

THE ALRESFORD ADVERTISER

JUNE/JULY 2021

Established 1970

Michael Hester passed after a short illness on May 17th, 2021.

The Alresford Advertiser sends our prayers and thoughts to Sheila and all the family at this time.

Michael produced and edited the Alresford Advertiser for 11 years and was a deliverer up to 2020. A compositor by trade, he brought the village magazine to another level, a template that is still very much the foundation of the Advertiser today. Michael continued after 'retirement' to aid the subsequent editors, Allison and now Hayley.

He was also very prominent in the re-introduction of the village Fete in 2011 and continued as a valuable member of the Alresford Fete Organising Group (AFOG) until the present time.

Michael was another of the community that was willing to get involved and we will miss him. However, he leaves a legacy of his time within the Alresford Advertiser and was not frightened to encourage debate via the editorial.

Michael would always sign off the Advertiser with a few jokes and occasionally a quote. This we feel was very Michael and apt for this time of reflection.

**'DONT COUNT THE HOURS
MAKE THE HOURS COUNT.'**

And one to make us smile.....

I wish I was a glow worm
A glow worm is never glum
Because how can you be grumpy
When the sun shines out of your bum!

Goodbye for now Michael



This photo of Michael (on the right) was taken in 2014 when he received an Alresford Village Volunteer Award for his continuing work and dedication in putting together and editing the bi-monthly Alresford Advertiser and for his work and assistance in the Alresford Village Fete

BREAKING NEWS - THE ALRESFORD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN !

The final consultation has been completed and the Neighbourhood Plan document is with the External Examiner for their formal approval prior to a village referendum. If ratified by this referendum Alresford will be the first area in Tendring to have in place a Neighbourhood Plan.

See report on page 3



St Andrew's Church



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

Our churches are now open at normal service times. We will continue to socially distance in accordance with Government guidelines and timings.

Further information can be found at <http://tenpennyvillages.uk>

A MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR

June 2019 seems like a different world away - few of us had heard of coronavirus and what has unfolded in the intervening times would be beyond most of our imaginations.

Two years ago I trained up for and competed in the Blenheim Triathlon where I raised money for an MS charity. After all the hours of training, there was the tension and excitement of swimming across the large lake; throwing off the wetsuit, biking 20km and then finishing with a run.

The challenge for me was that I am not the world's best swimmer and I seemed to use up 90% of my energy getting the swim done. I was blessed to do the triathlon with my best man and we decided to do things at our own pace as he was a better swimmer. What transpired was that he then got stuck as his chain came off in the bike stint and I spotted him and was able to help him get this fixed. We then raced along together.

Why mention all this? To be a show off? My reason for sharing this was that the second half of the triathlon was about me managing how to work whilst "running on empty".

What amazed me was the impact of having folks alongside me. The crowds genuinely gave me a lift when they cheered and to have family cheering was really special. What was amazing was that my sister was able to attend out of the blue and it was her condition that I was raising money for.

Right at the end I was totally beyond my own resources and at that point a fellow competitor drew alongside and just started chatting. I was beyond talking and just listened and enjoyed the company.

The triathlon was completed and I have a medal to show for it but what abides is the power of the support the triathletes and the crowds gave to each other.

Many of us are emerging from lockdown sensing how gruelling it has been. It may be that some of us feel that we are "running on empty". I am really keen that as we emerge from lockdown, we have a sensitivity to how one another is doing.

The Bible passage that comes to mind as I share this is an account of Jesus on the road to Emmaus. It is an Easter account where his followers are devastated at his

death on the cross. Jesus walks with them and listens to their exhausted grief and then explains why they should put their hope in God. The followers are lifted by the conversation and invite this "walk along stranger" in for some food. It is as Jesus breaks bread with them that they suddenly realise it is the risen Jesus and then he is gone.

This amazing account shows that God's love is shown as he walks beside others and listens and comforts and points to hope. My prayer is that we will listen and walk beside one another and that we would be encouraged to look beyond death to a greater hope. Such is the Easter hope we can hold to, as we see how things start to open up. Thank you to those of you who look out for others and help others. Let's not race ahead but be there for one another; such is the journey of "loving our neighbour".

Every blessing
Rev Andrew Fordyce

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

Youth & Schools Worker:

Charlotte Day (Charley)

Email: youthworker@tenpennyvillages.uk

Churchwardens:

Wendy Wilson
01206 825040

Email: stachurchwardens@tenpennyvillages.uk

Bookings for the Hub:

Meg Burdis
01206 820618

ALRESFORD CRAFT & FARMERS MARKET

As our world is now starting to open up, I would like to explain the market's position.

There has been a lot of discussion to try and sort out the Village Hall rules and how it affects the market. With the one way system and Covid policing rules, sadly it is not viable for the market to open again at this current time in respect of everyone's safety.

This situation is being monitored closely and we will return when it is safe to do so.

For those of you are new to the village I will explain what our market is about.

The market has been running for five years in the village hall, we run on the first Saturday of the month, Feb to December, 9 am to Midday. We have a café with a seating area for you to meet for a cuppa and a chat, we provide hot and cold drinks, bacon and sausage baps and an excellent selection of homemade cakes, this is run by two local ladies.

We have more than 20 stalls, craft and food (when available) these vary from knitted and sewn goods, handmade jewellery, woodcraft, cards, needle felting, glass vases and ornaments, teddy bears, gift packs, clocks made from old LPs, candles and wax melts. The crafts vary from month to month as I keep five stalls available for guest stallholders. Food stalls can include, fudge, chocolate, jam and chutney and meat.

As you may appreciate we may not be able to return with as many stalls, all these people are local crafters and I am still being contacted for crafters wishing to join the market and I work hard to not double up on stalls when possible. So please look us up on our face book page and see what we have to offer you all. We have over 400 hundred likes so far. Although some people that contact me are from Alresford in Hampshire!!!

The market looks forward to seeing you all when we return, hopefully in the Autumn, watch this space.

ALRESFORD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Good news!

In the last edition of the Alresford Advertiser we explained why Tendring District Council were undertaking a further consultation on the Alresford Neighbourhood Plan and that this followed an interim report by the External Examiner. This exercise is now complete and most consultees offered no further comments or advice. There was a suggestion in the interim report that more work was required to validate our policy for non-designated historic buildings however we are confident that we have now addressed this matter and a visit to the village by the Examiner will have validated the evidence behind our policy on heritage assets. This was the only part of our Plan to attract comment questioning a policy and this means the Alresford Neighbourhood Plan can now move forward to a formal positive recommendation that the plan is ready for a local referendum.

We'll keep you informed of progress and the referendum date.

Alresford Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

ALRESFORD COLNE RANGERS FOOTBALL CLUB

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

MONDAY JUNE 28TH, 2021

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page at [https://www.facebook.com/
AlresfordColneRangersFC/](https://www.facebook.com/AlresfordColneRangersFC/)

ALRESFORD COLNE RANGERS FOOTBALL CLUB

CHILDREN'S SUMMER HOLIDAY FOOTBALL TRAINING SESSIONS

During the 6 weeks holidays this year, the football club will be running free football training on Sunday mornings for boys and girls of all ages.



For more information, or to put your child's name down, pop over and speak to us at the Pavilion on a Saturday afternoon between 3-6pm

OR: Contact us via our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/AlresfordColneRangersFC/>

OR: Call Andy on 07984493721

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/>

Coronavirus COVID 19 FURTHER UPDATES

Step Three: 17 May

- Indoor and outdoor gatherings or events organised by a business, charity, public body or similar organisation can be organised subject to compliance with Covid-19 secure guidance, risk assessment, the premises capacity limits, and the social contact rules.
- Film shows, plays, concerts and sports matches can take place, subject to social distancing.
- Hospitality settings will be able to open for seated service in accordance with the "rule of 6 or 2 households", so community cafes, coffee mornings and social clubs can take place.
- Indoor sports activities, including exercise classes, team sports such as table tennis,
- badminton, indoor bowls, and indoor soft play for children can take place
- Up to 30 people will be able to attend weddings, receptions, funerals, and wakes and other
- "significant life events" e.g., Christenings and bar mitzvahs (but not birthdays).
- Outdoor gatherings can take place in a group of no more than 30 people unless a specific exemption applies.
- Organised performance events can take place with up to 50% of capacity indoors up to 1,000 people and 50% of capacity up to 4,000 people at outdoor events.

The "group of 6 or 2 households" will apply to indoor events unless a specific exemption applies.

The Alresford Village Hall Management Committee will manage the use of the village hall using Risk Assessment from user groups and guidance from the Government. The Covid Safe Capacity for the village hall remains at **40 persons**.

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)

News

As reported last time out in the Alresford Advertiser, the village hall has been suffering for the last 3 years with an intermittent leak in the roof. This has been frustratingly difficult to remedy as the leak appeared only when the wind was south easterly. Various contractors tried either replacing broken tiles or by removing the original air flues from the roof but to no avail. However, the contractor involved in the most recent visit appears to have finally rectified the problem.

It is very apparent that the north facing side of the roof is in a poor state and although now watertight it is planned to completely strip this roof down and re-batten, insulate and re-tile. Grant funding has been applied for and the work is provisionally planned for late July or August.

Now we are in Stage Three of the coming out of Lockdown, it is encouraging to see regular groups starting to use the village hall again. Some groups are understandably hesitant, and it is hoped that as we enter Stage Four in June these groups will also return. Initially, it could be that groups will find numbers low but as confidence increases then more will once again enjoy being part of the community.

Annual General Meeting

The Trustees will wait until Stage Four is successful and then set a date for the AGM for 2020-21. Please keep an eye of our website or Facebook page for information.

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 on **01206 825739**

REGULAR HIRE GROUPS

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

1st 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.

BOOKING: All enquiries should be via the **Village Hall booking clerk, Pat Burmby on 01206 823983** or via email at enquiries@alresfordvillagehall.co.uk

Russell Milburn (Chair)

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 WI

We are well into spring and thankfully beginning to see new shoots not only in the garden but with lock down restrictions being lifted. With this encouraging news, we are making tentative steps into returning to the Village Hall for our monthly meetings. At the moment, our meetings are still on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7.30pm. We are also considering trying some afternoon meetings.

However, the June meeting will be an exception due to making a gradual return to the Hall. We will be meeting on Thursday 24th June at 7.30pm which will be an informal meeting and catch up and possibly some games. The 10th June, for this month only, will instead be a virtual coffee morning and will be open to non WI members as well.

On July 8th we have booked a talk on Sun Bears and Orangutans with Lyn Pendle and then Gary Egerton, a favourite of ours, on October 14th with a talk about the Devious British.

All being well, we hope to have a talk and demonstration on Sea Glass Jewellery with Sarah Raven on 11th November. The jewellery will be on sale which will be ideal for Christmas Presents. In January, The Essex and Herts Air ambulance Trust will be sending a volunteer to tell us about their work.

We will continue with our Zoom coffee mornings which are popular, fun and FREE. We have decided to offer these Zoom coffee meetings to non WI members so that you may become acquainted with WI.

Of course, the meetings are always subject to change as are the Covid rules, but we remain optimistic.

If you have any questions about WI, please contact: Penny Dimmock 01206 822302 or Allyson Salmon 07742918062

ALRESFORD ART GROUP

(Postponed until the autumn).

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

ALRESFORD CAMERA CLUB

(Postponed 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 ALMOST THERE!

As we move forward to another stage of the road map out of lockdown, we are hoping to restart bowling again towards the end of June.

If you would like more information, please call the Chair, Terry Ripon on 01206 823872.

New members would be very welcome.

SIMPLY SINGING

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

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.

We look forward to hearing from you



ALRESFORD HISTORY GROUP

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
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Following on from the article, 'A Potted History about the Patrons of St Peters' on page 4 of the April/May edition, below is a list of the Rectors and Patrons of St Peters and St Andrews, Alresford

| Name                      | Date | Patron                                |
|---------------------------|------|---------------------------------------|
| Thomas Parker             | 1320 | Humphrey de Staunton                  |
| Stephen de Berle          | 1332 | Humphrey de Staunton                  |
| Robert de Halton          |      | Humphrey de Staunton                  |
| Robert Dyn                | 1365 | Sir Henry de Coggeshall               |
| John Oliver               |      | Sir Henry de Coggeshall               |
| John Kingdon              | 1396 | William de Coggeshall                 |
| Richard Julyan/Ric Julian | 1427 | John Doreward                         |
| Nicholas Heshgot          | 1437 | John Doreward                         |
| Richard Rixam             | 1443 | John Doreward                         |
| Thomas Norther(y)ne       | 1452 | John Doreward                         |
| Thomas Ca(u)ndeler        | 1454 | John Doreward                         |
| William Salisbury         | 1455 | John Doreward                         |
| William Waterfatt         | 1458 | John Doreward                         |
| Robert Kale/Cale          | 1488 | Bishop of London                      |
| John Wilson               |      |                                       |
| Walter (William)Walwyn    |      |                                       |
| John Rothley              | 1521 | Thomas Fynys                          |
| Gilbert Warberton         | 1521 | Thomas Fynys                          |
| John Gurdon               |      | Thomas Fynys                          |
| John Tull                 | 1545 | Edmund Beaupre                        |
| John Dixon                |      | Edmund Beaupre                        |
| George Lucas              | 1568 | Richard Barwick                       |
| Thomas Jones              | 1572 | Richard Barwick                       |
| Samuel Osborne            | 1578 |                                       |
| William Bussard(e)        | 1602 |                                       |
| Joseph Thurston           |      |                                       |
| George Kent/Henry Wayte   | 1639 | John Hawkins                          |
| John Lock                 | 1661 | Robert Hawkins                        |
| Thomas Martin             | 1672 | Christian Deane                       |
| Samuel Bridge             | 1672 | Christian Deane                       |
| John Ley                  | 1711 | Sarah Field, Widow                    |
| John Winte(r)ley          | 1725 |                                       |
| David Comarque            | 1727 | Matthew Martin                        |
| Francis Tennant           | 1730 | Matthew Martin                        |
| Joseph Driffeld           | 1765 | Samuel Martin                         |
| John Smythies             | 1773 | Mary Rebow                            |
| Alfred Padley             | 1818 | Robert Padley of Burton Joyce, Notts. |
| Thomas Newman, Jr         | 1823 |                                       |
| Thomas Newman, Sr         | 1829 | Mary Ann Newman                       |

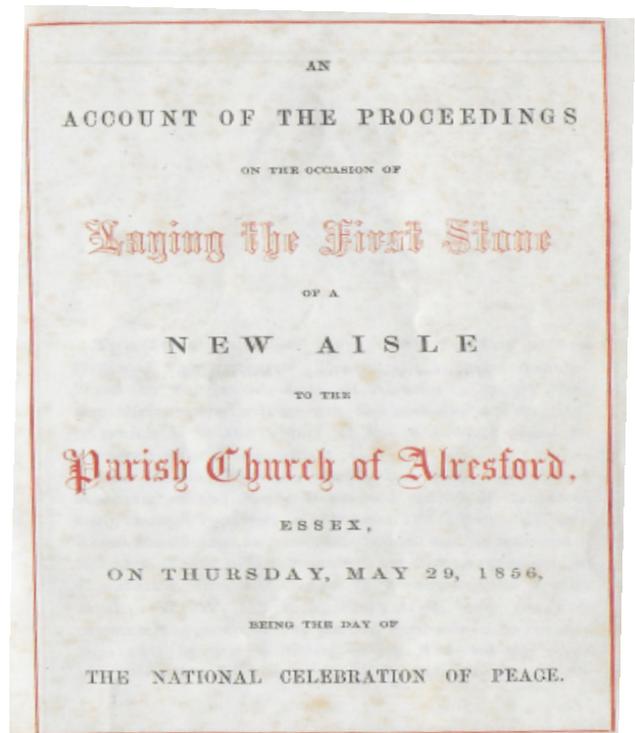
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|                        |         | of Lt. Bromley       |
| John T Allen           | 1838    | Hulmean Trustees     |
| Josiah Robinson        | 1841    | Hulmean Trustees     |
| James H Swainson       | 1843    | Hulmean Trustees     |
| William C Bache        | 1877    | Hulmean Trustees     |
| Charles C Prichard     | 1907    | Hulmean Trustees     |
| William A Ferguson     | 1919    | Hulmean Trustees     |
| Henry M Viret          | 1922    | Hulmean Trustees     |
| George S Duncan        | 1932    | Hulmean Trustees     |
| Clement J Edwards      | 1933    | Hulmean Trustees     |
| Stephen S Huskisson    | 1943    | Hulmean Trustees     |
| James R McCallum       | 1946-69 | Hulmean Trustees     |
| Andrew Hallidie Smith  | 1970-79 | Hulmean Trustees     |
| Eric S Britt           | 1980-88 | Hulmean Trustees     |
| George R Cobb          | 1989-99 | Bishop of Chelmsford |
| Christopher A J Harvey | 2000-08 | Bishop of Chelmsford |
| Pauline C M Scott      | 2009-18 | Bishop of Chelmsford |
| Andrew I Fordyce       | 2019    | Bishop of Chelmsford |

### 1856 - New Aisle

The document below dates back to 1856 and is part of an Order of Service that was printed for the opening of the Lady Chapel, St Peter's Church. Unfortunately, the document is too big to put into the Advertiser.

#### Taken from the 1856 Order of Service

'The Parish Church, a simple but well proportioned structure of the Early Decorated period of Architecture, though repewed in the year 1847, had still been found insufficient in accommodation, and inconvenient in part of its arrangements. At the suggestion of the Rector, the Rev. James H. Swainson, the worthy Squire, W. W. Hawkins, Esq., M.P. ever ready to promote the good of the parish, determined to remedy this evil but the addition of an Aisle to the south side of the building, so that each family in the parish might have their own allotted seat in the Nave and Aisle of the Church; while, by the Rector, in keeping with those which would support the south wall, the beauty of the whole interior, it was expected, would be considerably improved. The 29<sup>th</sup> May 1856 was the day on which these bright purposes were to be inaugurated by the laying of the Foundation Stone.'



## Memories from the Meanderer

In these times of Lockdown and no public gatherings I was wandering down Ford Lane and passed the Village Hall and it provoked my mind into the time when there was a large public meeting in the Village Hall discussing the proposed quarrying of the land that sits behind the houses on Wivenhoe Road and St Peters Church. I think this was about 2009 and the meeting was chaired by Ms Joan Coates. People were hanging in the doors and were 'banked' back from the main entrance as the thirst to obtain what Essex County Council were intending to do to their village.

Fortunately, after a long campaign, the Quarry proposal was dropped. However, it did Alresford a massive favour in the way it bought many of the community together to oppose the 'nightmare' of constant noise, dust, and the decimation of rural land in the village.

Has anyone got any photographs from that meeting?? It would be interesting for anyone who was leading the campaign to enlighten the villagers of their memories via this magazine.

It will be wonderful to get back to full houses either in the village hall or St Andrews Church, but hopefully for celebration and not protest.

Bye for now

## NEWS FROM ALRESFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Well-Being Hub

The school are taking part in a Well-being hub project. We now have four members of staff trained in Mental Health First Aid. Over the next 2 years we will be receiving additional funding through the project to deliver emotional interventions to children. This will hopefully enable us to respond quickly to children when they begin to struggle with their well-being, and improve our early help offer. There are 22 schools taking part – hopefully the project will prove that this money is having an impact and we will continue to be funded after the 2 years.

### The Big Pedal

The school have taken part in the Big Pedal project. Children were encouraged to bike, scoot or walk to school.



## ALRESFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL 1928

Do you recognise anyone?



## CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY AND OUR ENVIRONMENT

What can we do to make a positive difference?

All of us can do something. Start small and build up.

- Give a corner of your garden back to nature. Let the grass grow long and a few 'weeds' such as nettles grow for the insects, butterflies and the bees. This will also attract birds to your garden looking for food.
- Reduce your use of water where you can and this in turn will safeguard the waterways in and around your environment. If you love your garden then an easy way to safeguard water is to install a water butt. Visit Affinity water at [www.affinitywater.co.uk](http://www.affinitywater.co.uk) for more information about the water you use and your environment.
- Reduce and recycle your single use plastic, because the oceans are now full. Check out [www.wivenhoe-working-on-waste.com](http://www.wivenhoe-working-on-waste.com) for recycling opportunities
- Reduce your energy use. An easy win here is to only boil the water you need and to descale your kettle. It also will save you money.
- Experiment with some new and local foods, or have one day of the week set aside as meat free. It could lead to some exciting new dishes and save on CO2 emissions and food miles.

If you would like to get involved in a group to help your environment and to tackle community well-being please contact [info@alresfordstationhouse.org.uk](mailto:info@alresfordstationhouse.org.uk) Also contact us if you have any questions, need advice or ideas.

### THE STATION HOUSE PROJECT

Please visit [www.alresfordstationhouse.org.uk](http://www.alresfordstationhouse.org.uk) or Instagram and Facebook @alresfordstation to follow progress with the project, and for further inspiration.



### Things our Mothers taught us:

My mother taught me TO APPRECIATE A JOB WELL DONE, "If you're going to kill each other, do it outside. I've just finished cleaning."

My mother taught me RELIGION "You had better pray that will come out of that carpet"

My mother taught me IRONY "Keep crying or I'll give you something to cry about."

My mother taught me the science of OSMOSIS "Keep your mouth shut and just eat your supper."

My mother taught me about CONTORTIONISM "Will you look at all that dirt on the back of your neck."

My mother taught me about RECEIVING "You're going to get it when you get home."

My mother taught me HUMOUR "When that lawn mower cuts off your toes don't come running to me."

My mother taught me about my ROOTS "Shut that door behind you. Do you think you were born in a barn?"

Most of all she taught me to be proud when someone says that I'm so old school because: I have good manners, I show others respect and always help those that need me. This is not because I am old fashioned it's because I was brought up properly.

### COLCHESTER FOODBANK

<https://colchester.foodbank.org.uk/>

A very BIG thank you to everyone who has over the last 14 months walked or driven up Coach road to drop off items for Colchester Foodbank. Over this period there has been a great need to support so many who were struggling because of the circumstances they found themselves in.

As we all prepare to get back to some sort of normality St Andrew's church has once again opened up and therefore the collection for foodbank items can return there; this will be from June onward but you can start to take your donations there from now.

The church is open from 10.30 every Sunday, although as life moves forward there will likely be other times you can access the building, but for now Sunday mornings will guarantee you can leave items. Therefore from June there will not be the green box at Coach Road.

Once again thank you on behalf of all those who have benefited from your support.

Ray and Sue Giles

# wjr

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## THE CHARITY BAG

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

In March this year, a national newspaper appealed for cheques to fund getting school children on line. Nearly 16,000 envelopes arrived and as nothing goes to waste, they were bagged up and delivered to Terri Bush, our fundraiser, where her team of volunteers were waiting. The Trust receives around £10.00 per kilogram, working with an auction firm that sells to collectors and dealers in the UK and around the world. The stamps are sold to private individuals to gaps in their collection and also purchased by Artists who use them to create collages on canvas.

£10,076.12 was raised in 2020 - Thank you!

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 1<sup>st</sup> day covers will help raise vital funds for the Bone Cancer Research Trust.

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

Thank you for all the sacks of donated wool and "knits". Amazing response!

May I give a warm welcome to village newcomers, why not give knitting a try in your own home. Needles, wool and patterns can be delivered and collected.

Take care until next time.

Christine Stimpson  
2 Coach Road  
Alresford  
(Opposite Doctor's surgery)

## ALRESFORD NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING

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Or report it online: <https://www.essex.police.uk/do-it-online/report-a-crime/> 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 be reported as above).

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

# ALRESFORD PARISH COUNCIL

## Annual Parish Council Chairman's Report May 2021

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

What I can report about the last year is that amongst all the tragedy and disruption caused by COVID19 the community of Alresford rose to the challenges. Volunteers stepped forward from the community to help.

In the early days of the pandemic back in March 2020 supermarkets were low on stocks of certain foods and supplies. In association with the Neighbourhood Action Panel the Parish Council organized community support and initially delivered supplies to 30 residents in need. This service was expanded, and medicine delivery was added to the scheme. Volunteers ran the scheme and at some stages we had many more volunteers than we needed. One resident donated a significant sum of money to the community support scheme and a grant was also obtained. One volunteer Mr Iain Finch was presented with the Essex High Sheriffs Merit Award certificate for his work delivering pharmaceutical supplies.

Sadly, some took advantage of the first lockdown and the Pavilion was broken into and items were stolen, and damage done. Because of this the Council had a monitored alarm fitted and two more CCTV cameras were installed. Exterior CCTV footage of the burglars was given to the police but to date the burglars have not been traced.

As the year progressed and in line with government guidance our staff worked mainly from home and face to face meetings were replaced by virtual on-line meetings and telephone conference calls. Even with the many difficulties resulting from remote working the Council has been able to deliver most of its promised projects. The projects undertaken included the replacement and repairs to rotten fencing around the play areas and moving items of play equipment to create space for future new equipment. The play area was enhanced with brightly coloured educational boards depicting the planets and wildlife, these additions were added at the request of a number of parents. At the war memorial new oak posts were installed to support the protective chain surrounding the memorial plinth. Around the Parish the replacement and upgrading of litter bins continued with additional sites being used. There are fees of course for bin emptying so that has to be taken into consideration when budgeting for these bins. A bench and disabled viewing area at The Creek financed by grants is another important project to note as is a borehole irrigation system for the playing fields.

Public Rights of Way have been much used over the past year and the P3 scheme volunteer Andrew Barker

and his small team have worked tirelessly when it was safe to do so to cut back hedging. Landowners and Essex County Council Highways have true responsibility for maintaining footpaths and bridleways however Parish Councils are now very much involved – especially under the new devolution arrangements. What has been disappointing is the amount of litter dropped in the village and surrounding area and fly-tipping has increased. It has been encouraging to see so many volunteers litter picking but it would be even better if people either took their rubbish home or put it in one of the many bins found around the village. A mobile CCTV project to be part financed by Essex County Council has just been implemented by the Parish Council to catch fly-tippers and those that litter.

A matter highlighted during the surveys for the neighbourhood plan was for the public realm areas of the village to be further improved and brightened up. Cllr Bina Swash has responded to calls for improvement and has been involved in a project to locate hanging baskets at a number of village locations. It was Cllr Swash who put forward to the council that a Christmas tree should once again be placed outside the shops and we have had very good feedback about that initiative. Alresford Parish Council has a good mix of experienced Councillors and new Councillors who bring fresh ideas. There is a range of expertise to call on with our Councillors and all is done to make sure we make the best decisions within our powers for the community.

I am pleased to state that this Parish Year we achieved Foundation Award Status and we now also have become eligible and have adopted the General Power of Competence under the Localism Act – this greatly increases our powers to assist the community. Our staff and Councillors receive training, and we are all delighted that our two administrative staff have now passed their exams and are certificate holders in Local Council Administration. Whilst mentioning awards it is right that we highlight the three gold awards presented to the Council by the Essex Playing Fields Association for the standards achieved in maintaining our village play areas and playing field.

When it comes to finances, we have to budget according to income just as a business does.... the difference is we are not here to make a profit we are here to offer services using Parishioner's money raised in the precept. This coming year due to increased housing development the tax base or tax spread has increased, and this has meant a welcome 3.5% decrease in individual payments via the Parish precept although we have had to increase the overall Precept slightly. Income from Pavilion rentals ceased due to COVID 19 restrictions and so we applied for and received a £10,000 grant to cover our lost income. We waived the regular hirers contracted fees and also waived allotment rental fees (in line with many other Councils). It is so important that Councillors at our level work together as a corporate body and there is not the divisive approach seen in the political arena..... so when

*continued on page 12*

*continued from page 11*

vacancies occur on the Council between elections, we choose carefully who to co-opt and we have been most fortunate of late. Charley Day, a young enthusiastic Councillor had to leave the council in June 2020 due to work issues and we therefore had a further vacancy and required two Councillors. I am pleased to report we have co-opted two excellent members of our community; they are Julia Claremont-Brown and Alistair Broom both with top end CVs and suitable abilities and we warmly welcome them to serve the Community on the Parish Council.

The Neighbourhood Plan is a vital plan as it will be used as a material consideration for any further development in the village. It is in its very last stages en route to adoption.... a referendum of the village will decide whether it is acceptable. We are indebted to the steering group chaired by Cllr Simon Clark for the work that has gone into preparation and delivery of the plan. As a Council we are consulted on all planning applications but increasingly we feel let down by the planning authorities when our seemingly reasonable recommendations are sidelined. The Neighbourhood Plan whilst not covering all we deal with is an exceptional document to help show the views of the community to the planners and we look forward to its adoption.

Highways matters have continued to be a feature of the last Parish year, still we have kerbs, footpaths and signs well below an acceptable standard, but we are pleased with the response of our Essex County Councillor Alan Goggin to all highways and other issues. There are still many battles to fight as regards the correct speed limits for at least two of our roads, Cockaynes Lane and the B1027, these roads have speed limits that are too high in the opinion of many. Highways officers state that these roads do not meet the criteria for reduced limits, but we are challenging this, and the challenge is a time consuming and potentially costly process but we feel it is vital for road safety to address this issue.

I have left to last our attention to what is possibly the greatest challenge to all of us, it is the various environmental and well-being issues we have to deal with. Climate change, COVID 19, housing, they all come into this. Well, the Neighbourhood Plan addresses some housing issues but as a Council we need to make sure by pressing the relevant buttons that the village infrastructure can cope with any further development, already we see that parking issues, highways concerns and leisure facilities are being affected with the growth in our community to date. As regards the COVID 19 pandemic there are those suffering from long COVID in our community and those with financial concerns due to job loss. When it comes to climate change there is general agreement that we cannot go on living as we are, and already electric vehicles are increasing on our roads requiring electrical charging infrastructure and as a council we know we must play our part – in fact, we must play a leading role in promoting green issues generally. It is good to have Cllr Sue Hammick and more recently Cllr Julia Claremont- Brown working on environmental issues.

All street lighting in Alresford that is Parish Council owned is now LED efficient lighting as are the playing field hard court and sports training areas. The sowing of wildflower seeds on certain verge sections of the B1027 is another example of a positive environmental project and we thank Cllr Osborne for his input on this.

So, what does the coming year hold for the community and the council.... well certainly a desire to be positive and brighten up the village and look to providing improved play equipment and also building further on our Highways devolution scheme. Taking on the management and maintenance of the play area, allotments and public open spaces on the Staunton Gate site will be an extra important responsibility and we are preparing for that.

As already mentioned, we certainly have some excellent Councillors – with a diverse range of skills. Members include businessmen and businesswomen, environmentalists, finance experts, a criminologist, an architect, administrators, a sports expert.... all with a range of views and life experiences to draw from to serve the community. We have time served and experienced Councillors such as Ann Wiggins, Linda Belgrove, John Housden, Gary Scott and Ernie Osborne - all doing their very best for the community. If residents have particular issues, they feel the Council can assist with we ask that they contact our Parish Clerk Michelle Salazar or any Councillor – we rely on input from the community to function and we welcome positive and constructive dialogue. We are so grateful for the support we receive from the vast majority of residents in our community. One thing that Councillors learn quite early in their role is that you cannot please everybody, and people sometimes expect more from a Parish Council than our powers allow us to deliver..... but we do our very best.

Finally.... Alresford is a special village not only is it a multiple winner of awards in the Essex Village of the Year competition it is an exceptional community based on volunteering and supporting others. If we look at the football club, the village hall committee, the Church, the Station garden group, the horticultural society, the fete organizing group and the countless other village organisations.... they are all based on selfless volunteering.... long may that continue.

It has been a challenging time for all of us with the burden of the COVID 19 pandemic, but we now hope for better times ahead.

This Council report finishes with special thanks to our Council staff; Michelle Salazar, Angela Baxter and Mick Coham for all their extra work supporting the Council and the community during such difficult times.

That concludes the report for the Parish Year.

Chairman Frank Belgrove

## ALRESFORD BIKERS - BACK ON THE ROAD AT LAST

After what seems to everyone like an eternity, we're back on the road. Sunday Rides have restarted, and pretty soon our monthly meetings will recommence too.

We've got a list of Sunday rides that includes some we haven't done before, and some mid-week rides are also quite likely now the better weather is here too. Plus, all our usual events that traditionally take place later in the year normally, so long as they have survived the lock-downs. Many take so much organising that the organisers were unable to commit so far ahead while locked down, and have been cancelled for this year, but will hopefully return next year.

By the time you read this we will have had several ride outs, and the rusty bikers will be long gone, and all our machines will be revitalised and gleaming after a longer than usual sleep. Obviously maintenance and road checks will be more important than ever as bikes come out of their slumbers, and I have checked with local engineers and dealerships, who are all as busy as one-armed wallpaper hangers at the moment. It looks like the whole season is being crammed into the half that's left, so book early if you need anything done. I'm currently waiting a week for tyres, that would normally have been done on the day. (Because I had yet another puncture, but that's another story).

On the positive front, we welcome new bikes to the fold, with a rather nice looking black BMW on the scene, and it's good getting to see riders we haven't seen for a very long time too.

Our first proper monthly meeting will be on Tuesday **13 July at 8pm, in the Pointer Inn**, as ever, where Neil and Sam always make us very welcome. If you want to know anything about bikes, bikers, or biking, just turn up!

Al Gillard

## 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/](http://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 [jcbapcessex.outlook.com](mailto:jcbapcessex.outlook.com)

### District Council Tending

District Councillor Gary Scott - 01206 820769

**Email:** [cllr.gscott@tendingdc.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.gscott@tendingdc.gov.uk)

District Councillor Ann Wiggins - 01206 825153

**Email:** [cllr.awiggins@tendingdc.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.awiggins@tendingdc.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)

## A Musical Journey

Legendary local musician Buzz Fitzgerald has certainly got the knowledge. A former London Cabbie he has amassed decades of performing in many different music styles.

In the 1960s he supported legends Ben E King and Jimmy Cliff in the swinging club scene. In the 1970s he started adventures in the rock world and teamed up with Soul icon Moon Williams for another successful spell.

Since then he has concentrated in the more mellow style of the loosely billed 'Lounge Lizard'. His wonderful interpretations of classic Dean Martin Frank Sinatra and Matt Monroe has lead to 2 CDs and a live following. He has added his own material to his repertoire and this year in the post Covid era will see Buzz live again locally on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2021. It is evening of outstanding music in a warm friendly venue.

Details of Buzz and his future plans come by found via ([poddddy@gmail.com](mailto:poddddy@gmail.com))

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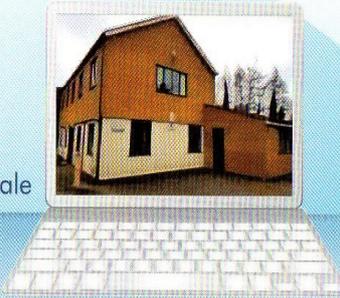
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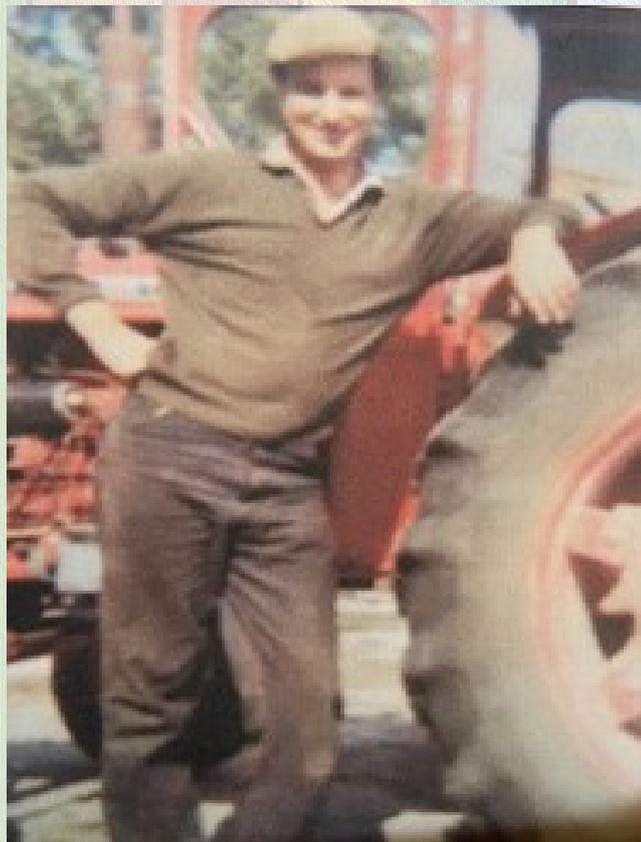
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## THE LATE ERIC POTTER

I would like to thank everybody who sent cards, flowers and kind thoughts, and donations for Parkinson Disease.



My Eric had so many good friends.

Bless you all.

Many thanks

Evelyn Potter

### **ALRESFORD ADVERTISER CONTACT DETAILS**

**EMAIL:** [alresfordadvertiser@gmail.com](mailto:alresfordadvertiser@gmail.com)

**TELEPHONE:** 01206 825739

**ADDRESS:** 22 Station Road, Alresford, CO7 8BT

### **ARE YOU INTERESTED IN ADVERTISING?**

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.

### **COPY DEADLINE**

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

## JO PYMAN

We would like to thank everyone for their cards, flowers, tributes, sharing amazing childhood memories and generous donations in remembrance of our beloved daughter Jo, who sadly passed away on 27th August, 2020 age 48, after losing her battle with cancer.

We were absolutely overwhelmed by everyone's sympathy and kindness which meant so much to our family at such a devastating time.

A special thank you to Sian and Clare for their regular contact.

Janice, Ivan, Lynsey, Vern, Zac & Milo xxxxxx

## HAPPY TO CHAT BENCH

A 'Happy to Chat' bench has been installed overlooking Alresford Creek in an area designated to aid and assist visitors with disabilities. You will also find them in Brightlingsea, St Osyth and Thorrington.

The benches have small plaques that reads "Sit here if you don't mind people stopping to say hello".



The idea behind the 'Happy to Chat' benches was to help prevent social isolation and to encourage community interaction and can now be found all over the UK and even as far a field as the USA and Australia.

## 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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