



THE ALRESFORD ADVERTISER AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2025

Established since 1970

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED TO KEEP THE ALRESFORD ADVERTISER RUNNING

THE ALRESFORD ADVERTISER *is STILL looking for a new editor and treasurer plus one or two volunteers to back them up – this is something that we do not have right now.*

Without new volunteers, this magazine does not have a long-term future. The plan going forward is for the editor and treasurer to continue until the February/March 2026 edition giving volunteers time to come onboard.

June/July 2025

August/September 2025

October/November 2025

December 2025/January 2026

February/March 2026

If no volunteers come forward, the February/March 2026 edition will be the very last edition. Let's hope that does not happen!

If you are over 18 and interested or want more information, please call Russell or Hayley on 01206 825739

RURAL COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF ESSEX (RCCE) ANNUAL AWARDS 2025

**VILLAGE OF THE YEAR
2ND PLACE
ALRESFORD**

**VILLAGE HALL &
COMMUNITY BUILDING
AWARD
HIGHLY COMMENDED
ALRESFORD VILLAGE HALL**



Photos taken from the RCCE website
<https://www.essexrcc.org.uk/>

ALLISON WADE

It is with great sadness that we have been informed of the recent death of our friend and previous editor Allison.

Our sincere condolences go out to her dad Peter, her brother Richard and sister-in-law Tiffany at this very sad time.

There will be a full tribute to her in the October/November Advertiser

**SEE PAGE 2 FOR
WHAT IS COMING UP
DURING AUGUST &
SEPTEMBER**

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

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE
ALRESFORD FETE ORGANISING GROUP (AFOG)

TREASURE HUNT

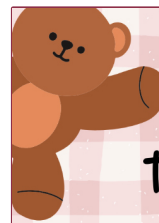
Observational walking Treasure Hunt
for the whole family in and around the
village of Alresford

Sunday 17th August 2025
2PM Start from the Village Hall,
Ford Lane, Alresford CO7 8AT

Please bring a
pen or pencil

Refreshments will
be available in
the Village Hall

**Don't miss a fun afternoon
of fun and discovery!**
ALL ARE WELCOME



St Andrew's Church, Alresford

Tuesday Tots' teddy Bears Picnic!

all under 5s and their
families welcome

When and where?

St Andrew's Church field
(or inside if wet!)

Tuesday 26 August,
11am - 1pm

Bring your rug,
picnic and teddy and
join us to meet new
friends and play!

For more info, contact:

Julie: 01206 827429

Wendy: 01206 825040

tenpennyvillages.uk

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE
ALRESFORD FETE ORGANISING GROUP (AFOG)

THE GREAT ALRESFORD BAKE OFF

SUNDAY 24TH AUGUST 2025

ALRESFORD VILLAGE HALL, CO7 8AT

SUBMISSIONS BETWEEN 1:00 & 1.30PM

OPEN TO PUBLIC 2.00 PM

Villagers are invited to submit freshly
baked cakes or biscuits

Please email AlresfordFOG@gmail.com to register

CATEGORIES:

- Sweet
- Savoury
- Under 13 years



Public invited to judge presentation

Refreshments will be available

ALL ARE WELCOME

**PRIZES
AVAILABLE**

St Andrew's Church, Alresford

Songs of Praise

21 September, 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 VILLAGE HALL

Charity Commission Number: 301233

Pages 3 & 4

Website: <https://e-voice.org.uk/alresfordvillagehall>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Alresfordvillagehall/>



WE NEED NEW TRUSTEES!

Our village hall is in excellent condition and very sound financially, but we need the next generation of trustees to start getting involved!!!!

So, if you are new to Alresford and would like to invest in our village, please, please contact us as the existing trustees are not going to last for ever and we need to start handing over to the next generation. That is not to say that if you are not new to Alresford you cannot also become a trustee.

So come on Alresford....at least have a look and see if you can bring something to our community.

Thank you to those who came along to the July meeting, we look forward to seeing you again.

INTERESTED!!! GIVE ME A CALL 01206 825739

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 subject to 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.

ALRESFORD VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (AVHMC)

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES 2024/2025

The year 2024-2025 has been overall successful, one highlight being the acquisition of a Treasurer. Mr Peter Muller has joined the Trustees and taken on the important responsibility of Treasurer. The Barclays Bank transfer was completed, and the Santander accounts closed. The Financial Inspection was completed on time, and we thank the Independent Reviewer, Tina Pitcher for all her assistance in this matter.

Another highlight was the acceptance of the contract for installing 30 Solar Panels on the VH roof. Provisional preparation work including new LED lighting completed in February 2025 and subsequently the project was

completed mid-April 2025. No grant funding required as current funds and donations from the Simply Singing and Film nights financed this project. This will enable the Trustees of the Hall to plan into the future with reasonable confidence regarding utility costs. The Keyholder situation remains the same with the Chair continuing and Hayley Milburn has also continued to function as the booking/invoice clerk. The Hallmaster booking system continues to be a valuable tool in the management of the hall.

Bookings, both regular and private have remained at extremely prominent levels although we have lost three long standing regular hires, The Gardening Club, The Camera Club and Carol Gale Dance. However, we now have Pilates, Games evening, and Sound Bath Yoga.

We must comment on the increasing of hire fees for the first time in many years. The Trustees needed to guard against ever increasing costs and the potential for decreased hire, especially with the regular clubs. Fees were increased between 15-20% in September 2024, and this has been accepted by hirers and had no impact on the rate of hire.

Continuing the sustainability theme, new three-year deals signed off on Electric and Gas until June 2028 and just recently a three-year deal on the Hall Insurance was also completed.

The target for the year 2024-2025 was to try and make the Village Hall sustainable into the future with regards to costs and just as importantly, the overall management of the hall by Trustees. We have been successful in this but still with concerns as to the lack of interest on new Trustees joining. At least two of the officers are looking to reduce their responsibilities and there is a concern to this matter. We have lost two Trustees in 2024, David Bright and Cath Patel and we thank them both for their contribution over the past few years.

I repeat the statement from last year.

"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."

The hall is in incredibly decent 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 are talking to the Parish Council regarding renewing the Lease Agreement with them and the scenario that could arise if Trustees were not to be found and if the Parish Council would or could, take over the management of the hall.

Ms Elysia Thompson our cleaner has continued to maintain the hall to an extremely high standard of cleanliness at an extremely competitive cost and our thanks to Sue Dukelow for covering the tasks when Elysia is not available. Thanks also go to John Stimpson for his work in maintaining the hall.

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 Trustee's 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:

- Recruited a Treasurer
- Gas / Electric price tariff New 3 - year deal" Gas/ Electric tariffs fixed to 2028".
- Insurance premium fixed for 3 years until 2028.
- Health and Safety handbook updated.
- Finance Committee re-introduced.
- Funds now transferred to enable interest to be accumulated on VH finds.
- Website updated.
- CPR Course successfully completed Oct 2024
- New Fencing on roadside of hall.
- Hooks connected to Fire Doors South Side.
- Silver Springs Disaster Recovery Centre.
- 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 online calendar for availability and invoicing.
- Gas and Fire Annual checks completed.
- Hall floor repolished.
- Oven Repaired and yearly clean.
- 5 Year Electrical Inspection completed Nov 2024.

The Trustees will endeavour to:

- **Explore with Alresford Parish Council the way forward with regards to lease extension and management of the hall.**
- Encourage our community to become part of the Management Committee.
- Keep hire fees at the lowest possible level.
- Provide update and news via the Alresford Advertiser.
- Administer and manage to allow the village hall to function.
- Investigate and implement improved ways of managing the hall heating system such that it accurately follows hire requirements.
- Continue to explore fund raising events such as Film nights and Simply Singing.
- **Recruit a key holder**

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.

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

Excerpts from the AGM Minutes on the 29th May 2025

- Russell wanted to minute that he is disappointed at the lack of people attending this evening, only one member of the public or users and not a full content of current Trustees. This and the difficulty in getting volunteers is a major and potential hall closure concern. The hall will not run without everyone pulling together. We have lost 3 trustees in the last year.
- The priority this coming year is to speak with the Parish Council about extending the lease, as they need a longer lease period for grant purposes. As part of the discussion, we also need to speak with them about the PC potentially taking on the hall if we cannot continue due to lack of volunteers and trustees. This may mean them employing someone to run the hall, which would mean increased hire fees and potentially other costs to the community.
- If elected as Chair, Russell will only stand for another year. If someone stands forward, Russell will stay on another year for a handover, but if we are in the same position, Russell will stand down immediately.

I apologise for publishing the excerpts minute points from the AGM but we have now reached a point where the community very much needs to be aware of the genuine concerns approaching the Trustees of the Village Hall.

To summarise the Trustees manage the charity that is the Village Hall on behalf of the village of Alresford. This is all done by volunteers. The hall is recognised as being a very attractive venue for regular group hire and one off private hires and the occupancy is well over 80% of sessions booked. The Trustees lease land that is owned by the Trust and therefore the people of Alresford to the Parish Council and that is where the Pavilion and Parish Council office is located. There is another Licence that allows the Parish Council to sublease the Pavilion to the Alresford Colne Rangers Football Club for the use of football related activities during the registered football season.

So as Trustees we need to **ACT NOW** to find new Trustees that are willing to consider taking on the senior positions within the hall such a Chair, Vice Chair and Booking/Invoicing. There is nothing to be read into the fact that the three positions are to be vacated in the next 1-2 years other than the age factor and a need for the next generation to take their turn.

If we get to the end of this year with no progress in the matter, we will speak to the Parish Council and Charity Commission regarding possible solutions but it needs to be understood by Alresford that if no solution is found, the hall could close and this would of course threaten the Pavilion and Football Club Licences..

So , as I have repeatedly said over the past year we need old or new villagers to think "Can I do something for my Community?" and if the answer is Maybe or Yes, then please give me a call on **01206 825739**

Russell
Chair
Alresford Village Hall Management Committee

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



ALRESFORD CRAFT & FARMERS MARKET 2025 DATES



**2nd August
6th September
4th October
1st November
6th 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 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

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)
- 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 WI

Thank you to everyone who supported our stall at the Picnic in the Park. Over £100.00 was raised and this will be donated to the Alresford Fete Organising Group to help with the cost of the Over 75's Christmas tea.

The speaker for our meeting in August will be Sam Salmon.

Our talk for September is entitled "Journalism from typewriter to A1" and the speaker is Sally Anderson-Wai.

We meet on the second Thursday of each month in the Village Hall

Meetings start at 7.30p.m.

New members are always welcome

For further information please contact:

Chris James 07977 495382 or
Hilda Newbold 01206 823477

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

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

ALRESFORD ANGLING ASSOCIATION



ANGLING
TRUST



FISH
LEGAL



Patron:/ Sir Bernard Jenkin MP

Predicting the forthcoming weather is almost impossible, but the end of June, beginning of July certainly had the mercury climbing up to the 30+°C. This brings all sorts of warnings to our members. So, firstly, ensure you take plenty of fluid with you to drink. Alcohol does not count! Secondly, you need a hat or brolly to keep the sun from your head. No matter how old and leathery you are, please apply sun screen to the exposed parts of you skin. Rehydration, shade and sunburn prevention are taken care of. Next, there is the problem of lake levels dropping, due to evaporation or pumping in the case of farm fields irrigation. When lake levels drop, you will have to reach further down to net a fish and can overbalance and fall in. Water depths rapidly increase away from the margins, so you may be into deep water.

Every year, there are cases of young people drowning in freshwater. So, this is a warning to would be bathers. do not trespass on our waters: - they are private property and several of them are beyond your depth. In the deeper water, the temperature does not rise above 4°C and are beneath a thermocline, layers of cold water, which if you dive in can cause shock to your body.

Membership has gone well, and we have plenty of new faces plus a a healthy body of Junior members and under 12's.

The seasons' match list is well underway, and the league table has got the start of a race to the number 1 slot. Would members please take note of the notices on the gates regarding closures due to competitions.

As mentioned last time, the club has sought advice from the Farming Wildlife Advisory Group and it is our intention to create a pond for Great Crested Newts. This will be an ongoing project, monitored by FWAG, to enable the pond to flourish.

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

Tight Lines.

Mike Day (Secretary)

GARDENING CLUB

It was the consensus of its committee that any residual funds held by the club on its closure, should be donated in a way that benefitted the community.

Therefore, a donation has been made to support the work of the volunteers who look after the Station Garden. It is understood that the donation will be used to install water butts to harvest water from the old station house roof and in doing so provide an essential on site requirement.

A monetary pledge has also been made to those involved in the project to provide a new access pathway at St Peter's Church. This pathway will basically reinstate what was the original path to the right of the church entrance. On completion it will provide a far safer, user friendly way of accessing the graves and cremation plot areas, especially for those people with limited mobility.

CAMERA CLUB

The Camera Club's committee and its membership were in total agreement that on its closure, half of the clubs residual funds should be donated for the benefit of the community as a whole. It was recognised by the club that it had enjoyed enviable facilities provided by the village hall during the 35 years it had been a regular hirer and as such it should receive a sizeable donation.

This gesture was very much appreciated by the Trustees of the village hall and the donation has now been added to the Special Projects fund. Currently, the hall committee are looking at the benefits and costings of adding back up batteries to the recently installed solar PV installation and the special projects fund will be key to financially supporting this.

The remainder of the residual funds has been donated back to its membership in recognition of the support they have afforded to the club during its nearly 40 years of operating.

Various items of equipment, previously used by the Camera Club, have also been donated to the village hall. This includes display stands, a lit presentation stand and portable digital projector. The display stands have already seen use, firstly for displaying photographs at a wake and secondly by the Calligraphy Group to exhibit their work at the recent Picnic in the Park afternoon.

A number of miscellaneous items are currently being listed on auction websites, the proceeds of the sale of these items will be donated to the Brightlingsea First Responders, who as many of you will recall, were kind enough to come and give CPR and Defibrillator sessions in the village hall earlier this year.

SIMPLY SINGING

Do you find yourself joining in with songs you're listening to on the radio, on the TV or when in your car? Well if you do then you're the ideal person to come and join us at the Simply Singing afternoons. We cover lots of the old favourite songs inviting you to offer your own favourites to sing. Don't worry about knowing all the lyrics, because they will either be projected onto the stage screen or you'll have a paper lyric sheet.

We have on average 25 people per singing session who really really enjoy a very sociable afternoon, so why not come along and see what we are all about, **it's just £2 for each session and that includes refreshments at half time.**

We are commencing a new season in October so hope to see you at the **Village Hall 2pm to 4pm**

October 3rd & 17th

November 7th & 21st

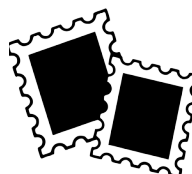
December 5th

Please mention us to friends and family who may not have access to the Alresford Advertiser

For more information
please contact Jeanette on
01206 825008 or
07484 334698



CHRISTINE'S CHARITY BAG



Stamps are still being collected for Bone Cancer Research.

Knitting and wool is still needed. Thank you to all the people who have left items on the doorstep. Wool and needles are available for anyone who wishes to contribute.

Collection or delivery of wool can be arranged. Hopefully the knitting will be sent to Romania again later this year. It will most probably start its journey in October so that it will arrive with the Christmas Shoe boxes.

Stamps and knitting can be delivered to 2 Coach Road as before or brought to any W I meeting.

John Stimpson
2 Coach Road



MOVIE NIGHTS

Dates for you diary& what's on:



October 3rd: The return of the Pink Panther - Peter Sellers

November 21st: Movie Night is once again Music Night

December 12th: National Lampoons Christmas Vacation - Chevy Chase

St Andrew's Church



www.tenpennyvillages.uk

Find us on 

ParishChurchesofAlresfordElmsteadThorrington-TennpennyVillages

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

How the holiday has changed.

I've heard stories of folks sharing incredible breaks when factories shut and an entire workforce disappeared to the coast. Simple holidays have then been replaced by folks jetting off to far flung places as air travel has shrunk the planet - some of us are enjoying holidays now that originally only the royal family would (Air travel also has such an impact on the environment).

What did we use to do? Well when we were tied to the land - disappearing off for a length of time would be the persevere of the rich or a specific pilgrimage.



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

Another discipline would be to have a day off to celebrate a "Saints day". Long before Bank Holidays were invented there would be a break to commemorate a particular Saint. There are over 110 saints' days on the calendar and some are more significant than others - not all would have necessitated a day off for celebration but they would have created a rhythm and times of refreshment.

What did Jesus do for a holiday? The gospel accounts talk of his relentless ministry but also of how he chose to "come away" and go to quiet places to pray. We also hear of Jesus going to the house of Mary, Martha and Lazarus in Bethany. This was a place away from the busy life of Jerusalem where he could be with friends.

This Summer I don't know whether you will get away or enjoy "Ourgate". But I do pray that you will be refreshed - sometimes quality time with friends can be a break. Lets not also forget the gift of a "Day trip". As we all enjoy different rhythms this summer I pray that you understand the original patterns of holidays where we are not defined by our work but how we relate to life, one another and to God.

Every blessing this summer.

Rev Andrew Fordyce MBE

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

Churchwarden:

Lyn Bull - 01206 827146

Nick Berry - 01206 824496

Email: stachurchwardens@tenpennyvillages.uk

Bookings for the Hub: Meg Burdus - 01206 820618

ALRESFORD BIKERS

Our Sunday Rides have been a big part of the AB activity since right back in the month we started - April 2007! Since then, we've taken quite a few. Counting my records for 2024, A relatively quiet year thanks to rotten weather, we did 22 Sunday Rides, and a number near that of mid-week rides too, and it was a quiet year! So, say 22 a year, for 18 years now, is getting on for 400 times we've been out and about on our bikes, on Sundays, at the very least. Because of this, there are places where we're getting quite well known, because we've been there a few times over the years, and one of them is a small cafe in Dennington. We went there again last Sunday, and stuffed ourselves silly with the usual tea and sausage rolls, etc. But the main reason for mentioning this place was that on this occasion we were not alone! The five of us arrived and found bikes parked on the grass; far too many to get in the tiny car park. Loads of other bikers, and I suspect clubs, had all had the same idea on the same day! There must have been well over 50 there. So what? I've seen over 1000 bikes at Great Bentley on some Wednesdays. I've personally been among 5-6,000 on the Essex & Herts Air Ambulance Run loads of times. And among, believe it or not, 120,000 at Brands Hatch too. So big numbers of bikes are not exactly new to any of us. But look at the picture. All these bikers left their very expensive clobber on the bikes. There was



no fear of anyone tinkering or stealing anything. Only the Lord himself could protect anyone who did! Nobody had a bad word to say to anyone. Everyone was respectful, and polite. We all enjoyed each others company and had a good relaxing Sunday morning. Even some members of the normal, non-biking, customer base public still turned up, so we can't be that bad, eh? The only people who were slightly flustered by us all being there at the same time were the staff, who ran themselves silly, and they still did a brilliant job, and there were no cross words at all. And that is what we're about. Having a good time, enjoying the riding, and the comradeship of being bikers.

Mentioning Brands Hatch reminds me of something. My bike is pretty quiet, it has to be said. It's not about noise, though there are plenty of legally louder machines around, even in our little band. In complete contrast, I am reminded of an event held at the world famous track in 1989, that was a tad more noisy. It was the John Surtees Bike Day at Brands Hatch. I particularly remember that day because it was the first time I had ever heard the Honda RC166 in the flesh. Ralph Bryans (who rode them in the '60's) rode a genuine Honda GP machine. Not a replica, but the actual bike formerly ridden by Mike Hailwood, my boyhood hero, took it for a few parade laps. For those who don't know, this machine was built in 1966 so it was already 23 years old at the time. It came from the time just before noise limits were implemented, before the number of cylinders and gears were limited, the limited size of fuel tanks, etc. were put into the rules to keep the cost manageable and permit competition by others less

able to spend huge sums like the major manufacturing corporations, at the time. The noise limit for MotoGP Bikes now is 130 dB, and has been for decades. The racket from that little motor was unimaginable, and certainly a lot more. I could hear it making its progress right round the track, over the combined sound of all the other bikes. Phil Read once famously said he could not get close to passing it because of the noise! Look it up on YouTube! Years later when I became a track marshal, I had very close exposure to lots of very exotic race machinery of many different kinds, but I always preferred the classic stuff. All the good old British makes, right down to little Francis Barnett, James, and foreign made bikes like Moto Guzzi, Laverda, BMW (mostly sidecars), all those lovely old bikes. I never did see another of these genuine Honda bikes, but many much more modern replicas. You think anything before the silicone chip is stone age? Consider how Honda achieved this in 1966 - 20,000 RPM, 65 BHP, 149 (timed) MPH, from a 250? There was a rumour put around in the '60's, by Honda themselves, that they never kept any of their machines, but instead took them back to Japan and put them in a crusher. It became clear some years ago that that was a bit of a porky and many original bikes are now, all these years later, coming slowly out on display. But getting that bike all the way from Japan for the weekend ride at Brands in 1989 shows how respected John Surtees was, in the motorcycle world.

If you want to know more about bikes, bikers, or riding, or anything related, just turn up at one of our monthly meetings in HQ, The Pointer Inn, on the second Friday of each month, where Sam and Neil always make us welcome. Or come chat to us early any sunny Sunday morning in the car park before we disappear off on one of our rides. We'd love to see you!

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ALRESFORD COLNE RANGERS

Well, the season 2024-2025 ended in a whimper. The First Team finished mid table, a significant improvement but the hard work starts now. Hopefully, the good young players will continue to improve. The manager James Pickard and Jimmy Gill will need to replace players who have moved on and the team will be able to progress. The Reserves will be under a new management team, this is an exceedingly difficult job with finding enthusiastic recruits is difficult as the key board warriors are winning.

The Ladies finished fifth also require new blood as many players could not commit enough time to play, but there are green shoots that hopefully will lead to better commitment.

The Walking Football section of the club continues to thrive and are halfway through their season.

The Under 16's are at a crossroads as they are now able to advance to open age football. This will test the commitment of the lads as for the club to progress it is vital that they become part of ACRFC and not wander off to other adult teams.

The Under 15's after a difficult season will be better for it and with fresh faces joining to take up the challenge it should be for a more successful and enjoyable 2025-2026 season.

The Under 11's face the biggest challenge of all, they go to competitive football with a bigger pitch, bigger goals, bigger footballs. more players and full game rules. So, a huge step up but this talented squad will attack the task with confidence.

The Under 8's are a work in progress, are showing signs of improvement but at that age it is all about having fun and being outdoors having fun.

May 17th was a fantastic day as many former players returned to participate in the Alan Green Memorial. Alan was our Chair for over 30 years and involved for over 50 years and this day reminds us of days when people did play and belong to a club that was local to them. Our thanks to Ross Byford for his hard work in making this all happen.

The end of season bought us some sad news, Kathy Balls, wife of former player, committee and Chair David Balls passed away after a brave fight against her illness. Our thoughts are with David and all Family.

June 14th was Picnic in the Park and what a fabulous day it was. Great weather, a packed Playing Field and such a good feeling in the community. Thank you to the Alresford Fete Organising Group for putting on such a magnificent event and long may it continue. I must highlight something that nobody saw, John Stimpson who got back from holiday that day was over the field and took it upon himself to litter pick until I stopped him at 21.15hrs, another unsung hero.

Another big club day is the Presentation Day. The best part is when to young one's name is called to come forward and collect an award and they and their parents faces light up.

We are a cry for help at ACRFC as we like many clubs and groups are in advancing years and a need for new young blood is desperately needed. Help is required in running the club, marking, and looking after the now four pitches, getting involved with the Bar and helping to sustain the club as it is.

Basically, the existing committee other than an addition of two is the same committee that looked after the club when there were just two men's teams. We now have eight teams and if it is to continue then new people need Now to get involved.



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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 Julia Claremont-Brown

Cllr Courtney Muller

Cllr Kristen Doulai

District Council Tending

District Councillor Ann Wiggins - 01206 825153

Email: cllr.awiggins@tendingdc.gov.uk

District Councillor Gary Scott - 01206 820769

Email: cllr.gscott@tendingdc.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

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VE Day Rock Painting – A Sunny Celebration of Community

On a bright and sunny morning in May, the Alresford community came together to mark VE Day with a joyful and creative event in the Community Garden, next to the old Station House.

This free family event offered something for all ages, celebrating both remembrance and community spirit. Blossom the Travelling Tea Room was on hand with delicious homemade sweet and savoury treats, hot drinks, and handmade jewellery for sale – all served with a backdrop of nostalgic music from the era, adding a lovely touch of atmosphere to the day.

Children and families got stuck into painting colourful commemorative rocks, which have now been weatherproofed and placed around the garden as a lasting tribute. We were delighted to be joined by PCSO Julia Brandon, who rolled up her sleeves and painted stones alongside local children, chatting warmly with families as they worked.

Also in attendance was Parish Council Chair and Chair of the Alresford Station House Community Group (ASH), Frank Belgrove, showing support for this community-led event.

Adding to the day, the station community adopters offered plants and seeds for sale, with proceeds supporting local planting projects. They also encouraged children to help sow a new wildflower garden, designed to attract and support local wildlife – a beautiful, lasting gift for the village.

It was a lovely day full of colour, connection and creativity – and a great reminder of what makes Alresford such a special place to live. Thank you to everyone who joined us and helped bring this celebration to life.



Picnic in the Park 2025 – A Community Celebration

The Alresford Fete Organising Group (AFOG) was proud to bring you the annual Picnic in the Park on Saturday 14th June – and what a brilliant day it was!



The sun was shining, the field was buzzing, and our village came together in the best possible way. Families and friends arrived with picnics, chairs, gazebos and big smiles, ready to enjoy an afternoon filled with music, games, food and fun.

Parish Council Chair Frank Belgrove officially opened the event, and from there, the afternoon was full of energy, laughter, and genuine community spirit.

We were treated to fantastic performances from Rebecca's Dance Academy and K-Fusion Dance Group, both of whom wowed the crowd with their energy and enthusiasm. The soundtrack to the day was provided by

the ever-popular Silence the Sirens, who kept spirits high with their live music.



Children – and plenty of adults too – were enchanted by the magical meet-and-greets with characters from WyvernWood. The Alresford Primary PTA kept everyone well fed with their sizzling BBQ and entertained with their ever-popular coconut shy, while Alresford Colne Rangers Football Club kept the drinks flowing from the Pavilion Bar – ensuring no one went thirsty in the summer sun.

There was no shortage of laughter at the Ozzie Rules Welly Wanging (this year proudly hosting the World Championship!), where competition was fierce but friendly. Children also enjoyed rides on the North Essex Miniature Railway, hosted by Mr McAuley, and the classic carousels provided by Mr Little.

We were delighted to welcome the Brightlingsea First Responders and our very own PCSO Julia Brandon, who mingled with the crowd, shared safety tips, and provided

brilliant community engagement throughout the afternoon.

Meanwhile, the Village Hall offered a moment of calm and connection, with stunning displays from the Calligraphy Club and local artists, plus hot drinks and delicious home-baked cakes – kindly donated and served by local volunteers.



The Raffle and Tombola were bigger than ever, with prizes including: £100, £75 and £50 cash prizes; four First Class return tickets to anywhere on the Greater Anglia network; three WyvernWood family ticket bundles; a hamper from Mitchell's Farm Shop; a hamper from SPAR; a brand-new donated Burberry handbag and scarf; and many more brilliant donations from local businesses.



We at AFOG would like to thank everyone who made this event possible – it simply wouldn't happen without the incredible generosity, time, and support of our community.

A huge thank you to all who donated, volunteered, hosted stalls, or supported us in any way, including:



Alresford Art Group · Alresford Beavers · Alresford Calligraphy Club · Alresford Carpet Bowls Club · Alresford Colne Rangers FC · Alresford Family Pizza · Alresford Fish & Chips · Alresford Parish Council · Alresford Post Office · Alresford Primary PTA · Alresford Village Stores · Alresford W.I. · Bellets · Brightlingsea First Responders · Carousels by Mr Little · Cavadino Hair · Chayse West Legacy · Direct Animal Feeds · JellyBean Vinyls (Decorated Cups) · JoJo's Face Painting · Khusbu Indian Takeaway · La Pooch Dog Groomers · Mark Brumpton Tree Services · Mitchell's Farm Shop · North Essex Miniature Railway · Old Town Chinese · Plants for Parkinson's · Rebecca's Dance Academy · Raffle/Tombola donors · Sage Hair Studio · Sam King – Photography & Film · SPAR · St Andrew's Church · The Autumn Centre · The Kitchen & Bathroom Store · Top Glass and Dan Bull · Whip It Like Webber Ice Creams · WyvernWood · A benefactor who wishes no publicity



Special thanks also go to Alresford Colne Rangers FC for their mammoth support setting up, clearing away, and running the Pavilion Bar.

All proceeds raised go directly back into the village. Thanks to your support, we're able to fund: the annual Christmas Tea for the Over 75s; our Father Christmas event for local children; and community activities like the VE Day Tea Party and Rock Painting.

We also run a village grant scheme to support local non-commercial groups – look out for details on how to apply in early 2026.

We're not done yet! Here's what's coming up:
The Alresford Treasure Hunt – Sunday 17th August, starting at the Village Hall

The Great Alresford Bake Off – Sunday 24th August, Village Hall

Village Quiz Night – Friday 14th November, Village Hall

AFOG is entirely run by a group of dedicated and hardworking volunteers – and we really need more helping hands! We meet on the third Thursday of each month at the Pavilion, and new faces are always welcome. We're a friendly bunch and would love to see you there!

Email us: AlresfordFOG@gmail.com
Call us: 07535707002
Facebook: facebook.com/AFOGevents

Thank you, Alresford. This event – and everything we do – is only possible because of you. Let's keep the community magic going!

ALRESFORD PARISH CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - August/September 2025

Chairman Alresford Parish Council :

Cllr Frank Belgrove

Staunton Gate – South Site

The Parish Council has taken possession of public open space land on the Staunton Gate South site. The land involved in the conveyance from Taylor Wimpey includes most open land, the allotment site and the small play area. Parish Council contractors will be involved with vegetation maintenance, and the Clerk will be available for allotment administration and oversight of the maintenance of the play area.

Cockaynes Lane

The "Quiet Lane" scheme for Cockaynes Lane has been put on hold by Essex Highways as they contemplate the road design put forward by the company interested in developing housing adjacent to the lane. If a decision is made by Highways that the developer's scheme is unworkable then hopefully we can move forward with the Quiet Lane project.

Volunteers

Our community has quite amazing volunteers who do so much for us all and who are often unsung heroes of village life. Tending the community garden, the production and delivery of the Alresford Advertiser, oversight of the Village Hall, football pitch maintenance, field paths cutting, book swap facilities, medicine deliveries and litter picking are just some of the tasks undertaken by volunteers. They are all appreciated, and we thank them. It is the case though that there are more opportunities for willing residents to come forward for a variety of volunteering opportunities – please contact myself or the Parish Council Clerk for more information (contact details are in this copy of the AA).

Highways and road safety

It was quite shocking to hear of the incident in late June in Wivenhoe Road involving the number 87 bus and a farm vehicle. At the time of presenting this article a full report had not been made public but suffice to say the thoughts of the Council are with the casualties and those associated with them. The section of road that leads from the village to Wivenhoe has long been the subject of campaigns by the Parish Council for a reduction in the speed limit from unrestricted to 40mph however Essex Highways has rejected all applications for a reduced speed limit. It is not thought excessive speed caused the appalling incident in June however the higher the speed of a vehicle the greater the damage and injury that occurs when accidents happen.

The new vehicle activated sign in Wivenhoe Road has been well received by residents, the sign actually thanks drivers who comply with the 30mph limit and asks those that exceed the limit to slow down.

Policing/PCSO

Our village PCSO Julia Brandon is being kept a little too busy this summer. Parents need to make sure their children are not causing problems around the village. A recent spate of fires and criminal damage has been caused by children and victims have contacted the Parish Council and the Police. The Parish Council has supplied CCTV images to the Police on a number of occasions following incidents on or near the playing field, these include fires being lit, theft of a bicycle and criminal damage, all being caused by young children.

Community Engagement

It is important that the Parish Council has adequate input from residents so we can plan for the future and also obtain feedback on what we are doing. We had a stall at

the recent Picnic in the Park event, and it was good to be able to chat with residents on a range of topics and also conduct a youth survey. People seem to engage more in such an informal setting, and it was very encouraging at the event to see the support that the Council has from so many. A leaflet is available at the Parish Office explaining the role of Alresford Parish Council and it sets out our duties and responsibilities.

What the Parish Council looks after and provides:

The Parish Office, The Pavilion, The Playing Field, Play Equipment, Tennis/basketball/five-a side courts, Community Car Park, War Memorial, St Peters parking area and parts of the Churchyard, Flower beds, Memorial gardens, Village signs, most Street Lighting, Hedge cutting (certain areas), installing litter bins and emptying them via Tendring District Council's contractor, Bus shelters, Benches, Allotments, Essex Police PCSO, Vehicle activated signs, Litter Picking, Staunton Gate public open spaces, Planning Application considerations, Station Community Gardens, Grants to local organisations and more.....including a voice to other bodies such as Essex County Council.

Wishing all Alresford residents an enjoyable August and September in our wonderful village.



Cllr Frank Belgrove
Chairman Alresford Parish Council

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Congratulations to **Councillor Linda Belgrove** for her well deserved award in the King's birthday honours list for her services to Charity.



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You can find out more about the charities by visiting:
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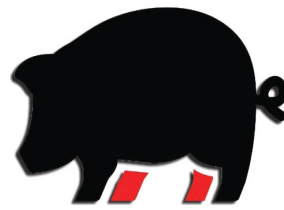
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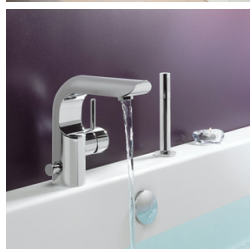
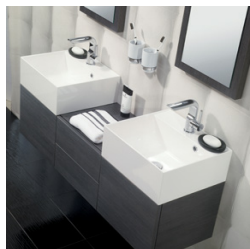
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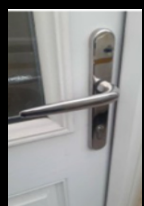
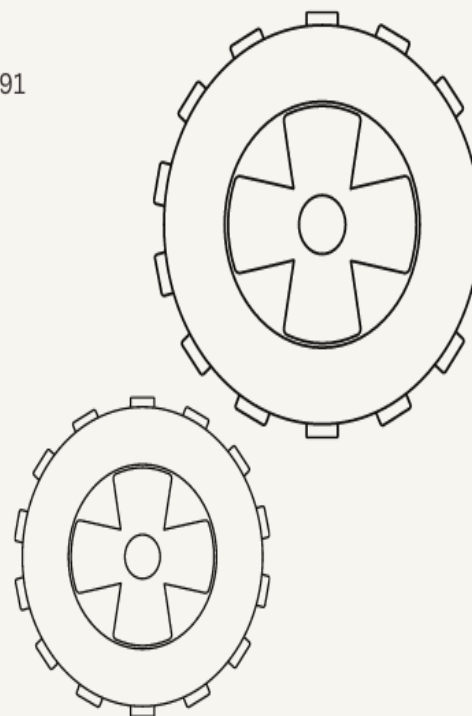
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INFORMATION

ALRESFORD NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING MAY/JUNE 2025

Pages 22 & 23

26/04/2025 - 31/05/2025

RECORDED CRIMES: 7

CRIME TYPES: Assault without injury - Breach of non-molestation order x 2 - Harassment without violence - Other - Stalking - Theft of a pedal cycle

INCIDENTS RECORDED: 13

TYPES REPORTED: Domestic x 4 - Drink driving - Drugs - Highway dispute x 2 - Information x 3 - Obstruction - Suspicious circumstances

01/06/2025 - 27/06/2025

RECORDED CRIMES: 10

CRIME TYPES: Assault without injury - Blackmail - Civil dispute - Criminal damage - Domestic x 2 - Information - Obstruction - Other x 2

INCIDENTS RECORDED: 8

TYPES REPORTED: Assault - blackmail - disturbance - domestic x 4 - Road traffic collision with injuries

TRUCAM (SPEEDING):

May 2025: 4 x 1 hour sessions in a 30mph zone

39 vehicles in total receiving NIPS (notice of intended prosecution) in the post. Top Speed 47mph

June 2025: 2 x 1 hour sessions in a 30mph zone

39 vehicles in total receiving NIPS (notice of intended prosecution) in the post. Top Speed 40mph

One driver in June was clearly not happy that Trucam was deployed in Wivenhoe Road to help towards reducing accidents and death on our roads. Music blaring from his vehicle, which some residents did in fact hear, he proceeded towards me taking photos at different angles and side on to try and portray that I was hiding, because I have a wall behind me to prevent being driven at (which has happened twice now since being trained to use the speed gun). If you are driving with due care and attention as you should be, I am clearly visible (**just like the speed signs**). He insinuated that I should be on the kerb or road so drivers including him could drive at me.

Accidents and fatals happen every day.

A life can be lost in the blink of an eye!

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

Trucam will be deployed on a regular basis in the village

The speed signs are clearly visible and as a driver you should be noticing things like this, including your surroundings. You would fail your driving test if you were driving without due care and attention. A vehicle if driven recklessly/unsafely is a potential weapon, You are in control of your vehicle.

Fixed penalty notices can be issued to those that block the footpath as an obstruction.

It is not a money making scheme to generate money, nor would it be necessary if drivers drove by the speed limit and adhered to the Highway Code.

OP STRONGHOLD

The last week in May was OP Stronghold for the district. During this time, there were high visibility patrols conducted by the local PCSO around areas of concern. Knife sweeps and patrols were done in the old church cemetery due to previous reports of criminal damage. Thankfully no weapons were found.

An extra Trucam session was deployed due to the on going reports of speeding and concern in the village.

KNIFE/DRUGS SWEEP

Numerous knife/drug sweeps have been done in various

locations around the village. If you come across any please report it to Essex Police.

INTELLIGENCE

A vast amount of information has been gained from the community, some of it could be the missing link. If you see something that doesn't look right, please report it.

PICNIC IN THE PARK

Community Engagement

The event was enjoyed by all, with plenty to see and do. The heat effected a few when it came to parking, but apart from that the day ran smoothly

VE DAY AT THE STATION

Community Engagement

Our lovely councillor Courtney Muller arranged a VE Day



celebration at the Station Community garden where there was plenty to do, eat and drink and gifts to purchase.

There was rock painting which was great fun, with some fabulous designs where some were put around the community garden and not forgetting Blossom Travelling tea room, where some gorgeous cakes were made and designed specially for VE Day. All the hard work paid off for a fun filled day for all

ST ANDREWS CHURCH BOOK CAFÉ

Community Engagement

The PCSO attended the book café to engage with residents. Matters raised were speeding in the village, bank card scanning where care protectors were given out and general advice.

Some booklets, security leaflets, freebies, no cold caller stickers were left on a table by the door for those who could not attend, please help yourself/

As many of you may know, there is a coffee morning at St Andrews 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 a slice of cake. They are such a friendly group.

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

**Wednesday 27th August 2025
10.30 -1200 hours**

KAYAK IN DIFFICULTY

On a beautiful hot Saturday afternoon, a kayaker got lost off the shores of the Creek. RNLI Coastguard Rescue came to his aid and brought him back to shore.



Well done all involved and hopefully our kayaker did not get too bad a headache from the over exposure to the sun.

Remember to stay hydrated and wear head protection when spending time in the sun and don't forget the sun tan lotion.
Be safe out there!



PCSO COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENTS

Alresford Primary School got involved when numerous reports of dog mess being left around the village was getting out of hand. PCSO Brandon arranged with the school for pupils to design No Dog Mess posters to put around the village, with the best one getting a prize.

Frank and Linda Belgrove kindly donated a prize of a dog money box which are sold in aid of the Essex retired police dog fund.

Our winner was awarded the prize in assembly and the posters will now be laminated and put around the village to hopefully get the word out for dog owners to be responsible and clean up after their dogs. There is more to the mess that dog faeces can cause on walkers shoes and clothes, not to mention being trod into their homes. Some dog faeces can cause blindness to children if they somehow manage to make contact with it.

Please be responsible and pick up after your furry friend - Keep the village clean!

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.

DISPATCH - Tendring Edition:

Weekly e-newsletter published every Wednesday.

Visit: <https://www.essex.police.uk/police-forces/essex-police/areas/essex-police/au/about-us/dispatch/>

WHO TO REPORT TO FOR PARKING ISSUES/ VEHICLES

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

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.

Reporting dangerous / illegal parking: <https://parkingpartnership.org/enforcement-requests/>

(Take 2 photos of said vehicle to supply online)

PARKING SERVICES: parking@tendringdc.gov.uk or 01255 686969

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 cannot pass.

REPORTING INCIDENTS THE CORRECT WAY

It is vital that incidents are reported at the time of the incident so that the right team can be assigned with a better chance of progress. Please **do not** email or ring the PSCO to report incidents.

To report an incident please ring 101 or for Emergency 999

Or report it online at: <https://www.essex.police.uk/do-it-online/report-a-crime/>

For anything else email your local PCSO: Julia.brandon@essex.police.uk



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**For further details please call:
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THANK YOU

I would like to express my sincere thanks for all my beautiful cards & presents & messages I received for my recent 80th Birthday

I thank all my very special friends that I have made over many years in Alresford for helping me to celebrate such a memorable day...

I have such fond memories of Alresford, we are so lucky to have such a great community spirit thanks to special people like Russell, Hayley, Jeanette Chris, Courtney & many more that help make our village what it is ...

Heart felt THANKS from Pam Ward

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN THE LONG-TERM FUTURE OF THE ALRESFORD ADVERTISER?

CAN YOU HELP?

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ALRESFORD ADVERTISER CONTACT DETAILS

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TELEPHONE: 01206 825739

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ESSEX LIBRARY SERVICE

<https://libraries.essex.gov.uk>

Summer Reading Challenge 2025



The Summer Reading Challenge 2025, exploring the magical connection between storytelling and nature, will be running from Saturday 19 July to Saturday 6 September in all Essex libraries, with a special Early Joiners' Day on 12 September.

Children are asked to read six books or do a range of book-related activities. As they do this, they'll collect special stickers of our key characters and add them to their own Story Garden. Six stickers earn a certificate and medal.

We look forward to seeing your children in libraries over the summer!

To find out more about the Story Garden please see: <https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/news/summer-reading-challenge>

MOBILE LIBRARY: Alresford Village Hall

The Mobile Library visits every: 3 weeks

DAY: Thursday
TIME: 11:55 to 12:25

21-Aug 11-Sep
02-Oct 23-Oct 13-Nov
04-Dec

<https://libraries.essex.gov.uk>

COPY DEADLINE

The editorial and advertising deadline for the April/May edition will be:
8th SEPTEMBER 2025

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