

1970 2020

THE ALRESFORD ADVERTISER AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2020

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

COVID-19 UPDATE

As the threat of coronavirus reduces, the Government has announced that from the 1st August shielding for the 'clinically extremely vulnerable' will be suspended. Government provided food boxes will also be ending. This does not mean that local support will end. If you are anxious or unable to go out, you will still be able to contact the following Parish Councillors who will arrange help for you:

Chairman, Frank Belgrove: 01206 823739

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

Vice-Chairman, Ernie Osborne: 01206 822168

District and Parish Councillor, Ann Wiggins: 01206 825153

NEW ARTICLES - PHOTOS - IDEAS

The Alresford Advertiser, run entirely by volunteers has now been published for 50 years, something that would not have been possible without our advertisers and contributors.

This is a magazine for the village and we would welcome any new articles, photos or any new ideas.

If you would like to contribute, please email your article, photo or idea to:

alresfordadvertiser@gmail.com

OPENING UP!

Please be patient with the volunteers who are responsible for the buildings that clubs or organisations use whilst they do their best to unravel COVID-19 guidance on how to reopen whilst keeping you, volunteers and employees safe. Just because the Government says that something can open with a couple of days notice, in reality this cannot happen

ALL AREAS WHERE THE PUBLIC GO CAN ONLY OPEN WHEN THEY ARE COVID-19 SAFE

Everything has to be risk-assessed, before any one can go back into a building - this involves ploughing through pages and pages of 'guidance', deciphering what it means and how it will work for the building and its users. Many things have to be taken into account - how are people going to enter and exit the building avoiding pinch points, maintaining social distancing, good hygiene and adhering to COVID-19 capacity? How are they going to socially distance when they are in the building, 2m or 1m + apart and what activities are they permitted to do (1 metre + is a metre apart with additional measures such as ventilation, masks....)? How do they use a toilet? How is the cleaning going to work? Additional things need to be purchased i.e. barriers, signage, hand cleaning products etc... Please also remember that while socially distant measures are in place, capacity will be reduced.

BEFORE ANYONE TURNS UP.....names and contacts have

to be collected by a responsible person to ensure that a safe capacity is not exceeded and in the unfortunate occurrence of a COVID-19 incident, test and tracking can be advised of all present. Once a thorough risk assessment has been completed for the buildings, the clubs/organisations have to agree to abide by the measures put in place.

At the time of going to press, no celebration or party events are permitted.

I have seen close up where guidance has come in from the Government, risk assessments started and then two day later version 2 has appeared and it is back to the drawing board, then version 3 appears.....

I do understand that you want to turn up to your club or organisation but I hope this information (which just scratches the surface) gives you some idea of the difficulties faced by those who have to implement them.

PLEASE BE PATIENT AND UNDERSTANDING, everyone is trying their hardest. Your clubs and organisations will get back to normal, albeit a 'new normal'

**Let us as a community, remain
compassionate, strong and together!**

Thank you

St Andrew's Church



www.tenpennyvillages.uk
Find us on fb: ParishChurchesofAlresfordElmsteadThorrington-TenpennyVillages

In line with Government guidance St Andrew's Church /The Hub remains closed
All services & groups POSTPONED until further notice

A MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR

"Here is the Church, here is the Steeple, look inside and see all the people".

When I was growing up this was a popular hand gesture nursery rhyme. You probably know how it goes, you put your hands together, point your index fingers to make a steeple and then turn your clasped hands to wave your fingers!

Travelling through Lockdown has been a different story - 'look inside and see all the people' doesn't work when the Church is closed. We now have socially distanced private prayer and after taking a survey we have decided not to return to our Sunday morning Services until September.

So how do you do Church and faith when you don't use the building?

Interestingly probably in a similar way to how Jesus worked with his ministry - working out of peoples houses. We have had live streams of services every Sunday on Youtube and some people have been getting together on Zoom during the week. Our notice sheet has proved really important as well and perhaps in a new way we have been given a fresh way to connect with our next door neighbours and the folks on our Street.

As Christians we believe you can meet with God anywhere but as I chat to folk they have shared how much they miss church and its about missing the chance to get together. I've heard a number of top footballers share how they have enjoyed playing football again but it's not the same without the roar of the crowd. The Christian faith can be done in isolation, but it's better as a participatory sport. Every blessing to you as you travel out of lockdown - I for one can't wait until I "look inside and see all the people!"

But just before we all rush and "get back to normal" we as a Church are wanting to take stock and ask, "what are the lessons we can learn from Lockdown?" This Lockdown has slowed all of our lives from being a spinning "hamster wheel" and in these moments I find that gives space to challenge the lives we live. The

original Steeple on a church was designed to point up to God, as we come out of Lockdown how are we looking at the big picture? Are we allowing God to speak into our lives?

Every blessing and thanks again for your good neighbouring!

Rev Andrew Fordyce

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH CONTACTS

Rector:

Rev Andrew Fordyce 01206 920848
Email: rector@tenpennyvillages.uk

Associated Priest:

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

Youth & Schools Worker:

Charlotte Day (Charley)
Email: youthworker@tenpennyvillages.uk

Churchwardens:

Wendy Wilson 01206 825040
Lyn Bull 01206 827146
Email: stachurchwardens@tenpennyvillages.uk

Bookings for the Hub:

Meg Burdis 01206 820618

ALRESFORD ADVERTISER CONTACT DETAILS

EMAIL: alresfordadvertiser@gmail.com

TELEPHONE: 01206 825739

ADDRESS: 22 Station Road, Alresford CO7 8BT

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CORRESPONDENCE

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

COPY DEADLINE

The editorial and advertising copy deadline for the next edition will be 8th September 2020

Farewell to a friend....

It is with sadness that the Trustees of Alresford Village Hall learnt of the death recently of our former Trustee Jane Lee, after a short illness.

Those who were fellow Trustees will remember Jane for her 'get up and go' attitude to everything and we will remember with fondness her organising of the Music Festival (in the rain), The Horse Boot Sale and the instigating of our Village Hall website.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Stuart and Sam.

Jane was 50 and this is far too early. You are now at peace and not in pain.

Russell
Chair AVHMC

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 UPDATE

As many of you will be aware Government Guidelines allowed Village Halls and Community Centres to start opening from early July. The early versions were not particularly clear in various aspects and there was confusion on the type of activity that was permitted in the hall.

The Trustees sought clarification of the guidelines from the Government via the Rural Community Council of Essex and by the 11th of July we were already on version 3. Since then we now have further announcements with regards to the opening of Sports/Leisure Centres and Indoor Gyms and this again has altered the guidance the Village Halls will need to adhere to, specifically with the types of activities allowed.

Extensive Covid-19 Risk Assessments have been completed, one for the Trustees and one for Users. Also, Barriers and Signage are being prepared to allow the hall to be used with safety to the Users, Trustees and Cleaners.

A questionnaire has been sent to all regular users enquiring their thoughts on when they will want to use the hall complying with ALL the conditions that need to be followed within the Covid-19 guidelines.

Social Distancing will only allow a provisional maximum of 25 in the hall and the kitchen will not be available. All celebration events are strictly prohibited at present and all users will need to be registered to allow Track and Tracing in the unfortunate event of a Covid illness within the group using the hall.

Normally, hall usage is extremely low over the late July/ August period and we are using this time to get

everything into place, whilst covering a deep clean of the hall and the annual service of the hall floor.

The Munson Room will be out of commission until further notice as it is being used as part of the required one-way system to enter/exit the hall and will also act as a queuing area for the toilet.

All private hirers in the coming months have been contacted with regards to their 'celebration' event not at present being permitted. This is extremely distressing as these events are normally booked months in advance and involved lots of planning. We of course will be in constant contact with the hirers as and when criteria for use is updated.

Please look at our website or Facebook account as we will keep this updated with all the information as to when we can open the hall.

As our village grows, the Trustees extend an invitation to all but in particular those who are new to Alresford to come along and see us or if it is easier give me a call and we can meet. It would be most welcome for one or two new Trustees to join us and offer other viewpoints from those that are new to the Management Committee.

If more information is needed, please visit Village Hall website or contact Russell Milburn 01206 825739.

Russell Milburn (Chair AVHMC)
01206 825739

COFFEE BREAK

Can you solve the SUDOKU puzzle?
Remember numbers can only appear once in each column, row and 3 x 3 box can only

answers on page 14

	3	5		9			4	8
		9			8			3
	4		6		5			1
				7	4			
	2						6	
			1	5				
8			9		2		7	
9			5			2		
6	1			4		5	3	

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ALRESFORD NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING

JUNE 2020

Recorded Crimes: 6

Crime Types: Theft from a boat, domestic, assault, blackmail, malicious communications/threats, other.

Incidents Reported: 12

Types reported: Nuisance x 2, missing person x 4 (same person), suspicious circumstances, concern, domestic, disturbance, blackmail, malicious communications.

TRUCAM: monthly total 23

Two deployments - Wivenhoe Road: **18** caught, top speed **44mph**

- One deployment - B1027: **5** caught, top speed **50mph**

TRUCAM is back in action - Please drive safely and adhere to the road signs

Parking on footpaths

1 considerate parking ticket was issued to a vehicle blocking the footpath.

Drivers do this believing it is considerate to traffic passing. Please consider pedestrians who use the footpath and need to pass without going into the danger of the road. Parking at the kerb actually helps to slow down the traffic, especially those not paying attention to speed limits. **Footpath - for pedestrians; Road - for vehicles**

Litter and Fly Tipping

- A large amount of litter is being left on the playing field. There are bins in various places, please use them or take your rubbish home.
- Fly tipping continues around rural locations.

If you use a trader to remove your waste, ask for their waste carrier number and vehicle details. Check online at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/access-the-public-register-for-environmental-information> or contact the Environment Agency directly on 03708 506 506 for a free instant waste carrier check.

Whether you find someone through social media, an advert or even someone approaching you directly, you need to check they are a registered waste carrier. It is illegal for them to take your waste if they are not, and they could be a rogue trader.

If anyone has any evidence of anyone in the act of fly tipping, please report it to Tendring Council via their website form; more details can be found at:

<https://www.tendringdc.gov.uk/rubbish-and-recycling/fly-tipping-crime-not-care-your-rubbish-your-responsibility>

Anyone caught fly tipping may be prosecuted

Speeding

Numerous reports have been made on speeding and Anti-Social driving in the village. Anyone caught driving recklessly will be issued with a Section 59 warning, which could lead to losing their vehicle and if captured speeding on the speed gun will receive a course and fee of fine and points.

If you value your licence/vehicle, abide by the law - it's that simple!

The only responsible person in control of the vehicle is the driver

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 or activity in the village, please feel free to contact me, with as much detail as possible, including contact details so I can investigate.

Email- julia.brandon@essex.pnn.police.uk

Tel- 101 Ext- 440222



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ALRESFORD COLNE RANGERS FC



When Saturday comes around....

Our football club, Alresford Colne Rangers has been in existence since 1932 but has never had to deal with a situation before that presents itself now.

Football is the main stay of many sports minded people and is no different in our village, promoting fitness, well-being, and social development.

We have seen changes recently within the club where we have two adult Men's teams together with a Ladies team and 2 Youth teams at under 16's and under 10's level. Our 1st and reserve Men's teams play on Saturday afternoons with the Ladies and Youth teams occupying both Sunday mornings and afternoons where games are allocated.

Pitches are constantly under pressure with this amount of demand, but we are lucky to enjoy a lot of help within the club regarding pitch care as well as training, first aid and bookkeeping and together with a strong committee we have enjoyed continued growth and success.

We would normally be in the pre-season training stage at this time of year but with the season start date undecided we are hopeful that a decision is reached soon which enables safe compliance, even so it will not be long before inclement weather and shorter days will add more pressure to an expected congested fixture list.

We are a small village club with excellent facilities based in a lovely setting with a social bar and lounge area and with the village demographics continually changing, we welcome new members, players and spectators to come along on match days, have a pint or a cuppa and enjoy our hospitality.

ALRESFORD CRAFT AND FARMERS MARKET

Due to these very uncertain times there are no future markets planned.

The stall holders are still crafting, and be assured we are missing our Saturday mornings.

The markets will continue as soon as it is safe enough for everyone to attend.

Please check on our Facebook page for updates.

Until we can see you again, please stay safe.

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ALRESFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman's Report - Cllr Frank Belgrove

It may be a cliché to say this but we are living in unprecedented times. The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic is sweeping the globe leaving almost no community untouched – both from a human and an economic perspective. With most affected countries now in various states of either in 'lockdown' or emerging from it economies and young and old alike are affected in some way. In these uncertain times, everyone in communities needs to come together to pool their resources and abilities and in Alresford this has already happened. Back in March the Parish Council in association with the volunteer group The Neighbourhood Action Panel began a community support operation to supply food and medicines to those in the community in need. As it turned out the food supply (apart from problems caused by initial panic buying) was not the main problem – the supply of medicines was and due to the excellent volunteering spirit in Alresford this problem was successfully tackled. One member of the Alresford team Mr Iain Finch has had his selflessness recognised by an award certificate from the High Sheriff of Essex and the volunteer group has been well supported with great generosity of food and money donated by residents. Another resident of note is Mr David Gynn who has been a key shopper for several shielded residents including a shielded Parish Councillor.

The Parish Council has been operating throughout the lockdown using internet platforms and telephone conference calls for Council business. Due to closure of the Pavilion our Clerk and Assistant Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer have worked from home. As lockdown is slowly eased we are carrying out the necessary risk assessments and safety precautions needed to open the Parish Council office and other facilities, it is a challenging time for all but we are doing our very best to operate safely and effectively. Unfortunately, to date, the tennis courts cannot be used for the informal tennis usually enjoyed by a number of residents.

As of the end of June our handyman resumed work and his first task was to fit two new litter bins, one at the entrance to Cockaynes Wood and one in Station Road and indeed the Council wants these larger capacity bins used because littering in the area is becoming a real issue since the lifting of many lockdown measures. At the July remote access meeting of Alresford Parish Council there was a unanimous vote to tackle the source of littering and that source is the people who do it! We therefore will be using all lawful methods including mobile CCTV, witness statements and other ways to prosecute those who carry out the anti-social behaviour of littering and fly-tipping. We will not be "spying" on residents, but we will be taking a tough and uncompromising stance on this issue.

One other issue that is being addressed in a number of ways is the problem and danger of speeding traffic and other road safety concerns. In Alresford we have a locally funded Police and Community Support Officer (Julia Brandon) who makes good use of a special speed camera called Trucam.....this camera records speed and also records by video vehicles and the drivers. The Trucam device, operated by Julia Brandon is very effective and even when challenged in court by motorists, who may wish to evade a fine, the evidence is irrefutable – recently a motorist challenged a conviction in the Alresford area of approx. a £100 fine and took the matter to court, this resulted in the Judge increasing the fine to £600 when the court had seen the recorded evidence!

Road safety is not all about enforcement of existing speed limits, the Parish Council has approached the Local Area Highways Panel regarding possible speed limit or infrastructure changes on three of our roads, the B1027, Wivenhoe Road and Cockaynes Lane – all have particular problems. The B1027 has a 40mph limit yet recent housing development and increased turning traffic means increased danger to road users, for this reason a 30mph limit was applied for. In Wivenhoe Road traffic calming (build-outs/an improved zebra crossing) was thought a possible solution to the speeding vehicles we get from time to time. In Cockaynes Lane the mix of vehicles and pedestrians on the narrow lane is a great cause for concern and so a 20mph was requested. Unfortunately, Essex Highways Officers initially rejected all three requests from the Parish Council. There has been a challenge mounted and the Highways Panel has now agreed to take an in depth look at Cockaynes Lane following consultancy evidence put forward by the Parish Council. In addition, the B1027 is to be re-evaluated for speed limits anyway and County Councillors Alan Goggin is heading a task force of Parish Councillors and Highways Officers to investigate and report on this. Wivenhoe Road currently falls short of Highways criteria for traffic calming and so enforcement will be the focus there to deal with speed issues - for the moment anyway.

Parish Council - Other news of importance:

At the July meeting of Alresford Parish Council we made a very sad announcement – It was to officially tell Councillors of the passing of Mrs Jane Lee of Station Road, a lady in the prime of her life who did so much in our community and who was always very supportive of the Council. The Council offers its very deepest sympathies to Mr Stuart Lee and all the family.

Mrs Charlotte Day (known as Charley) is leaving the Council and on behalf of all members and staff we thank her so much for the tremendous enthusiasm she brought to the council – it was so refreshing to have a younger persons input into Council business and Council projects. We wish her well as she pursues her training programme in the Church of England.

Continued on page 8

Continued from page 7

A number of projects that were put on hold in March are now being revisited. One of the projects to replace tungsten lamps on the playing field floodlighting system with LED fittings and lamps has just begun – very much prompted by the success of the street lighting changes that has resulted in improved reliability and lower running costs. Other projects will progress shortly.

I must mention the exceptional contribution made to the community by the relatively new Alresford Rector, Andrew Fordyce. He has shown compassion and practical help for so many and his work with the local foodbank service has been a life saver.

As Chairman of the Council I wish to commend all members and staff for the way they have risen to the numerous challenges of late. Even at the height of the lockdown we were able to submit the Neighbourhood Plan and supporting documents to Tendring District Council and for this we recognise the terrific input from the Steering Group of residents who pulled out all the stops to assist Cllr Simon Clarke in finalising this important document.

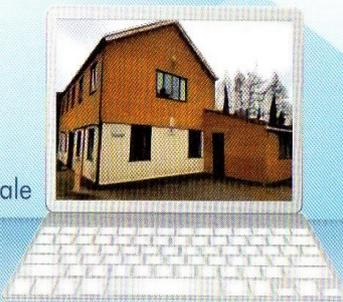
There are so many other matters that could be entered into this report but information overload is something we are all suffering from so perhaps best to recommend that if anyone wishes to know more about Council business they visit our website alresfordpcessex@outlook.com or indeed telephone myself on 01206 823739. In fact, any of *your* Councillors would be very happy to hear from you. I complete this report by thanking those that have made a point of sending messages of appreciation to the Council for our response to the COVID-19 pandemic.....we absolutely thrive as a Council on these positive comments!

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Thank you

ALRESFORD PARISH COUNCIL CONTACT DETAILS

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

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

Website: www.alresfordpcessex.uk/
Facebook: Alresford Parish Council (Parish Council only)/The Pavilion & Playing Field - Alresford Essex
Twitter: @alresfordessex

Chairman: Cllr Frank Belgrove - 01206 823739
Vice-Chairman: Cllr Ernie Osborne - 01206 822168

Cllr Linda Belgrove	01206 823739
Cllr Simon Clark	01206 827884
Cllr Sue Hammick	01206 618659
Cllr John Housden	01206 827118
Cllr Gary Scott	01206 820769
Cllr Ann Wiggins	01206 825153
Cllr Bina Swash	01206 970353

District Council Tendring

District Councillor Gary Scott - 01206 820769
Email: cllr.gscott@tendringdc.gov.uk
District Councillor Ann Wiggins - 01206 825153
Email: cllr.awiggins@tendringdc.gov.uk

County Council Essex

County Councillor Alan Goggin - 01206 308023
Email: egog@btinternet.com

Parish Clerk - The Proper Officer
01206 615117 (Answerphone 24/7)
Email: alresfordpc@outlook.com

Responsible Finance Officer & Assistant Clerk
01206 615117 (Answerphone 24/7)
Email: rfopcessex@outlook.com

ALRESFORD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

We are pleased to announce the Alresford Neighbourhood Plan has now been submitted to Tendring District Council and is subject to review and approval at their cabinet meeting in July. Tendring District Council will run the next consultation process in August and September, during which time everyone in the Parish will get another opportunity to comment on its contents. Please take the opportunity to do so and ensure the Plan reflects your views. The information Tendring DC receive will be an important addition to our previous consultations and surveys, and will contribute to the final document.

Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

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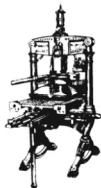
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Jane Lee

2/4/1970 to 19/6/2020

It is sad to report the passing of Jane Lee from Station Road after a short illness. She had lived in Alresford for nearly 8 years and many local people will have known her from the Music festival she organised in the village, her support of the Parish Council, Village Hall, or from the Opticians in Wivenhoe.

Jane was born in Liverpool and moved to Colchester with her parents Eileen and David Rimmer when she was aged one. Jane grew up in Colchester.

She met Stuart Lee in 1995 and their son Samuel was born in August 1996. The family moved to Frating initially and then Wivenhoe in 2006 before finally settling in Alresford in 2012.

Jane's career in optics began when she was aged 18 starting as a receptionist at the Co-op Opticians in Colchester. She developed a keen interest in Optics and decided to study for 3 years to become a Dispensing Optician (FBDO). She always had an ambition to work for herself and opened her own Opticians Practice (Wivenhoe Eyecare) in 2004. Stuart went on to join her full time in the business the following year.

Since opening Wivenhoe's first Opticians the family went on to develop a very loyal and supportive customer base and made many friends in the process. Their son, Samuel, joined the business and went on to become one of the country's youngest qualifying dispensing opticians aged 18.

Jane was also a fantastic cook and always had a love of food, especially cakes & desserts. After nearly 30 years in optics Jane decided in early 2017 to open a Waffle bar in Clacton on Sea with Stuart's help. They initially spread themselves between the two businesses before Jane decided to sell Wivenhoe Eyecare to a new owner and Wivenhoe Eyes Open was formed. Samuel remained in the practice to continue his own optical career.

The restaurant started with just desserts and being a vegetarian for many years Jane wanted the restaurant to continue this philosophy. As the restaurant evolved, she went on to introduce many Vegan options when savoury food became in demand. People would travel far and wide for Jane's food. Waffle On Clacton has built up a very large and loyal customer following which is testament to Jane's passion and ability.

Jane had a lifelong love of animals as demonstrated by her 2 dogs, 4 cats, and 9 chickens that Sturt is now caring for. Many of Jane's animals were rescued as she wanted to give them a good home after a poor start in life. Jane always wanted a horse and fell in love with Rango at first sight. Jane adored Rango as can be seen in the many pictures of them together and she dedicated many hours to his care and training.

Even following a broken back and ongoing complications from a foot injury due to a serious car accident in Alresford in December 2019 Jane's spirits were high, and she was looking forward to her next cruise ship holiday

with Stuart and the wider Liverpool family that was planned for August 2020. Her sudden death aged 50 has come as a great shock to everyone that knew Jane.

Jane's energy and drive, her generosity of spirit, and her love of all things nature made will live on in the hearts and souls of all those who knew her best. Jane touched many peoples lives and she will never be forgotten. Stuart & Samuel would like to thank everyone for their support and well wishes.

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To check what items each week are in short supply please look on the Colchester Food Bank website at: (<https://colchester.foodbank.org.uk/>).

We understand they are also in short supply of plastic supermarket delivery trays, (the collapsible type) so if you have any spare please also drop them off at the above address. Thank you.

Ray and Sue Giles

Sudoku answers

2	3	5	7	9	1	6	4	8
1	6	9	4	2	8	7	5	3
7	4	8	6	3	5	9	2	1
3	9	6	2	7	4	8	1	5
5	2	1	3	8	9	4	6	7
4	8	7	1	5	6	3	9	2
8	5	3	9	6	2	1	7	4
9	7	4	5	1	3	2	8	6
6	1	2	8	4	7	5	3	9

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ALRESFORD WI

Very little has changed since last month's article, but we are still continuing to keep in contact with our members by phone, email or printed letters.

When we have our monthly meetings on the 2nd Thursday of each month, we enjoy hands on crafts, offer a wide range of speakers, and organise meals, outings and theatre trips. When we eventually resume our meetings, we will obviously have to adapt to the guidelines accordingly. In the meantime, we have access to My W.I. which provides us on line with numerous ideas to keep us inspired.

If you are interested in finding out more about us, then please contact myself, Penny Dimmock 822303; Jan Stewart 825184; Allyson Salmon 07742918062

We look forward to being able to meet again in the near future.

Penny Dimmock

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ALRESFORD BIKERS - LOCKED DOWN

There hasn't been much riding for four months now, though I have been able to ride mine in a very limited way. There are dozens of bikers out there in the "care" domain, including pharmacy deliveries, the Blood Bikers are working their socks off, there are PPE and sample deliveries and collections, and of course, direct care. For your information, biking is an excellent way to stay isolated, and of course if you are within two meters of anyone while riding, you're likely already in trouble. Some domestic use of motorbikes is beginning to be allowed right now, and the number of bikes out on the roads is beginning to grow. Unfortunately, many laid up bikes that have been sleeping all Winter, missed the window for MOT extensions, and are now grounded until more freedoms are bestowed upon us, or the MOT stations are able to deal with them all. Others have been deliberately SORN'ed pending the lifting of restrictions. (Strange how that acronym has become a verb eh?) So a lot of frustrated riders are waiting for that to happen.

All the events that we had planned to either hold or attend this summer are cancelled, including obviously

all the sport, which should be restarting by the time you read this. There are a couple of "round the world" riders who I follow, who have become stranded wherever they were when the virus struck, so they're on holiday right now. One is now in Europe (having just left Iran and ridden back on her planned route) so she's OK, the other, also a female adventure rider, has narrowly escaped being locked down in Death Valley, and is back. I can't imagine a worse place to have been locked down, since it is where the hottest ambient air temperature ever recorded on the surface of Earth, 56.6 degrees C, was recorded in 1913).

The biking calendar looks a bit bleak at the moment. BUT! It will pass. We will all get through this. We'll come out the other side stronger, and raring to go. Our meetings in the Pointer will restart, our rides out on Sundays will begin again, and we'll throw in a few mid-week rides for those not working. We'll all be able to be back together again. Not just the bikers, everyone. Meantime, there are a lot of biking experts sitting around doing very little for the next while, so if you want to know more about Alresford Bikers, bikes, or anything to do with them, just get in touch. And here's a photo of many of us, in happier times!

Al Gillard



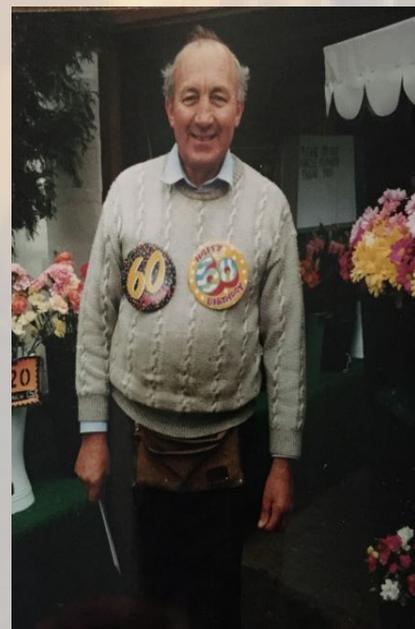
Michael Sydney Ennew "Mike"

10th April 1939 - 4th May 2020

Mike sadly passed away on the 4th May 2020 aged 81 years. He was a loving husband to Jo for 57 years, a wonderful Dad to Tracey and Sandra and very proud Grandad to Rebecca, Abigail and Jasmine.

Mike was a lifelong resident of Alresford, being born in The Old Bakery in Coach Road. He attended the small flint school next to the present Primary School, then going on to Brightlingsea School where he met Jo.

From school he worked on the Farm in Cockaynes Lane (now a business centre), moving onto Woods of Colchester, where he worked for a number of years before being made redundant. In his younger days Mike played for the Alresford Colne Rangers Football Team who still exist today. When he was made redundant, he and Jo decided to open a small floristry business from their Bungalow (Oakwood); with Christmas and Mother's Day being exceptionally busy. He also sold various produce such as runner beans, tomatoes and fresh fruit, grown in his large garden; he took much pride in showing customers around if ever they asked to have a look. Most people in the village will have known him as the "Flower Man" on the main road which is a lovely tribute to him.



A private family funeral was held for Mike at Weeley Crematorium on Friday 12th June 2020.

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