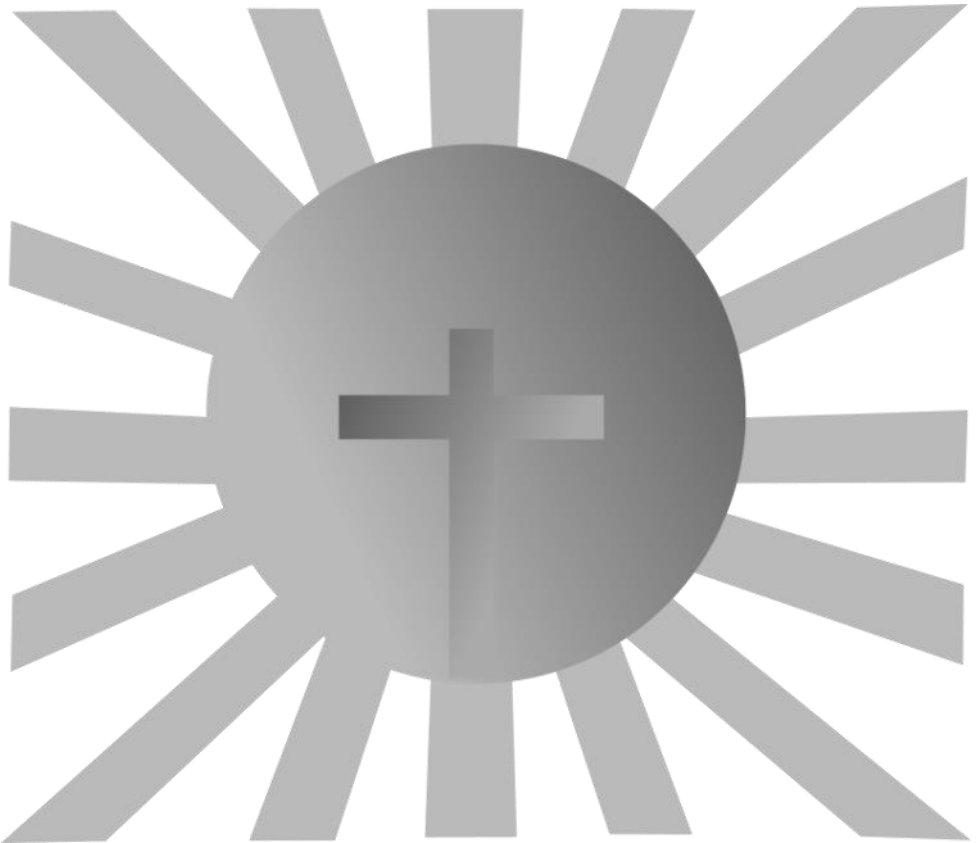


# The Grapevine

THE PARISH MAGAZINE OF ST LAURENCE CHURCH ALVECHURCH



**APRIL 2016**

Online at [www.alvechurch-stlaurence.org](http://www.alvechurch-stlaurence.org)

# St Laurence Church Alvechurch

## SUNDAY SERVICES

### **8.00am Holy Communion**

*Book of Common Prayer Communion Service, will take place on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. On the other Sundays there will be an 8.00am Book of Common Prayer Communion Service at St Leonard's in Beoley*

### **9.30am Family Service**

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

### **11.15am Parish Eucharist**

### **6.00pm Evensong**

*On the 4th Sunday of the month at 6pm there will be Sacred Space, a quieter more reflective space for worship*

## At Rowney Green Shared Church

### **9.30am Methodist/Anglican Service**

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

## DAILY SERVICE

### **9.00am Monday to Friday In St Laurence Church**

## ORGANISATIONS

<b>Sunday Club</b>	<b>Sundays at 9.30am in the Church and Ark (445 1854)</b>
<b>Choir</b>	<b>Thursdays at 7.45pm in Church (445 3569)</b>
<b>Bellringers</b>	<b>Sundays at 10.30am and 5.30pm Tuesday Practice at 7.30pm (01527 64077)</b>
<b>Women's Fellowship</b>	<b>4th Wednesday of the month at 2.00pm in Tanyard Lane Community Centre (445 2125)</b>
<b>Mum's the Word</b>	<b>Thursdays at 9.30am in The Ark (07773509390) Tiny Tots Service 10.15am 1st Thursday of the month</b>
<b>Ark Café</b>	<b>Thursdays during term time at 12.15pm (447 7017)</b>
<b>Home Group</b>	<b>Thursdays, 7.30pm at the Coach House (445 2547)</b>

## THE ARK

**Enquiries to Ian Price 0121 447 7955**



## How do you know that God exists?

How can you believe in something you cannot see? Whether or not you are a person of faith these will be familiar questions, ones you have been asked or have asked yourself.

When I was younger, like most young people, I was more insistent on having clear cut answers to such questions than I am now. As we get older we often find that satisfying answers to those big life questions are more easily found when we're not looking for them. It's called serendipity, defined by the Oxford dictionary as: 'the occurrence and development of events by chance in a happy or beneficial way' though when it comes to discoveries about God I'm not so sure I want to attach the word '*chance*' to it.

There's a great story in the Bible about a man who became a significant leader of the Jewish people. Born in Egypt at a time when the Pharaoh was feeling so threatened by the growth of the immigrant community that he was murdering their babies, Moses, hidden by his mother, guarded by sister, ended up being adopted into the royal household. His life of privilege ended when he committed a crime and to avoid detection he fled the country. His volunteering brought him into contact with a prominent family and he ended up a shepherd herding sheep in inhospitable conditions. One day something caught his eye, a bush combusting in the desert heat, not unusual in itself, but there was

## Sue Phillips writes.....

something about this particular occasion that raised his curiosity, and led to an encounter with God which changed his future and that of a nation.

There are many ways to respond to this story: You can ask yourself '*what was he on?*' to be seeing angels and hearing God speak from a bush in the desert! Or you can empathise with the experience as an example of times when something pretty ordinary leads to an unexpected sense that God is real. For me the joyful encounters of springtime often produce a sense of God's presence: cherry blossom tossing in the breeze, ducklings on the canal, sunshine on my face, the warm encounter with a neighbour, a friendly exchange in the Co-op. These '*chance*' moments can be sufficient to bring God close enough to assure me of His existence.

Our ecumenical Lent study will climax on 25th of April when all 6 groups will meet in the ARK to compare notes on our shared experience of following David Runcorn's reflection in his book *Dust and Glory*. I wonder how many will comment on the picture he painted of a cinder trail of burned out bushes in the desert, evidence of God's repeated attempts at communication with Moses that had passed him by, until the day he responded with curiosity. I hope for myself, and for all who are open to discovering that God does exist, the serendipity of spring will bring new certainties of the infinite, and we will meet God in '*the occurrence and development of events by chance in a happy or beneficial way*'.

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**St Laurence  
Women's  
Fellowship**

*Jill Woolley writes...*



We had an enjoyable meeting in February and learned a lot about different types of pearls from our speaker Janice Waldron.

On April 27th we will hold our Annual General Meeting when we will review the past Golden year and plan the 51st year of our Fellowship. Come and join us in The Tanyard Centre at 2 o'clock.

Thank you to everyone who supported the Women's World Day of Prayer service at the beginning of March.

**Alvechurch Village Society**

*Ray Yarnell writes...*

The April walk will be 'A Springtime walk around Alvechurch' led by Eileen Mchugh (0121 445 6080). The walk will start at 2.30pm on Sunday 3rd April from Tanyard Lane car park.

Our April event will be 'The Village comes of age' where magazine founder Richard Peach will recall eighteen years of Alvechurch news and scandal. The time and place for this interesting talk will be Wednesday 27th April at 7.45pm in the Alvechurch Village Hall. Admission is £1.00 members / £2.00 non members which includes a drink and a biscuit.

**Spring Fayre**

Alvechurch Baptist Church are holding a Spring Fayre on Saturday 21st May starting at 10am until 2pm. There is a variety of stalls including cakes, plants, bric-a-brac, books, toys, crafts and some games.

Refreshments including 'Lite Bites' are available during the Fayre. We would love to see you there.

# Called to be Fools!

April Fool's Day is the traditional way to begin this month! In medieval times the fool (or jester) was not just there for amusement. He had an influential role in the court, because he could speak the truth in ways others couldn't. As Christians we are also called to be fools; Paul described himself as a 'fool for Christ' (1 Corinthians 4:10). In what ways is this an appropriate description of a Christian? In his letter Paul expands on this theme.



= a foolish message: *'For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.'* (1 Cor 1:18). The heart of the Gospel does not focus on clever ideas, but on the Cross of Jesus Christ. This message of foolishness and weakness is both God's wisdom and power for our lives!

= a foolish community: *'But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong.'* (1:27). The church in Corinth consisted of slaves, rather than the rich and successful. God calls the weak and vulnerable to follow Him, in order to shame those who think they don't need God.

= a foolish ministry:  
*'My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on God's power.'* (2:4,5). Paul's ministry didn't rest on human wisdom, but on the power of the Holy Spirit. For us, this power is often displayed when we are at our weakest!

*'A fool thinks himself to be wise, but a wise man knows himself to be a fool.'* (William Shakespeare).

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Ellen Brookes, viola and

Elizabeth Garside, cello

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447 7040

# Alvechurch Historical Society

Hilary Taylor writes...

At our March meeting we were given an understanding of the Black Country by Ned Williams, still an “*incomer*” despite having lived there for over half a century. Ned presented three ways of defining the Black Country; by the extent of its coalfield, by the location of its iron working trades, and by local government boundaries. The coal mining and iron working are now gone, and local government boundaries change, but what endures is a state of mind, the culture of place. Ned illustrated his talk with 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century maps and photographs, and gave us an insight into the area’s traditional industries.

## VISITORS WELCOME

New members and visitors are welcome at our meetings.

### Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2016: Mike Watkins “*Titanic: things you didn’t know*”

From the beginning through to the aftermath, this is a fascinating talk about the enduring and iconic RMS Titanic, which tragically sank on 15 April 1912 after colliding with an iceberg during her maiden voyage from Southampton.

### Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2016 : Joe Hawkins “*Restoration of Hagley Hall’s Park & Gardens*”

Our talk for the May Day bank holiday is of local interest. When George Lyttelton created the Park at Hagley, near Clent, it was among the most famous of all eighteenth century landscapes. In its day it was visited, viewed, and reviewed to great acclaim by some of the century’s most enlightened minds. Joe Hawkins will tell us first-hand about the restoration process, a task he took on when he became Head of Landscape at Hagley Hall.

AHS meetings are held on the first Monday of the month, at 7.45pm, in the museum on School Lane. Parking is available behind the Catholic Church, with their kind permission. New faces are always welcome, just come along, or contact our chairman, Anne Humphries on 0121 445 5955.



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## The Ark Café



### Ark Cafe is Celebrating Its 10th Anniversary

The Cafe returns after the Easter break on Thursday, April 14th and this session will end on Thursday, 19th May with a special Beef Carvery Lunch.

The menu during the intervening weeks will be as follows:

**April 14th - Roast Lamb**

**April 21st - Roast Pork**

**April 28th - Roast Lamb**

**May 5th - Somerset Chicken**

**May 12th - Glazed Gammon and Parsley Sauce**

**May 19th - Beef Carvery Lunch** to celebrate the 10th

Anniversary of the Ark Café, with Entertainment -  
Ticket only £10.

The Ark Cafe started ten years ago in January 2006 with many of the original volunteers still helping today, together with many customers, who have kindly supported us throughout this period of time and still come week after week. So we have decided to celebrate this special occasion with a special lunch to include a three course lunch and some special after lunch entertainment.



*Picture kindly supplied by The Village Magazine*

The tickets for this lunch will as usual cost £10 and are available at the Ark on a Thursday lunchtime or from Ian Price at the Ark office Mon-Fri 9am to 2pm 0121 447 7955. So we look forward to seeing you all there.



# ARK CAFÉ

## 10TH ANNIVERSARY LUNCH

### Thursday 19th May 2016

### 12 noon for 12.30pm

**WITH ENTERTAINMENT FROM  
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**Tickets £10 from the Ark Café on a  
Thursday or the Ark office  
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## Rowney Green Horticultural Society

*Lindsay Smith writes...*

Rowney Green Horticultural Society meets at the Peace Hall on the second Thursday each month at 7.30pm. At the meeting on April 14th our guest speaker will be Rosemary Winnall who will encourage us to develop "A Garden for Wildlife".

Guests are welcome - £3.50 including refreshments. For more information please contact Lindsay Smith on 01527 592874.

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**FOR FURTHER INFO**

## Parish Prayers



Prayers will be said at St Laurence Church for the residents of the following roads:

- Sunday 3rd April – Old Birmingham Road
- Sunday 10th April – Old Rectory Lane
- Sunday 17th April – Pestilence Lane
- Sunday 24th April – Radford Road

## News from the Tower

Geoff Franklin writes...

Pride goeth before a fall. Last month I said how well we were doing and immediately after that we found ourselves down to four bells on the Sunday. A combination of holidays and illness and work and family commitments meant we lost half the team. It's one of the problems of being short-handed but with two new ringers coming along nicely the situation will get better by the Summer.

Aside from the ringing, our next big commitment is the Table Top Sale in the Ark on Saturday April 2nd. We've over a dozen tables booked into the Ark as I write this, and we should be fully booked by the time Grapevine is published. The rest of us are still collecting stock for the Ringer's table. Talk to any of the ringers, phone Colin on 01527 64077 or email [alvechurchbells@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:alvechurchbells@yahoo.co.uk) if you've anything for us.

After that we're organising a tea party in the Ark on 30th May for the Queen's birthday. We'll be serving Cream Tea and High Tea with a selection of sandwiches, cakes, and scones (see the poster on page 15 for more details).

Normally we ring six bells on a Tuesday night but we've had visitors recently and this has meant we've been able to have all eight bells going some weeks. You wouldn't think that two more bells would make much of a difference but it does add to the richness of the sound and there are more possible permutations with eight so we can have a bit more variety in what we do. It also gives us more scope for going wrong but that's why we have practice nights.



## All Things Bright And Beautiful Word Search

This is a bit of a challenge but get Mum and Dad to help!

B	E	A	U	T	I	F	U	L	B
R	L	I	P	S	H	D	N	I	W
I	C	K	U	W	E	I	D	O	I
G	R	N	D	P	A	G	N	M	S
H	N	C	O	L	D	D	I	G	E
T	A	I	E	T	E	S	N	U	S
H	H	M	N	R	D	G	B	W	F
E	O	O	F	R	R	R	L	E	R
M	E	U	C	E	O	Y	O	L	I
E	L	N	A	A	N	M	S	L	P
L	P	T	L	C	J	R	V	K	E
L	R	A	L	M	I	G	H	T	Y
A	U	I	S	V	O	A	N	D	E
M	P	N	E	D	A	M	B	T	S
S	E	R	U	T	A	E	R	C	A

ALL	THINGS	BRIGHT	BEAUTIFUL
CREATURES	GREAT	SMALL	WISE
WONDERFUL	LORD	GOD	MADE
THEM	PURPLE	HEADED	MOUNTAIN
RIVER	SUNSET	MORNING	SKY
EYES	LIPS	ALMIGHTY	WELL
AND	COLD	WIND	SUN
RIPE			

# Letter from the Bishop Of Dudley



## ***Easter people are thankful people***

Throughout this year, I've been offering to spend an hour or so visiting all of our licensed clergy at home.

These visits have been one way of interpreting that part of a bishop's calling to serve and care for the flock of Christ, to love and pray for those I seek to serve, and to know them and be known by them. What a blessing for me these times have been. It has been a privilege to share in laughter, tears, happiness and worries. Some conversations have looked back regretfully to a lost era, whilst others have been thankful. Some have looked forward with concern, whilst others have held optimism and renewed hope.

Thankfully I haven't heard the expletives engendered by a visit from Bishop Brennan on Father Ted, nor had Carnation milk accidentally poured over me as in the young and sporty bishop's visit to Susan and the ambitious Geoffrey in one of Alan Bennett's monologues!

Throughout our diocese I have met incredible clergy colleagues, deeply committed to their vocation and the ministry entrusted to them, highly skilled in what they do, often working very long hours. There is also a sadness from many that sometimes life is made harder by those parishioners who appear quick to criticise.

This is reflected in some of the letters and emails that I receive. Rarely do I receive a message praising the many thousands of positive aspects those in ministry share each week.

We seem to live in an age of negativity. What would it be like, I wonder, if in this season of Easter joy we were to turn our minds to an age of appreciation?

The Resurrection hope turned the negative, downcast thoughts of the disciples into joy and thanksgiving. Being Easter people means living thankful lives, and the people of Thessalonica were encouraged to *"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances"* (1 Thess 5.16-18).

That's also good advice to us. Lest I be misunderstood, I'm not advocating a *'Hug a Vicar Day'* or a *'Priest Appreciation Society'*! However, if we begin by being thankful for those around us, including those we pray and journey with at church, I'm sure we will also see our appreciation of all that God has done for us lit up in new ways with the rays of Resurrection light.

Bishop Graham - Bishop of Dudley

# Calling all JAZZ fans!



Come "*Down the Mississippi down to New Orleans*" as the song goes, to the days of Rent Parties and Storyville Speakeasies.

When, on a still night, Buddy Bolden's fierce Cornet blues could be heard clear across the Mississippi.

The marvellous George Huxley's Hot Five Jazz Band would like to welcome you to The Ark, Alvechurch on Friday 29th April at 7.30pm.

Tickets are £10 and include a glass of wine.

Tickets are available from The Village Green Grocer,  
Alvechurch and Sue Brotherton 0121 447 7037

Sadly Mr Bolden will not feature in this fine Band's line up as he died in 1931!



## Hillside W.I.

*Cathy Taylor writes...*

Our March meeting was well attended and we welcomed several visitors. Our speaker, W.I. member Angela Temple Cox, assisted by her daughters, gave us a fascinating view of working in fashion over a period of forty years. Angela's excellent presentation reminded us of fashions and trends we had followed.

The Weatheroak Group Spring Meeting was held on 9th March at Rowney Green and Hillside hosted the evening. Our Group President, Peggy Amos, welcomed members. The theme of the evening was the Suffragettes, and the Suffragettes' colours were used to decorate the hall. Hillside hostesses were dressed as Suffragettes.

Our speaker, Paul Harding, gave us an excellent talk on the Suffragettes, and brought an

interesting collection of props with him. Refreshments followed. During the evening, each table had completed a quiz and the answers were read out. The raffle was drawn and the table flowers were allocated to a member on each table.

Our next meeting will be on 6th April at 7.30pm at the Ark, when Denis Pike will talk about the work of the Canal Trust. Visitors are welcome to join us.

Future events

Rowney Green Players' production "*Curtain up*" at the Peace Hall Friday 8th April at 7.30pm. tickets £8.00 or £7.50 concessions. Contact Sue Walker 0121 4451562 so that she can have an idea of numbers. Pay at the door with exact money if possible.

Tour of Birmingham Town Hall on Friday 20 May at 10.30am. Payment in advance is essential - Tickets cost £9.00.

**ANNUAL  
TABLE TOP SALE**  
Saturday 2nd April 10.30am – 3pm  
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***(Scones with Tea or Coffee)***

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***(Sandwiches, Cakes, Tea or Coffee)***

**HIGH TEA for TWO £12**

***(Sandwiches, Cakes, Tea or Coffee)***

# Montgomery Family at MHCCC

*Sally-Anne Bubbers writes...*

My sister, Fiona is a Missionary Nurse who has lived and worked for the last 15 years at Montgomery Heights Christian Care Centre, a children's home, in a rural area, about 80 kilometres NW of Harare in Zimbabwe.



It is home to 56 children, from 0 - 18, plus carers and staff. It is run as far as possible on a family pattern. The children are divided into four homes: the babies, the toddler house, the boys and the girls. Most of the children are without both parents, and have been at the home from a very early age.

Montgomery Heights is also home to a church, which serves the surrounding villages and a clinic, which Fiona runs, providing medical cover for the Montgomery family and the local area as well.

**If you are interested to hear more about Fiona's work then please join us on Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup> in the Ark at 7.30pm.**

## Alvechurch WI

*Pam Horsfield writes...*

It was a busy night at WI this month as there's a lot going on. We really enjoyed Hillside @Alvechurch's excellent Group Meeting with Paul Harding talking on 'Suffragettes' and there was a superb atmosphere with suffragette posters around and hostesses wearing period costume. (The cakes were good too!) Our speaker tonight, Rob Hemming, spoke on 'The trouble with trivia' as he has always been obsessively competitive and this has meant in the last ten years he has entered for major quiz programmes. He's been on TV programmes such as Mastermind and The Weakest Link and will study long and hard to achieve his goal and win 'the big one'! So far it's eluded him so he'll keep going, and in the meantime, he continues to write books.

Members were reminded of our two coach trips, though the Stowe and Batsford is almost full. Then there's St George's Day Teas on April 23rd, the cake stall at Picnic in the Park and Pam Parker's trip to The Swan Theatre to see Les Miserables in August. Pauline could do with some more members joining the skittles

team for next season and Hilary wants members to support the Fun and Games theme of the craft competition at the Annual Council Meeting.

Next month's meeting will in fact have a craft theme as Kim, from the craft shop at Burcot Nursery is coming to talk to us and asking us to bring our wool and knitting needles to the meeting ....interesting.

Do join us on Monday April 11th at 7:30pm in the Village Hall as you'll be very welcome.

## St George's Day Teas

Mark the date in your diaries as we will be serving tea and cakes as usual in the Village Hall on Saturday April 23rd between 2pm and 4pm.

Children .... Have you read about the poster competition to design a St George's Day poster? Look in the Library, the Lounge and around the village for details.

Does your under 9yr old like fancy dress? Then bring them to the Fancy Dress Parade at 3pm and enjoy tea and cakes at the St George's Day Teas on Saturday 23rd April.



# **Christian Mindfulness Day Workshop**

**Saturday 14th May 2016**

9.30am to 4pm

Venue: The Ark, adjoining St Laurence Parish Church,  
School Lane, Alvechurch, Worcestershire, B48 7SB

Christian mindfulness is deeply rooted in the ancient Christian tradition of contemplative prayer, and today is being discovered by many to be very relevant in helping with the busyness and noise of our daily lives. It encourages us to calm and to be present in the moment, and to hear what God is saying.

This three session workshop explores mindfulness from a Christian perspective and includes PowerPoint presentation, video clips and small group discussion. There will also be a variety of self awareness and God awareness meditations throughout the day.

The workshop is presented by Richard Johnston  
(director, Christian Mindfulness).

To book your place on the Workshop visit the website  
[www.christianmindfulness.co.uk/alvechurch.html](http://www.christianmindfulness.co.uk/alvechurch.html)

£30 per person up to 14/4/16  
(£35 per person for booking after 14/4/16).

Bring your own packed lunch.

The number of places is limited.

# Obituary

## Colin John Sheppard (1933 – 2016)

A Brummie really, with 60 years living in Alvechurch. Born in Charlotte Road, Stirchley, moving to Torre Avenue Northfield, schooled at Tinkers Farm, where he captained the school football team, leading them to 1948 Birmingham school boys cup final played at Villa Park, where Villa player scouts noted his name.

On leaving school he had various jobs until national service: 6 months on Isle of Man, on a distant relation's family farm with occasional football games for St Johns, working for a roaming cinema outfitters (upholsterer), and even fitting in Cadbury's too.

A change of life and stability came with national service in the RAF (3 years), trained as an armourer with 610 squadron Hooton Park, Cheshire, where he also met his future wife Grayce, married at just 21, in St Cyprians church Edge Hill, Liverpool (1954). A 'charabanc' was organised and the Brummies attended the wedding in force - pre motorways.

Back to Northfield and the family shop on Bristol Road South, with the arrival of his son, the family moved to a 'new build' house in George road, Alvechurch (1956), a home for life, where in 1958 his daughter was born.

The village cricket club, with its wooden ranch pavilion, from day one provided an instant attraction and weekend distraction, with trips off in Pretty's bakers van for away games, roles as fixture secretary and arranging the tea ladies rota - planning, patience and tolerance were

required, as some of the Saturday second eleven never took things that seriously.

Austin's beckoned, upholstery the name of the game. In the late 1950s, industrial strife and the 'ins and out' of work, lead to stints working around Alvechurch: laying paving flags on Branden road, welding machinery guards at the Old Mill Radford road, plus the odd sessions of wood cutting and fruit picking, then resuming work at Austin's for a continuous period (1962 - 1982) before taking redundancy. This was followed by a selection of jobs again, ending up at 'Tony Handyman's' in Redditch and Studley until retirement.

Adventures and world travel occurred from the mid-1960s onwards, from Franco's sunny Spain, the Balkan states and Tunisia. All pre their own strife, to as far afield as Florida, Australia and New Zealand, with the odd Pacific island thrown in for good measure.

Supporting the village community - for many years while both working and in retirement, he supported and assisted Grayce in her various village roles: the Guides - running around, putting up and taking down tents on camps, delivering meals on wheels - even taking out meals on a sledge during one bad winter, carrying out various tasks for village hall events - the fetching and carrying bit, church activities - including guarding the church grounds at night when the stain glass windows were under threat, with activities supporting the League of Friends Alexandra hospital, and this is not to mention the close support given to village families and friends in their times of stress - and always watching football on the telly, when allowed!

## Flowers for April

	1st April	10th April	17th April	24th April
Sanctuary & Lady Chapel		WEDDING Claire Humphries & Daniel Peter Nuttall		

# Who's who

Rector	Revd Richard Bubbers, Priest-in-charge, School Lane, 445 1087 stlaurencealvechurch@yahoo.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 Martin Allen, 117 Birmingham Road, 445 5605 Mrs Philippa Brakes, 56 Callow Hill Road, 445 3983 Mr Graham Clark, The Coach House, School Lane, 445 2547 Mrs Lynne Clark, The Coach House, School Lane, 445 2547 Mr Michael Fletcher, 13 Red Lion Street, 447 8451 Mrs Annette Thomas, 8 Snake Lane, 445 5180 Ms Gloria Wilson, 11 Bear Hill Drive, 445 1854
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 David Richmond, The Ferns, Chapel Lane, 445 3569 Mrs Alison Smith, 12 Hollington Road, 447 7293 Mr Andy Notley, 38 The Buckleys, B48 7NF
PCC Secretary	Mrs Enid Brumsen, 32 Callow Hill Road, 445 0663
PCC Treasurer	Mrs Susan Seeley, 40 Bear Hill, B48 7JX
Organist & Choirmaster	Mr David Richmond, The Ferns, Chapel Lane, 445 3569
Electoral Roll Officer	Mrs Janet Wright, 28 Callow Hill Road, 445 4335
Tower Captain	Mr Colin Bennett, 122 Redditch Road , 01527 64077
Singing Group	Mrs Lynda Wolstencroft, 49 Hinton Avenue, 445 3212
Mum's the Word	Mrs Nina Stanfield, 07592132677
Flower Co-ordinator	Mrs Ann Thurrell, Top Barn, Scarfield Hill, 447 7668
Women's Fellowship	Mrs Jill Woolley, 111 Birmingham Road, 445 2125
Ark Booking Secretary ) & Grapevine advertising ) Grapevine Editor)	Mr Ian Price, The Ark, School Lane, 447 7955 thearkalvechurch@yahoo.co.uk

## PCC Special Responsibilities

### Finance and Standing Committee

Graham Clark	Mick Fletcher
Alison Smith	Bob Dale
Janet Wright	Susan Seeley

### 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	Lynne Clark
Andy Humphries	

### Task Committee

Mick Fletcher	Dick Russell
Graham Clark	Sue Phillips

### Peru and Missionary Committee

Sue Phillips	Dick Russell
Gordon Parsons	Margaret Haste

# Calendar for APRIL



Saturday 2	10.30am	Tabletop Sale: The Ark
Sunday 3	2.30pm	Alvechurch Village Society: Walk: ' <i>A Spring time walk around Alvechurch</i> ': Meet at Tanyard Lane car park.
Monday 4	1.45pm 7.45pm	Forget-Me-Nots: The Ark Alvechurch Historical Society: Talk by Mike Watkins: " <i>Titanic: things you didn't know</i> ": Museum, School Lane, Alvechurch
Wednesday 6	7.30pm	Hillside WI: Talk by Denis Pike: " <i>Work of the Canal Trust</i> ": The Ark
Thursday 7		No Mums The Word, Tiny Tots Service, or Ark Cafe today
Friday 8	7.30pm	Rowney Green Players' production " <i>Curtain up</i> ": Peace Hall RG
Monday 11	7.30pm 7.30pm	Ark Angels WI: The Ark Alvechurch WI: Talk by Kim from the craft shop at Burcot Nursery: Alvechurch Village Hall
Thursday 14	9.30am 12.15pm 7.30pm	Mums The Word Ark Café: Roast Lamb Rowney Green Horticultural Society : Talk: " <i>A Garden for Wildlife</i> ": Peace Hall, Rowney Green
Friday 15	7.30pm	Meet Fiona from Montgomery Heights Christian Care Centre in Zimbabwe: The Ark
Saturday 16	7pm for 7.30pm	The Midland Sinfonia: A Spanish Evening with the Enigma String Quartet: The Ark
Monday 18	1.45pm	Forget-Me-Nots: The Ark
Tuesday 19	7.30pm	PCC APCM meeting: The Ark
Thursday 21	9.30am 12.15pm	Mums The Word Ark Café: Roast Pork
Saturday 23	2.00pm	St George's Day Teas/Fancy Dress Parade: Alvechurch Village Hall
Monday 25	7.30pm	Lent Group Final Plenary Session: The Ark
Wednesday 27	2.00pm 7.45pm	St Laurence Women's Fellowship: AGM: Tanyard Centre Alvechurch Village Society: Talk by Richard Peach: ' <i>18 years of The Village Magazine</i> ': Alvechurch Village Hall
Thursday 28	9.30am 12.15pm	Mums The Word Ark Café: Roast Lamb
Friday 29	7.30pm	Jazz Concert - George Huxley's Hot Five Jazz Band: The Ark