

# Alkham Monthly Newsletter

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## No. 297 October 2018

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

Funded by adverts and independent of the Parish Council

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** - The question of overnight parking by camper vans on the village car park was discussed. This is a seasonal problem for those residents living near the Village Hall, but no action was agreed as this land is not owned by the Parish Council. This is not just a problem for Alkham as Temple Ewell suffers similar problems. During the interval representatives from Ewell Minnis voiced their concern that adverse remarks regarding caravans and planning issues in Ewell Minnis, were made by some residents at the Parish Plan launch on the 1<sup>st</sup> September. This was considered by those present from Ewell Minnis as a racial slur. It was agreed that more effort is needed by the Parish Council to ensure problems of those living in the outlying communities get equal attention to those given to the problems in Alkham village itself. We all need to live harmoniously together within the parish observing the rights of others within the law. **Geoff Hillier**

**ALKHAM VALLEY SOCIETY** - The Annual General Meeting of the Alkham Valley Society will take place on November 20th at 7 pm in the Alkham Village Hall. there will be a supper and quiz at The Fox, Temple Ewell following the meeting (£5 p.p.). Please let the Secretary know if you intend coming along to The Fox. Thank you. The Secretary (01304 821641).

**FILM NIGHTS** - We normally don't have a regular Film Night at the village hall in December but this year we are proposing to have, in early December, a Week of Classical Films. They will be shown, free of charge, over 5 or 6 afternoons or evenings at the Village Hall; dates yet to be fixed, early in December. We are looking for suggestions as to what films you, the public, would like to see screened during this 'Film Festival Week'. Please contact either Geoff Hillier (01303 892878) or Brian Wimsett (01304 824969) with your favourite ideas and a selection of the most popular films will be shown.

**TEA AND A CHAT** - About a dozen people gathered at the Village Hall on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> August to meet and chat over free cups of tea and biscuits. This event, held on the last Thursday of the month from 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm is proving popular, giving people the chance to meet old and new faces and anyone wishing to come along is most welcome. The next Tea and a Chat is on the 27<sup>th</sup> September followed by one in October on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

**COMPUTER** - If anyone would like to know how to use a computer either for general use or surfing the internet please come to the Tea and a Chat as detailed above.

**HARVEST BARN DANCE** - Please come and support the barn dance on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> October from which proceeds will be used to support village projects. It starts at 7.30pm in Alkham Village Hall and tickets cost £8, including a Ploughman's Supper. Please phone 07789 690786 or email Graham.bissett@talk21.com.

**CHURCH JUMBLE SALE** is on the 20<sup>th</sup> October in Alkham Village Hall with doors opening at 10.30 am.

**THE HARVEST FESTIVAL** service will be held on October 21<sup>st</sup> at 11.00am in St Anthony's. Unlike previous years, this year we are asking for donations for the Dover Foodbank. Please give generously, your donations can be left in the church. If you would like to help to decorate a window or another area of our beautiful church, please contact Linda 01304 823100. All help is very welcome.

**CAMERA UNIT** - People driving through the village will have noticed that the Safety Camera Unit has been regularly placed on the verge by Valley Cottages. This is because the data submitted by Speedwatch in Alkham has highlighted Alkham as a location that is experiencing a consistent high volume of speeding vehicles per hour. Hopefully this will lead to traffic calming measures being carried out. Apart from recording the vehicle speed the camera also shows drivers who are not wearing seat belts and using mobile phones.

### FILM NIGHT

Sept 25

The Post  
Tom Hanks Meryl Streep

Oct 30

Battle of the sexes  
Emma Stone Steve Carell

Village Hall 7.30pm entry £4.50  
Please bring your own refreshments

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**DEFIBRILATOR** – When someone suffers sudden cardiac arrest, prompt action is required; an immediate 999 call for an ambulance and starting CPR immediately are essential. Most people who survive will have needed a shock from a defibrillator to correct a chaotic heart rhythm. The photo shows a public-access defibrillator with a key pad for which the 999 operator should give the code. They are expensive and there is a slight delay but a number of people in Alkham have been asking for one.



**FENCE** – The play area and picnic tables beside the Alkham Valley road at the top of the green are regularly used by families with small children. Because of this, it was decided to put up a fence from the start of the green by the Old Vicarage all the way round to Hogbrook Lane with access gates by the bus shelter and at the far end. Rustic would be the best way to describe the fence, which also has wire netting on, but it will blend into the village and it does not restrict visibility. **editor**



**GARDEN TALK** - Our last outdoor visit of this year will be on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October when we visit the garden of 'Countryside' off the Alkham Valley Road, where Sue & Mike Ross will welcome us from 7.00p.m. **Janet Adamson**

**BOOK CLUB** - The October meeting of the Alkham Village book club will be on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> October at the Alkham Valley Garden Centre at 1.30. We will discuss Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng. All are welcome to come along and join in. **Jane Aslett**

**ALKHAM W.I.** - Our September meeting was a very interesting talk by Bob Ogley about the great storm of 1987. Our next meeting will be on October 9<sup>th</sup> which will be hosted by the two Debbie's, it will also include an auction. Hostesses are Janet Adamson and Janet Gibbons, raffle Beryl King and VOT sue Ross. New members always welcome  
**Debbie Griggs**



**BREWERY** – There was a brewery at South Alkham which was called the Drellingore Brewery. In the Dover Express on the 9<sup>th</sup> June 1869 they had an advert which advertised “every description of ale & porter constantly on sale. Orders by Post”. However, three months later the brewery was for sale by auction, including all the equipment and barrels plus the contents of the house and associated buildings. The house, with malt house, stable and outbuildings plus a double dwelling cottage and land were also for sale and this became Upton Farm. Upton Farmhouse (above) was built around 1710 and is almost identical to the Old Rectory in the centre of Alkham with a dentilled cornice at roof level. **editor**

### Alkham Valley Garden Centre

Fully licenced Café & Tearoom open 7 days  
Tree Ferns and Wollemi Pines have arrived.  
**We are holding our first Farmers Market on  
August 27<sup>th</sup> Bank Holiday Monday**  
Many stalls and great offers in house. Why  
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**ALKHAM HEROES** - October marks the centenary of the last of the Alkham Heroes of the First World War.

**JOSEPH EDWARD MOUNT** was born about 1896 in Guston. In 1911 the Census reveals he was a 15-year-old, 'Farm Yard Boy'. Joseph enlisted as Driver T1/1765 in the Army Service Corps and first saw active service in France on the 26th October 1914. Later in the War, as a result of gas poisoning, he was discharged as medically unfit for further active service. Medals awarded: Victory Medal, British War Medal, 1914 Star, & Silver War Badge. By 1918 he was employed as a War Goods Inspector (Army Pensioner) and worked in Salford near Manchester. He married Edith Bailey (George Bailey's sister), on the 26<sup>th</sup> September 1918 at St Anthony, Alkham. Only two weeks after their marriage, on Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> October 1918, Joseph died, at 58 Great Cheetham Street, West Broughton, Salford (Lancs) - aged 23. The cause of death was recorded as Enteric Fever [Typhoid] but this was also the time of the second wave of the so-called Spanish Flu, an epidemic which killed more people than the First World War and which was often mistakenly reported as Typhoid. Joseph's new bride, Edith, was with him at his death. His body was brought back to be buried on 15<sup>th</sup> October 1918 at St. Anthony, Alkham. **Mark Robson**

**OZ on FOYLES** – In the 1950s, a day in London was a wondrous thing. We would arrive by the slow train from East Kent, and head straight for the Trafalgar Square soup kitchen that sold soup and bread for one shilling, accompanied by a jukebox playing classical music at sixpence a go. This was often followed by a trip to Foyles, the eccentric bookshop in Charing Cross Road, either to sell used books, buy new ones or simply browse. I was surprised and a little concerned recently when news arrived of the sale of the famous Foyles chain to Waterstones. Foyles began in 1903 when the brothers William and Gilbert Foyle failed their Civil Service exams, successfully sold their textbooks, and began selling books from home. In 1904 they set up a shop in Peckham, followed by the Charing Cross Road shop in 1906. In 1930, William's daughter Christina started the literary lunches at the shop that continue today; over the years over 1,000 authors and 500,000 guests have attended, including international leaders and most British Prime Ministers. Christina took over the business in 1945, and there followed a difficult period, due partly to postwar lack of investment and partly to the legendary eccentricity of Foyles management. For instance, Christine rejected all artificial aids such as electronic tills or calculators, and would not accept orders by telephone. Customers queued three times: to collect an invoice, to pay the invoice, then to collect the book, as sales staff were not allowed to handle cash. In 1999 Christina died and control passed to her nephew Christopher, who modernized Foyles business practices and expanded the number of shops. Waterstones now promises to keep the Foyles name and standalone status intact, so as to help fight Amazon, which is comforting news for booklovers. **(Steve Osborn)**

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<b>Tuesday</b>	Art Workshop from 10am – 1pm Yoga 1.10pm – 2.10pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	Keep Fit 9.30/10.30am - Tai Chi 6pm to 7pm
<b>Friday</b>	Pilates 9.30 to 10.30am – check to make sure

**Other Events in the village hall**

<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>2</b>	White Cliffs Metal Detectors 7 to 9pm
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>6</b>	Barn Dance 7.30pm – see page 1
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>11</b>	W.I. meeting 7.30pm
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>13</b>	SEK astronomical society 7pm to 10.00pm
<b>Monday</b>	<b>15</b>	Bird Club 7.30pm
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>11</b>	W.I. meeting 7.30pm
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>20</b>	Jumble Sale 10.30am – see page 1
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>31</b>	Film Night 7.30pm – see page 1

**Bus times from Alkham to Dover (top) and Folkestone (bottom)**

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>7.32 9.32 10.32 11.32 12.32 13.32 14.32 16.27 17.32 18.32</b>
Sat. 7.32 9.32 10.32 11.32 12.32 14.32 17.32, 18.32

**CHURCH SERVICES**

DATE	ALKHAM	CAPEL	HOUGHAM
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Evensong 6.30	Eucharist 9.30	Worship 11am
Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Messy Church St Radigund's 3.00 – 5.00 pm		
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Eucharist 9.30am	Harvest F 11 am	Harvest V hall 4pm
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Harvest F 11 am	Evensong 6.00	Eucharist 9:30am
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Benefice Eucharist Alkham 10.00 am		

**FROM THE VICARAGE** - If you drive, you probably know what it's like to turn into a busy supermarket car park, carefully follow the arrows to a suitable parking space, and have to swerve to avoid someone who has apparently noticed neither the arrows nor the 'no entry' signs telling them that they are going the wrong way. In such a situation you and I would naturally smile, apologise and politely allow others to go safely on their way. But I was shown an online video recently that showed someone who, having made such a mistake, reacted rather differently. Someone chose to film what followed on their smartphone and posted it on the internet for the entire world to see. I once visited a house where a plaque hung in the hall. It read: "*Christ is the head of the home, the unseen guest of every meal, the silent listener to every conversation.*" I must admit that at the time this idea felt a bit creepy – but like everyone else, I've grown used to being in shops, in streets and on trains where cameras watch my every move, so the idea of Christ watching me as well doesn't really bother me. The writer of Psalm 25 pleads with God: *do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions.* Online videos offer a 'watch again' option at the end – fine if it's *Gone with the Wind*, your favourite band or Rooney scoring for England, but not if the world's watching you having a difficult moment on a bad day over and over again. But the Psalmist would probably say that God isn't interested in watching our mistakes over and over again, only in our new beginnings – and that's where He scores over *YouTube*. **Brian Williams**

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