & Arch Media



Saturday 7 March 7:30pm - St Laurence Church, Alvechurch, B48 7SB

The Midland Sinfonia welcomes the Holborne Brass Ensemble for a wonderful evening of amusing banter plus their unique sound from early music to trad jazz. A great evening for the whole family.

Trevor Jones and Greg McEwan, trumpets
Tim Stidwill, horn and Philip Green, tuba
Les Whitehouse, trombone

The extensive programme will include:

Bach – Fugue in G Minor

Bach – Air from Suite in D

Albinoni – Sonata 'St Mark' arr. Hickman

Sousa – Washington Post arr. Roberts

Lennon & McCartney – Honey Pie arr. Willis

Tickets: on the door £13, or £12 in advance from The Village Green Grocer, Alvechurch or www.midlandsinfonia.co.uk

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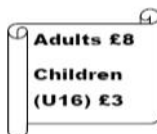
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Friday 13th March 2015
at 7pm

St. Bartholomew's Church,
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www.tardebiggechurch.org.



Date For Diary 9th October 2015

Concert in aid of the stained glass windows appeal.

Chris Leslie, member of Fairport Convention has been booked to play a solo concert in the church on the evening of Friday 9th October. Fairport Convention are an acclaimed folk band who also host their own annual convention in August of each year. Chris is a singer and multi-talented musician with both wind and string instruments. Apart from his regular tours with Fairport, Chris also plays with Feast of Fiddles. Every December he and three colleagues tour the country with their band St Agnes Fountain to play their unique versions of carols and Christmas songs.

Further details, including information about booking tickets will be provided shortly but do make a date for the diary as Chris is a very special talent.

For more details about Chris and Fairport you can check out their respective websites at www.chrisleslie.org.uk and www.fairportconvention.com



Come with us to the Middle East

CTARG (Churches Together in Alvechurch and Rowney Green) are arranging their usual Ecumenical Lent Course, which began on Ash Wednesday, February 18th. The accent is on the "*Ecumenical*", and everyone is welcome to whichever group suits them best timewise.

This year our journey is entitled **"Walking and Praying with Christians of the Middle East"**, a course produced by Churches Together in Britain and Ireland.

If you have an interest in this very topical subject we would love you to join us as we learn more about life in this troubled area, and perhaps think more about the way we should be relating to it.

The six groups are listed below. Please choose a group and then contact the leader of that group to tell them of your interest and to check details.

Day	Time	Start date	Leader	Venue
Monday	7.30pm	23rd February	Fiona Shea. 07870 915892 fkshea@gmail.com	13 Athlestan Close
Tuesday	1.30pm	24th February	Gill & Glyn Jones. 445 4581 eydongill@gmail.com	45 Redditch Road
Wednesday	10.15am	25th February	Felicity Rixon. 445 2371 felicityrixon@hotmail.com	St Mary's, School Lane
Wednesday	2.00pm	18th February	Dick Russell. 445 3083 russell2gothic@btinternet.com	32 Callow Hill Road
Thursday	7.30pm	19th February	Graham & Lynn Clark. 445 2547 clarkalvechurch@sky.com	The Coach House, School Lane
Thursday	7.30pm	19th February	Dawn & Bim Theophilus. 445 4343 dtheophilusuk@yahoo.co.uk	28 Hinton Avenue

Advance Notice of Table Top Sale 25th April

The Bellringers will be holding their Annual Table Top Sale in the Ark on Saturday 25th April and for tables please telephone Karen on 445 4980.

Obituaries

Renée Bennett

Renée Bennett of Branden Road, wife of Douglas and mother of Christopher, died in December aged 86. Renée was born and grew up in Liverpool with her older sister Pauline and brother David who became a musician of some repute, and a regular judge of Young Musician of the Year. Renée enjoyed her school days at Childwall High School and sang in the local Abbey Church Choir. Music was to become an abiding interest throughout her life. At the age of 17 she joined the WRENS and whilst stationed in Scotland attended the first ever Edinburgh Festival. Her love of the performing arts later led her to train in ballet and qualify with the Imperial Society of Teachers of dancing, attending master classes with famous international dancers in London and putting on shows in many areas.

Renée and Douglas met whilst she was staying with a friend in Cornwall, they married and eventually moved to the Midlands. They settled in Alvechurch and enjoyed being part of the friendly and supportive community, Renée joined Redditch Music Society and also continued to dance, this time with the Scottish Country Dancing team in Alvechurch and Birmingham for as long as her health allowed, maintaining friendships by forming a group of 'Ladies who lunch'.

When she was diagnosed with Lewey Bodies Dementia, she was greatly helped by Barnt

Green Day Centre. A truly lovely lady who will be missed by all who knew her especially her husband Douglas, son Christopher and granddaughter Nikki and Nikki's husband James.

John Hall

John Hall was born and brought up in Alvechurch. After fighting a brain tumour for several months he died at the age of 59 at his home in Smedley Place, with his family around him. John went to school in School Lane, Alvechurch before leaving and taking on an apprenticeship at Delson's. He was a motor mechanic and spent years working as a recovery driver/mechanic for Redhill garage, as well as running the general stores in Hopwood.

For the last 18 years he ran his own car repair business. As a young man he met and married Denise who had moved in to live next door when she was 13 years old. They were married for 38 years and had two children Martin and Michelle, who gave a tribute to their Dad at his funeral which was conducted by Rev Ian Firmstone in Redditch crematorium on December 22nd 2014. John loved his garden and set it up as an adventure playground for his four grandchildren. He also loved the outdoor life and his Land Rover.

He will be sadly missed by Denise, Martin, Michelle, grandchildren Jemima, Abigail, James and baby Jessica, and his brother David and sisters Erica and Ingrid.

Edward 'Vic' Scotford

Edward Victor Scotford, known to most people as 'Vic' died on the 14th January at the age of 90. Vic was a family man, father of five children, grandfather to five and with eight great grandchildren. Vic was born in Smethwick, and at the age of 14, in the days of horse drawn milk carts became a milkman. His horse called Pardoe and his smart jodhpurs eventually drew the attention of Betty whom he married in 1946 and from whom he was separated by death in 2013 after 65 years of married life.

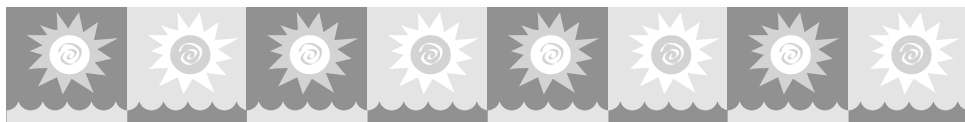
Vic served with the Durham Light Infantry, where he first learned to drive when put at the wheel during an army exercise! He served in France, Belgium and Holland where he suffered an injury and was sent to Ireland for convalescence.

Vic was a hard working family man, having taken over the Newsagent's shop from his

aunts. Hard work didn't prevent him from having fun with his four surviving children: Susan, Deborah, Nick and Jane who remember family picnics in Arley, games of French cricket, and short breaks to Butlins.

Later Vic and Betty added many holiday destinations; Amsterdam, Bruges, Paris and memorable trips to the USA, along with their close friends Fred and Joyce, four pensioners in a hire-car on the Pacific Highway. Betty and Vic were a sociable couple, and in later years Vic was known to his neighbours for the cheery wave from his sun-filled front porch, a kind and genuine man who brought happiness into the lives of those who knew him.

His funeral took place at Redditch crematorium and his ashes have been buried with Betty in St Laurence church yard.



Flowers

Ann Thurrell writes...

No flowers again in church until Easter Day.

My thanks to all who have helped with providing flowers during the last few months whilst I have been recovering from surgery. I am hoping to be able to take charge once more although I am still needing a lot of help - flowers and water are heavy objects together!

I would also like to thank you all for your prayers which have been a great comfort to me and to Tom.

Stained Glass Windows

Barbara Griffiths writes...

The Grapevine went to press prior to the Auction on the 21st February therefore I am unable to give a report on the event. However I will submit an article for the April Grapevine when I will be in a position to tell you how much the Auction raised.

In the meantime I would again like to thank all who have donated articles or vouchers - your generosity is greatly appreciated since without these the Auction could not take place.



Rowney Green Flower Club

Rowney Green Flower Club welcome back Sharon Harvey (Flair with Flowers) to give one of her stunning demonstrations entitled "*City Creations*", on Thursday 26th March 2015 at Rowney Green Peace Hall. The evening will commence at 7.45pm, all arrangements will be raffled at the end of the evening and tea/coffee and biscuits will be served.

If you'd like to take part in the competition, the title is "Arrangement in a teapot". Come along to your local Flower Club and enjoy an entertaining and friendly evening. Contact Celia Hitch, 0121 445 4824.

From The Registers



Baptisms

We welcome you into the Lord's family

February 22 Theo Church
Olivia Hunt



Funerals and Cremations

May they rest in the peace of Christ

February 19 Joan Burton

Who's who

Rector	Revd Richard Bubbers, The Rectory, School Lane, 445 1087 richardbubbers@hotmail.co.uk
Licensed Lay Ministers	Mr Dick Russell, 2 Gothic Cottages, Radford Rd, 445 3083 Ms Sue Phillips, Withybed Green, 445 3620
Authorised Lay Ministers	Mrs Helena Allen, 117 Birmingham Road, 445 5605 Mr Phil Burgess, Highlands, School Lane, 447 7468 Mr Graham Clark, The Coach House, School Lane, 445 2547 Ms Gloria Wilson, 11 Bear Hill Drive, 445 1854 Mrs Philippa Brakes, 56 Callow Hill Road, 445 3983 Mrs Lynne Clark, The Coach House, School Lane, 445 2547 Mrs Jayne Burgess, Highlands, School Lane, 447 7468 Mrs Annette Thomas, 8 Snake Lane, 445 5180
Churchwardens	Mr Graham Clark, The Coach House, School Lane, 445 2547 Mr Mick Fletcher, 13 Red Lion Street, 447 8451
Deputy Wardens	Mr Colin Bennett, 122 Redditch Road, 01527 64077 Mr Andy Humphries, Sunnymead, Station Road, 445 5955 Mr David Richmond, The Ferns, Chapel Lane, 445 3569 Mrs Alison Smith, 12 Hollington Road, 447 7293 Mrs Enid Brumsen, 32 Callow Hill Road, 445 0663
PCC Secretary	Mr Graham Clark, The Coach House, School Lane, 445 2547
PCC Treasurer	Mr David Richmond, The Ferns, Chapel Lane, 445 3569
Organist & Choirmaster	Mrs Janet Wright, 28 Callow Hill Road, 445 4335
Electoral Roll Officer	Mr Colin Bennett, 122 Redditch Road, 01527 64077
Tower Captain	Mrs Lynda Wolstencroft, 49 Hinton Avenue, 445 3212
Singing Group	Mrs Kate Grove, 07773509390
Mum's the Word	Mrs Ann Thurrell, Top Barn, Scarfield Hill, 447 7668
Flower Co-ordinator	Mrs Jill Woolley, 111 Birmingham Road, 445 2125
Women's Fellowship	Mr Ian Price, The Ark, School Lane, 447 7955
Ark Booking Secretary) & Grapevine advertising) Grapevine Editor)	thearkalvechurch@yahoo.co.uk

PCC Special Responsibilities

Finance and Standing Committee

Graham Clark	Mick Fletcher
Alison Smith	Bob Dale
Janet Wright	

Children and Youth Committee

Martin Allen	Mick Fletcher
Thomas Birchall	Lynne Clark

Buildings, Fabric and Churchyard Committee

Mick Fletcher	Colin Bennett
David Richmond	Jill Woolley
Janet Wright	Andy Humphries

Task Committee

Jill Woolley	Bob Dale
Alison Smith	Sue Phillips
Martin Allen	

Peru and Missionary Committee

Sue Phillips	Dick Russell
Gordon Parsons	Margaret Haste

Calendar for MARCH



Sunday 1	2.30pm	Alvechurch Village Society: <i>"Signs of Spring - A Wildlife Walk"</i> Meet at Tanyard Lane Car Park
Monday 2	7.45pm	Alvechurch Historical Society: Talk on <i>"The Victory Harvests 1940-1954"</i> : The Museum, School Lane
Wednesday 4	7.30pm	Hillside WI: The Ark
Thursday 5	9.30am 10.15am 12.15pm	Mums The Word: The Ark Tiny Tots Service: Church (instead of 12th March) Ark Café: Roast Pork
Friday 6	3.15pm	Women's World Day Of Prayer Alvechurch/Rowney Green Refreshments 3.15pm: Service 4pm: Alvechurch Baptist Church
Saturday 7	7.30pm	The Midland Sinfonia presents Holborne Brass Ensemble: Concert at St Laurence church, Alvechurch
Monday 9	1.45pm	Forget-Me-Nots: The Ark
Thursday 12	9.30am 12.15pm 7.30pm	Mums The Word: The Ark Ark Café: Roast Lamb Rowney Green Horticultural Society: Talk on <i>"Easier Gardening"</i> : Rowney Green Peace Hall
Friday 13	7.00pm	Concert by Epiphany: St Bartholomew's Church: Tardebigge
Saturday 14	11.00am	Steve R Dunn book signing: Alvechurch Library
Sunday 15	3.00pm	The Midland Sinfonia: Young Musicians Showcase: Church
Monday 16	APRIL GRAPEVINE GOES TO PRESS <i>articles to thearkalvechurch@yahoo.co.uk</i>	
Wednesday 18	7.45pm	Alvechurch Village Society: Annual General Meeting: All welcome to attend: Alvechurch Village Hall
Thursday 19	9.30am 12.15pm	Mums The Word: The Ark Ark Café: Somerset Chicken
Friday 20	7.00pm	<i>'Family Fortunes'</i> Quiz & Supper: Alvechurch Baptist Church
Monday 23	1.45pm	Forget-Me-Nots: The Ark
Wednesday 25	2.00pm	St Laurence Women's Fellowship: Talk by Sheila Tremellen: <i>"From Kennels to Buckingham Palace via TV"</i> : Tanyard Centre
Thursday 26	9.30am 12.15pm 7.45pm	Mums The Word: The Ark Ark Café: Beef Carvery Lunch - Only £10 a ticket Rowney Green Flower Club: Demonstration: Peace Hall
Friday 27	2.00pm	Macular Society: Talk by Mr Jag Gandhi, Consultant Ophthalmologist: The Friends Meeting House, Barnt Green