

THE ALRESFORD ADVERTISER OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2024

Established since 1970

STARTING FRIDAY 25TH OCTOBER 2024

COME ALONG TO

**FRIENDS & FAMILY
GAMES NIGHT**

ALL AGES AND ABILITIES WELCOME

**ALRESFORD VILLAGE HALL
FORD LANE
6:30PM TO 9:30PM**

**FRIDAY 25TH OCTOBER 2024
FRIDAY 6TH DECEMBER 2024
FRIDAY 31ST JANUARY 2025
THEN THE LAST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH**

DONATIONS APPRECIATED TO COVER HALL HIRE COSTS

TEA, COFFEE & A SELECTION OF GAMES AVAILABLE TO PLAY EACH NIGHT

YOU CAN BRING YOUR OWN REFRESHMENTS & GAMES IF YOU WISH

Contact Courtney 07535707002

ALRESFORD WI
Warmly invite you to a
FASHION SHOW
BY
EDINBURGH WOOL MILL
At Alresford Village Hall
FRIDAY 22nd NOVEMBER
at 7.30pm
ADMISSION INCLUDING REFRESHMENTS £3.00
RAFFLE
For further information
Contact:
Chris James on 07977 495382 or
Allyson Salmon on 07742 918062

MOVIE NIGHTS
Will be starting up again in
Alresford Village Hall
See page 3 for details

Bereavement Service
St Andrew's Church, Alresford

10th November 2024 at 18:30

A space to remember, to grieve and to give thanks for the life of someone you have lost.

You will have the opportunity to light a candle in remembrance or just spend some time reflecting.

tenpennyvillages.uk

ACR F.C.

QUIZ NIGHT
QUIZMASTER: ROY OPENSHAW
FRIDAY 15TH NOVEMBER
ALRESFORD VILLAGE HALL
DOORS OPEN 7PM FOR 7.30 START
BYO or BAR AVAILABLE
**ENTRY FEE £3.00 PER PERSON
MAX 6 PER TABLE**

CONTACT NICK PACE TO RESERVE YOUR TABLE ON 07799076626
Please use main entrance & not via football club

PLEASE SEE PAGE 2 AND THE BACK PAGE FOR OTHER EVENTS COMING UP IN DECEMBER



St Andrew's Church

ST ANDREW'S REFLECTIONS

Our youngest grandchild, aged 15 months, has just started to climb. A year ago she was lying on the floor, smiling benignly (halcyon days). Last week, one second she was toddling across the carpet, and the next she was ON TOP OF THE DINING TABLE. Progress is a wonderful thing. She's obviously destined for great things on the north face of the Eiger, via Oakfurnitureland.com. It made me consider why MY progress is somewhat less dynamic. Twelve months has less to show for itself at my, *hmm*, mature age.

Is there an age we reach when we think we've had our moment to grow, and now is fallow time? I'm stunned to read of people who do great things at great ages, particularly when it's a new venture. Mary Wesley wrote her first novel when she was 70, and went on to write another twelve. Harriette Thompson, an American classical pianist, took up running post-cancer when she was 76, and ran her fifteenth age 92, in 7 hours 15 minutes.

I'm pretty sure I'll never run a marathon; I peaked at 5k ten years ago. A book? That would be nice, but I'm no J K Rowling. Maybe there are other facets to our lives which could do with some polishing... I could be better at phoning friends, or at listening. I could definitely improve in my generosity, or my patience. We are told that we were created in the image of God, so maybe I should be honing a few of the characteristics which the Maker displays: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, humility, self-control. We're never too old to begin!

Julie Thompson

St Andrew's Church, Alresford

*Christmas
Songs of Praise*

8 December, 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

www.tenpennyvillages.uk

Find us on

ParishChurchesofAlresfordElmsteadThorrington-TenpennyVillages

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



Date for your diary!

The Christmas Surprise

Come and travel back in time with us to find out why the first Christmas was so unexpected!

Join us at St Andrew's Church, Alresford, at 11am on Sunday, 22nd December as we adventure back in time to find out about the very first Christmas

Children are invited to dress up as angels, wise men, shepherds or animals. This will be a child-friendly (and relatively short) 'pop-up' nativity, service: we'd love to see you there!

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
Do you or anyone you know have memory problems? If so, you are very welcome to join us for a time of reminiscing and refreshment. If you would like to join us please contact **Jeanette Downing** on **01206 825008**

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

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 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



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



MOVIE NIGHTS

Will be starting again in Alresford Village Hall

Our film for October is "Keeping Mum", a light-hearted film starring Maggie Smith and Rowan Atkinson amongst some well know other actors.

Please note - this film evening is on October 18th NOT as previously advertised the 25th October

On 29th November the film is "Ryans Daughter" starring John Mills, Sarah Miles, Robert Mitchum, Christopher Jones and Trevor Howard.

This film is approx. 3 hours long so it will be commencing at 7pm with doors open at 6.30pm

On December 13th Movie Night becomes Music Night with lots of your favourite songs and music brought to the big screen.

Monies raised on this evening will be donated to MacMillan and the East Anglian Children's Hospice (EACH)

Alresford VH Management Committee



MOVIE NIGHT

At Alresford Village Hall

Friday 18th October 2024



Film starts at 7.30 - doors open at 7.00pm

This is a no cost - non ticket event but donations will be very welcome for the teas and coffees

Alresford VH Management Committee



MOVIE NIGHT

At Alresford Village Hall

Friday 29th November 2024



Film starts at 7.00 - doors open at 6.30pm

This is a no cost - non ticket event but donations will be very welcome for the teas and coffees

Alresford VH Management Committee

ALRESFORD VILLAGE HALL REGULAR GROUPS

MONDAY

- Mindfulness Yoga meet Monday mornings
- Alresford Indoor Carpet Bowls Club meet Monday afternoon/Evening.

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.
- Pilates every Wednesday evening

THURSDAY

- Exercise Classes (Extend) meet every Thursday morning.
- Alresford Women's Institute meet the second Thursday evening of the month
- Sound & Gong Bath meet on the fourth Thursday evening of 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

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?

Our new season will commence on **Friday 4th October at 2pm** so we hope to see you all again then. Please mention us to friends, family, neighbours etc. emphasising we are not a choir but a group of people, male and female, who enjoy getting together for a sing song and a great social afternoon.

Other dates:

18th October

1st, 15th & 29th November.

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.

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 CRAFT & FARMERS MARKET 2024 DATES



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

ALRESFORD ANGLING ASSOCIATION



Patron: Sir Bernard Jenkin MP

Hopefully you have all enjoyed a relaxing and productive summer of fishing. All the lake levels have remained up, despite the long dry spell during August.

The amount donated to St Helena Hospice was £500 in total, which included raffle money raised from the charity angling match and further donations made by the club and members toward this worthy cause. A big thank you to all involved.

The Arthur Bareham Lake at Alresford has had an influx of small Carp supplied Tony Wignall of Houchins Farm Lakes. Tony has large Carp and Catfish in his lakes and the fish supplied came from a stock pond. There was a selection of Commons, Mirrors and Fully Scaled Mirrors. All the fish were inspected by the Environment Agency and will make a welcome addition to the lake's stock and should start showing next year onward.

The club has introduced a Close Season for Pike in the Alresford lake. This will stop all pike fishing from 15th March through to the 15th October but will be dependent on weather conditions. An early Spring could result in the season ending early and a late summer could result in the season starting later. The rules surrounding Pike fishing are displayed in the web-site and also on the club's Clubmate page.

The maintenance team will soon be commencing repairs to swims and access paths along with trimming back vegetation and shrubs. Volunteers are always welcome and whatever task you take on will be well within your capabilities. The Club has been in contact with the Essex Nature Partnership to gain advice and assistance with the increase of wildlife and habitat around our lakes as an ongoing project.

Please ensure you clear up behind yourselves and take any litter away that has been left by others. The car park at the top of the Alresford Lake seems to be a hot spot for dumping plastic bottles and containers. This is not left by anglers but picked up by them!

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

Tight Lines.
Mike Day (Hon. Secretary)

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
10th and 31st October
21st November
12th December

ALRESFORD GARDENING CLUB

Since the last report, a number of our members took advantage of the free entry tickets available to the club to visit the RHS gardens at Hyde Hall for their annual summer show.

Our guest speaker for September was Mr Brian Thurlow, who related a story of The Perennial Mr Potter. This fictitious story told of a young boy in a small village outside Bury St Edmunds and his growing up to become the head gardener at a large country house called The Glebe.

Brian dressed himself for the part and his talk was made more realistic by a potting shed display of old garden tools and garden artefacts. His narration was both informative, humorous and given in such a way that one could almost imagine you were there at the time. Brian lives in Clare and he bought a wide variety of potted plants from his garden for people to purchase.

This year is the 50th anniversary of Alresford Gardening Club, formerly the Horticultural Society. It all started with a few people with a keen interest in plants and gardening coming together, growing into one of the best attended clubs in the village.

Sadly this season has seen a dramatic fall in members attending and based on current and expected future member numbers, the cost of visiting speakers, hall hire, Insurance and other fees, regrettably the committee has made the decision to close at the end of this season.

Therefore our meeting for October with a talk by Dr Chris Gibson will be our last. The annual quiz originally planned for November 15th has been cancelled.

Any residual funds held by the club will be donated to projects within the village and the committee will be discussing this after this season closes. A future edition of the Advertiser will detail how the funds have been distributed.

I extend many thanks to my fellow committee members for their time in running the club, and to past and present members who have supported the club over the years.

Chris Sanderson

ALRESFORD WI

The speaker for October will be Gary Egerton talking about the Houses of Parliament and in November Rob Butcher tells us about the history of Alresford.

On the **22nd November** we will be holding a **Fashion Show** by Edinburgh Woollen Mill in the Village Hall. Further details about this can be found on the front page.

We meet on the second Thursday of each month in the Village Hall. Meetings start at 7.30p.m.

For further information please contact:

Chris James 07977 495382
Hilda Newbold 01206 823477

THE CHARITY BAG

STAMPS for Bone Cancer Research (until there is a cure)

Still collecting stamps and postcards for Bone Cancer Research. ½" around each stamp please.

5 black sacks have been taken to the collection point in Benfleet. On return we were met by more bags of albums, used stamps and a coin collection. The coins have been donated to the Autumn Centre in Brightlingsea for their fund raising pot. I do not normally take in coinage.

Kev and Terri Bush from Benfleet kindly collected the stamps, it was lovely to meet up for the first time. Apparently details are on Facebook.

Thank you so much for your input, the stamps and albums will be boxed up and sold at auction.

KNITTING

A very generous input this month of newly knitted garments.

A few large sacks of new wool from a retired professional knitter, with appropriate patterns, needles and banded wool.

Thank you for your thoughtfulness from those who cannot thank you personally.

Wool and needles are available with delivery and collection daily.

Take care always until next time.

Chris Stimpson

2 Coach Road, Alresford (opposite the surgery)

ESSEX LIBRARIES

Volunteering feels good! Volunteering with us isn't just about the tasks you'll do—it's about the impact you'll have. When you volunteer at your local library, you're not just giving your time — you're being a part of your community. Whether you have a few hours each month or more, join us as a volunteer at Essex Library Service.

For further information, please see: <https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/digital-content/volunteer-at-your-local-library>



ALRESFORD COLNE RANGERS F.C

On the 27th of July, an Alresford team travelled to Bromley Road, home of Gas Rec as holders of the Chase West Memorial Cup. The match is held in memory of a lovely young man taken from us in tragic circumstances. In a competitive game Alresford retained the cup after a penalty shootout with the ever-dependable Peter Spencer, top cat on the day.

With the new season starting on 10th August for the men's teams and the Ladies and youth teams starting in September an air of excitement swirls around the club. The pitches look amazing, the teams in their new kits look amazing with thanks to all the sponsors that have made this possible.

With the committee working hard the club looks to be moving in the right direction.

The first game was against East Thurrock, a club that ceased a few years ago and is now reborn, the interest they have needed a coach to transport all their supporters to Ford Lane for the game. ACRFC won 2-1 and to date have continued a successful start winning four, drawing one and losing one of their first six fixtures.

Alas the Reserves have not been so successful, drawing one and losing two up until the 7th of September,

We look forward to seeing you over at Ford Lane and everyone is welcome to have a cup of tea, make new friends and enjoy the fresh air.

Do you want to get involved in helping run the club,

WE WOULD LOVE INTEREST ON HELPING IN THE BAR.....

So please give us a look, come speak to us and you might just catch the bug.

Brian Martin

The Ranger



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 **VILLAGE HALL** or **PAVILION** 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/pavilion 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, fees, booking process and advice as to end of session times and clear up including vacating the hall

Defibrillator and CPR Training - UPDATE

The training will be held over two sessions on Saturday 19th October at the Village Hall. The places are now full so please do not turn up on the day it is unlikely there will be space unless you have already booked.

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

At last. The oven has been repaired after many issues with parts and late appointments. Thank you to Trustee Sue Dukelow for seeing this through to a successful conclusion.

Unfortunately, another Trustee has had to stand down. David Bright who has been with us a good few years is resigning due to increased work and personal commitments. We thank David for being part of the Management Committee during the last few and sometimes particularly challenging years.

We move forward with the solar panel project with competitive quotes now received. There is a small amount of structural work that is required internally, and it is planned to do this over the Christmas shut down period. Also, it is hoped to use this opportunity to improve the main hall lighting at the same time.

The Simply Singing and Film evenings will commence in October and November, please see the dates and times in this Alresford Advertiser.

We have recently lost another long-standing regular hire group, The Carol Gale Dancing School who met on a Thursday afternoon. This leaves hire sessions during daytime that have not been available for many years due to high usage. However, a Palates class has now started on a Wednesday evening and the Sound Bath Yoga continues once a month. Also, there is a Games evening that is to start in October on a Friday evening, again see Alresford Advertiser for further details.

HEALTH AND SAFETY/FIRST AID

If you are hiring the Village Hall, please make yourself aware of the Health and Safety procedures, including the Accident book and the emergency procedure in the event of a fire, these can be found in a file in the hall foyer area. A First Aid kit is provided for hires and is located in the kitchen; respect for this would be appreciated. Regular user groups/clubs should also provide their own First Aid kit.

Russell Milburn
Chair AVHMC 01206 825739

TRUSTEES WANTED

Are you old or new to the village?
We are looking for Trustees to join our
Management Committee for the Village Hall.
If you are interested, please give me a call on
01206 825739

HEARING LOSS

In 2023 I wrote a short article on being hard of hearing, at that time I only had 16% hearing which made my life very difficult.

I was referred by my GP to the local ENT department at the Primary Care Centre, and following a consultation I was referred to Addenbrookes Hospital in Cambridge. Here I was given numerous hearing tasks to assess my hearing levels, it was at this stage I was identified as having lost 84% of my hearing. This was quite a shock. My hearing loss was then discussed at a later meeting of ENT Consultants and Audiologists, where it was agreed I would benefit from a Cochlear Implant. These implants are costly, approximately £20,000 per implant but are available on the NHS. There is no age limit to these, children and adults of all ages are considered. Some 90 plus year olds have benefited.

The surgery is a day case, Two weeks after my surgery I had my implant activated, for the first time in a very long time I could hear speech quite clearly. Four further appointments took place following activation, where my implant was fine-tuned as I began to adapt to hearing once again. It takes the brain time to relearn hearing; as a result of this, I now have 78% hearing. Not perfect but it has given me my life/confidence back.

I can now hold conversations and not have to rely on someone helping me. Telephone calls are now my latest challenge and finally it will be music. I will always have areas where my hearing could be better, but I am grateful to have 78%. It all takes time and patience.

As stated in my previous article, please seek help, it really can improve your quality of life and those around you. It is a health problem and nothing to be ashamed of.

Jill

ALRESFORD BIKERS - RACKING UP THE MILES IN THE SUN

Following the Spring we had, and all the rain that seemed to fall every day, the weather has improved dramatically lately. Our activity was a little suppressed at the time, owing to the constant monsoons. But, recently it has been nice, sunny, and hot, so we're out riding!

We have enjoyed a number of Sunday Rides, and some midweek rides for those of us not at work (retired). We call them "Shirkers not Workers Rides". We sometimes use these to check out places kindly suggested to us by friends as potential Sunday Rides, so that we don't turn up in numbers and find them unsuitable. Almost always they are lovely places and we've found some really nice hidden gems, but just occasionally there is somewhere with too many issues for our riders - for example a great place but nowhere to stop and park half a dozen bikes, or worse. I myself checked out a cafe recommended to me, some way away, that receives great reviews on line, and it would have been great except that just before the place itself, there was a ford, full of green slime and weed, with no grip at all. No problem in a car, out and out lethal on a bike. Dang, that water was cold too! Several of us have just today returned from another Shirker's Ride, via a previously unused route (not lost, "exploring"), and what a lovely ride that was! Bacon stick, with the bread baked this morning in Lavenham, not to be missed!

A few Sunday Rides ago we visited Parham Airfield too, where there is a museum jam packed with so much stuff we're going to have to have a repeat visit. A great place, lovely ride to it, and the tea and cake were lovely too! Another lovely surprise one Sunday was at Orford, where we were moseying to the tea room (make that bee-lining!) across the car park when in drove a completely unrestored Model T Ford! Its number plate said 1913 on it. It was lovely and drew a crowd in no time, including us.

We try to ride out to places and events of some kind every week, and last weekend as I write this was Copdock Bike Show. An annual event, there is something there for everyone, and even non-bikers would probably have a great time. Several of us went, early in the morning just to avoid the crowds later. The show itself has grown massively since it started more than 30 years ago, and this year was even bigger than last.



A photographer was taking pictures of everyone as they arrived, for sale online.

There were traders of all sorts, and everything that you can imagine was available for sale. There is literally everything anyone could ask for, with a suitable variety of food outlets, bike dealerships with all the latest machines, displays and exhibitions of classic and modern machines, stunt riders, trials display riding, riding school demonstrations with "have a go" bikes. Imagine thinking to yourself "I want to ride a bike" and having the opportunity to have a quick try out? Doing that with 5,000 riders watching takes some nerve! I watched a young lady have her first ever ride; the instructor guided her around in a big circle several times, she started and stopped several times, she didn't fall off, and I could see the smile on her face inside the helmet from a hundred yards away. For my friend Chris and I the place took so long to walk round that we had to stop

a couple of times for ahem, tea, homemade sausage rolls, etc. Rumours of me hitting the Pie and Cheese van twice in a day are quite untrue. It was three times. Anyway, it was a great day, and every time we go to that event the sun comes out, and we have a great time.

So, what's next? We have Sunday Rides, some to the seaside, some away from it to avoid the tourist congestion. We still have Shirker's Rides to do, and we still have our meetings. So, if you want to join in, or just talk about bikes, bikers, biking, or anything related, just turn up! We meet on the second Friday of every month in HQ, The Pointer Inn, where we are always welcomed by our hosts Neil and Sam.

Al Gillard

BEFORE



THANK YOU FRANK!

I would like to thank Frank (Belgrove) for his prompt actions and help getting the bridleway cut, as a section was completely impassable causing a danger for all equine to access it.

It's now fully accessible and lovely and wide, thank you Frank.

Louise and Phoebe

AFTER



ALRESFORD NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING JULY/AUGUST 2024

Pages 9 & 10

01/07/2024 - 29/07/2024

RECORDED CRIMES: 12

CRIME TYPES: Assault without injury x 2 - Harassment x 4 - Malicious communications - Public order x 4 - Theft

INCIDENTS REPORTED: 17

TYPES REPORTED: Abandoned 999 - Animal - Assault x 2 - Call on - Domestic x 3 - Harassment - Missing Persons - Obstruction - Other x 2 - Suspicious circumstances x 2 - Threats x 2

29/07/2024 - 23/08/2024

RECORDED CRIMES: 8

CRIME TYPES: Aggravated burglary - Assault (ABH) - GBH - Other criminal damage - Section 4A Public Order x 2 - Theft from vehicle x 2

INCIDENTS REPORTED: 20

TYPES REPORTED: Abandoned 999 - Abandoned vehicle (road legal) - Assault - Assist other agency - Attn to - Burglary x 2 - Civil dispute - Concern for welfare x 4 - Driving complaint - Information - Nuisance - Other - Suspicious circumstances x 3 - Theft from a vehicle

TRUCAM (SPEEDING):

Trucam will be deployed on a regular basis in the village.

July 2024: 30mph zone

3 vehicles exceeding the speed limit - Top speed **46mph**

August 2024: 3 sessions in a 30mph zone

1. 11 vehicles exceeding the speed limit - Top speed **41mph**

2) 8 vehicles exceeding the speed limit - Top speed **39mph**

3) 5 vehicles exceeding the speed limit - Top speed **45mph**

TOTAL FOR THE MONTH - 24

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

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 (CPI)

July 2024: 2 CPIs were given out in the village during this month

August 2024: 1 CPI was given out for **pavement obstruction**

Drivers are reminded **not to park on junctions and footpaths**, this causes obstruction and danger to the safety of others. These are both offences under the Highway code, which should be common knowledge to any driver.

Thank you for parking safely.

WHO TO REPORT TO FOR PARKING ISSUES/ VEHICLES

DVLA: [Report an untaxed vehicle - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://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

If you capture dangerous driving on your dash cam, you can submit it to:

[Essex Police - Extra Eyes \(egressforms.com\)](https://www.essexpolice.co.uk/extraeyes)

THEFT OF TOOLS - August 2024

There were 2 incidents of tools theft from vehicles this month, currently under investigation.

For safety please remember to remove any tools from your vehicle overnight and do not leave valuables in sight.

OPERATION STRONGHOLD - August 2024

Patrols were conducted along with chairman Frank Belgrove for the yearly Operation Stronghold. Various places of interest were patrolled where there has been previous antisocial behaviour and problems etc.

Plenty of community engagement took place. No concerns were raised and it was a pleasure to meet so many lovely residents.

BURGLARY - August 2024

An aggravated burglary was reported this month, which was more of a concern where 2 males entered a house with the door left open. This raised concerns around the village. The males were later arrested

FRAUD/SCAMS

Fraud/blackmail/scams take place all the time, everywhere.

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.

If you have any doubt of a possible scam and just need

advice, please contact me [Julia.brandon@essex.police.uk](mailto:julia.brandon@essex.police.uk)

I am more than **happy to chat** with you, no matter how silly or small you believe it is.

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 23rd October 2024: 10.30 - 12.00 hours

PCSO ACTIVITIES (A few)

- Village parking patrol
- Missing person search
- Liaising with parking services and other agencies

- Numerous intelligence has been gained and submitted
- Patrolling of hot spot areas in the village
- Monthly knife sweeps/drug paraphernalia have been conducted in various areas
- Welfare visits/checks were conducted on elderly/vulnerable residents and victims of crime
- Trucam is ongoing and deployed as part of **“you said we did”**
- Community engagement attending various arranged functions, sessions etc
- Advice given to a few residents
- Trying to head off a presumed motor bike riding along the creek - turned out to be the farmer in the field with a quad bike to catch the calves for ear marking
- Search for missing dog around the creek area - thankfully the dog was located by the owner.

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/>

ALRESFORD SALE TRAIL

What a busy day it was, there were over thirty participating households, the weather helped too and made it a lovely event.

There were visitors from many places including as far afield as Harwich and Tiptree. I would like to thank everyone who took part and look forward to running another event in the Spring.

A donation will be given to the swimming pool fund.



Samantha Jordan.

Christopher
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ALRESFORD PARISH CHAIRMAN'S REPORT October/November 2024

Update on Projects

In the last report (August/September) in the Alresford Advertiser I mentioned that the Parish Council had applied for an £8,000 grant from the Rural England Prosperity Fund in order for our Solar Panel project for the Pavilion building to proceed. We now have that grant and the Council thanks our Proper Officer, Mr Matt Cooke, for his work on the application documentation. Generating our own electricity for the community building will save the local taxpayer money in the long term.

The other project we wish to progress is the installation of a publicly accessible modular toilet block for the playing field and the Council has instructed a specialist company to lay a new sewer in preparation for delivery of the toilet block. Again, we are fortunate to be able to use grant money towards the preparatory works.

Maintaining our facilities on the playing field to a high standard is so important and in this regard the Council is considering upgrading the fenced hard-court area. The playing surface needs replacing, and equipment requires upgrading. A Council Working Party will discuss options and report back to the Council. The intention is to use Planning Gain monies for these works.

Highways.

The Parish Council has intervened twice to carry out kerbstone repairs in the Coppice Road area (although it has no duty to do this) and we have now formed a Council Working Party to carry out investigations into what progress can be made at County level on this issue.

Essex Highways has received Government money and has purchased new machinery for roadside hedge and vegetation cutting and is to undertake a comprehensive programme of roadside hedge cutting across Essex. Hopefully this will improve roadside footpaths for pedestrians in Alresford. In the case of hedges owned by landowners (farmers etc) one letter will be sent by Highways giving notice to trim any obstructive hedging – if the landowner does not comply then Highways will cut the hedge and send invoices to the landowner. The Parish Council has voted to also instruct our Clerk to send advice letters to landowners if hedges are not attended to. We do not send letters during the off season for landowner hedges. September to March are the months farmers and other landowners roadside hedges should be cut back.

Litter and Litter Bins

During the summer months it was apparent that at times some of the litter and dog waste bins were not being emptied in a timely manner. Tendring District Council (using Veolia contractors) carries out the majority of bin emptying. There is an issue on the Staunton Gate estate due to the protracted hand-over period and once the Parish Council has full oversight of the area we hope to organise bin emptying more promptly. It is disappointing that some residents leave waste on the ground when bins are full.

The Parish Council continually presses for a better service but thanks our Handyman, Jason, for his interventions to clear overflowing bins.

A replacement bin has been installed at The Creek as the previous bin was fire damaged by vandals. We hope visitors use the bin.

There are some amazing volunteers including parents with children that carry out litter picks in the community and we are all so grateful for this, how good it would be though if everyone respected our village and did not drop litter in the first place!

Horse Riding

We only have one bridleway unfortunately, and so in the main, riders are using the roadways and lanes for their rides. Safety is so important and the Council has been approached to see if improvements can be made. Signage can help with awareness and the Council is looking at possible sites where they would be useful. In addition, the Council will position advisory posters asking vehicle drivers to be horse rider aware. It is so good to see horse and rider out and about but they do need other road users to treat them with caution – so low speeds and no sudden noises!

Policing

The PCSO/Policing page of this magazine deals with all policing matters however as a partnership worker with the police Parish and Town Councils have significant input into law and order. There have been one or two recent events that have caused concern – anti-social behaviour and aggravated burglary have been reported on more than one occasion. It is worth noting though that arrests have made and charges have followed. We are grateful for the work our PCSO does and thank Essex Police for their recent interventions.

Planning

When considering a home extension or other major building work it is often worthwhile discussing the matter with the owner of any nearby property that might be impacted, this can save time, money and peace of mind in the future. Planning consultants will assist with the design and legalities but so much can be smoothed over by a neighbourly discussion. Alresford Parish Council is contacted by the TDC Planning Dept for comment on most planning applications and we hopefully give fair and lawful consideration to planning applications. Issues though that can lead to legal challenges later between parties could often have been dealt with by a friendly chat over the garden fence!

Allotments

Those on the waiting list for Staunton Gate allotment plots have all been contacted and the first eighteen residents listed will soon be allocated plot numbers now that the site has been laid out. Although formal handover to the Parish Council has not happened yet the Parish Council has started managing the allotment area.

In conclusion

The Parish Council does what it can to maintain and improve facilities and the public realm of the village. If anyone has suggestions for further improvements or indeed if some matter needs addressing then please contact a Councillor or the Clerk. A public forum at the start of each main Parish Council meeting is useful for long term matters but for most maintenance matters or general queries an e-mail or phone call to a Councillor or the Clerk should be adequate, and the matter will be responded to.

**Councillor Frank Belgrove
Chairman Alresford Parish Council**



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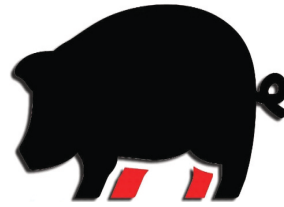
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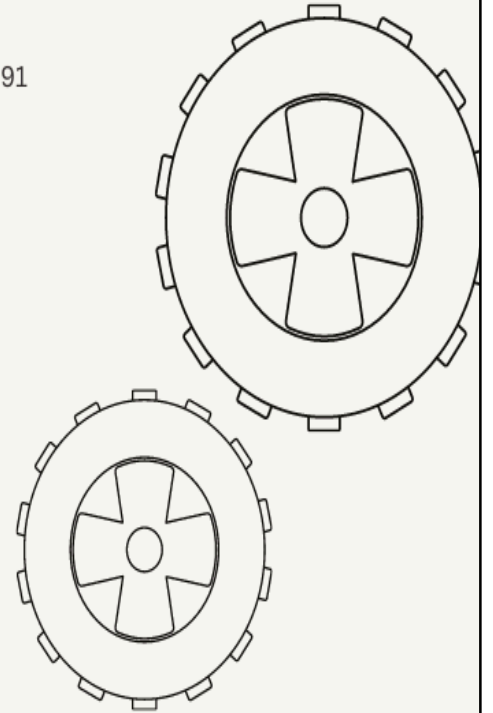
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