

Here's this week's news email for the Parish of Medstead and Four Marks.

Services this Sunday - 9th February 2025

8am at St Andrew's - Communion Service
9.30am at COGS - All Age Service with sung worship, kids church, creche and youth (on 2nd and 4th Sundays)

Extraordinary Meeting of Parishioners - This Sunday
Sunday 9th February, 11am at the Church of the Good Shepherd

We are holding an Extraordinary Meeting of Parishioners to elect a new churchwarden now that Peter George-Jones has stepped down from the role.

The meeting may be attended by those on the church Electoral Roll of the parish and residents of the parish whose names are entered on a register of local government electors.

If you would like to stand for the role of churchwarden, or would like to know more, please speak to Howard.



Our next Alpha Course is launching Monday 24th February
Starting with a meal. 6.45pm for 7pm at the vicarage.

To attend the course, to know more, or if you'd like to assist, talk to Howard or contact Matt in the office

Can you join in?



Helping children of all ages to know God and grow in their relationship with Jesus




For some of our children, this means we need to give extra support. Will you be part of our team to help children of all ages and abilities know God and grow in their relationship with Jesus?

There are two ways you can help:

1. Consider joining our kids church team, especially if you have experience working with children who have additional needs.
2. Consider joining our crèche team to release Jane who can then provide additional needs support in kids church.


Given the nature of these positions, both DBS clearance and safeguarding training will be necessary.

For more information speak to Virginia or Jane




Who does Jesus say he is?

9th February 2025
3.45-5.45pm



I am the Good Shepherd
John 10 verse 14



Scan the code or visit:

<https://pmaf.m.churchsuite.com/events/1ulzdvpj>

to book your space

Click image to follow link



For children age 0-4

Tuesday
11th February
9-11am

We love because God first loved us.



This month we are thinking about love and how much God loves each of us.

Craft:
Valentine biscuits

Activity:
Threading hearts and beads

Storytime and songs at 10.30



Evening of Prayer



Our next evening of prayer is on Tuesday 18th February at 7.30pm in COGS' Church hall. All are very welcome to join us!



Would you like to help people in your local community to become debt free?

CAP Debt Centres are run in partnership with local churches to offer practical support, companionship and hope to people struggling with debt – as well as an opportunity to hear the gospel.

CAP DEBT COACHES URGENTLY NEEDED

For over ten years, Alton CAP Debt Centre – in partnership with Harvest Church – has been supporting clients to become free from debt. We are experiencing an increase in client numbers, and urgently need to expand our team of Debt Coaches from within our local church community.

Through home visits and ongoing support, Debt Coaches and Befrienders work alongside clients on their journey to becoming debt free.

Why be a CAP Debt Coach?

- Help to lift the burden of debt and see lives transformed
- Receive expert training and ongoing support
- Become part of a local and nationwide church-based movement

If you would like to find out more, please contact:

Steve Hannington, Alton Debt Centre Manager
Mobile: 07501 914563
Email: stevehannington@capuk.org



Tackling UK poverty through the Church
<https://capuk.org/>



Come and join us for St Andrew's Quiz Night on Saturday 15th March 6.45 for 7pm at St Andrew's Church Hall

Tables of 8 maximum
Tickets £15 (includes fish and chips)
Bring your own drinks

To book or for further information, contact
07709 553804/ medsteadchurchbookings@gmail.com

Upcoming Special Services

Ash Wednesday

Our Ash Wednesday service will take place at **St Andrew's at 7pm, Wednesday 5th March**

And in Holy Week...

A Service of Compline will take place at 7pm at St Andrew's on Monday 14th, Tuesday 15th & Wednesday 16th April

Evening of Prayer

Our monthly evening of Prayer will take place on **Tuesday 15th April, 7.30pm in the church hall at COGS.**

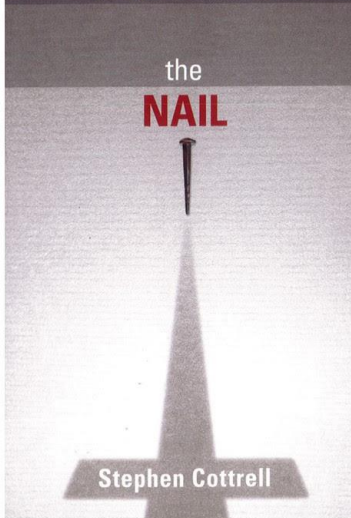
Maundy Thursday

Our Maundy Thursday service will take place at **St Andrew's at 7pm, Thursday 17th April**

Good Friday

There will be a Good Friday Meditation at **St Andrew's at 2pm, Friday 18th April**

And at COGS

<p>THE NAIL</p> <p>BEING PART OF THE PASSION</p> <p>Who killed Christ? Who was responsible?</p> <p>A dramatic and meditative presentation reflecting upon the events of the days leading up to and including Good Friday.</p> <p>Hear how key witnesses describe Christ's crucifixion from their points of view.</p> <p>Each character will consider the part they played in hammering the nails into Jesus.</p> <p>Will you accept the nail that crucified Christ?</p> <p>Will you recognise your role in the drama of the cross?</p> <p>Good Friday, 7pm, Church of the Good Shepherd</p> <p><small>Based on an idea by Stephen Cottrell, Archbishop of York</small></p>	<p>Being part of the Passion</p> <p>the NAIL</p>  <p>Stephen Cottrell</p>
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New Treasurer Needed

We 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.



AWAKE Suffolk Coastal Mission, Sept 6-14, 2025

Please consider being a team member on one of the teams on this mission.

You will be greatly encouraged and gain a deeper understanding of the gospel.

I guarantee that as soon as you have explained the Gospel of Christ on day 1, you will not want to stop.

With some training and praying beforehand, you will find it quite easy to talk faith and folk will be drawn closer to the Saviour.

You will be well fed, get tired and see God making connections that glorify Jesus.

Of a previous mission, someone said that he would have paid £500 not to have gone on it but afterwards that he would have paid £500 to have gone.

Further details from Robert Parker (parker305@btinternet.com)
or <https://www.throughfaithmissions.org/awake>

Alton Maltings are Hiring - Centre Assistants

Alton Maltings is seeking well-organized individuals with great people skills to join us as a part time ad-hoc Centre Assistant at Alton Maltings. This role is casual and will depend on the needs of the centre. It may involve working evenings or Saturdays.

As a Centre Assistant, your duties might include: helping set up and take down events and activities, taking direction from the senior management team, ensuring cleaning tasks are completed when necessary, following safety standards and regulations, offering excellent customer service while interacting with clients, overseeing security to keep the building secure after hours, providing useful information to those attending events, and inspecting equipment for any damage during and after use, reporting any issues to the Head of Operations. Full training will be provided

If you would like more information or would like to apply for this position, please email Karen.patrick@harvestchurch.uk by Friday 21st February 2025.

Ukraine Warm Clothes Appeal

The disruption of energy supplies in Ukraine has made it especially difficult for people to keep themselves and their homes warm. This has prompted our local Ukrainian friends to launch an urgent appeal for warm clothing.

Alton's Community Cupboard will act as a collection hub for local donations, up to the end of February. If you have any of the following items you no longer need, in a clean and good condition, please drop them off in **between 10.00am and 12.00 noon on Mon, Wed, Fri, or between 11.00am and 12.00 Sat.**

Items needed: sweaters, warm trousers, pyjamas, thick socks, thermals, warm blankets (NOT duvets), walking boots. (For adults, children and babies).

Drop items off to:

Alton Community Cupboard: - 73b High St, Alton GU34 1AA

Thank you!!

Paris Marathon for Samaritans

Andy Short is running the Paris Marathon on Sunday 13th April 2025 to raise money for the Samaritans.

If you would like to sponsor him, you can do so here: https://www.justgiving.com/page/andrew-short-1732959300173?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL

A poster for a Verdi Requiem performance. The background is a sunset sky with orange and blue clouds. The text is in white and yellow. The Waynflete Singers logo is in the top right corner.

Verdi Requiem
Waynflete Singers

Winchester Cathedral
Friday 4th April 2025
at 7.30 pm

The Waynflete Singers
Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra
and Bournemouth Symphony Chorus members

Soprano: Elin Pritchard
Alto: Rebecca Afonwy-Jones
Tenor: Andrés Presno
Bass: Ashley Riches

Conductor: Andrew Lumsden

Tickets: £15.00 - £50.00
From: www.winchester-cathedral.org.uk/whats-on/
or call 01962 857275
or via www.waynfletesingers.org.uk/concerts

Registered charity no: 285107

www.altonchoral.org.uk
Charity no.900258

Alton Choral Society Presents


Reflective Music for Good Friday

18th April, 6pm


Alton Methodist Church

Admission free

Retiring collection for

St Andrew's Medstead Music Recital
Saturday 26th April at 6pm



Come along and enjoy a mix of well-loved classical and light music, performed by local artists

Tickets - £12.50 (concessions for children) include:
Finger Buffet and a Glass of Wine or Soft Drinks which will be served in the church hall after the concert.

For tickets please contact:
Sharon Blackshaw on 01420 563937
E-mail: seblackshaw@gmail.com or
Wendy Busby on 01420 564168
E-mail: wendy.busby@hotmail.co.uk

Raising money for:
Kathryn's Mercy Home
St Andrew's Fabric Fund



Our current series

BEING THE SAVIOUR AND KING



Spring 2025

www.parishofmedsteadandfourmarks.co.uk

Our new teaching series for spring at COGS has begun. Service cards are available in church or you can find it online

- <https://www.parishofmedsteadandfourmarks.co.uk/resources/teaching-series/>

Sermons can be found on our sermon page or in our whole service videos on our youtube channel

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