

THE ALRESFORD ADVERTISER

JUNE / JULY 2024

Established since 1970

The Alresford Fete
Organising Group
invite you to our Summer event

Picnic in the Park

Free Entry

Saturday
8th June 2024
12:30 PM - 6:00 PM

Alresford Playing Field
Ford Lane
CO7 8AT

Live music from 'Silence the Sirens' - entertainment -
BBQ - bar - ice cream - stalls - and much more!
Bring your own picnics, blankets/chairs.
Sorry, no dogs or glass.

St Andrew's Church, Alresford
Songs of Praise
23rd June, 4pm
If you would like to stay for afternoon tea
following the service, please contact St Andrew's
Church office by email or phone:
admin@tenpennyvillages.uk
01206 826376
We would love to see you there
tenpennyvillages.uk

Alresford Carpet Bowls Club

QUIZ

NIGHT

Friday 28th June
Alresford Village Hall

Doors open at 7 pm for a 7:30 pm start

Entry fee £3 per person and a maximum of 6 people per table,
payment to be made on the night. Please bring your own drinks and
snacks, tea and coffee available on the night.

Please contact Nick Pace to reserve your
table, contact details 07799076626

Over 1250 copies delivered to every household & business in Alresford, also available online in colour via the Parish Council & Village Hall websites: www.alresfordpcsex.uk & <https://e-voice.org.uk/alresfordvillagehall/>

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES NEWS

Do you run a club or society? If you would like something included in the Alresford Advertiser, please email alresfordadvertiser@gmail.com



ALRESFORD COLNE RANGERS F.C

Season 2023-2024 for Alresford Colne Rangers has been a disappointing one, all stemming from a mass walk out of every first team player, also the manager stepping away; however, the club will be looking to get back to the level we should be at. A lot of hard work will go into achieve this, but we feel sure that it will happen.

The ladies finished mid table, a good effort as they had to rebuild after players left but the grass is not always greener, hopefully the squad will stay with one or two more signings but with Brightlingsea starting a ladies team competition for places will happen.

The walking football season has restarted with more players joining the team.

The youth teams have had good seasons. The under 14s finishing 4th, a very big move forward with a big challenge awaiting them next season when they step up to a full-size pitch. I am sure they will cope.

The under 13s after a very poor start came back strongly to finish 3rd – a great effort. The under 9s have had a good season and with what appears to be a great signing in a young goalkeeper they will be even better.

The mini rangers continue to thrive, and a new side starts next season at under 7 level, an exciting time for the boys and girls.

The season ends for the players, but the work starts for the club with all the administration to do for next season. Meetings to attend, equipment to source, pitches to ready for pre-season which starts early July.

For the club committee, the pressure is on with our club end of season presentation being held on Saturday 1st June 2024. A lot of work goes into make it an enjoyable event. Then **Saturday 8th June 2024 it's Picnic in the Park**, a big village event which the club is always pleased to be part of with 2 live bands, BBQ, stalls and much more.

We hope to see the village playing field crammed with people enjoying the atmosphere, entry is free so come over to the field and enjoy the day.

Ranger
Brian Martin, ACRFC

ALRESFORD BOWLS CLUB

You are invited to join us to play carpet bowls

SESSIONS ARE HELD EVERY MONDAY
2.00PM AND 7.00PM
ALRESFORD VILLAGE HALL
JUST COME ALONG

FREE TRIAL SESSIONS ARE AVAILABLE TO NEWCOMERS

THEREAFTER THERE IS A £10 ANNUAL FEE AND £2 PER SESSION WHICH INCLUDES REFRESHMENTS

For further information contact
Andrew Pyman on
07393 381257



ALRESFORD BOWLS CLUB NEWS

Dear Readers,

Over the past 6 months we have been playing many of the local Carpet Bowls clubs, some of these include Elmstead, Brightlingsea, Jaywich and Clacton. These are friendly events with some food and a raffle, with the proceeds of £300 being donated to Macmillan Cancer Support and £300 to Walton & Frinton Lifeboat.

We play Monday afternoons from 14:00 and Monday evenings from 19:00. So if your interested in trying Indoor Carpet Bowls please do come along, you don't need any equipment as this is all provided for you. Our yearly membership fee of £10 starting from the end of September so its a great time to join the club and try Indoor Carpet Bowls.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Regards Andrew
alresfordcarpetbowlsclub@hotmail.com



1st Alresford & Elmstead Market Scout Group

All you need to get in contact with us

Sections, age groups, meeting places & contact details.

Beavers

Boys & girls aged 6 - 8 years
Meet on a Tuesday evening, 6.30pm - 7.30pm at Alresford Village Hall
alresfordbeavers@outlook.com

Cubs

Boys & girls aged 8 - 10 years
Meet on a Wednesday evening, 6.15pm - 7.45pm at Elmstead Community Centre
karl@elmsteadscouts.org

Scouts

Boys & girls aged 10 - 14 years
Meet on a Wednesday evening 7.45pm - 9.15pm at Elmstead Community Centre
chloe@elmsteadscouts.org

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ALRESFORD VILLAGE HALL REGULAR GROUPS

MONDAY

- Mindfulness Yoga meet Monday mornings
- Alresford Indoor Carpet Bowls Club meet Monday afternoon/Evening.
- Alresford Gardening Club (affiliated to the RHS as Alresford Horticultural Society) meet on the first Monday of the Month, March to November

TUESDAY

- Alresford Lunch Club meet every Tuesday morning and early afternoon
- 1st Alresford Scout Group (Beavers) meet Tuesday Teatime.
- Dog Training Classes Tuesday evening.

WEDNESDAY

- Tai Chi meet every Wednesday morning.
- Alresford Women's Guild meet every other Wednesday afternoon.

THURSDAY

- Exercise Classes (Extend) meet every Thursday morning.
- Young People's Dance School meet every Thursday afternoon
- Alresford Women's Institute meet the second Thursday evening of the month
- Alresford Camera Club meet the first and third Thursday evening on the month

FRIDAY

- Alresford Calligraphy Group/Art Club meet every Friday morning.
- Simply Singing meet every other Friday Afternoon September to May

SATURDAY

- Alresford Craft and Farmers Market on the first Saturday morning of the month (February to December)
- Little City on the 2nd Saturday morning of the month
- Alresford Colne Rangers Football Club (using the Pavilion at the rear of the hall)

If more information is needed for any of these groups, please visit: <https://e-voice.org.uk/alresfordvillagehall/> or contact Russell Milburn on 01206 825739

ALRESFORD CAMERA CLUB

Are you interested in photography?

We meet on the first and third Thursdays of the month starting on October 5th 2023 through to May 18th 2024, 7.15pm for 7.30 - 10.00pm (Refreshment break 08.30 - 9.00pm)

Dates for the 2024/2025 season will appear in the August/September Advertiser.

Please visit our website at www.alresfordcameraclub.org for full details of the new season's programme, alternatively please phone John on 01206 250846

ALRESFORD WI

Alresford WI meet on the second Thursday of each month in the Village Hall. **Meetings start at 7.30pm.**

New members are always welcome

For further information please contact:

Chris James, 01255 764769 or
Hilda Newbold 01206 823477



MOVIE NIGHTS

Thanks to all who have supported Movie Night evenings, April's film "Finding Your Feet" was well attended and enjoyed by all.

The new Movie Night season will commence in September, details for which will appear in the August/September edition of the Advertiser.

Chris Sanderson

SIMPLY SINGING



It has been proven that singing is possibly one of the best ways of offsetting the nasties of advancing years so could the singing group help you?

Please come along and give it a try - we normally meet twice monthly on Friday afternoons between 2 and 4pm, cost is just £2 per afternoon which includes refreshments.

Dates fare as follows:

7th June 2024

4th and 18th October 2024

1st, 15th and 29th November 2024

For more details, please contact Jeanette on 01206 825008 or Chris on 07484 334698

LUNCHEON CLUBS

TUESDAYS at ALRESFORD VILLAGE HALL:

12.30 - 2.30pm

FRIDAYS at BRIGHTLINGSEA COMMUNITY CENTRE:

12.30 - 2.30pm

2 Course Meal including Tea / Coffee - £7.00
Transport, door to door, if needed - £4.00
Raffle - £1.00

We welcome back all past members and newcomers.

It is not too late to join us for these friendly meals.

For any further enquiries, please contact:

Alresford

Mrs Wendy Bates on
07582603816 or 01206 826757

Brightlingsea

The Autumn Centre, 1 Osborne Court,
Victoria Place, Brightlingsea CO7 0EB
Or telephone 01206 303702

Or email theautumncentre@outlook.com

ALRESFORD ANGLING ASSOCIATION



ANGLING
TRUST



FISH
LEGAL



Patron: Sir Bernard Jenkin MP

At last the weather seems to be warming up, but with continuing rain, we are starting a lush green season for 2024/2025. The club's AGM was held on the 19th April in the village hall and was well attended. There were several issues arising, regarding membership, fish stocks and the Committee was re-elected for another season. The raffle was drawn, and the club successfully raised £850. A big "thank you" to all those who donated prizes and a further "thank you" to all who bought tickets. There was a motion raised to make Albert Waters, the club's retiring Chairman and Committee member, an Honorary Member. This was in appreciation for all the hard work put in by Albert over the years and the motion was carried overwhelmingly.

The new season's matches are already underway, and it is the club intention to run a Charity match with the proceeds going to St Helena Hospice. This is now a regular event on the club's calendar and well supported by local tackle shops.

Wildlife has sprung into life, with young Geese and Ducks greedily snacking on any titbits available. All maintenance has halted around the club's lakes due to nesting birds. Please ensure that all litter is taken home with you. If you brought it full please take it home empty!

After a few hiccups, the on-line membership system has been started for all members this season. Any members who are still experiencing problems, please contact Jim Martin, the Membership Secretary, who can be contacted on 07786882064 for help or advice.

Once again please remember that rivers, canals, etc. covered by the Environment Agency's enforcement will not open until the 16th June for fishing. Ignoring this could result in prosecution. Although our lakes do not fall under this remit, please be aware that fish will start spawning and birds nesting in the forthcoming months. We expect you to be considerate to all wildlife and not disturb them.

As always, enjoy your fishing, stay safe and look out for one another

Tight Lines.

Mike Day (Hon. Secretary)

ALRESFORD GARDENING CLUB

The club meets on the first Monday of March, April, June, July, September and October in the Village Hall, Ford Lane. Membership subscription is £5 with a per meeting cost of £2. Non-members /visitors are welcomed at £5 per meeting. Refreshments are included.

Our speaker for April, Dr Chris Gibson from Wivenhoe gave a very informative illustrated talk on garden pests friend or foe. Whilst many of us would recognise what we consider a foe, Chris's talk reminded us that they themselves were predators to other perhaps more harmful pests and more importantly had their place in the insect, bird and animal food chain.

We look forward to Chris's visit to the club later in the season and to three new speakers for June, July and September.

Events Programme

June 3rd - "Companion Planting for a Balanced Garden" - Dr Ian Bedford

July 1st - "Tales from the Riverbank" - Liz Huxley

August - TBA

September 2nd - "The Perennial Mr Potter" - Bryan Thurlow

October 7th - "An East Anglian Story - the influence of geology, history, climate etc on wildlife and the landscape" - Dr Chris Gibson

November 15th - Quiz Night - Chris Sanderson

For more details please contact Chris on 07484 334698.

ALRESFORD CRAFT & FARMERS MARKET 2024 DATES



1st June

6th July

3rd August

7th September

5th October

2nd November

7th December



**Alresford Village Hall
Ford Lane CO7 8AT**

9am - 12 noon

**A variety of food &
craft stalls**

Free Admission

Free car park and disabled facilities

For updated information, please check our FB page



ST ANDREW'S REFLECTIONS

It is our youngest granddaughter's first birthday as I write; we have emerged from a sticky session of squashed cake and bubbles relatively unscathed, considering. She is on the brink of walking, but can scale the sofa unaided and end up on the window sill. Every week brings a new skill; babies are like that. One day they are laying on their backs sucking their toes, and the next they are riding a unicycle and juggling...

These changes are exciting for us, the observers. "Look what she can do!" we exclaim, as if it was done purely as a result of our gene provision. However, my husband and I, as grandparents heading for seventy at a rate of knots, are beginning to struggle at the other end of the scale. When did I first notice that getting down on the floor was fine, but returning to a standing position needs volunteers...or a winch? What is it about needing more frequent breaks in the gardening, or doing the weekly shop becoming a Life Event rather than just something you do between work and going home? Friends, I have long ago laid down my unicycle and juggling balls.

For me, there is great comfort in a world of shifting realities and inconceivable alteration, to hold faith in a God who *doesn't* change. As the boundaries shift, as we lose someone dear, as health falters, as wars wage... as our tempests roar, we can choose to stand firm on eternal solid ground: "O Thou, thou who changest not, abide with me."

Julie Thompson

DO YOU HAVE MEMORY PROBLEMS OR DO YOU SUPPORT SOMEONE WITH MEMORY PROBLEMS

Why not come along together to the **ALRESFORD MEMORIES GROUP**, for refreshments, and enjoy an afternoon of reminiscing with us.

We meet on the **first Monday of the month**, and will be relaunching on **MONDAY 2nd SEPTEMBER 2024**

The meetings take place in **THE ST ANDREWS HUB** from **2.30 -4pm**. If you would like to join us please contact:

Jeanette Downing 01206 825008

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH CONTACTS

Rector: Rev Andrew Fordyce - 01206 920848

Email: rector@tenpennyvillages.uk

Associated Priest: Rev Pauline Hart - 01206 826318

Email: assocpriest@tenpennyvillages.uk

Curate: Janine Wilde

Email: curate@tenpennyvillages.uk

Churchwarden: Lyn Bull - 01206 827146

Email: stachurchwardens@tenpennyvillages.uk

Bookings for the Hub: Meg Burdus - 01206 820618

www.tenpennyvillages.uk

Find us on fb: 

ParishChurchesofAlresfordElmsteadThorrington-TenpennyVillages

Information about our Services can be found on our notice sheet at <http://tenpennyvillages.uk>



St Andrew's - not just for Sundays

Friendship Circle 10:30 to 12:00

1st and 3rd Monday

Although we are a bereavement group, we welcome anyone who is lonely and is seeking company for a chat, coffee and cake.

Memories 14:30 to 16:00

1st Monday

BEGINNING MONDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER

Tuesday Tots 10:30 to 12:00

Weekly term-time

Somewhere to bring your little ones to play and somewhere to meet other parents and carers.

Knit and Natter 14:00 to 15:30

Tuesday Fortnightly

Bring your latest craft project or just come along and natter over tea and cake.

Start-up Café 10:30 to 12:00

2nd and 4th Wednesday

The Church transforms into a café to meet old and new friends over tea, coffee and cake, borrow a book or jigsaw and take part in a quiz!

Relax and Renew 13:45 to 15:00

3rd Thursday

Learn relaxation techniques and enjoy some refreshments

Ministry for Men 19:30 to 21:30

4th Thursday.

Meet at St Andrew's, Elmstead Green or Thorrington for a lift to the venue. Put the world to rights over a drink and support our local pubs and other venues

Tenpenny Villages Benefice of Alresford, Elmstead, Frating with Thorrington.

More details on our website www.tenpennyvillages.uk

ALRESFORD VILLAGE HALL

Charity Commission Number: 301233



Website: <https://e-voice.org.uk/alresfordvillagehall>
<https://www.facebook.com/Alresfordvillagehall/>

An online calendar is available via the website to allow visibility of when the hall is available for hire. Bookings will still need to be made via email or telephone with a booking /security deposit now required to confirm the booking. Hirers are encouraged to pay deposit/fees using BACS and after the hire the deposit is quickly refunded assuming the hall is left as the contract of hire defines.

Email: alresfordvillagehall@gmail.com
Contact No: 07548 742796

Please see the website for all news and updates regarding hire times, booking process and advice as to end of session times and clear up including vacating the hall

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The year once again has been challenging. The Treasurer situation was not resolved as we would have liked and unfortunately the incumbent was not able to fully commit to the position due to personal reasons and this had consequences. This again resulted in the Trustees having to update the accounts in preparation for the Financial Inspection. Once again thank you to Cath Patel and Hayley Milburn for coming to the rescue. The Keyholder situation remains the same with the Chair continuing and Hayley Milburn has also continued to act as the booking/invoice clerk. The Hallmaster booking system has been a success and has certainly helped make the booking/invoice process more visible to all.

► Bookings, both regular and private have remained at a level similar to last year with only one Thursday evening, intermittent Friday afternoon and evening session available during the week. We have lost one regular hire, Yoga on a Wednesday evening and there are potential hires ready to occupy this session.

► The Trustees pass on their gratitude to our Secretary Nicola Lockwood-Pugh, Chris Sanderson, Hayley Milburn for all their dedication in fulfilling the officer posts that enable our hall to function, without them the hall would potentially be in crisis. It is this matter that is of most concern to the Trustees. Chris Sanderson, our long service Vice Chair, Maintenance person, Logistics co-Ordinator and overseer of our utility contracts has served notice of his intention to cease these tasks. The reality of finding another Chris is remote and will result in higher costs and of course less prompt attention when tasks need doing in the hall.

► This - alongside the difficulties with the Treasurer position and the reduction in Trustees is why we are bringing this to the attention of our hall users and community. Current Trustees are unable to take on more and we are struggling to recruit new volunteers.

► The hall is in incredibly good shape financially, we have a healthy hire occupancy and facilities, but we need to address within the next year where the future of managing the hall lies.

► We have continued to improve facilities within the hall, namely the installation of sound proofing doors in the Munson Room which has resulted in a regular hire. Also, routine oven cleaning and window cleaning has been introduced and alongside the yearly floor polish has enabled the hall to continue to look vibrant.

► Ms Elysia Thompson our cleaner has continued to maintain the hall to an extremely high standard of cleanliness at an extremely competitive cost.

► The condition of the hall is important as this with the competitive hire fee encourages one off private hires that enable Trustees to manage regular/local group fees at the lowest level possible.

We also thank Jeanette Downing and Chris Sanderson for organising Simply Singing and Film Nights that raise funds for the hall and just as importantly provide valued entertainment for those who attend.

We will continue to work in partnership with the Parish Council and St Andrews to provide facilities to our village and the surrounding areas that are relevant and at the lowest possible cost.

The Trustees state that regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance is made when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

What have the Trustees done:

- Gas / Electric price tariff New 4 - year deal" to Gas/Electric tariffs fixed to 2025".
- Insurance premium fixed for 3 years until 2026.
- Regular Hire Charges not increased for the 19th year in succession.
- Health and Safety handbook updated.
- All Risk Assessment and P.A.T completed.
- Regular updates provided for Alresford Advertiser.
- Safeguarding and Data Protection updated
- Village Hall website improved to allow mobile phone access to full website.
- Charity Commission report submitted.
- Hallmaster introduced as online calendar for availability.
- Gas and Fire Annual checks completed.
- Hall floor repolished.
- The Munson Room continues to be used as a meeting room and as an extra when main hall in use.
- Manual switching provided to allow localised control of air units in main hall.
- Main ceiling fan replaced with LED lighting.
- Sensor fitted to eliminate water wastage if taps faulty or left on by users.
- Soundproof doors fitted between Munson Room and main hall

The Trustees will endeavour to:

- **Recruit a Treasurer.**
- **Recommence Financial Best Practice.**
- Keep hire fees at the lowest possible level.
- Provide update and news via the Alresford Advertiser.
- Administer and manage all that is required to allow the village hall to function.
- Continue to explore fund raising events such as Film nights and Simply Singing.
- **Develop a medium to long term hall management plan part of which will be to encourage involvement from younger members of the community, who are not necessarily associated with existing hirer groups, to become active in hall management and fund-raising activities.**
- **Replace all north side guttering.**
- Organise Defibrillator course.
- **Recruit a keyholder.**

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Continued from page 6

- Continue to explore Solar Panels to enable the hall to absorb potential high energy costs in the medium to long term.
- Complete a 5-Year Electrical inspection due November 2024.

The Trustees give substantial amounts of their time to the Village Hall and their reward is seeing the continued use and enjoyment that our community gains from the Village Hall. The Trustees will strive to listen to comments and make improvements that will serve the community, whilst maintaining all the basic requirements that need to be executed to allow the Hall to function.

The Trustees wish to thank Diane Spackman for her time as a Trustee and are sad that she has needed to step down. However, we welcome Andrew Pyman onto the Trustees and look forward to the skills and organisational skills that he will bring to the table.

Russell Milburn, Chair
On behalf of the Alresford Village Hall Management Committee.

THE ADVERTISER NEEDS YOUR HELP!

The small friendly group who run the Advertiser feel the time has come for new members to join us. If anyone is interested in helping run the Advertiser we would be pleased to welcome you.

We have a meeting every two months shortly after each edition has been delivered. The present committee consists of an editor, a treasurer, a distribution organiser and a minutes secretary. We all feel we should have someone who would be able to support us if it became necessary due to family commitments or ill health.

If interested please contact us on the usual number 01206 825739 or email alresfordadvertiser@gmail.com. We look forward to hearing from you.



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MOBILE LIBRARY: Alresford Village Hall
The Mobile Library visits every: 3 weeks

Day of visit: Thursday / Time of Visit: 11.55am to 12.25pm

NEXT VISIT DATES

27th June 2024

18th July 2024

8th and 29th August 2024



THE CHARITY BAG

Bone Cancer Research - Until there is a Cure

We are still collecting used stamps, albums and postcards for a central appeal. Ideally stamps need ½" around each one for ease of handling.

Primary bone cancer can occur at any age; it is unusual in that it affects children, teenagers and young adults as well as elderly people. Most types of cancer only occur in older adults. Early diagnosis is a crucial factor in giving patients the best outcomes.

Thank you to the gentleman who is willing to collect for me in another village - much appreciated.

Knitting

An unexpected visit from a group of ladies who have kindly donated items for the Christmas Appeal.

This year the Christmas Shoe Box Appeal will include "Baby Boxes" for Romania so this is the main requirement please, baby clothes.

Wool, needles and patterns are available to use in your own home, no pressure, no time limit. Delivery and collection available.

I keep my knitting on my lap while watching TV, so much can be done during those pesky adverts, or even on a long journey.

Knitting from Cambridgeshire has arrived this week via a sister in the village - please pass on my thanks.

Any unusable wool to us has been taken to knitters at Golf Green Hall, Jaywick for their Tuesday Craft mornings. Wool has also been passed to Wivenhoe ladies and St Helena Hospice shops.

At the moment we are trying to clear the large intake because we have a shortage of space and we are nearly full up! Thanks for your generosity.

Wool we find difficult to use are: 2/3 ply, silvery, fluffy, and thin crochet cotton - sorry!

So until next time, take care.

Chris Stimpson
2 Coach Road (opposite Dr's Surgery), Alresford



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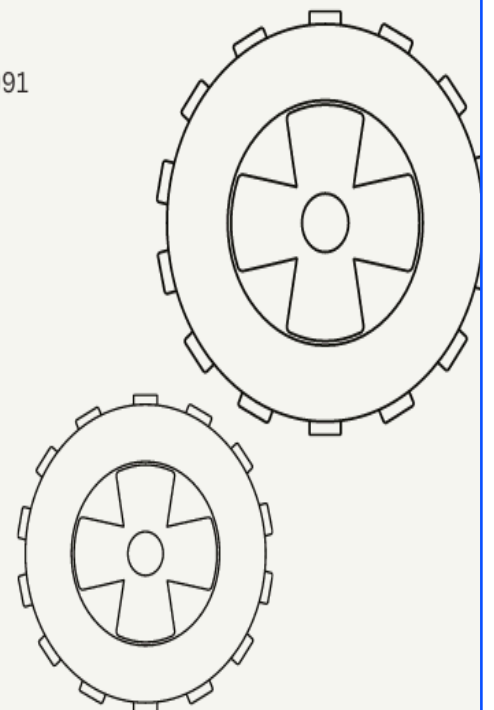
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ALRESFORD NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING MARCH/APRIL 2024

28/02/2024 - 25/03/2024

RECORDED CRIMES: 6

CRIME TYPES: Assault - Criminal damage - Domestic - GBH - Other x 2

INCIDENTS REPORTED: 14

TYPES REPORTED: Abandoned 999 - Assault - Criminal Damage - Disturbance - Domestic - Highway Dispute x 2 - Information x 3 - Missing Person - Property - Suspicious circumstances - Threats

TRUCAM (SPEEDING):

2 One-hour sessions in a 30mph zone

- 1) **18** excessively over the limit - Top speed **44mph**
- 2) **8** excessively over the limit - Top speed **44mph**

The **30mph** signs were checked before and after deployment and were **clearly visible**.

CONSIDERATE PARKING INCENTIVE TICKETS (CPI)

2 CPIs were given out in the village during this month

26/03/2024 - 28/04/2024

RECORDED CRIMES: 9

CRIME TYPES: Aggravated burglary - Arson - Blackmail x 2 - Going equipped for stealing - Non-crime investigation - Other - Section 4A Public order x 2

INCIDENTS REPORTED: 14

TYPES REPORTED: Abandoned 999 x 2 - Burglary - Information x 3 - Nuisance neighbour - Offensive weapon - Other x 2 - RTC x 2 - Suspicious circumstances x 2

TRUCAM (SPEEDING):

Recently returned from annual calibration test

1 One-hour session in a 30mph zone

4 vehicles excessively over the speed limit - Top speed **44mph** which was an HGV

The **30mph** signs were checked before and after the deployment and **clearly visible**

CONSIDERATE PARKING INCENTIVE TICKETS (CPI)

10 CPIs were given out in the village during this month

MARCH/APRIL 2024

Trucam will be deployed on a regular basis in the village. **Please drive with due care and attention . There is no excuse for poor driving!**

Thank you to those abiding by the legal safe limit.

Considerate Parking Incentive Tickets are aimed to educate drivers of bad parking offences in the highway code.

Vehicles are parking on **junctions** and **footpaths**, which causes obstruction and danger to the safety of others. These are both offences under the Highway Code. A junction is a junction and must not be blocked for the safety of vehicles pulling out. **This includes the school junctions.** This is a major obstruction so PLEASE KEEP CLEAR

Parking Services will be attending the village on a regular basis and may issue fixed penalty notices to those offending

PARKING

There have again been numerous complaints of parents parking on the zig zags and junctions /corners during **school start and end. DO NOT** risk putting children's life's in danger.

Just a polite reminder of the highway code

Parking restrictions outside schools and understanding yellow zigzag markings

- Most school entrances and exits in the UK have yellow zigzag road markings with the writing 'School Keep Clear'.
- Zigzags can also be found at entrances and exits of hospitals, fire stations, police stations and ambulance stations. They indicate the part of the road where motorists should **not** wait, **stop**, or **park** a vehicle. There are accompanying sign that shows specific times when these restrictions are in place. Motorists are legally allowed to park on the zigzags **outside of these hours**.
- Both yellow and white zigzags also show areas that **must be kept clear** so that children and other road users can see clearly when crossing the road.

To clarify - This is for the safety of the children, same for obstructing junctions, which impairs visibility..

Please park **legally and considerately**. Complaints have been forwarded to **parking services**.

If you have concerns about parking issues, please contact parking.east@colchester.gov.uk 01206 507275

There have been **complaints** of vehicles parking completely on the **footpath** along Wivenhoe Road and parking opposite driveways and drop kerbs in the village, which has caused difficulty in visibility to pull out and danger to pedestrians.

These have been forwarded to **parking services**.

Please refrain from doing this. Drop kerbs are there for partially sighted, disabled etc to cross. Footpaths are for pedestrians, not vehicles.

Considerate Parking Incentive tickets are aimed to educate drivers of the highway code.

Parking services may issue **fixed penalty notices**.

No excuse for inconsiderate parking.

WHO TO REPORT TO FOR PARKING ISSUES/ VEHICLES

DVLA: Report an untaxed vehicle - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) Deal with Vehicles with No MOT OR TAX on the public highway. DVLA can remove them.

Police will intervene when the vehicle is being driven with a fixed penalty notice.

PARKING EAST- parking.east@colchester.gov.uk

PARKING SERVICES - parking@tendringdc.gov.uk - 01255 686969

Bad parking under the highway code.

Police will intervene if the vehicle is a danger to the highway, i.e a complete block likely to cause an accident, where other vehicles etc cannot pass.

Dangerous driving caught on dash cam

[Essex Police - Extra Eyes \(egressforms.com\)](http://Essex Police - Extra Eyes (egressforms.com))

ZIG ZAG SCHOOL PARKING

Vehicles are still stopping and parking on the zig zags at the school during the prohibited times on the large yellow signs. This is not only an offence, but very dangerous for the children's safety. **There is no excuse to park there during these times. Safety is paramount.**

There are plenty of places to park around Alresford, even if you have to walk a little further.

All have been reported to **Parking services**, who will be attending the location and may issue fixed penalty notices to those breaking the highway code.

Do not risk putting children's life's in danger.

ELECTRIC ESCOOTERS

It has been reported again!!! that personal electric scooters are being used in Alresford. If you see this happening, please ring the police at the time.

Anyone found using one in public will have it seized under section 165 of the road traffic act 1988

BURGLARY

There was a recent burglary in the village, where a large amount of items and jewellery were stolen.

Please be vigilant when leaving the house. Check all doors and windows are closed and locked and if you were ever thinking of getting **ring doorbell or CCTV**, now is a good time to invest. Both will give peace of mind, to whether anyone has been on or around your property and great evidence if the inevitable were to happen. Most these days have **phone apps**, on motion detection you are alerted, which gives you the chance to ring 999 if anything untoward is taking place. Most have **2 way conversation** too, so a few choice words could also assist.

Motion sensor **floodlights** are a good deterrent too. Anyone up to no good are less likely to continue when they are lit up and this helps with visibility for the Cameras in **poor light**.

Keep front garden gates **closed** if you have them and if you have plans for an annual **vacation**.

Ask the neighbours to put a car on your driveway, giving the impression **someone is there**. Lights on **timers** are also a great deterrent and radios, all giving the same illusion.

FRAUD/SCAMS

Fraud/blackmail/scams have taken place twice this month in the village where persons have tried to scam money out of someone over the phone. A lot of these calls can just be random, where they don't even know where you live. For safety – If you are using online platforms like Facebook, Instagram etc always check your privacy settings, so that a stranger can not see who is on your friends list and other information that they could use to make you think they know you and fool you into paying them.

FRAUD ONLINE

we have seen an increase in reports of people being scammed when buying **vehicles online**. Typically, these scams involve criminals posting non-existent vehicles or vehicle parts on social media. Scammers will use stolen images of genuine vehicles and sometimes even feature a fake address. The victim then sends the criminals money in anticipation that the vehicle will be delivered. However, it never is and when the victim attempts to contact the seller, they discover the ad and the seller have disappeared. To avoid falling for these scams, use our top tips when browsing online for a new car:

- Be wary of a bargain, as this is common tactic scammers use to lure you in. Be especially careful when using an online marketplace.
- Check documents – ask to see the seller's vehicle logbook (V5C). This is needed when a vehicle is sold, so legitimate sellers should have it.
- Ask for the registration number and check that the details match up on the DVLA's vehicle enquiry service.
- Look out for pressure-selling tactics, such as telling you that a lot of other people are interested in the vehicle, or you only have a limited time to buy it. **Don't** pay for anything until you've inspected the vehicle.

- During your inspection, check that the documents and vehicle details all match up.
- Don't pay via bank transfer, as it offers little protection, instead use a platform such as PayPal or a credit card for additional protection if things go wrong.

If you have any doubt of a possible scam and just need advice, please contact me Julia.brandon@essex.police.uk

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH BOOK CAFÉ

As many of you may know, there is a coffee morning at St Andrew's Church on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month. This is a welcome for all to pop in and have a chat with others in the community over a coffee and slice of cake. They are such a lovely friendly group.

I will be in attendance on the following date if you have any concerns in Alresford, or just want to pop along to say hello.

WED 12th June 2024 10.30-12.00 hours

PCSO ACTIVITIES (A few)

- Extensive Investigations have been carried out in both my villages, ready for Officers in charge (OIC) of the case's with some proactive results. For progress updates of a crime you reported, please contact the OIC.
- Community engagement at St Andrew's Church was as always a pleasure. Concerns raised were Speeding, Parking and scams/fraud. Security advice was given to as many as possible due to the recent burglary.
- Welfare visits were conducted to victims of crime, with security advice given. Extra patrols were carried out in these areas.

SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES

If you see anything that does not look right, report it. Try and get as much information as you can, including registration numbers, which are key to a lot of activity. The more you have, the more chance we have of a positive investigation, with results.


REPORTING INCIDENTS THE CORRECT WAY

Residents are still not reporting incidents when they happen. It is vital that incidents are reported at the time to the above, so the right team can be assigned with a better chance of progress.

To report an incident please **ring 101 or for Emergency 999** Or report it online <https://www.essex.police.uk/do-it-online/report-a-crime/>

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ALRESFORD PARISH CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2023 TO 2024

The Council Year runs from May until April. Every four years an election is held and an election was indeed called in May 2023. Very often Parish Council elections are uncontested however in 2023 there were 12 candidates for the 11 council seats. It was pleasing to note that all existing Councillors were re-elected to office and a vacancy was filled on the Council in the process. Sadly though only a few months after the election long serving Councillor John Housden passed away and I speak for the Council to say that his affable style, knowledge and experience is greatly missed.

AWARDS

The very good news from the Parish Council Year is that for the second year running Alresford has won the Essex Playing Field Association prize for Best Kept Playing Field in Essex (for a Village of our size). This coveted prize was won for the standard of all the facilities relating to the playing field and included the play area, the hard court, football pitches and skate park. A remarkable result. Well done to Councillors, staff, volunteers and contractors. It is not all about awards though, it is about maintaining high standards for residents and users.

HIGHWAYS

It is true to say that there is dissatisfaction with Highways Maintenance in many areas across Essex, Alresford included. Essex County Council is responsible for our Highways Maintenance and the Parish Council engages regularly with Essex County Council to press for improvements. We have made some headway – the mini roundabouts on Wivenhoe Road were re-laid and initiatives involving our County Councillor has meant many potholes have been repaired. The loose and missing kerb stones on the Orchard Road and Coppice Road estate were neglected by Essex County Council and so the Parish Council intervened and voted to carry out some works to the value of £10,000. Road Signs continue to be replaced and upgraded where necessary.

Following many complaints about speeding motorists and even with the attendance of Community Speed Watch and our PCSO the Parish Council felt it necessary to install a Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) on the corner of Crestlands near the junction with Wivenhoe Road. Data collected indicates there has been a decrease in speeding however enforcement checks are still needed as the VAS is a reminder sign only. We thank Councillor Alan Goggin for authorising the grant for this VAS.

GRANTS

As regards grants generally to the Parish Council we have received two grants this year - £15,000 from Tendring District Council and £2,000 from Brett Aggregates. These grants are towards a new Playing Field Toilet Block. The overall cost will likely be £25,000.

PUBLIC REALM

A programme of improvement of public areas is underway. The regular mounting of hanging flower baskets in Station Road and Wivenhoe Road, an initiative by Councillor Swash, has been a success and is set to continue. Tree planting is planned at a number of locations and our handyman Jason has been working hard on the public garden areas in the village. Grass cutting is provided by our contractor J's Garden Services and we have had very good feedback from residents

on the quality of the service provided. Litter continues to be a problem in certain areas and our paid litter picker Sam is kept a little too busy. We appreciate also the many volunteers who litter pick.

POLICING

Close links between a Parish Council and the Police are vital and we are pleased with the tripartite contract we have with Essex Police and Great Bentley Parish Council to part fund a PCSO. Having an Officer who knows the community makes a big difference. Our PCSO Julia Brandon is well known and is approachable. An effective venue for meeting the PCSO has been the Coffee Mornings held in St Andrew's Church.

QUARRIES

It came as a surprise to Parish Councillors and residents that Church Farm Field and Lodge Farm Field had been put forward again by Essex County Council in a Consultation regarding the possibility of quarrying these two areas for sand and gravel. The Parish Council held a drop-in surgery event. A very good turnout of 350 plus residents attended the Village Hall on the 17th February (2024). Residents received advice and response forms for the Consultation. The Parish Council is very grateful to the volunteers who delivered invitation leaflets and who helped at the surgery. We feel we have done our very best to respond with some insight to the Essex County Council Consultation. It does seem extraordinary that having rejected the sites previously Essex County Council is considering them again. Proximity to the village and the overall impact on the area are the main issues. The Parish Council is grateful to Chris Sanderson, Russell Milburn, Rob Butcher, and Rebecca King, plus many other residents, for all their help regarding the quarry issues.

STAUNTON GATE

Contracts have been signed by the Parish Council for the handover of land adjacent to Victoria Avenue. Meetings have now taken place to finalise the handover of the South Site. Maintenance of the grass areas will come under the control of Alresford Parish Council. The Allotments on the Staunton Gate Site will be made available as soon as possible – those already on the Waiting List will be offered plots. Taylor Wimpey has recently planted £100,000 worth of trees and shrubs on the site to improve the public areas on the site.

FINANCES

Preparing a budget can be quite daunting in a climate of inflation and uncertainty. It is important that the Parish Council has financial reserves and makes best use of taxpayers' money. The budget prepared for the financial year of 2024/2025 required a small precept increase that amounted to a 1.4% increase. The Parish Council will do all it can not to burden residents with excessive taxation, the previous year an 8.5% reduction in tax was possible. We know however that high standards are rightly expected by the community and we endeavour not to cut back on services. We make the best use we can of grants and planning gain to alleviate financial pressures. Comparisons between Parish Councils are not always straightforward but for general information a current Band D property in Great Bentley will pay £138.45p per year in parish 'tax', and in Alresford the parish 'tax' for a Band D equivalent property is £91.33p.

AND FINALLY

There is only so much that can go into a report like this. Hopefully, residents are aware of the work and role of the

Parish Council. It is important though that if there are questions or concerns that residents have, they contact the Parish Clerk. Raising matters at the Public Forum of a Parish Council Meeting is one other way of contacting the Parish Council, but emails, phone calls and letters are encouraged, good communication is vital. As ever the Parish Council thanks all the unpaid volunteers who do so much for Alresford, we are a thriving community, and we look forward to the next Parish Council Year with positivity.

Councillor Frank Belgrove
Chairman Alresford Parish Council



ALRESFORD PARISH COUNCIL CONTACT DETAILS

The Parish Office, The Pavilion, Ford Lane
Alresford CO7 8AT

Council meetings are held at the Pavilion on the first Wednesday of every month at 7.30pm. Public and Press are welcome. Agenda & Approved Minutes on website

Website: www.alresfordpcessex.uk/

Facebook: Alresford Parish Council (Parish Council only)/The Pavilion & Playing Field - Alresford Essex

Twitter: @alresfordessex

Chairman: Cllr Frank Belgrove - 01206 823739

Vice-Chairman: Cllr Ernie Osborne

Cllr Linda Belgrove

Cllr Simon Clark

Cllr Gary Scott

Cllr Ann Wiggins

Cllr Vincent Dalzell

Cllr Bina Swash

Cllr Alistair Broom

Cllr Julia Claremont-Brown

District Council Tendring

District Councillor Ann Wiggins - 01206 825153

Email: cllr.awiggins@tendringdc.gov.uk

District Councillor Gary Scott - 01206 820769

Email: cllr.gscott@tendringdc.gov.uk

County Council Essex

County Councillor Alan Goggin - 01206 308023

Email: egog@btinternet.com

Parish Clerk - The Proper Officer

Matt Cooke - 01206 615117 (Answerphone 24/7)

Email: alresfordpc@outlook.com

Responsible Finance Officer & Assistant Clerk

Angela Baxter - 01206 615117 (Answerphone 24/7)

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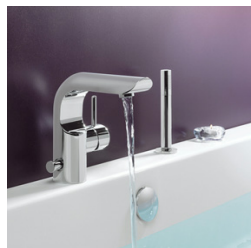
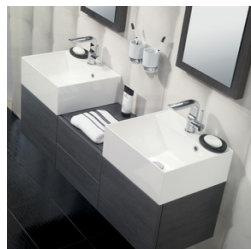
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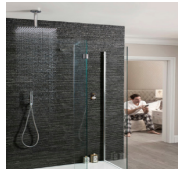


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Summer seems to have arrived at last, and we're well and truly on it now! Weekend and midweek trips around Essex and neighbouring counties are taking place, with riders taking part in Sunday Rides and visiting local attractions, events and functions including the inevitable tea and cakes, bacon sarnies and sausage rolls, to name but a few, too.

In mid-April we visited the Suffolk Classic Motorcycle Show, to see the superbly maintained and restored bikes there. Some were particularly impressive, showing the love that their owners put into them. A mid-50's Vincent caught my eye, being not less than a year older than me, but in considerably better nick. It's priceless and very ancient Smiths 5 inch, 150mph speedo, worth more than many bikes there on its own. There were many other different makes from a bygone age too, and in equally good condition, and all ridden there, not trailed. Douglas, BSA, Norton, a beautiful Ariel Square 4, Greeves, Triumph, Royal Enfield, not to mention several overseas-made bikes like Indian and Harley Davidson, of equal vintage. It was a spectacular event and always full up with gloriously presented bikes.



The following weekend we visited Seething Airfield Museum for the first time, it having been recommended to us. It was very good, being crammed with more stuff than we had time to look at in a single visit, so we'll go and have another look another time. The home made tea and cakes from the canteen were brilliant too! By complete chance, some classic bikes were also there, gathering for a meeting. This beautifully restored and maintained Triumph was there, but we couldn't find the owner to ask him about it. If anyone can tell me the year, I'd be delighted to know. My guess is 1912. And it was ridden there too.

As I write this, we have just returned from another visit to the Norfolk and Suffolk Air Museum, where we paid our annual visit yesterday. We like to go and look at aircraft and vehicles, including bikes, from bygone times too. Some far more bygone than others, with some of our most famous aircraft there on display. Airliners that I once used to look at up in the sky (remember when aircraft leaving contrails were so rare we used to look at them?), now look



old-fashioned and small. But once, they led the world in travel abroad. One of my favourites on display there is a Pucara. I leave it to you, dear reader, to imagine how an Argentine Air Force aircraft found its way here.

And finally we're prepping for the Party in the Park. I hope we're going to put on a good show! More in the next edition.

So if you'd like to know more, come and meet with us at one of our regular monthly meetings in our HQ, The Pointer Inn, at 8pm on the second Friday of every month. We'd love to see you.

Al Gillard

COPY DEADLINE

The editorial and advertising deadline for the August /September 2024 edition will be: **8th July 2024**

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