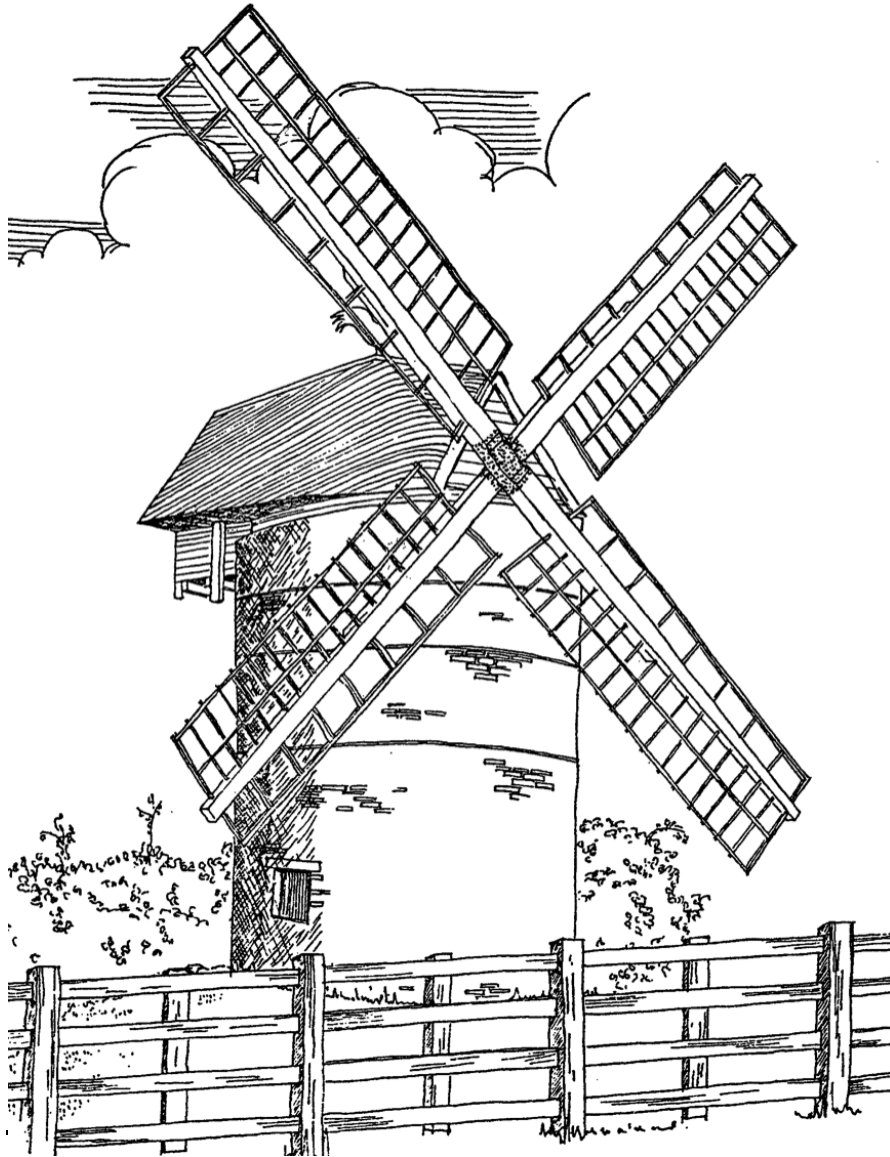


ALLERTON NEWS



November 2023

ALLERTON NEWS

Editor:

Tracey Crosby

November 2023

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

(Full details of times and venues are located within the magazine)

NOVEMBER

Thu 2 nd	Ad Astra Quiz Night
Sun 5 th	Pet Service, Allerton Church 9am
Mon 6 th	Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm
Sat 11 th	Act of Remembrance, Allerton Churchyard 10.45am
Sun 12 th	Remembrance Sunday Service St Mary's 10.30am
Tue 14 th	WI, Old School Room 7.30pm
Wed 15 th	FKJHL meeting, Cross Memorial Hall 7.30pm
Sat 18 th	Safari Supper

DECEMBER

Sun 3 rd	Christingle Family Service, Allerton Church 4pm
Sun 3 rd	Allerton Christmas Choir – first rehearsal
Thu 7 th	Ad Astra Quiz Night
Fri 8 th	FKJHL Christmas Social, Cross Memorial Hall
Mon 18 th	Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm

JANUARY

Mon 8 th	Local Community Network – Topic Public Transport
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FEBRUARY

Fri 2 ND	Wine Tasting, Old School Room 6.30pm
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Editorial Committee

J. Bennett, J. Benson, A. Buckton, T. Crosby,
A. Griffin, J. Pinnock, P. Rich and F. Spinner

Amy Griffin will be editing the December edition.

Please email your news, views, pictures of pets and recipes of the month to:
allertonnews@hotmail.co.uk

All contributions by 20 November 2023 please.

The newsletter is sent out by Jonathan Pinnock on 1st of every month.
Please contact him on jon@jonathanpinnock.com if you know of anyone wanting to be added to the mailing list or want your email address to be deleted.

Do please read the magazine right through to the end as our advertisers are very keen that you see what they have to offer!

NEWS OF THE PEOPLE

WELCOME

Welcome to Oli Gilman and Sarah Whiteman who have moved to Tythe Barn, Stone Allerton.

GOODBYE

Goodbye to Jon and Sonya Bull and family who are leaving Sutton House for Nye.

REMEMBER, REMEMBER, THE 5th OF NOVEMBER!

Fireworks can cause considerable distress to animals, please warn neighbours in advance if you plan to use them.

Bring your family pet to be blessed at our
Allerton Church Pet Service

Sun 5th November 9.00 am

All pets welcome, from damselfish to donkeys!



News from the Parish Council

Chapel Allerton Planning Applications

Under consideration

15/23/0007 Outline application with all matters reserved, for the erection of an agricultural workers dwelling (revised scheme). Katherine Farm, Stone Allerton Drove Stone Allerton Axbridge BS26 2NR.

15/23/0008 Erection of two storey side (SE) and single storey rear (NW) extensions, conversion of loft to form additional living accommodation with the formation of dormer windows to the front (SW) and rear (NW) elevations. Moor View Farm, Ashton Drove, Ashton, Wedmore, BS28 4QD

Planning Decisions

15/23/00004 Brook House Farm, New Road, Chapel Allerton, Axbridge, BS26 2PA
Conversion of Barn (Class Q) to Dwelling (Class C3).
Permission Refused

15/23/00005 Erection of an agricultural building. Land to the North of Binham Moor Drove, Stone Allerton, Near, Mark Road, Chapel Allerton.
Permission Granted

Local Community Networks

an opportunity to have your say on Public Transport (or lack of it) in our area.

Members of the public will be welcome to contribute to the next meeting of the Local Community Network which will be on 8th January, 7pm (Venue to be decided but probably Draycott Village Hall). If you have particular experience as a volunteer the Network would be delighted if you could attend the meeting. Members of the public are also welcome, or if you wish Councillor Torrens-Spence to pass on your thoughts please telephone her on 01934 710188. She can register you for the meeting if you decide to attend it. The Local Community Network is particularly interested in the views of families with school/college age children as members are aware that children and youths are being let down by lack of public transport and inadequate provision of free school buses.

Hosting Ukrainian Families

Somerset Council are looking to help support Ukrainian nationals forced to flee their homes and seek sanctuary in a new and unfamiliar setting. Since the Homes for Ukraine scheme was launched in March 2022, Somerset has welcomed over 1,500 Ukrainians, with host families playing a pivotal role in creating a safe environment for guests to re-settle and rebuild their lives in some way, supporting and helping them navigate a new life in the UK. Visit www.somerset.gov.uk/housing-support/homes-for-ukraine/ for more information

Registering to vote

Residents are being urged to check their electoral registration details or risk losing their chance to vote on decisions that affect them.

May 2024 – Parliamentary (every 5 years)

May 2024 – Police and Crime Commissioners (every 4 years)

May 2027 – Somerset Council Elections and Town and Parish Council Elections (every 4 years)

Plastics recycling

Every piece of plastic Somerset Council collected from households and via the recycling sites last year was recycled in the UK. In total 6,500 tonnes of plastic bottles, pots, tubs and trays all went to UK companies to be turned into new products and packaging – everything from plastic wrapping and compost bins to fleece jackets. The figure is up from 99.4% the previous year.

The next Parish Council Meeting is on Monday 6th November at 7.30pm in the Old School Room, Stone Allerton. BS26 2NL.

Look forward to seeing you there!

Sammie Millard-Jones
Chapel Allerton Parish Clerk and RFO
chapelallertonparishclerk@yahoo.com

Defibrillator Training

As you are probably aware, the village has a defibrillator, located at the Wheatsheaf. It's been some time since we did the initial training, so we are proposing to arrange some more sessions in November and December. If you are interested in attending, could you please get in touch with me at gail@gailpinnock.co.uk, indicating whether you would prefer daytime or evening?

We would like to make it clear that this is very much a hands-on session, and you will be required to kneel down next to a dummy patient and perform chest compressions and CPR.

Gail Pinnock

THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who came to support the Simply Sing event by Music in Mind and Music Matters, sponsored by the Wedmore and Axbridge Community Health Fund. A great afternoon of singing was enjoyed by everyone and thank you to Maureen Campbell and Stella Moore for organizing the event and to both music group choirs and to St Mary's church for the use of their premises.

Refreshments were enjoyed after the event supplied by the Health Fund.

A total of £345 was donated to the Wedmore and Axbridge Community Health Fund who sponsor both singing groups. Also supported by the Fund are the Art Class run by Sally McLean and the Clay class run by Tina Salvidge who both had displays of the work their groups do to help those in need of mental or physical help.

If you would like more information about what the Health Fund does in the Axbridge/Wedmore Medical Practice area then please contact Alan Benson (Chairman) 01934 713112 or Shirley Wederell (Secretary) 01934 7120898.

Looking BACK at the AllertonS 1850-1950

Allerton History Society is collecting old black-and-white photographs, documents, letters, newspaper cuttings etc of Allerton before about 1950, for an exhibition early next year. We've got a good collection, but we'd like more! If you have anything like this in your bottom drawer please contact Johnny Torrens-Spence (01934 710188 or johnnytspace@yahoo.co.uk) or Val Wathen (val.wathen@outlook.com or 0750081556). We won't take your original, just re-photograph it in-situ for the exhibition

ALLERTON ART GROUP

Anyone is welcome to join us whether or not you have done any drawing or painting before, including the people who are convinced they can't draw.



There is no formal teaching but help is given where needed in any medium. We meet every Tuesday in the Old Schoolroom, Allerton from 9.30 am to 12 noon. There is no commitment to come every week, just join us when you can.

There is a charge of £3 per morning and any surplus money at the end of each term is donated to a worthy charity.

This is an opportunity to try something new in a relaxed atmosphere. So if you are interested in joining, either contact me for more information or just drop in for coffee, you will be most welcome.

Sally MacLean
01934 712032

sally_maclean@btinternet.com



SAFARI SUPPER

Saturday 18th November 2023 at 7.15pm

The Safari Supper planning is well under way.

We have 2 starter venues:

Old Chapel House, Stone Allerton (misprint on the posters of Old Church House!) the home of Gavin & Fiona Collery.

Moorland Farm, Chapel Allerton, the home of James & Amy Griffin.

At present we have 7 definite hosts for the main course. If anyone else is interested, please let Nina know.

Matthew & Lindy Paul have kindly agreed to have the dessert venue at their home, Moor Road Farm, Chapel Allerton.

If you are interested in hosting a main course, can you please contact Nina on 712692 or 07752 663182 or email nina.reading@hotmail.com

Tickets are on sale priced at £20.00 each (this will include all food, red wine punch at starter venue and wine with your main course).

An honesty donations bar will operate at the dessert venue.

Please book early as numbers will be limited.

This is a great fun evening and a chance to make new friends!

Contact: Nina 712692 or Jane 712642

Allerton Church

Family Christingle Service

Sunday
3rd Dec
4.00 pm

A special service for
children. If you'd like to
come, please let Jane
Midgley know on
01934 712642



Allerton Christmas Choir



Every year, the Allerton Christmas Choir springs into life, under the inspired leadership of Sarah Joskey-Martin and Elspeth Salmon, to perform a couple of anthems at the village "Carols by Candlelight" service. It's lighthearted and jolly; its more about enthusiasm than musical skill, and you don't have to be over fifty or have a double-barreled name to join in! **Our first rehearsal will be in Allerton Church on Sunday 3rd December at 5.00 pm.** We need more singers, so if you'd like to join us, please contact Sarah Joskey-Martin (713015) or Johnny Torrens-Spence (710188).



Wine Tasting 2nd February 2024

On 27th March 2020 we were going to hold a Wine Tasting led by Mimi Avery of the well-known wine merchants Averys of Bristol. Sadly, this event in aid of Allerton Church funds, was cancelled because of Covid. Several of you (listed below) had paid in advance and kindly agreed to wait for the next event. We very much hope that you will be able to come on 2nd February. I hope I haven't missed anyone out.

For those who have not got tickets, the price is £15 per person. The event is being held in the Old Schoolroom and starts promptly at 6.30pm.

We have approximately 20 tickets still available on a first come first served basis. Please contact me, Andrew Midgley, on 01934 712642 or email andymidgel@aol.com

Already paid:

J. Handley (1), V. Flew (1), S. Midgley (2), J. Torrens Spence (2), D. Parker (2), J. Marriot (2), T. Wright (2), G. Falcon (2), F. Duggan Rees (1), S. Reading (2), P. Lemanski (1), Bob (1), V. Allan (1).

Andrew Midgley

CLAY CLUB

Clay Club runs on Tuesdays 2-4pm in Badgworth Schoolroom.
If you would like to join us please contact Tina
on tinasalvidgelimited@hotmail.co.uk
No previous experience necessary!

We are partially funded by SEED Sedgemoor and the Wedmore and Axbridge Health Fund which keeps our costs low at £10 per session, which includes all materials and associated costs.

Please contact me if you would like further information.

Tina Salvidge

FRIENDS OF KING JOHN'S HUNTING LODGE



The Friends of King John's Hunting Lodge is an organisation that has been formed by amalgamating the interests of the Friends of Axbridge and District Museum and the Axbridge Archaeological and Local History Society. It aims to bring together people with an interest in the preservation of our heritage.

Regular meetings are held throughout the year and include talks, outside visits and social events. The autumn programme 2023 continues as follows:

Wednesday 15th November 7.30pm at Cross Memorial Hall

Our Sacred Spaces. Speakers Sue and Phil Thorne.

Friday December 8th

Christmas Social.

Further details about membership fees and the benefits of joining the Friends of KJHL can be obtained from Liz Scott at:- moorlandfm@btinternet.com

Non-members are welcome at all meetings but are requested to donate £5.00 per visit.

Madeleine Roberts

WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS

Di Midgely's photo of the month was taken in the early morning in her garden in Stone Allerton.



Each month the Allerton News is looking for a picture that sums up the previous month in the villages.

Each entry will automatically be entered into the Ad Astra summer competition - and may end up on their wall. Send your recent pictures to allertonnews@hotmail.co.uk and you could be next month's photographic star.



Weston Hospicecare
at Winchester Farm

Draycott Rd, Cheddar BS27 3RP

on Sat 16th December
from 10 am

Prices: Adult £10

Adult with up to 4 children £15

14-18 year old £6

Fancy Dress awards for under 14s

} Santa Suit
provided for
over 13s

Register at www.mendipsantarun.com
or use QR code →→→



SPONSORED BY



A VIEW FROM MY WINDOW

You never know what a quick glance through the window can show you.

I managed to spot and photograph these two beauties during a business meeting at home this month.

Luckily the people I was in the meeting with were fairly understanding when I leapt up and stood on a chair to try and get some good pictures.



These are a pair of Speckled Bush Crickets, and they were sat very camouflaged on the leaves of an Ash tree sapling that has decided to take root outside our kitchen window.

The tree is cut back at regular intervals as we cannot dig it out due to a shed being in the way. However, the crickets seemed very at home on the leaves and sheltered from the wind.

Bush Crickets are found throughout Southern England and as their name suggests, they prefer hedgerows, scrub and bush type leaves. They can often be found on window ledges as well. Like Grasshoppers, the Male Crickets rub their wings together to attract females but they also produce a

high pitched noise which is hardly audible for humans.

They stayed on the branch for a couple of days and then hopped away – hopefully they have found a nice warm area for the winter either that or they don't like having their photos taken?

Amy Griffin

NEWS FROM ALLERTON WI

October's WI meeting had 21 members attending for a very interesting talk by Emm Sharpe about British Sign Language

The presentation included live subtitling on the projector and gave us an insight into the struggles some deaf and lip-reading people may have in everyday life.



Emm mouthed four words to the group, and we had to guess what they were. Some of us got the first letter but it showed just how hard it is to lip read as a deaf person as many words looked the same.

Over 24,000 people in the U.K use BSL as their first language with some using English as a second language.

Emm informed us of the importance of including deaf and lip-reading people in groups

and being more aware of their needs for communication. She also told us about the community of people who use BSL as their first language and the difference between hearing and non- hearing communities.

We then practised some British Sign Language signs for meeting and greeting.

A big thank you to Emm. Anyone wanting to learn more about Deaf communication can visit her website www.studysharpe.co.uk

Another big thank you to all the local villagers for donating items for the Somerset WI Shoebox appeal. Jean will be taking the boxes to HQ in Bridgwater and these will be checked and distributed by Judy Glossp and her WI for young people in hostels or homeless. This started as a WI Resolution in 2013 so is now in its 10th year.

Our next meeting in November will be with Brian Wright about Christmas Traditions.

Amy Griffin

MONTHLY RECIPE

Pumpkin Cake



Cake

175ml rapeseed/vegetable oil
100g caster sugar
75g soft light brown sugar
3 eggs
1 tsp vanilla extract or vanilla bean paste
250g shredded pumpkin with the liquid squeezed out
150g plain flour
1 tsp bicarbonate of soda
1 tsp of baking powder
1 tsp cinnamon
1 tsp of mixed spice
1 tsp salt

Cream Cheese Icing

180g tub of full fat cream cheese
75g unsalted butter, softened
½ tsp vanilla extract/ vanilla bean paste
150g-200g icing sugar – depending on how sweet you want it

Part 1

1. Weigh your pumpkin scrapings, keep 250g of it, the rest can be kept for soup or roasting!
2. Cross-chop/shred the weighed pumpkin. It will be quite watering so lay it on a clean tea towel and wrap it up. Keep it in the fridge overnight.
3. Prepare your cream cheese. Remove the cream cheese from the tub and place it in the middle of the jay cloth or muslin. Squeeze the jay cloth round the cream cheese so it's in a ball. Twist it tight and secure with a rubber band. Place it in a bowl and periodically squeeze the ball

of cream cheese and remove the liquid with a piece of kitchen paper. This will keep in the fridge overnight.

Part 2.

1. Prepare your tins – grease and line with baking parchment. OR grease a muffin tin or line a muffin tin with paper cases.
2. Preheat your oven to 180C
3. Measure the oil into a bowl and add your sugars and eggs, whisk well.
4. Remove your pumpkin from the tea towel and add it to your oil, sugar and egg mixture.
5. Weigh your flour, bicarb, baking powder, spices and salt into a bowl. Sift it into the batter and whisk it in, ensuring there are no lumps left – if some remain, use your electric beaters to help break them up.
6. Pour the batter equally between the tins/cupcake cases and place in the middle of the pre-heated oven. Bake for between 20-30 minutes until the cake is risen and a skewer inserted comes out clean. If making cupcake check the cakes after 15 minutes.
7. Allow the cakes to cool slightly and then remove them from the tins and place on a wire rack.
8. For the icing, cream your softened butter with the sieved icing sugar and add the vanilla – the icing sugar will go everywhere so put a tea towel over the bowl whilst you beat! Option: you can add a very small amount of cinnamon and mixed spice to give a slightly specked appearance to the icing.
9. Give your cream cheese one last squeeze and unwrap it. You should find that it has become quite solid.
10. Break half of it off and quickly beat it into the butter and sugar mixture. Don't over beat it! Add the other half and gently stir it in, with a spoon or with the electric whisk on the slowest speed.
11. Remove the paper from your cakes, place one on a plate. Take half of your icing and spread it over the base, place the second cake on top and spread over the rest of the icing.

Rachel Pinnock

Update from the Cider Barn

The 2023 apple harvest is well underway in the orchard. As mentioned before, it has been a bumper year, due in part to the weather, but also the work we have put into pruning the trees (thanks Jeremy Pope) and the introduction of bee hives. Last year the harvest totalled 35 tons. This year it looks like the final tally will be close to 80 tons. Assuming an average apple is roughly 150 grams, that give us well over half a million apples this year!!



We have already pressed about 30 tons and sold another 25 tons to a local commercial cider maker whose name I cannot mention....but it's Thatcher's. And are now bracing ourselves for another few weeks of hard work bringing in the rest. The orchard smells amazing, and the cider barn is alive with the smell and noise of fermenting cider (and alive with a few pesky fruit flies also).



We would like to give a big shout out to everyone who has popped by to help with the harvesting, pressing, or just popped in to see what all the fuss is about. As always, it is a team effort, and we are hugely thankful to have such an amazing community around us.



Once the harvest is completed, we will shift into apple tree pruning mode and break out the Silky saws and loppers. Only 2100 trees to do, so should be completed by the end of January.



September and October have also been incredibly busy in the cider barn. We hosted a couple of fantastic wedding receptions, a formal Dining-In-Night for the Royal Engineers, The Fire Fighters Charity Event, two quiz nights where we raised over £1600 for the Fire Fighters Charity, and over £600 for Love Musgrove, not to mention showing the fantastic Rugby World Cup. We held a great Halloween event in the cider barn.



Now we have broken the back of the apple harvest, we can start to look forward to the festive season. To make sure we all get into the Christmas spirit, we are delighted to welcome the Cheddar Male Choir to the Cider Barn on the 1st December. We are also thrilled to have the Elastic Brass Band (a smaller subset of the Burnam Brass Band) return to the cider Barn on the 15th December. Other dates are below:

November:

2nd – Quiz Night in aid of Help for Heroes

4th – Closed for Private Function

December:

1st – Cheddar Male Choir (30 Piece Choir)

7th - Quiz Night

15th - The Elastic Brass Band playing Christmas Carols

24th – Open for drinks after Carols at the Cross

25th – Open from 12pm – 2pm for Christmas Day drinks

31st – New Year Party

January 2024:

20th – Wassail!!

That's it for now. We will keep our Facebook page and our website up to date with all the events, so please follow us for more info.

www.adastracider.com

Wassail!!

Paul Rolfe

Act of Remembrance

10.45 Saturday 11th November 2023
at the Cross in Allerton Churchyard



A short ceremony to remember those
of our parish who gave their lives in
war, and all those who still suffer
today from conflict

LESTER DURSTON CONTINUES HIS TRAVEL TALES IN SOUTH AMERICA

The Sacred Valley of the Incas

My exploration of Peru began with a complicated flight to its capital Lima and then on to Cusco, once the southern capital of the vast Inca empire. The empire was destroyed by the conquest in the early 16th c. by Spanish adventurers. Cusco had been reached by Francisco Pizarro in 1533. Subduing the indigenous peoples had been a brutal and bloody affair taking several years. The Inca were a sophisticated civilisation and have left enduring memorials to their engineering. Mountainsides were terraced for fortresses, temples and for agriculture, made secure with monumental masonry. This is to be seen in Cusco itself but also nearby at the fortress of Sacsayhuaman and more dramatically at Machu Picchu. There are other examples in the Sacred Valley.



It lies some 15km north of **Cusco**, the valley of the **Rio Urubamba**. The site of some impressive ruins is at **Ollantaytambo**.

Terraces are topped with the remains of both fort and temple, probably incomplete at the time of the Spanish



conquest. It was the location of a defeat for the forces of **Pizarro's** half-brother, **Hernando** in 1536. The terracing and flooding of part of the valley by the Inca, making it very difficult for the Spaniards, mounted on horses.

Today **Ollantaytambo** is a large and busy village with stone built houses set around small squares.



Hung on walls were rugs woven from llama wool, for sale to passing visitors. The village church flanked one side of a square, that was overlooked by terraces. The deserted space suddenly filled with well-dressed people, as a wedding party emerged from



the church, headed by two priests. There was a brief stop for photos, and then the whole company moved off, to parade around the streets.

Outside the village were fields where maize had been grown. It had been harvested and the cobs, ranging in colour from white, through light yellow to almost black, were laid out on



the ground or in courtyards to dry. Some of the walls around the courtyards were topped with attractive looking cacti covered in spines. These were very brittle and an inadvertently touch resulted in several sharp spines embedded in hand or arm. The spines had reverse barbs like a fishhook. Removing them was a painful and bloody exercise!



Another village in the Valley, but nearer Cusco, also had dramatic Inca terracing but it is also famed for its **Sunday Market**. It is popular with the locals and tourists alike. The village is **Pisac**. A minibus took us there.

The **Plaza de Armas** was already thronged with buyers and sellers. Fruit and vegetables were in abundance but so too was meat and also some fish.

There were stalls selling clothes and household goods and one stall selling footwear made from old car tyres.



It had been planned that the group would return to Cusco around midday, but several of us decided to stay a while longer and use public transport later. Just around the corner from the *Plaza* was the village bakery, an open fronted structure with a large wood fired oven within. A variety of bread was being made as well as cheese filled pasties. Fresh from the oven we lunched on these. We wandered around the village and soaked up the atmosphere of hustle and bustle, as the locals went about their normal day at the market.



Our return proved an interesting experience. We waited where others were queuing and eventually a small battered bus arrived. It was already full, but a few people got off and a few squeezed on. After a while a second and then a third bus came along, both crowded. A fellow gringo traveller waiting nearby advised that our only option was to ensure we adopted local practice and got on the next bus. British scruples cast aside, we made it on to the next bus! We were so packed in that all passengers were jammed against each other. Movement was impossible but stability in the swaying bus was afforded. The driver's young mate collected fares by weaving his way through a forest of legs, thrusting his arm up between bodies, to take the fare. The local people are of stocky build and generally about five feet tall. A lone six foot plus gringo and his red haired wife were the subject of much mirth. But we got back to Cusco!

The Sacred Valley of the Rio Urabamba is quite wide in places and the flat floor was cultivated for crops, particularly maize. Mountains, some snowcapped, surround the scene.



In several locations we saw examples of building techniques, old and modern. At Ollantaytambo was evidence of unfinished Inca masonry. The carefully crafted blocks fitted neatly together without any mortar and were shaped using stone tools harder than the material being worked (the Incas had no metal tools). The heavy pieces were manoeuvred into position using timbers. The protrusions on the blocks, shown here, provided purchase for these levers. In this case they had yet to be chipped away and the dressing of the surface completed.



Nearby was a small chunk of stone where shaping was in its early stages. Small holes were chiselled out, along the line which the mason wished to split the piece. Soft wood wedges were driven into each hole and water applied. Slowly the wood swelled and eventually the block split.



Most of the buildings in these villages were roofed with fired clay tiles. Walls were of rough stone with just a few pieces of Inca dressed. We did pass one place where earth made bricks were drying in the sun.



As mentioned above, local handicrafts were displayed for sale. Some were eagerly presented by their makers, such as the husband and his wife, holding up items they had woven. A number of these folk would later be on the railway platform to greet the tourist trains to Machu Picchu. We in fact quickly bargained with this lady when we saw her the following day. Money and rug were exchanged, as the train pulled out! Ours featured the stylised condor motif similar to that hanging beside their door. I have it still, as a wall hanging, and see it daily.



It is a reminder of one of the highlights of our first visit to S America and the awesome sight of the Andes and the people who live in these high places.

Tomorrow we would board a train and climb across the **Altiplano**, on our way to the world's largest lake, which is at over 2000m above sea level.

Lester Durston

RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS

CHURCHWARDENS' NOTES

For the church, October means Harvest Festival, which this year was a lovely Family Service, taken by Matthew. It was a very happy occasion. The church looked beautiful, thank you ladies for all your wonderful flower power! The service had a "Back to School" scheme, and Matthew gave an excellent talk about the word "Harvest" which produced a lot of words pertaining to sharing and giving. The children loved it, and they all read and said prayers. Thanks to everyone who offered non-perishable goods, which have been delivered to a very grateful Cheddar Foodbank. We are so fortunate to have such wonderful support from our young families – long may it continue.

We held our annual All Souls service on 29th, when we remember and give thanks to those whom we loved who have died recently. This is always a moving service, which we hope brings some measure of comfort and healing to the bereaved. It was particularly nice to welcome back Dennis Malpas, for many years a resident of Allerton and supporter of Allerton Church, who came from his new home in Hampshire to remember his wife Jean.



Candles on the altar at the All Souls' service

Axbridge Deanery Synod met during the month and unanimously approved the proposals for amalgamating parishes in the light of reducing clergy numbers. Under this plan, the Isle of Wedmore Benefice, of which Allerton is a part, will expand to include Mark Parish. This is a major step forward, although quite a bit of admin is required before it can be put into effect.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Sunday 5th November 9.00 am Pet Service. Bring your family pet along for a service of blessing and thanks. Every sort of pet welcome, from damselfish to donkeys and everything in between!

Saturday 11th November 10.45 am. Act of Remembrance. At the cross in Allerton Churchyard. A short ceremony of Remembrance for those from our parish who lost their lives in war.

Sunday 12th November 10.30 am. Remembrance Sunday Service, St Mary's Wedmore.

Sunday 3rd December, 4.00 pm. Christingle Family Service, Allerton Church. Every child gets a Christingle to take away.

Sunday 3rd December 5.00 pm. Allerton Christmas Choir – first rehearsal

With blessings, Jane and Matthew

Allerton Church Services in November

Our worship will also continue to be available online. At least one of our Sunday services each week is recorded and you can join in via the St Mary's YouTube channel. Links for all the above and details of services both online and in churches can be found <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/10871/>.

Every week on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday there is Morning Prayer online at 9 am on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/St-Marys-Wedmore-384215139101196/>

'On a Wheel and a Prayer'

On Tuesday 21st November the vicar will be conducting the next 'cycle prayer pilgrimage', cycling around the different villages and hamlets that make up the Benefice of the Isle of Wedmore that our churches serve, stopping at various points and praying for the particular communities. Details of timings can be found in the churches, and you are welcome to join Richard at any of the stops.

Special services for Remembrance Sunday will be at St Mary's and Christchurch on 12th November. At St Mary's we begin in church at 10.15 a.m. (please note the time – it's the same as last year, but ¼ hour earlier than the usual Sunday service at St Mary's) before moving to the war memorial for 11.00 a.m. The service at Theale will begin at 11.00 a.m.

Service and ex-service personnel are invited to form a hollow square together with the uniformed youth organisations and, in addition to the normal prayers, laying of wreaths and the Kohima Epitaph, we will read out names of those who died in more recent conflicts. Blank small wooden crosses will also be available in church, if there is someone in particular, not from the Isle of Wedmore, whom you would like to remember. These can be laid at the very end of the service, with the IoW named crosses as a means of commemorating these personnel if required.

There will be an opportunity to gather on Armistice Day itself 11th November in Allerton Churchyard for two minutes silence. Please gather by 10:55 am

Messy Church

Saturday 18th November 3.00 -5.00 p.m. at St Mary's



is a way of being church for families involving fun
is for adults and children to enjoy together
uses hands-on activities to explore Bible stories, to reflect a God of
creativity and to give people a chance to play together.
is about hospitality, expressed most evidently by eating together

The two hours of Messy Church will feature a number of craft tables based around the theme of Light up the Darkness, a time of worship and a shared tea. It is for all the family, whether or not you normally come to church. Look out for flyers, posters and invitations later in the month. Speak to the vicar Richard Neill if you want to know more or look at www.messychurch.org.uk/

St Mary's Christmas Coffee Shop: St Mary's is holding a Christmas market on Saturday 2nd December between 9.30 am and 12.00 noon. There will be a number of stalls to make seasonal purchases and the Coffee Shop will be open throughout offering some tantalising Yuletide treats.

ALLERTON CHURCH BELLRINGING ROTA



NOVEMBER

Steve Reading
Mark Smith
Giles Floyd

ALLERTON CHURCH BELLRINGING ROTA



DECEMBER

Mark Bennett
Adam Martin
Rob Allen

ALLERTON CHURCH ROTA

November 2023

Services 9.00 am at Allerton unless otherwise stated

	November 5th	November 5th	November 12th
	Family Pet Service	All Souls Service	Remembrance Service
		3.00 pm	St. Mary's 10.30
Officiant	LWA TBA	TBA	Rev. Richard Neill
Cleaning	Judith Ogden & Sylvia Finch	N/A	Fiona Torrens-Spence
Coffee	Tracey Matthews & TBA	Johnny Torrens-Spence	N/A
Flowers	Irene McIntosh	N/A	Dot Puddy
Intercession	John Crosby	TBA	N/A
Keys	Dot Puddy	N/A	Fiona Duggan-Rees
Reader 1	Matthew Paul	Jane Midgley	N/A
Reading	TBA	Psalm 23	N/A
Reader 2	N/A	Angie Horne	N/A
Reading	N/A	Revelation 21; 1-7	N/A
Sides-Collection	Andrew Midgley & Simon Midgley	Matthew Paul & Irene McIntosh	N/A

	November 19th	November 26th
	Parish Communion	Patronal Communion
		Christchurch, Theale 11.00 am
Officiant	Rev. Joy Hawes	Rev. Richard Neill
Cleaning	Nina Reading	Shirley Turner
Coffee	John & Tracy Crosby	N/A
Flowers	Fiona Duggan-Rees	Tracey Crosby
Intercessions	Dot Puddy	N/A
Keys	John Crosby	Martin Long
Reader 1	Fiona Torrens-Spence	N/A
Reading	Zephaniah 1; 7, 12-18	N/A
Reader 2	Lester Durston	N/A
Reading	1 Thessalonians 5; 1-11	N/A
Sides-Collection	Nina & Steve Reading	N/A

ALLERTON CHURCH ROTA

December 2023

Services 9.00 am at Allerton unless otherwise stated

Note: No service in Allerton Sun 24th December

	December 3rd	December 10th	December 17th
	Christingle Family Service 4.00pm	Parish Communion	Family Service – Nativity Play 9.00am
	Advent One	Advent Two	Advent Three
Officiant	Rev. Richard Neill	Rev. Joy Hawes	LWA TBA
Cleaning	Jane Midgley	Matthew Paul	Fiona Torrens-Spence
Coffee	Fiona D-Rees/Tracey Matthews	Matthew Paul/Irene McIntosh	Simon & Di Midgley
Flowers	Kate Fielder	Anita Tonks	Christmas Flowers
Intercession	N/A	Johnny Torrens-Spence	Andrew Midgley
Keys	Elaine Steckler	Wendy Pollock	Ros Prince
Reader 1	Judith Ogden	Dot Puddy	N/A
Reading	TBA	Isaiah 40. 1-11	TBA
Reader 2		Andrew Midgley	N/A
Reading	N/A	Mark 1. 1-8	N/A
Sides-Collection	Johnny T-Spence/Nina Reading	Simon & Di Midgley	Matthew Paul & Dot Puddy

	December 17th	December 25th	December 31st
	Carol Service at 6.00pm	Christmas Communion	Benefice Service St Mary's 10.30am
	Advent Three	Christmas Day	Christmas 1
Officiant	TBA	Rev. Richard Neill	N/A
Cleaning	N/A	Judith Ogden/Sylvia Finch	Nina Reading
Coffee	Sherry/Mince Pies	N/A	N/A
Flowers	Christmas Flowers	Christmas Flowers	N/A
Intercession	N/A	Matthew Paul	N/A
Keys	Ros Prince	John Crosby	Dot Puddy
Reader 1	N/A	Philip Bevan	N/A
Reading	N/A	Isaiah 9. 2-7	N/A
Reader 2	N/A	Angie Horne	N/A
Reading	N/A	Titus 2. 11-14	N/A
Sides-Collection	Irene McIntosh/Andrew Midgley	Johnny & Fiona Torrens-Spence	N/A

VILLAGE DIRECTORY

<p>ALLERTON CHURCH Benefice Vicar: Rev. Richard Neill (713566) Enquiries except personal or pastoral to Churchwardens Mrs Jane Midgley (712642) and Dr Matthew Paul (712934) Or PCC Secretary Mr Johnny Torrens-Spence (710188) Parish Safeguarding Officer Lyndsay Andrews (710305) (07813 931734) lyndsayandrews@hotmail.com</p>	<p>ASHTON WINDMILL Chairman Mr Steve Reading (712692) Open Sundays 2.30 – 4.30pm April – September Open Wednesdays July & August Parties by arrangement with the Chairman</p> <p>BEAVERS, CUBS & SCOUTS at Badgworth Old School Cubs - Mondays Beavers – Wednesdays Scouts -Fridays Contact Mr Mike Wilkinson (713356)</p>
<p>ALLERTON CRICKET CLUB Chairman Mr Andrew Cook (710074) Captain Dr Matthew Paul (712934) (07703 776447) cricketallerton@gmail.com</p>	<p>BROWNIES & GUIDES At Weare Academy First School Brownies Mrs Juliet Dormer (741875)</p>
<p>ALLERTON HARVEST HOME Chairman Dr Matthew Paul (712934) Secretary Mrs Sarah Axton (712935)</p>	<p>MOBILE LIBRARY See the village notice boards. Usually 3rd Friday of the month. Front Street, Chapel Allerton, between 1.25pm- 1.45pm www.somerset.gov.uk/libraries</p>
<p>ALLERTON NEWS Email allertonnews@hotmail.co.uk Enquiries Mrs Alison Buckton (712714) Adverts Mrs J Benson (713112) Benson43@hotmail.co.uk Mailing List allertonnews@hotmail.co.uk</p>	<p>NEWSPAPER DELIVERIES Mr Jeff Savage (744830) (07973 232140)</p> <p>OIL BUYING GROUP Co-ordinator Mr Jonathan Pinnock theoilbuyinggroup@gmail.com</p>
<p>ALLERTON OLD SCHOOL ROOM Chairman Mr Johnny Torrens-Spence (710118) Secretary Mr Steve Reading (712692) Bookings Mrs Louise Whittaker (07729 845723) allertonosrbookings@gmail.com</p>	<p>REFUSE COLLECTION Recycling weekly Mondays Black Bins every three weeks For information and dates https://www.somersetwaste.gov.uk</p>
<p>ALLERTON PARISH COUNCIL Chair Mrs Jasmine Blakemore Mrs Fiona Torrens-Spence, Mrs Margret Wallach Mrs Val Wathen, Mrs Rachel Williams Footpath Liaison Office John Crosby (07470180759) John57crosby@yahoo.com Clerk Sammie Millard - Jones</p>	<p>SOMERSET COUNCIL Bob Filmer (01278 760760) bfilmer@somerset.gov.uk Tony Grimes (01278 786308) tony.grimes@somerset.gov.uk</p>
<p>ALLERTON VILLAGES WEBSITE www.allertonvillages.co.uk</p>	<p>WEARE PARISH COUNCIL https://www.weareparishcouncil.org.uk weareparishcouncil@hotmail.com</p>
<p>ALLERTON WOMENS INSTITUTE 2nd Tuesday of the Month at The Old School Room President Mrs Jackie Klinker (01934 732208) Secretary Mrs Gail Pinnock (01934 709496)</p>	<p>RAINBOW WOODS PRE-SCHOOL At Weare Academy First School Term Time, Monday-Friday Morning, Lunchtime and Afternoon Sessions. Breakfast and after school clubs available. Contact Mrs Lana Whittaker (01934 733413) during school hours Rainbow-woods@educ.somerset.gov.uk www.weareacademy.co.uk/topic/pre-school</p>
<p>ALLERTON YOUTH CLUB Alternate Fridays in The Old School Room Contact Denise Pope (07786071007) denise.pope101@gmail.com</p>	

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Wednesday	7.30am - 5.00pm	9am - 4.00pm
Thursday	7.30am - 5.00pm	9am - 4.00pm
Friday	7.30am - 5.00pm	9am - 4.00pm
Saturday	8.00am - 1.00pm	9am - 1.00pm
Sunday	9am - 12.00pm	Closed

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