

# Alkham Monthly Newsletter

Brian Wimsett  
The Old Post Office  
Slip Lane, Alkham CT15 7DE  
Telephone 01304 824969

**No. 305 June 2019**

**Funded by adverts and independent of the Parish Council**

**Non-profit & delivered free**  
to all properties in the Parish

**MIDSUMMER BARN DANCE** - Thanks to the generosity of Ann and John Huggins the Alkham Community Midsummer Barn Dance will be held at Greenwood Farm on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2019. Dancing from 19.30 to 23.30 to "Contraband". Tickets will be £10.00 each and will include a light supper. Licensed bar on the night. Tickets available from Graham Bissett. Contact 07789690786 or at [graham.bissett@talk21.com](mailto:graham.bissett@talk21.com). All proceeds from the event will be given to a local charity.

**SAM'S SWEET CHARITY** - Heather Waller, on behalf of Alzheimer's and the British Heart Foundation is holding an American Supper style evening in Alkham village hall on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July. Tickets costing £8 are available from Anne Huggins by ringing 01304 824340.

**PARISH PLAN** - A great big thank you for all those who returned the Parish Plan Questionnaire - what a fabulous response! Over 200 villagers replied (from about 125 households) and we also had over 40 names who have volunteered for future activities. The mammoth task of inputting the data onto a spreadsheet has started and the team would like to thank Irene Barnard for taking this on. When completed the Prize Draws will take place (date and time to be announced). Just a reminder that all data remains confidential and will only be used for the purpose of formulating the Plan. For the analysis no names will be associated with the answers given on the questionnaire. Thanks again. **Parish Plan Team**

**NARROW LANES** - There has been an increase in heavy lorries using the narrow lanes, particularly to the north of Alkham. A lorry from Lithuania stopped at the unauthorized sign saying 'No Entry HGV's and large vehicles' on Warren Lane where White Hill begins; it was directed by a local resident to go via Chalksole Green Lane and across the top to Hawkinge as it was trying to access the M20. Clearly this is not acceptable, and the recent increase may be due to these lorries using non-hgv sat nav. Signage is required at Lydden, where Warren Lane starts and at Fernfield, just outside Hawkinge, to stop large unsuitable vehicles using these roads. The Parish Council have been informed as have the Highway authority so hopefully something will be done. A resident has said that it would be helpful if delivery companies could be made aware that they may need to use a restricted size vehicle.

**MEET AND GREET COFFEE MORNING** - It was pleasing to see many enjoying coffee and biscuits, although the village hall was not bursting like before. It was lovely to be able to meet new families and the children enjoyed the tasty treats. With help from Susannah, Helen and Sylvia the morning went very well. Thanks also to Brian for funding this event from the Alkham Fund. **Irene Barnard**

**TEMPLE EWELL SCHOOL** is holding a Fete on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June 11am -2pm and a "Pamper Evening" at Crabble Cornmill on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> July 7.00pm-9pm (Tickets £5).

**JOHN JACKSON** - I would like to express my thanks for all the support and kindness I have received during John's illness and recent passing. I am grateful to you all. **Shelley Jackson**  
**John Jackson** was a keen supporter of village activities and regularly attended Garden Club. Before retirement John was the captain on a cross-channel hovercraft, a job which he enjoyed and in retirement could be seen walking his two beloved Jack Russells. The funeral was at Barham Crematorium, which was attended by a large number of people, and reflected the respect and affection in which he was held.

**PARISH COUNCILLOR** - There is a vacancy on Alkham Parish Council for a Parish Councillor and if anybody would like to be considered for co-option please write to the Clerk, Irene Bowie, Pollyfield Cottage, Scragged Oak Road, Detling ME14 3HD or [clerk@alkhamparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@alkhamparishcouncil.org.uk). You can also ring 01622 737749.

**THE VILLAGE HALL** is scheduled to be painted externally in the first or second week of June.

**THE JUNE 'Tea and a Chat'** will take place at the Village Hall on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> between 2pm and 4pm; join others for free tea and biscuits in convivial company.

## FILM NIGHT

May 28

The Favourite

June 25

Stan and Ollie  
With Steve Coogan

Village Hall 7.30pm  
Please bring your own refreshments

## B P S window cleaner

Window cleaning specialists no house too small. We use a reach & wash purifying system that means no streaks or smears and no chemicals. Our poles reach those hard to get areas. Safely clean conservatory roof. We fully clean all windows, doors & frames.

Call Paul on 01304 823763 or  
07971389039

## CAR & VAN SERVICING

**MOTS, TYRES & EXHAUSTS  
BRAKES, CLUTCHES & REPAIRS  
DIAGNOSTICS**

Free collection & delivery or courtesy car arranged  
**POULTON SERVICE & EXHAUST CENTRE**  
HOLLOW WOOD ROAD, DOVER CT17 0UB  
01304 201235



All types of paving, driveways, walls, groundwork's and a full garden design  
**Free quotations – local family run business**

07818024487 or 01304 825355  
e-mail: [quotes@dbworks.co.uk](mailto:quotes@dbworks.co.uk)

Computers, Laptops, Tablets, Smartphones and TVs set up. Pc Upgrades, Repairs & Installations. Virus removal. Office Networking and data security. Internet & Email problems solved.  
Tuition available by a qualified tutor.

Computer problems fixed

01303 241325/07968 129902

Websites built and hosted from £10 per month  
See [www.computers-in-kent.co.uk](http://www.computers-in-kent.co.uk) for free advice and full details

## Alkham Court

*Farmhouse Bed & Breakfast*  
Meggett Lane, South Alkham  
5 Star: Gold Award

Peaceful location overlooking Alkham Valley  
'Winners Best B & B in SE England'  
Tourism SE Award

Web: [www.alkhamcourt.co.uk](http://www.alkhamcourt.co.uk)

Wendy Burrows Tel: 01303 892056

## R. Cunningham Roofing

Flat and Pitched Roof Specialist. Prompt and reliable every time. All aspects of roofing under-taken - \* Insurance work \* Written Guarantees \* \*Friendly advice \* Free Estimates – Poly-carbonate Fascias \* Soffits \* Guttering \*Lead work \* Re-pointing Tiles \* Slates \* Kent Peg Tiles \* Chimney repair  
**Telephone 01304 821042 or 07725 402939**



**Tyres fitted at your home or work**

- Car • Van • 4x4
- Low profile
- Runflats
- Computerised balancing
- Laser wheel alignment

Contact Howard Cole  
**07889 242604**

[www.tyrevan.com](http://www.tyrevan.com)



**CHURCH ACCESS** - Geoff Gaskill and helpers have installed a 2.5m wide grass mesh roadway from the Valley Road entrance to St. Anthony's paved access. There is also room for cars to park and turn.

**GUITAR CONCERT** - On Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June starting at 6:30pm, Jimmy D'Alton Bellas past and present pupils are coming to St Anthony's for a 'Summer Evening Guitar Concert'. Tickets are £8 and refreshments will be available at nominal cost. All proceeds as always go to the Friends of St Anthony's for the upkeep of our church. Tickets from Den (01304 824845) or Jimmy (01304 823164).

**THE AIR AMBULANCE** is a charity which receives no government funding and relies on charitable donations. They can recycle used postage stamps to help fund these vital services and all kinds of stamps are welcome, on or off paper; just leave no more than a 5mm single thickness border around them, and the perforations should not be damaged. Stamps can be sent to: Air Ambulance Stamp Appeal, Xchange Master, 272 Bath Street, Glasgow G2 4JR. Freepost envelopes can be requested by emailing: [airambulance@xchange-master.co.uk](mailto:airambulance@xchange-master.co.uk).

**YOUNG PEOPLE** can now prepare for their adventures abroad by signing up for a travel safety training that will cover topics such as items to pack, how to stay safe and healthy, and how to avoid becoming a victim of crime, as well as giving basic first aid training. The first course will be at Invicta Grammar School in Maidstone from 10am to 4pm on Tuesday, June 25 and is open to young people from all schools. To request a booking form please email Victoria.Parker@theeducationpeople.org. Please do not contact the school. Young people will gain a Highfield Awarding Body for Compliance (HABC) accreditation for attending the course. **Geoff Lymer**

**PSYCHIC DAY** at Alkham Village Hall Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 11-4pm, last readings 3.30; £3 entrance and 20-minute sessions for £15. Everglow the Rebecca Kruza Foundation Campaign is working to improve support services and provide respite for mothers and their babies suffering the affects of post natal depression symptoms. Please join us for professional: Tarot/medium readings: Reiki healing, Mystic stalls and refreshments and you'll find a friendly welcome while you join our worthy cause. For more information and to make donations go to Facebook; Everglow the Rebecca Kruza Foundation or contact Lyn Richardson on 07879627373.

**GARDEN TALK** - Our June visit will be to 'Countryside' off the Alkham Valley Road, where we meet at 7.30p.m. on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June. For directions, please contact Janet Adamson (01303 893413).

**BOOK CLUB** - The meeting for June will be on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> starting at 1pm at the Alkham Valley Garden Centre. The book for discussion is Behind The Mask - The Life of Vita Sackville -West by Matthew Dennison. If you are interested, please come along and join us. **Jane Aslett**

**ALKHAM W.I.** - May the 14<sup>th</sup> was our resolutions evening followed by a Quiz by the two Debbies. Our next meeting is on June 11<sup>th</sup> when our speaker is Tony Barnes who is a vet and he will be speaking on how things have changed. **Debbie Griggs**

## Alkham Valley Garden Centre

Visit our new houseplant section which has a great selection of traditional/unusual plants. Summer flowering bulbs, potatoes and onion packs now in stock.

Our new garden and gift areas are full with unusual/practical gifts for the garden & home. Why not visit our tearooms for a Big Valley Breakfast, Lunch or afternoon Tea. Our homemade cakes are delicious!

## BESPOKE JOINERY

Staircases - including geometrical  
Summer houses, conservatories  
doors and windows

John Prince 01304 828098



## Your Local One Stop Flooring Shop

[www.actioncarpets.co.uk](http://www.actioncarpets.co.uk)

Folkestone: 01303 246505

Dover: 01304 20700

Call for a free estimate or visit a showroom

**We Have All Floors Covered**

## River Chimney Sweep

Insurance approved certificate issued with every sweep

Other installations include  
Stove installation: Chimney liners  
Bird cowl: Chimney repointing  
Stove servicing and repairs  
Call Marcus Wright

Tel: 01304 761081 Mob: 07971 699220

[www.riverchimneysweep.co.uk](http://www.riverchimneysweep.co.uk)

Registered OFTEC Stove Installer



Boarding for Dogs, Cats & Small Animals  
Canine Hydrotherapy - Pet Food Shop  
Alkham Valley Road - 01304 822420

## Coastal Mowers and Plant

Garden Machinery, Power Tools  
& Small Plant

Repairs – Service – Sales

07867 368 508

01304 829224

Unit 3, Honeywood House, Honeywood  
Road, Whitfield, Dover CT16 3EH

## Private Tutoring [prinetutoring.webplus.net](http://prinetutoring.webplus.net)



Give your child's education a boost with one-to-one assistance from a qualified and experienced teacher

- SCIENCE for all ages • GCSE exam preparation
- Improve A-Level Biology grades

**TEL: 01304 828098 MOB: 07814354122**

- Literacy & numeracy skills – reading & writing, 11+
  - Supporting special educational needs
  - ENGLISH as a FOREIGN LANGUAGE (EFL)
- Tracey Prince BSc (hons), PGCE, QTS, CELTA, CRB

**SEWAGE** - If you are not connected to a main drainage sewer you will probably have a cesspit/pool, septic tank or proprietary treatment works. Legislation in 2015 introduced restrictions, on where the discharge from these systems can be disposed of. If it's a cesspool it must be totally sealed and allow no discharge and should be emptied periodically. If it's a septic tank it must only discharge into a drainage field, sometimes known as a soakaway and if you have a septic tank you can't discharge into a water course from 2020. A sewage treatment plant (Klargester BioDisc for example) is more effective in treating sewage and may discharge into a ditch. This is fine without an environment agency permit providing it is under the maximum daily discharge volume to fall within their permit system. The latest regulations came out in 2015, and are called 'General binding rules: small sewage discharge to a surface water' and it's a very important document for many property owners. Once upon a time, you could 'discharge' the separated waste water from within the septic tank through one of two ways: To a drainage field or soakaway system - here, the waste water percolates through holes or slots into the pipework, into the surrounding sub-soils. This provides a form of treatment of the water, and it allows the waste water to disperse safely without causing a pollution. To a watercourse - the waste water would flow through a sealed pipe straight to a local watercourse such as a stream or a river. So, what's changed? In a nutshell, you can no longer do no. 2 above. The reason for this is because the 'quality' of the waste water is no longer considered clean enough to flow straight into local watercourses without causing pollution. **Alan Latham**

**A LOCAL** resident emailed – *'We are not ruled by the majority but by the majority who participate. Thomas Jefferson'*

**MITCH on ROUGH SLEEPING** – First item on to-do list on each occasion was to send a child to the shop for chewing gum. With orders to chew thoroughly. Strange since I was normally a stuffy mum who disapproved of both gum and chewing. Said gum when ready was to become cork, bung or stopper at the top of the tent. Then the hard work began. A lot of pumping on one of the old-fashioned foot pumps to fill the four inflatable ribs of the tent till it looked like a small version of the London Dome. Or O2 as it now is. Except it was blue. High wind was not good news though and to avoid the whole thing sleeping children and all being lifted up up and away we tied the guy ropes to the door handles of the heavy old Saab. Seemed to work. The other problem of course was inferior chewing gum leading to the collapse in the wee small hours, so it looked like a lobster pot imploding onto innocent sleepers. Scouring the farmyard by moonlight and finding a handy clothes prop I spent the hours till daylight standing there propping up tent and family. Children blissfully unaware. Different now isn't it - three-bedroom detached numbers cover the sites - with bedrooms and kitchens just like home. Good memories though. Shame creaky joints tell me to hang up the guy ropes... **Jane Mitchell**

**LOCAL ELECTION RESULTS** – Jamie Rose, who represents the Conservative party, was elected District Councillor for Alkham and Capel-le-Ferne and in Dover Downs and River, David Beaney was elected.

**CHANNEL CARS - Grace Hill Folkestone**  
 We offer a 24hr 7days a week taxi service  
 and have 4,5,6,7,8-seater taxis.  
**01303 252252**  
[www.channelcarsfolkestone.co.uk](http://www.channelcarsfolkestone.co.uk)  
[info@channelcarsfolkestone.co.uk](mailto:info@channelcarsfolkestone.co.uk)

 **Treat yourself to a massage in the comfort of your own home!**  
 Call or text Helen on 07434 840 932  
 email [relaxingtouchemassageuk@gmail.com](mailto:relaxingtouchemassageuk@gmail.com)  
[www.relaxingtouchemassageuk.com](http://www.relaxingtouchemassageuk.com)

**Andy Gee**  
 Gas Safe registered heating and plumbing engineer  
**07807586902 or 01304 207378**  
[andygee1709@hotmail.com](mailto:andygee1709@hotmail.com)

**Pilates + Classes @ Alkham Village Hall**  
 Friday morning 9.30am to 10.30am  
 £5pp Julie Watt, REPs qualified instructor  
 Just turn up or phone 07825109670  
 Email [pilates.mbs@gmail.com](mailto:pilates.mbs@gmail.com)

**ROBERTS** **07824**  
 PAINTING & DECORATING **357704**  
 Exterior & Interior Redecoration Experts  
 Free Quotes~Fully Insured~2 Yr Guaranteee

**angela miller driving tuition**  
 Grade A Instructor  
 discounts for block bookings  
 beginners - intensive - refresher  
 Alkham based - please call for more details  
**07976 747 246**

**Jordan's Plumbing**  
 Now returned from abroad  
 No job too small from dripping tap to central heating installation  
 reasonable rates  
 Please phone **07879627373**

**EAST KENT PADDOCK MAINTENANCE**  
 Topping, Rolling, Harrowing, Spraying,  
 Fertilizer spreading, Fence repair and erection, water tanks and piping.  
 Tel. **Nigel Peddle 01304 824004 or 07810203324**

Local lady available for cleaning and household chores  
 Please ring Shirley Prince on **01304 828098**

**OIL BOILER SERVICE Est 1987**  
 Friendly Family Service  
 For routine service and emergency breakdowns contact  
**P & V QUENBY LTD**  
 01227 760428 07768 594147

 **SIMON PRICE & Co**  
 Electricians Contractors  
 Data and voice installations  
**01303 252764**  
[www.simonpriceandco.co.uk](http://www.simonpriceandco.co.uk)

ALKHAM VILLAGE HALL – Excellent facilities, reasonable rates Please ring Tracey or Shirley for information 01304 828098			
<b>Tuesday</b>	Art Workshop in village hall from 10am – 1pm		
<b>Wednesday</b>	Keep Fit 9.30/11.00am – Tai Chi 6pm to 7pm		
<b>Friday</b>	Pilates 9.30 to 10.30am		
Other Events in the village hall			
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>4</b>	Whitecliffs Metal Detectors 7.30pm	
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>8</b>	SEKAS 7pm to 9pm	
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>11</b>	W.I. meeting at 7.30pm	
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>25</b>	Film Night 7.30pm – see page 1	
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>27</b>	Tea and a Chat 2pm to 4pm see page 1	
CHURCH SERVICES			
DATE	ALKHAM	CAPEL	HOUGHAM
<b>Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	Evensong 6.30 pm	Eucharist 9.30 am	Worship 11am
<b>Saturday 8<sup>th</sup></b>	Messy Church St Radigund's 3.00 – 5.00 pm		
<b>Sunday 9<sup>th</sup></b>	Eucharist 9.30 am	Worship 11am	
<b>Sunday 16<sup>th</sup></b>	Worship 11am	Evensong 6.00 pm	Eucharist 9.30 am
<b>Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	Benefice Eucharist Hougham 10.00 am		
<b>Sunday 30<sup>th</sup></b>	Benefice Eucharist at St Mary's (Capel Old Church) 10.00 am		
<b>BUS TIMES To Dover</b> 8.00, 9.11,10.11, 11.11, 12.11, 13.11, 14.11, 15.11, 17.04, 18.34 Sat: 9.11, 10.11,11.11, 12.11, 13.11, 14.11, 15.11, 17.11, 18.41 <b>To Folkestone</b> 7.32 9.32 10.32 11.32 12.32 13.32 14.32 16.27 17.32 18.32 Sat. 7.32 9.32 10.32 11.32 12.32 14.32 17.32,18.32			

**FROM THE VICARAGE** - Here's a question: is life something just to be got through, or something to be explored? In Richard Bach's story Jonathan Livingstone Seagull, Jonathan is always being told that seagulls only fly so that they can eat. That doesn't suit the young gull – he loves flying for its own sake, wants to know what a seagull can really do, and so sets out on a voyage of discovery. I sometimes refer to that story at christenings, the point being that baptism is also intended to mark the beginning of a voyage of discovery that starts in this world and ends in the next. I was reminded of this recently when my son mentioned finding a dead herring gull in the gutter on Dover Hill. Something had hit it; it had a ring on each leg. Following discussion, we set out with bin sack and gardening gloves, retrieved the body and tapped the number on the ring into the computer. Suddenly, Our Gull had a story to tell. We learned that GR94363, as Our Gull was known, had been trapped and ringed as a two-year-old in January 2015 at a tip at Pitsea, Essex. At some point Our Gull flew the Thames Estuary, and then the English Channel. He or she was spotted near Boulogne in August 2017, inland at Curgies, near Valenciennes and the Belgian border in December 2017, and finally back on the French coast near Le Touquet in August last year. Jesus once said that though five sparrows are sold for two pennies not one of them is forgotten in God's sight. Our Gull now rests from his or her journeys in this world in a corner of the vicarage garden; remembered both in this world, and in the next. **Brian Williams**

**POLICE 999 or 101**  
 Newsletter [brianwimsett@hotmail.com](mailto:brianwimsett@hotmail.com)  
 Hall booking Tracey Prince 828098  
 W.I. Secretary – Janet Barrow 829585  
 Footpaths [antbarrier@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:antbarrier@tiscali.co.uk)  
 AVS [cjmwalker@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:cjmwalker@tiscali.co.uk) 821641  
 Vicar Brian Williams 01303 243784  
 MP Charlie Elphicke - 01304 379669  
 KCC - Geoffrey Lymer 07960490929  
 DDC - P Beresford 216187  
 WEBS [www.alkham.org.uk](http://www.alkham.org.uk) &  
[www.alkhampc.kentparishes.gov.uk](http://www.alkhampc.kentparishes.gov.uk)

To contact the Parish Clerk or Councillors phone **07800 943434** or email [alkham.pc@outlook.com](mailto:alkham.pc@outlook.com)