

Alkham Monthly Newsletter

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**Non-profit &
delivered free
to the Parish of
Alkham**

THE MARQUIS OF GRANBY and the Alkham Cricket Club are hoping to team up for T20 cricket match on the August Bank Holiday, Monday 29th of August for a community Cricket game. We will have live entertainment back at the Marquis afterwards with two bands playing throughout the afternoon, a Sunday style lunch service and a Hog Roast to accompany. An outside bar will also be "on tap" and an auction will be held later in the afternoon with funds going towards a community project and those effected by the war in Ukraine. If anyone would like to contribute in the form of any prizes to help raise money for these two causes or want further information, please email me at ht@contemporarypubs.co.uk

SPEED LIMIT – In last month's newsletter there was an article regarding the speed through Alkham as recorded in the Parish Council minutes which resulted in a parishioner contacting the Parish Clerk. He was disappointed that only compliance with the 30mph was mentioned and that a permanent system of street lighting would be needed for a 20mph limit as there is none at present. The main concern was for the properties that are adjacent to the valley road just past the blind bend by the top of the village green. Vehicles and pedestrians emerging from these properties face a high risk of causing an accident and such actions can only be safely accomplished with extreme caution and preferably with assistance from an observer on the opposite footpath. The village centre also suffers from narrow defiles, lack of footpaths and defined crossing places together with an absence of warning signs regarding concealed exits, emerging traffic and pedestrians crossing the road. He says that nearly everyone he has spoken to comments on the alarming speed and danger of many vehicles coming round the blind bend. It is his opinion that it is irresponsible for the KCC Highways to make remote, bland, dismissive statements about the road environment and parameters without addressing the real, obvious and well-known dangers of the road through the village, particularly after the considerable concerns and prolonged discussions that have taken place on this matter... *please see page 2*

SUNFLOWERS - The day for measuring the sunflowers will be Sunday the 28th of August and we have borrowed a professional piece of equipment to do this, so all those taking part had better get the Miracle Grow out. Please may we be allowed access to the places where they are growing, on this day. If there are any problems or anyone is on holiday, please would they contact me on anitajames163@gmail.com. **Anita James**

FILM NIGHT

August 30th 7.30pm

Goodbye Mr Chips

Martin Clunes

Tuesday 26th July

The Duke

Jim Broadbent

EDWARD BEANEY

It is with deep sadness I report the passing of Edward Beaney, known as Eddie, born on the 9th of June 1952 and died on the 11th of June 2022. Eddie was born at Cranbrook, near Tunbridge Wells, the family relocating to Ewell Minnis whilst in his infancy. He had nine sisters and brothers, George, Phoebe, Henry, Patience, Priscilla, Derek, David, Dolly and Gary. Eddie leaves two sons and a daughter, who still reside at Ewell Minnis. Eddie was an extremely popular man in the Alkham and Shepherdsweil parishes and though suffering a permanent eye injury from childhood was a formidable darts player taking on and beating a future national darts player for England. Eddie was highly respected for his integrity, being very popular and well-loved among the community, always with a dapper dress sense, who never really retired but was struck by failing health over the past few years. He was a man always there to help others, a wonderful, kind, caring man who is greatly missed. Eddie may have passed over, but his spirit will remain amongst us for some time to come. **Geoffrey Lymer**



GARAGE/BARN CONTENTS SALE

On Saturday 30th of July there will be a sale of household, gardening, building, farming tools at 'Sunrise', Meggett Lane, South Alkham from 10.30a.m. A clearance of years of hoarding, with proceeds to Charity. Any reasonable offer accepted. Please enter by the farm gate (first on the right when entering the Lane) and park in the field where there is some hard standing. **Janet Adamson**

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ALKHAM VALLEY ROAD – About 30 years ago the Alkham Valley Road was classified as the B2060 but was downgraded to a C road so it didn't show as an orange route on maps and to dissuade drivers from using the road, but this had no effect and the volume of traffic continued to grow. At that time KCC Highways considered that the Alkham Valley Road was an important alternative route should there be problems on the A20, now A2020, and it is likely that this mind set has continued despite the new A20 dual carriageway being built and is therefore in direct conflict with the original aim. What does seem sensible is that there should at least be a 20mph speed limit from just before the Marquis of Granby through the narrow gap and continuing past the village green to the other side of the blind bend leading to Dover. KCC may consider that this would have little effect on driver speeds, but it would emphasise that Alkham is a village and should be treated as such. Perhaps the person from KCC who wrote the 20mph speed limit rejection letter would like to come to a public meeting in Alkham to explain and justify the reasons for refusal. **Editor SPEEDWATCH** – The email address for the Speedwatch team was hijacked and effectively destroyed and their new address is alkhamvalleytraffic2@btinternet.com.

BIN – After the bin on the car park was demolished some people have been leaving poo bags on the bins at the village hall. Please stop doing this and find another authorized bin or take the bag home.

CLEANER required in central Alkham for 2 hours every two weeks. Please phone 07973341772.

A NEW WEBSITE www.kearsneyparks.co.uk is showcasing the district's most popular parks following completion of a £3.1 million programme of improvements at Kearsney Abbey and Russell Gardens. The website, which also covers Bushy Ruff, helps people to plan their visit and explore the upgraded visitor facilities, learn about the history, flora and fauna of the parks, keep up to date with the latest news, and find out ways to get involved through volunteering. Kearsney Abbey and Russell Gardens are the most significant heritage parks in the Dover district. Russell Gardens is Grade II listed in The Historic England Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in England, whilst Kearsney Abbey contains many Grade II listed features and is the most popular public park in the district. Both parks are highly valued by the community and attract a significant number of visitors from outside the district.

EDWARD BEANEY – The obituary for Edward Beaney is on page 1 and below is a photo of his grave in Alkham churchyard. His coffin was brought to the church in a horse drawn carriage where there was a large number of people to commemorate his passing.



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FILM NIGHT – The latest Downton Abbey film will be shown at Film Night in September as some people may be away on holiday in August.

GARDEN CLUB - On the 24th of June the Garden Club met up in the Old Rectory by invitation of Mark Loveday. The reason is 'June - you should have seen them last week - roses' with which the Old Rectory is blessed. A good number of members attended without whose keen attendance there would be no garden club and were shown around the garden and encouraged to explore the grounds. The evening was warm but grew chillier. However, buoyed up by the splendid scents and sights as well as plentiful beverages, time was well and enjoyably spent. It does help a lot to have an enthusiastic gardener/owner partnership in a garden of this size. Original sketches for the garden made in the early 1960's were on display. With thanks to Mark Loveday, the garden club looks forward to further visits to gardens in and around Alkham. It would not be out of place to mention the absence of Catie Webber, whose father had died two days earlier. Our respects to her and her family at this sad and difficult time. **Jo Walker**



KENT POLICE sent an email regarding the theft of catalytic converters and says one was stolen from the Sandwich area on the 29th of June. They are targeted by thieves as they contain valuable metals and can be removed in less than a minute and thefts most frequently occurs in car parks and you can find advice regarding locks or guards that are approved by the vehicle manufacturer and tested to Sold Secure Gold. If you don't have a garage, park in an area that's well-lit and overlooked and try to park so that the converter can't be easily reached by thieves. You should also register your converter and mark it with a forensic marker, which will make it harder for thieves to dispose of.

A MEETING IN THE PUB

In my past and in your past
There is so much that's left unsaid
So many years of happiness
In other lives with other dreams.
Misty edges shade our sight
There is so much that's left unseen
So many islands off the chart
With rocky outfalls to the sea.
So though we sit together
Gazing closely at each other
Over beer mugs on the table
There's a distance comes between us.
Rising up and rushing in
Thick grey cloud across the skyline
Wind has shifted daylight grazing
Wooden table, our Atlantic.

Gail Swainston

ALKHAM W.I. - Our July meeting was a talk on orchids from Kent by Clive Nuttman. Our next meeting will be on the Tuesday 9th of August when we have no speaker, but all members get together for fish and chips. Any members that weren't at the last meeting please let me know on 07796360473 if you would like some ordered. Bring your own refreshments, there will be no hostesses. Every member to bring a raffle prize in the colour blue. New members always welcome.

QUIZ NIGHT coming up in September 2022; will let you know the date nearer the time. Hosted by Debbie Griggs and Debbie Saunders it will be tables of 6. **Debbie Griggs**



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Tuesday - Friday Pilates 10am to 11am

Other events in the village hall

Tuesday 9 W.I. meeting 7.30pm

Thursday 25 Tea and a Chat 2.30pm to 4pm

CHURCH SERVICES

Date	Alkham	Capel	Hougham
Sunday 7 th	United Parish Eucharist 10.00 am Hougham		
Saturday 13 th	Messy Church, followed by tea Capel 3.00 – 5.00 pm		
Sunday 14 th	United Parish Eucharist 10.00 am Capel		
Sunday 21 st	Worship 11.00 am	Evensong 6.00 pm	Eucharist 9.30 am
Sunday 28 th	United Parish Eucharist 10.00 am Alkham		
Sunday 4 th Sept.	Evensong 6.30 pm	United Eucharist 10.00 am Hougham	

BUS TIMES To Dover 9.11,10.11, 11.11, 12.11, 13.11, 14.11, 15.11, 17.11, 18.41

Sat: 9.11, 10.11,11.11, 12.11, 13.11, 14.11, 15.11, 17.11, 18.41

To Folkestone 7.32 9.32 10.32 11.32 12.32 13.32 14.32 17.32 18.32

Sat. 7.32 9.32 10.32 11.32 12.32 13.32 14.32 17.32,18.32

FROM THE VICARAGE - Some years ago, while visiting relatives in Cumbria, I came across Long Meg and Her Daughters. Not friends of my cousins, you understand, but a prehistoric stone circle set among the hills a few miles from Penrith. Long Meg herself stands about 12 feet high, while her smaller daughters form a circle 350 feet across. Where did they come from? According to one legend they were a coven of witches, turned to stone as punishment for dancing on a Sunday. How times have changed! Dancing, playing football, shopping, running errands gardening, DIY – the list goes on. Nobody now seems to worry about being turned to stone for doing any of these things on a Sunday! Numbers attending our church services having slumped since the pandemic, I've been carrying out a survey, asking people what we could do to turn things around. Part of the picture that is emerging is that for many people, the day that used to be about time off for church and visiting family has become filled with other things. So much is going on, and we're all so busy. Jesus is recorded as having once told his disciples, when they had been so busy with everything that they had had no time to eat, to go with him to a quiet place by themselves and get some rest. He spoke of the Sabbath as a gift, rather than an imposition – a gift that only

benefits us if we make time to receive it. We're all so busy - but we may find that time spent with him in a quiet place by ourselves isn't time wasted, but stops us turning to stone inside. And if you want to take part in our survey, do please send me an email...

Brian Williams

POLICE 999 or 101

Newsletter brianwimsett@hotmail.com

Parish Clerk and Parish Councillors

clerk@alkhamparishcouncil.org.uk

Hall booking Shirley Prince 828098

W.I. Secretary Janet Barrow 829585

Footpaths antbarrier@tiscali.co.uk

AVS joannawalker777@gmail.com 821641

Vicar Brian Williams 01303 243784

MP Natalie Elphicke 01304 379669

KCC David Beaney 07818 024487

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Other sites www.alkham.org

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