

## Nominations for Alf Hicks Biscuit Barrel

Alf was born in Ivy Cottage opposite the school in 1907. He started work when he was seven and still at school looking after cows grazing at the roadside. He left school in 1921 and did farm work before going into the grocery trade at Woollards shop. Following the Second World War which he spent with the N.A.A.F.I., he joined Pearl Assurance Co. as their local agent.

Lay preacher at the Congregational Church, officer in the Boys Brigade, Footballer, Cricketer, founder member of the Community Council and Local History Society, Alf was all of these as well as being the village reporter for the East Anglian Daily Times and Bury Free Press.

In 1991 the Barrel was presented to Alf as a gift in recognition of his service to the Village. Alf kept the Barrel for a while but then returned it to the Parish Council with a request that it be awarded annually for outstanding service.

Alf's death in 1995 left the village so much poorer but perhaps the erecting of the Village Sign, for so long Alf's dream, will be a fitting memorial to one of nature's true gentlemen.

In 1998 the Parish Council decided that, as the Barrel has to be returned at the end of the year, the recipient should also receive an award certificate. The first certificate was awarded to Michael Medcalf. Subsequently certificates were presented to all the previous recipients of the Barrel.

In 2023, the parish council decided to open nominations for the award to residents of the parish, which was very successful, and nominations were opened again in December '25 for this year's award. There was a fantastic response, with a clear front runner.

The nominations this year are:

Cathy and Alan Cordy	<i>"I would like to nominate Alan and Kathy Cordy for the work they do for the British Legion within the village, the Cemetery decoration and excellent event for VE Day."</i>
Mike Lavelle	<i>On hearing that he had been nominated Mike asked that his name not go forward</i>
Dierdre Smith	<i>"I would like to nominate Deirdre Smith of Nunnery Green for the Alf Hicks Biscuit Barrel. In the forty years I have known her Deirdre has played a huge part in village life in a quiet way. She has been involved with WI as President, treasurer and trustee and is currently treasurer of the Gardening Club. She runs the Fete and has raised thousands of pounds for MacMillan by organising the annual coffee morning She is always at the forefront of any village activities"</i>
Sally Welsh	<i>"She always has a smile and ... A true star"</i>

**Action:**

**Councillors are asked to decide who should be awarded the Alf Hicks Biscuit Barrel this year.**