

# THE ALRESFORD ADVERTISER

## APRIL / MAY 2021

Established 1970

**ST ANDREW'S EASTER EGG TRAIL** (See page 8 for details)

### NEW STAGE FOR VILLAGE HALL

The Alresford Village Hall Management Committee are incredibly pleased to report that the stage area of the village hall has been completely refurbished.

The main stage floor area has been carpeted using floor tiles that match with the carpeted area of the hall.



The stage surround is now finished with a laminate that matches very nicely with the main dance floor and installed within this laminate are L.E.D lights that not only are very aesthetic to the eye but also complies with a risk assessment requirement to highlight the edge of the stage to reduce the risk of users falling.

The work has been completed to a high standard by Trustee, Chris Sanderson and by villager, Mr Barry Crickmore. This is more evidence of the continuing vision of the Trustees to give our community a village hall that is very functional and has a very contemporary look.

This also enables the hall to be an attractive venue for private hire which allows community regular users fees to remain exceptionally low.



#### Are you interested in volunteering?

A vacancy has arisen within the Alresford Advertiser team; if you are interested, please page 2!

#### HELP STILL AVAILABLE

If you know of anyone who needs a helping hand with food, prescriptions or other essential supplies, you can telephone the following Parish Councillors:

**Chairman, Frank Belgrove - Telephone: 01206 823739**

**There is an answerphone 24/7 so leave a message and he will get back to you the same day.**

**District and Parish Councillor, Ann Wiggins - Telephone 01206 825153**

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Also available online via the Parish Council & Village Hall websites: [www.alresfordpcessex.uk](http://www.alresfordpcessex.uk) & <https://e-voice.org.uk/alresfordvillagehall/>

## Are you interested in becoming part of the Alresford Advertiser team?

During 2014 the then editor and treasurer, after many years of sterling work, decided it was time for them to retire. For a while it looked as though the Advertiser might cease to exist, but eventually some new volunteers stepped forward and a new group of people was formed to continue the production of the magazine. This group now comprises an editor, an advertising manager, a treasurer/ secretary and a distribution manager. Age is now catching up with some of us and we feel it is time we looked for some new volunteers to join us who could take on some of our tasks in the future.

In particular we need someone to take on the task of advertising manager. This involves replying to any emails or phone calls from potential advertisers and if necessary looking for new advertisers. It is necessary to liaise with the editor regarding space and content as appropriate. Our current manager also helps the treasurer and distribution manager when needed, for example covering holidays etc..

We would love to hear from anyone who feels they could spare a few hours to join us. We have a meeting every two months after the production of each edition. At the moment these are held virtually which seems to work very well.

If interested please email [alresfordadvertiser@gmail.com](mailto:alresfordadvertiser@gmail.com) or telephone 01206 822303 and talk to Ian regarding the time involvement.



## ALRESFORD COLNE RANGERS FOOTBALL CLUB

The cost of Covid to our football club has had repercussions, not only the enforcement that has resulted in no football, but also resulting in a serious loss of revenue as our hospitality area has not been in use to our members.



We hear how the multi-millionaire clubs have been hit in various ways, but this is mitigated from the substantial payments from the broadcast companies, we as a small club have only received a small grant to allow Covid safety to be adopted. Indeed, some clubs at our level could well fold as they run on a shoestring. For the last 2 Covid effected seasons clubs have had to pay affiliation fees and insurance premiums and, in many cases, facility hire fees for the contracted periods. We at ACRFC are fortunate in that our facility lease annual premium has been reduced for the last year and affiliation fees were decreased to try and assist grassroots football clubs.

Hopefully, season 2021/22 will see a complete season with no disruption. For a club of our size, we have wonderful facilities but have not been able to use any of them for the past year. All players have had to change outside as dressing rooms could not be Covid safe. This was not pleasant for anyone especially when the weather was inclement. Our inviting clubhouse/bar has stood idle causing a serious dent in the club's income.

Despite all of this, we as a club still strive to make improvements not only for club members but also for the community as well. In partnership with the Parish Council a bore hole is currently being installed which will enable the playing pitches and indeed the whole playing field to have access to low cost and environmentally produced water.

We as a club will always listen to ideas on ways to improve our facilities for players, members, and any group within our community to enable ACRFC to remain a prominent part of Alresford.

We look forward to 2121/22 in being able to open our doors to everyone and especially the newcomers to our village over the past 18 months. Please come and give us a look and enjoy our hospitality.

The club currently run two men's, one lady's, and two youth teams with plans to bring in a least one more age group at youth level. Youth is the future of our football club with a vision for those who play throughout youth levels to graduate into our adult teams.

An extremely exciting development during Covid has resulted in ACRFC forming a casual relationship with a grassroots football club ESC in Ghana. Committee member, Andy Holben has led on this and via contacts through Boots 2 Africa which has resulted in four of our old kits being used in Ghana and Sierra Leone, we now are pleased to announce that ESC in Ghana has requested that they can use the name ALRESFORD COLNE RANGERS FC GHANA. Already, we are advised that new players are wanting to join.

As of March 29<sup>th</sup> 2021, grassroots football is able to resume (if Government Covid criteria is met) and at the time of going to press it looks as if all normal league seasons will be null and void. There is a hope that small scale cup competitions could be arranged for April and May allowing a limited amount of football to be played. The bar facilities will not be available until weekend April 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> at the earliest, again if Government criteria is met.

**Brian Martin**



# St Andrew's Church



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**During the COVID restrictions, we are Live streaming at 10.30am a Service which can be followed on catch-up. For links to our online services, please go to: <http://tenpennyvillages.uk>**

### **Patrick Martin Hennelly 08.01.1952 - 24.01.2021**

In loving memory of a devoted husband of Denise, and a dedicated father of Patrick, William and Maya. A loyal and trusted fireman in the London Fire Brigade serving 25 years, and a committed fighter against injustice.

You will be missed so greatly with each waking day, but your subversive presence remains with us and in us.

Our love forever, The Hennelly Clan

conversation develops, Jesus points out the prophecies that they had read about the Messiah being betrayed and dying for all. They urge the stranger to stay with them at their journey's end and it is as he breaks bread with them that they recognise Jesus and he suddenly disappears. The followers rush back from Emmaus to share that they have met the risen Jesus and find that there are other accounts of Jesus appearing.

As a church, we want to be available to walk alongside you as we process the trauma of the pandemic. Jesus was a great listener and we pray that we will be too. We are still working through how we open up safely throughout the Easter week, but please know that you are welcome; we may not have a magic wand for your grief, but we do have One who walks alongside us for all eternity.

### **A MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR**

As you read this, we as a nation will be travelling along a road map set out for us by Downing Street. My prayer is that we will successfully get through all the stages and see the nation reopen for business. One of the things that I am acutely aware of, is how tough the journey will have been for a number of folks.

B.T. used to have an advert with a tag line, "it's good to talk". I think for a number of us there will need to be quite a bit of talking through and processing of our journey through the pandemic; for some of us there will be grief and trauma.

Growing up in my family, we went by the saying 'a trouble shared, is a trouble halved'. Something that can weigh one person down, can be managed better as it is shared with another.

How does this all fit around our thoughts this Easter season?

One of the accounts of the resurrected Jesus is where he walks alongside some troubled disciples on the road to Emmaus. Jesus walks alongside them, but they don't recognise him. They are too filled with grief and troubled by the events of the crucifixion. They have gone through trauma and need to off load the challenges and disappointments they face. Amazingly, as the

Every blessing this Eastertide  
Rev Andrew Fordyce

### **ST ANDREW'S CHURCH CONTACTS**

**Rector:**

Rev Andrew Fordyce  
01206 920848

Email: [rector@tenpennyvillages.uk](mailto:rector@tenpennyvillages.uk)

**Curate:**

Rev Tim Solosy

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

**Associated Priest:**

Rev Pauline Hart  
01206 826318

Email: [assocpriest@tenpennyvillages.uk](mailto:assocpriest@tenpennyvillages.uk)

**Youth & Schools Worker:**

Charlotte Day (Charley)

Email: [youthworker@tenpennyvillages.uk](mailto:youthworker@tenpennyvillages.uk)

**Churchwardens:**

Wendy Wilson  
01206 825040

Email: [stachurchwardens@tenpennyvillages.uk](mailto:stachurchwardens@tenpennyvillages.uk)

**Bookings for the Hub:**

Meg Burdis  
01206 820618

## A POTTED HISTORY ABOUT THE PATRONS OF ST. PETERS

A patron was usually the Lord of the Manor who was responsible for the appointment of the Rector. This then entitled the Lord of the Manor to raise tithes (rent) from the Church lands.

The de Stauntons came from Nottinghamshire with Humphrey de Staunton being the first Patron of St Peter's Church whose daughter Mabel married into the de Coggeshalls of Coggeshall and then by marriage through the Dorewards, Fynys (Fiennes), Beaupres of Outwell, Norfolk. Mary Beaupre who married Richard Barwick being the last in the same family line. There was a break of about 40 years between John Doreward and Thomas Fynys (Fiennes).

In the 17<sup>th</sup> century John Hawkins became Patron with his son Robert and daughter Christian following him and they came from Bocking. Christian firstly married Sir John Dawes and then Sir Anthony Deane who was a shipbuilder/architect and friend of Samuel Pepys the diarist. They were both MPs for Harwich from 1679 – 1689.

I do not know if John, Robert and Christian were related to William Warwick Hawkins but I could be wrong! After Christian came Benjamin Field who may have been a goldsmith and his wife Sarah although I have not been able to find out much about them. They had connections to Lombard Street.

Matthew Martin came and rebuilt what had been East Hall into Alresford Hall in about 1720 probably using the £1,000 (£116,107 today) that he had been rewarded with for ensuring the cargo on board his ship 'Marlborough' which was worth £200,000 (£23m today) got to Fort St. George in Chennai (Madras) in India. Matthew Martin was MP for Colchester for 1722 - 1742.

Following Capt. Martin's death in 1749 his descendants continued to live at the Hall until William Warwick Hawkins and his wife Jane came to the Village in about 1843. William Hawkins had been an MP for Colchester 1852 – 1857. In 1838 a new rectory was built and through the Hulme Trust all the rectors that came to Alresford had a connection with Brasenose College, Oxford up to 1988. From 1988 the Bishop of Chelmsford and St John's College, Cambridge held this function.

Ann Wiggins



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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](mailto:alresfordadvertiser@gmail.com)

## ALRESFORD ART GROUP

A decision has been made to postpone any Art Group meetings until the autumn of 2021, when hopefully, we can look forward to a full season of meetings until spring 2022.

The Art Group is a small friendly group of people who enjoy getting together to share their interest in drawing and painting. The group operates on a self help basis although demonstrations are organised as funds allow.

**Meetings are fortnightly on Wednesday afternoons in the Village Hall, 1.15 to 4.15 pm.**

So whether you consider yourself a complete beginner or an unknown old master you'll be made very welcome.

Please watch out for further information in the Advertiser or if you would like to have a chat about the group please give me a call on **01206 823824**.

Stay safe.  
Chris

## SIMPLY SINGING

As with other groups and societies, we have been unable to meet but we hope that sometime in 2021 we will be able to resume our sessions of singing along to our favourite songs.

New members are always welcome and we would be happy to speak to anyone interested in coming along. **We meet on alternate Fridays between 2pm and 4pm** at Alresford Village Hall, Ford Lane. We charge £3 per session, which includes refreshments, proceeds go to the Village Hall Fund.

**For more information contact: Jeanette: 01206 825008 or Chris: 01206 823824**

## ALRESFORD WI

As with many other groups and societies, the WI are unable to meet in the Village Hall for the foreseeable future. However, we have embraced the use of zoom since the New Year and have been holding on-line meetings. It also allows us to join other WI's and WI courses to give us greater variety and information. We have held coffee mornings which include a free raffle. Our first speaker was a Blue Badge Guide from London who gave us a very interesting and entertaining talk on Hidden London. Now that some of our members are better acquainted with zoom, we will be holding more of these meetings which will include craft work as well.

**For more information, please contact:  
Penny Dimmock 01206 822302 or Allyson Salmon  
07742918062**

## ALRESFORD CAMERA CLUB

Another fatality of this awful epidemic has been the Camera Club as since March 2020 it had to cancel all meetings. Whilst there have been brief opportunities for such groups being allowed to meet, the rule that no more than thirty people could meet indoors in venues such as village halls meant the Camera Club, with currently over thirty members, wasn't able to enjoy meeting.

Looking forward, we are hoping the benefits of covid vaccinations will allow groups with over thirty members to re start their meetings. As this is unlikely pre April/May this year the Camera Club committee has decided to postpone any possible restart until the autumn.

**The Camera Club meets in the village hall on the first and third Thursday evenings each month from mid September through to May**, so if you have an interest in colour or monochrome photography, digital manipulation techniques or simply want to see how to improve your images, then the Camera Club might offer you the perfect place to meet with like minded individuals.

More details will appear in future issues of the Advertiser, but if you would like any further information at this time, please contact **John Merison** our Chairman on **01206 250846**

## ALRESFORD CARPET BOWLS CLUB

At the moment we are still waiting for the start gun to sound and we hope to get that soon, when that sounds, we hope to be ready to get going. I know we have been out of action for over a year and the rust has begun to appear but with luck we can get started A.S.A.P. You can always ring me on 01206 823872 for any news.

Keep your fingers crossed and we will see you soon.

Terry Ripo (Chair)

## ALRESFORD HISTORY GROUP

I would really like to start an Alresford History Group because Alresford has so much history and to be proud of going back over 1,000 years that it should be celebrated and for it to have a permanent home so that residents can look at it. We did have a group in the Village called The Alresford Heritage Club which put together a slide show and calendars and was very successful.

**If you are interested in being part of a group, please do get in touch with me on 01206 825153. If you have any photographs or stories then please let me know**

Ann Wiggins, Station Road, Alresford

**NEW**

## ALRESFORD HISTORY - Census 2021

This is the year we have to complete our Census Return. Unfortunately, we will have to wait until January 2022 for the 2021 Census to be released.

In 1841 the first Census was completed that included names, ages, occupations and some addresses although as time has progressed the amount of information collected has increased and so has the population.

I have done a little research into the Census for Alresford but like a lot of things it is not straightforward because each time it was completed it did not necessarily start in the same place and also the boundaries between Alresford, Elmstead Market and Wivenhoe changed.

Ann Wiggins



## THE ALRESFORD STATION HOUSE PROJECT-UPDATE

February saw the station house community gardens full of green hearts. The message behind the hearts is "SHOW THE LOVE", green being love for the planet. The children have enjoyed finding these, but the hearts highlight our need to care for our planet. Please check out @theclimatcoalition and follow #ShowTheLove to find out more about the campaign.



One of the visions for the Alresford station house project is for it to become a centre for sustainability. If you are interested in the project then you can find out more on our website [www.alresfordstationhouse.org.uk](http://www.alresfordstationhouse.org.uk) follow on Instagram @alresfordstation or Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/alresfordstation>, or email [info@alresfordstationhouse.org.uk](mailto:info@alresfordstationhouse.org.uk)

Alresford also has an environmental group. If you would like to get involved please contact the Parish Council clerk on 01206 590846 or email [alresfordpc@outlook.com](mailto:alresfordpc@outlook.com).

## Memories from the *Meanderer*

After reading of the excellent Alresford Station Community Group in the last Alresford Advertiser my mind wandered back to when I was a young boy in the early 1960'S and we would regularly catch the train to Colchester St Botolph's from the Station.



There was a small gatekeeper 'shed' just to the left of the Colchester direction platform that we used to go and sit in when it was cold and wet and from memory the gatekeeper was Jim Hart. Jim lived in a house that was beside the Colchester direction line and backed onto Council houses that are in Wivenhoe Road. When the train was coming Jim would close the gates (no barriers then) to traffic, although of course at that time, there was hardly any cars in Alresford. My Mum, myself and brother would then wander onto the platform and get on the arriving train. My 'black and white' memory just recalls getting on steam trains.

Sometimes, we would go into the Station House waiting room where if it were cold a roaring coal fire would be burning and warming those nearest to it. There was always a crowd and the ticket office was also in the Station House. I think Mr Burbage was the Station Master, I wonder if anyone remembers if he lived the The Station House.

I distinctly remember we would usually go on a Tuesday to see my Nanna and the popular song on the radio (we always had music in the home) was "My Boy Lollipop" by a lady called Millie.

Good memories and Good Luck to those who are trying to preserve our Station House.

*Meanderer.*

# wjr

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## ST ANDREWS EASTER EGG TRAIL



After the success of our Nativity Trail at Christmas, we're excited to say that we're running an Easter Trail in the village!

Look out for the Easter Egg shapes and the letters on them, when unscrambled, will spell out a phrase!



Check out our social media or website for a copy of the Easter Trail map, or contact our Youth Worker, Charley Day, at [youthworker@tenpennyvillages.uk](mailto:youthworker@tenpennyvillages.uk)



We hope you all have a peaceful Easter time.

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

@TenpennyChurches – Facebook & Instagram

@tenpenny\_essex – Twitter



## ALRESFORD NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING

### JANUARY 2021

**Recorded Crimes: 5** (19/12/2020 - 23/01/2021)

**Crime Types:** Domestic abuse x 2 - Theft - Criminal damage to public fence - Non criminal investigation

**Incidents Reported: 19** (19/12/2020 - 23/01/2021)

**Types reported:** Fraud - Covid breach x 5 - Suspicious circumstances x 3 - Domestic x 3 - Concern x 2 - Other - Missing person - Abandoned 999 - Ass other agency - Ill/injury

### JANUARY 2021 TRUCAM: 7

Wivenhoe Road - 19/01/2021

**Top Speed:** 42 mph

Christmas found me on the scene of a fatal RTC, where another family had to deal with the loss of a loved one

Please drive safely and drive with due care and attention, adhere to the speed signs and drive at a safe distance behind the car in front.

### JANUARY 2021 NOTES

#### Latest Scams Circulating- Vaccine. Method-Email (in case you missed last month)

'Confirmed scam going around whereby a text message will be sent to people stating they are eligible to have the vaccine and to follow the link to receive this. Once the link is clicked on, this takes you to a fake NHS website where it asks for all personal details of bank account/sort code and card number to verify and prove ownership of your address. The way the message is received it looks to be true and given the pandemic we are currently in, people will panic and believe this to be true and go ahead without realising they are about to be scammed/defrauded.

#### Sky Insurance. Method-phone scam.

A member of the community had a phone call from someone pretending to be from Sky, introducing an insurance or collection of all their sky equipment. Luckily the resident cancelled their bank card before the transaction went through, which then resulted to further threats from the scammers, Sky confirmed this was not from them.

If you are effected by any scams, please fill in an online form and report to action fraud

[www.actionfraud.police.uk/reporting-fraud](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk/reporting-fraud)

#### Please be vigilant!

#### Dog fouling in the village.

Numerous complaints of dog fouling have been reported, especially at the pavilion green.

Dogs are not permitted here under a Parish Council bylaw.

Dog faeces can be dangerous to children and cause blindness, hence being banned from the green and due to sports taking place. It is really not nice treading in it, transporting it into cars and carpets and having your children's clothes covered in it where they have fallen over.

It is every dog owners responsibility to clear up after their pet.

Please take responsibility. There are bins placed around the village, so there is no excuse. If there is not one near to where your dog has relieved itself, then take it home and dispose of it. Plastic bags of faeces do not belong in trees or bushes. This is a danger to wildlife and really not nice for the environment.

Wardens and police are aware and will fine anyone caught ignoring this.

#### Parking on grass verges.

Reports of Cars parking on grass verges all around the village, damaging the turf.

This makes the village look unsightly and costs money to replace.

The roads are wide enough for parking, so please use the road and not the verges or pavements.

Please keep children safe and park sensibly.

#### 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/>

All incidents must be reported as above

If residents have any concern on suspicious vehicles/activity/drugs in the village, please feel free to contact me, with as much detail as possible, including contact details so I can investigate (unless it is an incident, which then needs to reported as above).

**Email-** [julia.brandon@essex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:julia.brandon@essex.pnn.police.uk)  
**Tel-** 101 Ext- 440222



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# ALRESFORD PARISH COUNCIL

## Chairman's Report - Cllr Frank Belgrove

For full Council meeting minutes please see the Parish Council website or visit the Parish Office (by prior appointment)

### GENERAL UPDATE/COMMENT

Alresford Parish Council has worked in conjunction with volunteers to offer help in the community during the national Covid 19 lockdown and I can report that this support will continue for as long as it is needed. The vaccination programme will hopefully mean a welcome return to some semblance of normality, but it does look as though we will need to learn to live with many aspects of Covid 19 for some time to come.

The pandemic has focused the minds of us all on what is important and health, well-being and preserving the natural environment now seem of even greater importance than ever before. The Parish Council declared a "climate emergency" over a year ago and we are looking at ways to be a greener Council. Further suggestions to address local environmental issues would be most welcome.

Some distressing tragedies have occurred recently in the village and surrounding area with sad losses of life. The Parish Council sends heartfelt condolences to families and friends of those that have passed away.

The Council is immensely proud of our Village PCSO Julia Brandon and her commitment to the role and we thank her for her responses to a range of matters we have required her to help with.

### ALRESFORD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Having overcome some unexpected delays in the course of the Neighbourhood Plan project, due to staff illness at Tendring District Council (TDC) and also a delay with the independent examiner, we felt we were on the home stretch as regards the very final stage of the Plan, but one or two matters were raised by the examiner that now require a further focussed consultation period. The matters are mainly minor technical ones but needed addressing and a sterling effort by the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group has put the Plan back on schedule. The Deputy Leader of TDC has congratulated Alresford Parish Council Steering Group and the whole Council for the prompt response to the issues raised. We are hopeful that the referendum can take place within the next few months as planned (Covid 19 permitting of course).

### PLAYING FIELD

A borehole near to the pavilion block has been installed for irrigation use and it is hoped that not only will this reduce water supply bills in the long term the water can eventually be used for a range of purposes within the community pavilion. Alresford Colne Rangers Football Club will be paying half the costs and the Council will match fund.

Our large pavilion clock is now back in place after being sent away for repair – so many people asked about it! We look forward to seeing sporting events and our local football club Alresford Colne Rangers back in

action soon on the excellent pitches, but safety will as ever be a priority.

Restitution payments from those who were caught causing criminal damage to play area fencing last year are being made to the Council and we thank Essex Police for dealing with this matter.

### PLAY AREA STAUNTON GATE

Residents of Staunton Gate have quite rightly asked when the play area there will be open for use. The Parish Council has yet to take over the play site and so it remains under the control of Taylor Wimpey who are in the process of fulfilling their planning obligations before they can hand over public open spaces to the Parish Council.

### HIGHWAYS

The very wet weather encountered in December and January led to mini flooding at a number of locations in Alresford and Essex Highways has been made aware that ongoing surface drainage problems are an issue.

A number of road signs require re-placement, two particular signs – a 30mph speed limit sign on the corner of the B1027 and Station road and a bends/slow warning sign on the B1027 near Michell's Farm Shop have still not been attended to by Highways even though the Parish Council has highlighted their importance on a number of occasions. We are hopeful that our County Councilor Alan Goggin who is fully engaged with us can now progress these matters as has been successful in following up on several road maintenance problems.

Complaints about Public Rights of Way have increased as paths have been affected by increased usage for exercise due to lockdown and we will be looking to see how improvements can be made. The roadside path between Cockaynes Lane and School Road is pot-holed and in places the surface dressing is missing – this has been reported to Highways on many occasions but is not deemed a priority by them.

The cold snap experienced in February left many roads and pavements very icy for three days – a salt/grit supply was available as usual in the yellow bin located at the Village Hall and we will highlight this facility as some residents were not aware of the availability of grit (albeit a limited supply). Essex Highways and TDC rarely grit pavements in villages and only main routes are salted.

### LITTER and FLY-TIPPING

A new litter bin has been placed at the commencement of the Churchfield footpath near St Peter's, it is for dog waste and general litter. A new litter bin will also be placed in the rural part of Wivenhoe Road now that a licence has been obtained from Essex Highways. Alresford has several more waste bins now, so we hope they are well used, and that littering is reduced. It is encouraging to note that so many dog walkers clean up after their dogs. It was disappointing though to see the amount of litter in ditches along Cockaynes Lane that came to light after vegetation was cut back and we thank our handyman and volunteers for clearing this. Mobile CCTV cameras will be deployed at known fly-

*Continued on page 11*

*Continued from page 10*

tipping sites as this problem seems to be on the increase yet again.

### **THE PUBLIC REALM**

Our order of lamp-post mounted planters has arrived, and they will be fitted over the coming months to brighten up the village centre.

### **THE PARISH PRECEPT**

The local tax (collected via the Council Tax) that is needed to fund the Parish Councils community responsibilities is called the Precept. Current calculations from Tendring District Council indicate that a band D property owner will have a reduction this coming financial year of approx. 2.5% in the amount of individual tax they are required to pay to the Parish Council. This reduction is due to the increase in inhabited properties on the new developments - meaning that the tax burden is spread among more households.

### **PLANNING**

The Parish Council is pleased to note that there is a marked increase in planning permission compliance and that property owners are checking to see whether they require planning permission for certain property alterations before carrying out works.

### **COMMUNITY ASSETS**

St Peter's Church has been nominated as a community asset due to its historical importance and the great affection felt for it by the community. Our work experience student Amber Peck compiled an excellent summary of some aspects of the architecture and history of this wonderful ancient monument:

"In its earliest form, St Peter's Church is thought to be a 12th century, simple, two celled church (composed of a chancel and nave). Details, including quoins (external corner stones that are both decorative and structural) show the width of the original 12th century building. These quoins, at the north-west corner of the nave and exterior west wall, can also be used to date the building. Late Saxon builders would have lacked suitable local building materials, opting to use distinctive red Roman bricks, likely repurposed from a nearby villa. From the removal of plaster on the nave and chancel walls, we can see that the building would have been expanded. The chancel was expanded in the 13th century, but major rebuilding would have been carried out in the 14th century, with the nave being extended to the south. According to an inscription, now removed from the church but recorded by Philip Morant (an 18th century clergyman, author and historian), the benefactor was Anfrey (Anfird) De Staunton. The 1912 Kelly's Directory states that this inscription was a Norman-French epitaph, hung in the chancel, attributing the building work to the 1320s. Sir Anfrey De Staunton had recently become Lord of the Manor of Alresford. The De Staunton's were the first recorded seigneurial family to reside in Alresford. This meant that as Lord of the Manor, De Stanton would have held legal and economic power over his landholding (his manorial rights). St Peter's Church, part of this land holding, would have been rebuilt with the purpose of serving the

Lord of the Manor. The Rectory was attached to the Manor with the first recorded rector being Thomas Parker, succeeded in 1332. There is an unbroken record of Rectors for the following 50 years. It was up to the seigneurial family to maintain records for the Parish, but these records became more obscure following the 1381 Peasants' Revolt, the Black Death and the Hundred Years War, leading to a general agricultural depression across Essex. Alresford's manorial records were further complicated by the addition of a second manor, Cokayne, which would remain separate from that of Alresford until they were joined by the Martin family in the 18th century. Matthew Martin was a captain in the service of the East India Company, commanding the Marlborough Indiaman. In 1712 (during the war of the Spanish Succession), Martin defended his ship, carrying a cargo of £200,000, from three French war ships. For his efforts, Martin was rewarded £1000 and a gold set with 24 diamonds. He purchased Alresford Hall in 1720 and was granted a patent of arms in 1722. That same year, he was elected as a Whig Member of Parliament for Colchester, becoming Mayor of Colchester in 1726. Alresford Hall became Martin's permanent residence in the mid-1730s.

Matthew Martin died on 20 July 1749 and was buried in the family vault at St Peter's Church. Alresford Manor estate remained with the Martin family for over a century. The achievement of the Martin family is best demonstrated by the seven funerary hatchments (diamond shaped heraldic paintings hung on the wall of the nave aisle) that were transferred from the manor house to the family chapel. In the 19th century, St Peter's Church was once more drastically restored. The chancel and turret were rebuilt, and a south vestry, aisle and north porch added. These changes were made under the Hawkins family (the next family to occupy Alresford Hall), particularly William Warren Hawkins. The Rectory house was also re-built. A fire on Saturday 2nd Oct 1971 destroyed the church beyond repair, the exact cause of the fire being unknown." Compiled by Amber Peck.

### **COUNCILLORS and STAFF**

I am pleased to report that two new Councillors have been co-opted to join Alresford Parish Council. Alistair Broom and Julia Claremont-Brown applied under the co-option scheme. Both new Councillors met the current criteria and submitted impressive CVs to the Council and following a successful video conference interview they were then appointed at a full meeting of the Council. We now have a full compliment of Councillors to serve the Parish.

Our part-time staff consisting of Mrs Michelle Salazar (Proper Offer/Clerk), Mrs Angela Baxter (Responsible Financial Officer/Deputy Clerk) and Mr Mick Coham (Handyman) have worked hard to maintain services throughout the current crisis and as a Council we thank them for all they have done and continue to do.

### **COMMUNITY**

The Parish Council is here for the whole community so if you have any issues that you feel need addressing, we will always do what we can to assist you. It must be

*Continued on page 12*

Continued from page 11

remembered that we are the first tier of local government and that our powers are not as extensive as we would always like them to be - sometimes your frustrations are ours too!

We look forward to better weather in the coming months and better times for us all.

Alresford Parish Council Chairman  
Frank Belgrove

## ALRESFORD PARISH COUNCIL CONTACT DETAILS

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

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

Public and Press are welcome

Agenda & Approved Minutes on website

**Website:** [www.alresfordpcessex.uk/](http://www.alresfordpcessex.uk/)

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

**Twitter:** @alresfordessex

**Chairman:** Cllr Frank Belgrove - 01206 823739

**Vice-Chairman:** Cllr Ernie Osborne - 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 [jcbapcessex.outlook.com](mailto:jcbapcessex.outlook.com)

### District Council Tendring

District Councillor Gary Scott - 01206 820769

**Email:** [cldr.gscott@tendringdc.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.gscott@tendringdc.gov.uk)

District Councillor Ann Wiggins - 01206 825153

**Email:** [cldr.awiggins@tendringdc.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.awiggins@tendringdc.gov.uk)

### County Council Essex

County Councillor Alan Goggin - 01206 308023

**Email:** [egog@btinternet.com](mailto:egog@btinternet.com)

**Parish Clerk** - The Proper Officer

01206 615117 (Answerphone 24/7)

**Email:** [alresfordpc@outlook.com](mailto:alresfordpc@outlook.com)

**Responsible Finance Officer & Assistant Clerk**

01206 615117 (Answerphone 24/7)

**Email:** [rfopcessex@outlook.com](mailto:rfopcessex@outlook.com)

## ALRESFORD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN - Update

To summarise last month's report, Tendring District Council (TDC) has completed their review of Regulation 16 consultations and agreed the Alresford Neighbourhood Plan (ANP) can progress to the final approval stage. They've appointed an independent examiner who has been undertaking a review on behalf of the Governments Planning Inspectorate.

The examiner has raised four areas that need further clarification and, as a result, you may have seen in the local press that TDC has started a second consultation on specific items. These are:

1. TDC's updated Strategic Environmental Assessment/Habitat regulation Assessment.
2. The Parish Council's update to their Consultation Statement.
3. What impact the recent adoption of TDC's Local Plan has on the ANP.
4. The Parish Council's supporting information about non-designated listed buildings.

This consultation only relates to the above matters and runs until Friday 9th April 2021. It has been advertised on both the static and electronic parish notice boards (websites) since 18th February and a link to the relevant documents can be found on both the Noticeboard and Neighbourhood plan sections of the Parish Council website <https://www.alresfordpcessex.uk>

Comments should be submitted by email to:- [planning.policy@tendringdc.gov.uk](mailto:planning.policy@tendringdc.gov.uk) or by writing to William Fuller at The Council Offices, Thorpe Road, Weeley, Essex, CO16 9AJ. The consultation closes at 5pm on Friday 9th April 2021.

We expect the examiners decision will be given in May and, if approved, a village referendum could be held in the summer.

We will keep you informed of progress.

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

# ALRESFORD VILLAGE HALL

**The Village Hall website:**

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

**The Village Hall Facebook:**

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

## **NEWS**

### **CORONAVIRUS COVID 19 UPDATES FURTHER UPDATES**

Contrary to the government's announcement on 22nd February, village halls will not be able to reopen after Easter, except for a small number of permitted activities.

England's 10,000+ rural community buildings will instead have to wait until at the earliest **17th May** before they can be hired out for many functions including exercise classes, coffee mornings, performances, and celebrations.

The guidance states in all the venues such as Village Halls, indoor events that bring people together - even if they do not mix with other households - must not run until Step 3. This is only permitted if there is an explicit exemption - this includes support groups, supervised activities for children, parent-and-child groups (up to 15 people, not counting those aged under five), communal worship, or a wedding, reception, or commemorative event like a wake.

As previously we are advising all booked users and private hirers that the hall will remain closed until the Government advice changes and the Management Committee will then decide when the hall can safely reopen.

We again apologise for any disappointment caused but the overall health and safety of all involved in the community of Alresford Village Hall is paramount.

**Please feel free to contact the Trustees by calling the Chair, Russell Milburn on [01206 825739](tel:01206825739)**

### **OTHER NEWS**

It is hoped that by the of going to press the long running leak problem in the village hall roof will be resolved. A contractor will start work on March 25<sup>th</sup> weather allowing and will do whatever is required to find and repair the intermittent problem.

During the lockdown period, Business, Leisure and Retail were again offered grant funding to compensate for loss of revenue during this period. The AVHMC were successful in having their request for grant funding accepted by Tendring District Council.

### **Annual General Meeting**

As reported in the last Alresford Advertiser due to the ongoing restrictions once again, it will be impossible to safely arrange the AGM. Under guidance we could consider a virtual meeting, but this would not allow all those who would like to 'attend' the AGM to partake as many do not have sufficient internet capability of knowledge.

We will submit our accounts to the external auditor for the year ending report and a Year 2020/21 management report will be presented and reported in the next Alresford Advertiser as well as on the village hall website.

If the plan of coming out of lockdown is successful, we should be able to hold an AGM where all can physically attend after **21<sup>st</sup> June 2021**.

**PLEASE, PLEASE** consider our invitation to join us as a Trustee on the Management Committee.

We meet normally once a month in the evening and at present, we have no major concerns with regards to our village hall. If you are interested give me a call and come to a meeting to see what we do.

**So, if you are an old village resident or you have recently moved to the village please consider this request.**

### **REGULAR HIRE GROUPS**

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

**1<sup>st</sup> Alresford Scout Group (Beavers)** meet Tuesday Teatime.

**Alresford Indoor Carpet Bowls Club** meet Monday afternoon/Evening.

**Alresford Camera Club** meet the first and third Thursday evening on the month

**Alresford Art Club** meet every other Wednesday afternoon.

**Alresford Colne Rangers Football Club** (using the Pavilion at the rear of the hall)

**Alresford Women's Guild** meet Wednesday evening.

**Alresford Gardening Club (affiliated to the RHS as Alresford Horticultural Society)** meet on the first Monday of the Month March to November

**Alresford Women's Institute** meet the second Thursday evening of the month

**Alresford Lunch Club** meet every Tuesday

**Dog Training Classes** Tuesday and Thursday evening.

**Tai Chi** meet every Wednesday morning.

**Exercise Classes (Extend)** meet every Thursday morning.

**Alresford Calligraphy Group** meet every Friday morning.

**Simply Singing** meet every other Friday afternoon

**Line Dancing** meets every Tuesday afternoon.

**Craft and Farmers Market** on the first Saturday morning of the month.

### **HALL/PAVILION HIRE**

The Pavilion/Bar is now available for hire either individually or as well as the Hall.

All enquiries should be via:

The Village Hall booking clerk, **Pat Burmby on 01206 823983**.

If more information is needed for any of these groups, please visit Village Hall website or contact Russell Milburn 01206 825739.

Russell Milburn Chair AVHMC

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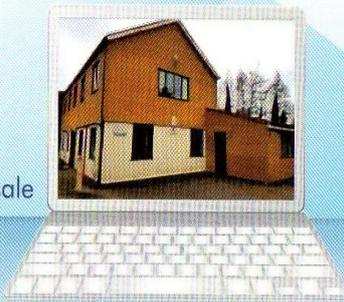


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Our village has been chosen for the series featuring the picturesque Alresford Creek as it mirrors the fictional village of Aldwinter described in the novel. The series is set in the 1890's and features Golden Globe winner Claire Danes and The Night Watchman's Tom Hiddlestone.

### ALRESFORD ADVERTISER CONTACT DETAILS

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The editorial and advertising deadline for the next edition will be **8<sup>th</sup> May 2021**



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## ALRESFORD BIKERS – TURNING A CORNER (sorry).

Finally, we have a something brighter in front of us, and I don't mean new LED headlights either! All our meetings, and Sunday Rides, everything, have all been cancelled for ages and we're getting itchy boots. Lots of events and planned outings that we usually attend or take part in have been cancelled for obvious reasons in the past year or so, but they're starting to be resurrected! Several large annual events are going ahead, but at different dates than has historically been the case. Some organisations are taking the opportunity to make these changes since a long break has been forced on them too. For example the Copdock Bike Show is moving a month earlier from this year onwards, to September. One thing is certain; the second half of the year is going to be very busy indeed!

AB like to take a positive from any negative situation, as you know, and one interesting side benefit of having been locked down for ages has been that many bikes have not received their annual ration of salt, grit, and crud that they may normally have done. Indeed many have been cleaned and polished within an inch of their life! I have seen several out recently that have obviously been spared the rigours of Winter because I haven't seen them for months. Some sneaky accessories have begun to appear (like the aforementioned LED lights, tiny LED indicators, shiny bits of chrome, and so on).

Many bikers are, like me, taking the opportunity to ride when possible to stay sharp, while also delivering some kind of service. Some are carers, or doing deliveries of pharmaceutical goods or little bits of shopping to housebound or vulnerable people, and things like that. There is a lot of support and welfare activity going on everywhere, and a lot of that is being done by bikers. I ride to maintain a separation between hotspots we have to visit, like supermarkets, and a vulnerable person. (Shop in the car, deliver on the bike, a layer of separation most folks cannot achieve). So, if you are outside and see bikes going past, they are quite likely to be helping the community in some way. For some, bikes are an only means of personal transport, anyway. Some riders are avoiding public transport like the plague (have you seen how many people cannot wear a mask even to save their own lives? Medical exemption is one thing, hanging a mask round your throat on a bus is something else). Blood bikers are still out there, and have not missed a beat throughout the entire pandemic, for example. Many nurses, hospital workers, care workers, and other support workers use bikes for transport. I used to, every day, to commute. My personal mileage has dropped by more than half, last year, which is why I mentioned skill fade in the last issue.

required to maintain it. What that means is that even highly skilled, and formerly well-practiced riders have become a tad rusty, having been grounded for so long. That previously keen edge may well be a little dull now. That includes me, as I ride almost every day normally, so Lockdown and bad weather recently has taken its toll. And what that means for non-riders is simply to give us a smidge more room, time, space, as we're rusty and may not be quite so competent as we were this time last year. We'll soon get it back though! So, when the circumstances permit, I'll be out practicing. Simple things like U Turns need practice. (U turns? I hear you cry! Yes, mini roundabouts are the issue here. U Turns are still a test requirement for bikes, so while we can still do a turn around and head the other way if we make a mistake, we'll be half a mile away while car drivers carry out their 28-point turn in the road.) Hard braking and emergency stops need practice. Anticipation and hazard perception need practice. Simple traffic negotiation needs practice. Space management needs practice. Worse yet, the county pothole has bits of tarmac in it, and that needs awareness, which comes from practice. So, I'll be practicing. Many of us might. So if you happen to see me, or others, doing figure of eights somewhere in a car park, don't laugh!

Now is also the time to be organising insurance and MOT stuff, un-SORN-ing and taxing, maybe a spring service, rather than leave it to the day before and find out your battery is as flat as a pancake. Now is not the time to discover flat tyres or punctures either! I can tell you the bike dealerships and workshop engineers are already busy. They are booked up weeks in advance at this time of year anyway, and Lockdown has made that worse. Don't leave it to the last minute!

If you want to come and join us, once we get rolling again, which we hope will be soon, we'll be meeting in the Pointer Inn at 8pm on the second Tuesday of every month, and probably most Sunday mornings outside in the car park for a ride out somewhere. Just turn up and say hello! We'll soon be back doing this again, see picture on the back page!



Which brings me to, yes, skill fade! Riding motorcycles is a perishable skill, and like all other skills, practice is

Al Gillard