

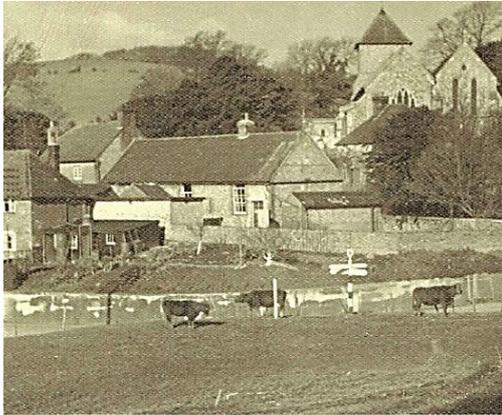
# Alkham Monthly Newsletter

Produced by Brian Wimsett  
The Old Post Office  
Slip Lane, Alkham CT15 7DE  
Telephone 01304 824969  
brianwimsett@hotmail.com

**No. 336 June 2022**

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

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



## **VICARAGE MEADOW**

In last month's newsletter a headline said that the Jubilee Party on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June is on Vicarage Meadow and a local has said that some people might not know this name. The 1930's photo shows the meadow, known as

glebe land as it provided revenue for the church which owned it, was behind the vicarage and therefore called Vicarage Meadow. The meadow was subsequently rented by the Parish Council to use as the village green, but the original village green was at the top of the steep hill off Slip Lane at Chalksole and it was last used for the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977. It is still owned by the parish but in 2003 the Parish Council bought Vicarage Meadow from the church and it became the official village green. **Editor**

**MARQUIS OF GRANBY** - May has given us a hint that Summer is around the corner and with that in mind, we have launched our new Summer Menu. We have included some more snacks and open sandwiches as well as kept our trademark A La Carte in keeping with our usual offering, giving our customers more flexibility. We have also introduced a monthly Dining Club with the next one coming on the 14<sup>th</sup> of June, on a booking only basis. The first event was a huge success with a five course tasting menu and a Master of Wine hosting the event, pairing some great and obscure wines with the food, it was nice to see some familiar faces! All details are on our website, but should you wish to know more, please call us on 01304 873410 or email [info@marquisofgranby.co.uk](mailto:info@marquisofgranby.co.uk). In addition, with The Jubilee Weekend fast approaching what better way to celebrate the Queen's reign than with Pimm's, bunting and our favourite band, Gumboots on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> of June! We will be open all day as usual with the event kicking off from 4pm and we would love to see the community come together for such a special occasion.  
**Hugh Thompson**  
General Manager

## **FILM NIGHT - 7.30pm**

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> June**

**Still Life – Eddie Marsan**

**Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> May**

**Marvellous – Toby Jones**

Entry to the village hall is free but a donation of £4 per person is appreciated

## **JUBILEE VILLAGE PARTY - JUNE 5TH FROM 1PM ON VILLAGE GREEN**

Final prompt regarding this event which has been well advertised in previous newsletters so hopefully all will come along and enjoy BYO lunch/drinks and fun with friends and neighbours. Don't forget your gazebo's, parasols and picnic table and chairs - we only have seating for eighty. **Irene Barnard**

**TRAFFIC** – Glyn Jones and Speedwatch have set up an email address [alkhamvalleytraffic@btinternet.com](mailto:alkhamvalleytraffic@btinternet.com) for parishioners to report any road traffic incidents that they are aware of in the Alkham Valley as many incidents go unreported. It is important that they can produce an accurate list of accidents and other road safety incidents when asking for support from Kent Police and KCC officers. At present we appear to be experiencing an average of about one significant road traffic incident a week, but many go unreported into official statistics as the police do not attend. Hopefully a local record of actual incidents can be built and the information can be used to ensure that KCC prioritises road safety along the Alkham Valley Road.

## **THE SUNFLOWER COMPETITION**

which has been organised by Anita and Vernon James has attracted 18 entries. The winning entrant will receive a cup which will have to be relinquished at the end of the year but a friend of Anita, who is very artistic, is making a wooden plaque that they can keep. Sunflower plants are still available and if you'd like one, please email [anitajames163@gmail.com](mailto:anitajames163@gmail.com).



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**PIMLICO WAY** – A firm laid hydraulically bound material from its junction with Slip Lane to the top of the rise at the end of April but either the material wasn't laid or compacted correctly or was faulty and the contractor will return

to site to put things right. The material is being laid to make the byway safer and stop flints and other debris being washed down onto Slip Lane.

**NEW FOOTPATH** – In the February edition the need for a paved path linking the one at Newlyns Meadow to the path behind the village hall was mentioned. The Parish Council is applying for a KCC Members grant of £1500 towards the cost of the path and say that the maximum cost should be no more than £3500 and since this expenditure was not in the budget it will be funded from the parish council reserves.

**VILLAGE HALL** – For the last financial year the hall made a loss of £1500 and in the previous financial year a loss of £3400 was incurred. In addition to this there was capital spend which amounted to about £3000. However, the hall was given a small business grant under the Government's scheme for Covid and this has covered the loss incurred. Despite lower usage the running costs have to be paid and the hall's annual insurance is £850 and last year the utilities bill (gas, electricity and water/drainage) despite the reduced bookings came to £1250. In addition to this there is the hall cleaning which adds another £1200 plus Council rates, grass cutting, broadband and general maintenance.

**EASELS** – The Art Workshop has been held in the village hall for many years but has now had to cease and Margaret Danstead and Margaret Tovey, with help from Liz Lambourne, have kindly donated their 6 easels to the Harvey Grammar School for boys in Dover.

### **THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL DIG**

mentioned in last month's newsletter at Dover's Maison Dieu (or House of God) has produced some interesting finds. Maison Dieu was founded by Hubert de Burgh in the early 1200s as a place for poor pilgrims to stay the night on their way to the shrine of St Thomas Becket at Canterbury Cathedral, or when travelling to the Continent. Pilgrims received free bed and board (weak beer and bread) from the Augustinian monks who looked after the building. The impressive Stone Hall was built circa 1290 and at the digs in April the most spectacular finds discovered by first time local volunteers were over 50 small fragments of decorated window glass found in a rubble layer beneath one of the Stone Hall's six medieval windows. Photographs of the glass have been seen by medieval stained-glass experts who believe the fragments date from the late 1200's or early 1300's and say are a very exciting find. Please contact Martin Crowther at martin.crowther@dover.gov.uk. or phone 07596 889 668 or go to www.maisondieudover.org.uk for details of future digs.



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**IN MAY 2023** district council seats will be up for election and anyone can apply as you don't have to be a member of a political party. If you'd like to find out more about being a councillor, on Tuesday the 14<sup>th</sup> of June 2022 from 6pm to 9pm DDC are holding a Prospective Councillor Evening at their offices in Whitfield, CT16 3PJ and to book a place please phone 01304 872303/4/5 or email [democraticservices@dover.gov.uk](mailto:democraticservices@dover.gov.uk).

**MOSELING'S HOLE** – An email was received from Paul Reed asking if anyone in the parish knew if an archaeological assessment had been carried out on a local dene-hole. A dene-hole was a shaft which was dug into the ground in ancient times to extract chalk and a well-preserved dene-hole exists in a wood just on the parish boundary some 60 metres east of the footpath/bridle way leading to St. Radigunds's Abbey. It is on private land and is about 2 metres in diameter, 11.5 metres deep and has three shafts radiating off it and is marked on a map. Legend has it that it was called Moseling's Hole because a man of that name who lived in Alkham fell down it and when Paul was a boy, he and friends used to explore the area, but he didn't have the courage to go down it on the end of a rope. If anyone has any more information about the dene-hole, please email [brianwimsett@hotmail.com](mailto:brianwimsett@hotmail.com). **Brian Wimsett**



**NOW** the lighter evenings are here the seagulls and rooks take any food that is left outside. To get round this the food was left in a flowerpot and the animal camera shows the badger with his head in the pot with the fox looking on. The fox previously wouldn't put his head in the pot but on the next night, after some trepidation, he followed suit. Unfortunately, the rooks got the message as well and so the pot has been removed.

## PRIMA BALLERINA

Point the toe

Slipper on

Tie pink ribbons tight

Plait a binding

For today

That will last all night.

Ribbons press

Silken edge

Cuts the ankles sore

Knots and pressure

Building up

Rubbing flesh red raw.

Welcome smile

Graceful arms

Circle out the view.

Pain is pulsing

In the feet

Toes are bleeding through.

**Gail Swainston**

**ALKHAM W.I.** - Our May meeting was our resolutions meeting followed by a quiz. Our next meeting is on the 14<sup>th</sup> of June when our speaker will be Rosemary Crippin talking about Bags Beads and embroidered books. Hostesses Lucy McKenzie and Eileen West, Raffle Janet Barrow and VOT Helen Scopes; new members always welcome. **Debbie Griggs**



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## ALKHAM VILLAGE HALL – Excellent facilities, reasonable rates

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### Regular events in the village hall

Tuesday - Friday Pilates 10am to 11am

Wednesday Sit Fit 9.30am to 11.00am

### Other events in the village hall

Tuesday 10 W.I. meeting 7.30pm

Thursday 26 Tea and a Chat 2.30pm to 4pm

### CHURCH SERVICES

Date	Alkham	Capel	Hougham
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Evensong 6.30 pm	Eucharist 9.30 am	Worship 11.00 am
Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Messy Church, followed by tea.3.00 – 5.00 pm		
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Eucharist 9.30 am	Worship 11.00 am	
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Worship 11.00 am	Evensong 6.00 pm	Eucharist 9.30 am
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup>	United Parish 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** - You may have noticed that Archbishop Justin's Easter Day sermon got a bit of a reaction this year – certainly a bigger one than mine did, judging by the newspaper headlines it generated. Archbishops of Canterbury have a way of ruffling feathers, with three having come off especially badly: the Martyrdom in Canterbury Cathedral recalls how Thomas à Becket, having annoyed King Henry II, was murdered there by four of his knights. Thomas Cranmer and William Laud also met sticky ends, one burned on the orders of Mary Tudor, the other executed by Parliament during the English Civil War. Thankfully Archbishop Justin is still in one piece, at least as far as I know. Approached for a comment, one MP thundered: *The Archbishop... should not assume to know what God knows in my humble opinion.* This strikes me as odd – a bit like saying that a doctor should not presume to write prescriptions. Christians have always recognised praying and reading the Bible as a way of finding out what God thinks – they don't call the Bible *the Word of God* for nothing. In fact, the laws that govern the Church of England are made by Parliament and oblige its clergy, archbishops included, *not being let by sickness or some other urgent cause, to say daily the Morning and Evening Prayer, either privately or openly.* So, the law obliges me, and people like me, to read the Bible; and reading it is more likely to prick my conscience than confirm my opinions: I'm left asking whether I have loved God, and my neighbour as myself, or whether I have judged or condemned anyone, or whether I have forgiven others when I have needed to. So please spare a thought for Archbishop Justin. He's only doing his job. **Brian Williams**

### POLICE 999 or 101

**Newsletter** [brianwimsett@hotmail.com](mailto:brianwimsett@hotmail.com)

**Parish Clerk and Parish Councillors**

[clerk@alkhamparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@alkhamparishcouncil.org.uk)

**Hall booking** Shirley Prince 828098

**W.I. Secretary** Janet Barrow 829585

**Footpaths** [antbarrier@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:antbarrier@tiscali.co.uk)

**AVS** [joannawalker777@gmail.com](mailto:joannawalker777@gmail.com) 821641

**Vicar** Brian Williams 01303 243784

**MP** Natalie Elphicke 01304 379669

**KCC** David Beaney 07818 024487

**DDC** [cllr-martin.hibbert@doover.gov.uk](mailto:cllr-martin.hibbert@doover.gov.uk)

07796444860.

**Other sites** [www.alkham.org](http://www.alkham.org)

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