

THE ALRESFORD ADVERTISER DECEMBER 2021 / JANUARY 2022

ESTABLISHED 1970

ALRESFORD VILLAGE HALL CHRISTMAS EVENT FRIDAY 10 DECEMBER - 5PM ONWARDS

Live music with
Silence the Sirens,
BBQ, Bar,
Hot drinks, Raffle



Santa visits £2.50 (must be
booked in advance - call or text Nicola on
07801 934013)

A parent or guardian must
accompany each child for
Santa visits



We are hoping this will be an outside event, weather permitting. In case of wet weather, we will be inside the hall. If it's dry, we will use the outside area of the Pavilion.

This is a non-ticketed event (apart from Santa visits) but we will still be operating under COVID safety guidelines. Please practice social distancing, and you may wish to consider the use of masks for inside areas.

Only food and drink purchased at the event will be permitted.

ALRESFORD CHRISTMAS TREE

The Village Christmas Tree will be
in its usual place outside of the
shops by the Station.

Councillor Bina Swash will
once again be decorating it
and this year, you are
invited to hang your own
bauble in memory of loved
ones no longer with us.



The idea of the
Memory Tree came
from Councillor
Ernie Osborne to
remember loved
ones at this
magical time of
year when
wonderful memories
of Christmases past
come flooding back.

Alresford
Christmas Craft &
Farmer's Market
please see back page
for details

Wishing
everyone a
Merry Christmas and
a Peaceful and Happy
New Year

Alresford
Parish Council
2022/2023
Grants - please
see page 10 for
details

Christmas at the station

Sunday 12th December

2 - 4 pm

Alresford Station Community Garden

Pop up Coffee Shop with a
Christmas twist

Come along for coffee & cake and
Christmas cheer

With coffee by Crumb & Brew
and cakes by Mina's Cakery

See you there!



Over 1200 copies delivered to every household & business in Alresford

Also available online via the Parish Council & Village Hall websites: www.alresfordpcsessex.uk & <https://e-voice.org.uk/alresfordvillagehall/>



St Andrew's Church



Find us on fb: [ParishChurchesofAlresfordElmsteadThorrington-TenpennyVillages](https://www.facebook.com/ParishChurchesofAlresfordElmsteadThorrington-TenpennyVillages)

www.tenpennyvillages.uk

We are now holding regular services at the three Churches in the benefice. Further information can be found on the notice sheet by going to: <http://tenpennyvillages.uk>

ST ANDREW'S CHRISTMAS REFLECTIONS

I'd like to talk about the latest John Lewis advert, the favourite timing of filmmakers and a special quality that my mum has, that made her a great teacher.

What binds the three together? The quality wonder.

The latest John Lewis Christmas advert is always anticipated and carefully watched. This year they have gone for a young lad encountering and befriending a visitor from outer space.

When I taught RE I invited pupils to think about what an alien would make of how we celebrate Christmas. The challenge was for the pupils to look at the familiar with a fresh sense of wonder.

Filmmakers and photographers often want to make the most of the "Golden Hour". In the first and last hour of the day the colour spectrum is refracted and this brings extra depth to colours. It is naturally a "wonderful" time of the day.

Part of who we are is what we live through - in talking about wonder I have to talk about my mum. She has been an enthusiastic teacher all her life and one of the main attributes she brings to life is wonder - delighting in the variety of life. Life is a gift - but at half term we learnt that mums life is in the balance - as she faces a challenging road ahead, tackling the big C.

Can I invite you this year to look afresh at the account of the first Christmas, to reset and reflect in wonder at God becoming a baby. All this took place not in a palace but in rough and ready accommodation- more suited to cattle than a baby.

May I wish you a wonderful Christmas.

Rev Andrew Fordyce MBE

CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT ST ANDREW'S

Sunday 5th December

11:00 ALL AGE - An Advent Adventure

Sunday 12th December

11:00 Advent Holy Communion

Sunday 19th December

11:00 *Walkabout Christingle*
18:30 Carol Service

Christmas Eve

11:00 *Christmas unwrapped (All Ages)*
23:30 Midnight Holy Communion

Christmas Day

10:00 Holy Communion
(Please note earlier start time)

Sunday 2nd January

11:00 All AGE - The Wise men arrive!

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH CONTACTS

Rector: Rev Andrew Fordyce
01206 920848

Email: rector@tenpennyvillages.uk

Curate: Rev Tim Solosy
Email: revtsolosy@gmail.com

Associated Priest: Rev Pauline Hart
01206 826318
Email: assocpriest@tenpennyvillages.uk

Churchwarden: Wendy Wilson
01206 825040
Email: stachurchwardens@tenpennyvillages.uk

Bookings for the Hub: Meg Burdus
01206 820618

FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BURNING OF ST PETER'S CHURCH

A simple Holy Communion was held on the **30th September** in the ruins of St Peter's Church to **commemorate** the 50th Anniversary of the fire that destroyed St Peters.



Over the week-end of **October 2nd/3rd 2021**, an exhibition was held in the hub at St Andrew's bringing together memories of the old church.



Many photographs, newspaper reports and artefacts were loaned including ten years of Alresford



Advertisers', paperweights made from the broken glass, charred books that survived the fire and the old signs. Amongst the most popular photos were a class at the school (pre-WW2) and the Rector on a tricycle.

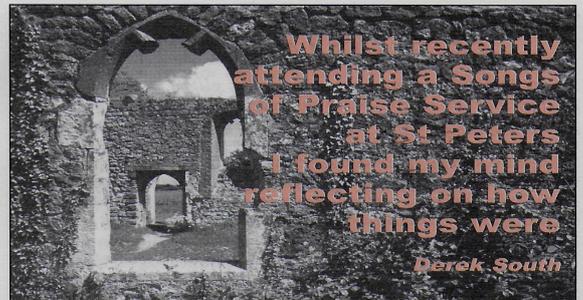
Over fifty people attended and the SPAR shop donated hot chocolate to revive us after a soggy service at St Peter's.

Copies have been made of all borrowed documents and many more donated since the event.

If you would like to borrow the exhibits for a village club, please contact the Rev. Andrew Fordyce at rector@tenpennyvillages.uk

PAGES FROM THE PAST

This poem appeared in the December 2011/ January 2012 edition of the Alresford Advertiser



St Peters, now in ruins lies
Its jagged walls surround
No roof to shade from suns bright glare
grass covers now its ground
The holes where once stained windows gleamed
Depicting saints of old
St Peter, Martin and St George
There, for all to behold
The arch still spans where once the laws of God were scrolled upon
How sad that only scars remain
The sacred Words are gone
The grass floor still ascends to where the holy altar stood
Now empty space conceals where once were rows of polished wood
A gap where the cowled pulpit poised
A wooden structure grand
Yet, no such mark denotes the spot
Where ornate font did stand
A shell encloses where the pillared Gallery proudly hung
Housing the hand pumped organ
From where hymns and psalms were sung

I stood and gazed upon the scene
But ruins did not see
Instead the place of yesteryear
came into view for me
I once again became a child
and saw what I knew then
What I had learned there long ago
came flooding back again
But buildings, ruins are just that
The Church of God, they're not!
It's us who are His living stones,
buildings, will be forgot
So lets rise up and be a mighty
army, full of grace
Living to serve our risen Lord
In any sort of place

Rest in Peace Derek South



ALRESFORD CRAFT & FARMERS MARKET 2022 Dates

The market takes place on the first Saturday of the month from February through to December

5th February	6th August
5th March	3rd September
2nd April	1st October
7th May	5th November
4th June	3rd December
2nd July	

FOR DETAILS OF THE DECEMBER 2021 CHRISTMAS MARKET, GO TO THE BACK PAGE

BLACK FALLOW DEER

A survey is being undertaken: Black Fallow Deer

If you have seen either a small herd or individual Black Fallow Deer in local woodland, please email me at frankbelgrove@hotmail.com or by telephone phone on 01206 823739

Thank you

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Alresford Neighbourhood Plan was adopted at the Tendring District Council Cabinet meeting on 8th October 2021. It is now a regulative document that requires all planning applications to comply with the policies contained within it prior to their approval.

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

Thank you

Many thanks to those of you who supported the charity dance held in the Village Hall on Friday 8th October. Ticket sales were limited to 70 in an attempt to best protect all those attending and to respect COVID regulations.

Our entertainer, Martin Jaye, provided a brilliant mix of music which kept the dance floor buzzing all evening.

Ticket sales netted £100 for village hall funds and the raffle, a further £100 which was split equally between, and donated to, MacMillan Cancer Care and The East Anglian Children's Hospice (EACH).

Chris Sanderson

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a Happy Christmas and prosperous
New Year*

Thank you for your continued custom

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C07 8DA



1

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2

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3

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Supporters must be 16 years of age or older

ALRESFORD VILLAGE HALL

Charity Commission Number: 301233

The Village Hall website:

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

The Village Hall Facebook:

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



NEWS

All regular hirers are now back using the village hall with guidance to adhere to Government advice with regards to Covid-19. Some groups have reported smaller than usual turnouts and it is expected that there continues to be some hesitancy with some people. The Trustees are in regular contact with all groups and will assist, if possible, in smoothing the way for groups to continue through the next few months.

Private hire at present is very healthy with most weekends being booked for children's birthday parties. Some of these parties use Bouncy Castles and it is a condition that the company providing the castle provide their Public Liability cover before the hire can be validated.

All relevant Health and Safety annual tasks have been completed including Fire Extinguisher checks, Risk Assessments, PAT and Gas appliance and Boiler servicing.

The recent fund-raising dance attracted 70 to the village hall and all enjoyed the relative return to normal whilst following Covid Safety. Thank you to Martin Jaye for his entertainment and to Chris Sanderson for ensuring the event was a success. A profit was divided between hall funds and local charities.

A grant has been obtained from Essex County Council to provide noise reduction panels and air filtration within the hall.

The noise/echo reduction will be implemented by the placing of panels on the ceiling that will absorb echo and thus improve the general quality of sound within the hall.

The '4 in 1' Air units will provide the option the air condition, de-humidify, heat, or act as a circulating fan. Both will add to facilities offered and aid hall use whilst we work through Covid.

Watch out for the:

**ALRESFORD VILLAGE HALL
CHRISTMAS EVENT
FRIDAY 10 DECEMBER
5PM ONWARDS**



REGULAR HIRE GROUPS

Below are the regular hire groups currently involved using the hall facilities in normal times:

- **Mindfulness Yoga** meet Monday mornings
- **Alresford Indoor Carpet Bowls Club** meet Monday afternoon/Evening.
- **Alresford Gardening Club** (affiliated to the RHS as Alresford Horticultural Society) meet on the first Monday of the Month March to November
- **Alresford Lunch Club** meet every Tuesday morning and early afternoon
- **1st Alresford Scout Group (Beavers)** meet Tuesday Teatime.
- **Dog Training Classes** Tuesday and Thursday evening.
- **Tai Chi** meet every Wednesday morning.
- **Alresford Art Club** meet every other Wednesday afternoon.
- **Alresford Women's Guild** meet every other Wednesday afternoon.
- **Yoga** meet every Wednesday evening
- **Exercise Classes (Extend)** meet every Thursday morning.
- **Young People's Dance School** meet every Thursday afternoon
- **Alresford Women's Institute** meet the second Thursday evening of the month
- **Alresford Camera Club** meet the first and third Thursday evening on the month
- **Alresford Calligraphy Group** meet every Friday morning.
- **Simply Singing** meet every other Friday afternoon
- **Alresford Craft and Farmers Market** on the first Saturday morning of the month (February to December)
- **Alresford Colne Rangers Football Club** (using the Pavilion at the rear of the hall)

HALL/PAVILION HIRE

The Pavilion/Bar is now available to hire for either individually or as well as the Hall. All enquiries should be via the **Village Hall booking clerk, Pat Burmby on 01206 823983** or via email at enquiries@alresfordvillagehall.co.uk

**THE AVHMC WISH THE COMMUNITY
OF OUR VILLAGE A PEACEFUL AND
SAFE CHRISTMAS AND A NEW YEAR
THAT BRINGS HOPE**

Thank you
Russell Milburn (Chair)



THE CHARITY BAG

Still collecting used stamps for Bone Cancer Research "until there is a cure"

Spread the word and tell friends and family to share our appeal. Every stamp, Horizon labels (the square white and gold labels that the post office stick on everything instead of stamps), collections and 1st day covers will help raise vital funds for the Bone Cancer Research Trust.

- Still collecting wool for charity knitters
- Still donating to the 'Baby Bank' Colchester
- Trauma Teddies for the emergency Services
- Still knitting for Christian Hope International, sending to Moldova and Europe

KNITS

Knits to Romford in October 2021, (and Tots to Teens) at the Baby Bank Colchester:

- 71 blankets
- 155 larger tops
- 40 baby tops
- 15 "Fish & Chips" (tiny tops) (no more required)
- 50 mittens
- 20 larger hats
- 181 small hats

Misc: 4 tops with hoods, 2 pairs leggings, 2 bags, 6 small teddies

We have been asked to donate wool to make 'Twiddle Muffs' for a dementia unit in Liverpool, so if you fancy a change, we can forward these too.

STAMPS

1 kg of used stamps have been sent to Bone Cancer Research. One kind gentleman has donated his lifetime collection of stamp albums. These will be auctioned at a later date - Thank you, how generous!

Thanks for all that you do throughout the year, what would we do without you - what a wonderful team effort!

For acknowledgement, please leave a contact name and telephone number with your donations

Delivery and collections are available.

We wish you a very happy, healthy and peaceful Christmas. See you in the New Year.

Take care, as always.

Christine Stimpson

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

Note from the Editor

Thank you Christine for all of your hard work in coordinating everything for the Charity Bag, it is very much appreciated by many people.



ALRESFORD REMEMBERS



Courtesy of Chris Sanderson



ALRESFORD STATION HOUSE COMMUNITY GROUP

The organisation behind the station house project have now run two successful events to promote the ideas behind the project, with the pop up coffee event and the halloween picture opportunity, and now they are organising their third, a Christmas event.

Please come along to support us on **Sunday 12th December between 2 and 4pm**. There will be the coffee van, Crumb and Brew and Mina's Cakery, as well as lighting up the garden with Christmas lights, gifts for the children and Christmas activities. If you would like to help with the event then email info@alresfordstationhouse.org.uk or contact via Facebook or Instagram @alresfordstation.

As an organisation we are looking for help with the management of our website, events organising, and the writing of newsletters amongst other things so if you have skills in any of these areas then please get in touch as we would love to have you on board.



WYVERNWOOD – Children's Adventure Park Update

Our new adventure park, Wyvernwood, which is set to open in Alresford during the first half of 2022, is starting to take shape and play equipment installation has begun; including the Goblins' Tunnels and the magical Wishing Well (pictured).

The concept for Wyvernwood is based on a unique children's story about the adventures of our hero, a great sea captain, who chances upon a deserted island and discovers a stranded Wyvern dragon, whom he rescues. The Captain finds a magic compass that guides his galleon across stormy seas to the tiny port of Alresford Creek, where he uncovers the hidden kingdom of Wyvernwood and its enchanted inhabitants.

Wyvernwood will provide an exciting blend of outdoor play, theatre and storytelling in a beautiful, natural outdoor setting.

Wyvernwood has already managed to secure some incredibly talented professionals from the local area (including the village itself) as part of its founding team, who boast significant experience opening and running national visitor attractions across the UK including Hamleys Regent Street, the London Dungeon and Cirque du Soleil.

From January, Wyvernwood will begin its search for more talented individuals to join the team, with opportunities for full time and part time positions on a seasonal basis in a variety of roles including Duty Management, Catering, Retail, Entertainment, Maintenance and Park Support.

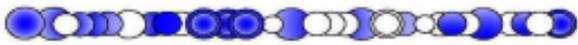
An integral part of Wyvernwood's sustainable business approach is to promote employment opportunities for local people. Should you be interested in being considered for one of the positions, please send your CV and a cover letter detailing which type of role you would like to be considered for to careers@wyvernwood.co.uk. A recruitment day will be held in the village in early 2022.

The Wyvernwood team looks forward to providing more updates in future editions.



wjr

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ALRESFORD PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Neighbourhood Plan

With the Alresford Neighbourhood Plan now firmly enshrined in Planning Law it is important for the Parish Council to implement the approved policies in decision making regarding consultations on planning matters and for the Local Planning Authority, Tendring District Council, to also refer to the Neighbourhood Plan as a material consideration when considering planning applications. It is early days but so far there is evidence that the hard work in the preparation of the plan has paid off and improvements to the public realm are being made (part of the Plan) and that TDC are abiding by the spirit and policies of the Plan.

Highways

Amazing work by an Alresford resident in obtaining 500 plus signatures in a petition calling for a reduced speed limit on the B1027. It was time well spent as this will show Essex County Council Highways that the community supports our quest for a 30mph limit through the village.

Flooding in a number of locations has taken place in Alresford, due mainly to a combination of blocked roadside drains and possible subterranean damage to pipes. Ford Lane, Wivenhoe Road, Heath Road and Coach Road were all affected, and one home was seriously inundated with others threatened by rising water. Drain clearance was carried out by ECC contractors and blockages were found, some drains could not be cleared, and excavation may be necessary. The Parish Council is calling for more regular maintenance as we feel that cost cutting in maintenance by responsible authorities has contributed to the flooding issues. To improve emergency capability the Council will be holding a small supply of sandbags.

The devolution of some highways tasks to our Parish Council has meant we could address the appalling state of some of our road signs and we have mainly spent our devolution grant money on replacing missing and damaged signs. There are more signs to attend to after the initial list was dealt with and we have budgeted to continue works. We thank our village handy-person also for his diligent cleaning of many street name signs and for repairing sign support posts as this has made a great difference.

A real issue for many years has been the problems encountered on a number of roads with damaged, missing and loose kerbstones. Essex County Council Highways is the responsible body for this matter but the Parish Council has voted to trial a repair programme of its own on a limited section of roadway. Essex County Council has not delivered on addressing the issue and no works have been scheduled by them.

Winter road salt has been obtained and a new salt bin will be installed at the Pointer Bus stop.

At the bus stops real-time information screens have been installed as part of the housing planning conditions associated with Staunton Gate.

Playing Field

It was disappointing to recently discover that criminal damage had occurred to a popular piece of play equipment - the zip wire. Some safety surfacing beneath the zip wire had been ripped off its concrete base and cut into small pieces, causing £400 worth of damage. CCTV revealed that the attack happened after dark, and the matter is now with the police.

As the tennis nets were taken down it was noted that the hardcourt surface is in need of attention and so grant funding will be sought to have necessary repairs carried out.

Alresford Colne Rangers Football Club, who lease the pitch areas of the field have received external grant funding for pitch improvements and Alresford Parish Council, as the landowner, has approved these works. The amazing volunteers from the club do so much to contribute to our community facilities and the Council fully acknowledges their tremendous input.

Excellent news has just been received that is so encouraging for all those involved with the Parish Council in caring for the play areas, pitches and fencing as it has been announced Alresford has received significant honours in the annual awards programme run by the Essex Playing Field Association. The children's play areas have achieved a gold award based on safety, maintenance, and the variety of equipment.

Policing

Essex Police Inspector Martin Richards attended the full Parish Council meeting in October to highlight the close working partnership between the Police, Councils, and the Community.

Parish and Town Councils have an important role to play in policing and always have done but since 1998 and the Crime and Disorder Bill there has been a duty for all Councils to make support for policing one of their top priorities. Inspector Richards who had spent some time as Tendring District Commander is now heading local Community Policing and understands the many issues that villages such as Alresford have to deal with. He spoke about the current problems of privately owned e-scooters and other devices with motors being given to

children and the safety and legal issues that this causes. He emphasised that policing resources are limited but the force would do all it could to combat antisocial behaviour.

Essex Police organised a community engagement event and myself and PCSO Paul Beer spoke with a number of residents and one issue that many mentioned was the increase in littering (If the police see someone littering they will be reported to Tendring District Council for prosecution).

A big concern is the increase in dog theft as it is on the increase in many areas. Dogs off the lead have "gone missing" on walks along Alresford Creek and the Colne footpath to Wivenhoe and theft is suspected so dog walkers please be vigilant.

The Community Pavilion

An air source heat pump has been installed in the Pavilion main meeting room and the Parish Council thanks local heating and ventilating expert Mr Andy Smith for installing the unit without charging for his labour.

LED lighting in the pavilion now replaces the old fluorescent tubes and with the increase in electricity costs it is hoped this will reduce expenditure.

Hirers are gradually returning to the Pavilion and the Council is grateful for the income to supplement running costs.

The Public Realm

So many people have said how much the lamp-post mounted flower baskets brightened up the village (a great initiative suggested by Councillor Bina Swash) and so we will be continuing the displays and varying the plants used as even with the large water reservoirs there was some drying out of the containers in the summer. There will be other improvements soon to roadside gardens - it is so important that we all take pride in our village. Although we can use gardening contractors and our very own handy-man for some work it is always better to have dedicated volunteers who live locally – so please get in touch if you wish to volunteer!

Climate Change

The Parish Council really wants to play its part in the push to help combat damaging changes to our climate. We have expanded our re-cycling facility to include a large re-cycling bin for Tetra Pack cartons (used for drinks, soups, dairy products etc) – we are grateful for the work Cllrs Gary Scott and Ann Wiggins have done to procure this type of re-cycling container and it is located in the community car park. In the car park we will be installing two electric vehicle charging points as part of the "Charge my Street" initiative. Cllr Hammick is key to many of our environmental improvements and projects, with the latest one being a tree planting scheme. Councillors are concerned about the impact of idling petrol and diesel vehicles at the railway crossings and at the school and so signs reminding drivers to switch off are planned. We all want a viable future for our planet and so why not start making changes in our own village.....

And finally:

Thank you to everyone who volunteers in our community – we value your efforts and a special thank you to our mutual aid volunteers who helped at the height of the Covid pandemic (Covid is still with us of course) and we know that their help is still very much ongoing.

So as 2021 draws to a close and 2022 lies ahead Alresford Parish Council wishes all the residents of Alresford a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



Frank Belgrove
Chairman
Alresford Parish Council

ALRESFORD PARISH COUNCIL Grants for 2022/2023 Closing date: 31st December 2021

If you are a village non-profit organisation or charity and would like to apply for a grant from Alresford Parish Council, please complete the relevant application form. This is available via the Parish Council website, or by contacting the Clerk to request on.

Website: www.alresfordpcessex.uk/

Email: alresfordpc@outlook.com

Post:

Alresford Parish Council
The Pavilion
Ford Lane
Alresford
Essex CO7 8AT

ALRESFORD NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING

**Reporting incidents the correct way
To report an incident please ring 101**

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

POSTAL VOTING SUMMARY

I was privileged to be nominated as an observer for the Neighbourhood Plan referendum and the role allowed me to watch the opening of the postal votes at Clacton Town Hall. What I saw there was the opening process, verification procedures and the mistakes that postal voters make.

For varying reasons some residents registered to vote are also registered to vote by post rather than going in person to the polling station. Those people registered to receive a postal vote will know that about three weeks prior to the election they receive a large envelope containing a voting slip, a declaration form, two envelopes to return the voting slip and declaration, and instructions showing how to complete and return the postal vote.

The postal votes had arrived at Clacton Town Hall over a number of days and were collected in a sealed ballot box. Tendring District Council's election office team undertook the verification and counting role. The box is opened and the envelopes (as received in the post) are counted.

The next stage is to open those envelopes to reveal the declaration and the envelope containing the ballot paper. The reference number on the envelope containing the ballot paper and that on the declaration are checked to ensure that they match. Those that don't match are retained within the now open envelope and put to one side. Both the statements and ballot paper envelopes are counted to ensure everything correlates.

On completion of this process the declaration statements are run through an electronic verification process to verify the signatures and birth dates. Again mismatches are highlighted, reunited with their envelope containing the ballot paper and put to one side. The mismatched signatures are checked against the one on the postal vote application to find adequate similarity to accept it.

The ballot envelopes containing the ballot papers are then opened and with the ballot paper face down so the serial number on the ballot paper and envelope can be checked to ensure that they match. Those failing to match are rejected. The accepted papers still face down (so there's no indication of the way the vote is going) are bundled into tens to ensure correlation and then put back into a sealed ballot box. The postal votes handed in at the polling station are treated the same way. Once the polling station votes have been verified all the verified postal votes are then mixed with them for counting.

Everything is done to ensure that there is no advance information on the voting trend.

What are the mistakes made? It is common for the date of completing the declaration to be entered rather than the date of birth and for the form to be returned unsigned. It is evident that sometimes couples do their voting together so declarations, ballot papers and

envelopes get mixed up for various bits finish up in the wrong place. It is essential that everyone keeps their own pack together.

All those present are sworn to secrecy. Despite all this number tracking and recording it is unlikely anyone knows how a particular person voted. The observer certainly can't see.

Those residents whose votes were rejected are written to and told why. I have been given permission to write this article to help, both existing and new, postal voters to make their vote count. Please read and follow the guidance notes that come with your postal vote carefully. Don't mix someone else's pack with yours.

If you know you will be away from home on election day, make your vote count by applying for a postal vote. It can be done for all time or a single election.

Dave Wendon

ALRESFORD PARISH COUNCIL CONTACT DETAILS

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

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

Agenda & Approved Minutes on website

Website: www.alresfordpcsessex.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 - 01206 822168

Cllr Linda Belgrove 01206 823739

Cllr Simon Clark 01206 827884

Cllr Sue Hammick 01206 618659

Cllr John Housden 07775630058

Cllr Gary Scott 01206 820769

Cllr Ann Wiggins 01206 825153

Cllr Bina Swash 01206 970353

Cllr Alistair Broom 01206 824340

Cllr Julia Claremont-Brown

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District Council Tendring

District Councillor Gary Scott - 01206 820769

Email: cldr.gscott@tendringdc.gov.uk

District Councillor Ann Wiggins - 01206 825153

Email: cldr.awiggins@tendringdc.gov.uk

County Council Essex

County Councillor Alan Goggin - 01206 308023

Email: egog@btinternet.com

Parish Clerk - The Proper Officer

Matt Cooke - 01206 615117 (Answerphone 24/7)

Email: alresfordpc@outlook.com

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Angela Baxter - 01206 615117 (Answerphone 24/7)

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CLUBS AND SOCIETIES NEWS

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

ALRESFORD GARDENING CLUB

Our much looked forward to presentation entitled "Brussel Sprouts to Tangerines" had to be cancelled at the 11th hour as the presenter Jacqueline Aviolet from Kent couldn't get to us despite several hours of trying. Earlier the day Jacqueline was booked to visit us; there had been a fatal accident in one of the Dartford Crossing tunnels which meant the M25 northbound quickly came to a standstill.

Having left her home in Kent at 3pm and trying various routes, Jaqueline found herself stuck on the A2. She phoned just before 5pm to give me the bad news. She eventually arrived home at 8pm, worn out and very disappointed she had let us down. Luckily with help from our members, we were able to contact the majority the people to advise them of the cancellation – successful inasmuch just five people arrived at the door that evening to be met by myself with the news.

Our new season will commence on the first Monday of March 2022 when as part of the customary AGM, details of our seasons events will be published. This I am hopeful will include Jacqueline for at least one of our evening's presentations.

For more information please contact **Chris Sanderson on 01206 823824**

ALRESFORD ART GROUP

Sadly two of our members have decided not to re-join the group due to health issues, but I am I pleased to report that three new members have joined our ranks.

We will always welcome more members so please come along and meet us, have a chat and see what we do. We meet on **Wednesday afternoons from 1pm through to 4pm** on the following dates:

1st December 2021

2022

5th & 19th January

2nd & 16th February

2nd & 16th March

6th & 27th April

4th May

Please contact me for more details in the meantime on 07484 334698

Chris Sanderson

ALRESFORD CAMERA CLUB

Like for many organisations, Covid has played a large part in the way we go forward in terms of what events etc. we can hold. For our competition evenings, it was realised that the availability of judges and their willingness to travel was going to cause us problems. For that reason, it was decided this season to change to Members Critique evenings where the members themselves offered comment on their fellow members work.

With the season now well underway, we have had two Critique evenings and these have been very well received by our members. The opportunity to consider different aspects of members work, including input from the works authors themselves, has given a fresh complexion to what was perhaps more scripted input from judges in past competitions.

We are pleased to have welcomed a number of new members but we are always open to welcoming more, so please come along and meet us and see if what we do fits your interest in photography.

Dates for your diary –

December 2nd – Members Critique – Colour Prints

December 16th – Friendly Fun Knock Out evening

January 6th 2022 – Members Critique - Digitally Presented Images (DPI's)

January 20th – Photography the Night Sky – presentation by Nik Szymanek

All meetings in the Village Hall, Ford Lane.
Commencing at 7.30 pm

For more details, please contact **John Merison on 01206 250846**

DON'T FORGET...

The Advertiser is your magazine, so please send us any contributions – both from individuals and village organisations; any feedback you have or anything you would like us to include.

If you want to know more, please contact us – details are on the back page.

ALRESFORD WI

We have enjoyed our meetings in the village hall for the past 2 months.

September, unfortunately our speaker had to isolate, so we chose to hold a Beetle Drive which created a great deal of laughter. It proved quite difficult to actually create a whole beetle just by throwing some dice.

In October, one of our favourite speakers joined us. Gary Egerton, a London Blue Badge Guide. This time Gary spoke of British spies under the guise of 'Devious British', we came away being far wiser of covert England, MI5, and MI6. The evening then took on the theme of a Harvest Supper, we enjoyed homemade vegetable soup with crusty bread, followed by cheese, biscuits and of course cake and tea. A most enjoyable evening.

We continue to support the local Foodbank, collecting items each month.

Once a year we usually make cakes for St Helena Hospice, due to Covid 19 this has not been possible, so we have made a financial donation.

This November meeting, we will welcome Bridget Raven and her Sea Glass Jewellery. Bridget will have items for sale so hopefully we will find some Christmas Gifts.

We have some speakers arranged for 2022, these include Essex Air Ambulance, the Colbert Valley Tea Company, Heart Disease in Ladies. We look forward to some interesting meetings in 2022. Covid 19 permitting. We also hope to arrange some trips out. Our Zoom Book Club is currently reading 'Captain Corelli's Mandolin'. This is a great way for our members to enjoy discussing their book but staying at home in the warmth.

New members are very welcome, we meet the second Thursday of each month in the village hall.

Meetings start at 7.30pm. Attend a meeting and see if you enjoy it before joining. Admission for non-members is £3 which includes refreshments.

Future meeting dates:

2021

9th December

2022

13th January

10th February

10th March

For further information please contact:

Chris James, 01255 764769 or
Hilda Newbold 01206 823477

SIMPLY SINGING

It was lovely to see so many regulars returning for an afternoon of singing old favourites, and catching up with friends after such a long enforced break. We chose not to hand out song sheets for the time being, but Chris had worked hard to provide us with the lyrics on the overhead screen with some pictures and it worked really well.

There were eighteen of us singing along, but we could easily take many more quite safely. We are lucky to have such a large Village Hall, so do come along and let us know what your favourite songs are.

The next session will be on **Friday 3rd December** at **1.45pm** with a charge of £2.00 per session which includes refreshments; all proceeds go to the Village Hall Fund.

Session Dates

3rd and 17th December 2021

7th & 21st January 2022

4th & 18th February 2022

4th & 18th March 2022

Dates for April 2022 onwards will appear in the next edition of the Advertiser

For more information contact:

Jeanette: 01206 825008 or Chris: 01206 823824

1ST ALRESFORD BEAVERS

Beavers meet on a Tuesday evening in term time from 6.30pm to 7.30pm. It is for boys and girls between the ages of 6 to 8 years. If anyone would like to add their children to our waiting list, please contact alresfordbeavers@outlook.com.

Cubs and Scouts for older children meet at the Elmstead Community Centre on Wednesday evenings. Please contact us at the above email address for further details.

ALRESFORD HISTORY GROUP NEW GROUP

We would like to start 2022 with a new group:

ALRESFORD HISTORY GROUP
will be meeting for the first time in

THE MUNSON ROOM
(in the Village Hall)

7.30 PM

MONDAY 10TH JANUARY 2022

If you have any postcards/photographs that could be used for a calendar for 2023 and beyond or for displays we would love to see them.

If you would be interested or would like to know more please get in touch with Ann Wiggins on 825153.

ALRESFORD BOWLS CLUB

You are invited to join us to play short mat carpet bowls

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ALRESFORD BOWLS CLUB

The Club has had a good month of bowling activity on Monday afternoons and evenings. New players have come along and tried us out on our 3 free "goes" offer and are now taking out membership which is great news for us a thriving Club in the village. We are very grateful to AVH for supporting us during these challenging times.

December 13th is our pre-Christmas supper evening. This year it will be a Fish & Chip supper with a Christmas touch. Details are on our notice board. This year numbers have had to be limited to playing members & partners.

As the Club was 30 years old this November we are hoping to have a celebratory party for ALL members in the New Year. Details will follow as well as posting on the Club notice board.

Contact: Jenny Holben, Chairperson 01206 827756

The Autumn Centre LUNCH CLUB

Tuesdays at Alresford Village Hall: 12.30 - 2.30pm

**Fridays at Brightlingsea Community Centre:
12.30 - 2.30pm**

2 Course Meal including Tea and 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.
Any further enquiries, please phone **01206 303702**

PAGES FROM PAST MAGAZINES

Whilst looking through some old Alresford Advertisers, we came across these articles about Alresford Bowls Club. The first one appeared in the **December 1991/January 1992** magazine and the second in the **February/March 1992** magazine.

ALRESFORD BOWLS CLUB

A meeting was held on the evening of 7th November 1991 concerning the formation of an indoor bowls club. 18 persons attended, and it was decided after discussion that it would be a viable project.

A committee has been formed comprising of Mr Roy Taylor (Chairman), Ray Milburn (Secretary), Mr Ron Webb (Treasurer), Mrs Maureen Baillie, and Mr Bill Norman, committee members.

Many things were discussed and the future looks exciting. For people wishing to find out more information please ring Ray Milburn (822694). The club will play on Monday evenings, with the future aim of also playing one afternoon per week!

The club is now looking to purchase, borrow or loan equipment such as carpet and bowls. A joining fee of £10.00 was decided upon with a £1.00 charge for each evening or afternoon. A meeting will be arranged within the next few weeks so that all interested persons can become more fully aware of the clubs aims.

To repeat last month's Alresford Advertiser – bowling is a nice gentle, relaxing social form of exercise with a competing "fun" element. Players will not have to purchase their own bowls. All bowls equipment will be provided. Have a go and support this project.



ALRESFORD BOWLS CLUB

The ABC has now started regular Monday evening bowling sessions as from Monday 13th January 1992. These will be held in the village hall.

Membership has been very keen, so much so that we have had to start a 'waiting list'. It is hoped that we can start an afternoon session very soon to ease the waiting list and this will be announced when a definite date is arranged.

The club has been very fortunate in gaining financial support from two local companies and a private donation to help us with the purchasing of the bowling carpets and woods. We are most grateful for this financial assistance.

The local response and support from Alresford people for the club has been tremendous and we look forward to many happy days of bowling. If the interest shown in indoor carpet bowls is anything to go by – may be the future could see us looking to have our own outdoor bowling green!

If you wish to know more about the Club please feel free to call me on 82 2649.

RAY MILBURN, Secretary

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT THE AUTUMN CENTRE

Can you spare a couple of hours to work in our Charity Shop?

We open at 9.00am to 3.00pm, 6 days a week and need more volunteers - hours to suit.

We also require **VOLUNTARY DRIVERS** for our minibus, transporting our clients to and from the Alresford and Brightlingsea Lunch Clubs.

For further information please contact Eddie Brown at the Autumn Centre on 01206 303702

ALRESFORD COLNE RANGERS FC

WELCOME TO OUR NEW CHAIR



Scott Ridgers has been elected as the new Chair of ACRFC. Scott takes over from John Hammond and Russell Milburn who have steered the club through two very difficult years but leave it in a very healthy position. Scott is born and bred in Alresford, has played for the club both at youth and adult level, has managed at youth level, is a long-standing committee member and has now evolved to the Chair of a club that is truly in his heart and soul. Scott very much wants us to become a village focused club with a family feel and we look forward to consolidating ourselves as a club that builds with young people but always offers a welcome to all.

AFRICAN EAGLES SPORTING CLUB

Alresford Colne Rangers FC recently continued their partnership and support of African Eagles Sporting Club based in Sogakopa in Ghana. Four more kits were sent directly to our friends there and we thank Andrew Holben for arranging the passage and finance to make this happen.



PLAYING FIELD NEWS

We at the club have over the years in partnership with the Parish Council and J'S Garden Valet Services have worked very hard to improve the quality of the football pitches and as a knock on from this the Playing Field.

During the lockdown a bore hole was sunk, and a pump installed to allow water to be used during the growing season to help maintain the Playing Field with the cost being shared by ACRFC and the Parish Council. Not only is this beneficial to the environment but also will be a cost saving to the village overtime.

In the very near future the club will help finance and install two tanks that will enable water from the bore to be stored and thus allow greater distribution especially in the dry periods.

So, we were very pleased and excited to learn that the Football pitches have been awarded Runner Up in the Essex Playing Fields Awards competition and that Alresford has been awarded Runner Up in the Overall standard of play equipment and facilities in the same competition.

It is hoped that the quality of facilities at the Playing Field will attract the people of Alresford to visit, enjoy and get involved.

YOU WILL BE MOST WELCOME.

ACR F.C

NEW UNDER 8'S TEAM

We would like to invite children, current school year 2 (Age 6/7) to attend training to build a new youth team for next season as the club looks to start building for the future.

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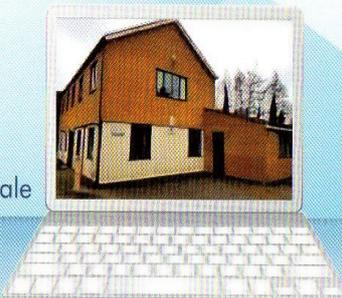
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ALRESFORD BIKERS STILL OUT THERE

Something unusual happened today, as I was stopped at our local village shop. A very nice lady asked me if I was guilty, I mean responsible for this blurb. Well the answer was yes, and she said how much she enjoyed reading it! Wow! That's twice that has happened in 15 years! Thank you so much for your positive feedback. (I know you will read this, and I'm sorry I neglected to find out your name!)

WINTER IS COMING!

By the time you read this, Autumn will have brought the curtain down on many bikes so that they will be hibernating until Spring. The leaves will have fallen, and created their traditional brown spray, all over our visors, and machines in general. And, as usual, the council will be wasting our taxes gritting roads that don't need it yet, causing untold environmental damage, not to mention busted headlights, chipped windscreens, and corrosion everywhere. And it is the latter that we loathe the most.

For those readers not fortunate enough to be bikers, we have a number of issues caused by road grit, and corrosion is far and away the worst. Cars have the advantage of protecting most of their working parts with bodywork, and hidden from view anti-corrosive paint and protective coverings, so that many of the bits that used to be victims of sprayed salt and corrosives don't suffer as much anymore. Bikes, unfortunately, for the most part don't have this protection, and some pretty critical bits can get clogged with either the filth on the roads, or it's after effects.

Some of us still have antique cable clutch actuation, which means vulnerable cables fray and break. The effects can be twofold. Either it breaks with the clutch engaged, which means you can't disengage it, or the other way round. A fray can just



jam the cable, which is equally problematic, depending where you are at the time. The pic shows a fray caused by corrosive road muck. Brakes are pretty crucial, but those on bikes

tend to be unavoidably in the line of fire from spray. This tends to spray muck straight onto pads, slider pins and discs. It also gets sprayed onto the pistons and calliper seals, where it is very difficult, if not impossible, to clean on a regular basis. Over time the corrosives get to work, seeping under the outer dust seals, into the grooves in the calliper in which they are located. On the bare metal in those grooves, the corrosion increases over time, and looks like hard white scale. That scale pushes the seals out of the grooves against the pistons that operate the brake pads, jamming them on, because the seals cannot retract and allow the pistons back. Some of the friction remains, heating up the pads, discs, and eventually the whole calliper. By the time that is occurring, usually without warning, you are in big trouble. The rider just brakes, and they stay on. I myself have suffered from this in my younger days, finding a back brake jammed on so hard I could not move. A little embarrassing at the time, on Hythe Quay. My 80 bhp bike could not move. Worse, the disc and pads and whole calliper were smoking like a chimney, and red-hot. The cure at the time was to open the bleed nipple and let about 1cc of brake fluid out, which saved the day, but not

using the back brake all the way home is a problem, especially since the front and rear on that bike were linked. Trying not to brake all the way has a high coefficient of pucker factor. Once home, and cooled down, a complete strip and new seals (melted) and fluid (boiled and crystalized) were required, and a whole strip down right back to the master cylinder which was clogged with crystalized fluid was required. The pads were ruined so they had to be replaced too. It took hours and was expensive, and all owing to corrosive winter road gritting.

Another place where corrosion can cause a problem is in electrical connectors. When I was a kid and Norton, Matchless, and AJS were daily commutes for my Dad, his bike had about two connections and the ignition switch, which worked with a screwdriver if you lost the key. I actually remember it working even without the screwdriver, when it was so worn – Joe Lucas was not known as The Prince of Darkness for nothing! My current bike has literally dozens of connections, and switches. Modern connectors are brilliant but often have one weakness because of their location – water can still get in them! It's very rare, but it can happen, and the first you'll know about it is something either stops working, or works without being told to! I have spent hours ripping bikes to bits tracking down electrical problems, which have turned out to be a bit of corrosion in a switch, or a connector somewhere. A warning light on the dash once informed me most impertinently that I had my main beam permanently on. I checked and indeed it was on, though the switch was off. The little connector was full of water. One squirt of WD40 and the problem went away never to return. I once stopped to assist a broken down biker, (we do that), on a motorway in Germany. His engine had just faltered and stopped, as it started to rain. In his broken English, and my only-just-adequate German, we worked out that he had no sparks. He had one rogue 25,000 volt spark, which went right up my arm! In a flash I had the trusty WD40 out again and indeed his spark plug caps and the plugs were drenched. Drenching them again in the faithful WD, it started first go. I remember his face! He'd been there for ages and was soaking wet.

Another thing that road gritting does is sprinkle a liberal volume of tiny flints all over the road. These work their way into tyre treads (especially the very small ones, called Sipes), and then don't want to come out. My tyres are checked over all the time, and every time a tiny flint has to be wriggled out with a sharp pointed blade. Flint is sharp, and most malignantly, it works its way in, not out. I have still had some punctures this year, even with the care I take.

So, the upshot of all this is that my bike is currently undergoing winterizing maintenance. Forward-facing components have been cleaned and coated with protective coatings (which wash off, so need replacing weekly, in my case). Brakes have already been stripped, cleaned and reassembled with protective grease in all the right places (not on the friction surfaces, before you ask!). Pivots have all been lubed. Exposed electrics, which are rare nowadays, have been parted, protected and put back together. My bike literally smells of WD40 right now! Bikers look forward to winter road treatment with great glee.

So, if you want to know more about protecting your bike, talk bikes, eat, drink and sleep bikes, bikers or biking, or even find out why WD40 is so named or how to lube your pivots, come see us at our monthly meetings in the Pointer Inn, where our hosts Sam and Neil always make us very welcome. 8 pm on the second Tuesday of every month. We look forward to seeing you.

Al Gillard

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WASTE AND RECYCLING DATES FOR THE FESTIVE PERIOD

Christmas and New Year collection changes for 2021/22



Green	
Normal	Revised
Mon 27 Dec	Wed 29 Dec
Tues 28 Dec	Thurs 30 Dec
Wed 29 Dec	Fri 31 Dec
Thurs 30 Dec	Tues 4 Jan
Fri 31 Dec	Wed 5 Jan



Red	
Normal	Revised
Mon 3 Jan	Thurs 6 Jan
Tues 4 Jan	Fri 7 Jan
Wed 5 Jan	Sat 8 Jan
Thurs 6 Jan	Mon 10 Jan
Fri 7 Jan	Tues 11 Jan

Green	
Normal	Revised
Mon 10 Jan	Wed 12 Jan
Tues 11 Jan	Thurs 13 Jan
Wed 12 Jan	Fri 14 Jan
Thurs 13 Jan	Sat 15 Jan
Fri 14 Jan	Mon 17 Jan

Red	
Normal	Revised
Mon 17 Jan	Tues 18 Jan
Tues 18 Jan	Wed 19 Jan
Wed 19 Jan	Thurs 20 Jan
Thurs 20 Jan	Fri 21 Jan
Fri 21 Jan	Sat 22 Jan

Normal service resumes on Monday 24th January 2022

JANUARY 2022						
	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
R	BH	4	5	6	7	8
G	10	11	12	13	14	15
R	17	18	19	20	21	22
G	24	25	26	27	28	
R	31					

For further details, please visit <https://www.tendringdc.gov.uk/recycling-rubbish/check/rubbish-recycling-collection-days>



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO DELIVER THE ALRESFORD ADVERTISER

Can you spare 30 minutes to an hour once every two months?

We are looking for volunteers to help with the delivery of the Alresford Advertiser to Victoria Avenue, Pershore Way, Mallard Way and Odal Way.

If you are interested, please call Russell on 01206 825739

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ALRESFORD CRAFT & FARMERS CHRISTMAS MARKET

Alresford Village Hall,
Ford Lane CO7 8AT
4th December 2021
9am - 12 noon

A variety of food and craft stalls
Free Admission

Free car park and disabled facilities

COVID guidelines will be in place and of course this may prevent the market being held.
Unless exempt, we politely ask that face coverings are worn when walking around the market.

For updated information, please check the Alresford Craft and Farmers Market Facebook page.



HELP FIND ME STOLEN



ARNIE - MALE SPANIEL

ADULT
MICROCHIPPED

MISSING SINCE 24/09/21 FROM ALRESFORD,
ESSEX, CO7, NOW PRESUMED STOLEN

CALL IN CONFIDENCE ~ 07813 403189
or 07754 797107

 **Dog Arnie lost/stolen CO7**

My 2 Springer spaniels escaped from my horse yard in the Tenpenny Hill area of Alresford at lunchtime on Friday 24th September. My bitch returned late evening sadly on her own.

Despite searching the surrounding areas thoroughly and contacting all the landowners and businesses nearby there were sadly no sightings of Arnie. An Search And Rescue (SAR) drone volunteer flew a thermal imaging drone over a vast area including the many lakes in Alresford and quarry searching for Arnie in vain.

Arnie's story has been extensively shared over social media, on all missing dog and pet sites. We have postered in neighbouring villages and reported him as stolen to the Police. We have been subjected to cruel threatening scammer calls demanding money to prevent his death, all reported to the Police.

We now believe that he was picked up and retained by a visiting dog walker at Alresford creek on the afternoon of 24th September. He has sadly not been reported as found to any vets or dog wardens.

We are heartbroken as a family, as are our other dogs. We desperately want his safe return.

We are offering a finder's fee with no questions asked for his safe return.

Telephone 07813 403189

ALRESFORD ADVERTISER CONTACT DETAILS

EMAIL: alresfordadvertiser@gmail.com TELEPHONE: 01206 825739 ADDRESS: 22 Station Road, Alresford, CO7 8BT

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For enquiries about advertising your company or organisation, please contact us via the email address above

CORRESPONDENCE

Any correspondence for publication must be accompanied with your name and address or that of your organisation.

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COPY DEADLINE

The editorial and advertising deadline
for the next edition will be:
8th JANUARY 2022