

# THE ALRESFORD ADVERTISER

## October / November 2026

Established since 1970

### 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 & disabled facilities

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October  
Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> November  
Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December

Please check our FB page for updated information



## QUIZ NIGHT

**SATURDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> 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**

### ARE YOU OR YOUR PARTNER 75 OR OVER?

**Alresford Fete Organising Group**  
invites you to a

**Christmas Tea & Sing song**

**at Alresford Village Hall**

**On Wednesday 2nd December 2026 at 2pm**

**Carols sung by children from**  
**Alresford Primary School**

**To book a place, please contact:**

**Russell Milburn on 01206 825739**

**or**

**Becky King on 07482 478834**

**Closing date: 20<sup>th</sup> November**

**This event will be on a**  
**first come, first**  
**served basis**

**There is no charge for the afternoon &**  
**Lifts can be requested**

**Father Christmas is coming to**



The Alresford Fete Organising Group have been informed by the elves of the North Pole that Father Christmas is going to be visiting Alresford Village Hall again this year!

**2PM – 4:30PM**

**SUNDAY 6TH DECEMBER 2026**

Please follow our Facebook page  
"Alresford Fete Organising Group – AFOG"  
for more information

This is a free event but donations are welcomed.  
There will craft activities as well as your booked visit.  
Limited quieter time slots available.

To book your time slot and collect your tickets  
please call Pamela on 07746561716

This is a local village event with very limited parking.  
Please avoid driving where possible.  
Alresford Village Hall, Ford Lane, CO7 8AT

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



## 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 early afternoon
- JoJo's Aesthetics including Relaxation Massage (Munson Room) – by appointment
- 1st Alresford Beavers (Scout Group) Every Tuesday Teatime
- Dog Training Classes: Tuesday evening

### WEDNESDAY

- Tai Chi: Every Wednesday morning
- Alresford Women's Guild: 2nd & 4th Wednesday afternoon of the month
- JoJo's Aesthetics including Relaxation Massage (Munson Room) – by appointment
- Pilates: Every Wednesday evening

### THURSDAY

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

### FRIDAY

- Alresford Calligraphy/Art Group: Every Friday morning
- Simply Singing: Every other Friday afternoon October to May

### SATURDAY

- Alresford Craft and Farmers Market: First Saturday morning of the month (February to December)
- Little City: 2nd Saturday of the month

### Pavilion

- Alresford Colne Rangers Football Club U7, U10, U14, U15, ladies, mens & walking football
- Scan & Cut card making: Second Monday of the month

Please see our website for further information  
<https://e-voice.org.uk/alresfordvillagehall/>  
 or contact Russell Milburn on 07548 742796  
[alresfordvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:alresfordvillagehall@gmail.com)



## LUNCHEON CLUBS

**TUESDAYS 12.30 - 2.30pm**  
**ALRESFORD VILLAGE HALL**

**FRIDAYS 12.30 - 2.30pm**  
**BRIGHTLINGSEA COMMUNITY CENTRE**

2 Course Meal including Tea / Coffee - £8.00  
 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](mailto:theautumncentre@outlook.com)



## St Andrew's - not just for Sundays

**Friendship Circle 10:30-12:00**  
**1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday**

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

**Memories 14:30 - 16:00**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

**Book Café 10:30 - 12:00**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday**

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

**Relax and Renew 13:45 - 15:00**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday**

Learn relaxation techniques and enjoy some refreshments.

**Ministry for Men 19:30 - 21:30**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Thursday**

Meet at *St Andrew's, Elmstead Green or Thorington 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 Thorington.  
 More details on our website [www.tenpennyvillages.uk](http://www.tenpennyvillages.uk)

## SIMPLY SINGING

Friday October 2nd sees the start of our new season, so if you're one of our existing regulars we look forward to welcoming you back. If you've not been before why don't you come along and give it a try, we'd love to meet you.

We are not a choir but a group of men and women who love to get together to have a sing song to what we hope are your favourite songs.

**We meet every two weeks 2pm - 4pm in the Village Hall.**  
**It's just £2 per session which includes refreshments.**

Dates for the remainder of 2026 are:

- October 16th and 30th
- November 13th and 27th
- December 4th

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



## ALRESFORD CARPET BOWLS CLUB

The mats were looking great as ACBC set up for a friendly home match against West Bergholt. Some fine individual performances against strong opposition meant that the match was drawn 9-9 but Alresford won more overall points on the night. Previously we hosted Jaywick at the Village Hall for another friendly match.

An enjoyable evening was had by all and success on the mats too. At the end of the evening, as a result of some impressive individual performances, Alresford ran out eventual 5-3 winners with one end drawn. As always both matches were played in a very good spirit.

During the evening a charity raffle was held while all the players enjoyed post match refreshments. A great club effort making it a very enjoyable evening for everyone who attended. Alresford Carpet Bowls Club meets every Monday at the Village Hall.

Afternoon sessions run from 2pm to 4pm and there is also an evening session which runs from 7pm to 9pm. Anyone interested is welcome to come along and join in.



The first three sessions are free then £2 per week ( which include tea and biscuits at the interval) together with an annual membership fee of £10.

## ALRESFORD SMUGGLERS

### Smugglers Walking Group – Wednesdays, 2pm

Meet at **The Pointer** for a relaxed countryside walk of roughly 5km. A friendly pace, great company, and a chance to unwind while exploring the village and surrounding paths. Route decided on the day.

### Beginners Run – Thursdays, 6:15pm

Perfect for new runners or anyone easing back into fitness. Meet at **Cockaynes / Station Road junction** for a supportive, steady session with plenty of encouragement.



### 5K Social Run – Thursdays, 7pm

Also meeting at **Cockaynes / Station Road junction.** A no-pressure 5K around the village, ideal for keeping active and enjoying a chat along the way.

All sessions are **free**, welcoming, and open to everyone.  
 Just turn up and join in.

Email: [DaleWeaver68@gmail.com](mailto:DaleWeaver68@gmail.com)

## ALRESFORD FETE ORGANISING GROUP



The Great Alresford Bake Off returned for its second year and although entries numbers were small, the variety and quality of baked goods was outstanding. All who attended enjoyed a lovely afternoon sampling the submissions.



Special thanks go to Ernie Osborne and Sandra Barney for organising a fantastic community event.

### Winners

- Sweet: Jan Stewart
- Savoury: Pamela Lynch
- Under 13s: Lavinia Muller
- People's Choice: Lavinia Muller

Alresford Fete Organising Group  
[alresfordfeg@gmail.com](mailto:alresfordfeg@gmail.com)



## KNIT & NATTER GROUP

Earlier this year we recieved a large donation of wool with the request that some of it was used to make items to be given to 'Christine's Charity Bag'. Since then several of the group have been busy making a lovely assortment of items including baby and children's cardigans & jumpers, blankets and hats.

Over 40 items have been made so far and these have been passed on to John Stimpson, who came along to a recent meeting with Mary and Marian from the WI. These, together with other donations, will be sent to Romania later in the year.

We are a small, friendly group who meet fortnightly on Tuesdays in St Andrews Church Hub 2pm - 3.30pm.

We would love to welcome anyone who would like to join us for a natter and refreshments. There is no charge or commitment and bringing knitting or any other craft is optional.

Our upcoming dates are:

- 29th September
- 13th & 27th October
- 10th & 24th November

Continuing every 2 weeks throughout the year.





## ALRESFORD COLNE RANGERS FC

The season is up and running and the conditions at all grounds are like playing on concrete.

Later in the season when we have a frost making the pitch equally as hard, referees will call the game off as the pitch is deemed dangerous, funny old world!!!

The Men's teams have experienced a patchy start but with many new players coming in it will take time to settle down. To date the Reserves are holding their own, but the firsts being young will need time to develop.

The youth teams started in mid-September, The Under 18's facing a big year as they look to progress into senior football. The Under 16's continue to progress up the age structure and the Under 12's start their first season in competitive football, an exciting challenge for them.

The Ladies after a great season last time out face a greater challenge after being promoted to the Premier Division.



A few players have hung up their boots and new blood has come in to fill the vacancies.

The Walking Football team are having a great season with a chance of league honours. This team gets very little publicity, but the effort made by them is an inspiration as they set up for league fixtures and then clear and clean up after their fixtures. An example to others!

The club still need more people to get involved with basically running the club. We have great people involved but they are short in numbers and mature in age, so younger blood is required as the medium to long term existence of the club needs to be consolidated.

We have 9 teams at the Rangers, and it is vital that the members of these teams evolve into committee that stay long after the active participation of themselves or their children has ceased.

Brian Martin

The Ranger, Alresford Colne Rangers Football Club  
<https://alresfordcolnerangersfc.co.uk/>

## ALRESFORD BIKERS

### ALRESFORD BIKERS - HITTING THE SHOWS

Today is 6 September, and I've just returned home from the Copdock Bike Show. Several of us went, and it was good to see our friends Julie and Kai pass on their bikes on the way there, while we awaited our advertised departure time. Only slightly jealous I assure you! As we rode our way there we stopped to pick up another rider, Stella, who lives only about a mile and a half from the site - but it took us nearly half an hour to get there! Ipswich was absolutely banged out with bikes and it was a joy to see them all! But we spent far too long in traffic on Felixstowe Road, so we'll go a different way next year.

Anyway the show itself was its usual brilliant self, with more than adequate parking, run by people who actually know what they're doing as usual. See the accompanying photo and you'll get the idea - once you're inside the gates you are directed where to go about every 10 yards, until your front tyre touches the huge and brightly painted arrow they use to direct you, literally! Not one inch wasted. Incidentally, that is a tiny bit of the bike parking area, so you get an idea of the numbers involved. I don't know how many yet, but I suggest it must have been getting on for 7,000 bikes during the whole day.



And, impressive though the arrival had been, once we were inside the show, there was something for everyone. We saw a display of some little kids on bikes whizzing about and jumping through fire; all kinds and ages of bikes including custom builds, restorations, and every day bikes, including a 1942 Harley Davidson WLC, which is not only rare in the UK, but is ridden to work daily! Some of the customs and resto's were absolutely beautifully done, the sheer work and attention to detail was staggering. Inside the main exhibition hall there were loads of even more beautiful bikes, including a few lump-in-the-throat bikes that I cut my own teeth on all those decades ago when my Dad had one. Nortons, Matchless, Triumphs, AJS's, BSA's everywhere, and all gleaming far better now, I suspect, than then.

We bumped into a few old friends there too, and it was good to renew some old acquaintances while we were surrounded by bikes. The sun came out, and it was a truly great day. The atmosphere at bike meetings is always special, and this one kept that up. But we had to go home and I hope everyone made it home safely. Hopefully we'll do this one again next year, and I'm looking forward to it already!

Al Gillard



Charity Commission Number: 301233  
Website: <https://e-voice.org.uk/alresfordvillagehall>  
Facebook: [Alresford Village Hall](https://www.facebook.com/AlresfordVillageHall)

An online calendar is available via the website to allow visibility of when the hall is available for hire. Bookings will still need to be made via email or telephone with a booking / security deposit required to confirm the booking.

**The Village Hall/Pavilion/Bar are available for hire individually or as a package**

All hire enquiries should be via:  
Email: [alresfordvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:alresfordvillagehall@gmail.com)  
Contact No: 07548 742796

Hirers are encouraged to pay deposit/fees using BACS and after the hire the deposit is quickly refunded assuming the hall is left as the contract of hire defines. 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.



The NEXT blood donation session will be **December 30th 2026**, a wonderful thing to do over the Christmas period as after all it is a time for Giving!!

We now have a new regular hire for the Munson Room occupying Tuesday and Wednesdays. The sessions are Aesthetics and Relaxation massage.

The housekeeping done during the quieter August period has included oven clean, floor clean and polish including all toilet areas, carpet area wash, data cleanse, and general maintenance work.

Planned for the next two months.... Canopy over main entrance door, inviting quotes to replace all hall guttering and scheduling a Flat roof inspection to comply with Insurance requirements.

Film nights recommence October 2nd and Simply Singing also restarts after summer recess on October 2nd. See Advertiser for further dates.

Bookings are continuing to be made with regards to weekend hire with December now very full. Please do look at the Calander available on the website to find availability or give us a call.

Russell Milburn, Chairman  
Alresford Village Hall Management Committee

## ALRESFORD WI

Our speaker this October will be Nik Read talking about Shoeboxes for Romania. Our November meeting will be our Harvest buffet and Beetle Drive.

**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

## MOBILE LIBRARY



**Visits the Village Hall every 3 weeks  
Thursdays 11:55am-12:25pm  
<https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/home>**

15th October  
5th November  
26th November  
17th December



## MOVIE NIGHTS



**We will be showing 'Mothers Pride'  
Friday 2nd October 7:30pm (See page 5)**

Further dates – 13th November & 11th December  
Film titles will be confirmed in the next issue  
We look forward to seeing you all then!



# Movie Night

**at Alresford Village Hall**

**Friday 13th November 2026 when we will be showing**

**Naked Gun 33 1/3 – The Final Insult**



**\*\*\*Film Starts at 7.30pm – doors open 7.00pm\*\*\***

**This is a non-ticket event, but contributions towards the cost of running the event will be taken on the evening**

**Alresford VH Management Committee**



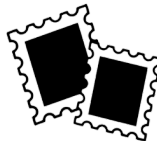
## CHRISTINE'S CHARITY BAG



A big thank you to the Knit and Natter group who recently donated in excess of fifty items they had knitted. Also several bags of knitting have been donated by the Elmstead Knitting Group. A big thank you to them as well. Wool, needles and patterns are available for anyone who wishes to contribute. Collection or delivery of wool can be arranged.

The Speaker at the WI in October will be talking about Shoeboxes for Romania. The knitting that is collected is sent with the shoeboxes. Anyone who is interested to hear what happens to their knitting would be very welcome to attend the meeting. It will be held in Alresford Village Hall at 7.30pm on Thursday 8th October.

Stamps are still being collected for Bone Cancer Research. They should be cut from envelopes with a half inch border. Stamps and knitting can be delivered to 2 Coach Road or taken to any WI meeting.



John Stimpson, 2 Coach Road, 01206 825068

## THE POINTER INN

Christmas time is fast approaching and as it will be Richard and Hein Prinsloo Curson's first Christmas as owners of the Pointer Inn they wanted to make it special. Join them as they sprinkle Christmas Magic over the historic Inn this Christmas; it's going to be lights, decor and traditions for the whole family from December 1st at the village local.

You can book your Christmas parties at The Pointer now and prices start at just £27.50 per person. Or for Christmas Day lunch it's just £60 for an adult 4 course lunch.

But before Christmas lands, guests can attend the Halloween party on 31st October for a live DJ and on 5th November to celebrate Bonfire Night in style with a live band, fire pit and BBQ. Every two weeks on Thursday nights it's the pub quiz night, and Mondays Bingo! The Sunday roast is served every Sunday at £25 albeit food is served daily from 10am until 8pm.

Over the winter months the garden will continue to be in use and patio heaters and blankets will be outside to help guests feel comfortable AND the outside bar "The Rum Shack" will be open except in bad weather days. Play a game of Pétanque on the award winning Piste in the garden. And if you enjoy sitting next to an open fire you will want to sit in the main lounge inside.



Refurbishment on the building is due to start when the 3 phase electric has been installed so keep your eyes out for the upgrades. Until then it's business as usual!

The Pointer is the village home so join the Prinsloo Curson's this autumn winter and be part of the family.

## ALRESFORD CRAFT &amp; FARMERS MARKET

The 5th of December will be our Christmas market and the last market of the year. Currently some stalls need to be finalised. We will be holding our annual Christmas Raffle with donations from the stall holders. As usual all the proceeds will be donated to a group within the village to give them a bit of support (as yet to be decided).



The market will then return on Saturday 6th February 2027 9 am to midday.

Everyone involved with the market would like to thank you all for your continuing support.



## MOVIE NIGHTS

Firstly, thank you to you all who have supported Movie Nights and the donations you have made when attending. These donations and the monies raised from the Simply Singing afternoons are held in a Special Projects Fund, which means they cannot be used to cover the cost of the hall in terms of maintenance, cleaning or any other required day to day activities.

To enable Movie Night films to be shown and music videos during Simply Singing afternoons, the hall, by law, has to hold a licence issued by the Motion Picture Licensing Committee (MPLC). This licence has increased by some £50 since last year and is now £430 at renewal.

The Movie Nights have been run on a donations basis and it is accepted that some misunderstanding may have arisen in terms of what the donation was intended to cover, some attendees possibly considering it was for just the teas and coffees which if they didn't have, they didn't donate. As a result, the evenings will now be run on a contribution basis, which every attendee will be expected to make. Without contributions, the viability of continuing the Movie Nights becomes questionable, as each evening has to take into account the cost of the movies, refreshments and a pro rata amount of the MPLC licence.

What cannot be directly measured is the benefit it brings to the community, so hopefully we can look forward to more people attending to secure its future.

Kind regards  
Chris Sanderson

## ALRESFORD COMMUNITY GARDEN

## The Jackdaws view

As the Jackdaws look down from the lofty heights of the chimney pots on the station house roof they observe the results of the driest, hottest summer for years. The garden has suffered greatly with plants and shrubs struggling to survive. The vibrant green of the grass became a scorched yellow. The trees started to shed their leaves to reserve energy. The gardeners did their best to water the most needy plants but their priority was to make sure the birds and other creatures had drinking water. The sixty foot Blackthorn hedge was a haven of much needed shade for the birds especially for the large family of Sparrows. The hedgehogs continued to thrive and visit the feeding station, however one poorly young hedgehog was found during the day by some regular visitors to the garden and taken to a local wildlife rescue centre. A big thank you to them. It was reported back that it had a poorly eye and a bent foot. Hopefully it will make a full recovery. Slowworms kept well hidden only rarely venturing into the open. It appears that it was even too hot for them.



On one occasion the garden had a surprising visit from a Muntjac deer. Fortunately it galloped, at speed, through the garden without stopping to munch on the plants. On another occasion it was entertaining to watch a grey squirrel bounce and leap around the flower beds before it continued its antics along a fence.

The garden also had a visit from members of the Royal Horticultural Society to re assess the work of the gardeners. Last year the garden won an outstanding for 'Gardening for Wildlife' Award.

There are several little doors and houses hidden in the garden. They represent the creatures that live in the garden or visit it. Children have great fun searching for them and hopefully it is educational as well. Pebble painting is another fun thing that they can do and it's always a delight to find new ones on the stone wall or around the garden. The Reading Nook is also a nice place to sit with a book.



At the end of August the rain finally arrived and almost overnight the garden started to come alive again to the relief of the gardeners and all its resident wildlife. At last the Jackdaws can watch over their domain with hope for a flourishing Autumn. As they settle for the night and dusk descends the bats appear and circle and swoop around the garden hunting for their supper and the hedgehogs snuffle about searching for slugs and snails or head for a ready meal at the feeding station. Life in the Community Garden continues.

Cherry Watson  
Alresford Community Garden



## COCKAYNES WOOD TRUST

Lots of people walking through the 55 acre local nature reserve on the last Sunday in July, many with dogs, would probably have spotted small groups of volunteers from the Cockaynes Wood Trust working to clear and tidy up the paths and lanes. Nettles and brambles seem to keep growing, even in this hot and dry weather.

Work was carried out by the 13 volunteers who spread themselves out this time across the site, working in the lane from the Alresford Road, along the boardwalk in Villa Wood and along the track in the middle of the reserve, by the big lake which we call the Scrape. The nettles, brambles, gorse bushes and even fallen trees were all dealt with.

Not surprisingly, the ground is incredibly dry, and concrete hard. We must wait now for some prolonged rain before we can burn all of the piles of gorse and brambles we have made. There is a risk that even a controlled fire from a barbecue or even a cigarette butt carelessly tossed away could set off a major fire. So please note the signs about fires that are in various places around the Reserve.



A recent visit to Cockaynes by the Essex Field Club Moth Group (on Friday 3rd July) collected 171 species moths identified from 928 trapped (about 12 traps operating across the site). This added 85 to the Cockaynes Moth Species list which is now 302.

Cockaynes Wood Trust recently received a donation from Alresford Carpet Bowls of £150 towards the cost maintaining the site. This very generous of them and was much appreciated.

**If you would like the opportunity of doing something to help keep the Reserve, its paths and trees, all looking good, then why not come and join us on a Sunday morning working party. We meeting usually just once a month, on the first Sunday in the month at 9am and work through to around lunchtime.**

If you fancy helping, then please contact Andrew Barker at [andrewbarker125@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:andrewbarker125@hotmail.co.uk)

Peter Hill  
Vice Chairman & Treasurer, Cockaynes Wood Trust  
[peter@toadhall2.co.uk](mailto:peter@toadhall2.co.uk)





## General Overview:

Alresford Parish Council held an additional meeting in July to deal with planning matters and items of financial importance. Holding additional or extraordinary meetings is essential at times, especially with date limited issues such as responding to planning applications – the holding of the meeting was due, on this occasion, to the Council meeting suspension in August. The partial August shutdown only affects main meetings, the work of the Council continues at all times of the year except for weekends and Bank Holidays.

The summer was a good time to address some much needed projects. The Staunton Gate South allotment area had new land drains laid to reduce flooding. The large attenuation pond next to the allotment site, also in Staunton Gate, was attended to with trees and vegetation cleared for safety. The substrate of the hard court on the playing field in St Andrews Close was repaired and ready for contractors to install a MUGA soft surface and markings. So, three, fairly major projects have been completed.

## The Environment

The climate change crisis came to the fore during the summer months as although long hot summer days might seem welcome the intensity and relentless heat of the summer of 2026, with no rain, produced conditions that led to tinder dry woodland and fields. A field fire off Wivenhoe Road caused great concern but it is reassuring to note the prompt response from residents, farmers and the fire service who dealt with this emergency situation so well. Another environmental concern is fly-tipping and littering, both of which are sadly evident in our area. During the summer a house clearance contractor fly-tipped furniture and personal affects at a local beauty spot in Alresford. An early morning dog walker took photos of the items and posted them on social media.....the items were identified and traced to the contractor who was forced to return and retrieve everything.

It has been noted by the Council that a number of trees and saplings have succumbed to the drought – especially those on the public areas of the Staunton Gate developments, decisions will be taken by the Council as to whether replacement trees will be planted.

## Community issues

Concerns have been raised by residents about illegal e-scooters and e-bikes being ridden in Alresford. The Parish Council and the Police are keen to stress that privately owned e-bikes ridden on the road that do not have pedals, can be powered to exceed 15.5 mph, have more than a 250w motor and are not marked with correct signage on the frame are illegal if the vehicle is not registered, taxed and insured. Riders of legal EAPC (Electrically Assisted Pedal Cycles) must be over 14 years of age, these bikes do not require a licence, taxation or insurance. In addition with some of the illegal e machines there is a fire hazard to be taken into account.

Doorstep scams are also a current problem in the village, they happen when someone comes to your door and tries to scam you out of your money or gain access to your home. They can take the form of door-to-door sales, someone pretending to be a trader, charity collector, water utility tester or even someone in need of help. The advice from the police and consumer groups is to always be wary of callers – and to remember some callers have fake ID.

Parking across pavements often occurs in one or two areas of the village and causes problems for pedestrians, especially those with children's buggies. Our PCSO has issued warning tickets but that should not really be necessary if all drivers show consideration to others.

A day after being painted by a volunteer one of the playing field football “dugout” shelters had graffiti applied across the whole front facing wall – all written in indelible marker pen. A review of CCTV footage and information from the graffiti itself revealed the culprits and a local school headteacher dealt with those responsible. A written apology was received by the Council from the young people involved and we thank the school's headteacher for dealing with the matter so effectively.

## Planning

When a planning application is made to Tendring District Council (TDC) the Parish Council is contacted for it's comments and to see whether the Parish Council supports, objects or has a neutral response to the application. Comments from the Parish Council are published, together with members of the public's comments on the TDC Planning Portal website. It was brought to the attention of the Parish Council that a member of the public (not an Alresford resident) had made questionable and judgemental comments on the page about the handling of a planning matter by the Parish Council at a meeting.

TDC was approached about this and they removed all the comments on the matter and have updated the preface of the website page stating that only comments relating to an actual planning application should be posted.

Alresford Parish Council prides itself on doing all it can to follow the strict guidelines when dealing with planning matters and we are pleased that a resident who was at the actual meeting where we considered the planning matter in question was able to witness that the Parish Council considered the application correctly.

## Resident's observations

From time to time residents spot things in the village that need attention – allotment issues, play equipment problems, an overflowing waste bin, excessive litter, fly-tipping, a tree down etc etc. It is important that the Parish Council is contacted, either by phone or by e-mail to the Clerk or a Councillor. The Office telephone number is 01206 615117, the e-mail address is: [clerk@alresfordparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@alresfordparishcouncil.gov.uk). The Clerk is part-time and usually works each Tues/Wed/ Thurs, 9am until 3pm.

## Awards

On the 9<sup>th</sup> of July myself and Mr Matt Cooke (Parish Clerk) were invited to the AGM of the Rural Community Council of Essex. We were honoured to accept a prestigious award on behalf of the Parish Council for the facilities on offer at the village playing field. Out of every playing field (including those in large towns) across Essex only two awards were made and Alresford Parish Council received one of these awards and a citation for the quality of the facilities.

**And finally:** A big thank you from the Parish Council to the many volunteers in our village that do so much for the good of the community.

Cllr Frank Belgrove, Chairman Alresford Parish Council  
Telephone: 01206 823729  
[cllr.frank.belgrove@alresfordparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.frank.belgrove@alresfordparishcouncil.gov.uk)



## Thoughts on Life and Faith

### SPIRITUAL AND RELIGIOUS!

People will often say to me that they think Christianity is a good thing. They say that they appreciate traditional Christian values and try to live a good life. Sometimes people will say that they are spiritual, but that they are not religious.

I feel a little sad that people do not realise that Christianity is based on a deep and ancient spirituality. Some of this spirituality goes back thousands of years to before the time of Jesus and underlies the Jewish faith which he practised. Islam too traces its roots back to Abraham who is often called the father of all three religions.

Christian spirituality has developed in a unique way over the last two thousand years because of the belief that, out of love for the whole of creation God, became part of the created work - a human being. And that out of love, and as totally God and totally human, he died and was resurrected and ascended and continues to work through Holy Spirit.

This story is reflected in expressions of Christian prayer, meditation and contemplation and can be seen and felt in our churches – even in relatively modern buildings such as St Andrew's.

It is also reflected in the different celebrations of the seasons of the year and over the coming months there are many events taking place in our churches which tap in to the underlying spirituality that is part of being human. As well as our normal church services on Sundays and in the week, we will be gathering for

- Remembrance Sunday, when we remember those lost or injured in the two World Wars and in subsequent conflicts, of the year.
- A 'Time to Grieve' bereavement service where there is an opportunity to remember and grieve loved ones and light a candle for people that we have lost, in the last year or longer ago
- A range of Advent and Christmas Services and events - times to reflect on and celebrate what Christmas means - the Light entering into world as the creator of all things born as a small, helpless baby at the darkest time of the year.

Please come along.

If you want to know more about the faith and spirituality practised in our churches and in the lives of the congregations please do get in touch with Rev Andrew or myself.

Rev Pauline Hart  
Associate Priest, The Tenpenny Villages Benefice  
Telephone 01206 826318  
Email: [assocpriest@tenpennyvillages.uk](mailto:assocpriest@tenpennyvillages.uk)

## 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

## SPECIAL SERVICES AT ST ANDREW'S

|                            |         |                                                                            |
|----------------------------|---------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sun 4 <sup>th</sup> Oct    | 11.15am | <b>Café Church Harvest Service</b><br>Coffee served from 10.45am           |
| Sun 8 <sup>th</sup> Nov    | 10.55am | <b>Remembrance Day Service</b><br>2 minutes silence                        |
|                            | 12.30pm | <b>Remembrance at St Peter's War Memorial</b>                              |
|                            | 6.30pm  | <b>'Time to Grieve'</b><br>Bereavement Service                             |
| Sun 15 <sup>th</sup> Nov   | 4.00pm  | <b>Songs of Praise</b><br>followed by Afternoon Tea                        |
| Sun 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec   | 6.30pm  | <b>Carol Service by Candlelight</b>                                        |
| Sun 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec   | 11.00am | <b>Nativity Service.</b> Come dressed up, some costumes will be available. |
| Thurs 24 <sup>th</sup> Dec | 11.30pm | <b>Midnight Communion Service</b>                                          |
| Christmas Day              | 10.00am | <b>Christmas Morning Family Communion</b>                                  |

## ST ANDREW'S CHURCH CONTACTS

Rector: Rev Andrew Fordyce - 01206 920848  
Email: [rector@tenpennyvillages.uk](mailto:rector@tenpennyvillages.uk)

Associated Priest: Rev Pauline Hart - 01206 826318  
Email: [assocpriest@tenpennyvillages.uk](mailto:assocpriest@tenpennyvillages.uk)

Churchwarden:  
Nick Berry - 01206 824496  
Email: [standrewswardens@tenpennyvillages.uk](mailto:standrewswardens@tenpennyvillages.uk)

Bookings for the Hub: Meg Burdus - 01206 820618  
Email: [admin@tenpennyvillages.uk](mailto:admin@tenpennyvillages.uk)

[www.tenpennyvillages.uk](http://www.tenpennyvillages.uk)

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





## July 2026

### RECORDED CRIMES: 7

**CRIME TYPES:** Burglary (residential) - Criminal Damage - Domestic - Harassment without violence x2 - Other x2

### INCIDENTS RECORDED: 20

**TYPES REPORTED:** Assist Agency - ASB/Nuisance x3 - Disturbance - Attn to Domestic x4 - Fight - Information in x3 - Other x4 - Public Order - RTC

## August 2026

### RECORDED CRIMES: 6

**CRIME TYPES:** Assault ABH - Harassment without violence - Non Crime Investigation - Other x2 - Threats

### INCIDENTS RECORDED: 14

**TYPES REPORTED:** Alarm - Animal - Assault - ASB/Nuisance x2 - Attn to Drink Driving - Drone - Fire - Highway Disruption - Information - Sus Circumstances - Section 165/59 Vehicle Seizure x2

## ROGUE TRADER WARNING

There have been reports of a white open-backed van carrying a water tank, believed to be targeting properties around the village. The occupants are reportedly approaching residents and offering services while falsely claiming to represent another company. Please do not agree to any work offered through cold calling. Before employing a trader, always carry out your own checks. Reputable businesses will usually have an established online presence, positive customer reviews, and verifiable references. Websites such as Checkatrade can be used to research traders and read feedback from previous customers. If you have any concerns or believe you have been approached by rogue traders, please report the matter to the police. Stay vigilant and look out for vulnerable neighbours.

### Reporting Scam text messages

Simply forward the message and phone number to **7726**

## DOG OWNERS

It has become evident once again that some dog owners are not acting responsibly by failing to clean up after their dogs. I do not need to paint a picture of what dog fouling looks like in the baking sun, nor the inconvenience caused when walkers, myself included, tread it into their footwear and then unknowingly carry it into their cars/homes.

I have also noticed a significant number of full dog waste bags scattered around the old church walks, with some being thrown into bushes and others left on the ground without even being bagged. Dog owners should not be taking their dogs for a walk without suitable waste bags. Simply disposing of dog waste, whether bagged or unbagged, anywhere other than the bins provided is unacceptable. I have been informed by a reliable source that the bins located around the old church and elsewhere in the village can be used for the disposal of dog waste bags. Therefore, if any residents were previously unaware, there is now no excuse for failing to dispose of them responsibly.

Please help keep our village clean and enjoyable for everyone by cleaning up after your dog and using the bins provided.



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## PARKING TICKETS

5 X CPI's (considerate parking incentive) given in July & August.

Please bear in mind those with mobility issues, as well as parents or carers using pushchairs with young children. Blocking a footpath is an obstruction and can cause significant inconvenience to others. Junctions must be kept clear to ensure safe visibility for all road users. **Please park considerately.**

## WHO TO REPORT TO FOR PARKING ISSUES/VEHICLES

**DVLA:** Report an untaxed vehicle - GOV.UK ([www.gov.uk](http://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 driven with a fixed penalty notice.

### Reporting dangerous / illegal parking:

<https://parkingpartnership.org/enforcement-requests/>  
(Take 2 photos to supply online)

## PARKING SERVICES:

[parking@tendringdc.gov.uk](mailto: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. The more details you have, the more chance we have of a positive investigation, with results.

### 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/>

## 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.alresfordpcsessex.uk/](http://www.alresfordpcsessex.uk/)

X (Twitter): @alresfordessex

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

Chairman: Cllr Frank Belgrove - 01206 823739

Vice-Chairman: Cllr Ernie Osborne

Cllr Linda Belgrove  
Cllr Julia Claremont-Brown  
Cllr Simon Clark  
Cllr Kristen Doulai  
Cllr Keith Lawrie

Cllr Courtney Muller  
Cllr Gary Scott  
Cllr Bina Swash  
Cllr Ann Wiggins

Parish Clerk, Matt Cooke - 01206 615117 (Answerphone 24/7)

Email: [clerk@alresfordparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@alresfordparishcouncil.gov.uk)

### District Council Tendring

District Councillor Ann Wiggins - 01206 825153

[cllr.awiggins@tendringdc.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.awiggins@tendringdc.gov.uk)

District Councillor Gary Scott - 01206 820769

[cllr.gscott@tendringdc.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.gscott@tendringdc.gov.uk)

### County Council Essex

County Councillor Aimee Keteca [cllr.aimee.keteca@essex.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.aimee.keteca@essex.gov.uk)

## IN PRAISE OF ALRESFORD

*It's probably unlikely that any king, noble or peer,  
Paid more than a passing visit here.  
And while proud rulers strutted causing grief and strife,  
Humble local people quietly got on with life.*

*Built homes, grew food, raised families, tended  
and worked the soil,  
Did countless, mundane, everyday tasks with  
simple, honest toil.  
Their deeds and hopes were modest, but  
worthwhile just the same,  
And worthy of anyone's respect, though we may  
not know their names.*

*Individuals are forgotten but the village still  
survives,  
Through the tragedies and triumphs of ordinary  
people's lives.  
If no great events have happened here, it's a  
pleasant place to know,  
The settlement Aella founded, fifteen hundred  
years ago.*

A poem by Brian Ford

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## MYSTERY ITEM

Can you help solve a local mystery?

On Saturday 25th July this item was found in a field near St Osyth.



I am writing a book about the village history and aware of a Carter family at the school, old church and at Heath Farm, Station Road.

I would love to hear from anyone that may be able to shed more light!

If you can help, please contact Robert Butcher  
[rob230766@gmail.com](mailto:rob230766@gmail.com)



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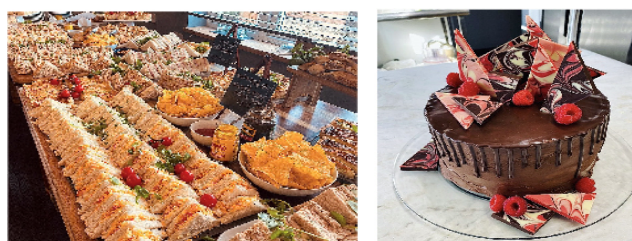
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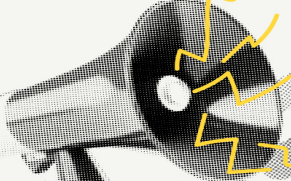
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This facility is an outstanding example of how thoughtful design, accessibility and community involvement can come together to create a space that benefits residents of all ages.

The judges were particularly impressed by its commitment to inclusion, ensuring that children and young people of all abilities have opportunities to play, socialise and enjoy being active in a safe and welcoming environment. The fully accessible playground has been carefully developed to encourage participation and enjoyment for everyone, helping to remove barriers and create opportunities for shared experiences.

Beyond the playground itself, the site offers an impressive range of recreational facilities, including football pitches, a cricket wicket, tennis court, skate park and zip line. Together, these amenities provide opportunities for sport, recreation and active lifestyles, making the site a valuable asset for the whole community.

What especially distinguished this nomination was the way the facility has evolved into far more than a place for play. Through the support of the parish council and dedicated volunteers, it has become a thriving community hub that hosts events, supports local schools and provides opportunities for residents to come together throughout the year. In doing so, it has strengthened community connections and created a shared space that is valued by people of all generations.

The judges recognised this project as an excellent example of how investment in recreation and accessibility can deliver wider social benefits. By creating an inclusive, welcoming and vibrant community space, it promotes wellbeing, encourages participation and fosters a strong sense of belonging.

Through its outstanding commitment to accessibility, recreation and community spirit, this facility demonstrates how a well-designed community space can enrich lives, bring people together and provide lasting benefits for the whole community. It is a highly deserving recipient of recognition.



**COPY DEADLINE** The editorial and advertising deadline for the DEC/JAN 2026-27 edition will be **8th November 2026** [alresfordadvertiser@gmail.com](mailto:alresfordadvertiser@gmail.com)

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