

Alkham Monthly Newsletter

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

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to the Parish



THRILLED to announce the Marquis of Granby's team wins at the local cricket tournament, The Alkham Ashes. A big thank you to those who came out and supported the event and to the Alkham cricket Club for their spirited game. We look forward to organising next year's matches and seeing you all there! **The Marquis**

ALKHAM FETE - After a few years' absence, we are aiming to have a Fete next year (probably 13th July 2024) so if you are interested in helping run a stall or on the day, please give me a call on 01303 892082 (and/or leave a message if I don't pick up). We will be having a meeting in late October (date to be confirmed - I'll let you know when you call!). Everyone is welcome, we're always happy to see new faces and hear new ideas! **Paul Tapsell**

THANK YOU to everyone who attended September's parish council meeting. The next one is on Monday 6th November at 7pm in the village hall. The outgoing council Highways Improvement Plan budget has been approved. The Community Led Plan is now on the parish council website. The policies and procedures for the council are now finalised. The terms of reference for the work group are approved. If you have an interest or experience in the following areas - Highways; Communications and Involvement; Parish plan; Environment - please get in touch at clerk@alkhamparishcouncil.org.uk. The working groups require parishioners so please put your name forward by 16th October for consideration. **Alkham Parish Council**

TEMPLE EWELL PRIMARY SCHOOL OPEN MORNING - Is your child starting in Reception in September 2024? If so, please join us for one of our Open Mornings on Thursday 9th November at 9.15am or 10.45am. To book your place, please call our school office on 01304 822665. **Nicola Church**

HARVEST SUPPER - This year the Harvest Supper will be a little different as we have not got the amount of people to help. It will be an American Supper where you bring your own food, drink, crockery and glasses. It will be on Monday 9th October at 19.00 in Alkham Village Hall and the tickets will be £5.00 each. There will be the usual auction of harvest produce and a raffle. If anyone can help with produce or prizes, I would be very grateful. Please ring me Carol Mannall 01304 826514 or 07946106742 and hope to see many of you there again this year. **Carol Mannall**

HARVEST FESTIVAL - Catie Webber would like some help decorating St. Anthony's church for Harvest Festival on October the 6th and 7th from 2pm to 4 pm. Donations of produce such as jams, honey etc., garden greenery with autumnal foliage or berries to help with the decoration would be appreciated.

THE BELLS - Pat Yeomans who lives in the centre of the village would like to thank the bell ringers at St. Anthony's church for ringing the bells so well as she was sitting in her garden on a sunny evening. Like the cricket on the green it is a quintessential part of village life and long may it continue.

FILM NIGHT

October 31st 7.30pm

The Lost City Sandra Bullock

September 26th

Phantom of the Open

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Tai Chi

Wednesday, 3.30 - 4.30 PM
Wootton Village Hall

Friday, 11.00 AM - 12.00 PM
Hawkinge Community Centre

Contact Anna Dashwood
07736 849 194 www.pfstaichi.com

Streetz2S4reetz

Mobile Fish and Chip Unit
Saturday 14th October

(23rd September)

will be outside the village hall 5-6.30pm

Call 07955 926 835 for booking & details

Also cater for weddings, kid's parties, christenings, charity events, fish supper parties and boot fairs



FLINT WALL – Much to their credit the owners of Malmaims Manor on Slip Lane are having their flint boundary wall rebuilt. However, fate has taken a hand and an articulated lorry took the wrong road and whilst trying to turn round knocked a large hole in the

wall and on the Warren Lane side a nocturnal vehicle which didn't stop also knocked down a length of new wall.

WATER LEAK - You may have noticed a water leak in Slip Lane recently. This was caused by a split in the 'communication' pipe from the steel water main pipe to a property stop tap. This pipe is made of lead which was banned in 1969 as it is known to be a health hazard. Affinity water has a program of replacing lead pipe but any pipes from the stop tap to your house are your responsibility. I replaced my supply pipe some years ago but it appears there is still a small length in the Lane belonging to Affinity Water. If you do have lead supply pipes the guidance is to get it replaced or at least run the tap for a minute in the morning and if you have been out all day for a minute in the evening. The standing water absorbs lead from the pipe and there is more information on www.affinitywater.co.uk/alerts/lead-pipe-replacement. **Alan Latham**

GARDEN WASTE - Dover District Council will introduce new wheeled bins for garden waste collections from April 2024 and existing customers changing over to the new service will be provided with a free 240L wheeled bin. The current annual subscription fee is £58 for a 25-alternate week service and the 2024/25 subscription will be reviewed as part of the annual review of fees and charges. Not everyone is in favour of this because of the possible weight of the filled bin.

VILLAGE HALL – The hall has two CCTV cameras on the front of the building as a security measure for the hall car park and the premises and one camera does pick up the rubbish bin in the car park opposite.

THE TRAFFIC LIGHTS on the Alkham Valley road near the A20 overbridge are for contractors working for National Highways to carry out their work safely adjacent to the valley road. When the new A20 dual carriageway was built in the 1990's a drainage lagoon was installed at this point to take the run-off rainwater from the A20 and the lagoon is now being cleared of built up material plus other works carried out to mitigate the problem.

ALKHAM W.I. - Thank you to Nicola Church for organising our September meeting, it was an enjoyable one. Our next meeting will be October 10th when it's our auction night so would every member please bring something along for the auction i.e. unwanted Christmas present or something they no longer need. Hostesses Helen Price, Christine Banham, raffle Debbie Saunders. All new members always welcome. **Debbie Griggs**

BASKETBALL HOOP - If anyone is interested in there being a basketball hoop installed in the village and/or playing basketball in general, please contact Harlan ba@thewebbers.org.

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flowed from about a mile west of the village at Drellingore where the water rises and archaeologists have found some evidence of this after unearthing a landing stage at Wolverton just to the east of the village. In 1898 the water company built a pumping station near Drellingore and pumped the water to a reservoir at Terlingham on the high ground by Hawkinge to provide clean water to the Folkestone area and this greatly reduced the flow of the nailbourne and had a bad effect on the lakes at Temple Ewell. The photo was taken in 1897 somewhere near where Newlyn's Meadow is now and North Hill House in the centre of Alkham can be seen in the distance on the left. The photo is made more human by the photographer's shadow and two ladies out for a walk. **editor**

THE NAILBOURNE or Alkham Bourne as most people know is the natural stream that occasionally flows down the valley. The Alkham area lies on chalk that is highly porous and when saturated the water starts to flow above ground. In the distant past it created a small river which

COMMUNITY GROUPS

in the district looking for vital funding to

cost of living are being encouraged to apply to Dover

District Council's Cost of Living

Community Impact Fund. The

funding includes £7,500 from the

Dover District Lotto and £30,000

from the UK Shared Prosperity

Fund. DDC's new Cost of Living

Community Impact Fund has been

developed from the long-standing

DDC Community Grants Scheme.

Under the new scheme, applicants

can apply for between £100 and

£2,500. There will be one round of

funding for 23/24. The grants are

to help people with the cost of

living, focusing on supporting

communities in financial hardship.

The closing date for applications is

5pm Monday 23 October 2023. For

more information see DDC website

dover.gov.uk/communitygrants.

MEGETT COTTAGE

– We have now re-opened our holiday cottage

which is now managed by

Keeperscottages.co.uk. It sleeps 6

and has a conservatory overlooking

the valley. We are pet friendly with

an enclosed garden and ideal

retreat for friends and relatives.

Helen and Simon Price 01303

252764 - *The cottage is about ¼ mile*

south of the centre of Alkham.





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Instagram: wolvertonfarmfirewood.

ALKHAM VILLAGE HALL – Excellent facilities, reasonable rates
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Regular events in the village hall

Tuesday	Sit Fit 9.30am to 11.30am
Wednesday	Valley Voices 7.30pm to 9.00pm
Friday	Pilates 10am to 11am

Other events in the village hall

Tuesday	10	W.I. meeting 7.30pm
Thursday	26	Tea and a Chat 2.30pm to 4pm
Tuesday	31	Film Night – The Lost City

CHURCH SERVICES

Date	Alkham	Capel	Hougham
Sunday 1st	Prayer 5.00 pm	Eucharist 9.30 am	Eucharist 11.00 am
Saturday 7th	Messy Church, followed by tea 3.00 – 5.00 pm		
Sunday 8th HARVEST	Eucharist 9.30 am	Harvest Festival 11.00 am	West Hougham Village Hall 11.00 am
Sunday 15th	Worship 9.30 am	Eucharist 9.30 am	Eucharist 11.00 am
Sunday 22nd	Eucharist 9.30 am	Evensong 6.00pm	Eucharist 11.00 am
Sunday 29th	St Mary's (Capel Old Church United Parish Eucharist 10.00 am)		

BUS TIMES To Dover 8.18,9.48,11.23,13.23,14.53,17.28: Sat: 9.48,11.18,13.18,15.28

To Folkestone 9.09,10.39,12.09,14.09,16.09,18.09: Sat 10.39,12.09,14.09,16.09

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HALL BOOKING Shirley Prince 828098 **W.I. SECRETARY** Janet Barrow 829585

VICAR Brian Williams 01303 243784

AVS joannawalker777@gmail.com 821641 alkhamvs.org

MP Natalie Elphicke 01304 379669: **KCC** David Beaney 07818 024487

DDC cllr-martin.hibbert@dover.gov.uk 07796444860.

LOCAL SITES alkham.org alkhamparishcouncil.org.uk

alkhamvalleytraffic2@btinternet.com

From the vicarage - I had thought that for me, job interviews were a thing of the past. But then I spotted an appeal from Canterbury Cathedral for local clergy to volunteer to assist at the service of Choral Evensong that takes place there each evening. After an informal chat came a voice test - I was given a sheet of music and a note on a piano, and off I went, hoping that what I was singing matched what was on the sheet. Then, a few evenings later came the test: the Cathedral fell silent, I held a tuning fork to my ear, and sang: *O Lord, open thou our lips...* The choir sang the response: *And our mouth shall show forth thy praise...* Over the next forty-five minutes or so I sang a bit more, led the prayers and introduced the final hymn. I'd made the grade, and was subsequently installed as an Honorary Minor Canon – which sounds grand, but I'm still just a volunteer really. Cathedrals need several priests, or Canons, to run everything. The one who organises services is called the Precentor - Canterbury hasn't had one for a while, but that changes in November when Revd Wendy Dalrymple arrives. The photo that accompanied the announcement showed her standing in front of a stained-glass window wearing a short-sleeved blouse and clerical collar with a splendid array of tattoos on her arms. I won't dignify the bile that this photo prompted by repeating it here. But evidently someone who is heavily tattooed themselves saw the story and remarked that they didn't know that people like them were welcome in church – but now they do. I look forward to meeting Canon Wendy and being on her team. And in case you're wondering, I don't have any tattoos – honest! **Brian Williams**