

Alkham Monthly Newsletter

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

No. 308 September 2019 Non-profit & delivered free
to all properties in the Parish
Funded by adverts and independent of the Parish Council

HARVEST BARN DANCE - As trailed in last month's newsletter, there will be a Harvest Barn Dance held in Alkham Village Hall on Saturday 5th October. Dancing to Spring Barley from 19:30 to 23:00. Tickets are £10 each and include a Ploughman's Supper; bring your own drinks. Tickets are available from Graham Bissett 07789 690786 or at graham.bissett@talk21.com. There will only be 65 tickets available on a first come first served basis. **Graham Bissett**

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING This year's coffee morning is planned for Saturday 21st September 10am - 12 noon. It will be held in Alkham village hall and as in previous years there will be a variety of stalls including a tombola. This coffee morning is in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support, a very worthwhile charity that as well as providing nursing care, also gives practical, financial and emotional support to cancer sufferers and their families. This has become a fantastic community event and I am always overwhelmed at the generosity of all those who support the coffee morning and those who help on the day. I would again be very grateful to anyone who would be willing to bake a cake (large or individual) for the cake and refreshment stalls. For any further information please contact Sue Ross - 01304 825736.

THE HARVEST SUPPER - will be held on Monday 14th October and tickets will be £7.00 per person. Any help would be much appreciated; for instance, large cottage pies and fruit pies or crumbles to feed about 8 persons. If you have anything for the raffle that would be a bonus. We will also need volunteers on the night for serving and washing up etc. so if you can help in any way, or to book your tickets, please ring Carol on 01304 826514; hurry as they normally go very quickly. **Carol Mannall**

FLY IN - A charity Fly In is being held at Greenwood Farm in Alkham on the 15th September; invitations have been sent to flying clubs and airfields inviting plane owners to fly to Greenwood Farm where there will be a barbecue. The event starts at 1pm and costs £5 per person with all profits, plus the £10 landing fee, going to the Martha Trust. Tickets are available from Anne Huggins on 824340.

ANNUAL ALKHAM QUIZ - For those people who have booked tables for the Quiz on the 7th September, please be at Alkham village hall by 7pm so we can start promptly at 7.30pm. All the tables have been booked and don't forget to bring your refreshments and nibbles and think of a team name. We look forward to seeing you. **Debbie Griggs and Debbie Saunders**

TEA & A CHAT is on the last Thursday of each month at 2.00pm and it's an opportunity to meet new friends and have a chat in convivial surroundings; please do come along and join us.

THE ALKHAM PARISH SLOW WORM WATCH

(try saying that 3 times quickly!) I would like to start



collecting sightings of these lovely creatures from around the parish. Please send me details of locations, dates and times that you spot them and include a photo if you can. (I am always happy to receive photos of any other fabulous Alkham wildlife too!) If you would like any more information about slow worms you can visit <https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/wildlife-explorer/reptiles/slow-worm> and I will leave an informative poster on the village hall notice board. **Tracey Prince** tracey.prince@hotmail.co.uk

A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

is being held on the 9th September from 7.30pm in the village hall when a report will also be given on the progress of the Parish Plan; everyone is welcome to attend.

VILLAGE HALL TABLES - If the hall is booked for an event the tables and chairs can be used free of charge but otherwise tables and chairs must be booked with the Booking Secretary and there is a charge of 50p per chair and £6 per table; however, if the event is for an agreed charitable purpose there will be no charge.

FILM NIGHT

September 24	Fisherman's Friends
August 27	A Star is born Bradley Cooper Lady Gaga
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

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 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

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

PRINCE TUTORING will be holding a series of fund-raising activities between now and Christmas to raise money for much needed repairs to the Alkham Christmas tree display on the meadow. The first of the activities will be a monthly raffle with a £25 cash prize. Tickets are £1 a strip and the first winner will be announced at the end of August. Tickets can be purchased from Tracey Prince and will also be available at various village clubs over the next few weeks. **Tracey Prince**



FOR SALE - Antique Regency Mahogany Pembroke table, on a turned pedestal base. 2 folding leaves, extending to 114cms by 95cms. Offers. Contact: 01303 893413

SIGHTLOSS GROUP - The Folkestone Macular Society Support Group meets on the last Friday each month from 10:30am to noon at The View Hotel 30-32 Clifton Rd Folkestone CT20 2EF. All welcome. Meeting other people with macular disease helps you understand your condition, share information about treatments and stay independent. For more information call Margaret on 01303 226 877 or email help@macularsociety.org. If it is of interest, please keep a note of these details as a short reminder will be on the back page of the newsletter.

HOLISTIC FAIR 13th JULY - A big thank you to Alkham Village Hall baking team: Rachel, Katie, Helen, Sue and Shelley for their tasty and really appreciated efforts of a variety of delicious cakes and biscuits, including those for gluten free folk. We raised a respectable £493 and still have some donations to come, which with the Psychic Fair totals £956 + towards our campaign for better services and respite for mothers and their babies. **Lyn Richardson**

GARDEN TALK - On Friday 13th September we meet at Thorn Cottage, Meggett Lane from 7.00 p.m. where Rosemary & Geoff are our hosts for the evening. We are already looking at venues for next year, so offers would be welcome. For further details please contact **Janet Adamson 01303 893413**.

ALKHAM W.I. - Our August meeting was a member's night so we treated ourselves to fish and chips from seafarers in Cheriton, Folkestone which we would certainly recommend, and this was followed by a Quiz. The next meeting is on September 10th and our speaker will be Mark Woollard who will be talking about bee keeping. Hostesses are Janet Gibbons and Margaret Shepherd, raffle Shelley Jackson and VOT Beryl King. New members are always welcome. **Debbie Griggs**



HAY COLLECTION

Nowadays we see a tractor and baler going around the field and leaving bales of hay behind. In 1928 things were a bit different at Wolverton Court in

Alkham, as shown in the photo. The car being used as a hay cart is probably a 1912 Bullnose Morris.

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

Folkestone: 01303 246505

Dover: 01304 207007 Whitfield: 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

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

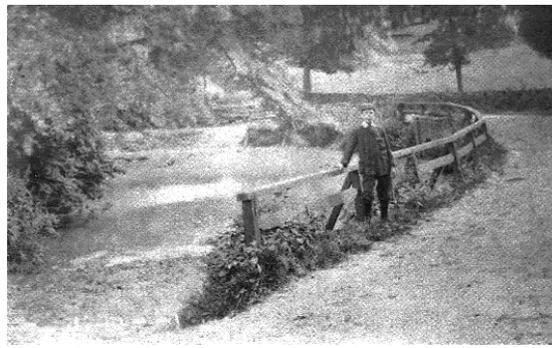


Give your child's education a boost with one-to-one assistance from a qualified and experienced teacher

- 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



THE SUMP opposite the village hall has been recently cleaned out as it was full of silt. The photo on the left was taken about a hundred years ago, at almost the same location, and shows the pond which

was used by the vicarage, local farms and villagers. This too silted up and in 1926 a dyke was dug across what is now the village green to alleviate the flooding caused by the Nailbourne and heavy rain. There is no doubt that the cleared-out sump will fill with silt again, which is caused by the large run-off from Slip and Hogbrook Lane and the ditch itself from the west. KCC are of the opinion that the dyke needs to be cleaned out and lowered to the east, removing nearly 100 years of build up, so that the water can flow away.

OZ on SHIRLEY – Last month, the Alkham Film Night audience was treated to a stunning 2018 film, Green Book, an American comedy-drama directed by Peter Farrelly. It's a true story about the 1962 tour of America's Deep South by 'Doctor' Don Shirley, an African American pianist, and his driver and bodyguard, an Italian American called Frank 'Tony Lip' Vallelonga. The title comes from the Negro Motorist Green Book, a guidebook to the law for African American road-users, which was abolished shortly after the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The subject matter is difficult, but as the film unfolded the audience became captivated by its pace, attention holding and sensitivity, and at the end there was spontaneous and sincere applause. I don't intend to write much more here about the actual film for fear of boring those who've seen it, and spoiling it for those who haven't; just a little more about Shirley himself. Shirley was born in 1927 in Pensacola, Florida, to Jamaican immigrants. He began to play the piano aged two, and studied in a variety of locations until he received his music degree in Washington in 1953. Disillusioned by the lack of opportunities for classical black pianists, Shirley worked briefly as a psychologist before returning to music. In late 1950s and 1960s he achieved success with a jazz/classical amalgam and made a stream of albums for Cadence Records. After working with the Civil Rights Movement, Shirley returned to classical music, writing symphonies and performing both nationally and internationally. He died at home in Manhattan in 2013, aged 86. If you haven't seen the film, watch it at once; if you have, watch it again. For me Green Book is up there with my favourite films; The Wizard of Oz, The Battle of the River Plate and Lawrence of Arabia. **(Steve Osborn)**

BRIEF LIVES RESULTS – Two anonymous readers submitted entries for August's Brief Lives competition, in which readers were invited to write their life story in six words. **Anon1** hilariously describes a drinking/medical life in "Castor Oil, Corona, Double Diamond, Party 7, Guinness, Finasteride"; **Anon 2** a singing life with "Lullabies, Hymns, Reggae, Musicals, Oratorios, Requiems." I've decided to award joint first place to each, one for complying with, and the other for courageously breaking, the six-word rule. **(Steve Osborn)**

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
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 relaxingtouchofmassageuk@gmail.com
www.relaxingtouchofmobilemassage.com

Andy Gee
 Gas Safe registered heating and plumbing engineer
07807586902 or 01304 207378
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

ROBERTS **07824**
 PAINTING & DECORATING **357704**
 Exterior & Interior Redecoration Experts

Free Quotes~Fully Insured~2 Yr Guarantee

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

ALKHAM VILLAGE HALL – Excellent facilities, reasonable rates
Please ring Tracey or Shirley for information 01304 828098
 In exceptional circumstances the key is available from Brian on 824969

Tuesday	Art Workshop in village hall from 10am – 1pm
Wednesday	Keep Fit 9.30/11.00am – Tai Chi 6pm to 7pm
Friday	Pilates 9.30 to 10.30am
Last Friday	Sightloss group View Hotel Folkestone 1030 to noon

Other Events in the village hall

Saturday	7	W.I. Quiz Night
Monday	9	Parish Council meeting 7.30pm all welcome
Saturday	14	SEKAS 7pm to 9pm
Saturday	21	Macmillan Coffee morning 10 to 12 noon – see p1
Tuesday	24	Film Night 7.30pm – see page 1
Thursday	26	Tea and a Chat 2pm to 4pm see page 1

CHURCH SERVICES

DATE	ALKHAM	CAPEL	HOUGHAM
Sunday 1st	Evensong 6.30 pm	Benefice Eucharist Hougham 10.00 am	
Sunday 8 th	Eucharist 9:30 am	Worship 11am	
Saturday 14 th	Messy Church St Radigund's 3.00 – 5.00 pm		
Sunday 15 th	Worship 11am	Evensong 6.00 pm	Eucharist 9:30 am
Sunday 22 nd	Benefice Eucharist Alkham 10.00 am		
Sunday 29 th	Benefice Eucharist at St Mary's (Capel Old Church) 10.00 am		

BUS TIMES To Dover 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
To Folkestone 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 - Sitting in a lecture at university last year, I remember how shocked and surprised we were when our lecturer told us excitedly that he had tickets for a Roy Orbison concert - "The Big O," after all, having died in 1988! Technology, he went on to explain, would enable him to enjoy Orbison's music in all its digitally remastered glory while watching a hologram of the 60's pop star performing on stage. It all sounded like something out of Star Trek. We wondered: could he really claim to be going to a Roy Orbison concert? It's tempting, sometimes, to look back at the past through rose-tinted spectacles – especially if we weren't there. As I write, the first Spitfire flight of the day has just droned past on its way along the White Cliffs. Someone has paid handsomely for the experience, and they will indeed be able to say that they have flown in a Spitfire – but they will only be able to imagine 1940, and I suspect without choosing to imagine too many of the horrors that went with it. Church buildings also offer opportunities to imagine – the older ones are steeped in history and often have associations for people, as some of the entries in the visitors' books show. The challenge is to avoid giving the impression that they are only about the past. Faith draws on the past but belongs to the present and looks to the future; churches are living places, not museums. I hope to be around for a while yet. But when I do finally go, I hope that I will be replaced by a living, breathing human being. Please, no holograms accompanied by digitally remastered sermons.
Brian Williams

POLICE 999 or 101
 Newsletter brianwimsett@hotmail.com
 Hall booking Tracey Prince 828098
 W.I. Secretary – Janet Barrow 829585
 Footpaths antbarrier@tiscali.co.uk
 AVS cjmwalker@tiscali.co.uk 821641
 Vicar Brian Williams 01303 243784
 MP Charlie Elphicke - 01304 379669
 KCC - Geoffrey Lymer 07960490929
 DDC – Jamie Rose 07802 428353
 WEBS www.alkham.org &
www.alkhampc.kentparishes.gov.uk