

THE ALRESFORD ADVERTISER

June / July 2026

Established since 1970



WELCOME

WE ARE DELIGHTED TO WELCOME THE NEW PUBLICANS OF THE POINTER INN.

WE WERE KEEN TO HEAR ALL ABOUT THEIR PLANS. THIS IS WHAT THEY HAD TO SAY..



Richard Curson, my partner, and I, (Hein Prinsloo-Curson), met in Johannesburg South Africa 8 years ago, and started a global conservation project called Noah's Ark, to be built and constructed in Africa, and the project led us back to the UK, where Richard is originally from. After just 3 Years back in the UK, we fell in love with village life, and particularly Alresford, which is why we decided to take on the challenge of transforming The Pointer Inn to a complete community hub, rather than just a pub.

A whole new renovation is planned for the Pointer in the coming weeks, and we hope the community will bare with us during this transformation, but we promise a better Pointer for the community to enjoy. We will be offering a fantastic menu, and we are introducing a wider selection on our wines and spirits, without neglecting the local favourites. We are also introducing fun family activities which will entertain the kids while parents can enjoy their meals & drinks, these include kids activities in the beer garden with bouncy castles, colouring competitions, and affordable lucky packets. For the parents, we encourage the local community clubs to utilise the pointer, as we would like to become more involved with local community events, and we plan to install a brand new Pétanque Piste at the Pointer, which will believe be one of only four in Essex!

We are currently open from 12 midday to 12 midnight, this will change in June as we will re-open the kitchen, we will then change our opening hours to be from 10am to 12 midnight Monday to Saturday, and 12pm to 12 Midnight on Sunday's, in accordance to our Premise Licence.

We look forward to welcoming you

Open
Everyday

The Alresford Fete
Organising Group
invite you to our Summer event

Picnic in the Park

Free Entry

Saturday
13th June 2026
12:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Alresford Playing Field
Ford Lane
CO7 8AT

Live music from 'Silence the Sirens' - Entertainment -
Burgers and Hot Dogs - Bar - Ice Cream - Stalls -
and much more!

Bring your own picnics, blankets/chairs. Sorry, no dogs or glass.

Dearest Readers,

As June and July arrive, the village settles into its early-summer rhythm – brighter gardens, busier footpaths and that welcome lift in energy that comes with longer days.

The celebration of 160 years of the railway in March was a real highlight, bringing together stories, memories and a shared sense of pride. Thank you to everyone who joined in and supported the event.

We've also been reading your feedback from the short survey in our last issue. Thank you to all who took the time to respond. Your thoughts – from keeping village news and What's On at the heart of the Advertiser to ideas for local jobs, for-sale listings and ways for younger children to get involved – are already shaping our plans. We're committed to exploring how we can bring some of these ideas into future editions, and we'd love to keep hearing from you.

Looking ahead, we hope to see many of you at the Picnic in the Park on 13th June – a free, friendly event and a great chance to meet new people and enjoy an afternoon together as a community.

Wishing you a bright start to summer.

Becky, Gina and Sarah
The Editorial Team

Over 1300 copies delivered to every household & business in Alresford, also available online in colour via the Parish Council & Village Hall websites: www.alresfordpcessex.uk & <https://e-voice.org.uk/alresfordvillagehall/>

Clubs and Societies News

ALRESFORD VILLAGE HALL REGULAR GROUPS

MONDAY

- Mindfulness Yoga: Monday mornings
- Alresford Indoor Carpet Bowls Club: Every Monday afternoon/evening

TUESDAY

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

WEDNESDAY

- Tai Chi: Every Wednesday morning.
- Alresford Women's Guild: Every other Wednesday afternoon.
- Pilates: Every Wednesday evening

THURSDAY

- Exercise Classes (Extend): Every Thursday morning
- Alresford Women's Institute: Second Thursday evening of the month

FRIDAY

- Alresford Calligraphy Group/Art Club: Every Friday morning.
- Simply Singing: Every other Friday afternoon October to May
- Meditation Sound Bath, Mother & Baby Sound Bath: 4th Friday of the month

SATURDAY

- Alresford Craft and Farmers Market: 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 see [:https://e-voice.org.uk/alresfordvillagehall/](https://e-voice.org.uk/alresfordvillagehall/) or contact Russell Milburn on 01206 825739



St Andrew's - not just for Sundays

Friendship Circle 10:30-12:00

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 - 16:00

2nd 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 are interested, please contact **Jeanette Downing** on **01206 825008**

Tuesday Tots 10:30 - 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 - 15:30

Tuesday Fortnightly

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

Start-up Café 10:30 - 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 - 15:00

3rd Thursday

Learn relaxation techniques and enjoy some refreshments.

Ministry for Men 19:30 - 21:30

4th Thursday

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

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

More details on our website www.tenpennyvillages.uk

ALRESFORD 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



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:

The Autumn Centre 01206 303702

Or email theautumncentre@outlook.com

Clubs and Societies News

ALRESFORD SMUGGLERS

The Smugglers Walking Group is now a month old and already going strong. We meet every Wednesday at 2pm outside The Pointer Pub for a leisurely walk around the village and surrounding countryside.



Each week we take on a different route, exploring various paths and enjoy the changing scenery. It's a great way to meet the community, unwind, enjoy the free flowing conversation and take in the fantastic views. A relaxed pace, friendly faces, and something new each week. Everyone is welcome to join.

Smugglers Beginners group, 6:15pm every Thursday at Cockaynes Lane and Station Road junction.

Designed for those who like to start running or returning back from injury.

Smugglers 5k Social Run, 7pm every Thursday at Cockaynes and Station Road junction.

Meet like mind people for a leisurely run and chat.

All session are completely free. Come and join friendly community whether it's running or walking.

Dale Weaver
daleweaver68@gmail.com

ALRESFORD WI

In April we held a quiz in the Village Hall. A big thank you must go to Chris Sanderson, the Quizmaster who made it such an enjoyable evening and to everyone who attended. The proceeds of the raffle, £150.00, was donated to St Helena Hospice.

The A.G.M. was held in May and a new committee was elected.

Our meeting in June will be a craft evening led by Kerry and Margaret from Brightlingsea.

In July, Kate Atkinson will be telling us about Chair Yoga and encouraging us to participate.

**We meet on the second Thursday of each month
 in the Village Hall. Meetings start at 7.30pm
 Visitors are always welcome**

For further information please contact:
 Chris 07977 495382 or Hilda 01206 823477

SIMPLY SINGING

Sessions are now closed until later this year.



Dates will be published in the August/September issue of the Alresford Advertiser.

In the meantime, please let your friends know about the singing afternoons and encourage them to come along.

For more information please contact:
 Jeanette on 01206 825008 or Chris on 07484334698

1st ALRESFORD BEAVERS SCOUT GROUP

**Beavers – 6 to 8 years
 Try new things. Make new friends.**



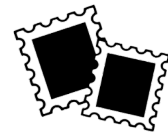
**Joining Beavers is just the beginning
 of your big adventure.**

Beavers meet on a Tuesday evening in term time and have a few spaces for any boys or girls age 6 or 7 years. Cubs and Scouts for older children meet at Elmstead Community Centre on a Wednesday evening.

Please contact alresfordbeavers@outlook.com for further details of any of the sections within the Scout Group or to add younger children to our waiting list.

CHRISTINE'S CHARITY BAG

Stamps are still being collected for Bone Cancer Research. They should be cut from envelopes with a half inch border. Please put them through the letter box or leave them by the back door.



Knitting is still needed. Wool, needles and patterns are available for anyone who wishes to contribute. Collection or delivery of wool can be arranged.



Stamps and knitting can be delivered to 2 Coach Road or brought to any WI meeting.

John Stimpson
 2 Coach Road, 01206 825068

**The Smugglers
 CHARITY
 QUIZ NIGHT!**

AT THE POINTER PUB

IN AID OF THE AUTUMN CENTRE

**FRIDAY 26TH JUNE
 8PM START**

£5 A HEAD • MAXIMUM TEAMS OF 6

**TEST YOUR BRAIN AGAINST
 AN ARRAY OF GENERAL
 KNOWLEDGE QUESTIONS!**

**CASH PRIZE
 FOR THE WINNERS!**

**RAFFLE
 ON THE NIGHT!**

ALRESFORD BIKERS

PILING THE MILES ON! So, summer is here at last and we're beginning to get some miles in! We've done some small runs out on Sundays, and some longer ones in during the week, and there's a lot more to come. We have discovered some new venues for a brew and a sarnie too, which is always welcome, and we've been down some new country roads as well. Indeed, some of our favourite potholes and road defects have actually been repaired (not round here though, sadly!).

Peak season is upon us, and we love it! But, before we do anything when the weather improves, we need to do some prep! In my case I had not treated my leathers for a year, as we had ridden in our winter gear for months on end (itself washed and re-proofed twice this winter). Remembering that as the group leader I can hardly go about looking shabby, but rather more representative. You know, my glistening leather, covering my finely honed body, rippling muscles, heroically set jawline, etc. etc. So, out came the leather food! Most summer gear of the type is called "Leathers" because originally they were made of only leather, but nowadays there is a lot more going on in their style and manufacture. Kangaroo Leather, and Bovine Leather are often mixed, calf leather for the elbows and backs of knees is common, or inserts of man-made material there too. Like mine. If you are fortunate enough to have some of the very latest gear, it will likely be a mix of leather and brand new tech - maybe Carbon Fibre elbow pads, Kevlar panels, or other exotica! If it is, (and you'll know from the invoice!) carefully glance at the cleaning instructions, before you bung them in the bin and look for them a year later, like I do. Being an old geezer, mine are leather, so I have nothing very special to do. Just feed them! Out I went into the conservatory, with leathers on a hangar, and a big tub of the treatment I use. I have stuff called "Ducks Wax", (other critters are available) which is indeed very waxy, but translucent, so it suits all colours, and is easy to spread on the leather. The ingredients must be top secret, as they are not shown but there is a small note that says "No ducks were harmed in the making of this product". So, with my frequently used leather feeding cloth in hand I dipped in - hard as rock and freezing cold. So, I warmed it up in the microwave and tried again. I'll clean that off later. Now softer, it spreads nicely all over the leather, and I watched the leather absorb it slowly. Don't overdo it though, you can come back for another coat, but it's extremely hard to get off. A day later, I rubbed it all over with a clean cloth and bingo! Handsome stare, eyes fixed ahead, heroically rippling muscle bound body riding along in completely restored leather, jaw heroically set, etc. etc.! Gloves (mixed materials too) and boots (again) also done, 3 cups of tea and a sandwich, the whole mission took about 2 hours all up, and my leathers seem much softer, flexible, and less resistant to movement, and they smell nice too! Luckily I had put a plastic sheet over the table before starting, and that took all the excess wax that I had accidentally spread everywhere. I had also used rubber medical gloves but they split several times and I used 3 pairs on the jacket alone. Mind the zips!

If you want to know more about bikes, bikers, or even how or where to purchase your bike riding clobber and look after it, just get in touch with us! We meet in the Pointer Inn on the second Friday of each month at 8pm, or on most Sunday mornings in the car park there, heading out at 09:30, so get there early!

Al Gillard

ALRESFORD COLNE RANGERS FOOTBALL CLUB

To say season 2025-26 was a poor season for Alresford Colne Rangers men's teams is being very kind. The first team finished bottom of the premier division, prior to a new manager coming in late February, they had won just one game. A big improvement has taken place since then, winning four out of nine games



giving hope season 2026-27 will be better. The reserves finished second bottom of division two, a poor showing with no sign of improvement whilst the first team seem to be moving forward, the reserves show no such signs, major changes are needed.

Amidst all the doom and gloom, the club did have some bright times. The ladies with a rebuilt team, brought great joy to the club finishing second in the league team bought the plate cup final which was played at Framlingham FC on 17th May. A super effort by our ladies ably led by long serving manager, Tony Birkin. A coach took the team and supporters to the final.

The u16 started badly but what they did to finish second was a super effort by the boys and managers, the future looks bright. The u15 had a mixed season finishing mid table but improvement was seen. The u11 had a very good season, some of these boys started as u7 and have really grown together, another bright spot for the club. The u8 are now starting to play less herd football more team football, a long term process.

The club held our annual Alan Green day on May 16th when players from past years return to show their skills. It's always a great day, in memory of a truly great man in the history of Alresford Colne Rangers, he will never be forgotten.

June is busy, June 6th is youth presentation day, June 13th is Picnic in The Park, a great village event, and June 20th is Ladies presentation day. If you can spare some time, give us a look and see what we have to offer in the pavilion in the form of soft drinks or something a little stronger, everyone is welcome.

Brian Martin

The Ranger, Alresford Colne Rangers Football Club

<https://alresfordcolnerangersfc.co.uk/>

MOVIE NIGHTS



Thank you for your support for these evenings.

There will be no Movie Nights during June, July, August and September.

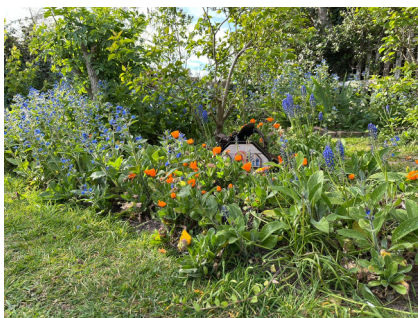
The plan is to start a new movie season in October and details will appear the August/ September issue of the Alresford Advertiser.

We look forward to seeing you all then!

ALRESFORD COMMUNITY GARDEN

From the chimney pots on the roof of the station house the two pairs of Jackdaws have an overview of the gardens, Poppy Lane and the approach from the village shops. Their keen, intelligent eyes watch over the myriad of life below them while they preen their glossy black feathers.

The garden is at its best in spring. The yellow of the Daffodils surrounded by a sea of blue Grape Hyacinths (Muscari) and the Tulips and violets popping up between the shrubs are a delight. New growth appeared every day, bringing new life and hope for the year ahead. Flocks of Sparrows sang and squabbled in the Blackthorn hedge while the blackbirds worked hard collecting nest material. Robins defended their territory and Bluetits checked out the bird boxes. The tiny shy Jenny Wren flitted between hiding places and when it decided to make itself heard, it had the loudest song of all the garden birds. Hedgehogs awoke and eagerly found the feeding station. Hopefully there will be new additions this year again. The slow worms were still hiding, waiting for warmer weather but the Butterflies and Bees were about enjoying the early flowers.



Jenny Wren flitted between hiding places and when it decided to make itself heard, it had the loudest song of all the garden birds. Hedgehogs awoke and eagerly found the feeding station. Hopefully there will be new additions this year again.

The slow worms were still hiding, waiting for warmer weather but the Butterflies and Bees were about enjoying the early flowers.

The garden has many visitors. Dog walkers, people just wanting to sit and enjoy their surroundings and children like to rush excitedly around the grass paths playing hide and seek. It is a magical place.

In March, Alresford Station celebrated its 160th birthday and the Community Garden hosted a successful event. A working model train and track was set up giving rides to children and their parents. The Cake Caravan and the Ice cream van did a roaring trade and there was stone painting for the children. It was a joyful day especially watching the children having such fun.



Then the celebrations came to an end and people drifted off home. The birds returned to their favourite places and a chorus of song filled the air. The Jackdaws looked down, surveying their realm and peace returned to the garden.

Cherry Watson
Alresford Community Garden

ALRESFORD RAILWAY STATION EVENT

160 years of the railway in Alresford

We were blessed with friendly weather and a burst of sunshine, arriving just in time for our community event. It felt as though the sky decided to join in, and the whole afternoon unfolded with warmth and good humour.



We were fortunate to have a lovely mix of stalls that helped the day run smoothly and brought something special for everyone:

- Stone-painting with Courtney, where children created colourful masterpieces
- Mobile tearoom, keeping everyone refreshed and offered such a good selection of delicious cakes
- Ice-cream van with Mev, perfectly timed for the sunshine
- Ride-on mini train with Aaron, enjoyed enthusiastically by children and adults — because a good excuse is always welcome
- Flower stall with Sharon, adding colour and fragrance to the day
- Handmade jewellery by a talented young girl, admired by many
- Jewellery and seeds with Cherry, offering thoughtful and creative pieces



Their presence and generosity made the event feel welcoming and well-organised. We were delighted to welcome around 150 people, a wonderful turnout that shows just how strong our community spirit is. Families, neighbours, and new residents all came together, creating a lively and friendly atmosphere.

A special mention must go to the children, who were an absolute credit to their families. They played beautifully, moved around safely, and enjoyed exploring our little secret garden, a tucked-away corner that always captures their imagination.



Thank you to everyone who attended, supported, helped, chatted, laughed, or simply enjoyed the sunshine with us. Events like this remind us why Alresford is such a special place to live.

Martine Ward



St Andrews Church

MEMORIES GROUP

Do you, or someone close to you, have memory problems? If so, why not come and join us for an informal afternoon of socialising and reminiscence.

We meet at the Hub at St Andrews Church

**on the second Monday of the month
from 2.30 - 4 pm**

You would be most welcome.

For further details please contact :
Jeanette Downing on 01206 825008

St Andrew's Church



Every now and again I'm struck by the wisdom of common sayings. They are not perfect but can act as modern day proverbs.

How about: "we'll cross that bridge when we come to it"

Or "too many cooks spoil the broth".

Or "Don't let good be the enemy of best".

As a church leader, you would expect me to spend time reflecting on the meanings to be drawn from the Bible. Well, there is a book of Proverbs with so much wisdom to share. The other day I was struck by revisiting the account of David and Goliath. David is given good advice to wear armour for the battle. The only problem was when he borrowed some, he couldn't actually move! David's talent as a Shepherd was using a slingshot and he wins a devastating victory by not wearing armour but his shepherds clothes.

Like David, the Shepherd boy who went on to become King, there is the challenge to be true to our talents and gifting rather than conforming to the expectations of those around us.

As churches in the Benefice we have marked 50 years since the opening of St Andrews and we are starting to think through - what about the next 50 years.... How can we be true to our gifting and talents, how can we show God's love?

As I write, the local elections are taking place. Amidst all the claims from the various candidates we have the challenge to make a decision and place a vote. My prayer is that people weigh up the various strengths of the candidates and place their vote under their own conviction not from outside influence.

Paul, writing to the church in Rome, addressed the many pressures they faced: Romans 12:2 Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is — his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Finally, I want to state that you were born with God given talents, I pray that God would show you how to share them as a blessing to the world and a special thank you for the many of you who already are!

Every blessing,

Rev Andrew Fordyce MBE

St Andrew's Church, Alresford

Songs of Praise

28th June, 4pm

If you would like to stay for afternoon tea following the service, please contact St Andrew's Church office by email or phone:

admin@tenpennyvillages.uk
01206 826376

We would love to see you there.

tenpennyvillages.uk

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:
Nick Berry - 01206 824496
Email: standrewswardens@tenpennyvillages.uk

Bookings for the Hub: Meg Burdus - 01206 820618
Email: admin@tenpennyvillages.uk

www.tenpennyvillages.uk

Find us on 

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



St Peters Churchyard



Before



After

ST PETERS CHURCHYARD PATH

After a journey that has taken over 6 years, the path at St Peters Church yard is completed.

The path not only is aesthetically pleasing and adds to the rural charm of St Peters, it also just as importantly allows access to those who struggle with mobility to visit their loved ones resting place, for the first time in many years.

The path is topped with a binding gravel and will in time, with moisture added via rain fall form a hardened surface that will be sustainable and add very much to the rural charm of the churchyard.

As reported in the October/November Advertiser earlier last year, this was a project that was to be important to the village of Alresford and the funding via donations was the only way this path could develop. Permission was required from the Diocese in Chelmsford via a Faculty and this needed the patience and resolve of our Church Warden at St Andrews, Lyn Bull to bring this to a successful conclusion.

Local contractors were asked to quote for the work, and this resulted in the need to raise circa £11,000 to enable the path to be placed. The villagers of Alresford did not let us down and donations from over twenty-five residents in Alresford plus grants from the Parish Council and AFOG allowed us to achieve the required target and thus instruct the contractors to conduct the work.

My gratitude to all who supported this venture with a mention to James Stimpson and Andrew Holben, the contractors, Pauline Hart who was very supportive in the early stages all those years ago and along with the Parish Council Chair, Frank Belgrove worked to ensure that our churchyard had a sustainable long-term future. Also, to Catherine. The St Andrews Treasurer who took on extra work in overseeing the donations and finally the payments via the St Andrews accounting system and once again to Lyn Bull for her unstinting support to me in this venture.

We now have a sustainable, peaceful and a place of rest that is available to all in Alresford and from the interest shown in the last year, is very much a part of our village. The next phase is to enlarge the Memorial Garden to allow the interment of ashes to continue for many years to come, this project is currently awaiting a faculty from the diocese.

I would very much like to hear from those who would be interested in forming a Friends of St Peters group.

The churchyard is such a wonderful place just to sit and contemplate, and little projects could be something that a Friend's group could carry out whilst enjoying the ambience of the churchyard.

Russell Milburn

01206 825739

The Crab and the Winkle Line

It's hard to believe that this was once a railway line,
Trains went from Wivenhoe to Brightlingsea and back.
Nicknamed the Crab and Winkle line
Little remains now but the narrow track.

Ideal for a day trip to the sea,
'Brightlingsea will rival Brighton', they said.
But fashions change, it never came to be.
Trippers went to Clacton or Southend instead.

You could picnic on the beach at White House Sand.
To leave just walk back up to the track side.
As the train approached hold out your hand.
It would stop, you could get on and take a ride.

Now people come to cycle, walk or jog,
Watch dunlin, godwit, other types of wading bird,
Picnic with children, stroll with friends, walk the dog,
In Spring, wait for the first cuckoo to be heard.

Now hawthorn, blackthorn, wild rose and broom,
Aggressive brambles and nettles invade and grow,
So only walkers and cyclists have room,
To use the path where railway trains would go.

Brian Ford

Police Community Support Officer's Report

March 2026

RECORDED CRIMES: 10

CRIME TYPES: Assault without injury x 2 - Blackmail - Harassment x 2 - Owner/person in charge of dog dangerously out of control - Residential burglary - Theft - Threats x 2

INCIDENTS RECORDED: 22

TYPES REPORTED: Abandoned 999 x 2 - ASB - Burglary (Residential) - Civil dispute - Disturbance - Driving complaint - Domestic x 3 - Fight - Harassment - Information x 2 - Missing person x 2 - Nuisance neighbour - Other x 2 - RTC with injury - Suspicious circumstances - Theft

April 2026

RECORDED CRIMES: 11

CRIME TYPES: Assault (ABH) - Assault without injury x 2 - Drugs - Harassment x 3 - Public order - Stalking x 3

INCIDENTS RECORDED: 8

TYPES REPORTED: ASB/Nuisance - Disturbance - Domestic - Information x 2 - Suspicious circumstances - Suspicious premises - Theft

BURGLARY

There was another burglary in the village during day light hours in March. With help of various CCTV footage, investigation is ongoing.

PARKING TICKETS

5 X CPI's (considerate parking incentive) have been given across the last 2 months.

Please do not block footpaths with your vehicle. Footpaths are for pedestrians. Please bear in mind those with mobility issues and pushchairs with young children.

Pavement parking may not be an offence, however, blocking the footpath is an obstruction.

Please park considerately.

TRUCAM (SPEEDGUN)

2 sessions were conducted in the village.
Main Road B1027 - 40mph zone - 0 vehicles exceeded set target.
Wivenhoe Road - 30mph zone - 13 vehicles exceeded set target. Top speed - 42mph.

3 sessions were conducted in April in the village.
09/04 - 7 excessive speed - top speed 39mph
17/04 - 5 excessive speed - top speed 40mph
25/04 - 10 excessive speed - top speed 44 mph

Trucam will be deployed regularly in the village. The speed signs are clear and larger on entering both ends of Wivenhoe Road. So, there is no excuse. It is your responsibility to drive with due care and attention.

**Please drive safely.
All lives matter.**



Gentle reminder:

E-SCOOTERS

Personal E-scooters are illegal to ride on the public highway.

Shops do sell them but fail to tell you they **can only be ridden on private land.**

Please be reminded of the following legal position:

Electrically powered scooters are classed as a "powered transporter" which are a type of mechanically propelled vehicle. This means the rules that apply to other mechanically propelled vehicles also apply to e-scooters. This includes the requirement that the vehicle is approved by the Vehicle Certification Agency for its construction and use for transport on the public highway. Currently e-scooters do not have type approval, which means they cannot be insured, which means they cannot be used legally in a public place.

Anyone found using a personal E-scooter in public will have it seized under section 59 or section 165 of the road traffic act 1988.

For a section 165 - If you do not have a valid driving licence, you can be reported for the offence, which will land you in court.

INTELLIGENCE

A vast amount of criminal intelligence has been gained again this month.

DRIVING

Check that lights are working before a journey.

If weather/visibility is bad, i.e. rain, fog, overcast- make sure you put your full lights on, this makes you more visible and safer on the road.

Many vehicles are seen driving in bad conditions with no lights on, or just side lights. This makes you less visible and more likely to have an accident.

It is also a legal requirement to keep your number plates clean, so they are clearly visible and not obscured with dirt or mud.

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.

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.

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

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

Alresford Village Hall



Charity Commission Number: 301233

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

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



TRUSTEES UPDATE

Since the April/May Advertiser, the village hall had the honour of hosting the Rural Communities Council of Essex (RCCE) Annual Conference. Over sixty village halls or community centres attended and listened to various presentations that would be of benefit to the management improvements of their respective concerns. We at Alresford found the presentation on Infra-Red heating of interest, especially with a potential to use in The Munson Room, making use of the solar generated energy that can also now be stored in a battery. This would enable The Munson Room to be heated at incredibly low cost and not involve having to use the heating that the main hall requires.

The Trustees are once again entering the Rural Community Council of Essex (RCCE) Village Hall of the year, last year we were Highly Commended, so we are hoping to at least match that award.

As we go to print, The Annual General Meeting would have been held at the end of May. Last year's AGM highlighted a lack of awareness within our community that Trustees were urgently required for the ongoing future of our hall and after an appeal via the Advertiser we now have five new Trustees, but we must not be complacent and continue to encourage more from the younger and newly arrived of the village to get involved.

Hires continue to be extremely healthy, and we thank all users for continuing to leave the hall as found. This certainly helps our cleaner in their duties.

I recommend the SIMPLY SINGING and MOVIE NIGHTS to you. These offer a chance to meet others in the community, have a listen, or even join in the singing or enjoy a recent popular film. All for a small donation and you even get a cup of tea/coffee and a biscuit (or two).

Simply Singing and Movie Night continue to be well attended with 30-40 attending. The Simply Singing is an afternoon with singers performing on the screen with words to the songs at the bottom of the screen. Those who want to sing along do, and those who just enjoy listening and enjoying old footage of bygone artists without singing can, without any need to feel uncomfortable.

Simply Singing and Movie Night Sessions are now closed until later this year. Dates will be published in the August/September issue of the Alresford Advertiser.

Russell Milburn
Chair, Alresford Village Hall Management Committee
01206 825739

The next Blood Donation session will be available in the Village Hall on 3rd July.



Booking is required. Please register via the NHS Blood & Transplant service website <https://my.blood.co.uk/>

HALL / PAVILION HIRE

The Village Hall/Pavilion/Bar is available for hire individually or as a package. An online calendar is available via the website to allow visibility of when the hall is available for hire. Bookings will need to be made via email or telephone with a booking/security deposit now required to confirm the booking.

All hire enquiries should be via:
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2nd July	15th October
23rd July	5th November
13th August	26th November
3rd September	17th December

Essex County Council Libraries

Alresford Parish Council - Chairman's Report

Annual Report 2025 to 2026

The Council year runs from May until April and so in May each year the Chairman of the Council prepares a report that outlines the work of the Council and also sets out notable Council events from the preceding Parish year. This report only covers the very basic information and if there are individual matters that residents wish to have more information on they are welcome to contact myself, the Clerk or any Councillor.



Photos taken from
the RCCE Website
<https://www.essexrcce.org.uk/>

Awards

The very good news from the Parish Council Year is that Alresford finished second in the annual RCCE Essex Village of the Year Competition.

This competition is entered by the Parish Council and there are entries from almost all areas of Essex. Alresford has won this competition twice and has finished in the top two before. Another awards body, The Essex Playing Field Association, is discontinuing due to financial issues, but fittingly Alresford scooped a number of prizes in this, the last year, of the organisation and the competition. Prizes were awarded for Best Kept Playing Field in Essex (for a Village of our size), for the standard of the play area and for the quality of the football pitch. We have been informed that the RCCE will now run the competition.

A set of remarkable results. Well done to Councillors, staff, volunteers and contractors. It is not all about awards though, it is about maintaining high standards for residents and users!

Highways

Essex County Council Highways is responsible for all Highways matters and we have had difficulties for many years with our requests to them that the loose and missing kerb stones on the Orchard Road and Coppice Road estate should be attended to as a matter of urgency. A combined campaign by the Parish Council, residents, and our District and County Councillor has finally resulted in extensive repairs being carried out. There are question marks over the durability of the repairs, however, we are informed that a special resin has been used and there is a guarantee to all works. In addition to kerbstone works the Parish Council has pressed for pavement repairs in Station Road and some of these works were carried out.

Speeding data collected indicates there has been a small decrease in the frequency of speeding on Wivenhoe Road and the B1027 however, speeding is still a major problem. The oppressiveness of speeding vehicles on residents cannot be overlooked and of course the safety aspect is so important. This year we were pleased to hear that Essex County Council has finally produced a new speed management strategy as road deaths in Essex continue to rise. The strategy aims to transform villages into safer, greener and healthier communities by addressing the significant impact of excess speed on road safety. We are hopeful that the Quiet Lane project for Cockaynes Lane can be revisited even with the prospect of changes to the road layout. The Council also continues its quest to obtain a 30mph limit where the B1027 passes through the main part of the village.

As the village continues to grow in population and for other reasons, the issue of congested parking was brought to the Council on a number of occasions. Station Road, Ford Lane and Church Road have been the areas mentioned the most. Consultants have advised caution about implementing no parking measures in Station Road as the displacement effect might mean narrower side roads are used instead. In Ford Lane, school related parking needs action as the junction with Church Road is a hotspot for inconsiderate parking on the very junction itself and the Council voted for implementation of an extension of parking restrictions. All parking restrictions take time to implement due to consultation and Highways approval procedures.

Playing Field

The much requested toilet block for the main playing field was completed this year. The prefabricated unit was craned into position on a concrete base, the main problem was drainage installation as the unit could not be connected to any existing onsite systems as these were fully utilised. A new sewer had to be installed and the Council is grateful for the expertise of CS Mason Contracts of Elmstead and also local plumber Russel Pugh for their work in connecting the unit to services.

Public Realm

Our handyman, Mr Jason Spurgeon has been working hard at a number of locations in the village, in addition to his usual duties he has installed a polytunnel on the Staunton Gate allotments, cleared the roadside footpath on the B1027 and also cleaned every street name sign in Alresford. Grass cutting is provided by our contractor J's Garden Services and we have had very good feedback from residents on the quality of the service provided.

Works at St Peters Churchyard have been expanded to improve access and the Council has contributed financially towards these works but the credit must go to volunteer Russell Milburn and his team for planning and organising contractors to lay a new pathway and carry out other works. Litter continues to be a problem in certain areas and our paid litter picker Sam was kept a little too busy. Sam has now left the Council to take a Masters Degree at the UEA and we wish him well. We also appreciate the many volunteers who litter pick, on almost every Sunday morning there has been litter-picking in the centre of the village.

The Parish Council looks after more than fifty LED streetlights in the village and we are grateful when faults are promptly reported to us to enable prompt repairs to be undertaken. Sometimes there is confusion – especially among new residents as to where they should contact for public realm issues and it has to be stated that if in doubt

Alresford Parish Council - Chairman's Report

contact the Parish Council and we will always do our best to assist you.

Policing

Close links between a Parish Council and the Police are vital and we are continuing our contract to part-fund a PCSO for the coming year. Having an Officer who knows the community makes a big difference. Our PCSO Julia Brandon is well known and is approachable. An effective venue for meeting the PCSO over the past year has been the Coffee Mornings held in St Andrew's Church. When the PCSO was off work injured, earlier in the year, it was quite noticeable that certain aspects of anti-social behaviour rapidly returned, as did speeding and inconsiderate parking.

Finances

Preparing a budget can be quite daunting in a climate of national uncertainty due to wars and subsequent energy price hikes. It is so important that the Parish Council makes the best use of taxpayers' money. The budget prepared for the financial year of 2025/2026 required a small precept increase but it has to be pointed out that Band D equivalent homes in Alresford are paying less in Parish Council local taxation than was the case five years ago. In Great Bentley, a similar sized village, their precept request for last year was £60,000 more than that in Alresford. The Parish Council will do all it can not to burden residents with excessive taxation, four years ago an 8.5% reduction in the Parish Council part of the Council Tax was possible. We know however, that high standards are rightly expected by the community and we endeavour not to cut back on services and we will have to consider increases in the coming years as costs for contractors, staff and services rise. We do of course make the best use we can of grants and planning gain to alleviate financial pressures.

Housing Development

The Parish Council strongly objected to the major development planned for fields adjacent to the Staunton Gate north estate off Cockaynes Lane. It is not a case of "nimbyism", our objection was in line with the Neighbourhood Plan and with previous rulings by the Planning Inspectorate. The development is however now planned and approved by Tendring District Council and has been given outline planning permission even though it is outside the settlement boundary.

The Parish Council feels there surely has to be substantial infrastructure investment before this development takes place – and we await discussions with the development company and the District Council as to what planning gain monies can be made available.

The COUNCIL and COUNCILLORS

We currently have a full contingent of Councillors having co-opted a new Councillor during the 2025/26 Parish Year due to a Councillor disqualification. The new Councillor is Keith Lawrie, who is also a Trustee of the Village Hall and a volunteer at the Railway Station.

The Parish Council has obtained the General Power of Competence, this is a designation that applies to a Council with a fully qualified Proper Officer (Clerk) and that meets other exacting standards. Consultation is vital and the Council stall at the annual Picnic in the Park, the availability of Councillors and the Clerk plus the bi-monthly Chairman's report in the Alresford Advertiser have all given residents an opportunity to hear what the Council has been doing and also to voice their opinions. Hopefully, residents are generally aware of the work and role of the Parish Council. It

is important though that if there are questions or concerns that residents have, they contact the Council. Raising matters at the Public Forum of a Parish Council Meeting is a direct way of contacting the Parish Council about a current agenda item, but emails, phone calls and letters are encouraged, good communication is vital.

As ever the Parish Council thanks all the unpaid volunteers who do so much for Alresford, we are a thriving community, and we look forward to the next Parish Council Year with positivity.

Cllr Frank Belgrove,
Chairman Alresford Parish Council
cldr.frank.belgrove@alresfordparishcouncil.gov.uk



ALRESFORD PARISH COUNCIL

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
Meeting Agenda & Approved Minutes are available,
please see 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 Bina Swash

Cllr Julia Claremont-Brown

Cllr Courtney Muller

Cllr Kristen Doulai

Cllr Keith Lawrie

District Council Tendring

District Councillor Ann Wiggins - 01206 825153

Email: cldr.awiggins@tendringdc.gov.uk

District Councillor Gary Scott - 01206 820769

Email: cldr.gscott@tendringdc.gov.uk

County Council Essex

County Councillor Aimee Keteca.

Email: cldr.aimee.keteca@essex.gov.uk

Parish Clerk - The Proper Officer

Matt Cooke - 01206 615117 (Answerphone 24/7)

Email: clerk@alresfordparishcouncil.gov.uk

Responsible Finance Officer

Angela Baxter - 01206 615117 (Answerphone 24/7)

Email: rfo@alresfordparishcouncil.gov.uk

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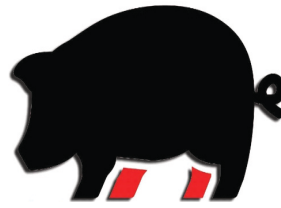
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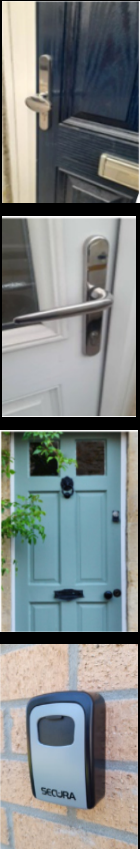
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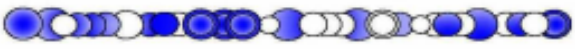
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- Free, no obligation quote
- Boiler renewals and servicing
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Alresford based – call Russel on
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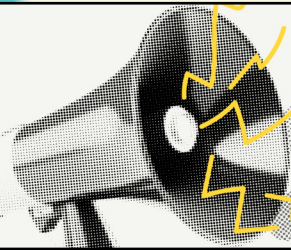
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CAMPAIGN AGAINST LIVING MISERABLY



HAVE YOUR SAY



SCAN THE QR CODE TO TELL US WHAT YOU'D LOVE TO SEE IN THE ALRESFORD ADVERTISER

ALRESFORD FARMERS & CRAFT MARKET

The market for this year so far has been very busy every month. It is fantastic to see so many people attending and supporting local businesses.

Glendenning Farm with their honey, eggs and fresh seasonal produce should be returning to the market on 4th July.

We look forward to seeing you all in June & July



JO & BARRY JORDAN

ALRESFORD CRAFT & FARMERS MARKET

Alresford Village Hall
Ford Lane, Alresford CO7 8AT

9am - 12 noon

A variety of food and craft stalls

Refreshments available

Free admission

Free car park and disabled facilities

6th June, 4th July,
1st August, 5th September,
3rd October, 7th November,
5th December

Please check our FB page for updated information



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

THE GREAT ALRESFORD BAKE OFF

SUNDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER 2026

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

QUIZ NIGHT

SATURDAY 24TH OCTOBER 2026

DOORS AT 7PM FOR A PROMPT 7:30PM START
ALRESFORD VILLAGE HALL

£4 PER PERSON – MAX 6 PEOPLE PER TABLE
TO BOOK YOUR TABLE, PLEASE EMAIL
ALRESFORDFOG@GMAIL.COM OR CALL
EMMA ON 07834 539599

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE FOR DONATION

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE ALRESFORD FETE ORGANISING GROUP

COPY DEADLINE

The editorial and advertising deadline for the AUG/SEPT 2026 edition will be: 8th July 2026
alresfordadvertiser@gmail.com

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