

Services this Sunday - 17th November

8.00am at COGS - Communion Service

9.30am at COGS - All age service with sung worship, kids church, creche and youth

(on 2nd and 4th Sundays)

11.00am at St Andrew's - Communion Service

Financial Update

Firstly, thank you for all your support in being able to do all that we are doing with people of all ages across our parish. The monthly 'Look-back' captures just some what's happening in our sharing of God's love with all. We're hugely privileged to be able to employ staff to help us and enjoy the buildings and facilities we have, and these are made possible by the generous giving of time, money, and skills, of our current and past members – thank you again!

Moving forwards:

1. As we approach the end of this financial year, we continue to need a treasurer to lead us. Please be praying and think about who you might encourage.
2. We are currently predicted to end the year with a deficit of around £40,000, most of this was expected and is covered by historical funds but to move forwards with confidence as a church we need to increase income. I would encourage us all, prayerfully before God, to review our giving – this may lead to a reduction, staying the same, or increasing. God has sufficient resources, we just need to be good stewards of what God has given us as a church and as individuals.
3. (To assure you, we are continuing to honour restricted and designated funds, and those given historically to a particular parish setting.)

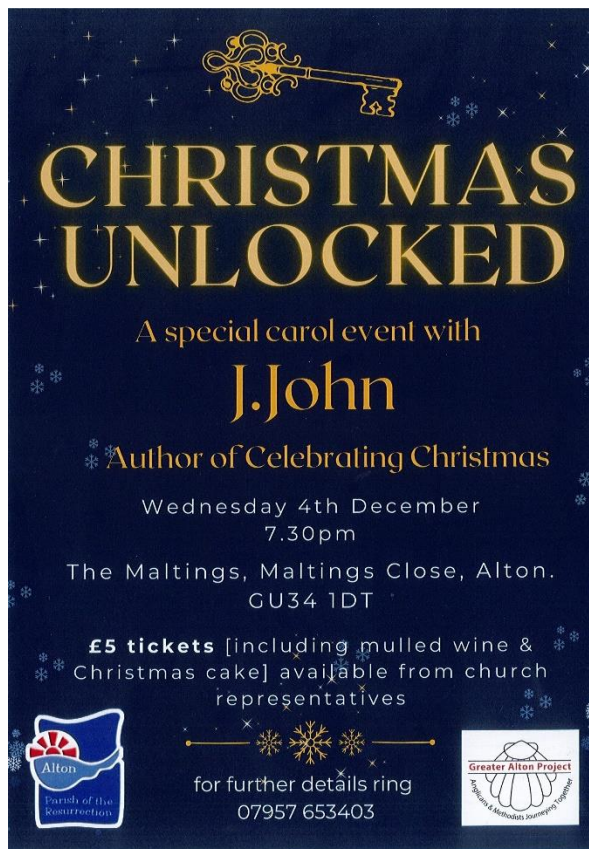
If you have any questions, please do ask.

Yours Howard

New Treasurer Needed

Claire is stepping down. We are so very grateful to her for all that she has done over the past couple of years in getting us to this point, following the formation of our new partnership as Medstead and Four Marks Parish.

We now need a new treasurer who can monitor our finances, update PCC on our status, and keep our congregations and wider donor base informed of vision and need. There is excellent contracted accounts support, and resources across PCC for help with communication. Please talk to one of our wardens, Claire, or Howard for more information.



CHRISTMAS UNLOCKED

A special carol event with
J. John
Author of *Celebrating Christmas*

Wednesday 4th December
7.30pm

The Maltings, Maltings Close, Alton.
GU34 1DT

£5 tickets [including mulled wine & Christmas cake] available from church representatives

Alton Church of the Resurrection

Greater Alton Project

for further details ring
07957 653403

**The church office holds a limited number of tickets for this event.
Please let Matt know if you want any.**

Please keep in mind that this is an evangelistic event and spaces are very limited. Tickets are intended for those who are inviting their non-Christian friends to join them for the evening. If you would like tickets, please contact Matt – office@pmafms.co.uk



Waynflete Singers

A Classical Christmas

Winchester Cathedral
Saturday 7th December 2024
at 7.30 pm

Beethoven: Mass in C
Bach: Wachet Auf! (Sleepers Wake! Cantata 140)
Carols for choir and audience

The Waynflete Singers
English Chamber Orchestra
Andrew Lumsden, conductor

Soprano: Eleanor Dennis
Mezzo Soprano: Catherine Carby
Tenor: Benjamin Hulett
Bass: Alastair Miles

Tickets: £15.00 - £50.00
Buy from Winchester Cathedral Events online
or call 01962 857275
or via www.waynfletesingers.org.uk/concerts

Registered charity no: 285107

Alton Concert Band,
Alton Choral Society & Ancora
Present in aid of

FREE ENTRY

HOME START

The Wonder of
CHRISTMAS

A CONCERT OF CHRISTMAS
MUSIC & CAROLS
Saturday 7th December 2024
Doors open 6.30pm for 7.00pm
Alton Maltings
Entry only with a ticket available from
www.altonchoral.org.uk or
scan the QR code or
call 01420 85994

Sponsors:
Alton Maltings
Alton Town Council
Alton Co-operative
Beer Festival
Focus stoves



New Book Release by Local Author

Charles Shaylor, former resident in Lasham village from 1978-2016, now residing in Alton, began writing a novel back in 2000 when he retired from being a headteacher. Almost 25 years later *Father Aloysius: The Heroic Priest*, has been published and is now available as a Kindle edition (£4.99) or as a paperback (£18.99) through Amazon.

Any royalties will go to the refurbishment of St Mary's Lasham, and the Anglican Dioceses of Karamoja and North Karamoja to be used to support the Diocesan Training Centre. Here is a brief introduction to the story as featured on the back of the book:

In Karamoja, a region of Uganda, a boy seeks solace up a thorn tree. His entire family has been murdered by Bandits. Rescued himself from being taken by one of the 5 big Cats prowling beneath him, the orphan is transported to Sulasmi's Mission station.

Little could the boy have forecast that from here he would travel to Northern Ireland for training into the priesthood before returning to Africa to serve as Father Aloysius. His return to Africa is short lived as, once again, his life is threatened this time by an altercation with Mugabe the Nationalist Leader of Zimbabwe.

And hence to a Cornish fishing village where he settles in the nineties in England. This exciting novel sees him dice with death yet again and follows his eventful ministry amongst endearing and colourful characters of all ages. Who could have wanted to murder this loveable priest in sleepy Pendon Bay? Read the book and find out!

Are you over State Pension age, or know someone who is?

Pension Credit tops up pension income and can help with day-to-day living costs. If you are over State Pension age, you may be eligible to claim Pension Credit, even if you own your home or have savings. People who claim Pension Credit may also be able to get:

- The Winter Fuel Payment* and other help with heating costs
 - Help with rent and Council Tax
 - A free TV Licence for those aged 75 or over
- Help with the cost of NHS services, such as NHS dental treatment, glasses and transport costs for hospital appointments

You could be eligible for Pension Credit if your weekly income is below £218.15 or, if you have a partner who lives with you, £332.95. Qualifying income level may be higher in some circumstances. Don't miss out.

Check your eligibility at [gov.uk/pension-credit](https://www.gov.uk/pension-credit)
or by calling **0800 99 1234**
(eligibility criteria apply)

Church Bookstall

Please note packs of Christmas Cards are now available from the bookstall at COGS.

Alpha is running

Please pray for all involved in our running Alpha course, which is taking place up until mid-December.

Resource Sharing Network - back up and running!

The Resource Sharing Network (RSN) is back in action.

If you have an item you no longer need or want, or you have a request, please send it to rsn@pmafam.co.uk

The message will then be distributed to the mailing list. If anybody wants that item then it will be up to them to get in touch with the person offering it directly

If you would like to be a member of the mailing list for this, then please let Matt know – office@pmafam.co.uk

The "rules" are that we do not advertise, no money changes hands between people and this network is not for anyone outside of the Church family at Medstead and Four Marks (there are other ways for things to be recycled such as Freecycle).

Monday Night is Youth Night

Parents consent needed. Please scan the QR Code to complete the form.



MONDAY YOUTH CLUB(WEEKLY)

4:15 TO 6:15 PM – YEAR 6 TO 8

5:30 TO 7:30PM – YEAR 9 TO 13

5:30- 6:15PM

EVENING MEAL FOR BOTH GROUPS

FOR ANY QUESTIONS OR DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT -

YOUTHANDCHILDREN@PMAFM.CO.UK



Youth



Help Wanted

Volunteers needed to help in the Kitchen to cook for the Monday Youth Club.

Food will be served between 5:30 and 6:15



Youth

If you can help please contact Virginia at youthandchildren@pmaf.co.uk.
Or 07724141267

Autumn Teaching Series

COGS has begun their new teaching series - Being Jesus. Series cards are available in church and can be found on the website, click the image to access.



Being fed Being ready
Being watchful Being clear
Being called Being renewed
Being changed Being sown
Being blessed **Being Jesus**
Being obedient Being understood
Being born Being heard
Being acceptable Being clean

Autumn 2024 www.parishofmedsteadandfourmarks.co.uk

St Andrew's will be following the lectionary this term.

Help Wanted

At present, all children aged 3-11 are in one kid's church group. This has created some challenges in meeting the needs across such a wide age range. Moving forward, we would like to create two separate groups for kid's church, allowing each age group to explore the Bible and build their relationship with Jesus alongside their peers. To make this possible we need volunteers to lead and help in the kids church.



If you can help, please contact Virginia at
youthandchildren@pmafam.co.uk or 07724141267

Vicar: Howard Wright

Tel: 07746 066046 | Email: vicar@pmafam.co.uk

Family Worker: Jane Hughes

Tel: 07711 407831 | Email: families@pmafam.co.uk

Youth & Children's Minister: Virginia

Tel: 07724 141267 | Email: youthandchildren@pmafam.co.uk

Church Office: Matt Senior

Tel: 01420 560622 | Email: office@pmafam.co.uk