NOVEMBER 2026

BENTWORTH, LASHAM, AND SHALDEN PARISH MAGAZINE

St. Mary's Bentworth; St. Mary's Lasham;
St. Peter and St. Paul Shalden

Dear Friends

I invite you before you read this, to place your hands together in the traditional position of prayer and then separate them outwards so that the edges of your hands and the little fingers remain touching. If you look, you will see that your hands are now open.

Ignatian spirituality encourages us to pray sometimes like this because it symbolises the openness of our hearts. Open to receive from God and open to give to others. Open to let go of that which hurts and holds us down.

Sometimes life is difficult and our hearts are like closed fists; ready to protect, ready to defend and sometimes ready to attack in return for hurts others have done to us. Open hands are prepared to receive healing and to help to heal others.

St Francis of Assisi was convinced that God wanted him to live in community, both with God and with those ordinary people he found himself living alongside. Francis emptied himself of what he owned (or what owned him) in order to free up space to receive God's love and to let it flow freely out of him towards others.

Jesus asks us to trust in him and open our hearts. We could try to live with open hands a little more this month.

In our own strength I think this can be too difficult and perhaps a little risky. Jesus asks us to live like this in *his* strength with *his* guidance and *his* protection

Gillian T. W. Ahlgren suggests that the Franciscan way is to go to the well-spring of God's love in prayer and contemplation where we will learn from what Jesus said and from the way he behaved. Having thought about how we might do likewise, we then go into our world, just as it is, and live in our community alongside those around us. We ask ourselves and God the question: how can I intentionally behave lovingly to this or that person? In this way we do two things: we open ourselves to the wellspring of God's love that fills us and then we practice and experiment with what we have learned by loving others in the same way that we have been loved by God. We will certainly not always succeed as we want to, but God doesn't ask us to be perfect (completed or finished). He asks us to learn from Jesus and imitate him as best we can. St Clare worked with St Francis and lived out this life of openness to the Lord and openness to serving those around her. She explains what we have to do to live like this in simple terms: Gaze, Consider, Contemplate then Imitate.

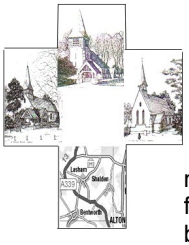
This November we honour and remember our Armed Service personnel and others who have defended our way of life and who continue to protect the freedoms that we enjoy. We are grateful to be free to be a Christian community.

Perhaps one response to what they have given to us is to be determined to live a life of Christian love just where we are and to try to integrate God's life-giving love into each moment of our daily life with others. Look at your open hands again. We are ready to receive by grace and to give back with gratitude, confident that our God is good.

'He made streams pour from the rock, making the waters flow down like a river' Psalm 78:16

Gillian T. W. Ahlgren (2026) Courage to Care, Lessons From Assisi

Revd Jon Rooke



THE VILLAGER

the editor

Please send copy for the **December** Magazine to the Editor or your Village Correspondent **by noon on Tuesday 10th November.**

I'm often sad that our pages aren't in colour (too expensive!) This month even more so as several posters are amazing, especially the one from Medstead Players advertising Aladdin. I do hope it's everywhere to be seen.

There are lots of events coming up, including several Christmas Fairs – go to them all!

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ALL SOULS SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

You are warmly invited to join us for our All Souls Service of Remembrance on Sunday 1st November at 3pm at St Lawrence Church.

This short, quiet and reflective service offers a time to remember, by name, our loved ones who have died.

If you would like the name of someone special to be read aloud during the service, please email **office@resurrectionbenefice.org** beforehand.

All are welcome to come along as we remember, reflect and give thanks for those we have loved.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

OCTOBER

30 Fine Crafts Cross Barn Odiham RG29 1GX 5 -7pm Page 31
31 Bentworth churchyard tidy up - meet in the churchyard at 9.30am
31 Fine Crafts Cross Barn Odiham RG29 1GX 10am – 5pm Page 31

NOVEMBER

1 Fine Crafts Cross Barns Odiham RG29 1GX 10am – 4pm Page 31
1 All Souls Service of Remembrance St Lawrence Church 3pm Pages 2 & 47
3 Medstead Gardeners' Club: Adam Frost *Getting the most from Your Garden*
4 Roedowns WI: CPR & defibrillator demonstration Wiltshire Room 7.30pm
5 Library: start of *Starting School Ready Steady Go...* 11.15am – 12.15pm Page 32
7 Monthly Market St Lawrence Parish Centre 9am – 12 noon
7 Shalden Bonfire and Fireworks Shalden Recreation Ground 6pm Page 14
7 Beech Bonfire Night: Torchlight Procession, Fireworks, Bar & BBQ 5pm P 33
10 Villager deadline for the December magazine by noon please
10 ASA: Giles Ramsey: *Osborne, Pinter and Co; Post War British Theatre* P 20
12 Medstead WI: Erica Wheeler *Wonderful Women of Winchester* Village Hall 2pm
12 Talk: *The Importance of Mediaeval Women, Part 2.* Room 7, Alton Community Centre
13 Hampshire Medical Fund Christmas Fair at Barnsgrove, Greywell 9.30am–4pm P 35
13 Beech - Screen by the Green: *Midwinter Break* (12A) 7:30pm Page 34
14 Alton Community Share St Lawrence Parish Centre 2pm– 4pm
18 Shalden Parish Council Meeting Village Hall 7.30pm
19 Energy Alton AGM & the film *Power Station* Assembly Rooms 7:00pm Page 20
20 Men's Walking Church meet at The Yew Tree, Lower Wield 10.30am Page 46
20 Broadlands: Wine Tasting Wivelrod Barns 6.15pm for 6.30pm Page 36
20 People's Emergency Briefing Medstead Village Hall 7pm Page 42
21 Beech - National Theatre Live: *Golden Boy* 2pm and 7pm Page 34
22 Broadlands: Meet yOur Local Authers Wivelrod Barns 3pm Page 37
25 Celtish Advent Concerts St Lawrence Church 2.30pm & 7pm Page 46
27 Bentworth Film Night: *The Devil Wears Prada 2* Jubilee Hall 7pm Page 39
28 Start of Library: Paint Yourself Happy to 19th Nov 10.30am – 12.30pm Page 32
29 Beech- Christmas Gift Fair 1 Wellhouse Road 10am – 2pm Page 38
29 Lasham Christmas Bazaar St Mary's Church, Lasham 11am – 2pm Page 41
29 Broadlands Christmas Wreath Making Wivelrod Barns 2-4pm Page 40

DECEMBER

2 Roedowns WI: 'Strictly sequins at Christmas' Wiltshire Room 7.30pm
4 Medstead Players: ***Aladdin*** Medstead Village Hall 7.30pm Pages 14, 22 & 43
5 Medstead Players: ***Aladdin*** Medstead Village Hall 2pm & 7.30pm
5 Library: Festive Florals: Metalic Watercolour Wreath Workshop 2– 4.30pm Page 42
6 Gigs by the Green Beech: Salt House *Share the Light Winter Tour* 7pm Page 44
8 ASA: Peter Medhurst: *Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht*
11 Treloar's Christmas Fair at Holybourne, Alton, GU34 4GL 1:00–4:00pm P 45

*** * ***

BENTWORTH

BENTWORTH CARE GROUP

Jackie Crawford

The members on duty for medical appointments in November are:

Diana Willis 07958 912 260; Sue Brooking 07766 886 411;
Melanie Day 07412 938 583

We are also happy to pick up prescriptions or do shopping for those unable to do so themselves.

THE MUCK IN COFFEE MORNING



Come and join us on a Monday morning, for coffee / tea and lots of biscuits for just £1, much of which goes to charity. Our last donation was to the RNLI. We meet from 10.30am to 11.30am in Parsonage Farm Barn, with MANY thanks to Emma and David Wiggin.

NEW BABY

Caroline Hawes

Congratulations to
Jake and Camilla Milburn

Enzo Anthony Warwick Milburn
was born on 21st August,
a brother for Delphi.

Jake and Camilla were married
at St Mary's in June 2021.





A WINTER'S THOUGHT

"Fred" Moir

NOW THAT THE NIGHTS ARE DRAWING IN, may I suggest something that we were taught many years ago viz "When out at night wear something white! "

When walking in the village without street lighting nor pavements, it is hard to spot those wearing black jackets on our narrow lanes.

Please think about making yourself visible to drivers. Thanks.

BENTWORTH FILM NIGHT **Sue Brooking**

Friday 27th November – Jubilee Hall



Please join us for the final film night of 2026, when we will be screening the comedy drama, "**The Devil Wears Prada 2**" on Friday, 27th November.

The all-star cast of Meryl Streep, Anne Hathaway, Emily Blunt and Stanley Tucci reprise their roles, from the original 2006 film, The Devil Wears Prada.

The sequel is set two decades after the events of the first film. It follows Andy Sachs (Hathaway) as she helps Miranda Priestly (Streep) navigate a new media landscape and corporate threats to the survival of *Runway* magazine.

Please join us to support your local film night, watch this fun film, and catch up with friends!

Doors open at 7pm with the film showing at 7.30pm.

Tickets £5 on the door (Small Notes and change for entrance fees, drinks, and ice cream, very much appreciated). This is a social event open to all, please feel free to bring friends along too.

* * *

LASHAM

QUIZ EVENING **Michael Del Mar**

The joys of our newly reordered church were demonstrated again when a challenging Quiz Evening took place. Thanks to the organisational skills of Jane and Frances, and the question masters, Ken and Cate, the church was full of people clutching bottles and nibbles to inspire them to tackle the challenging questions.





Pear Tree Cottage - oh well done Maryanne, back with all the answers - and Barrach Cottage proved invincible, and Sarah collected the coveted shield and the bottle. Or was it the shield and the coveted bottle?





In spite of their name, Simply the Best, Millie's amazing football knowledge, and Frances and Richard's youth, the geriatrics proudly took home the wooden spoon.



It was a terrific bonding evening of great hilarity, and wonderful to welcome back ex-Lashamites, and some from Alton and Bentworth. Everyone got stuck in to clear up at the end, and within fifteen minutes the place was ready for the service due the next morning.

Enormous thanks to those who put a lot of work into giving us a mind bending evening.

Villagers go head to head **Jane Slater**

Following the reorganisation of St Marys Church the villagers came head to head in September to test their brain power at the first Lasham Quiz. It was a very well organised event, with tables set to reduce any cheating (surely no one would dare in such a venue) and a superb set of varied rounds carefully prepared by quiz master Ken Thomas and his very able assistant, Cate. Teams came fully loaded with drinks and snacks and were tested over a couple of hours on all manner of subjects.





Alex was rather disappointed that there was only one question on Greek mythology and those of us who were hoping for a guess the tune round had to play instead a guess the comedian round.

The scores remained tight over the night until Ken threw in his last bonus round, which opened up the chance for any team to win by cracking a code and the tension rose. Team 'crisp' were crowned the boffins of Lasham and are now proud owners of the beautifully crafted Lasham Quiz master shield kindly made and donated by Richard. Ironically the team called simply the best had to take home the wooden spoon. Had there been an award for the best snacks they would have been the clear winner on that however. The night was a great success, raising funds for the church upkeep and bringing laughter and warmth to our lovely new space.

LASHAM VILLAGE CELEBRATE HARVEST FESTIVAL

Cate Baynton

Lasham Church was filled with warmth and community spirit on 3rd October as villagers gathered for a delightful harvest supper. The event marked a special milestone, being the first harvest supper held in the church since its recent reordering, showcasing the beautifully updated space.

About 35 people attended the evening, coming together to celebrate the season and it was especially lovely that Reverend Peter and Reverend Ingrid Owen-Jones were able to join the gathering.





The village cooks truly excelled, preparing a mouthwatering assortment of comforting cottage pies, followed by a delicious selection of fruit crumbles for dessert.

Particular thanks go to the cooks for the wonderful food, to Catherine Grassi and Gina Toth for helping to organise the event, and to Frances Parris and Sarah Miskella for their efforts in setting up the church.

Everyone had a lovely time, enjoying the excellent food and the wonderful company of fellow villagers in a perfectly revived community hub.

Harvest Supper

Jane Slater



Despite the changing weather patterns, October is still very much our traditional harvest period and Lasham villagers have always come together for a simple, wholesome feast to celebrate. This year the event was moved from Grassi's barn to the church which can now easily accommodate a large group of people around tables and this saved the usual army of cooks ferrying food to and from the Aga to the table and dear Catherine mounds of washing up the next day! We were told to arrive promptly at 6 with our steaming cottage pies and crumbles but in usual Lasham style there was far too much chatter and laughter before dinner and so the array of food warmers Cate had provided were invaluable. Sarah started the evening with Grace and then we all tucked in to the delicious food. The church was filled with great conversation and neighbourly warmth, and we were delighted to see Ian and Claire from the Gables, our newest residents. The event raised **£320** to be split between church upkeep and the farming charity, RABI.

Special thanks to Cate, Gina and Catherine for organising and to all the cooks and helpers on the night.

LASHAM COFFEE MORNING

Anthea Del Mar

The newly ordered church has brought to fruition all the hopes we had for it. It has given us the much needed space in the village to get together.

As the attached photographs will show, we had the monthly coffee morning hosted by Sandra, Tony and Amanda. As usual, we all ate far too many of Sandra's delicious cakes and biscuits which put to shame those of us who resort to buying our offerings from Avenue Nurseries.













The next coffee morning will be hosted by the Station Cottages team, and I am assured that Mark will be manning the coffee machine.

It will take place on Monday 2nd November at 10.30 am. All are warmly welcomed.



And then there was a very informal visit from the new **Bishop of Basingstoke**, **Bishop Kelly**, who came by for coffee and croissants (thank you, Antonia) to meet some of her new flock before going on to both Bentworth and Shalden.

It was all very relaxed as we sat round and learnt a bit about her, and her thoughts for the future. It was a much appreciated visit, made all the better by the presence of our new rector, Tim Gomm. Lots of welcome new faces.









In fact we are having quite a bonanza of bishops, as on **December 6th the Bishop of Winchester is coming to the church** to bless the re-ordering of the church (slightly behind the curve, one might suggest). Everyone is encouraged to attend - a Bishop in his full medieval regalia is indeed a splendid sight t behold.



And so we head for Christmas and the BAZAAR on 29th November. How wonderful that we will not have to hurdle over pews to set up the Christmas stalls!

SPITFIRE EVENING

Frances Parris

St Mary's Church welcomed the village and local community for a captivating evening on Saturday, 10 October for a fascinating talk by guest speaker Steve Markham who offered attendees a rare, behind-the-scenes insight into his extraordinary journey of building his very own Spitfire—an aircraft he now regularly takes to the skies. Audience members were captivated as Steve shared the engineering challenges, dedication, and sheer passion required to fulfil his dream.

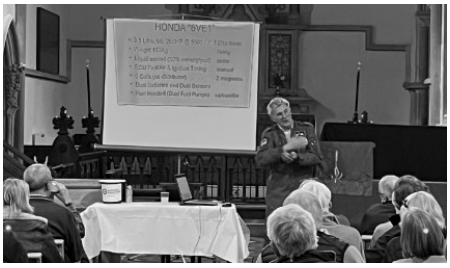
For nearly two decades Steve has poured his time and skill into a remarkable tribute to the RAF and, in the process, has raised money and awareness of the RAF Benevolent Fund.











The story unfolded at the start – 2006 when he started building the 'Odiham Spitfire' an 80% scale replica of a Photo Reconnaissance Mk PRXI aircraft that flew with No. 4 Squadron based at RAF Odiham during the summer of 1944.

The re-ordered church interior provided a welcoming and flexible setting for the crowd, who enjoyed a lively social atmosphere alongside the presentation. Guests were treated to hot sausages in rolls, and a subsidised bar.

We would like to extend special thanks to Simon Hancock, Jo & her sister for their help on the night – also to The Royal Oak for the use of their car park.

However, the biggest thanks must go to Steve Markham for sharing his inspirational story and all the attendees for their generosity – a total of £871 was raised. The event proved yet again that the recent re-ordering of our church brings the community together as well as raising funds. The proceeds will support the ongoing upkeep and mission of St Mary's Church plus a donation to the RAF Benevolent Fund.

JAMES SUNDERLAND - MOUNT KILIMANJARO

Clare Sunderland

Following in the footsteps (excuse the pun!) of the Shaylors and the Goors, Lasham's very own James Sunderland (Proud alumni of The Beehive nursery in Shalden & Bentworth school, now aged 20) made a successful ascent of Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania in early July.

This expedition was organised by his engineering firm (Atkins) to raise funds for the water infrastructure charity Dig Deep, supporting access to clean water, safe sanitation and good hygiene, for over 1 million people in Bomet County, Kenya.

A Huge Thank You to everyone who sponsored him, his firm raised over £200k to fund infrastructure for an area where 2 out of 3 people don't have access to clean water and water-bourne diseases remain a major killer of the under 5s.





Huge respect to the Tanzanian porters who keep intrepid climbers safe at 6000m as their day to day.

James & the Team



James was not finished there, 3 weeks later he completed the New Forest Triathlon as part of a relay team – just for fun.

* * *

SHALDEN

St PETER & St PAUL GUILD OF MARTHA

Kirsty Ennever

November
7 Jane Shirvell / Lin Baxter
14 Karen Saponaro / Lynne Hignett
21 Michele Rankin / Kirsty Ennever
28 Rozanne Wilson / Rosalind Ommanney

December
5 Jane Shirvell / Lin Baxter
12 Karen Saponaro / Lynne Hignett
19 Michele Rankin / Kirsty Ennever
26 Rozanne Wilson / Rosalind Ommanney

BISHOP KELLY VISITS SHALDEN CHURCH

Peter Rankin

On Thursday 1st October the Parish of BLS had a visit from Bishop Kelly, Bishop of Basingstoke. She visited all three of our parish Churches and Bentworth school with our new Rector, Revd Tim Gomm.



She is a very friendly and pleasant lady, chatted with us and answered a few leading questions well and with good humour.

She seemed to particularly enjoy the setting and views from Shalden's rural Church, her last stop on a tour to meet the parishes in the Northern Archdeaconry.

2026 SHALDEN BONFIRE AND FIREWORKS

Afandi Darlington



Shalden Bonfire and Fireworks will take place at 6:00pm on Saturday 7th November, at Shalden Recreation Ground. We look forward to welcoming everyone for a wonderful evening of fireworks, hot food and a splendid bonfire.

All are welcome and bring along some friends! Entry will be on the gate at £8 per person (this includes a hot sausage on a stick and a cup of homemade soup), children under 5 have free entry. We are able to take both cash and card payments, and a range of drinks will be available for purchase, including warm mulled wine, beer and soft drinks.

SHALDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Katherine Horton
Clerk to Council

Parish Council meetings: 7:30pm in Shalden Village Hall.

Residents are warmly invited to attend these meetings which provide opportunities through the year to raise questions or share concerns to the Councillors.
The next few dates are:

- Wednesday 18th November
- Wednesday 13th January

Recreation Ground



Improvement works on the community facilities have continued at the Recreation Ground. At the time of writing the old Pavilion has been removed and ground works have started ahead of the new Pavilion's arrival. The Parish Council is still working to have the new unit in place for the Fireworks event at the start of November and is keeping the organisers informed. The event will go ahead regardless as contingency plans have been drawn up.

Planning: The Parish Council is consulted by EHDC Planning Department as part of the planning application process and has recently commented on proposals that run counter to the principles of the EHDC Local Plan. Details of applications can be found at the following website https://publicaccess.easthants.gov.uk

Have you signed up for updates from the Parish Council via the link on the website? https://www.shalden-pc.gov.uk

* * *

EVENTS

THE MEDSTEAD PLAYERS

Tania Norman

Get ready for magic, mayhem, and a whole lot of laundry! Join **Aladdin** on his quest to win the hand of Princess Jasmine, outsmart the evil Abanazar, and keep up with the hilarious Widow Twankey. With a wish-granting Genie and a magic lamp on his side, what could possibly go wrong? A brilliant, fun-filled traditional panto for the whole family at Medstead Village Hall! Friday 4th December at 7.30 and Saturday 5th at 2 and 7.30 pm.

Tickets are £5 for children and £10 for adults.

HAMPSHIRE MEDICAL FUND CHRISTMAS FAIR

Caroline Laird

12-13th November 2026

Get ahead with your Christmas preparations at the Hampshire Medical Fund Christmas Fair on 12th- 13th November, kindly hosted by private members club, Barnsgrove, near Basingstoke, RG29 1GF.

Please join us for a carefully curated shopping experience featuring a brilliant array of artisan stalls, boutique retailers and luxury lifestyle brands in this stunning venue. Delicious food will be available in Barnsgove's beautiful Palmers Bar on both days, plus some fantastic complimentary speaker talks, a local children's choir performance and a Candover Brook Sparkling Wine reception on Thursday evening.

A Christmas Fair with a difference ~Tickets from £8 (when purchased in advance). 12th November 16.00 - 21.00. 13th November 9.30 - 16.00. See online for more details.

The Hampshire Medical Fund is a charity that buys cutting-edge medical equipment for the NHS hospitals in Basingstoke, Winchester and Andover that is not otherwise affordable on NHS budgets. Visit www.hampshiremedicalfund.org/events for more information or tickets.



ALTON ORGAN SOCIETY

Elspeth Mackeggie Gurney

Our 60th season of recitals opened with a brilliant concert given by Dr David Hill, a much-valued Patron of the Society & former Master of the Music at Westminster Cathedral, Winchester Cathedral & St John's College Cambridge, making a very welcome return to St Lawrence. And what a recital it was!

David's programme opened with Bach's Fantasia super "Komm Heilige Geist, Herre Gott", a incessant voices speaking in many tongues. As with all the pieces played , the sounds produced were beautiful & the playing seemingly effortless.

Passacaglia in D by Buxtehude followed – Bach was, of course, inspired by Buxtehude – as a young man of 20 he walked for 12 days from Arnstadt to Lubeck just to hear meet him. The Passacaglia was notable for the depth of sound in the pedals and it grew to a majestic climax from a steady & quiet beginning.

"Three Impromptus" by Samuel Coleridge-Taylor came next, a composer of the Victorian period now deservedly better known for compositions other than Hiawatha's Wedding Feast! These pieces incorporated syncopated rhythms interspersed with more lyrical passages.

"Cantabile" from the second symphony and "Toccata in B flat" from Pieces de Fantasie Suite No 2 by Vierne followed. Cantabile is a reflective & expressive piece in minor key contrasting wildly with the Toccata, described by David Hill as a terrifying white-knuckle ride in 5 flats which shows off the composer not the player.

The penultimate piece was "In Quiet Mood" by Florence Price, a black American composer writing in the early twentieth century and influenced in her compositions by French composers. This beautiful piece is a continuous piece of repeated patterns of lyrical sounds.

And last but certainly not least, Dr Hill played Liszt's monumental & gorgeous Fantasy & Fugue on the chorale "Ad nos, ad salutarem undam". The playing of this huge work, considered to be Liszt's best piece for organ, was compelling, and delivered with technical brilliance and pace, making the 26 minutes it took to play seem like 10!

The next recital **on November 3rd** is to be given by **David Halls**, Director of Music at Salisbury Cathedra,l whose programme includes works by Bach, Mendelssohn, Boellmann, Elgar & Dubois.

The recital starts at 8pm, refreshments available from 7.30pm. Tickets are £14. We look forward to welcoming you.



CURTIS MUSEUM & ALLEN GALLERY 2026

Jill Line

Curtis Museum OPENING TIMES: Tuesday to Saturday 10am – 4.30pm 01420 82802
www.hampshireculture.org.uk/curtis-museum

ALLEN GALLERY UPDATE

The Allen Gallery in Alton has been closed for redevelopment since December 2025 and will reopen in early 2027 with revitalised galleries, a welcoming community space and fresh ways to experience the nationally and internationally important ceramics collection. The project has included behind-the-scenes work to repair and restore a significant number of objects to ensure they can be enjoyed for generations to come.

*As part of the project, Hampshire Cultural Trust is pleased to offer a range of **volunteer roles** at the gallery, from welcoming visitors to the venue and supporting cafe and front desk operations, to offering guided tours of the collections or helping with community workshops and events. To find out more about these roles please email alton.museums@hampshireculturaltrust.org.uk.*

This major redevelopment is managed by Hampshire Cultural Trust and made possible with support from The National Lottery Heritage Fund, as well as East Hampshire District Council and Alton Town Council.

CURTIS MUSEUM UPDATE

Over the summer Alton Town Council and East Hampshire District Council have confirmed interim funding support for the Curtis Museum, our town's dedicated local history museum. The venue was placed at risk of closure following a significant cut in funding to its operator, Hampshire Cultural Trust. A community campaign, led by the Curtis Museum Community Partnership, was the catalyst for conversations which ultimately secured £30k of interim funding for the Museum.

A new Joint Management Committee has been formed, which brings together representatives from the two councils, alongside the Curtis Museum Community Partnership, Friends of the Curtis Museum, Hampshire County Council and the Alton Assembly Rooms, alongside operator Hampshire Cultural Trust. This group meets regularly to support the development of a long-term plan for the future of the Curtis Museum.

The JMC launched a community survey in September, which has gathered just under 600 responses, sharing local views on the importance and potential of the Museum. The results will be available by the time you read this. Thank you to everyone who took part.

A consultation workshop was set up in mid September, bringing together councillors for the town, local groups, organisations and residents to consider the future of the Curtis Museum. Informed by initial results from the survey, the workshop developed a wide range of potential ideas to make the Museum more attractive to visitors, more relevant to the local community and to increase funding.

We look forward to keeping you updated as our work progresses.

Curtis Museum: ACTIVITIES IN NOVEMBER

For younger visitors:

Ancient Romans vs Ancient Britons

We're travelling back 2000 years to the Roman invasion of Southern Britain. Our resident Roman, Marcus, and our resident Briton, Cedric, are recruiting. Choose your side and train with them if you have what it takes.

Continues throughout the Autumn term.

Dotty the Dodo has a new Autumn Facts Trail to follow. Until 28th November. FREE.

TALK organised by the Friends of the Curtis Museum and Allen Gallery -

The Importance of Mediaeval Women, Part 2.

Continuing Caroline Stapleton's fascinating talk.

Thursday 12th November. 7 for 7.30pm in **Room 7, Alton Community Centre**.

Free to Friends, £2 for guests. Tea/coffee provided.

Treloar's **Eloise Trowbridge**

Treloar's Christmas Fair 2026 – Friday 11 December 2026

Join us at **Treloar's on Friday 11 December 2026 1.00pm – 4.00pm**

for the Treloar's Christmas Fair! Treloar's, Holybourne, Alton, GU34 4GL

Feel festive and enjoy the holiday atmosphere at Treloar's as you explore our student stalls with handcrafted goodies and an array of holiday gifts. Try your luck and participate in our annual hamper raffle, offering a chance to win from an assortment of hampers. Enjoy delicious festive refreshments and sweet treats, the perfect way to treat yourself.

All money raised at the Christmas Fair will go towards supporting our students, making it a joyful event with a meaningful cause.

You can find more information on our website:

https://www.treloar.org.uk/events/treloars-christmas-fair-2026

BEECH BONFIRE NIGHT **Joanna Curtis**

Saturday 7th November:

Torchlight Procession, Bonfire, Fireworks, Bar, BBQ

5pm meet at Beech Village Hall

Tickets: Advance tickets available from beechvillage.org.uk/events

or they can be purchased on the night, either at the village hall (between 5pm and 5:30pm, or on the recreation ground from 5:30pm.

Timings:

5pm Village Hall opens, wax torches available for purchase

5:30pm Torch-led procession sets off for the Recreation Ground

6pm Bonfire lit

6:30pm Firework display

Remember this November's Beech Bonfire Night

GIGS BY THE GREEN, BEECH

Joanna Curtis

Salt House bring their Share the Light Winter Tour to Beech

Sunday 6 December, come and see Salt House. The Guardian calls them "a gentle, lulling delight." They are a beautiful sounding folk trio who will soothe you and leave you feeling relaxed just before the Christmas onslaught.

They are playing ten venues nationwide. One of them, Beech Village Hall, GU34 4AQ

Doors 7pm | Music 7.45pm

Early-bird tickets £16.50 until 15 November. Tickets from beechvillage.org.uk/events Live music in the heart of Beech

THE SCREEN BY THE GREEN, BEECH

Joanna Curtis

A marriage reckoning with the past. A man gambling on his future: this November at the Screen by the Green

Friday *13 November:* ***Midwinter Break*** (12A). Lesley Manville and Ciarán Hinds play a retired Glasgow couple whose trip to Amsterdam brings decades of silence to the surface. ★★★★★ The Guardian.

Saturday *21 November*: NT Live's ***Golden Boy***. Josh O'Connor (The Crown) is a violinist lured into boxing in Depression-era New York. Clifford Odets' 1937 drama, filmed live at the Almeida and with a string quartet on stage. ★★★★★ Sunday Times

Small venue. Big screen. Special atmosphere.

Beech Village Hall, 1 Wellhouse Road, Beech, Alton GU34 4AQ. Cabaret seating, licensed bar, free parking.

Midwinter Break £7 advance, 7.30pm.

Golden Boy £14 advance. Matinee 2pm, evening 7pm.

beechvillage.org.uk/events

Community cinema with heart and soul

* * *

EVENT REPORT

Late-Summer Concert Raises More Than £850 for Local and International Causes

Medstead's annual "Music for a Late Summer Evening" charity concert returned on Saturday 12 September, bringing the community together for an evening of live music and fundraising.



The concert raised more than £850 for St Andrew's Church and the Alton Climate Action Network's GUMBI Malawi project. The ACAN initiative funds solar-powered irrigation pumps that make additional harvests possible, helping to feed hundreds of families in a drought-prone region of Africa: A heart-warming short video: Saving Lives in Malawi – Alton Climate Action Network

We were delighted to welcome back regular performers John and Annabel Lofthouse, Patrick and Wendy Busby, Jenny Griffiths, Alison Crow and Kathy Starkey. They were joined by Georgie Pethiyagoda, a talented music scholar at Cheltenham Ladies' College.

The large and appreciative audience enjoyed a varied programme of beautifully performed music, ranging from famous opera arias—including Mozart's "Letter Duet" and "Rivolgete a lui lo sguardo"—to favourites from musical theatre.

The programme also featured several moving classical works. The first movement of César Franck's Sonata in A major was arranged for flute, while the final movement featured violin. A distinctive arrangement of the Romance from Chopin's Piano Concerto No. 1 was performed as a piano duet, alongside solo piano works by Rachmaninoff and Chopin.

* * *

CLUBS

ALTON

ALTON CAMERA CLUB

Renee Smith

It's been a busy start to the 2026-27 programme at Alton Camera Club. The new season got underway with a talk by Tony Worobiec entitled 'The Beauty of Monochrome'. Tony's passion for monochrome shone through as he shared a stunning collection of images that truly lived up to the title. He also shared loads of practical tips — from choosing the right images for mono to post-processing techniques that add mood, impact, and creativity.

We welcomed new members to our club who got involved straight away by entering our first competition of the season 'Song Titles'. A total of 56 images were entered into this competition. The judge, Joe Bird, awarded *first place to Nick Brock for "We'll Meet Again"*, second place to Lynne Harles for "*Everybody Hurts",* third place to Jane Somerville for *"Here Comes the Rain Again"*. Highly Commended merits were awarded to: Tom Bird for 'Brighton Rock', Neo Bissonnet for 'One Step Beyond', Linda Neve for 'Highway to Hell', Jason Bunce for 'Lollipop', Chris Osborn for 'Autumn Leaves' & Andrew Sorrell for 'Iris'.





Former club member, Tony Cole, returned to the club to give a talk on "What's the Best Approach?" an enlightening insight into how he prepares and visualises the best approach to get the images he wants.

The sun shone on our field trips. We took a trip to the Isle of Wight and visited Osborne House and had a last-minute trip to the Kite Festival at Southsea.

Outside of the club, our photographers go from strength to strength. One of our younger members, Neo Bissonnet, held an exhibition of his work at the Freedom Through Expression Gallery in Alton. Paul Booker had his wildlife image selected by the Guild of Photographers as their Image of the Day.

Do you have an interest in photography? We welcome new members all year round to our weekly meetings at Holybourne Village Hall, London Road. We meet every Wednesday at 7.30pm. All levels of photographer are welcome. Contact us for details via Messenger or www.altoncameraclub.org.uk

ASA

Vanessa MacMahon

Forthcoming Lectures:

Tuesday 10th November: Giles Ramsey: *Osborne, Pinter and Co; Post War British Theatre*

In 1956 British theatre audiences heard a harsh new voice in John Osborne's play "Look Back in Anger". Within two years Pinter's extraordinary play "The Birthday Party"….

Tuesday 8th December: Peter Medhurst: *Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht*

The story of the world-renowned Christmas carol. The Austrian carol Stille Nacht Heilige Nacht - Silent Night, Holy Night - came into being just over 1800 years after the birth of Christ, and....

These lectures will both be held at Martin Read Hall at Alton College commencing at 7:30pm (doors open 6:45pm).



ENERGY ALTON AGM 2026

Colin Aiken

Energy Alton is a community charity that provides free energy saving advice.

On 19 November we are holding our AGM at the Assembly Rooms in Alton at 7:00pm for a 7:30pm start.

Following the AGM, there will be a screening of the film POWER STATION.

POWER STATION follows two people who decide to try something extraordinary: turning their London street into an energy-generating community. It's a story about neighbours, money, ambition, setbacks, creativity and what happens when people start talking to one another about what might be possible.

For more information, please visit our webpage.

There will be light refreshments and time for discussion after the film.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

GROUP SPACES STILL AVAILABLE

Colin Aiken

Our new annual programme of events for 2026-27 started in September, and we have over 85 different interest groups to choose from such as Art, Dance and Fitness, Games, History, Music and Wellbeing. We also arrange excursions, classical concerts, monthly films and talks, plus a coffee morning and weekend activities. Over 60 of our groups have spaces available for you to join. Please see our website for full details.

Depending on what you would like to do*, our membership fees range from £10 to £65 for the year ahead. You may join online via our website or by completing a membership application form that is available from the Alton Community Centre.

Most of our activities take place at the Alton Community Centre, and we do have some outdoor activities such as cycling and walking. Our monthly talks and coffee mornings are open to everyone.

Copies of our Annual Programme are available from the Alton Community Centre, Alton Library, the Curtis Museum and Alton Assembly Rooms. If you would like to find out more about a particular group, then you can contact the Group Leader via our website. For general membership enquiries, please contact the Membership Secretary at alton.u3a.members@gmail.com.

* Subject to a space being available in the group.

Please check with the Group Leader first before joining.

Visit our website at: alton.u3asite.uk

Registered Charity no. 1035164

MEDSTEAD

HAMPSHIRE FEDERATION OF WI - MEDSTEAD

Gill Siddall

Members and two visitors were welcomed to the October meeting.

Speaker for the afternoon was Sue Kelly talking about and demonstrating Tai Chi. Sue has practised and taught Tai Chi for about 30 years now. Tia Chi is a gentle, low impact form of exercise that combines slow, flowing movements with mindful breathing and focused awareness. Regular practice can help improve balance, coordination, posture and flexibility, while also building strength and confidence in movement. As well as it's physical benefits Tai Chi is widely recognised for supporting mental wellbeing. The calm, meditative nature of the practice helps reduce stress, promote relaxation and encourage a greater sense of inner calm and focus. Members took part in a calming afternoon of Tai Chi with some seated and the majority standing.

The next meeting is on Thursday November 12th when Erica Wheeler will be telling us about 'Wonderful Women of Winchester'. Erica is a Blue Badge Guide in Winchester so we look forward to a fascinating talk.

New members and visitors are always welcome at the meetings in Medstead Village Hall at 2pm on the second Thursday of each month.

HAMPSHIRE FEDERATION OF WI – ROEDOWNS

Diana Constantine

Forthcoming meetings:	**4th November**	CPR & defibrillator demonstration
	2nd December	**'**Strictly sequins at Christmas'
	January	No meeting
	3rd February	Curling (at Alton Community Centre)

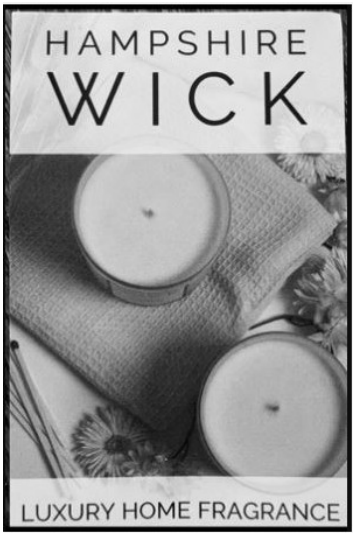
Our October meeting was a talk by Lauren, the owner of the Hampshire Wick.

The company was established four years ago, and they produce luxury home fragrance products, which are supplied to thirty shops, spas, boutiques and to John Lewis.

The products used are non toxic , eco friendly and the wax used is soy, the perfumes are produced in Scotland. The products include candles, diffusers, and wax melts. Lauren also runs candle making workshops as well as doing talks to promote her business.

The room was filled with wonderful fragrances all evening and everyone enjoyed taking the opportunity to buy some of the products.

Hampshire Wick can be found on Instagram, Facebook and they have a website.



Roedowns WI meet in the Wiltshire Room, Medstead Village Hall on the first Wednesday of each month at 19.30hrs. Guest speakers, outings and good company.

Tea/coffee, biscuits, raffle and gift voucher prize at each meeting. Visitors and new members are very welcome. Contact Secretary on
roedownssec@hampshirewi.org.uk
Or President Jill Kerr 01420 564116.





THE MEDSTEAD PLAYERS

The Medstead Players are putting on their annual pantomime. This year it is **Aladdin**. It is on Friday 4th December at 7.30 and Saturday 5th at 2pm and 7.30 pm.

Tickets are £5 for children and £10 for adults.

MEDSTEAD GARDENERS' CLUB

Caroline Daniels

'Nothing lasts forever, even cold November rain' Guns and Roses

We had to wait until well into October before we had the much needed rain. It went from almost an endless summer to suddenly deep autumn!



Last month on 6th October we had Chris Bird speak to the club about 'Ferns and Grasses' Chris was very entertaining with an informative and light-hearted talk. We learned that ferns have two ways of producing more plants through either seeds or spores. They like damp conditions away from strong sun and do not cope with drought. This is why many ferns have looked dead and brown during the summer. The grasses he showed us with slides and in pots to see was really interesting as they come in so many forms. Some grasses can grow to 10ft in height and they have some beautiful foliage. Tree ferns were shown and how they must be watered at the top as it can take months for water to travel up the plant to the foliage at the top. The grass called miscanthus was passed around and had delightful almost feathery foliage which was very attractive.





A very special event for the club is Adam Frost (BBC Gardeners World) speaking on 3rd November about 'Getting the most from your Garden'

Medstead Gardeners' Club is over 50 years old and we are celebrating with this special speaker

Medstead Gardeners' Club Programme 2026

Month	***Date***	***Event***
November	Tuesday 3rd	Adam Frost 'Getting the most from Your Garden'
December	Tuesday 1st	AGM and Christmas Social (Members Only)

Meetings are held at Medstead Village Hall. Doors open at 7pm with meetings starting at 7.30pm Membership £12 per person Guests £3 per visit (Max 2 visits)

Some of the gardening jobs for November- This is a good time to start off a hedge by planting bare root plants. Another great project for November is to start a compost bin. Maybe make from pallets. Start collecting leaves to make leaf mould. Plant tulips. Tidy up strawberry beds by cutting back old leaves. Cut back tall bushes to protect them from wind damage as winter and storms begin. Lift and store dahlias and cannas before winter. Help hedgehogs by making a passage through a fence. They can walk a mile a night looking for food. Mulch plants to protect roots from wet and frost such as salvias, agapanthus and fuchsias in the garden. Protect more delicate shrubs and trees with a fleece such as banana and tree ferns.

Enjoy putting the garden to bed for winter

www.medsteadgardenersclub.org

CLUB CONTACTS

Medstead Bowls: Dennis Church 01420 564475 dennis@windhamhill.plus.com

Medstead Players: Tania McCullough chairman@medsteadplayers.co.uk

or Secretary Julia Halls 07747 665 968 ; or publicity@medsteadplayers.co.uk

Medstead Tennis: www.medsteadtennisclub.org.uk

Alton Rotary: Roy Roberts 07768 070 572 Mike 07808 093 953

* * *

REGULAR FEATURES

COUNTRY MATTERS

Julian Lewis

Traditional ploughing in Bentworth and

Hi TECH CATTLE FENCES without PHYSICAL FENCES.

When I wrote the October contribution it was raining [20.5mm that day] but since then there has been little more – just 18mm [0.73 ins] in a month - 9th October today. The rolling 12 month rainfall figure has now dropped to 878 mm [35.5 ins]. At this time in 2024 the figure was 1361.5 mm [55 ins] per year.

The ground is dryish but has softened enough for the 2027 crops to be planted and the seed to germinate so that the brown countryside is turning green. All of the oilseed crops have been planted although some crops are being nibbled by cabbage stem flea beetle which can decimate crops – about 10% of these crops have been lost according to one local agronomist. Most of the first wheats after a break crop are planted and emerged, the second wheats are being planted and beans will be sown soon. The potential problem with planting in September and early October is that weeds and disease can flourish before the cold weather arrives to shut down growth until the spring.

Traditionally fields were ploughed as part of the replanting process that aerated the soil, buried the previous crop rubbish and weeds and provided a good soil environment for the next crop to germinate. Ploughing has almost ceased as a cultivation because it is slow, can be vulnerable to wet weather, expensive and uses lots of fossil fuel [diesel] to create the seedbed.

The Ives family at Ashley Farm, Bentworth hosted a ploughing match on 3rd October. About 40 ploughman and women took part and included some youngsters in their teens and a pair of Shire horses that had come from Kent to take part as practice for the National Ploughing Championships later in October. The horses were called Sid and Sam and had



been together since they were 6 months old and are now 17 years old. They looked fantastic and were so calm and placid. With the guidance of their owner they were doing an excellent job and looked tremendous – see the photos. All of the ploughed plots looked good and the range of machinery impressive – some tractors were nearly 100 years old.







From old farm techniques to the modern age. Mixed farming [arable and livestock] had many benefits but farms tended to specialise in recent years partly because of the cost of fencing the animals – particularly cattle. To keep cattle in, a strong and robust fence is needed around the grazing area otherwise they can do a lot of damage if they escape and can be very hard to corral and recapture. Grazing cattle can utilise environmental crops which are a good food source. The environmental crops may have been sown to enhance soil fertility from leguminous plants that "fix" nitrogen from the soil, improve structure and provide a habitat for insects, birds and small mammals. Now with this new technology cattle can be grazed without a physical fence as follows:-

1. The cattle are fitted with battery powered collars. The collars have a solar charging capability so that the batteries are automatically recharged to avoid the problems associated with flat batteries.
2. A virtual fence is drawn which can be almost any shape or size and installed on a linked mobile phone or laptop.
3. When the grazing cattle approach the designated virtual fenced area limits the collar starts to buzz [or play music].
4. The volume increases as the animal nears the virtual boundary.
5. If the animal reaches the boundary it receives an electric shock similar in strength to a normal electric fence and backs away from that area into the rest of the grazing area.
6. It takes a very short time for the cattle to learn that loud music is not a good thing. [Does that work with human teenagers?]
7. The person in charge of the cattle can look on their mobile screen or laptop at any time and see the exact location of each animal identified by their unique number and also if any of them have tried to cross the virtual boundary.
8. Some cattle I know of are grazing land next to the busy A272 without secure physical fencing - no problems.

This system is known as "No Fence cattle collars" and it is interesting to see the YouTube videos of how it works. This is a game changing innovation that helps reduce the costs of keeping cattle and allows integrated farming systems which will benefit everyone. A lack of a fence is not a reason not to graze land - just amazing and it saves so much money.

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL - ALTON LIBRARY



The Joy of Giving That Goes Further

Christmas is about more than buying things. It's about the traditions we share, the people we care about and the simple things that make us feel connected. Writing Christmas cards. Choosing a thoughtful gift. Hanging decorations. Opening the advent calendar. Getting together with family and friends.

These are the things that make Christmas feel special.

But Christmas isn't an easy time for everyone. For some people, it can be a time of loneliness, financial pressure, illness, loss or uncertainty. That makes kindness, thoughtfulness and human connection even more important.

The simple joy of giving

There's something special about receiving a Christmas card that someone has taken the time to choose and write.

It might be a few words, a family photo or simply a name and a message inside. However simple, it's a reminder that someone is thinking of you. And that matters.

We believe that **a card means more than ever**, especially at a time when so much of our communication happens digitally. A handwritten card is something personal and tangible – something to keep, display and return to.

But what if your Christmas shopping could mean more?

At Cards for Good Causes, we believe you don't necessarily need to buy more to make a difference. You can simply make the things you're already buying count for more.

When you choose charity Christmas cards from Cards for Good Causes, your purchase helps support charities and good causes. So the card you send to a friend can bring them joy while also helping support a cause that matters. And the Christmas traditions you enjoy can help make a difference to people and communities facing difficult times.

Make Christmas Mean More

This Christmas, we're encouraging everyone to think about how the things they buy and the traditions they enjoy can go a little further.

It might be choosing a Christmas card that supports a charity close to your heart. It might be buying a gift that helps raise funds for a good cause. Or it might simply be taking the time to write a card to someone who may really appreciate hearing from you.

We work with charities supporting a wide range of causes, including children and families, cancer care and research, the armed forces community, hospices and care, mental wellbeing, wildlife and our natural environment, and people experiencing hardship or homelessness.

You can choose the cause that means something to you.

Buy what you would normally buy - but make the joy go further

Christmas doesn't have to be about buying more.

It can be about choosing thoughtfully, giving meaningfully and remembering that even small acts can make a difference.

So this Christmas, why not **Make Christmas Mean More**?

Send a card. Support a cause. Share a little joy. And make the joy go further.

We have a wide range of cards for sale at Alton Library and these are available to purchase during normal opening hours.

Library Opening Hours:

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
9.30am to 1.30pm	9.30am to 5pm	Closed	9.30am to 5pm	9.30am to 5pm	9.30am to 5pm

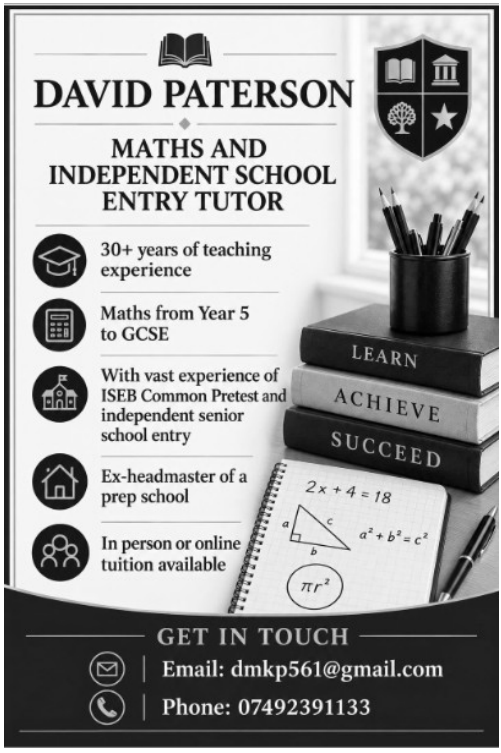
HAMPSHIRE FARMERS MARKETS

Alton Saturday November 14 • 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Sunday, November 1	Romsey Farmers' Market	• 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Sunday, November 1	Petersfield Farmers' Market	• 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Sunday, November 8	Winchester Farmers' Market	• 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Sunday, November 8	Whiteley Farmers' Market	• 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Sunday, November 15	Alresford Farmers' Market	• 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Saturday, November 21	Emsworth Farmers' Market	• 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Saturday, November 28	Ringwood Farmers' Market	• 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Sunday, November 29	Winchester Farmers' Market	• 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

BUS TIMETABLE run by Cresta Coaches of Alresford (01962 773236) only on Tuesdays and Fridays (NOT Saturdays) **- SERVICE 208**

Alton High Street	9.35	11.35	13.35
Beech Well House Road	9.43	11.43	13.43
Medstead War Memorial	9.49	11.49	13.49
Bentworth The Star	9.55	11.55	13.55
Alton High Street	10.09	12.09	



Alton Natural History Society Programme Nov to Dec 2026

Indoor Meetings

Venue Garden Room, Alton Community Centre, Amery St, Alton GU34 1HN What3Words ///instructs.spreads.viewing. Pay-and-Display car park adjacent.

Non-Members welcome but please consider a donation of £3 each.

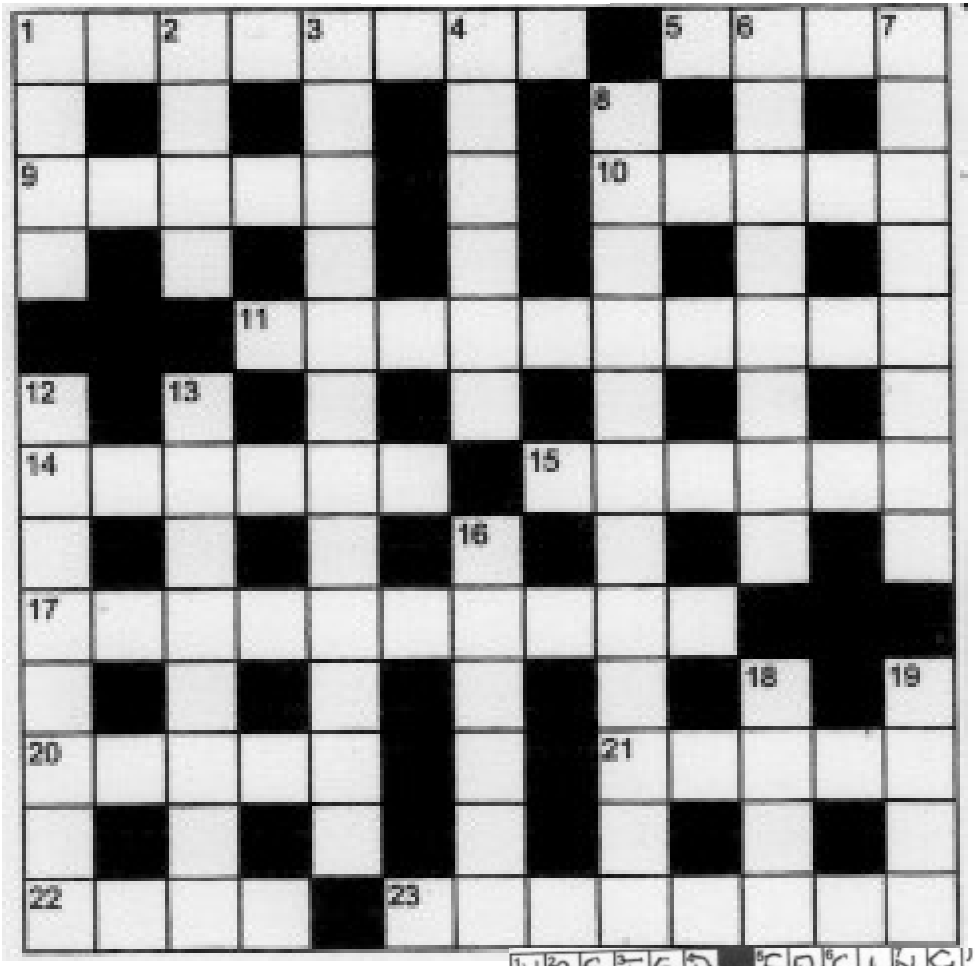
Refreshments Tea, coffee and biscuits available for a small donation.

MEMBERSHIP QUERIES Email altonnathistsoc@gmail.com

UNDER 18s welcome but please bring an adult with you (sorry, this is to comply with insurance)

Sat 7 Nov 2pm– 3.30pm	Wild Pavements: Exploring Britain's Cities with an Urban Naturalist Dr Amanda Tuke London-based urban naturalist Amanda Tuke works as a consultant botanist, leads urban plant and bird walks, teaches botany, and writes a monthly column in *Bird Watching* magazine. She will share some of her intriguing encounters with urban nature, several of which feature in her first book, *Wild Pavements*.
Sat 14 Nov 2pm- 3.30pm	Protecting Rivers and Chalk Streams with SmartRivers monitoring Dr Sam Green What lives beneath the surface of our rivers can inform us about ecosystem health. The SmartRivers citizen science programme combines traditional macroinvertebrate kick sampling with environmental (eDNA) monitoring to uncover freshwater biodiversity. Dr Sam Green, Senior Freshwater Ecologist at WildFish, will tell us why healthy rivers matter, how volunteers are contributing valuable ecological data, and how this information is helping to conserve and protect our freshwater environments.
Sat 5 Dec 2pm- 3.30pm	The Natural History and Identification of Finches Dan Banks Dan Banks, Citizen Science Office at Surrey Wildlife Trust, licensed bird ringer and ANHS section leader for ornithology, will talk about the identification and ecology of the finches that migrate to or live in the UK, leading us through the variety and differences displayed by these widespread and engaging birds. Bring pen and paper if you wish for notes, bearing in mind that his talk will include questions to get you thinking – and responding!
Sat 12 Dec 2pm- 3.30pm	Apps, Autofocus and Alchemilla: Field Identification in the Digital Age Rob Still Ecologist, photographer and publisher Rob Still, who created the acclaimed WILDGuide identification book series and co-wrote *British & Irish Wildflowers and Plants: A Pocket Guide*, is determined that field identification should be as accurate, straightforward and accessible as possible. He will take us on a botanical journey around Britain and Ireland, telling us about his latest project and exploring the pros and cons of today's digital technology, with anecdotes and tips for making the most of these innovations in the field.

CROSSWORD

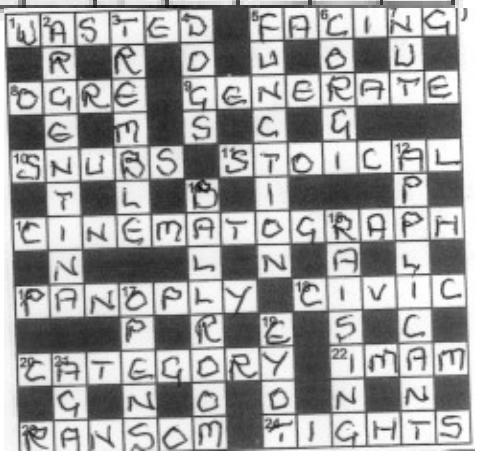


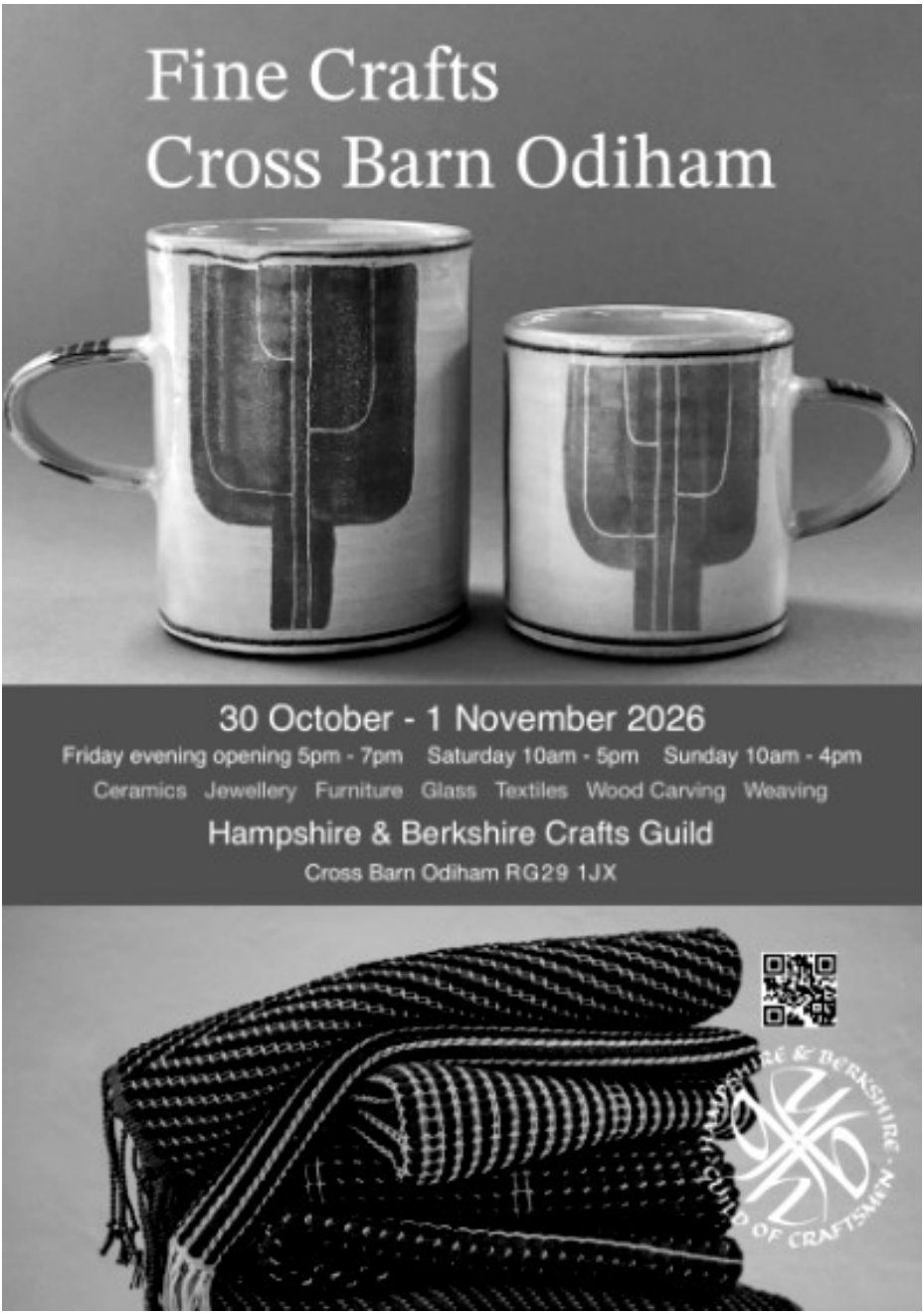
Clues Across

1. Restraint
5. Wound mark
9. Main Artery
10. Domain
11. Inaction
14. Scents
15. Dozen
17. Pleasing
20. African Mammal
21. Precise
22. Playthings
23. Hoarding

Clues Down

1. Warmth
2. Notorious Roman Emperor
3. Artisanship
4. Edge
6. Collar bone
7. Cue
8 Earners
12. Travel document
13. Opposite
16. Small hole
18. Indian robe
19. Hart




Fine Crafts
Cross Barn Odiham
30 October - 1 November 2026
Friday evening opening 5pm - 7pm Saturday 10am - 5pm Sunday 10am - 4pm
Ceramics Jewellery Furniture Glass Textiles Wood Carving Weaving
Hampshire & Berkshire Crafts Guild
Cross Barn Odiham RG29 1JX

Funded by UK Government

Hampshire County Council
Hampshire Achieves



Starting School... Ready, Steady, Go!

Alton Library

Thursdays 5 November - 3 December

11:15am - 12:15pm

FREE - Eligibility criteria applies
Booking is essential, please visit https://shop.hants.gov.uk/collections/library-courses to book your place. If you have issues booking online please contact branch staff or call 02392 232957



Funded by UK Government

Hampshire County Council
Hampshire Achieves



Paint Yourself Happy with Jacky

Alton Library

Saturdays 28 November - 19 December

10am - 12:30pm

FREE - Eligibility criteria applies
Booking is essential, please visit **https://shop.hants.gov.uk/collections/hampshire-achieves-adult-learning-skills** to book your place. If you have issues booking online please contact branch staff or call 02392 232957




Sat 7
Nov
BEECH BONFIRE NIGHT
Torchlight Procession
Fireworks I Bar I BBQ
beechvillage.org.uk/events


Screen by the Green
Friday 13 November | 7:30pm
MIDWINTER BREAK
beechvillage.org.uk/events


National Theatre Live
GOLDEN BOY
Saturday 21 November | 2pm & 7pm
Screen by the Green
beechvillage.org.uk/events

HAMPSHIRE MEDICAL FUND 2026

Christmas Fair

at Barnsgrove, Hampshire

Carefully curated artisan stalls, boutique retailers and luxury lifestyle brands

SHOP, EAT & MEET WITH FRIENDS

Thursday 12th November

16.00 - 21.00

- Candover Brook Sparkling Wine Reception
- Delicious Supper by Barnsgrove
- Guest Speaker – Author Tabitha Webb
- Seasonal & Party Styling Workshop with Thea Coley Style
- Festive Children's Choir Performance

Friday 13th November

9.30 -16.00

- Delicious Food & Seasonal Refreshments
- Complimentary Speaker Talks

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NORTH HAMPSHIRE AGENCY

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TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM

www.hampshiremedicalfund.org/events

ALL PROCEEDS TOWARDS CUTTING EDGE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

SUPPORTING YOUR LOCAL HOSPITALS

BARNSGROVE

WHITE LANE, GREYWELL, HAMPSHIRE, RG29 1GF


LIFE'S TOO SHORT
TO DRINK BAD WINE
Wine
TASTING
EVENING
DATE:
Friday, 20th November 2026
TIME:
6:15 pm for 6:30 pm start
VENUE:
Wivelrod Barns
Wivelrod
GU34 4AS
TICKETS: £30 per person
Includes a delicious cheeseboard.
Tickets include
A DELICIOUS
CHEESEBOARD
AVAILABLE FROM WEBSITE:
broadlandsgrouprda.org.uk/events
Join us for an evening of wine discovery!
Simon from The Naked Grape will be showcasing some wines from around the world to tempt your tastebuds.
Whether you're a wine enthusiast or simply looking for an enjoyable evening with friends, this promises to be a relaxed and informative event.
WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU!

Broadlands
Equine Therapy & RDA
est. 1969

SUPPORTING BROADLANDS: MEET YOUR LOCAL AUTHORS

Celebrate stories. Support local. Make a difference.

Come and hear four of your local authors speak about their writing journey, their inspiration and their books.

It is sure to be a fascinating afternoon!



DATE: Sunday 22nd November 2026

TIME: 3.00 p.m.

VENUE: Wivelrod Barns, Wivelrod, GU34 4AS

TICKETS: www.broadlandsgrouprda.org.uk/events

PRICE: £15 to include tea and cake

Books Inspiration Stories

CHRISTMAS GIFT FAIR



Sun 29 Nov
10am-2pm

Beech Village Hall

Unique Gifts, Festive Atmosphere

FREE ENTRY

Bacon butties, mince pies, cakes, coffee, tea and mulled wine available

1 Wellhouse Road, Beech, Alton GU34 4AQ

beechvillage.org.uk

BENTWORTH FILM NIGHT

will be screening

'The Devil Wears Prada 2'

on Friday 27th November

at the Jubilee Hall, Bentworth.



Doors open at 7pm for drinks, with film showing at 7.30pm.
Tickets £5 on the door.

Ice Creams in the Interval
This is a social event open to all local villagers,
please feel free to bring friends along too.
Small Notes and change for entrance, drinks and ice cream, very much appreciated!

Future Dates and Films to be announced

Christmas Wreath Making

Get in the holiday spirit by designing your own wreath



Date: Sunday 29th November
Time: 2.00 - 4.00 p.m.
Venue: Wivelrod Barns, Wivelrod, Alton, GU34 4AS
Cost: £40
Tickets: www.broadlandsgrouprda.org.uk/events
Refreshments: Mulled wine & Christmas bites

All materials & decorations provided

Broadlands
Equine Therapy & RDA



JOIN US FOR THE

LASHAM CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

SUNDAY 29TH NOVEMBER

11am - 2pm

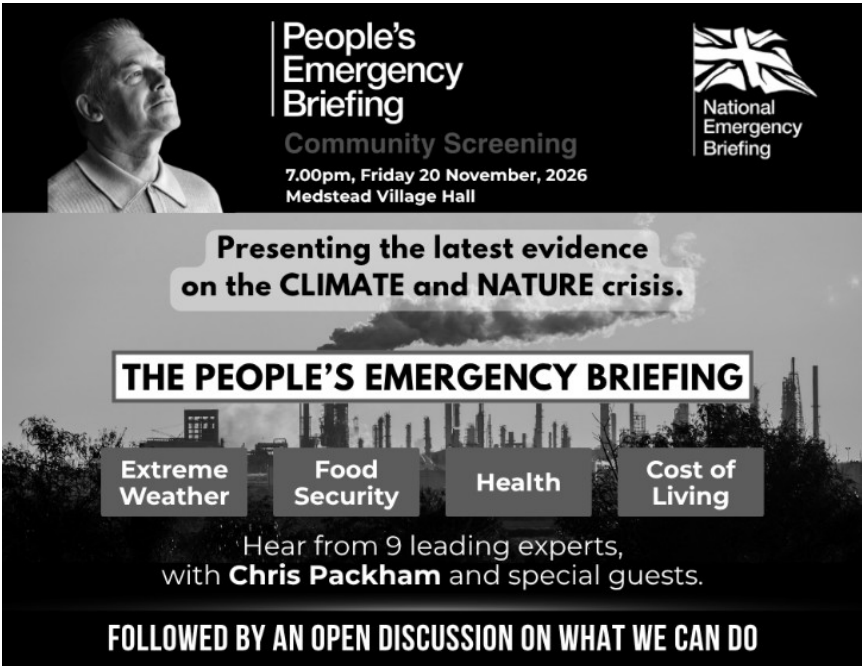
St Mary's Church, Lasham

Stalls will include: Raffle, Tombola, Produce, Cake, Crafts and Kids Activity Table.

£5 ENTRY ON THE DOOR

Includes a festive refreshment

Under 12s free



Funded by UK Government

Hampshire County Council
Hampshire Achieves

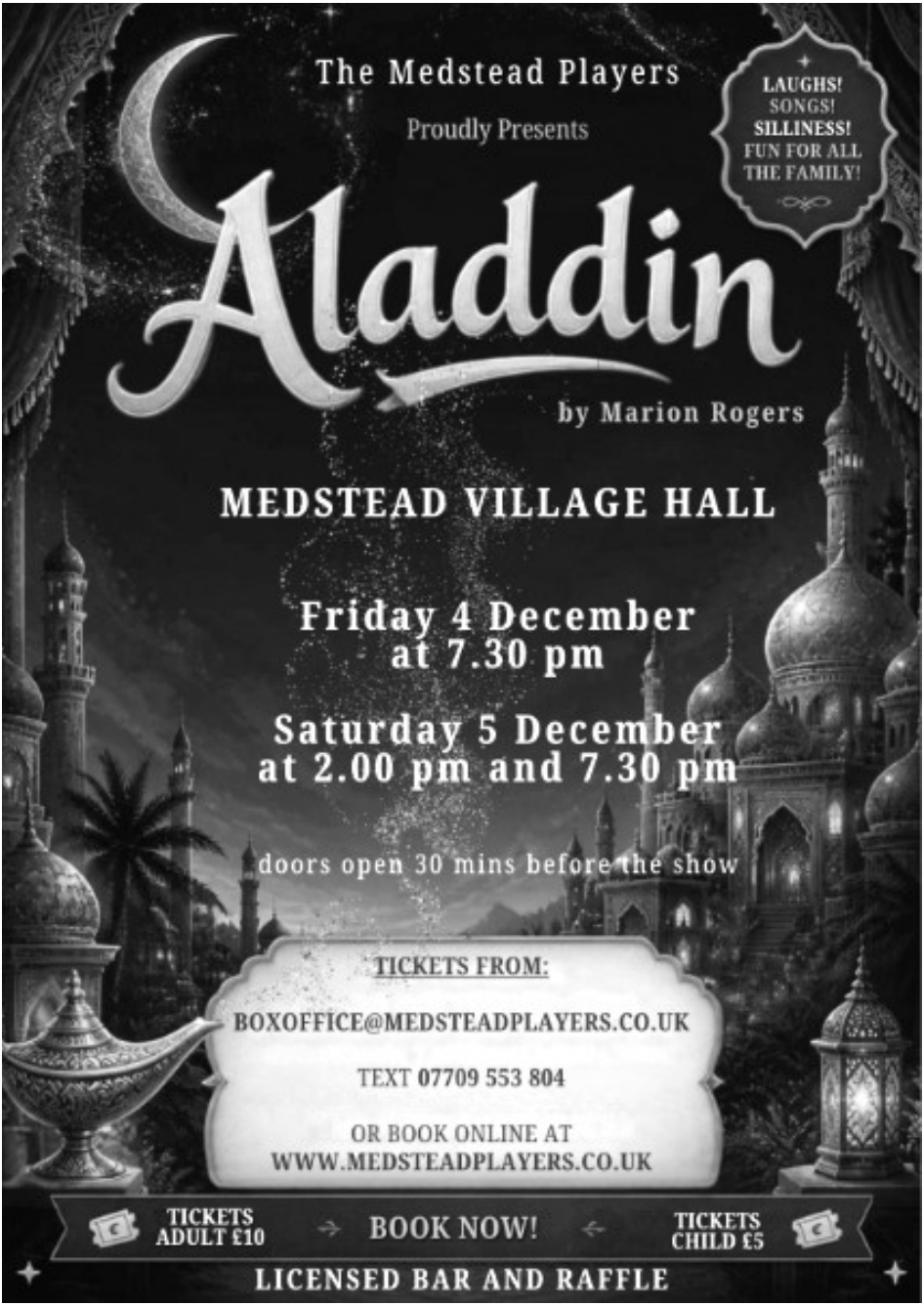


Festive Florals: Metalic Watercolour Wreath Workshop

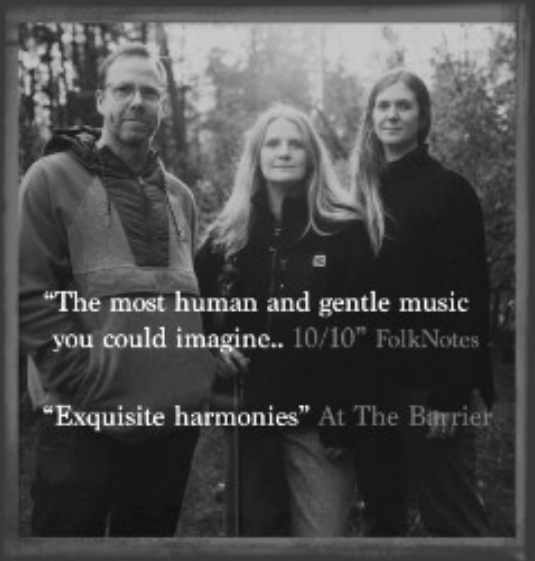
Alton Library

Saturday 5 December 2pm - 4:30pm

£32 tuition, plus £8 materials fee
Booking is essential, please visit **https://shop.hants.gov.uk/collections/hampshire-achieves-adult-learning-skills** to book your place. If you have issues booking online please contact branch staff or call 02392 232957


The Medstead Players
Proudly Presents
LAUGHS!
SONGS!
SILLINESS!
FUN FOR ALL
THE FAMILY!
Aladdin
by Marion Rogers
MEDSTEAD VILLAGE HALL
Friday 4 December
at 7.30 pm
Saturday 5 December
at 2.00 pm and 7.30 pm
doors open 30 mins before the show
TICKETS FROM:
BOXOFFICE@MEDSTEADPLAYERS.CO.UK
TEXT 07709 553 804
OR BOOK ONLINE AT
WWW.MEDSTEADPLAYERS.CO.UK
TICKETS
ADULT £10
BOOK NOW!
TICKETS
CHILD £5
LICENSED BAR AND RAFFLE

Salt House



Share the Light Winter Tour 2026

Sunday 6th December

Gigs by the Green

beechvillage.org.uk/events

Live music in the heart of Beech

LAUGHING DOG MUSIC

saltHOUSEmusic.com

HUDSON RECORDS



Date: Friday 11 December 2026

Time: 1:00pm – 4:00pm

Location: Treloar's, Holybourne, Alton, GU34 4GL

ALTON WALKING CHURCH FOR MEN

Good company & a fine walk. The next outing of Alton Walking Church for Men is on Friday 20th November 10.30am meeting at The Yew Tree in Lower Wield. A prayer, a short homily and an invigorating walk! To book a place for you [and a friend?] contact Robin on familykemp@tiscali.co.uk or 07957 653403.



ALL SOULS

Service of Remembrance



Sunday 1st November, 3pm

ST LAWRENCE CHURCH

A short, quiet and reflective service as we remember, **by name**, our loved ones who have died.

If you would like the name of a loved one to be read during the service, please contact office@resurrectionbenefice.org beforehand.

All are welcome to join us as we remember, reflect and give thanks for those we have loved.

SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER 2026

	BENTWORTH	LASHAM	MEDSTEAD	SHALDEN
1st NOVEMBER – ALL SAINTS DAY		**(All Souls Monday 2nd)**		**White**
Holy Communion (CW)		10.00a.m.		
Holy Communion (CW)				10.00a.m.
Morning Service with Baptism			11.00a.m.	
8th NOVEMBER–THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT				**Remembrance Sunday**
Holy Communion (BPC)			8.00a.m.	
Remembrance Service	10.50a.m.			
Remembrance Service		10.50a.m.		
Remembrance at War Memorial			10.50a.m.	
Remembrance Evensong				6.00.pm
15th NOVEMBER – SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT				**Red or Green**
Holy Communion (CW)		11.00a.m.		
Parish Communion			11.00a.m.	
22nd NOVEMBER – CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT				**R or G**
Holy Communion (CW)	10.00a.m.			
Cafe Church (in the hall)			11.00 a.m.	
29th NOVEMBER – FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT				**Purple**
Parish Communion			11.00 a.m.	
BLS Service of Light	4.00p.m.			

Parish of The Resurrection Services for November 2026

1st November

8am BPC Communion	St Lawrence
9.30am Family Service	St Lawrence
10.30am POTR Altogether Communion Service	St Lawrence
3pm All Souls Service	St Lawrence

8th November

9.15am Communion Service	St Peter's
9.30am Morning Worship	Holy Rood
10.45am Town Remembrance	The Cairn
3pm Afternoon Worship	All Saints
6pm Evening Prayer	St Lawrence

Every Wednesday

10am Holy Communion All Saints

15th November

9.30am Communion Service	Holy Rood
9.30am Family Service	St Lawrence
10.30am Communion Service	All Saints
10.30am Morning Worship	St Lawrence
3.30pm Choral Evensong	St Lawrence

22nd November

9.15am Communion Service	St Peter's
10.30am Communion Service	St Lawrence
4pm Church@4 with Lego	Parish Centre
6pm Informal Evening Worship	St Lawrence

29th November

10am GAP Service Alton Methodist Church

6pm Advent Carol Service St Lawrence