



Village News

BROUGHT TO YOU BY ALDERLEY EDGE PARISH COUNCIL AUTUMN 2023



CHAIR'S INTRODUCTION

I don't know about anyone else but this year seems to have flown by. It only seems like yesterday I was writing to introduce all the new councillors. We have been busy working on various projects and events, many of which will be here before we know it. The team are working together well and enjoying doing our best for our village. Please don't hesitate to contact us if there is anything you need our support with or need to report anything we have missed.

This is a reminder that our Remembrance service will be on Sunday 12th November at St Philips and St James church. Our very good friend Pauline Pitt, who sadly passed away earlier this year, worked tirelessly with the support of a small but very committed team to ensure we provided a remembrance service in Alderley Edge each year. It was very important to her that we continue the poppy appeal and remembrance service when she wasn't around anymore and we will do just that. We miss you Pauline! It's an incredibly important day for us all to remember, and also to teach our younger generations about the sacrifices men and women made for our country. So, it would be fantastic to see the church full with our residents.

Just after Remembrance Day we start the countdown to Christmas. Our Christmas light switch on will be on Saturday 18th November from 4pm - 8pm.



I would also like to highlight that the Parish Council have just agreed to fund a street clean of the footpaths along London Road. We are lucky to have a vibrant high street and groups of volunteers who keep it looking clean, tidy and well looked after, however we feel this cleaning programme will give it an extra boost. It is more important than ever we support our local businesses and making London Road as attractive as possible can only help encourage that.

Before I leave you to enjoy the content of the newsletter, I would like to offer thanks to the village show committee but particularly to Chris & Sian Yearsley, Mike Ockelton, Colin Mills and Alex Lashford. It was very important that the show was a success this year after a prolonged break due to Covid. The committee made sure the show was a success that brought the community together.

Rachael Grantham

Chair, Alderley Edge Parish Council

rachaelgrantham@alderleyedge-pc.gov.uk



CONTACT THE COUNCIL: PARISH CLERK - ANNE ROSS, CILCA

TEL: 01625 582150 **EMAIL:** CLERK@ALDERLEYEDGE-PC.GOV.UK **WWW:** WWW.ALDERLEYEDGE-PC.GOV.UK

ALDERLEY EDGE PARISH COUNCIL, FESTIVAL HALL, TALBOT ROAD, ALDERLEY EDGE, CHESHIRE SK9 7HR

FESTIVAL HALL *Upcoming Events*



Punchline Boxing Friday 27th October

Alderley Edge Symphony Orchestra Saturday 4th November

Motown Disco Night Saturday 11th November

Celine Dion Saturday 2nd December



BIG BIRTHDAYS... 30's, 40s, 50's

BOOKINGS FOR 2024
NOW BEING TAKEN!

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO BOOK YOUR OWN EVENT

CONTACT FESTIVAL HALL: PHONE 01625 582510

EMAIL: enquiries@festivalhall.com **WEBSITE:** www.aefestivalhall.com



Christmas Light SWITCH ON EVENT 2023 SATURDAY 18TH NOVEMBER

Saturday 18th November on London Road in Alderley Edge for our annual Christmas Event. London Road will be closed to traffic from 2pm to 9pm. Stalls along London Road and entertainment on the stage near Coggles will commence at 4pm until 8pm. Plus Father Christmas will be making time in his schedule to join us. Switching on the Christmas Lights will be at 7pm

Your Alderley Edge Parish Council with the support of Independent Street look forward to bringing this event to our village again this year. We are delighted to be welcoming many local musicians and acts to the stage along with local school choirs.

Lisa Cowley from Independent Street, and a local resident, champions local independent businesses and produce and is delighted to be bringing the Artisan Market offerings. We will be filling London Road with a festive array of 60 carefully selected artisan stalls. Expect local food, freshly baked produce from micro bakeries, tasty street food, epic cakes, award winning local producers, fresh roasted coffee, indian treats and delicacies, artisan gin, deli, handcrafted jewellery, unique arts, craft, hand poured candles, cheese truckles, mulled wine, local photography, dog treats and much more.

Bev Chapman



Medical Practice

Flu Vaccinations 2023

The Practice commenced Flu Vaccination Clinic's in September and October. The Practice will not be undertaking COVID-19 vaccinations this year, if you would like a COVID-19 vaccination these can be undertaken at Pharmacies or Vaccination Hubs. Appointments can be booked via the NHS app or phone 119.

New Staff

The Practice welcomes Mrs Allie Cusick as the Practice Manager replacing Mr Shaun Liu who left the practice in August 2023 after several years. The partnership thank Shaun for all that he achieved for our patients.

Should you wish to contact Allie directly to discuss any feedback, she is in the practice most days or can be contacted by telephoning reception or by email at allie.cusick1@nhs.net. Allie has 13 years of NHS and private healthcare experience and has had a handover with Shaun gaining an understanding of the management of the practice. Alongside Allie, the practice welcomes four new trainee Doctors:



Dr Jean-Claude Massey MBHChB

I graduated from the University of Manchester in 2018 and completed my foundation training in Worcestershire Acute Hospitals Trust before returning to the Northwest. I am currently in the last year of GP specialist training at Alderley Edge Medical Practice and have already completed a placement here previously. I live in Heaton Moor with my Fiancé, and I enjoy cooking and walking my dog.



Dr Imogen Spector-Hill

I had an unusual start to medicine, undertaking my medical degree as a graduate at Swansea Medical School, following an undergrad degree in French & Italian at University College London. After completing my medical degree, I started work as a doctor in Liverpool before moving to Macclesfield for GP training, where I've completed rotations in obstetrics & gynaecology and psychiatry, as well as other GP placements. I'm particularly interested in women's health and improving menopause care, but I love all aspects of general practice and the continuity of care it offers. When I'm not at work, I enjoy running, cycling and reformer pilates, and getting out in the Cheshire countryside with my boyfriend and our miniature poodle Toby!



Dr Kimberley Rogers

I am Kim one of the new GP Registrars and I will be working at the practice for a year whilst I complete my final year of GP training. I am excited to be joining such a friendly and welcoming practice.

Dr Madj Al-Dakhola

I am Madj and I have joined the practice as a GP Registrar. I am also training at a Hospice and have an interest in end of life care. I have really enjoyed my time so far and look forward to meeting any patients who wish to book in with me.



Website: www.alderleyedgegp.co.uk
Email: cmicb-cheshire.alderleyedgegp@nhs.net
Twitter: @alderleyedgegp



CommuniTEA and COFFEE

A Free Fresh Social Club to Savour Conversations and Brew Connections



The Festival Hall are excited to offer a cuppa & cake at the hall every Monday from 30th October, 1.30pm-3.30pm. Banish the blues, come and make new friends, meet old friends, have a chat.

In today's fast-paced world, meaningful face-to-face interactions can often take a backseat to the demands of daily life. However, the human need for connection remains as strong as ever.

Recognising this, a new social club has emerged, where people can gather to have a chat and a coffee. This delightful initiative is rekindling the art of conversation and fostering a sense of community one cup at a time.

Human beings are inherently social creatures. We thrive on interactions with others, and these connections play a crucial role in our mental and emotional well-being. Unfortunately, modern life has made it increasingly challenging to carve out time for genuine conversations, leaving many feeling isolated and disconnected.

This welcoming social club invites individuals of all backgrounds and ages to come together in a cosy and relaxed setting, over a cup of coffee, to engage with others.

Ali Bates/Kristina Hulme

Alderley Edge in Bloom



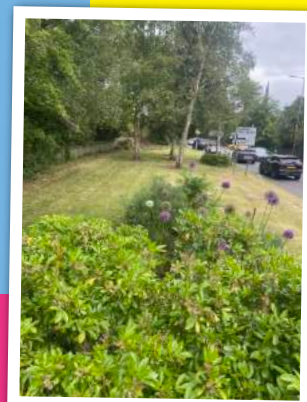
2023 has been a very eventful year for the volunteers at Alderley Edge in Bloom.

The year started off badly. In early spring we discovered all the plants we had lost because of the severely cold winter. The spring displays in the village were badly affected by the cold snap and were not up to the attractiveness of previous years. In May we joined the Alderley Edge Traders Action Group (AETAG) putting up decorations for the King's coronation. AETAG and Alderley Edge in Bloom jointly funded all the decorations, bunting and flags in the village for this very special occasion.

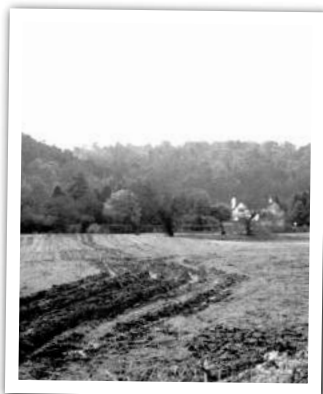
Volunteers have worked hard at all our sites this year. The biggest change came at the large verge at the corner of Brook Lane and Wilmslow Road when an area of Cherry Laurel was removed opening up much of the site. It was here that because of the winter cold we lost many of the perennials we had planted in previous years. At Waitrose volunteers continue to enhance a once neglected part of the village.

And of course, there are our litter pickers who meet every Monday come rain, hail or sunshine to keep our village and main road tidy and litter free.

In July, we once again welcomed RHS Britain in Bloom judges to the village. After a short presentation in the De Trafford Arms they were taken to see our improvements on Lydiat Lane, the village displays along London Road, the Waitrose Woodland, the station and garden, the large verge on Wilmslow Road, Chorley Hall Lane Allotments, and two firm favourites of all our judges: Peter Woollam's garden and Castle Rock. The tour ended with tea and scones at the Alderley Edge Hotel with our regular volunteers. Now we have to wait until autumn to find out how we did. Hopefully, it will be a fourth gold medal.



And our future plans? Well, we continue to aim for gold of course and we will, but to do this we need volunteers. So, if you would like more information about Alderley Edge in Bloom activities and are thinking of volunteering for gardening or litter picking, please email Leslie Cox on coxlj@hotmail.com or text/phone on 07774488458



How The Hough earned its moniker

You probably drive past it, walk along it or see its name on a regular basis – that area of land between Alderley Edge and Wilmslow lying at the foot of the Edge, enclosing fields, houses and low-lying mosses. It's called The Hough, and you've probably never given a second thought to why it's so named – but a little nosing around into Anglo-Saxon nomenclature reveals an answer that's entirely wrapped up in The Hough's landscape and topography.



The land was owned by the De Trafford family from the early 16th century, and indeed their manorial hall, called The White Hall, was sited there. The land is mostly the property owned by Sir Humphrey de Trafford of the de Trafford estate, and remained in the family until his death in 1779. The manorial hall of the de Trafford estate was The White Hall, which is the former HQ of Royal London at the White Hall Bridge, and the de Trafford estates management office, which were located at the roundabout at the start of the Alderley Edge bypass.

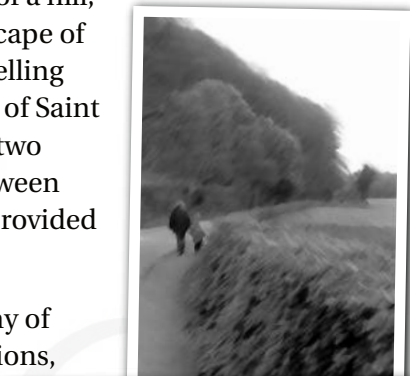
If you travel along Mottram Road from Alderley to Mottram, with The Hough to your left, you'll see a number of convex ridges or spurs of land coming off the Edge to meet Mottram Road. In the language of the Anglo-Saxons, who first brought their Germanic languages with them after the Romans departed Britain in the 4th century, such a convex ridge was known as a 'hoh' or 'heel', because the profile of the spur looked like a human heel, if you imagine an individual lying on their front and the outline of their heel as a rise and fall towards the sole of the foot (the Anglo-Saxons could be nit-pickingly precise).

The Hough is by no means unique in its naming; there are many variations of the 'hoh' or 'heel' throughout the British Isles. In Suffolk, for example, Sutton Hoo (where the Anglo-Saxon ship burial of King Radwald was discovered in the 1930s) is also a name whose 'hoo' makes reference to the spur of a hill, albeit a very modest one in accordance with the low-lying and undulating landscape of East Anglia. Ivinghoe Beacon in Buckinghamshire preserves the Anglo-Saxon spelling almost unmolested - whilst in the Isles of Scilly, Hugh Town, capital of the island of Saint Mary's, hides a somewhat more obscure and less hilly 'hoh' reference. There are two beaches with a curving outline that back on to each other, the spit of land in between being known as 'The Heugh' or 'heel'. That word eventually lost its letter 'e' and provided the name for Hugh Town.

Alderley Edge and its environs have many other names and words that are worthy of further exploration, revealing geographical features, ancient trades and occupations, as well as the names of long-lost Saxon land-owners; these names have lasted for many hundreds of years, and will continue to endure long into the future!

The history group has recently had donated two volumes of "East Cheshire Past and Present" printed in 1877 and 1880, from original records by J. P. Earwaker. M.A., F.S.A. who lived at Brocklands, on Brook Lane, Alderley Edge.

These are available for viewing in our archive at St Philips & St James Church. With thanks to John Wallace for his contribution.



CHRISTMAS MARKET

ST. PHILIP AND ST. JAMES CHURCH

SATURDAY 2ND DECEMBER

Christmas is coming to Alderley Edge on Saturday December 2nd! Christmas is coming! And what better way to bring the whole community together at this festive time than by a beautiful Christmas Fair at St Philip and St James Church.

This wonderful event will be held on Saturday December 2nd at St Philips with the support of Independent Street.

In the grounds of the church there will be 50 carefully selected stalls showcasing the very best of local food, drink, arts and craft, plus street food and many gift ideas set to inspire.

There will also be live acoustic performances from local musicians and performers.

Inside the church you will find community stalls, teas, coffees and mulled wine to warm you all. There will also be a brass band playing, choirs, church bell and a teddy bear zip line in full swing!! Plus arts and craft activities for little ones....

In the parish rooms you can expect to find toddler play and a Santa's grotto, meaning there is plenty to keep the whole family entertained....

Rev Robin Pye says *"We can't wait to bring the very first Alderley Edge Christmas Fair to St Philips and St James. We are hoping it will become an annual event. It will be a great way to bring the villages and local churches together whilst also benefiting our community groups and local enterprises."*



SATURDAY 2ND DECEMBER
10AM - 4PM
ST PHILIP AND ST JAMES
ALDERLEY EDGE
SK9 7UZ



FREE ENTRY, DOG FRIENDLY AND EVERYONE WELCOME

What an incredible day the re-launch of the Alderley Village Show turned out to be! With over 300 exhibits, from giant pumpkins to novelty tea cosies, a good time was had by all!

The Festival Hall opened at mid-day & was the perfect venue for the Show. With an entrance table groaning under the weight of breads, cakes, jams & preserves, visitors flowed through the door, to admire fruit, veg & flower displays & the stunning crafts including ceramics, painting, photography, embroidery, clock making, card making, quilting, knitting, painting & so much more - even a fabulously woven hat.

The café was kept busy throughout with cream teas & homemade cakes & was the perfect hub for old faces & new to catch-up. It was good to welcome those visiting a village show for the first time, (some from afar as Spain & South Africa), an experience they enjoyed so much that some even volunteered to help next year with others already planning their entries for the next Show!

WINNERS - 22 trophies were awarded in total. Kelvin Briggs won the Peet Percival Memorial Shield for the best horticultural exhibit in the show, as well as the Stockport Express Silver Trophy for best horticultural exhibit with a 3 mile radius for his 3 stunning leeks. Our other winners were: Colin Mills (3 cups: for the best dahlia, 3 kinds of veg & highest aggregate points in veg class), Jenny Grimes (2 cups: 8 shallots & highest aggregate points in flower class), Alan Grace (2 cups: 6 dressed onions & 8 runner beans), Luke Ellis (2 cups: heaviest marrow & heaviest pumpkin), Ian Cockshot (5 decorative dahlias), Alex Lashford (highest aggregate points in Newcomers class) Dina Robinson (most meritorious exhibit in domestic crafts), Sue Mills (highest aggregate points in handicrafts), Alan Beecham (Best exhibit in handicraft), Jenny Cockshott (highest aggregate points in cookery), Freddie & Florence Robinson-Pickles (tallest sunflower), Jace Beecham (animal made from fruit/veg), Diana Bullock (highest aggregate points in jams, pickles preserves), Elaine Ockelton (best bread exhibit in show), Simon Laidler (best Victoria sponge).

THANK YOU to all the exhibitors who took so much care to grow/make, prepare & present their exhibits. To the volunteers, admin staff & all 3 Alderley allotment sites who worked so well together to get the show up and running again. To our volunteer judges who had such a difficult task & gave up their free time so willingly. To the Parish Council for helping to facilitate the event & to Annette, the Hall Manager, who went above & beyond. To all our visitors for their support & donations to our chosen charity Macmillan Cancer Support. To our local sponsors: Grantham's Fine Food & Wines, Beckys Balloons, The Alderley Edge Union Club, Waitrose Alderley Edge & to all those generous individuals who donated raffle prizes & cake to make the show a success.

As you will be aware our chosen charity for this year was Macmillan Cancer Support it is with our pleasure to confirm the show raised an impressive £1110 pounds for the charity, thank you for all of the donations and support for this great cause. Finally, could we offer a very special word of thanks to Mr. Michael Ockelton, the former Chairman of the Village Show & his wife Elaine, who worked tirelessly with the new show committee to ensure the success & future of the Show.



FRONT GARDEN COMPETITION

The 'Front Garden Competition' for the Shell Trophy is judged every year in August. Wonderful to have our Village Show back once again at the Festival Hall, where the Shell Trophy was presented to our winner.

We are often asked about "entry rules" of which there are non BUT it must be a front garden which can be seen from a public road. Parish Councillors, the judges, then proceed to scour every front garden and take pictures along the way, Once this has been done they deliberate who the Winner is plus Runners Up. Not an easy task !

Our Winner and Runners Up displays are a great credit to their owners. Neighbours and passers-by have been treated to carefully tended, beautiful front gardens.



The Winners of The Shell Trophy this year, announced by Cllr Craig Browne at the Village Show, were **Mr and Mrs Smallwood** of Windermere Drive. Their garden tells a story of nature's resilience and showcases the harmony between the environment and their commitment. Many congratulations and so well deserved.

The Runners Up, this was a tight competition, so we have classed them as exceptional runners up. Wonderful colour, greenery and ingenuity. All three are very well deserved to be named Exceptional Runners up.

Lastly, the Parish Council are also keen to recognise the hard work put in by the Alderley Edge in Bloom Group who have done a wonderful job in ensuring the Village looks colourful. The Waitrose railings planters have been spectacular again this year. The Station Volunteers Group must also be congratulated on the hard work and commitment to enhancing our Station. The planters and the Stations Masters garden look bright, colourful and cared for. The owl garden is a treat to see.

A huge thanks too, to Oak Nurseries who plant and maintain the 17 large octagonal planters on the London Road and in the Park, so kindly provided by the residents of Alderley Edge in 2016 and funded by the Parish Council. Fabulous displays as always.

Bev Chapman/Craig Browne/Kristina Hulme



HEYES LANE ALLOTMENTS

The 3 year plan for the Heyes Lane Allotment has now reached its final phase with major improvements across the site.

Stone has been laid on the main driveway and matting has been installed along the main upper and lower pedestrian pathways to improve access.

New bridges span the waterway and we have welcomed bees to our Allotment.

The orchard and rose garden are maturing nicely and our busy, vibrant site is looking better than ever. A further grant has been received from Manchester Airport Trust for a compostable toild, which we hope to install this autumn.





It's been another busy year at Chorley Hall Lane Allotments!

We have welcomed some new allotment holders this year and their enthusiasm for allotment gardening has been infectious.

In April we started in earnest improving the site for local wildlife by putting up bat boxes, bird boxes, and building bug houses including our magnificent Bug B&B! On 20th May we held our Open Day in support of the May Fair and we served Cream Teas raising funds for East Cheshire Hospice.

The weather was so good all the tables and chairs were outside this year – our guests then enjoyed a walk around the site. Also in May we welcomed the Alderley Edge Pre-school children for their 6 monthly visit learning about growing vegetables, planting some seeds and having a story.

In June we had our first on site Darts Match – organised by one of our plot holders. Not too sure that any of us would be any good in a league match but there was lots of laughter and friendship. On 24th June we opened the site to support Wilmslow Wells for Africa Gardens Day helping raise £20,000 for this worthwhile charity.

Our fortnightly Café days for plot holders has also contributed towards our fund raising and to date we have raised £859 for East Cheshire Hospice.

If you are interested in having a plot on Chorley Hall Lane Allotments please visit the Parish Website <https://alderleyedge-pc.gov.uk/the-parish/allotments/>



BEECH CLOSE ALLOTMENTS

As you walk down the newly fenced path of Beech Close Community Allotments (BCCA), you can be forgiven for not recognising it! A lot has changed in a year. The beautiful fence and donated spring bulbs certainly brightened up spring as well as the start, of what has been very busy year in this leafy part of Alderley Edge.

BCCA have now developed a wildlife area on their allotment site where hedgehogs along with other insects and animals have been encouraged to visit and some even make it their home. This has been hugely helped by many kind donations and talks held by experts. With recent generous lottery funding BCCA is also excited to be in the planning stages for its own community hub where the plot holders can meet up, maybe as the sun's going down on yet another beautiful day. Perfect for a chat about flower or vegetable achievements and helping each other with some growing tips over a glass or two or just a good old cuppa.

With many new plot holders now joining the longer established members it really has become a busy and thriving corner of the village community, making the future look very rosy for Beech Close Community Allotments!



Alderley Edge Station Volunteer group have gifted over 500 'Arlo's Adventures There & Back' rail safety books to the three village schools. It's a child friendly, brightly illustrated book that points out safe ways to travel on and around the Railway transport system. The books were funded by the Community Rail Network.

The station group is partnering with Northern Trains to organise a free train journey for a class from Alderley Edge Community Primary School to put the lessons learned in to practice. Recent projects at the station include a new garden area on the Crewe platform with three wooden owl sculptures and a rabbit. The planting is mainly perennial plants and is attracting bees and butterflies.

Visitors to the station will see that Northern Trains have renovated two rooms next to the waiting room on the Manchester platform. They are now available to rent for commercial use. Progress on the groups ambition to have the Crewe platform building repurposed as a cafe with a replacement canopy has been slow. Group Chair Kelvin Briggs commented 'Its a challenging process involving a number of stakeholders but we remain optimistic and focussed on the plan.'

The group continue to meet the third Saturday of every month at 10:00 am and welcome new volunteers to make the station a more welcoming place. Students participating on the Duke of Edinburgh Awards programme are especially welcome. Contact Kelvinbriggsae@gmail.com for more information.



Food Bank

Behind the scenes we have some wonderful Food Ambassadors working as volunteers to help the folk in Alderley Edge provide for others and also help to combat food waste.

Jen Pound is the Coordinator for St Philips and St James Church Foodbank and for Foodsharego the national organisation to pick up and deliver food each morning to take to Handforth, Lacey Green and to Roar in Macclesfield.

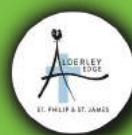
The Church Foodbank is situated in the Parish Rooms and opens up after the service on a Sunday, whilst the Church Administrator is working Mon/Wed/Fri and Jen can be contacted on 07554 237547. The church works with referrals from social services and they offer three food parcels when the Vicar has been notified of someone in need. The Methodist Church all supports the food bank in Wythenshawe. Items can be dropped off on a Saturday or Sunday morning.

We have also Councillor Shabina Raja who is now an OLIO Volunteer based in Alderley Edge. Shabina has been on a mission to combat food waste and OLIO is an App that connects local businesses and individuals rescue surplus food. It's a way to reduce food waste and build stronger more sustainable communities. By participating you are getting access to food and also contributing to a greener more responsible world. The OLIO APP is available on the App Store and Google Play.



Cheshire East offer any exceptional contribution to help out any resident who in extreme circumstances need help from the civic fund. Cheshire East also operate a Hardship Fund.

Kristina Hulme





WORKING TOWARDS A GREENER - MORE SUSTAINABLE ALDERLEY EDGE

When I became a Parish Councillor, I had a million and one ideas on all the things we could do to protect our environment, but any good campaigner will tell you that for change to be sustainable, it needs to come from the community and not simply imposed. So I've set myself the task of sharing my passion and ideas with the hope that we can work together on achieving our goal so that we can preserve all the goodness of Alderley Edge for generations to come!

Doing your bit for the environment doesn't have to be complicated; small, everyday actions can make a significant difference when multiplied across communities. I've started on a few small and practical steps. Here's a few updates:

Reducing food waste: Some of you may already know that I have recently become an Olio Food Waste Hero, sadly we don't get given capes, but we do stop a lot of food from getting binned! In the last month I have collected food (and sometimes even flowers) from different stores eight times and I managed to share this food with 17 people so far! However, there is always something leftover, so I would encourage you all to download the app to help me reduce food waste and perhaps become food waste heroes too!

Reuse and upcycle: I recently managed to acquire a sewing machine along with a few bags of never worn clothes from my late teens/early twenties. I am now taking a few classes to learn how to do some basic sewing. Since then I've made a few simple dresses.

Growing our own: One of the exciting things about Alderley Edge is the number of community allotments it has on offer and how individuals from all walks of life can get involved with them. We have very recently taken on our own little plot. What a joy growing our own food is whilst also being able to share any excess produce with others.

Composting at home: This will be a journey and requires some work... The plan was to eventually compost everything at home reducing the need for a green bin completely, but I will need to first invest some time to create a proper set up and so we'll trial it at our allotment first and you updated with any progress!

Adding a little more colour into our green spaces: Cheshire East are currently doing a survey on our green spaces and I do believe that transforming our grass verges and other small green areas into wildflower spaces would be a sustainable and positive choice for Alderley Edge. Whilst the first argument will be that wildflower spaces require less maintenance, ultimately reducing costs, that in my opinion isn't necessarily the most important element. Wildflower spaces enhance biodiversity, providing habitats for bees, butterflies, and other pollinators, supporting ecosystems crucial for food production. A wildflower space would also mean conserving water and reducing the need for harmful pesticides. Keeping our bee friends healthy, happy and with all they need to pollinate our gardens, allotments and our farmers fields as well as making some of the country's best locally produced honey is a reward in itself even before we talk about the beauty of colourful and vibrant edges, verges and roundabouts that could make our village even more spectacular.

Cllr Shabina Raja





Nick Thompson

A warm welcome to Reverend Nick Thompson, who many of you will know, is the Minister at the Methodist Church here in Alderley Edge plus Mottram St. Andrew and Mobberley churches. Nick has lived here for 12 months with his wife Pam. They have two grown up children, Laura and Mathew, and two little grandchildren.

What was your journey to become a Minister of the Church ?

It started at Reading University where I was studying Italian and where I joined the Methodist Society. I also met my wife there. I then trained to become a local preacher, which led me to realise that this was where I felt called to be and so in time I became a full time Minister.

Where have you lived before arriving here ?

I lived and worked mostly in the Reading area for 24 years. How long do you reside in one place ? It depends. I was lucky to be in one area for a long time. Vacancies are posted and we can express an interest in 5 areas. Most appointments are for 5 years but these can be extended.

Favourite food ?

Many but the best is Thai

Favourite music ?

I have to say, narrowing it down from a vast selection, it would be English folk music and classical music.

Favourite holiday destination ?

Eastern side of Cumbria where my extended family are from.

Hobbies ?

Walking in the countryside, Ancient History and seeing family and friends. My son Mathew and I are great supporters of Reading Football Club

One item to take to a desert island ?

Well that is difficult - only one item ? That would have to be my collection of Football Year Books – I have collected all of them back to 1970.

Best thing about Alderley Edge ?

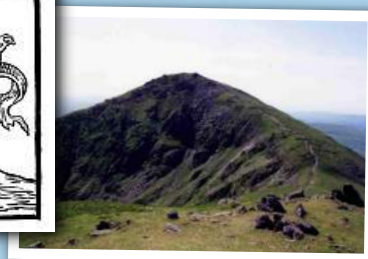
Community feeling, being so close to the countryside and the genuineness of the people who have lived in this area for generations.

What events have you coming up at the Methodist Church ?

Concerts at 1200 on a Wednesday from September to June 2024. Lunch club with the RVS. Pre-school club on a Friday. There is a coffee morning each Saturday from 10.00 to 12.00.

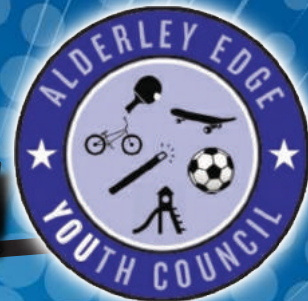
Do you have a food bank at the Church ?

We support the food bank at Wythenshawe. Items can be dropped off on a Saturday or Sunday morning.



**YOUR VOICE
MATTERS**

ALDERLEY EDGE YOUTH PARISH COUNCIL NEEDS YOU !



The Parish Council are thrilled to announce the relaunch of our Youth Council! The excitement is palpable as we prepare to bring together enthusiastic young minds, fostering a sense of community, leadership, and civic engagement. This relaunch signifies a renewed commitment to empowering our youth, providing them with a platform to voice their ideas (and concerns!) and work in collaboration to shape the future of our community.

ALDERLEY EDGE YOUTH PARISH COUNCIL NEEDS YOU!

Are you a dynamic young resident of Alderley Edge aged between 10 and 14? We invite you to be the change-makers of our village! The Alderley Edge Youth Parish Council (AEYPC) is calling out to the vibrant youth of our community!

WHY JOIN US?

Voice Your Vision: Be the voice of Alderley Edge's young generation! Express your ideas, concerns, and dreams for our village, and actively shape its future.

Empowerment & Leadership: Develop leadership skills, boost your confidence, and gain hands-on experience in decision-making and community engagement.

Community Impact: Work together on exciting projects and initiatives that directly benefit our village. Make a real difference in the lives of those around you.

Friendship & Fun: Join a community of like-minded individuals, forge lasting friendships, and enjoy the camaraderie of working towards a common goal.

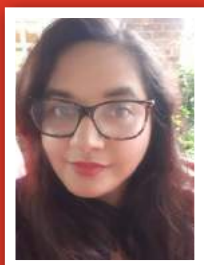
WHAT WE OFFER:

Regular Meetings: Come together once to twice a month for engaging discussions, brainstorming sessions, and planning activities.

Supportive Environment: Be a part of a supportive and inclusive space where your opinions are valued, and your ideas are encouraged.

Skill Development: Enhance your communication, teamwork, and problem-solving skills through practical experience.

Community Pride: Take pride in representing the vibrant youth of Alderley Edge, contributing to the community's growth and harmony.



HOW TO GET INVOLVED:

Ready to embark on this exciting journey?

To join AEYPC, simply contact us at shabinaraja@alderleyedge-pc.gov.uk to learn more.

Let's work together to make Alderley Edge an even better place for all!

CONCERTS

Musical Events at Alderley Edge Methodist Church

WEDNESDAY LUNCHTIME CONCERTS

THIRD WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH AT 1 PM

18 OCTOBER

JAMES WARBURTON *Violin* / JULIANNA ANTCHAK *Cello*

15 NOVEMBER

STUDENTS FROM CHETHAM'S SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Light lunches served from 12 noon, recital starts at 1pm. Admission by programme £7.00

SUNDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2PM

OPUS 5 AND ALDERLEY ACADEMY OF DANCE

Entry by programme £8.00 includes
afternoon tea during the interval



Alderley Edge
Parish Council

Parish Council Meeting Dates

The Emerson Suite, Festival Hall, Alderley Edge, 7.30pm

13th November 2023

11th December 2023

15th January 2024

12th February 2024

11th March 2024

Please refer to the Parish Council Website for agenda's and minutes
<https://alderleyedge-pc.gov.uk>



YOUR VOICE

at Cheshire East Council

CLLR CRAIG BROWNE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL



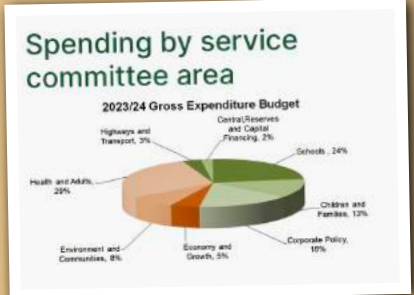
COUNCIL REPORTS £26.6M IN-YEAR DEFICIT

Unlike many other unitary councils across the country, two years ago Cheshire East Council made the bold decision to set a four-year balanced budget. Unfortunately, due to circumstances not of our making, the council is already having to project a £26.6m deficit for the current financial year. I would like to try and set out some of the reasons for this, below:

(i) high-level Special Educational Needs (SEND) – this is a statutory service, meaning the council is legally obliged to provide it. SEND is also demand-led and last year the demand for specialist provision rose by 62%; in 2023/24 this has meant that so far, the gap between what the government gives us to fund SEND provision and what it costs us to deliver is a whopping £48m.

(ii) inflation – when we set our annual budget in February, inflation was over 10% and this immediately added £35m to the costs of delivering council services. The Council Tax increase of 4.99% only raises about £15m towards these costs, so we have been forced to make difficult decisions, both to cut costs as well as to increase the council's revenue to fund the gap.

(iii) interest rates – Cheshire East Council has historically borrowed money to help fund major capital projects such as the Poynton Relief Road, Congleton Link Road, A555 Airport Relief Road & Middlewich Eastern Bypass; however, due to much higher interest rates (as those of us with mortgage repayments will know), the repayments on this debt have gone up significantly.



COUNCIL INTRODUCES GREEN WASTE SUBSCRIPTION SERVICE

Many of you will be aware that from January 1st 2024, Cheshire East Council is introducing a subscription-based service to help cover the costs of collecting household green waste. This is something that over two-thirds of other councils do already and we have been trying to hold this off for as long as possible; however, due to the very challenging financial situation I have described above, Cheshire East Council is having to look again at how to balance its books. The cost to the council of delivering the green bin collection service last year was £6.2m and the contract (which runs until 2029) is index linked, so again the cost has gone up by at least the level of inflation. Residents can subscribe to the service for £56 a year, via the council website – www.cheshireeast.gov.uk and will receive a sticker to put on their bin, confirming that they have subscribed for the 2024 calendar year. Based on the experiences of other councils that have already introduced a subscription service, this initiative is expected to raise £4m towards the £6.2m cost.



COUNCIL LAUNCHES CAR PARKING TARIFF CONSULTATION

Cheshire East Council has launched a consultation on its Car Parking Tariff Strategy, which will remain live until 1st November and residents can have their say by sending an email to carparksreview2023@cheshireeast.gov.uk. It is now nearly six years since Cheshire East Council reviewed its parking tariffs (2018) and since then inflation has added approximately 25% to the costs of running and maintaining the parking service (residents may not have been aware that the council has to pay business rates to central government on all car parks, even those it doesn't charge for). Similarly, for historical reasons, there are some parts of the borough that do not pay for parking, e.g. Alsager, Sandbach & Middlewich, to name but a few and the consultation seeks to address this. In summary, assuming the proposals go ahead, the implications for Alderley Edge will be as follows: South Street Car Park: 50p to 80p for first hour; 90p to £1.40 for two hours; £1.90 to £2.00 for three hours; and £2.20 to £2.70 for four hours.

Ryleys Lane Car Park: tariffs will be introduced for the first time, but the ten parking bays immediately adjacent to the Playing Fields will become 2-hours maximum stay (£1.60).

Mitigations are proposed for Ryleys Lane, to address on-street parking displacement, but I will be calling for additional mitigations to protect nearby residential areas from further displacement.



Continued...

YOUR VOICE

at Cheshire East Council continued...



FURTHER INVESTMENT IN OUR PLAYING FIELDS

Over the course of the summer, I was delighted to join fellow Parish Councillors as well as officers from ANSA (Parks Maintenance) to officially “open” the new gym equipment that has been installed. As residents may have noticed, we have also replaced the rather uncomfortable red and yellow picnic tables and chairs with two new fully accessible picnic benches adjacent to the bandstand. We have also installed a new picnic bench on the triangle opposite the children’s play area; this has been made out of recycled plastics. The whole project, including new surfacing, cost in the region of £20,000 which has been funded through s.106 and a contribution from Alderley Edge Parish Council.



PEDESTRIAN ISLAND PLANNED FOR WILMSLOW ROAD

I’m delighted to share the news that the former County Hotel, which has been a gateway site to the village and local eyesore for many years is finally to be demolished over the coming weeks. Work on a residential development of 14 apartments, based on the application previously approved in 2013 is to begin shortly. Following constructive discussions with the developer, I am pleased to report that the applicant has agreed to provide a pair of dropped kerbs accompanied by a pedestrian refuge on Wilmslow Road, just north of the junction with Harden Park. In addition to helping current and future residents of Harden Park to cross Wilmslow Road more safely, I am hopeful that the presence of a pedestrian island will help to visually narrow the width of the road and help manage traffic speeds at this location.

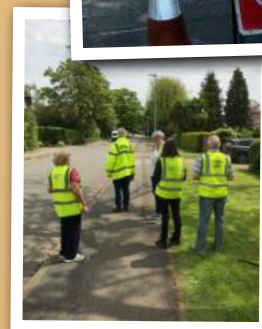
LOCAL ROAD REPAIRS CONTINUE

As residents may have noticed, “rejuvo” patching and re-lining works were recently carried out on Lydiat Lane, with the results clear for all to see. Similar works are programmed to be carried out on Trafford Road (the upper section between Chapel Road and Macclesfield Road) later in the year. I have also recently flagged the condition of the road surface on Congleton Road, heading out of the village towards Nether Alderley and have been advised that this will be considered for inclusion in the 2024/25 highways capital repair programme.



COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH – VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT

After a brief recess over the summer, our Community Speedwatch team restarted their activities on Friday 22nd September, with a session on Brook Lane. On this occasion, we recorded 16 vehicles exceeding the speed threshold, with a highest speed of 45mph (this is in the approach to a School Safety Zone). We are always on the lookout for extra volunteers and as I always say, the more volunteers we have, the more sessions we will be able to run and raise awareness. If you can spare an hour a month and would be interested in joining the team, please drop me an email at craig.browne@cheshireeast.gov.uk – we look forward to hearing from you!



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Once again this year I will be coordinating our Operation Christmas Child shoebox appeal with local resident and mum, Jodie Stringfellow. If you would like to help, please bring your packed and wrapped shoebox (along with a label stating either “girl” or “boy” and approximate age range, eg 0-4, 4-8, or 8-12 years) to the Festival Hall on Sunday 19th November, between 12noon and 4pm. We understand that half of the shoeboxes collected will be going to children in Ukraine again this year. Many thanks.

