Alkham Monthly Newsletter No. 125 January 2004

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

Alkham Valley Garden Centre

January sale of Christmas stock Spring bulbs

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ALKHAM VALLEY ROAD - After yet another car overturning on the Valley Road and the report in the last month's Newsletter that repairs to the road were not top priority, the family and relatives of Victoria Smith, who was tragically killed in an accident in August, have spearheaded a campaign for immediate improvements to the road. The Dover Mercury carried a front page story about Victoria and the state of the road and concluded with the comment from DDC saying that there was no order of priority as far as the council was concerned and it was now a matter for KCC. Alkham Parish Council is co-ordinating the campaign for action, assisted by the Mercury, and supported by local people. If you know of any accidents on the Valley Road (noninjury are not recorded), please contact the Parish Clerk, Susan Lees, on 822661.

THE ANNUAL QUIZ

Several tables have been booked for the guiz in the village hall on the 31st of January and if you'd like to take part please phone either Sue on 822661 or Brian on 824969. Food will be served in the interval but you should bring your own drinks.

PARISH COUNCIL - As there are now two places to be filled on the Parish Council, the period inviting residents to put their names forward to fill these posts has been extended to 12th January 2004. Anyone wishing to should do apply SO in writing to the clerk - Mrs. S. Lees. Forstal Cottage, Alkham Valley Road, Alkham.

FOLKESTONE & District Water Company - The Water Company expects by March 2004 to start work laying two water pipes from Bushey Ruff, where

FARMER'S MARKET Capel-le-Ferne Village Hall each Tuesday 10am to 1pm. Local produce Phone 01303 245399

water will be extracted from a bore-hole, in order to pump water up the valley to their pumping station at Drellingore. The exact route has yet to be determined, but is expected to go through agricultural and equestrian land. This will be a huge project but is necessary to overcome drought conditions and modern demands for water. (Parish Clerk)

LOST – A gold chain necklace with a cross attached was lost in the village recently. It is of great sentimental value and if you happen to find one please ring me on 824969. (editor)

HOLLY - Sad to report the holly trees and bushes in the churchyard, particularly glorious this year with an abundance of berries, have been stripped by persons unknown.

Delivered free to all properties in the Parish

MARQUIS OF GRANBY Wednesday MOULES NIGHT £7.95 Thursday STEAK NIGHT £7.95 (16oz rib-eve)

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

The Church bazaar in the village hall on the 29th of November was a great success and made a profit of £326. Thanks must go to all those involved particularly the people who made the jams, preserves, puddings, cakes and decorations.

PLASTIC BOTTLES - The Kent Recycling Project is a charity based just beside the Battle of Britain Museum at Hawkinge and they are the only locally known organisation who recycles plastic drinks bottles, including milk containers. They will also take any paper, tins and cardboard for which they will pay and an account can be set up which will be credited each time items are brought in for recycling, with payment as either cash or a tree. It would be great if a scheme could be set up for Alkham, so if there is anybody in the Parish who would like to help please give me a ring on 824969. (editor - many thanks to Mark Robson for the information) PETER CHAMBERS - I'm

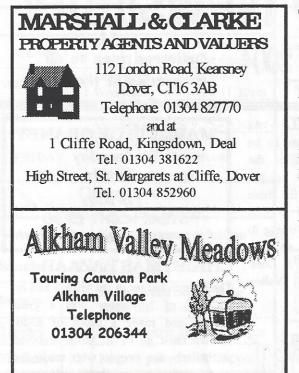
pleased to report that Peter is now at home and receiving physiotherapy following his recent heart problems.

Alkham Court Farmhouse Bed & Breakfast Meggett Lane, South Alkham ETC: 4 diamonds

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ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Recently a couple of lads in the village have been causing a nuisance, mainly by harassing a family in the village and carrying out some acts of mindless vandalism. I would like to print their names to shame them into stopping but for legal reasons I can't; however the Police have been informed and are looking into the matter with the possibility of prosecution. If the boys are prosecuted and found guilty, I will be able to print their names but I'm hoping that before this they will have seen how upsetting and stupid their recent actions have been such that it will not come to this. (editor)

KARATE LESSONS - Trading Standards have been made aware of a male cold calling consumers selling a course of Karate lessons for a special price of £22 rather than the usual price of £80. The so called company offering this goes by the name of GKR Karate and they say they are based in Sale, Manchester. These lessons do not actually take place and the venues where the lessons are so called booked have never heard about the company nor has the venue been booked for any lessons. Trading standards are advising consumers to be wary if they hear from GKR Karate and to double check the venue before handing over any monies in respect of payment. If anyone has any information regarding this matter Trading Standards would be pleased to hear from them on 08457 585497. (via Neighbourhood Watch)

TOO MUCH TRAFFIC In the 1920's, a Ministry of Transport Inquiry was set up as a result of KCC's request to restrict or prohibit the use of certain roads by heavy vehicular traffic, and there was spirited opposition to the closing of the Alkham Valley Road. The Surveyor for the Dover part of the road said that there was considerable traffic on the road, and a census showed that 30 vehicles an hour passed along it. The road was of no importance for through traffic and in the opinion of his Council was wholly unsuitable for heavy traffic. On cross examination the Surveyor said the road served no useful purpose but conceded that because of the large volume of traffic they had asked the Ministry to classify it as a 'B' road so as to get a contribution towards its upkeep. A Mr May of Mongeham said he had known the road for forty years and it was unsuitable and dangerous and its use by heavy traffic was detrimental to legitimate traffic (laughter). He admitted however, to his sorrow, that he did use the road with his trotting pony. The East Kent Road Car Company said that they used the road to avoid serious congestion in Dover and this with other contributions concluded the evidence. Seventy five years later, we have about 5600 vehicles per day going through the village of which about 90% is through traffic. (thanks go to Sue Lees for finding this story in The Dover and East Kent News circa 1920's).

BURGLARY - Forced entry was made to a property in the village recently and items of some value were stolen. The police were called after the alarm sounded but the burglars had fled before they arrived.

THE W.I. CAROL and coffee morning in the village hall on the 20^{th} of December was a great success despite the appalling weather.

RAY ASHMAN who lives in Green Lane, Ewell Minnis, celebrated his birthday on the 12th of December and this marks fifty years of being connected with the teaching and practice of first aid, mostly associated with the St. John's Ambulance Service. His wife would like to congratulate him on this achievement as I'm sure others will too.

POPPY APPEAL - I am pleased to tell you that the Alkham Poppy Appeal collection made a total of £227.30 and particular thanks go to Tricia Wright, Shirley Tapsell, Val Banks and Sue Lees helped with who the collections and also the Marquis and the Farm Shop for displaying collection boxes. Many thanks to the people of Alkham who once again, have been so generous with donations. their (Rachel Fountain)

GARDENTALK _ Our 19th Christmas party, held on December was a really traditional affair, from the feast and mulled wine to the party games, charades and the singing of solos and rounds. All this held in the lovely rooms at 'The Vicarage" which have such ambience and nostalgia for many of us. Thank you to Ian and Lucy and also to those whose entertaining ideas made the party such a success.

(Susannah Tapsell)

FONT - Many thanks to the two people who commented on the change of font in last month's Newsletter. One thought it a great improvement and the other the opposite. Having looked on the web, the recommendation is to type in Times New Roman, CG Times or Arial. The font CG Times appears to be installed on HP printers and there are no free downloads so I've reverted to Times New Roman but increased the line spacing from 12 to 13 points which takes up the same space as Arial. Further comments appreciated.



W.I.

On Tuesday 9th December, the W.I abandoned the village hall for the Lighthouse in Capel. It was our Christmas meal

combined with Alkham W.I.'s 75th birthday. There were 30 members plus our invited guest Kevin Mepham our vicar, I must add the only man with 30 women, but he coped very well and thoroughly enjoyed it! We had a very nice meal, Kevin said a few words and proposed a toast and Doreen Lott cut the beautiful cake that she had made for us. It was a pleasant evening with friends, plenty of chat and laughter. Our next meeting is Tuesday January 13th in the village hall when the speaker's subject is "Around the World in 50 Days". (Cherry Leppard) **OZ on LAPWINGS** – One bleak afternoon, after a bruising Christmas shopping expedition in Canterbury, we came home via the nature reserve opposite Richborough power station for some tranquillity and exercise. Wheeling high over the mudflats was an enormous cloud of several thousand lapwings, dipping and rolling in the distinctive flight that names them, from the Anglo-Saxon hleapewince meaning 'run and wink'. It was a gratifying sight as wildlife authorities have been concerned for many years now over the decline in lapwing numbers due to farming pressures. The lapwings belong to the plover family and comprise at least 24 species of which ours is the Northern Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus), also known as 'peewit' from its cry and 'green plover' from its iridescent back feathers. Lapwings, in fact, provided the "plovers' eggs" of London street markets. As a child I thought that lapwings and peewits were separate species, and my mother-in-law held this view to the end of her life. It's an understandable mistake due in part to the varied images that the bird presents. The haughty crest doesn't chime with the tumbling flight or the querulous 'pee-wit' song. These traits, combined with the lapwing's skill at diverting intruders from the nest, give the impression of deceit. John Gower, in 1390, wrote " A lappewinke has lost his faith / And is the bird falsest of all." Another mediaeval notion was that the newly hatched lapwing ran about with its head in the shell, so that Shakespeare's Hamlet has Horatio saying "This lapwing runs away with the shell on his head." On returning home I felt the need to check our estimate of the numbers of lapwings at Pegwell Bay, and logged on to local birding web-sites that confirmed flocks of more than 8,000 lapwings over the estuary in December. (Steve Osborn)

WINDOW glass was made by attaching a piece of molten glass to a pipe and blowing through the pipe to form a bubble. The bottom of the bubble was pierced and then swiftly rotated to form a circle of glass, which when cool was cut into small pieces and joined together by lead to form windows for rich people's houses. Where the glass was knocked off the blowpipe a bull's eye was formed and this was used by poor people. Through rolling and other methods, glass gradually became bigger and Georgian and sash windows arrived. Today it is possible to get enormous pieces of glass but double glaziers prefer to stick lead on, or pieces of plastic between the two sheets of glass, to try and give the appearance of yesteryear. That's progress for you. (editor)



CAROL SERVICE

The nine carols and lessons service, which was held in St.

Anthony's on the 21st of December, was a great success. The church was decked with candles all round the pillars, walls and altar. Two peals of bells were rung to welcome the Christmas congregation with the choir then progressing from the vestry in full voice to start the service. There were about 100 people in the congregation and all the favourite carols were sung. Wine and mince pies were then served to complete the Christmas feeling.

SARAH ROBERTS

The funeral of Sarah Roberts from Ewell Minnis took place at St. Anthony's on 8th December and was attended by many family and friends. Sarah and Bill met in the hop fields and were married 49 years ago at Goudhurst. They moved to "Hillcrest" 21 years ago. They had three sons, Jimmy, Bill and Henry, who married Pat, Julie and Tina, and six grandchildren. Known for her dry sense of humour, straight way of talking and independent spirit, as well as her pastry, she was always known as Aunt Sarah and a friend to all.

	W.	HAT'S ON		
Regular events				
TUESDAY		Art classes in VH 10 to 1 pm ring 01303 243115 for details		
WEDNESDAY		Keep Fit 9.30 -10.30 am Wednesday club 10.30-11.30am		
THURSDAY		Mobile Library Vicarage Meadow car park 9.25 - 9.50am		
FRIDAY		Whist Drive at 7.30 pm - contact Chris Tapsell on 824765		
Other events (VH= Village Hall and VM= Vicarage Meadow)				
Wednesday	7	Keep fit resumes at 9.30am		
Saturday 10		SEKAS in the village hall in the afternoon		
Monday	12	Parish Council meeting in the		
Tuesday	Tuesday 13 W.I. meeting in the VH at 7.30p			
Thursday 22 Keep fit party in VH 7.30pm		Keep fit party in VH 7.30pm		
Monday	26	Village Hall committee meeting 8.00pm		
Saturday	31	Beekeepers in village hall from 2.00 to 5.00 pm		
Saturday	31	Annual Quiz – see page 1		

	CHU	RCH SERVICES	
NEC CITAL NEL CONTRA	Alkham	Capel	Hougham
Sunday 4 th	Evensong 4.00 p.m.	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping Together 11.00 a.m.
Tuesday 6 th	Eucharist 9.15 a.m.		Construction of the second
Sunday 11 th	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping together 11.00 a.m.	Songs of Praise 4.00 p.m.
Sunday 18 th	worshipping together 11.00 a.m.	Sung Evensong 4.00 p.m.	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.
Sunday 25 th		Joint Benefice Sung Euch St Anthony, Alkham 10.00	
the church Weekday Ser Holidays); Ev	please telephone the vices: Morning Prayer is	e village would like to make Vicar, the Revd Kevin Meph said at Capel Monday-Friday at 3 n on Wednesday at 5 pm Euchari ırday 9.00 am – Capel	am on 01303 244119. 8.30 am (except Bank

IF SANTA has left presents with packaging that describes exactly w¹ you have received please do not leave it out for the rubbish collection with the photographs displayed on the outside of the packaging as criminals may spot it. Also, remember that if you keep the presents under the tree don't advertise the fact by keeping your curtains open with the lights on. (**NW ringmaster**) **THE TABLE FAIR** held in the village hall on the 13th of December made a profit of £240, which has gone to Cancer Research. Jane, who organised the fair, would like to thank all those who supported the event.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS	Alkham Valley Society secretary Pamela Sayers 822397	Vicar Kevin Mepham 01303 244119	
Gwyn Prosser M.P.0207 2193704	Newsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969 e mail <u>brianwimsett@hotmail.com</u>	Church Wardens Richard Tapsell 822295 and Ken Hammond 823720	
County Councillor, Bryan Cope	Parish Clerk, Susan Lees 822661	Village Hall booking	
207976, work number 01795532547	susan@susanlees.freeserve.co.uk	Rosemary Polden 824876	
District Councillors Sue Nicholas	Police - 999 phone & 01303 850055	W.I. Betty Neely 01303 251475	
823956 Andrew Richardson 211835	Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130 Alkham web site alkham.info		

LOCAL BUSINESSES & SERVICES

ACCOUNTANCY	John Garlinge Accountancy, taxation, book keeping services	18 Newlyns Meadow 824201
ALKHAM MEADOWS	Touring Caravan Park - Next to Garden Centre	Alkham Valley Road 206344
ARBORICULTURE	Alkham Valley Tree Surgery: Planning, planting, maintenance removal	Wolverton 824853 & 07973 501390
BED & BREAKFAST	Owler Lodge with Pat and Bill Owler	Alkham Valley Road 826375
BUILDING WORK	E R Woodruff carpentry and joinery, decorating, maintenance	Swanbourne, Wolverton 824991
CAT & DOG GROOMING	Canine beauticians, dogs and cats groomed, Newcastle House	Ewell Minnis 822902
CLEANING SERVICES	John Hoy domestic/commercial carpet and upholstery cleaning	Ewell Minnis 828007 & 07889310479
CURTAINS & BLINDS	Curtains and blinds made to your specification	Alkham Valley 01303 891806
ELECTRICAL	Simon Price electricians & computer installation, Megget Farm	South Alkham 01303 252764
ENVIRONMENTAL	JH Ullmann Environmental contractors, Malmains Farm	Alkham 202004 or 822888
EQUESTRIAN	Hogbrook Equestrian Centre Livery yard, instruction, hacking	Hogbrook Lane, Alkham 827644
EQUESTRIAN SUPPLIES	Alkham Valley Garden Centre - everything for horse and rider	South Alkham 01303 891996
GARDEN CENTRE	Alkham Valley Garden Centre with gift shop and horse supplies	South Alkham 01303 893351
KENNELS	Alkhamhurst Kennels dogs, cats & unusual boarded. All pet needs	Alkham Valley Rd, Wolverton 822420
LIVERY	Greenhill livery yard Do it yourself and grass liveries	Megget Lane, South Alkham 01303 892056
POST OFFICE	Southdown Stores general groceries, videos, fruit & veg, off licence	London rd, Temple Ewell 827100
SCHGOL	Capel-le-ferne school Your local primary school; free bus from Alkham	Capel Street, Capel-le-ferne 01303 251353

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

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CHAT ROOM – This was a project which was put forward by the late Vince Holness for the youngsters in the village. I'm pleased to report that the Parish Council has located an old aluminium bus shelter at Temple Ewell (see picture above), which the owners are willing to reerect on site with appropriate footings. The Parish Council are going to hold a site meeting to discuss where to put the shelter and then contact the planning authority to see if permission is required. The shelter will be removed from Temple Ewell in February.

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ALKHAM VALLEY ROAD Various groups involved in trying to get improvements to the Valley Road were at the Parish Council meeting on the 12th of January. A spirited speech was made by one pointing member out the deficiencies of the road surface and alignment, the need for speed cameras. chevrons on some and bends the motorbike problem. A lady from Bushey Ruff cottages said about the high speeds past her house and another lady from Wolverton said that she had to leave home early as it was almost impossible to get out of her drive at peak hours. She also commented on the water which was thrown up onto her windows and the danger of entering and exiting her property. The various parties wanted to form an action group such that they all spoke with one voice and that was the reason they had come to Alkham to ask the Parish Council if they would join them. The Council chairman said they would discuss the proposal in depth and let them know their decision. It was reported that last year there were 20 accidents on the Valley Road, 13 with minor injuries, 5 with major injuries and 2 deaths. It was accepted that a lot of accidents, such as shunts are not recorded so the latter do not give a true picture. Please let the Parish Clerk on 822661 know about any accidents, which you see on the Valley Road. (editor)

MARQUIS OF GRANBY Wednesday MOULES NIGHT £7.95 Thursday STEAK NIGHT £7.95 (16oz rib-eve) Delivered free to all properties in the Parish

SPEED WATCH – Following complaints from a number of Parish Councils with regard to excessive speed through their villages, the police have set up Speed Watch. For the scheme to go ahead funds have to be available and it is has to be shown that there is a problem in the Parish. Six people are required to volunteer, each providing their own yellow jacket and then training will be given in the use of GATSO Speed Equipment, which will be used to monitor vehicle speeds. Persistent offenders will be written to by the police. Some people have already expressed an interest and if you'd like to volunteer please contact the Parish Clerk on 822661. (editor)



A FEMALE was going round the village at the beginning of January knocking on people's doors and asking to use the phone, borrow a cigarette etc. This did cause concern to a number of people and the police were contacted but because she wasn't causing a threat, no action was taken. In a number of Neighbourhood Watch areas, an A6 flyer was put through people's letterbox warning them of this nuisance. It was also posted on the Alkham web site (alkham.info), which I will try and keep updated with the latest information. (editor)

....with regard to the above the Rural Community Warden for Capel, Paul James, said that he would be quite willing to come and help deal with such problems if you ring him on his mobile number 07977 981994.

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HALL Solicitors York House, Folkestone 01303 851185
HALL Solicitors York House, Folkestone

NEWS FROM ST. ANTHONY'S



asked how I could find a way of speaking to a relative who appears to have let things

I was recently

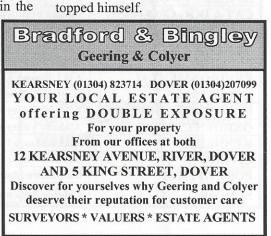
go. Like myself, he lives alone and has not developed a passion for housework; he has always managed to keep the place tidy and clean. He has cooked for himself too, and appeared to be happy and content with life. However, it has been noticed that when passing in the street, you can see that the curtains are hanging down, obviously needing some sort of maintenance. A friend, who has been in the house, says it is no longer spick and span, but there is dust everywhere, and the place is being filled with things that he has simply put down and not moved. Is this just a symptom of 'winter blues' where we cannot be bothered too much, apart from keeping ourselves warm and cosy? Or is it a sign that something is very much wrong, and needs attention? If you think about it, we can all let our standards slip a little, but people begin to notice, and can we say we have friends or family who care enough to tell us so? Do we take the time to even think how others see us? Lent is a time in the Church's year for reflection, but many find they are too busy, or disinterested, or feel too old, or too young, or too fat, or too OZ on COMMAS - This Christmas's most successful literary stockingfiller was, surprisingly, a book on punctuation. I devoured Eats, Shoots & Leaves: The Zero Tolerance Approach to Punctuation, by Lynne Truss, in one blissful sitting between Boxing Day dinner and tea, having been captivated by the dedication to "the memory of the Bolshevik printers of St Petersburg who, in 1905, demanded to be paid the same rate for punctuation marks as for letters, and thereby precipitated the Russian Revolution." The book is a hilarious onslaught on sloppy punctuation, a habit aggravated, in Truss's view, by the rise of the Internet and text-messaging. The commonest and most treacherous error is misplacing the comma, an example being the first part of the book's title, which explains the behaviour of a panda that read a badly punctuated definition of 'panda' and then went to the pub. Truss continues with accounts of the Jameson Raid, Sir Roger Casement's execution and Graham Greene's will as illustrations of how misplaced commas can change the course of history. It reminded me of the story that the great civil engineering arbitrator, Max Abrahamson, told of the parliamentary draftsman who reported "I inserted a comma before a particular word this morning, I took it off in the afternoon and, just as you were entering my room, I was thinking of putting it back." Closely related to the comma are the colon (:) and semicolon (;) and again Truss has many tales, more to do with style this time than misuse, my favourite being James Agate's "fastidious journalist" who "once telephoned a semicolon from Moscow." These last two marks have been given new leases of life in forming 'emoticons' at the end of text-messages, as in :-) and the winking :-). And apostrophes? I'll deal with them another day. (Steve Osborn)

thin (any excuse will do!). This Lent we will be looking at some of the 'hard' sayings of Jesus and trying to understand them more. It would be good to be well represented from Alkham. It is intended to meet on Monday evenings at 7.30, and the venue will really depend on who is interested in attending. So have you begun the slippery slope and let things go in your life? If so, determine to do something now, before too many people notice. (Kevin Mepham)

The first meeting of the year went well and everyone was Q pleased to meet up after Christmas and get back to normal! The ladies of Alkham raised £300 for Cancer Research with some going out in the village to sing, the coffee morning in the

village hall and carol singing at the Garden Centre, one evening. The coffee and carol morning was very well attended and a nice sum raised. The only downside was the weather, heavy rain, poor Helen and Oliver, the donkey, got so wet they had to retire early. A one day school in April was

arranged on a Saturday. Miss Yeo will give talks and valuations on Antiques and Collectables, it is hoped to open this to the village; more details later. The next group meeting is 21st April at Whitfield village hall. Names to be taken next month. An outing to see "Oklahoma" at the Marlowe was decided upon on Wednesday March 24th. We had an excellent speaker for our meeting, she entitled it "Around the World in Fifty Minutes" and it was just that, taking us all over with some spectacular slides of many countries. She was thanked by Susannah. (Cherry Leppard) TOMMY COOPER JOKE Our ice cream man was found lying on the floor of his van covered with hundreds and thousands. Police say that he





ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR – DDC are proposing to set up an Anti-social Behaviour Unit to help deal with such actions from children and adults alike and this proposal will be discussed by the full cabinet before inclusion in next (financial) year's budget. DDC stress that they hope to provide more things for children to do to stop idle hands making mischief.

MOTORBIKES – At the Parish Council meeting, it was reported that some motorcyclists allegedly congregate at Mac's Café by the A2 at Barham and then race to see who can do the fastest circuit using the A2, Alkham Valley Road, A260 through Hawkinge and A2 back to the cafe. This evidently happens on Wednesday nights and Sundays and if you become aware of it happening and wish to complain you should ring the police on 01622 690690.

VICTIM SUPPORT and the Witness Service are looking for volunteers to provide emotional and practical support to people in the local community either by visiting them at home following a crime or by supporting witnesses attending a local court. Volunteer office support and fundraisers also welcome. Full training given and expenses paid. For more details on this rewarding work please telephone 01233 647253.

FARMER'S MARKET Capel-le-Ferne Village Hall each Tuesday 10am to 1pm. Local produce Phone 01303 245399 **RECYCLING** – Further to the article in last month's Newsletter, Mark Robson has set up an account for Alkham with the Kent Recycling Project, which is by the Battle of Britain Museum, Aerodrome Road, Hawkinge. Any items recycled, especially plastic bottles, will have a monetary amount added to the Alkham account. Plans are underway to set up a scheme where recyclable items are picked up once a month around the village to take to Hawkinge. DDC have included an item in next vear's budget for a collection scheme but this is subject to Cabinet approval.

ALKHAM VALLEY ROAD - A letter has been received from KCC with regard to possible improvements to the Valley Road should bids be successful. These include centre islands outside Bushey Ruff and a footpath on the north side, short sections of footway at the bottom of Wolverton Hill to make it safer for people waiting for buses and anti-skid surfacing in the village from Coachman's Cottage to Hogbrook Lane. It also said that the priority at the junction of the Valley Road with the old A2 at the Dover end may be changed such that the old A2 traffic would have to give way. This was thought not to be a good idea by one councillor as it could encourage more people to use the Valley Road. A routine survey has been carried out regarding the state of the Valley Road and nothing untoward was found. It was thought that the road surface was bad in parts and that in places the bitumen had come to the surface making a possible skid problem in the wet. The Highway Authority will decide in April if a road maintenance and safety package will go ahead. (editor)

LIGHTING – A request has been submitted by the Parish Council to DDC for a light on the electricity pole by the football pitch. The decision is awaited.

THANKS to Bill and Margaret Rolfe for their kind donation to the Newsletter. **TREES** – Geoffrey Lymer who lives off Hogbrook Lane and is a new Parish Councillor very kindly planted seven new trees to replace those which had died or been vandalised on Vicarage Meadow. The trees comprise cherry, oak, ash and sycamore and he also did some infill hedge planting adjacent to Hogbrook Lane. He was warmly thanked by the Parish Council for all his efforts, which he carried out on his own initiative.

30 mph SIGNS – DDC have said that repeater 30mph signs are not applicable in a lit area. We are aware of this but if the Parish Council pay, see no reason why small signs can't be put up in Slip Lane. DDC ar considering the matter again.

GARDENTALK

On Wednesday 25th February 7.30pm at "The Vicarage", Mr Keith Turner will be speaking on the preparation of garden produce for showing. So if anyone would like to join us as a one off meeting, in preparation for making the Produce show in July even more impressive, then they are very welcome to do so. (Susannah Tapsell)

THE NEWSLETTER this month has been printed using a laser printer which churns out 20 pages per minute, so it is now possible to include photographs I've reverted to Times New-Roman with font size of 10.5. (editor)

THE RACE CIRCUIT in a field at Chilton was refused planning permission by DDC on the grounds that it was an incongruous element in the landscape and detrimental to both the countryside and local flora. It was also thought it would attract additional traffic.

THE ELECTRICITY supplier for this area have investigated the power cuts experienced by parts of the Parish and have found no underlying problem, the last power cut being caused by a tree falling on overhead lines.

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	The side of				
		ad Chevrol Bernard Ch		Change Change	

Regular events	3
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Regular events			
TUESDAY		Art classes in VH 10 to 1 pm ring 01303 243115 for details	
WEDNESDAY		Keep Fit 9.30 -10.30 am Wednesday club 10.30-11.30am	
THURSDAY		Mobile Library Vicarage Meadow car park 9.25 - 9.50am	
FRIDAY		Whist Drive at 7.30 pm - contact Chris Tapsell on 824765	
Other events (VH= Village Hall and VM= Vicarage Meadow)			
Saturday	7	Bingo 7.30pm in VH – ring Beverley on 824765	
Tuesday	10	W.I. meeting in the VH at 7.30pm	
		w.i. meeting in the vH at 7.30pm	
Monday	16	Dover and District Bird Club in village hall 7.30pm	
Monday Saturday	100000	Dover and District Bird Club in	

JUMBLE SALE - A jumble sale in aid of the Alkham PCC is being held in the Village Hall on the 21st of February starting at 11.00am.

CHURCH SERVICES					
	Alkham	Capel	Hougham		
February	Evensong	Sung Eucharist	Worshipping		
1 st	4.00 p.m.	9.30 a.m.	Together 11.00 a.m.		
Monday February 2 nd	aday Joint Benefice Sung Eucharist for Candlemas				
February	Sung Eucharist	Worshipping together 11.00 a.m.	Songs of Praise		
8 th	9.30 a.m.		4.00 p.m.		
February	Worshipping	Evensong	Sung Eucharist		
15 th	together 11.00a.m	4.00 p.m.	9.30 a.m.		
February	Joint Benefice Sung Eucharist				
22 nd	St Radigund, Capel 10.00 a.m.				
February 25 th Ash Wednesday	Sung Eucharist and imposition of ashes 7.30 pm	try Ecologia Included	ten of this but if actively, see or anti-the cardine		
February	Worshipping	Evensong	Sung Euchari		
29 th	together 11.00a.m	4.00 p.m.	9.30 a.m.		

If you or anyone you know in the village would like to make contact with someone in the church please telephone the Vicar, the Revd Kevin Mepham on 01303 244119. Weekday Services: Morning Prayer is said at Capel Monday-Friday at 8.30 am (except Bank Holidays); Evening Prayer at Hougham on Wednesday at 5 pm Eucharist at Capel every Thursday at 9.15 am Benefice Prayer Group – Saturday 9.00 am – Capel

TELEPHONE NUMBERS	Alkham Valley Society secretary Pamela Sayers 822397	Vicar Kevin Mepham 01303 244119	
Gwyn Prosser M.P . 0207 2193704	Newsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969 e mail <u>brianwimsett@hotmail.com</u>	Church Wardens Richard Tapsell 822295 and Ken Hammond 823720	
County Councillor , Bryan Cope 207976, work number 01795532547	Parish Clerk, Susan Lees 822661 susan@susanlees.freeserve.co.uk	Village Hall booking Rosemary Polden 824876	
District Councillors Sue Nicholas 823956 Andrew Richardson 211835	Police – 999 phone & 01303 850055 Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130	W.I. Betty Neely 01303 251475 Alkham web site <u>alkham.info</u>	

LOCA	L BUSINESSES & SE	RVICES
ACCOUNTANCY	John Garlinge Accountancy, taxation, book keeping services	18 Newlyns Meadow 824201
ALKHAM MEADOWS	Touring Caravan Park – Next to Garden Centre	Alkham Valley Road 206344
ARBORICULTURE	Alkham Valley Tree Surgery: Planning, planting, maintenance removal	Wolverton 824853 & 07973 501390
BED & BREAKFAST	Owler Lodge with Pat and Bill Owler	Alkham Valley Road 826375
BUILDING WORK	E R Woodruff carpentry and joinery, decorating, maintenance	Swanbourne, Wolverton 824991
CAT & DOG GROOMING	Canine beauticians, dogs and cats groomed, Newcastle House	Ewell Minnis 822902
CLEANING SERVICES	John Hoy domestic/commercial carpet and upholstery cleaning	Ewell Minnis 828007 & 07889310479
CURTAINS & BLINDS	Curtains and blinds made to your specification	Alkham Valley 01303 891806
ELECTRICAL	Simon Price electricians & computer installation, Megget Farm	South Alkham 01303 252764
ENVIRONMENTAL	J H Ullmann Environmental contractors, Malmains Farm	Alkham 202004 or 822888
EQUESTRIAN	Hogbrook Equestrian Centre Livery yard, instruction, hacking	Hogbrook Lane, Alkham 827644
EQUESTRIAN SUPPLIES	Alkham Valley Garden Centre - everything for horse and rider	South Alkham 01303 891996
GARDEN CENTRE	Alkham Valley Garden Centre with gift shop and horse supplies	South Alkham 01303 893351
KENNELS	Alkhamhurst Kennels dogs, cats & unusual boarded. All pet needs	Alkham Valley Rd, Wolverton 822420
LIVERY	Greenhill livery yard Do it yourself and grass liveries	Megget Lane, South Alkham 01303 892056
POST OFFICE	Southdown Stores general groceries, videos, fruit & veg, off licence	London rd, Temple Ewell 827100
SCHOOL	Capel-le-ferne school Your local primary school; free bus from Alkham	Capel Street, Capel-le-ferne 01303 251353

Brian Wimsett: The Old Post Office Slip Lane, Alkham CT15 7DE Telephone 01304 824969 No. 127 March 2004

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ANNUAL QUIZ – There was a pleasant hubbub at the end of the quiz held in the village hall on the 31st of January, indicating that most people had a good time. Thirteen tables of up to eight players competed and the winners were Ken Hammond, Billy Hollis and friends, Clive and Margaret Batcheldor and Kevin Mepham, the vicar. They were each awarded a small inscribed wooden plaque plus a bar of chocolate. The profit on the evening, which amounted to £285, is being used to set up and run the recycling project in Alkham (see separate article).

MARQUIS OF GRANBY Wednesday MOULES NIGHT £8.95 Thursday STEAK NIGHT £8.45



OLIVE HARVEY - Those of vou who knew Olive Harvey will not mourn her loss but applaud her life and especially her contribution to Alkham. Born Olive Twist in 1919 she moved to Alkham when her parents took over the Marquis of Granby in 1931. Apart from going to the Girls' Grammar School and on to Teacher Training College, Olive soon learnt to join in all the village activities especially such local clubs as the Women's Institute and the Tennis Club. She was a keen supporter of the Alkham Cricket Club through which she was to meet 'Son' Harvey her future husband. Olive took up the profession of teaching and had many posts, the most memorable being the last Head teacher at Alkham School. Many of you who read this will have been taught by Olive either at Lydden, Alkham and Capel, or you may have become choristers or bell ringers under her tuition at Alkham Church. You will have read the Alkham news in the Dover Express, you will see her name in many a village societies minute book. In fact, Olive must have been a part of just about everything in the village. In latter years, she was applauded by all for the way she overcame a severe disability and continued to keep her garden, her favourite occupation, in splendid order. Olive will be missed. (Susan Lees)

THURSDAY 4TH MARCH is first collection day the for ALKHAM RECYCLING. Over sixty households have joined the scheme and they have all been given a couple of sacks for plastics and cans. Please make sure the sacks are outside ready for collection by 9.00am on the day. The sacks will be replaced and the loaded van will go to Kent Community Recycling at Hawkinge where a small amount is paid for the recycled items. It is highly probable that this will not be enough to pay for the van and sacks but the profits from the quiz will start off the Alkham Recycling fund with any excess being used for projects or causes in the parish. (editor)

GATSO - Six people have volunteered to operate speed guns in the parish. The Parish Clerk is contacting the police and should funds be available and the police consider there is a problem in Alkham, then the necessary training will be given in the use of the guns. Repetitive offenders will be written to by the police.

PIPELINE – In view of the heavy rainfall we have had since November the decision to construct the pipeline between Drellingore Pumping Station and Bushey Ruff has been deferred until spring 2005 by F & D Water Services. A preferred route has been drawn up but will not be decided on until the owners and occupiers on the route have been consulted. The final route will be published next December with both ecologists and consulted. archaeologists being (Parish Clerk)

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NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

After further discussion, Mike Chalkley has agreed to continue as co-ordinator for the Alkham Neighbourhood Watch. This does not affect the current arrangement in which people report to the Link Person for their area. At the moment Newlyns Meadow is covered by Larry Lambourne, Alkham Valley Road west of the Marquis to the 30mph limit by Ken Hammond. Slip Lane by Brian Wimsett, Common Hill and properties to the north east by Clive Hyland, Hogbrook Lane and the Forstal by Alison Spicer and part of Ewell Minnis by Edith Neave. Short Lane and Glebelands are not covered as well all the other areas outside the village centre. If you'd like to volunteer, please ring me on 824969. (editor)

SALT BINS - If you have a salt/grit bin near to your property please would you check it regularly and if it is empty contact DDC Highways Department to get them to top it up.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS in future will be delegated unless more than two letters are received contrary to an officer's recommendation. The Parish Council's observations count as only one letter but you can ask your local councillors to take it to committee. (Sue Nicholas District Councillor.) TOMMY COOPER JOKE - 'Doc I can't stop singing The Green, Green Grass of Home' "That sounds like Tom Jones syndrome'. Is it common?....."It's not unusual."

FARMER'S MARKET Capel-le-Ferne Village Hall each Tuesday 10am to 1pm. Local produce Phone 01303 245399



WOULD anyone enter like to this Alkham in competition? If you would please contact the Parish Clerk on 822661 immediately as the deadline was the 20th February but they may consider a late entry.

ON THURSDAY 22nd January, the keep-fit ladies and friends enjoyed a party in the Village Hall. We all arrived in black, - Emma Peel eat your heart out, but I think she kept the peel and we were left with the oranges hidden around our bodies, - and our trainers instead of party shoes. Despite protestations from some of our guests, nearly everyone 'enjoyed' a 20 minute keep fit routine led by Susannah Tapsell. The members then



demonstrated in 15 minutes, their usual hour long routine. Exhausted, we undid all the good work and tucked into a very nice Polden family buffet. This was washed down with copious wine, which enabled us to participate fully in the Barbara Wall line dancing. It was a very enjoyable evening and we keep-fit ladies thank Susannah for all her hard work throughout the year.

(Sue Garlinge)

THE NEWSLETTER has been printed in part with a laser printer. Because of the number of words on a page, the toner cartridge lasted about a quarter of what it said in the book. This makes the Newsletter more costly to produce but the finances are now quite healthy so I intend to continue. (editor)

I am grateful to Alkham Valley Meadows caravan and campsite for their continued support of the Newsletter.

LOCAL LION CUB - It is a welt known fact that lions don't like water so imagine my reaction to the prospect of getting into a pool with one! It all started with a phone call from Port Lympne Wild Animal Park. Could I provide hydrotherapy for an injured lion cub? AquaSplash at Alkhamhurst Kennels opened its doors for hydrotherapy for dogs some 18 months ago. In that time I have done hydrotherapy for elderly, arthritic dogs, postoperative dogs, dogs who were over weight, and dogs who had been injured, but a lion cub was something else! Samira had been injured at four days of age by her mother, who trying to pick her up at the scruff of the neck, accidentally grabbed her shoulder instead. Her resulting inability to use her leg made it impossible for her to develop normal muscles and tendons and left her with a leg that appeared shorter than the other. She was unable to bear any weight on it so it knuckled under her when she stood or tried to walk. It was feared the leg would have to be amputated. Keeper Pete Thompson took Samira in to be hand reared and did some physio with her and she started to respond. To accelerate her rehabilitation hydrotherapy was suggested. She began her sessions with us at AquaSplash in December and after nearly 20 sessions, she is now able to beat some weight, her leg has started to build muscle, it is extending more and is more upright. Her hind quarters, which she was using to over compensate for her lameness in her foreleg, are now starting to be used correctly. As Samira is one of only 70 Barbary lions left in the world, all in captivity, it is vitally important for her to make the best recovery possible so she can become a mother herself and her descendants may one day be introduced back into the wild. She still doesn't like the water, but it is doing her a world of good. (Alkhamhurst Kennels) Many thanks for the story and the donation to the Newsletter (editor)

CHITTENDEN'S FUNERAL SERVICES FOLKESTONE HYTHE Windmill Street 1 Ingoldsby Road (01303) 851456 (01303) 262762 Manager Manager Mr. Chris Daughters Mr. Mike Hands Personal Service Always Private Chapels of Rest Memorial Masonry FUNERAL PRE-PAYMENT PLANS AVAILABLE UNDER THE PERSONAL SUPERVISION OF PHIL CHITTENDEN FREDERIC HALL **Solicitors** York House, Folkestone 01303 851185 & Clyde House, Dover 202411

NEWS FROM ST. ANTHONY'S Many of you were there for the funeral of Olive Harvey. The Church was packed, and Desmond Sampson gave the address Olive's life and and spoke of achievements. I think everyone there had own memories of Olive and their especially her friend from teacher training college all those years ago. What was very clear from Olive's life was that people were always important to her. She was blessed with a marvellous memory, and so many of her former pupils could be recalled with ease. It is amazing to think how much she gave to others too, firstly by her teaching profession which set many a young person on the path to knowledge. We are not grateful at the time we spend at school, but the fruits of a teacher's labour are shown in the life that child goes on to live, and the person they become. It must have been a source of pride for Olive when some of the 'little dears' proved her efforts were not in vain. Apart from her teaching, Olive's long association with Alkham meant that the village and its people were very much in her heart, as indeed Olive was also held in the hearts of those who knew her well. Her passing, though sad, was very much a time of thanksgiving for all she has achieved, and for the special person she was. It I not enough to simply say we are sorry for her passing. If we really feel a loss, then we should be thinking of how we can follow her example. Can we try to give more to the OZ on RUGGER - As I write, England, the new World Rugby Champions, meet Italy in their first Six Nations Cup 2004 game; as you read, the series is half over. Games involving ball handling and possession by opposing mobs were first recorded in ancient China and Japan. The Greeks played a game called 'harpastum', later adopted by the Romans whose soldiers stationed in Britain taught it to locals under the name of the Romano-British word for 'football'. The game mentioned in Fitzstephen's History of London (1175) was typically between two villages, with up to 2.000 people, of any age and either sex participating, the aim being to manhandle the ball back to one's own village. There were no rules and so players were often injured or killed. Soon, 'foote balle' became a national obsession, with such disastrous effects on public order and the economy that it was banned, unsuccessfully, 31 times in 300 years by seven monarchs. The problem was eventually resolved by the Industrial Revolution. Urbanisation transformed 'football' into a 'catch-and-carry' street game which faded under the pressure of factory working hours. The game continued in three public schools as a deliberate attempt to channel male adolescent aggression, and an interesting division occurred. Charterhouse and Westminster had hard playgrounds, and so the game was confined to kicking, leading eventually to 'association football' or 'soccer'. At Rugby, with its spacious green fields, players were allowed to tackle and catch, but not run with, the ball. In 1823, during a match at Rugby, William Webb Ellis picked up the ball and ran, creating the game now known as 'rugby' or 'rugger'. The words 'soccer' and 'rugger' derive from 1880's Oxbridge student slang, which added '-er' to abbreviated words, as in 'brekkers' for breakfast, 'rugger' for 'rugby rules' and 'soccer' for 'association rules'. (Steve Osborn)

local community through voluntary service, or support to local initiatives? Can we determine to care more for our neighbour, whoever that may be? Olive's life has a lot to teach us, if we are willing to learn. But will our end of life report say simply, Could do Better! (Kevin Mepham)

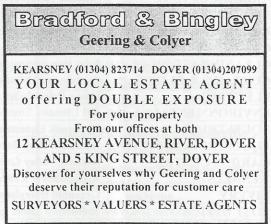


At the W.I meeting members stood for a minutes silence in remembrance of

Olive Harvey who died recently. Olive had been a member of the Alkham W.I for many, many years. Kath Goldfinch gave a little talk about her life, she will be sorely missed from the village. At the committee meeting it was decided to appoint a new members

hostess, so if anyone came on their own it would not be too daunting, Sue Lees volunteered for this. The day school one on Saturday April 24th was discussed, it will be open to anyone from the village. Cost is 3.50 for the day, bring a packed lunch but tea and coffee will be in the cost. There will be two sessions one morning and afternoon. The topics will

probably be antiques and collectables. An outing to Chartham Church will take place on Friday 14th May where a super lunch is served and after, a visit to a garden centre. The outing in July could be The Hop Farm at Paddock Wood or Groombridge Place. The speaker was Angela Twydale on Indian Head Massage, she explained this helps migraine and stress. She then demonstrated on our model Devina, I swear she dozed off!! We then paired up and practised on each other, swapping over. It really does make you feel good. The recent jumble sale profited by £70. Next meeting is March 9th and the speaker is Mrs C. Bosworth "My life of hats" Starts at 7.30. (Cherry Leppard)



WI	HAT	'S C	N

Regular events

Regular events			
TUESDA	Y	Art classes in VH 10 to 1 pm ring 01303 243115 for details	
WEDNESD	DAY	Keep Fit 9.30 -10.30 am Wednesday club 10.30-11.30am	
THURSD	AY	Mobile Library Vicarage Meadow car park 9.25 - 9.50am	
FRIDA	Y	Whist Drive at 7.30 pm - contact Chris Tapsell on 824765	
(VH= Vi		Other events Hall and VM= Vicarage Meadow)	
Monday	1	Parish Council meeting in VH at 7.30pm all welcome	
Saturday	6	Bingo 7.30pm in VH – ring Beverley on 824765	
Tuesday	9	W.I. meeting in the VH at 7.30pm	
Saturday	13	Coffee morning in VH in aid of village hall funds 11.00am	
Monday	15	Dover and District Bird Club in village hall 7.30pm	
Sunday	21	Mothering Sunday tea 3.00pm	
Saturday	27	Beekeepers in village hall from 2.00 to 5.00 pm	

QUIZ – On Saturday the 3rd of April there will be quiz in the village hall. For further details please ring Doreen Lott on 824876.

CHURCH SERVICES				
12.0	Alkham	Capel	Hougham	
March 7th	Evensong 4.00 p.m.	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping Together11.00 a.m	
March 14 th	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping Together 11.00 a.m.	Songs of Praise 4.00 p.m.	
March 21 st	Mothering Sunday 3.00pm then tea in the village hall	Mothering Sunday Family Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	No Service	
March 28 th	Joint Benefice Sung	g Eucharist St Lawrence,	Hougham 10.00 a.m.	

If you or anyone you know in the village would like to make contact with someone in the church please telephone the Vicar, the Revd Kevin Mepham on 01303 244119. Weekday Services: Morning Prayer is said at Capel Monday-Friday at 8.30 am (except Bank Holidays); Evening Prayer at Hougham on Wednesday at 5 pm Eucharist at Capel every Thursday at 9.15 am Benefice Prayer Group –Saturday 9.00 am – Capel

ANTIQUES - Many of you are intrigued by the popular antique show programmes on TV; well, your chance has arrived to learn more first hat Miss Yeo is to enlighten us even more on Saturday 24th April in Alkham Village Hall. This will not be a valuation day but there will be two learning sessions in the morning and two in the afternoon. The topics, maybe on ceramics, metalwork, jewellery or whatever; the subjects have yet to be determined. Look for more details in next month's newsletter. The total cost will be £3.50. (Sue Lees)

OLIVE HARVEY - John Norris, his family and all of her relatives, would like to thank all of her neighbours and friends in the village who have helped in any way to help and care for her over the last few difficult years of her life. It has been much appreciated, especially by Olive herself.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS	Alkham Valley Society secretary Pamela Sayers 822397	Vicar Kevin Mepham 01303 244119	
Gwyn Prosser M.P. 0207 2193704	Newsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969 e mail <u>brianwimsett@hotmail.com</u>	Church Wardens Richard Tapsell 822295 and Ken Hammond 823720	
County Councillor, Bryan Cope	Parish Clerk, Susan Lees 822661	Village Hall booking	
207976, work number 01795532547	susan@susanlees.freeserve.co.uk	Rosemary Polden 824876	
District Councillors Sue Nicholas	Police – 999 phone & 01303 850055	W.I. Betty Neely 01303 251475	
823956 Andrew Richardson 211835	Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130	Alkham web site alkham.info	

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Alkham Valley Garden Centre	Your gardening needs Spring bulbs
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ANNUAL PARISH MEETING MONDAY 5TH APRIL 7.30PM

This is the meeting when parishioners can come along to the Village Hall and listen to how things are run in the parish. It is also the time to put your views to the council. Fortunately, people do attend the regular Parish Council meetings, which is encouraging, because so many councils have no interest at all shown from parishioners. It should be said that it is especially pleasing to see so people from Ewell Minnis, their numbers certainly outweigh those from other parts of the Parish. (Susan Lees – Clerk)

PARISH COUNCIL – The two vacancies on the Parish Council have now been filled and the new councillors are Tony Bennett, who lives at Ewell Minnis and Peter Frater who lives in Slip Lane.

MARQUIS OF GRANBY Wednesday MOULES NIGHT £8.95 Thursday STEAK NIGHT £8.45 No. 128 April 2004

ALKHAM RECYCLING The first collection on the 4th of March was a great success with just about everyone remembering to put the sacks out. Billy Hollis lent us a van, for which he will take no payment, and this was filled to capacity. We deposited approximately 281kg of paper. 44kg of cardboard, 52kg of plastic bottles, 40kg of steel cans, 6kg of aluminium cans and 0.7kg of foil for which the Alkham account was credited with about £15. The only cost involved was the plastic sacks at about £3.30. Hawkinge do take Tetra packs (breakfast orange juice etc) and these can be added to the cardboard, preferably squashed. Please do remember to use separate sacks for different items, take off and dispose of the plastic tops on milk bottles and drink bottles and don't include thicker plastic bottles such as those used for Comfort etc. Thanks to all of you who took part and the two replacement sacks will be 1st. collected on April because of the good response to the recycling I have entered Alkham in the Village of the Year competition under the Environmental Section. (editor) CLEANER REQUIRED

on Monday and Wednesday mornings at a property in the Alkham Valley. Please ring

892056 for more details. **DOGS** – I am appalled at the total disregard of some owners who allow their dogs to foul on the pavement (right outside some properties) in Short Lane and the grass by the bungalows. It doesn't need a degree to identify the culprits and the Dog Warden would be delighted to impose a £1000 fine. Please clean up after your dogs. (Tricia Wright) Delivered free to all properties in the Parish

TWINNING – Another excellent idea from Parish Councillor Geoffrey Lymer is to twin Alkham with a town in Europe. A village in the Pas de Calais was suggested and Geoffrey is going to look into the funding and other implications before reporting back to the Parish Council.

ALKHAM FETE - There will be a Fete Committee meeting at 8 p.m. on the 8th April 2004 at the Village Hall, to sort out arrangements for the Fete (Saturday 10th July from 2 p.m. - put it in your diaries now). If you would like to help on a stall or with any of the other activities. or have any suggestions as to other things we could do please come along. Raffle tickets will be available for distribution, so if you have run out of tickets in previous years, let me know so I can arrange additional supplies. (Paul Tapsell 01303 892082).

TRAINS – The number of train services stopping at Kearsney Station is going to be substantially reduced; basically, it's use it or lose it. To have your say please contact the Parish Clerk on 822661.

HIGHWAYS – The proposed safety improvement works on the Alkham Valley Road are a gateway effect, centre islands and right turn lane into Kearsney Gardens and high skid resistant surfacing in Alkham from the Forstal (Marquis) around the bends to Coachman's Cottage. There will also be high skid resistant surfacing at the London Road junction.

Alkham Court Farmhouse Bed & Breakfast Meggett Lane, South Alkham ETC: 4 diamonds

Peaceful location overlooking the Alkham Valley

Excellent facilities for family or business stays, short breaks, overnight and weddings.

Web: www.alkhamcourt.co.uk Wendy Burrows Tel: 01303 892056



CONGRATULATIONS - Retired couple Jim and Barbara Frater, of Meadowhill Cottages, Alkham, had a memorable day on March 17 when they accompanied their son Michael on a trip to Buckingham Palace to see him receive the CBE from the Queen. Michael, who lives in Shropshire and is Chief Executive at Telford Council, was named in the New Year's Honours list for his services to local government - a career that started in East Kent in the 1960s. The proud couple described the ceremony at Buckingham Palace as "a wonderful occasion". However, this wasn't their first royal encounter, for they were presented to the Queen Mother several years ago. That occurred when Jim, a former carpenter, worked at Walmer Castle, where he often carried out tasks in the private apartment used by the Queen Mother on her visits in the role as Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports. Jim and Barbara moved to Alkham last summer after 57 years living in Walmer, in order to be near to their other son, Peter and daughter-inlaw Denni, who moved to the village in 2001.

ALKHAM VALLEY SOCIETY There will be an Extra-ordinary General Meeting on 21st April at 8 p.m. in the Village Hall to discuss the vacant post of Chairman all members, old and new, are welcome. Please consider whether you are or know someone who could contribute to the running of the Society which exists for the protection and improvement of the valley as whole, keeping an eye on planning and environmental matters (although we do have a social side too!). If you are interested or want more information please speak to me (Paul Tapsell 01303 892082).

VILLAGE NEWS - I am writing the column for Alkham in the village news. It appears in the K.M Dover Mercury and sometimes the Dover Express or Folkestone Herald and sometimes both. If anyone has any news they would like me to put in, can you ring Cherry on 01303 255114.

Police and Shepway District Council Officers served a Section 61 Notice on an illegal encampment at Marine Terrace, Folkestone and the Travellers will no doubt look for a new place to settle. Please be aware and check any vulnerable locations. If you have any sightings of new camps being set-up please contact the Police on 01303 850055 and inform them. It is believed that some of these Travellers offer tarmacking services. If you should be offered such a service and are not sure whether it is a reputable company ring your local Council and ask if the Company is on their recommended (01304 list 872083). Please make sure you do this before you engage them for any work and be very careful who you employ and take time to check them out. If they cold call remember you have a 'cooling off' period. Do not be pressurised into anything, and please look out for your vulnerable neighbours (when going to Ashford I passed a of police convov escorted caravans ed). (Neighbourhood Watch)

GARDENTALK- We shared a very sociable and informative time at our last meeting. It was held at "The Vicarage"; very many thanks to Lucy for her warm welcome, when Keith Turner ,the judge at our Produce Show came to talk to us about showing produce at its best. We hope everyone will be inspired to produce something at the summer fete produce show and I am planning to be printing schedules very soon. The next meeting will be on Thursday, 15th April 7.30pm at Pam and Maurice Sayers/'Box Tree Cottage" Slip Lane. (Susannah Tapsell)

ALKHAM'S HISTORY - As many of you may know, I am constantly collecting details of Alkham's history together. It is like an enormous jig-saw. I do intend writing and publishing another book about Alkham's past. By Alkham, I mean the whole parish and even beyond. But to do this I must have Anyone who has your help. anything, in whatever state e.g. photos, deeds, documents, old newspapers, parish magazines and ESPECIALLY stories from the past, I really would like to hear from you. It is so important to collect together as much as we possibly can for the future generations to read. (Sue Lees)

LEARN more about your antiques & collectables. You are invited to attend the talks to be given by Miss Josie Yeo in t. Village Hall on Saturday 24th April. The talks with slide shows will cover many topics and will take place from 10.00 am to Midday, breaking for lunch and continuing at 1.00 pm to finish at 3.30 pm. The cost is £3.50. Teas and coffees will be available but please bring your lunch. (Sue Lees 822661)

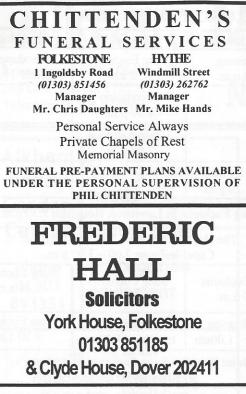
30mph SIGNS – The Parish Council agreed to pay £22.86 for two 30mph repeater signs, which will be put up by Cal Scopes on the telegraph pole outside Appletree Cottage in Slip Lane.

CHATROOM – A planning application has been submitted for the erection of the old Temp' Ewell bus shelter (adjacent to Vicarage Meadow car park), to be used as a meeting point for youngsters in the village.

LIGHTING – The request for a light on the football pitch and some lighting at the Garden Centre entrance is currently being considered.

LEARN about the United Nations, how it works, affects your life and how you can influence it. All day drop-in on Saturday 17th April starting at 10.00 am in Dover Town Hall.

FARMER'S MARKET Capel-le-Ferne Village Hall each Tuesday 10am to 1pm. Local produce Phone 01303 245399



Three new members were welcomed by the President Rosemary at the March meeting. The outing to see "Oklahoma"

at the Marlowe was finalised; 14 members are going and are taking cars, not enough for a coach. A small coach, however, has been booked for the outing to Chartham Church on May 14th. The summer outing was discussed with the Hop Farm being the favourite at the moment. One Day School on Saturday 24th April in the village hall where Miss Yeo will come and talk and show antiques and probably jewellery. Cost £3.50 for the day. The group meeting is April 21st at Whitfield village hall, time 2pm to 4.30pm, and several members are to attend. The two new programme secretaries are Mandy Summers and Debbie Saunders and the programme meeting will be held after our resolution meeting in May. Can members bring ideas of who they would like to speak at our meetings. The speaker was

Bradford & Bingley Geering & Colyer

KEARSNEY (01304) 823714 DOVER (01304)207099 YOUR LOCAL ESTATE AGENT offering DOUBLE EXPOSURE For your property From our offices at both 12 KEARSNEY AVENUE, RIVER, DOVER AND 5 KING STREET, DOVER Discover for yourselves why Geering and Colyer deserve their reputation for customer care SURVEYORS * VALUERS * ESTATE AGENTS OZ on APRIL - It has been a long hard winter, nearly half a year of bitter cold, rain, snow and the debilitating new 'flu virus. Thank heavens it's April at last, with daffodils out and the clocks moved forward. The name, from Latin 'Aprilis' and 'aperire', meaning 'to open', suggests, according to Brewer's Dictionary, "The opening month, when the trees unfold, and the womb of nature opens with young life." The month itself opens with the familiar but puzzling ritual of April Fools' Day. Brewer rejects the notion that the custom refers to the uncertainty of the weather or the mockery of Jesus, since similar pranks occur at the Hindu festival of Huli on the 31st March. He follows the consensus view that, as 25th March used to be New Year's Day, 1st April was the last day of the week-long New Year festivities. Over the years, male fears of marriage gave rise to jokey phrases such as "April morn" for "wedding day" and "April gentleman" for "newly married man". However, even if not the reason for April Fools' Day, the fickleness of April weather is well documented, not least in literature. The first line of Chaucer's Canterbury Tales refers to "April with his showres soote", acknowledged over 500 years later by T S Eliot in the first line of his Waste Land: "April is the cruellest month". Lines such as William Watson's "April, April, laugh thy girlish laughter" are distinctly unsettling, and when George Orwell set an ominous tone in the first line of his novel Nineteen Eighty-Four, it was, of course, "a bright cold day in April, and the clocks were striking thirteen." As usual William Shakespeare provides a fine example with this ringing phrase from Two Gentlemen of Verona: "The uncertain glory of an April day." (Steve **Osborn**)

Carol Boswell who brought a lot of hats and spoke of how and when she wore them through her life, she had a Brownie hat, a guide hat and lots of wedding and party hats; her talk was excellent and after that we got into six groups and had to make hats out of crepe paper, pins and a few accessories Carol had provided, one person in each group being the model who then had to parade their hat around. It was a real fun evening with lots of laughter over "our hats". She was thanked warmly by Margaret Knowles. Next meeting is Tuesday April 13th in the village hall at 7.30pm when the speaker is Mr. J. Pearce on "Flowers for Emma". The competition is a photo Animal, Vegetable or Mineral. New members will be warmly welcomed. (Cherry Leppard)

Concessionary Fares Scheme - The bus passes are available free to any resident of the district over sixty years of age. Restrictions on travel availability will be advised at time of issue.....

Taxi Tokens are now only available to residents on Housing Benefit, Disability Allowance and Attendance Allowance, with certain age restrictions. If you have received tokens in the past check your eligibility, I argued that any resident over sixty should be eligible providing they have a doctor's certificate stating because of a medical condition they can no longer drive a car or use the bus. My arguments fell on deaf ears but I will not give up. The DART bus service runs through Alkham. I have provided the editor with copies of the time table. (Cllr Sue Nicholas)

DOVER CHORAL SOCIETY will present a performance of Handel's Israel in Egypt at 7.30 pm on Saturday 3rd April 2004 in Dover Town Hall. Composed in 1738, the work is full of wonderfully dramatic choruses, and is often seen as Handel's own "Song of Thanksgiving" for his previous year's recovery from serious illness. The soloists are Elizabeth Weaver and Jean Pearson (sopranos), Peter Giles (counter-tenor), and Martin Rendle (tenor). The chorus and The Connaught Orchestra (leader George Simpson) will be conducted by Dover Choral Society's Musical Director, Michael Foad. Tickets costing £8 (Students £4) are available from Dover Visitor Information Centre (next to Town Hall), members of Dover Choral Society or by telephoning 01304 822042; and, if there are any left, at the door on the night. For further details about the concert please ring Michael Foad on 01303 242694. (Steve Osborn)

	W	HAT'S ON	
ad dahirthi	Re	egular events	
TUESDAY Art classes in VH 10 to 1 pm ring 01303 243115 for details		Art classes in VH 10 to 1 pm ring 01303 243115 for details	
WEDNESD	AY	Keep Fit 9.30 -10.30 am Wednesday club 10.30-11.30am	
THURSD	AY	Mobile Library Vicarage Meadow car park 9.25 - 9.50am	
FRIDAY		Whist Drive at 7.30 pm - contact Chris Tapsell on 824765	
(VH= Vi	Shi ta T	Other events Hall and VM= Vicarage Meadow)	
Saturday 3		Quiz in VH 7.30pm	
Monday	5	Annual Parish Meeting see P1	
Thursday	8	Fete meeting see page 1	
Saturday 10 Coffee morning and East		Coffee morning and Easter egg raffle in village hall 10.30am	
Saturday	10	Bingo in VH – 7.30pm	
Tuesday	13	W.I. meeting in the VH at 7.30pm	
Monday	19	Dover and District Bird Club in village hall 7.30pm	
Tuesday	20	PCC AGM in VH 7.30pm	
Wednesday	21	AVS meeting – see page 2	
Saturday	<u> </u>		
Monday 26 Village Hall AGM 8.00pm in VH			

	Alkham	Capel	Hougham	
Sunday 4 th	Evensong 6.30 p.m.	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping together 11.00an	
Monday 5 th		Meditation 7.30 p.m.	ass By Alkham. 1995:14 and 1911	
Tuesday 6th	noon daacproop	Healing service 7.00 p.m.	enis nus ie Enc. wao ha	
Wednesday 7 th	Music for holy week 7.30 p.m.			
Thursday 8 th	Sung Eucharist St Lawrence, Hougham 7.30 p.m.			
Good Friday 9 th	The Hour Before the Cross St Radigund, Capel-le-Ferne 2.00 – 3.00 p.m.			
Easter Sunday 11 th			Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	
Sunday 18 th	Worshipping together 11.00am	Worshipping together 11.00am	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	
Sunday 25 th	Joint Benefice Sung Eucharist St Anthony's, Alkham 10.00 a.m.			

WEB SITE – The Alkham web site, alkham.info, is temporarily (hopefully) not on the Internet. The reason for this is that the company responsible for billing has put a hold on the site with possible deletion. As I took over the site unexpectedly, I'm trying to find out if we owe any money and also whether we still own the web site address. (editor)

TELEPHONE NUMBERS	Alkham Valley Society secretary Pamela Sayers 822397	Vicar Kevin Mepham 01303 244119	
Gwyn Prosser M.P. 0207 2193704	Newsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969 e mail <u>brianwimsett@hotmail.com</u>	Church Wardens Richard Tapsell 822295 and Ken Hammond 823720	
County Councillor , Bryan Cope 207976, work number 01795532547	Parish Clerk, Susan Lees 822661 susan@susanlees.freeserve.co.uk	Village Hall booking Rosemary Polden 824876	
District Councillors Sue Nicholas 823956 Andrew Richardson 211835	Police – 999 phone & 01303 850055 Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130	W.I. Betty Neely 01303 251475 Alkham web site <u>alkham.info</u>	

LOCAL BUSINESSES & SERVICES

ACCOUNTANCY	John Garlinge Accountancy, taxation, book keeping services	18 Newlyns Meadow 824201
ALKHAM MEADOWS	Touring Caravan Park - Next to Garden Centre	Alkham Valley Road 206344
ARBORICULTURE	Alkham Valley Tree Surgery: Planning, planting, maintenance removal	Wolverton 824853 & 07973 501390
BED & BREAKFAST	Owler Lodge with Pat and Bill Owler	Alkham Valley Road 826375
BUILDING WORK	E R Woodruff carpentry and joinery, decorating, maintenance	Swanbourne, Wolverton 824991
CAT & DOG GROOMING	Canine beauticians, dogs and cats groomed, Newcastle House	Ewell Minnis 822902
CLEANING SERVICES	John Hoy domestic/commercial carpet and upholstery cleaning	Ewell Minnis 828007 & 07889310479
CURTAINS & BLINDS	Curtains and blinds made to your specification	Alkham Valley 01303 891806
ELECTRICAL	Simon Price electricians & computer installation, Megget Farm	South Alkham 01303 252764
ENVIRONMENTAL	J H Ullmann Environmental contractors, Malmains Farm	Alkham 202004 or 822888
EQUESTRIAN	Hogbrook Equestrian Centre Livery yard, instruction, hacking	Hogbrook Lane, Alkham 827644
EQUESTRIAN SUPPLIES	Alkham Valley Garden Centre - everything for horse and rider	South Alkham 01303 891996
GARDEN CENTRE	Alkham Valley Garden Centre with gift shop and horse supplies	South Alkham 01303 893351
KENNELS	Alkhamhurst Kennels dogs, cats & unusual boarded. All pet needs	Alkham Valley Rd, Wolverton 822420
LIVERY	Greenhill livery yard Do it yourself and grass liveries	Megget Lane, South Alkham 01303 892056
POST OFFICE	Southdown Stores general groceries, videos, fruit & veg, off licence	London rd, Temple Ewell 827100
SCHOOL	Capel-le-ferne school Your local primary school; free bus from Alkham	Capel Street, Capel-le-ferne 01303 251353

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

Alkham Valley Garden Centre	Your gardening needs Spring bulbs
Phone 01303 893351	Propagation equipment
893351	

BWARD

Builders & decorators All aspects of building, renovation, alteration's, maintenance & decorating work undertaken.

For personal service contact Barry on Office 01304 826914 Mobile 07812834013

RECYCLING - MAY 6th is the next collection day. The amount collected in April was about the same as in March with the money being credited to the Alkham account. Assuming that April yielded £15 then there is £30 in the account plus £280 from the Annual Quiz. The idea is that this money will be used for the benefit of the village so if anyone (young or older) wants money for a project or other worthwhile cause then please give me a ring on 824969, or pop a note through my letter box. A small committee comprising myself, Ken Hammond, Sue Lees and Mark Robson has been set up to consider any application for money.....

DOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL say they are going to start kerbside recycling in Alkham later this year. They intend to collect paper, tins and glass bottles only and joining the scheme is optional. Ken and I intend to continue as we take plastics and also the village gets paid. (editor)

CHRISTIAN AID – Will someone take over responsibility for Christian Aid collections this year as I am unable to do it again? Please contact Irene Barnard on 824845.

No. 129 May 2004

CHARLIE PRESTON Esther and her family would like to extend a very sincere thank you for all the support received from their friends in Alkham following the sad loss of their much loved Charlie. The friendship, letters, cards, flowers and donation received have been very much appreciated, as was the support from all those attending his funeral to help celebrate Charlie's life (see also the obituary on page 2).

TEEN SHELTER

Planning permission has been granted for the erection of the old Temple Ewell bus shelter, which will be used as a meeting point for youngsters in the village. It will be put somewhere between the football pitch and the car park on Vicarage Meadow. Well done to the Parish Council, especially Geoffrey Lymer.

HOUGHAM VILLAGE FAIR will be held on Bank Holiday Monday, 31st of May starting at 1.00pm in West Hougham with all the traditional stalls, races, bouncy castle and lots more.

MARQUIS OF GRANBY Wednesday Night Carvery £9.95 (eat as much as you like) Thursday Night Steak Night Special 16oz rib-eye £8.45 Sunday Lunch Carvery £7.95 Please book early 822945

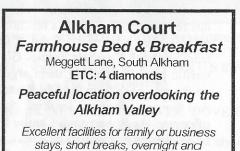
WEB SITE – Due to the untimely death of Vince Holness, who set up the Alkham web site, the name lapsed because it was not known that it had to be renewed in February. It went into a Redemption Grace Period but was impossible to renew and eventually it went back on the market when it was snatched by a domain sniping company a few seconds before our request. All is not lost as we have re-registered the site as <u>www.alkham.org</u>. Delivered free to all properties in the Parish

TRAFFIC - The campaign to improve safety on the Alkham Valley Road continues with the Dover Mercury having regular features and Neil Burrows, the Chairman of Alkham Parish Council, interviewed on Radio Kent. For a speed restriction to be considered there has to be four fatalities or eight serious accidents. Over the last year, there were two fatalities on the road but comment was made that speed was not necessarily the major factor. Additional money may be forthcoming if other projects are not taken up. (editor)

GARDENER – An experienced gardener is required for one day a week. Please phone 826551.

WHITE HILL was mentioned at the Annual Parish Meeting. It was said that the sides of White Hill were subject to fly tipping or were impassable and as it is a well used road, the local councillor was urged to get DDC to check it once a month. In the Dover plan a few year ago Hogbrook Lane, Slip Lane, White Hill and Warren Lane were shown as a secondary distributor for Hougham/Lydden traffic so it should be kept clear. (editor)

ALKHAM FETE bric-a-brac Once again the time is here for us to ask all you lovely friends and neighbours of Alkham to sort out your cupboards and find us some bric-abrac for our stall in July. Any useful and saleable item accepted but please not anything damaged or only fit for the tip. We are happy to assist by collecting from your home if necessary. Thank you in advance for your kindness. (Irene and Den Barnard)



weddings. Web: www.alkhamcourt.co.uk Wendy Burrows Tel: 01303 892056

CHITTENDEN'S FUNERAL SERVICES FOLKESTONE HYTHE 1 Ingoldsby Road Windmill Street (01303) 851456 (01303) 262762 Manager Manager Mr. Chris Daughters Mr. Mike Hands Personal Service Always Private Chapels of Rest Memorial Masonry FUNERAL PRE-PAYMENT PLANS AVAILABLE UNDER THE PERSONAL SUPERVISION OF PHIL CHITTENDEN FREDERIC HALL Solicitors York House, Folkestone 01303 851185 & Clyde House, Dover 202411

NEWS FROM ST. ANTHONY'S

At a recent funeral a man came up to me and said that Alkham Church was in the wrong place. He said that knowing Alkham quite well, he had still driven past the entrance to the Church without noticing it. He asked why it had been built up on the hill and apparently out of sight. This surprised me as I would have said it stood out quite clearly. Another mourner arriving at the same funeral remarked, 'I bet you don't get many people on a Sunday having to climb this path'. Having worked in a parish where the Church Yard was subject to flooding in the winter, I can see the obvious reason why the Church is not at the bottom of the valley. Often Churches were d so that the steeple was a clear statement to the surrounding area of the presence of a Christian community. If the Church had been sited on the top of one of the hills, few of the villagers would have ventured to it. Those who live in Alkham know where the Church is, and thankfully have supported its upkeep over the centuries. So it is that visitors are surprised how lovely St Anthony's Church is, and comment on how well it is being maintained. Those who only drive through Alkham as a short cut to, or from Dover, are simply intent on getting to their destination, they remain unaware of the things they pass by. Time taken to stop and reflect is rarely wasted. Life is just like the short cut from Folkestone to Dover along the Alkham Valley. It is such a beautiful valley in every season if you take the time to look at it. Life was meant to be a blessing to us all, but we tend to be so busy rushing to get somewhere

OZ on COOKIE - 8.45am on Sunday, cue for soft-boiled eggs with soldiers and Alistair Cooke's radio weekly Letter from America, has changed forever. On February 22, Cooke, having vowed never to retire, finally took medical advice and delivered the last and 2,869th edition. Five weeks later, on 30th March, he died aged 95 at his New York City home. Cooke was yet another talented character, like Eltham's Bob Hope or Battersea's George Shearing, who came from humble British origins and made good in the USA. Born in Salford on 20th November 1908, to Samuel, a metal-worker and lay pastor, and his wife Mary, Cooke was christened 'Alfred' after a favourite Methodist preacher. The family moved to Blackpool in 1917 and took in seven American soldiers who made a lasting impression on young Alfred. From Blackpool Grammar School, Alfred won a scholarship to Cambridge, where he studied English and changed his name to 'Alistair'. After further study at Yale and Harvard, Cooke became the BBC's film critic in the newly expanding Hollywood, married, and took American citizenship in 1941. During and after the war his career took off in many directions, most notably with America's NBC, our BBC and as the Manchester Guardian's correspondent in the newly-formed United Nations. On 24th March 1946, Letter from America started, and Cooke spent the rest of the century explaining America to the British, Britain to the Americans, and both to the rest of the world, acquiring in the process many degrees and awards, including a KBE in 1973. It is typical of the man's gentle modesty that the distinction he valued most was his adoption by the children's TV programme Sesame Street, as the character 'Monster Alistair Cookie, host of Monsterpiece Theater.' A little girl once approached him in an airport and asked if he was the real Alistair Cookie. "Fifty years from now," he replied, "when the names of all current television stars will have been forgotten, there will be some old lady saying, 'I once met Alistair Cookie' " (Steve Osborn)

else as soon as possible. The pace of life seems to increase as years pass until we are forced to a standstill by sudden loss. Only then do we question what life should really be like. We may determine to be more grateful for every day, until we find we are sucked in to the 'rat race' again. When did you last take time to stop and think about life, and where you are heading for? A car cannot keep being driven at high speed without a regular service to prevent it breaking down. We are the same. Why not drop in for a service at St Anthony's before you need to be carried in? (Kevin Mepham)



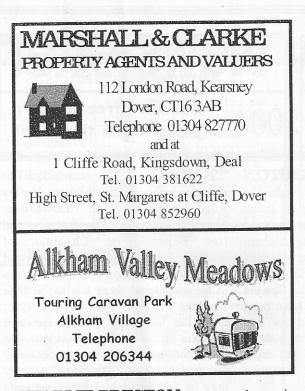
At the last meeting of the W.I, the speaker came on before the business. John Pearce

and his wife Sue gave a talk and slides entitled "Flowers for Emma". It was all about Sue's grandmother meeting a boy in the 1st world war, getting engaged and him going off to war and not returning. Grandmother never spoke about this. having married and bringing up a family, until nearly her death when she spoke to Sue about it. The talk

and slides were all about John and Sue tracking down the name and details of this soldier. A very moving story with beautiful slides. Summer outing is now on Tuesday 27th July. We will be having a coach to Tenterden Station and travelling by steam train to Bodiam. with coffee and pastries on the way, then on to Bodiam Castle and back home by coach. Leave Alkham 9.30am back home about 5ish. Haven't worked out cost yet but if anyone other than W.I members is interested on a day out ring Cherry 01303 255114. Top team quiz is May 21st at River village hall; we have a team of four to enter. Next meeting is Tuesday May 11th which is the Resolution meeting followed by next years programme meeting. Bring your favourite piece of jewellery and tell us about it. Time 7.30pm. (Cherry Leppard)

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CHARLIE PRESTON was a gentleman in every sense of the word. His funeral was held in St. Anthony's church on March 31st where a congregation of over 130 people heard a moving and amusing tribute by his son, Robert. Charlie spent most of his life in Alkham and was one of three brothers educated at the village school and also in the church choir as a photograph taken 70 years ago in the playground shows. Charlie was a prize winner at school as well as captain of the football team and at 14 he left to join the Army Technical School. In the Second World War, having survived being torpedoed on the way out, he entered the war in the North Africa Campaign later moving on to Italy and then through Austria to Germany. After the war Charlie became a shepherd at Everden Farm, which was just up the hill from Alkham, and over the next 25 years became highly respected in the local farming community. His children remembered lambs in the kitchen being fed bottled warm milk from the stove. When Everden farm closed, Charlie went on to work for KCC and retired at 65, although he continued to do part time work around the village. He enjoyed 50 years of happy marriage to wife Esther who originated from the village of Hougham. Charlie enjoyed a drink and Robert remembered the night when Wally Sharp had to be taken home in a wheel barrow. I'm sure Charlie wouldn't have minded me making mention of Wally, who unfortunately spent the last few years of his life in a rest home. He was a great bloke, a captain of the Alkham cricket team and with Charlie's brother Gordon made a terrific pair. I remember them arguing heatedly on the way back from the Old Rectory as to who was the worse for wear for drink; they both were of course. As Robert said, Charlie lived a life to be celebrated and he will be sorely missed by all his family, relatives and friends. (editor)

PLANNING- How is your planning application decided? The Government has set a target for local authorities to determine 90% of planning applications under delegated powers, or in other words, the Planning Officer decides. If the target is achieved, which DDC has, then the local authority gets a bonus of £500,000, which can be used by the planning authority to employ enforcement officers etc. If more people object, the than 3 application goes to the Planning Committee but it appears when this happens the committee generally backs up the planning officer's decision. If the Parish Council objects, it is treated as one objection. The dilemma is therefore does DDC go for the extra £500,000 to police breaches of planning or do they send more to committee and lose the money? Several people at the Parish Meeting thought that democracy was being undermined. (editor)

SINGERS FROM

MONHEIM Choral Society, in Germany, will arrive in Dover on 20th May on the latest leg of exchange visits, staying with members of Dover Choral Society for a long weekend. After two days of rehearsals, singers from both choirs will combine to present excerpts from Handel's Messiah (in English) on Saturday 22nd May at 7.00 pm (note early start time) in St Peter's Parish Church, Minnis Lane, River. Soloists are Elizabeth Weaver and Jean Pearson (sopranos), June (contralto), Woodland and Matthias Standfest (bass). Andrew Deacon will play the trumpet in The Trumpet Shall Sound, and the concert will end, of course, with the mighty Hallelujah Chorus. The performance will be accompanied by John Hurd (organ) and by Dover Choral conducted Musical Director, Society's Michael Foad. Tickets costing £5 (children £1) will be available on the door. For further details about the concert please ring Michael Foad on 01303 242694. (Steve Osborn)

PRODUC. ALKHAM SHOW July 10th. - Here is a list of the adult classes so that everyone will be well prepared to support the show in the Village Hall on Fete day! Please do try to support us in our efforts. There will be for classes the separate CHILDREN'S SHOW and they will be listed in next month's newsletter. ADULT PRODUCE. [Judge Keith Turner]. Section A. Vegetables, 12 Classes-3 potatoes, any variety. 3 beetroot, 3 carrots, 3 courgettes. 5 runner beans. 5 pods of peas. 5 pods of broad beans. 1 lettuce .any variety. 3 tomatoes. 3 onions, any other vegetable. Section B. Soft fruit, '4 Classes-6 raspberries. 6 gooseberries. 6 strigs of currants .any colour. 3 sticks of rhubarb. Section C. Cut flowers, 4 Classes-1 vase of sweet peas. 1 vase of perennials, 1 vase of roses. 1 vase of annuals. Secti D. Plants. 4 Classes-1 geranium. 1 pansy. 1 fuchsia. 1 any other plant. We do hope you enjoy tending your exhibits and helping us to produce a stunning display for all to enjoy. If you are the proud holder of any of the cups, please could you return them to me before July. Entry forms for the PRODUCE SHOW will be available from myself, Grace Stacey, Susan Lees. and Shirley Tapsell, or in the hall on the day. [Susannah Tapsell]

GARDENTALK- Our April meeting was held on a lovely evening, so we were able to walk around Maurice and Pam's beautiful spring garden, admire the new anniversary garden and gen. Inly enjoy the start of another season. We then went indoors to hone our skills of garden art, communication and generally having a good time! Very many thanks to our kind hosts. On May 20th at 7.30pm, we will be meeting at Elwin End's Nursery in Temple Ewell, after which we will visit "The Fox". (Susannah Tapsell)

FARMER'S MARKET Capel-le-Ferne Village Hall each Tuesday 10am to 1pm. Local produce Phone 01303 245399

WHAT'S ON

Regular events			
TUESDA	AY	Art classes in VH 10 to 1 pm ring 01303 243115 for details	
WEDNESI	DAY	Keep Fit 9.30 -10.30 am Wednesday club 10.30-11.30am	
THURSD	AY	Mobile Library Vicarage Meadow car park 9.25 - 9.50am	
FRIDA	Y	Whist Drive at 7.30 pm - contact Chris Tapsell on 824765	
(VH= V)ther events Hall and VM= Vicarage Meadow)	
Sunday	2	Cricket v Courtstairs at 2.00pm On Vicarage Meadow	
Monday	10	Parish Council meeting 7.30pm in village hall – all welcome	
Tuesday	11	W.I. meeting in the VH at 7.30pm	
Saturday	15	Ploughman's Lunch in village hall 11 am to 2pm for hall funds	
Sunday	16	Cricket v Old Hartsdonians 2.30pm on Vicarage Meadow	
Monday	17	Dover and District Bird Club in village hall 7.30pm	
Thursday	20	Garden Talk Elwin End's Nursery Temple Ewell 7.30pm	
Thursday	20	Cricket Club AGM 8pm in the village hall	
Sunday	23	Cricket v River Woodpeckers 2.30pm on Vicarage Meadow	

CHURCH SERVICES				
eta anceraria	Alkham	Capel	Hougham	
Sunday 9 th	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping together 11.00am	Songs of Praise West Hougham Village Hall 6.30pm	
Sunday 16 th	Worshipping together 11.00am	Service at St Radigund's Abbey Farm 11.00am and picnic lunch. Evensong 6.30pm	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	
Thursday 20 th	Said Eucharist St Radigund's Capel 9.15am Joint Benefice Sung Eucharist St Anthony, Alkham 7.30pm			
Sunday 23 rd	day 23 rd Joint Benefice Sung Eucharist St Radigund, Capel, 10.00am			
Sunday 30 th	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping together 11.00am	Evensong 6.30pm	
Weekday Services: Morning prayer is said at Capel Monday-Friday at 8.30 am (except bank holidays) evening prayer at Hougham on Wednesday at 5				

pm Eucharist at Capel every Thursday at 9.15 am followed by refreshments

CHURCH WARDEN - Grace Stacey is now a church warden for St. Anthony's having taken over from Ken Hammond. Ken was thanked warmly by the PCC at their annual AGM for the sterling work he has done over the last three years.

GARAGE SALE - Assuming you receive the Newsletter by the end of April a Garage Sale is being held at the Willows, which is up Slip Lane past Malmains, at 10.30am on the 1st of May. There is room to park the car and tea and coffee will be available.

THE EASTER EGG raffle was a great success and a profit of £270 was made, which went to Kent Air Ambulance. Many thanks to all who participated and helped.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS	Alkham Valley Society secretary Joanna Walker 821642	Vicar Kevin Mepham 01303 244119
Gwyn Prosser M.P . 0207 2193704		Church Wardens Richard Tapsell
	e mail brianwimsett@hotmail.com	822295 and Grace Stacey 822756
County Councillor, Bryan Cope	Parish Clerk, Susan Lees 822661	Village Hall booking
207976, work number 01795532547	susan@susanlees.freeserve.co.uk	Rosemary Polden 824876
District Councillors Sue Nicholas	Police – 999 phone & 01303 850055	W.I. Betty Neely 01303 251475
823956 Andrew Richardson 211835	Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130	Alkham web site www.alkham.org

LOCAL BUSINESSES & SERVICES

ACCOUNTANCY	John Garlinge Accountancy, taxation, book keeping services	18 Newlyns Meadow 824201
ALKHAM MEADOWS	Touring Caravan Park – Next to Garden Centre	Alkham Valley Road 206344
ARBORICULTURE	Alkham Valley Tree Surgery: Planning, planting, maintenance removal	Wolverton 824853 & 07973 501390
BED & BREAKFAST	Owler Lodge with Pat and Bill Owler	Alkham Valley Road 826375
BUILDING WORK	E R Woodruff carpentry and joinery, decorating, maintenance	Swanbourne, Wolverton 824991
CAT & DOG GROOMING	Canine beauticians, dogs and cats groomed, Newcastle House	Ewell Minnis 822902
CLEANING SERVICES	John Hoy domestic/commercial carpet and upholstery cleaning	Ewell Minnis 828007 & 07889310479
CURTAINS & BLINDS	Curtains and blinds made to your specification	Alkham Valley 01303 891806
ELECTRICAL	Simon Price electricians & computer installation, Megget Farm	South Alkham 01303 252764
ENVIRONMENTAL	J H Ullmann Environmental contractors, Malmains Farm	Alkham 202004 or 822888
EQUESTRIAN	Hogbrook Equestrian Centre Livery yard, instruction, hacking	Hogbrook Lane, Alkham 827644
EQUESTRIAN SUPPLIES	Alkham Valley Garden Centre – everything for horse and rider	South Alkham 01303 891996
GARDEN CENTRE	Alkham Valley Garden Centre with gift shop and horse supplies	South Alkham 01303 893351
KENNELS	Alkhamhurst Kennels dogs, cats & unusual boarded. All pet needs	Alkham Valley Rd, Wolverton 822420
LIVERY	Greenhill livery yard Do it yourself and grass liveries	Megget Lane, South Alkham 01303 892056
POST OFFICE	Southdown Stores general groceries, videos, fruit & veg, off licence	London rd, Temple Ewell 827100
SCHOOL	Capel-le-ferne school Your local primary school; free bus from Alkham	Capel Street, Capel-le-ferne 01303 251353

No. 130 June 2004

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

Alkham Valley Garden Centre

For all your gardening needs and animal supplies

01303 893351

Phone

BWARD

Builders & decorators All aspects of building, renovation, alteration's, maintenance & decorating work undertaken.

For personal service contact Barry on Office 01304 826914 Mobile 07812834013

INVITATION to a ragwort party! On July 11th [the day after the fete] I am having a "Ragwort party" at Sladden Farm. I am having a real battle with the yellow peril and I need an army to help clear it! Sladden Farm has been chemical free for 17 years now and I would like to keep it that way, it is better for all of us. I receive a small grant from Defra to help with clearing the Ragwort and I intend to send the money to the East Kent Hospice, [they were tremendous with Kevin during his last days]. There will be a barbecue and a pig roast to feed the army. Please come and help, you will be raising money for the hospice and it won't cost you anything and we can have a fun day out. All you'll need will be a pair of gardening gloves and lots of enthusiasm! Start time about 11.00 a.m. (Di Smith)

MARQUIS OF GRANBY

Wednesday Night Carvery £9.95 (eat as much as you like) Thursday Night Steak Night Special 16oz rib-eye £8.45 Sunday Lunch Carvery £7.95 Please book early 822945 FETE STALLHOLDERS' meeting 3rd June 2004. We have to have some more volunteers to help with the car parking (otherwise we may have to cancel the Fete) so if anyone can spare an hour or two on the afternoon of the Fete, 10th July 2004 from 2 p.m. to point people in the right direction please tell either me on 01303 892082 or Simon Huggins IMMEDIATELY. There will be a stall holders' meeting on the 3^{rd} June at 8 p.m. in the Village Hall so can anyone who is already helping on a stall or would like to assist in some way on Fete day please give me a call or come to the meeting, so that I know what's happening: There are all sorts of jobs that need doing throughout the day and the more people there are helping (even if it's only for an hour or so) the easier everything becomes for everyone. A Village

Fete cannot happen without active support from the Village, so please make the effort - you may even enjoy yourself! (Paul Tapsell)

ALKHAM FETE

Children's Show - 10th July

As promised last month here is a list of classes for the children's competition. There will be no entry fee for these classes but there will be small cash prizes and children's entries are to be in the village hall by <u>2pm</u>.

Class 1 Cookery

(a) 4 chocolate Cornflake Cakes (b) 4 decorated Fairy Cakes

(c) A shortbread Face.

Class 2 Art & Craft (a) Vegetable Man (b) Vase of Flowers (painting) (c) A drawing or painting of your favourite Football Shirt.

Class 2 Garden Fun (a) A Miniature Garden (b) A small Table Decoration (c) A Cactus. **(Shirley Tapsell)** Delivered free to all properties in the Parish

ALKHAM RECYCLING - The next collection is on June 3rd. In May, we had two full van loads but after emptying the sacks, we took four sacks of refuse to the tip. Please only include plastics, which contained drinks with caps removed and keep all items separate.

SEAT – Many thanks go to Clive and Vanessa Hyland, sons Matthew, Luke and Christopher for installing a new seat on Vicarage Meadow. It's just behind the bus shelter and the family dug out the foundations, mixed and poured the concrete and then installed the bench.

A COFFEE MORNING will be held at Finsa, Slip Lane by Barbara and Bob Palmer on Saturday the 19th June in aid of the cricket club.

THE OLD Temple Ewell bus shelter destined to be the teen shelter at Alkham was vandalised before it could be removed. Parish Councillor, Geoffrey Lymer has designed a new one and submitted it to the planners and when it is approved, he's suggested that the children might like to help build it.

YELLOW CROSSES - Someone has been going along the Alkham Valley Road painting yellow crosses on the road where there has been an accident in the past in the hope that it will make the highway authority carry out safety improvements.

TWINNING – The village of Audreselles, just to the west of Calais has been suggested as a twin town for Alkham. Our Parish Council and their Mayor agree it's a good idea and Geoffrey Lymer is writing to them.

Alkham Court Farmhouse Bed & Breakfast Meggett Lane, South Alkham ETC: 4 diamonds

Peaceful location overlooking the Alkham Valley

Excellent facilities for family or business stays, short breaks, overnight and weddings.

Web: www.alkhamcourt.co.uk Wendy Burrows Tel: 01303 892056



DDC contacted the Parish Clerk with regard to Alkham Recycling and I thought I'd print the email that she received from them ' Yes, it is absolutely necessary to know more about these operations as this is something which we should have been told about, as it has legal implications and also impacts on our statistics. Alkham is also an area being looked at in relation to kerbside collection for later this year. I take it your collectors have the necessary waste carrier's license documents and have registered with the EA and KCC. Perhaps you could ask them to provide me with copies of these as soon as possible.' I contacted the Environment Agency and spoke to a very helpful person who said that they were keen to promote local recycling and I then received a letter to say that we were exempt from having to register as all profits were going to the local community. (editor)

CONGRATULATIONS To Devina Bartlett on achieving a place at Christchurch University College, Canterbury to train as a midwife. There were lots of applicants for limited spaces so the competition was stiff. Well done.

GATSO GUNS- The Parish Council insurance does not cover the use of the Gatso guns for speed detection and therefore the Parish Clerk is currently trying to get the necessary insurance.

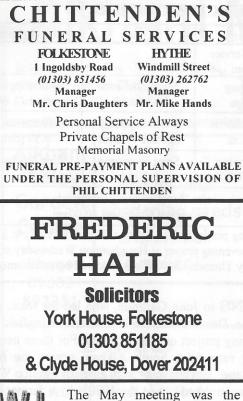
COUNCILLORS Sue Nicholas and Andrew Richardson are going to hold a coffee morning at River Village Hall on Saturday the 12th of June between 10.00am and noon. This will be an opportunity to meet with them and at the same time discuss any issues which maybe of concern to you. They intend to hold a similar event in Alkham later in the year. ALKHAM VALLEY ROAD Because of the delays at the junction with the old A2 at Dover, a lot of traffic diverts down Lower Road to Crabble. To cut out this rat run the priority at the old A2 junction may be changed to allow traffic on the Alkham road to free flow: this of course would probably encourage more people to use the Alkham road. The traffic calming past Bushey Ruff has started with centre islands, footpaths and a gateway being installed. The Parish Council have also drawn up a list of problems with the Alkham Valley Road with possible solutions and are in favour of speed limits below the national average throughout its length. Double white lines are suggested in places plus other highway works including a footway, signing and verge clearance at Wolverton. In the village, pedestrian crossings have been suggested by the bus shelter and between the Marquis and Newlyns Meadow. Phase 2 of the calming is traffic being considered (single lane in the narrow bit by Slip Lane) but because of restricted visibility, this could be dangerous. Further centre islands are suggested and a parking zone with a single way stretch in front of the bungalows to the west of the Marquis. A centre island near the Garden Centre is proposed plus various engineering works to the west of South Alkham. A mini roundabout has been suggested at the junction with the A260. The cables presently in place across the Alkham Valley Road are recording the volume, speed and type of vehicles using the road. Ray Ball of the local highway department has said that now he has finished dealing with the A258 he can now give his full attention to the Alkham Valley Road and hopefully incorporate some of the above. With regard to speed limits along the road, the last two accidents have been in a 30mph area. (editor)

THE ALKHAM VALLEY SOCIETY - At the well attended Extraordinary General Meeting of the Society, held on 21 April, Paul Tapsell agreed to act as Vice Chairman of the Society for the rest of 2004. The safety of the Valley Road has been a concern of the Alkham Valley Society since its foundation in 1977 and continues, to be of great consequence to the Society, evident from the useful proposals put forward at this meeting. It is appreciated that Paul Tapsell is well placed within the fabric of the Alkham Valley to assist with the ongoing negotiations with the relevant authorities and keep the matter alive. The Society, open to the whole Valley and further afield, is grateful to Paul agreeing to continue since this smoothes the path of the Society's involvement in making e Valley Road a safer place. And thank Pam. for the welcome vou refreshments after the meeting. A reminder: the Society is not a limited membership, and enquiries are welcomed. (Joanna Walker, secretary)

THE CRICKET CLUB A G M was held on 20th May, followed by an excellent "steak out" at the Marquis. Please can members stump up their subs (£20 for players, £10 for associate members) to the Treasurer as soon as possible. Arrangements are underway for the Annual Tour in June and the Hackers match in August as well as the regular Sunday games. Fixture Cards are avail from Paul Tapsell or the Margurs, and details of forthcoming games appear in the newsletter and results in the Express and/or Mercury. (Paul **Tapsell**)

TOMMY COOPER JOKE Guy goes into the doctor's. "Doc, I've got a cricket ball stuck up my backside." "How's that?" "Don't you start."

FARMER'S MARKET Capel-le-Ferne Village Hall each Tuesday 10am to 1pm. Local produce Phone 01303 245399



annual resolution meeting. We were lucky to have Muriel Jennings, a W.I adviser, to help us with the three resolutions which were all carried unanimously. The one day school held recently went very well; Josie Yeo who came told us about antiques and collectables with some slides. Members had tea and coffees served to them and most brought a packed lunch. It is hoped to hold another later in the year. At the recent group meeting held at Whitfield, Alkham did extremely well winning the competition, out of seven W.I.'s in the group, also winning three raffle prizes. In March 2005, it is the turn of our W.I to host the group meeting. The summer outing on Tuesday 27th July was organised. It was decided to take the steam train from Tenterden to Bodiam and on to the castle for the afternoon. Leave Alkham about 9.30am and return home about 5pm. Cost should be roughly £15 to £18 all in. There are places left so if anyone is interested for a good day out ring Cherry 01303 255114. Doreen Wilks and her craft circle must be congratulated on making 29 hats, 16 blankets and 2 coats for the premature babies at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital. When Doreen took them, she was invited up to the premature unit to take them in person. The evening ended with the programme meeting for next years speakers. Mandy and Debbie who are the programme organisers gave us a lot of ideas for next year with lots of good and varied speakers. Next month's speaker is Mr K Booth on Dover Archaeology. Tuesday June 8th. (Cherry Leppard)

OZ on SQUIRRELS – The first highlight of our May holiday on the lsle of Wight was Jak sniffing out, digging up and eating a soft-backed crab on Ryde beach. The second was a red squirrel leaping from tree to tree in the grounds of Osborne House and twisting in and out of adjacent holes in his home trunk. The red squirrel has been common in Europe since the last Ice Age, under such names as 'skug', 'escurel' and 'skurrel', all deriving from ancient Greek 'sciouros' meaning 'shade tail'. Linnaeus coined the scientific name Sciurus vulgaris in 1758 and in 1792 Kerr added leucourus meaning 'light-tailed' to distinguish the unique British species. The red squirrel population has fluctuated markedly over the years, usually in response to the availability of suitable trees for food and shelter. Between 1860 and 1900 in Britain a surfeit of red squirrels was caused by the fashionable planting of imported conifers. Rapid decline followed after 1900 due to epidemic disease and widespread felling of conifers required for First World War preparations. By the 1930s the population again started to increase but now faced different pressures. Grey squirrels, Sciurus carolinensis, had been imported from America as novelty pets in 1876, and had taken over the English deciduous woodlands which they could utilise better than the red squirrels. Over large areas of southern England the red squirrel was extinct by the 1940s. Today the red squirrel is found in England only in Cumbria, the Isle of Wight, Brownsea Island in Poole Harbour, Thetford Forest in Norfolk and Cannock Chase in Staffordshire. The exact reasons for the unequal struggle between reds and greys remain unclear. Jak knows all about greys. He once caught one in Kearsney Abbey, whimpered with delight, dropped it and raced after the next one. (Steve Osborn)

DOVER CARNIVAL PROMS Once again, the Dover White Carnival Cliffs Country Association, with the support of local musicians, is organising a festive concert in the style of "The Last Night of the Proms" at 7.30 pm on the Friday of Dover Carnival Week, 2 July, in Dover Town Hall. The first half of the programme will feature a selection from Gilbert and Sullivan's The Gondoliers, and then, after the interval, three songs by Irving Berlin newly arranged by Michael Lewis. The concert will end as usual with the traditional Proms Finale: Jerusalem, Rule Britannia and Land of Hope and Glory. All singers are welcome, but must attend at least four rehearsals, the first of which is at 7.30 pm on Thursday 27 May in River

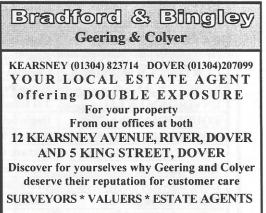
Methodist Church. Audience tickets are available at £5 for seats and £2 for promenaders (side balconies) from Dover Town Hall or next door at the Dover Visitor Information Centre. For further details ring Michael Foad on 01303 242694. (Steve Osborn)

LIGHTS – DDC are looking into the request for parish lighting adjacent to the football pitch on Vicarage Meadow. **TABLE FAIR** – There will be a table fair in the village hall on the 12^{th} of June in aid of village hall funds. If you would like to book a table at a cost of £5 please ring 824876.

EUROPEAN PARTY Elections The village hall has been booked between 7.00am and 10.00pm on the 10th of June for people to cast their votes for the European Parliament.

DYKE – As the dyke was enlarged for highway purposes opposite the village hall the Parish Council have asked the Highway Authority to make the area safe by the use of appropriate fencing.

THE PLAY EQUIPMENT on Vicarage Meadow was inspected by DDC with regard to safety. The Parish Council are not happy as the play equipment is parish property and the council were not consulted before the inspection took place.



WHAT'S O	N	
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Regular events

Regular events			
TUESDAY		Art classes in VH 10 to 1 pm ring 01303 243115 for details	
WEDNESDAY		Keep Fit 9.30 -10.30 am Wednesday club 10.30-11.30am	
THURSD	AY	Mobile Library Vicarage Meadow car park 9.25 - 9.50am	
FRIDAY	ł	Whist Drive at 7.30 pm - contact Chris Tapsell on 824765	
Other events (VH= Village Hall and VM= Vicarage Meadow)			
Thursday	3	Fete stallholders meeting 8.00pm in the village hall	
Saturday	5	Bingo in VH – 7.30pm	
Tuesday	8	W.I. meeting in the VH at 7.30pm	
Thursday	10	European elections in village hall 7.00am to 10.00pm	
Saturday	12	Table Fair in village hall from 10.00am to 3.00pm	
Sunday	13	Cricket v Worth 2.30pm on Vicarage Meadow	
Wednesday	16	PCC Deanery in VH 7.00pm	
Saturday	19	Coffee morning at Finsa in Slip Lane in aid of the cricket club	
Sunday	27	Cricket v Westbourne 2.30pm on Vicarage Meadow	

CHURCH SERVICES				
	Alkham	Capel	Hougham	
Tuesday 1 st	Healing Service 7.00pm			
Sunday 6th	Evensong 6.30pm	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping together 11.00am	
Sunday 13th	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping together 11.00am	Evensong 6.30 p.m.	
Sunday 20th	Worshipping together 11.00am	Sung Evensong 6.30pm	Sung Eucharist 9.30am	
Sunday 27th		t Benefice Sung Euch wrence Hougham 10.		
Westeday Came	ices: Morning praver	is said at Canal Man	day Eriday at 8 30	

Weekday Services: Morning prayer is said at Capel Monday-Friday at 8.30 am (except bank holidays) evening prayer at Hougham on Wednesday at 5 pm Eucharist at Capel every Thursday at 9.15 am followed by refreshments

CONGRATULATIONS to John Garlinge, who led the team, and to helpers Larry Lambourne, Derek Banks-Nash and Mick Wingfield for completing their hedge laying project on Pimlico Way. For those new to the village, Pimlico Way runs from South Alkham across the h' ground and down to Slip Lane. The hedge on both sides of Pimlico Way, for a substantial length, was grubbed out in the 1970's by a farmer and was replanted on the northern side by the Alkham Valley Society in the 1980's. John and his team practised the ancient art of hedge laying over the length to the west of the path heading towards Swingfield. As the name suggests, the hedge and small trees are partially cut just above the ground and then laid over and bound with sticks. This eventually creates a stock proof barrier with an attractive appearance. It's worth a look.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS	Alkham Valley Society secretary Joanna Walker 821642Vicar Kevin Mepham01303 RichardKevin MephamKevin Mepham01303Kevin MephamKevin Mepham01303Kevin MephamKevin Mepham01303		
Gwyn Prosser M.P. 0207 2193704	Newsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969	822295 and Grace Stacey 822756	
A Commence in the state of the second states of the	e mail brianwimsett@hotmail.com	W.I. Betty Neely 01303 251475	
County Councillor, Bryan Cope	Parish Clerk, Susan Lees 822661	Village Hall booking	
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POST OFFICE	Southdown Stores general groceries, videos, fruit & veg, off licence	London rd, Temple Ewell 82
SCHOOL	Capel-le-ferne school Your local primary school; free bus from Alkham	Capel Street, Capel-le-ferne 01303 251

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



For personal service contact Barry on Office 01304 826914 Mobile 07812834013

ALKHAM VILLAGE FETE 2004 will be on the 10th July at 2.00 pm on the Vicarage Meadow, will be opened by Mr Gwyn Prosser MP and will feature a number of special attractions including Vintage Cars, the Snowdown Band, East Kent Morris Dancers, the Capel School May Pole team, Produce Show and Children's Races and Competitions as well as any number of stalls, etc.: Come along and enjoy yourself. Can we please have lots of volunteers to help put the tents up on Saturday morning (on the Meadow from 8.30 a.m.) and to get everything ship-shape and Bristol fashion there are jobs for all ages and abilities and it's quite fun really! I still need people to assist with various stalls and odd jobs throughout the day so call me on 01303 892082 and I'll find something for you to do. Also please can we have some help clearing the Meadow afterwards, again the more helpers there are the easier it is for us all. You will already know about the Produce (Fruit, Veg and Flower) and Children's cookery, Art & Craft and Garden Shows from May' Fun and June's Newsletters, if not details can be obtained from Sue Tapsell on 822295. I dare say others will be asking for Bric-a-Brac, Cakes,

No. 131 July 2004

Prizes elsewhere in this Newsletter: Please give what assistance vou can. In addition can all unsold raffle tickets (or counterfoils and cash) be returned to Dot Polden or myself by Thursday 8th July. Finally, we have had problems with carparking in the past (we have limited for space) and would ask that people help either by leaving their cars at home or by following the signs and/or attendants' instructions as regards the Main Car Park area Disabled Badge-Holders' and Car Park: we will also be operating Tesco-style "Dropping Of Point" by the Village Hall. I look forward to seeing you on the day. (Paul Tapsell) ALKHAM PRODUCE

SHOW - Please note that entries for the Adult classes should be in the village hall by 11.00am but entries for the Children's classes have until 2.00pm before judging takes place. Schedules are available from Susannah or Shirley Tapsell.



ROCKING DAVE TAYLOR will be performing live with 'rock and roll' through the years from 8.00pm at the Marquis of Granby on the 10th of July after the Alkham fete. Please book early if you want a meal in the pub by ringing 822945 or call in.

RECYCLING – The next collection is **Thursday July 1st**. Many thanks to Mark Robson for taking my place in June and helping Ken Hammond out with the collection (I fell off my pedal bike). (editor)

Delivered free to all properties in the Parish

Needlework and Raffle/Tombola ALKHAM CHURCHYARD

I am about to perform a wedding at Alkham Church, and I can guarantee that there will be mixed comments about the Churchvard. Some will be utterly bowled over by the beauty of meadow grasses and flowers that bring back memories of years gone by. Others will bemoan the lack of neatly trimmed edges, and will declare it a disgrace that dishonours those who have been laid to rest. The truth of the matter is that it is a conservation area with rare grass growing in it that needs to be allowed to seed before it is cut. If we were allowed to keep the churchyard regularly cut, the meadow flowers and grasses would not survive and some perhaps be lost for ever. Our duty to protect what we have been entrusted with cannot be easily ignored on the whims of fashion. Just think how much was destroyed in the 60's and 70's with the rush for cheaper modern developments. It was later realised that much of this was a mistake, but too late to rectify the damage done. If we can enable Alkham Churchyard to remain a haven of natural beauty, we leave for our grandchildren and successive generations, a treasure that is not taxable or destroyed on a whim. It will be time to cut the grass in July, and in the past it has fallen to a few stalwart villagers

who have accomplished the task. This year we are appealing for help with the cutting of the grass in the week beginning Monday 19th July. If you are able to offer a few hours strimming or clipping, raking, collecting etc. please speak to the wardens (see back page). The Church belongs to the whole Parish of Alkham who have a right to be buried there. With a persons rights, also comes a duty. Can you help? (Kevin Mepham)

Alkham Court Farmhouse Bed & Breakfast Meggett Lane, South Alkham ETC: 4 diamonds

Peaceful location overlooking the Alkham Valley

Excellent facilities for family or business stays, short breaks, overnight and weddings. Web: www.alkhamcourt.co.uk

Wendy Burrows Tel: 01303 892056



and Dementia Carers' Support Group. If you know or care for anyone who is confused or has memory problems, you may be interested to know that support is available. A carers' support group meets on the third Tuesday morning of each month - currently at a member's house in Deal - where in an informal setting, problems can be aired and shared and practical information given; phone 01304 364637 for details. As part of Alzheimer's Awareness Week, a coffee morning is being held at Trinity Church, Union Road, Deal on Monday the 5th of July from 10.30am to 12.30. There will be cake and bring and buy stalls. Whether you are just an interested party or a carer, do come along and support; information and advice will be available if needed. Do bring along the person you care for if at all possible. It is hoped that further coffee mornings can be arranged as a social activity where persons being cared for can be included. (Margaret Danstead, Alkham)

VILLAGE OF THE YEAR – Alkham has been visited twice by the judges in the Environmental Section of the competition with the lead judges coming on the 16th of June to have a good look round. The main reason for entering was to show the organisers that Alkham took recycling seriously with bins at the Garden Centre and a monthly collection from about 60 houses. It's not clear whether this point was taken on board but the judges did drive along Pimlico Way from Slip Lane to South Alkham to have a look at the hedge laying carried out by John Garlinge and his team. The importance of the Parish Council and the Alkham Valley Society was also stressed.

THE ALKHAM VALLEY

SOCIETY - In May, members of the AVS attended a Kent Tourism initiative, familiarisation with Maidstone plus the AGM of the Kent Federation of Amenity Societies (KFAS) of which the AVS is a member. Maidstone has put together an informative and attractive tour, part on foot and part on the River Medway. Most spectacular are the two new footbridges and an amphitheatre on the river side, a masterpiece of landscaping and made from local Kent ragstone. We should try to organise a visit. The KFAS AGM was held in Broadstairs; a keynote talk was on the Role of amenity societies in Local Government. Oh, we are useful! A copy of this talk has been obtained and is available via the Secretary, AVS. The meeting also provided a chance to do some modest networking. On September 18th 2004, the Bexley Civic Society is hosting a KFAS conference. We have provisionally reserved places for 3-5 members to attend but specific names are required. The conference includes a visit to the pioneer Red House, designed in 1859 by Philip Webb for William Morris and recently purchased by the National Trust. If anyone is interested, please let the Secretary know before the 1st of July. The AVS committee is considering Ightham Mote for the annual visit, with a possible fastish footwork visit to Sissinghurst 'at the hour when there is a tinkle of ice in glasses at twilight'. Any interest? (Joanna Walker (Secretary -821641)

GARDEN TALK – On Wednesday July 14th at 7.30pm we will be visiting the gardens of Hockley Sole at the kind invitation of Angie and Nigel Snape. **(Susannah Tapsell)**

FARMER'S MARKET Capel-le-Ferne Village Hall each Tuesday 10am to 1pm. Local produce Phone 01303 245399

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

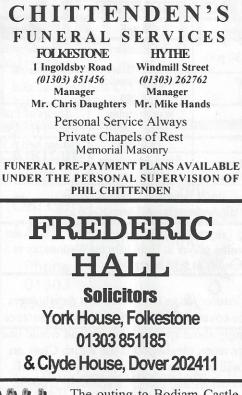
If you are subject to any vandalism, intimidation, unwarranted rowdyism or any other similar unpleasant activity, the Rural Community Warden at Capel is quite happy to come and help deal with the situation. His name is Paul James and he can be contacted on 07977 981994 and his number has been added to the 'Telephone Numbers' on the back page of the Newsletter for future reference. (editor)

MEMORIES – A lady who used to live in the village visited Alkham and talked to Sam Gordon, who lives in Evergreen on Slip Lane. As a result of this, Sam received a letter from her which recorded some memories of Alkham from just after the wa Her name was Vivienne Smith (now Reeve) and over the next few months, I'm going to publish parts of her letter under the title 'Memories of Alkham'.

MEMORIES

OF

ALKHAM In the past Alkham was predominately a farming village with several large farms such as Hogbrook Farm, Halton Court and Malmains Farm. Between Halton Court and Box Tree Cottage to the east of Slip Lane used to be Norton Farm, which was used as a machine gun post by the army in the Second World War. After the war, the beautiful but spoiled period farm house was demolished and the farm later divided into building plots on which most of the new houses, which can be seen today, were built. Vivienne Smith worked at Norton Farm between 1946 and 1947 when it was owned by James Ross who only spent 6 months of the year there, the reason for this being that he worked in the Calcutta branch of Rootes of Maidstone. It sounds like something from 'It ain't half hot mum' but that was the state of the then. Further car industry memories of Vivienne Smith will be printed next month. (editor)



The outing to Bodiam Castle with a trip on the Tenterden Railway was finalised, with 41 members and friends going.

The coach will leave Alkham at 9.15 so we arrive in plenty of time for the 10.40 train to Bodiam. Members were asked to bring things for the different stalls at the fete in July. Most of the W.I members are involved with all the stalls! The Xmas dinner has been booked at "The Marquis of Granby" in December. A lot of interest was expressed for "Brigadoon" at the Marlowe Theatre in November this is by the Herne Bay Operatic Society. Names to be taken next month. The speaker was Kevin Booth, a curator at Dover Castle, who brought lides of historical monuments across England. A lot of archaeology artefacts are housed at the Castle. It was very interesting and good to know there are people like him who care and preserve our heritage. Susan Lees thanked him very much. Next months speaker is B. Hood and his subject "Ashes to Ashes" on Tuesday July 13th at 7.30pm. (Cherry Leppard)

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OZ on QUACKS AND CROAKS - The question "which sex of ducks quacks?", posed in Alkham's January quiz, and the quizmaster's gleeful answer "female - of course!", caused much discussion, not all from aggrieved feminists. Subsequent research in Bushey Ruff was inconclusive. In the flock of mallards that we observed, males seemed to outquack females if anything. The consensus among duck experts is that generally, given that sounds vary according to function and between species, females make "loud" quacks and males make "raspy" quacks. At Middlesex University, academics have now taken the research further, discovering, according to a report published last month, that ducks have regional accents. Dr Victoria de Rijke compared quacks recorded at Spitalfields City Farm in east London and at the tranquil Trerieve Farm near Looe in Cornwall, and concluded that the ducks had developed distinct regional accents in response to their environments. The cockney ducks had rough "shouting" quacks with short open vowels that allowed them to be heard above the din of city transport, while their Cornish cousins had gentle burrs, more like "giggles", with longer and slower vowels. Not surprisingly, regional accents are also found in other creatures such as frogs. Amphibian expert Julia Wycherley discovered the accents while trying to find out exactly which sub-species of pool frog (Rana lessonae) had lived in East Anglia before becoming extinct. She spent much time listening to frogs' mating calls and detected three accents directly related to the frogs' genetic heritage, from ancient Iberia, Italy and the Balkans. The problem for displaced frogs is that mating can prove impossible if they make calls in the wrong language. English Nature now plans to acquire a single-source population of Balkan pool frogs in the hope that they will, one day, exchange croaks and repopulate the East Anglian wetlands. (Steve Osborn)

A LITTLE HELP from friends Margaret Ashman, who lives in Green Lane Ewell Minnis. is the secretary of the 'Wheels '4' Bowls Trust' and her husband, Raymond, is President. A friend of theirs was diagnosed with the progressive and often frustrating Parkinson's disease and was struggling to come to terms with it, especially as he has to use a wheel chair. However, it was discovered that people with the disease can play bowls but only if a special chair is used costing between two and three thousand pounds. Following street collections, raffles and donations together with support from other organisations they are near to reaching their total. With the help of a loaned wheel chair, Peter who suffers from the disease is progressing quite well with his new hobby. If you would like more information about the Trust please phone Margaret 824386.

RHINO CHALLENGE 2004 Turn your puff into pounds for a very good cause this summer! We will be holding our third annual Rhino Challenge on Saturday 10th July, with a choice of two routes; a 20 mile and a 50 mile bike ride starting and finishing at Port Lympne and covering some of the spectacular countryside of the Romney Marsh. There is also a 10k running road race. There will be a variety of family entertainment throughout the day and into the evening including; bouncy castle, face painting, have-a-go archery, dog agility display and firework finale! The aim of the event is to raise money to support our herd of 19 black rhino - the largest breeding herd outside Africa, so get on your bike and 'pedal to protect' these magnificent animals! For more information call Sue on 01303 264647 or visit www.howletts.net.

ALKHAM VALLEY ROAD The people who were going to walk backwards along the Alkham Road to highlight the dangers of the road were banned by the police from doing so. Although the police recognised that the valley road is dangerous, it was thought that such a protest would disrupt traffic. However, a group of people, including the father of Victoria Smith who was killed in an accident on the road last year, did walk to the Marquis of Granby and felt that they had made their point. They are now planning a mass cycle ride along the road to keep up the campaign's momentum.

WANTED – 16mm self loading projector preferably with a halogen or modern bulb. Please contact Brian on 824969.

WH	AT'S	ON

Regular events			
TUESDA	Y	Art classes in VH 10 to 1 pm ring 01303 243115 for details	
WEDNESD	AY	Keep Fit 9.30 -10.30 am Wednesday club 10.30-11.30am	
THURSD	AY	Mobile Library Vicarage Meadow car park 9.25 - 9.50am	
FRIDAY	r	Whist Drive at 7.30 pm - contact Chris Tapsell on 824765	
Other events (VH= Village Hall and VM= Vicarage Meadow)			
Saturday	3	Bingo in VH – 7.30pm	
Saturday	10	FETE - see page 1	
Monday	12	Village Hall committee meeting 8.00pm in village hall	
Tuesday	13	W.I. meeting in VH 7.30pm	
Wednesday	14	Garden Talk, Hockley Sole 7.30pm	
Saturday	17	Craft fair in village hall in aid of Cancer Research	
Sunday	18	Cricket v Wickham & Stodmarsh 2.30pm on Vicarage Meadow	
Monday	19	Dover & District Bird Club in village hall 7.30pm	
Monday	26	Parish Council meeting in village hall 7.30pm – all welcome	

CHURCH SERVICES				
tion with a last	Alkham	Capel	Hougham	
Sunday 4 th	Evensong 6.30 p.m.	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping together 11.00am	
Tuesday 6 th		Healing Service 7.00pm		
Sunday 11 th	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping together 11.00am	Songs of Praise West Hougham village hall 6.30pm	
Sunday 18 th	Worshipping together 11.00 a.m.	Sung Evensong 6.30 p.m.	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	
Sunday 25 th Joint Benefice Sung Eucharist St Anthony's, Alkham 10.00 a.m.				
Weekday serv	vices: Morning Prayer	at Capel Monday-Fi	riday at 8.30 am	

(except bank holidays); Evening prayer at Hougham on Wednesday at 5 pm: Eucharist at Capel every Thursday at 9.15 am

GATSO GUNS - The insurers have confirmed that parishioners using the Gatso guns will be covered by the Parish Council insurance policy. If anyone feels strongly about speeding drivers and would like to become part of the village team, please phone the Parish Clerk on 822661. A one day course will be given by the police on the use of the guns should the police consider that there is a speeding problem in the parish.

PIPELINE – Folkestone and District Water Company have started work on the new pipeline to the west of the parish as can be seen by the stripped topsoil between Lower Standen and the A20 overbridge.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS	Alkham Valley Society secretary Joanna Walker 821642VicarKevin Mepham01303Church WardensRichard		
Gwyn Prosser M.P. 0207 2193704	Newsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969 e mail brianwimsett@hotmail.com	822295 and Grace Stacey 822756 W.I. Betty Neely 01303 251475	
County Councillor , Bryan Cope 207976, work number 01795532547	Parish Clerk, Susan Lees 822661 susan@susanlees.freeserve.co.uk	Village Hall booking Rosemary Polden 824876	
District Councillors Sue Nicholas 823956 Andrew Richardson 211835	Police – 999 phone & 01303 850055 Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130 Community Warden 07977 981994	Alkham web site www.alkham.org	

LOCAL BUSINESSES & SERVICES

l'Annual l'A		
ACCOUNTANCY	John Garlinge Accountancy, taxation, book keeping services	18 Newlyns Meadow 824201
ALKHAM MEADOWS	Touring Caravan Park - Next to Garden Centre	Alkham Valley Road 206344
ARBORICULTURE	Alkham Valley Tree Surgery: Planning, planting, maintenance removal	Wolverton 824853 & 07973 501390
BED & BREAKFAST	Owler Lodge with Pat and Bill Owler	Alkham Valley Road 826375
BUILDING WORK	E R Woodruff carpentry and joinery, decorating, maintenance	Swanbourne, Wolverton 824991
CAT & DOG GROOMING	Canine beauticians, dogs and cats groomed, Newcastle House	Ewell Minnis 822902
CLEANING SERVICES	John Hoy domestic/commercial carpet and upholstery cleaning	Ewell Minnis 828007 & 07889310479
CURTAINS & BLINDS	Curtains and blinds made to your specification	Alkham Valley 01303 891806
ELECTRICAL	Simon Price electricians & computer installation, Megget Farm	South Alkham 01303 252764
ENVIRONMENTAL	J H Ullmann Environmental contractors, Malmains Farm	Alkham 202004 or 822888
EQUESTRIAN	Hogbrook Equestrian Centre Livery yard, instruction, hacking	Hogbrook Lane, Alkham 827644
EQUESTRIAN SUPPLIES	Alkham Valley Garden Centre - everything for horse and rider	South Alkham 01303 891996
GARDEN CENTRE	Alkham Valley Garden Centre with gift shop and horse supplies	South Alkham 01303 893351
KENNELS	Alkhamhurst Kennels dogs, cats & unusual boarded. All pet needs	Alkham Valley Rd, Wolverton 822420
LIVERY	Greenhill livery yard Do it yourself and grass liveries	Megget Lane, South Alkham 01303 892056
POST OFFICE	Southdown Stores general groceries, videos, fruit & veg, off licence	London rd, Temple Ewell 827100
SCHOOL	Capel-le-ferne school Your local primary school; free bus from Alkham	Capel Street, Capel-le-ferne 01303 251353

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

Alkham Valley Garden Centre Phone 01303 893351

Alkham Court Farmhouse Bed & Breakfast Meggett Lane, South Alkham ETC: 4 diamonds Peaceful location overlooking the Alkham Valley

Excellent facilities for family or business stays, short breaks, overnight and weddings. Web: www.alkhamcourt.co.uk Wendy Burrows Tel: 01303 892056

ALKHAM FETE - May I extend a huge thank you to all those people who contributed to the Fete this year, I think it was a great success despite the rain and it was wonderful to see so many new faces (as well as the old ones!) helping from first thing in the morning till we cleared the Meadow. It is invidious to single out individuals but I must mention the new kids on the block who took over the Car Park and ran it perfectly: well done Simon, Mark, Steve, Ken and Matthew and several others, also Cherry and all the Tea Tent ladies did a sterling job (and the cakes were excellent!) and the Scopes Hog Roast went down a storm. I should also like to thank the tent wallahs (both on the day and the drying squad), for service above and beyond the call of duty. Thank you one and all. We took about £2,900 and hope to have about £1,800 to divide between the Church and Village Hall in due course; the post mortem meeting will be in late August. (Paul Tapsell)

LIVE music at the Marquis of Granby. On Friday the 27th of August at 8.00pm, Tony Martin will be singing as Frank Sinatra. Phone 822945 for more details or to book a meal.

No. 132 August 2004

ALKHAM PRODUCE SHOW, (generously sponsored by the Ladies Keep Fit group). A very big thank you to all those who entered exhibits. Once again, it made an impressive display for people to enjoy. The exhibits brought children's smiles to everyone's faces and many a nose was thrust into the wonderfully fragrant roses. The shield for Best exhibit in show went to Geoff Gaskill for his prize onions, the Floral Trophy to Barbara Palmer (perennials), the Countryside Cup to Geoff Gaskill (gooseberries), the Ken Davies Cup to Rosemary Polden (fuchsia) and the President's Cup to Geoff Gaskill (onions). The cup for Best exhibit in the Children's show was won by Molly Laflin for her beautiful Mention miniature garden. should also made of those who achieved a high standard with many 1st, 2nd and 3rd placed exhibits and if anyone would like to donate a cup for a points system, we will work on that for next year? Thank you all very much. (Susannah Tapsell)

CONGRATULATIONS to Sandie Tapsell and the 20 year old Sky Comet for winning the 4 and over and Arab year Championship the Kent at County Show. Sandie also won the yearling Arab Class showing Ibn Kuda. Congratulations also to Ann Cunningham and Esteban ibn Narismma for winning the 2 and 3 year old Arab class. All in all a good show for the Alkham Valley Arabian fraternity.

MARQUIS OF GRANBY Wednesday Night Carvery £9.95 (eat as much as you like) Thursday Night Steak Night Special 16oz rib-eye £8.45 Sunday Lunch Carvery £7.95 Please book early 822945 Delivered free to all properties in the Parish

ALKHAM RECYCLING – The next collection will be on Thursday the 5^{th} of August. For the first four months collection, up to the end of June, the Alkham account at Kent Community Recycling has been credited with £66 with the only expense being the plastic sacks costing about £2.60 per month. If you have any ideas about how you would like this money to be spent for the benefit of the Parish, please give me a ring. (editor)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY and congratulations to Stan Couchman who celebrated his 90th birthday on the 25th of July. He was born 11 days before the start of World War I and joins a select group of nonagenarians in the village.

Artisan Nursery Garden Design

Urgently require staff at all levels from apprentices onwards.

Tel: 01303 221953 or 07763327548 for more info.

SARAH & PETER CHAMBERS

of Martinvale send heartfelt thanks to their neighbours Alison and Barry Spicer and Ernie Cook for their sterling work in clearing their garden last month of a giant bonfire which was the size of a bungalow! Their kindness was much appreciated.

THE HARVEST SUPPER will be held in the village hall on the 21^{st} of September, 7.00 for 7.30pm. Tickets cost £5 and can be obtained from Betty Neely by phoning 01303 251475.

LOST – Pam Sayers has lost a wooden walking stick which belonged to her mother who died in 1978. If you find it, please ring Pam on 822397.

BOOKS – There were a lot of books (mainly fiction) left from the fete and these are now in the village hall. If you would like to see what's available please give either Sue Lees (822661) or me (824969) a ring and we'll open the hall for you and if you take any you can make a suitable donation.

MARSHALL & CLARKE PROPERTY AGENIS AND VALUERS



112 London Road, Kearsney Dover, CT16 3AB Telephone 01304 827770 and at

1 Cliffe Road, Kingsdown, Deal Tel. 01304 381622 High Street, St. Margarets at Cliffe, Dover Tel. 01304 852960



ALKHAM CHURCHYARD

Congratulations to Richard Tapsell for organising the cutting of the grass in the churchyard. John Huggins kindly provided a large tractor pulling a mower and a small tractor mower which cut the larger areas. The rest of the churchyard was cut using strimmers by a group of hard working people. Particular thanks should go to Pam Lawrence of Hougham who worked so hard and also to Richard Tapsell, Kevin Mepham plus Milly and friends. Two irate swarms of wasps managed multiple sting bites on me, Rob Lees and the vicar all of whom showed a remarkable turn of speed.

FENCE – The Parish Council asked Dover District Council to fence off the deep part of the dyke opposite the village hall and that's what they have done. It was good of them to do it but it was a bit of surprise to see the large stockade appear which is four foot high with plastic coated chain link over all openings.

ADVICE SURGERIES - On Thursday afternoons from 2 pm to 4 pm Advice Surgeries are being held in Capel-le-Ferne village hall (confidentiality is available in the small hall if required) as follows: 29th July Homestart support for families: In August; 5th Age Concern; 12th Patients advice & liaison service; 19th Photography advice; 26th Care & repair in the home: In September; 2nd Gwyn Prosser M.P.; 9th Security in the home (police); 16th Fire Safety Officer; 23rd Energy savings & grants advice ; 30th Citizens rights for older people: In October; 7th H.I. Kent -hearing impairment advice; 14th Council tax benefits for the over 60's; 21st D.D.C. Composting / recycling advice; 28th Mencap - learning difficulties. Refreshments are available along with book and video hire. Please telephone 01303 245399 for further information.

PLAY SCHEME - Dover District Council has organised some summer holiday courses for voungsters. Preregistration is required and this can be done by filling in a form in their booklet, which can be obtained by phoning DDC on 821199. There is a charge of £2.55 per child per day of the playscheme (£1.25 if receiving Housing Benefit). In addition there are summer such as summer courses soccer (£9 per day or £40 per week), Pony Activity week and days (week £80 or per day £30) plus water sports and also There is cricket. Teenscheme, which runs for 5 weeks from the 26th of July and gives teenagers the chance to try out different sports such as bowling, water sports, clay pigeon shooting, skiing and many more. For booking and pricing ring Sue Andrews on 375559.

GARDENTALK

We decided to cancel our visit to "Hockley Sole" because the weather was so miserable but we are hoping for a bit of sunshine soon when we may be able to arrange another date. The August meeting will be on Tuesday 17th August 7.30pm at "Chalksole Cottage" the home of Geoff and Linda Gaskill.

(Susannah Tapsell)

BROADBAND - As most people know, the exchange at Whitfield has been upgraded to provide Broadband to Alkham. Unfortunately, there is only a range of 6Km, which means that it only extends to the Short Lane area. However, BT say they have an ongoing policy of upgrading the system and in August the signal should reach 6.5km so more houses will be able to get it. (editor)

CHAIRS – Many thanks to the Marquis of Granby for giving their pub chairs to the village hall. The existing wooden chairs have been in the hall since it opened in 1931 and these will now go into retirement.



MEMORIES OF ALKHAM ... continuing. When Vivienne Smith first started to work as a housemaid at Norton Farm on Slip Lane in 1946, she lived with the foreman's family. Work at the farm was hard as apart from the family of six, breakfast had to be made for Mick the cowman, his helper Joy (a landgirl) and some German prisoners of war. Vivienne's mother owned Valley Cottage (end of track at the bottom of Short Lane) which had no electricity or mains water. There was always something going on at the farm but what she remembers most was 'Farmer' the big bull. One night when the family was away she heard the most horrendous noise and clanking of chains and out of the window saw Farmer approaching dragging his chains and half of the back of the stall he had been in. Fortunately, the chain tangled and Farmer was eventually returned to a new stall. The father of the wife of the owner of Norton Farm was William Christopher Wordsworth, the son of the famous poet. When he retired from the Calcutta Times in the spring, he wandered to Alkham where a house had been built for him on the farm and this is now called Appletree Cottage.

ALKHAM VALLEY MEADOWS has applied for planning permission for a mobile office on the caravan site next to the Garden Centre.

FARMER'S MARKET Capel-le-Ferne Village Hall each Tuesday 10am to 1pm. Local produce Phone 01303 245399



W.I. - Thirty members of Alkham W.I met in the village hall at their last monthly meeting. Forty three members and friends have an outing on Tuesday 27th July to Bodiam Castle, Coach leaves Alkham at 9.15 and returns about 5pm. A trip to the Marlowe in November to see Brigadoon by the Herne Bay Operatic Society was arranged, several members were interested. The speaker should have been Mr B Hood and the subject "Ashes to Ashes". Unfortunately he was poorly so Debbie, who works for him, spoke instead. The title of the talk gives a clue, it was an undertakers. Debbie made it sound very interesting, humorous at times and sad at others. She explained what happened to you when you die and how they cope with bereaved relatives. She was thanked by Mandy Summers. Next month is an American Supper type meeting where members bring food and share. Tuesday August 10th at 7.30pm. (Cherry Leppard)

Christian Aid and St Lawrence Church

Open Day at New Church Farm Church Hougham

Saturday 7th August 10a.m. – 5.00 p.m. Refreshments – Stalls - Games Howard Cleaves and Valley the Alkham Society Many members of the Society will remember Howard Cleaves, who was Secretary of the Society when it was formed in 1977, and it is with regret that we hear of his death at the grand old age of 93. He was certainly in the late eighties, if not ninety, when he took part in the last Christmas Walk. What an achievement at that age. He played a tremendous part in the formation of the Society and an active and efficient was Secretary for many years. Howard was exceptionally informed on the subject of trees, taking interested parties around Kearsney Abbey to impart his knowledge. He also gave talks on the subject. Members of the Society offer their sincere condolences to the family in their bereavement. It is understood donations in his memory are to be sent to the Council for the Protection of Rural England, and we have accordingly carried out the family's wish

A REMARKABLE MAN died on 27th June and his life was celebrated at Temple Ewell church on 6th July. Howard Cleaves was born in 1910 and grew up in rural Monmouthshire in a large, happy extended family. The tiny woven coffin evoked tales of his forebear, John Crease, the last coracle fisherman on the River Usk. In graduated 1933 Howard in Mathematics and Education from Bangor University and began to teach. During the war he served in the Meteorological Office and the Royal Air Force. Howard moved in 1951 with his wife Josie and their two daughters to the Duke of York's Royal Military School at Dover, where he taught for the next Head quarter-century as of Mathematics. Generations of schoolboys knew him, whether at the blackboard or the cricket nets, as "Mr Chips". Howard's MSc was 1953 his awarded in for dissertation on "Stresses in aeolotropic circular discs". On retirement in 1975 he and Josie "The Gables" at moved to Kearsney Court. At that time, the

Alkham Valley and its parklands adiacent were landthreatened by clearances, road-building and housing, and Howard, aided enthusiastically by Josie, formidable became a secretary to the fledgling Valley Society. Alkham Howard's daughters describe him as "a man of insatiable curiosity who never ceased to learn from the world around him". Told that it was impossible to learn new languages at the age of 55, he taught himself Russian and went on to translate Russian aeronautical journals for the Pergamon press. He was a founder member of the Institute of Mathematics and Applications, and its contributed to a mathematics textbook still in use today. Howard also belonged to the University of the Third Age, lecturing on subjects as diverse as architecture, and Hebrew poetry the relationship between mathematics and music. In 1994 Josie died and Howard gained increasing comfort from the Church, singing in the Temple Ewell and River church choirs, and visiting the Methodist and Anglican lunch clubs each week. He also sang bass until April this year in Dover Choral Society and the Duke of York's Chorus. The privilege was mine of standing alongside Howard in both choruses and observing how he dealt with increasing deafness. After announcements. routine would Howard ask "Anything of importance?" to which my answer was usually "NO!" "I thought not!" would come the reply. A small boy, on hearing that Howard had died, asked "Will Howard's ears be working now?" to which, said Howard's daughters, the answer is surely "YES!" (Steve Osborn)

WHAT'S ON			
Regular events			
TUESDAY Art classes in VH 10 to 1 pm ring 01303 243115 for details			
WEDNESD	AY	Keep Fit 9.30 -10.30 am Wednesday club 10.30-11.30am	
THURSDAY Mobile Library Vicarage Meadow car park 9.25 - 9.50		Mobile Library Vicarage Meadow car park 9.25 - 9.50am	
FRIDAY		Whist Drive at 7.30 pm	
(VH= Vi		Other events fall and VM= Vicarage Meadow)	
Saturday	7	Bingo in VH – 7.30pm	
Tuesday	10	W.I. meeting in VH 7.30pm	
Saturday	14	Beekeepers in VH 8am to 5pm	
Monday	16	Dover & District Bird Club in village hall 7.30pm	
Tuesday	17	Garden Talk 7.30pm at Chalksole Cottage	
Sunday	29	Cricket versus Harrington Hackers starts midday, Vicarage Meadow	

weet wrost day	Alkham	Capel	Hougham
Sunday 1 st	Evensong 6.30 p.m.	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping together 11.00
Tuesday 3 rd	na TCASA		Healing Service 7.00 pm
Sunday 8 th	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping Together 11.00 a.m.	Songs of Praise West Hougham village hall 6.30pm
Sunday 15 th	Worshipping together 11.00 a.m.	Sung Evensong 6.30 p.m.	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.
Sunday 22 nd	Joint Benefice Sung Eucharist St Radigund, Capel 10.00 a.m.		
Sunday 29 th	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping together 11.00 a.m.	Evensong 6.30 p.m.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH – Since the flurry at the restart of the Neighbourhood Watch scheme things have been pretty

quiet. This in itself is a good thing as it hopefully shows that there are no pressing problems in Alkham. The scheme however is still active and if you encounter any problems, please do contact your local representative or give me a ring and I will pass the messages on. (editor 824969)

ALKHAM WEB – It was quite pleasing to meet a family from Spain who were walking around Alkham holding a copy of the map and walks, which are on the Alkham web site.

VILLAGE OF THE YEAR – We have received a letter from the organisers saying that we are going to get an invitation to the award ceremony at Harrietsham on the 7^{th} of September. This doesn't mean we have won the Environmental Category but it's an improvement as we didn't get an invitation to go last year.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS	Alkham Valley Society secretary Joanna Walker 821642	Vicar Kevin Mepham 01303 244119 Church Wardens Richard Tapsell
Gwyn Prosser M.P. 0207 2193704	Newsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969 e mail brianwimsett@hotmail.com	822295 and Grace Stacey 822756 W.I. Betty Neely 01303 251475
County Councillor , Bryan Cope 207976, work number 01795532547	Parish Clerk, Susan Lees 822661 susan@susanlees.freeserve.co.uk	Village Hall booking Rosemary Polden 824876
District Councillors Sue Nicholas 823956 Andrew Richardson 211835	Police -999 phone & 01303 850055Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130Alkham web siteCommunity Warden 07977 981994www.alkham.org	

LOCAL BUSINESSES & SERVICES

ACCOUNTANCY	John Garlinge Accountancy, taxation, book keeping services	Amonoan Sumar Machine
ALKHAM MEADOWS	Touring Caravan Park - Next to Garden Centre	Alkham Valley Road 206344
ARBORICULTURE	Alkham Valley Tree Surgery: Planning, planting, maintenance removal	Wolverton 824853 & 07973 501390
BED & BREAKFAST	Owler Lodge with Pat and Bill Owler	Alkham Valley Road 826375
BUILDING WORK	E R Woodruff carpentry and joinery, decorating, maintenance	Swanbourne, Wolverton 824991
CAT & DOG GROOMING	Canine beauticians, dogs and cats groomed, Newcastle House	Ewell Minnis 822902
CLEANING SERVICES	John Hoy domestic/commercial carpet and upholstery cleaning	Ewell Minnis 828007 & 07889310479
CURTAINS & BLINDS	Curtains and blinds made to your specification	Alkham Valley 01303 891806
ELECTRICAL	Simon Price electricians & computer installation, Megget Farm	South Alkham 01303 252764
ENVIRONMENTAL	J H Ullmann Environmental contractors, Malmains Farm	Alkham 202004 or 822888
EQUESTRIAN	Hogbrook Equestrian Centre Livery yard, instruction, hacking	Hogbrook Lane, Alkham 827644
EQUESTRIAN SUPPLIES	Alkham Valley Garden Centre - everything for horse and rider	South Alkham 01303 891996
GARDEN CENTRE	Alkham Valley Garden Centre with gift shop and horse supplies	South Alkham 01303 893351
KENNELS	Alkhamhurst Kennels dogs, cats & unusual boarded. All pet needs	Alkham Valley Rd, Wolverton 822420
LIVERY	Greenhill livery yard Do it yourself and grass liveries	Megget Lane, South Alkham 01303 892056
POST OFFICE	Southdown Stores general groceries, videos, fruit & veg, off licence	London rd, Temple Ewell 827100
SCHOOL	Capel-le-ferne school Your local primary school; free bus from Alkham	Capel Street, Capel-le-ferne 01303 251353

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

Alkham Valley For all your Garden gardening needs Centre and animal supplies Phone 01303 893351 **Alkham Court** Farmhouse Bed & Breakfast Meggett Lane, South Alkham ETC: 4 diamonds Peaceful location overlooking the Alkham Valley

Excellent facilities for family or business stays, short breaks, overnight and weddings. Web: www.alkhamcourt.co.uk Wendy Burrows Tel: 01303 892056

TWINNING – The proposed twinning of Alkham with Audreselles is definitely not proceeding. I've no intention of printing the content of the apparently rude letter from the Mayor of the French village as to why they are not proceeding, because if the interpretation was incorrect it could lead to a libel action. Parish Councillor, Geoffrey Lymer, is going to look for another village to twin with and it's highly unlikely that it will be in France. (editor)

30mph SIGNS – The 30mph repeater signs proposed for Slip Lane are not going to be installed because despite DDC giving a price for their supply, it would appear that if the Parish Council put them up, the Highway Authority would take them down as it's not in accordance with their signing policy. A recent national survey showed that a lot of drivers did not realise that Parish Council lighting at regulation spacing enforces the 30mph limit, so it's difficult to see why a small repeater sign would not be a good idea. (editor)

FOR RENT 2 Paddocks with stables and water supply available in Slip Lane, Alkham. For details, please contact Mr Hodges on 01304 852216.

No. 133 September 2004

RECYCLING - The next collection will be on Thursday 2nd of September. The amount being collected remains about the same but there are still items in the sacks, which Community Recycling will not take and we have to walk into the household waste site at Hawkinge. Most people have got it right but a few have missed points put in the flyer and Newsletter, so if you recycle please would you spread the word that the only plastics we take are those that contained drinks such as milk, soft drinks and squash. With regard to foil please make sure it is the type which you can bend i.e. not crisp packets etc. (editor)

TEEN SHELTER - Parish Councillor, Geoffrey Lymer, has produced a design for a teen shelter for youngsters in the village. He has got all the necessary materials and would like to get a work force together to build the structure and put in a couple of concrete plinths. If any youngsters or parents would like to help with this worthwhile project please contact the Parish Clerk, Sue Lees, on 822661.

CONGRATULATIONS to Alex Crane who lives with his parents, Christopher and Susan Harman in Newlyns Meadow, on achieving a BA (Hons) in Architecture from Brighton University.

GATSO GUNS – The Parish Council voted unanimously not to proceed with the proposal for six villagers to be trained to operate Gatso guns for use on the Alkham Valley Road. No reason was given for this decision at the Parish Council meeting but it was clear that the matter had been the subject of some discussion. (editor) Delivered free to all properties in the Parish

CONFIRMATION - Raye and I would like to thank everybody in the Parish and Benefice who helped in any way with, and supported me, in my recent Confirmation. The Service was not only personally very moving but. I have since learned that it had a similar effect on many others present. It was nice to have so many friends there. A special thank you must go to our vicar Kevin and to Pam Lawrence for the Healing Services recently conducted by them which were the path that led me to be confirmed. I would also like to thank the Rt. Rev. Stephen Venner, Bishop of Dover, for holding such a special service in our own parish Church. (Brian Luckhurst)

ABANDONED and untaxed cars To help DDC remove the above efficiently, contact Mrs Denise Axford on 01304 872286 or email them on abandoned.vehicles@dover.gov.uk

GP – A & E Departments are designed to treat critical or life threatening situations. From September 1st, GP's will no longer have to provide services between 6.30pm and 8.00am on weekdays or at weekends and public holidays. If you require urgent medical help at these times, not covered by A & E, ring **0844 800 1234** and they will deal with the situation.

THE HARVEST SUPPER will be held in the village hall on the 21^{st} of September, 7.00 for 7.30pm. Tickets cost £5 and can be obtained from Betty Neely by phoning 01303 251475.

EGGS – Jon and Julie Wood have recently moved into village and have a number of chickens whose freshly laid eggs are generally for sale at a cost of 80p for half a dozen. If you'd like to buy some and check availability please ring 821563.

DAVID HORNE Your LOCAL HANDYMAN For all your jobs no matter how small Gardening, Decorating, Rubbish Clearing etc. FAIR RATES FOR GOOD WORK Call 01304 203578 or 07984 886251

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1 Cliffe Road, Kingsdown, Deal Tel. 01304 381622 High Street, St. Margarets at Cliffe, Dover Tel. 01304 852960



HONEY SHOW - If you cast a regular eye over the information Brian provides on the back page of the magazine, doubtless you will have noticed that the Dover and District Beekeepers meets in the Village Hall during the winter months. The Association's connection with Alkham goes back a long way. Until recently our apiary was situated on the outskirts of the village and several of us still have hives secreted around the parish. Saturday 25th September is the highlight of our calendar: the Association's Annual Honey Show and Competition takes place in the hall between 2.30 and 5.30. Admission to the event is free and, as Show Secretary, I would like to extend a warm invitation to any of you who might wish to attend. A selection of the products of our and other associations' hives will be on display honeys of various sorts, of course, as well as wax, candles, mead and confectionery; refreshments will be available. We are always on the look-out for new members and more than willing to provide whatever support beginners need to get themselves established in a craft which is endlessly fascinating. The Show provides an opportunity to meet enthusiasts and, if your appetite is whetted, to make arrangements to visit our apiary at nearby Coldred. Alternatively, I'd welcome a call (01304-824584) from anyone who would care to visit my hives in Ewell Minnis. (Roy Dyche)

Artisan Nursery Garden Design

Urgently require staff at all levels from apprentices onwards.

Tel: 01303 221953 or 07763327548 for more info. ALKHAM

VALLEY

ROAD - As most people in the village will have seen, the Highway Authority have put high skid resistant chippings on the Alkham Valley Road at its eastern end and also on the double bend in the centre of the village. These locations have presumably been identified as areas where vehicles are likely to skid because of braking or cornering. A meeting is being held between the Highway Authority and Parish Councils on the 25th of August in the DDC offices at Whitfield to discuss what measures are going to be considered for improving the safety on the Alkham Valley Road. (editor)

A DAY AT THE RACES

It wasn't supposed to be but five cyclists steamed past Ken Hammond, his son Alan and me 20 miles from the finish and we had to follow. The ride was in aid of the Anthony Nolan Trust and started at Woodbridge in Suffolk and there was a choice of the 60 mile route, which the three of us did at an average speed of about 17mph, or the shorter 25 mile route which Billy Hollis, Mary and her sister rode, taking in two pubs for soft drinks and a ploughman's lunch plus a look round the gift shops in Snape. A great day was had by all and Billy for thanks to many providing the transport. We haven't sent the sponsor forms back yet so if anyone would like to add to the list please contact one of the entrants. (editor)

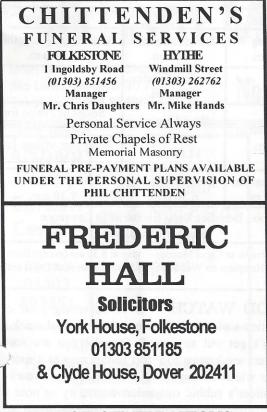
JULIE ROOK. Cabinet member of DDC, has been given the responsibility for anti social behaviour. CCTV. youth, enforcement and corporate community safety. She would welcome anv letters from parishioners, which bring her attention to any of these issues within the district. Please write to her at DDC, White Cliffs Business Park, Dover CT16 3PJ. MANY THANKS to the lady who lives to the west of the village who gave a donation to the Newsletter and also for her kind comments. (editor)

BROADBAND – Further to the article in last month's Newsletter it would appear as though Broadband may be available over a larger area than reported. According to a couple of reports on the Internet, following successful trials in Milton Keynes and in the Scottish Highlands, from September 6th 2004 BT is now confident that just about anyone DSL-enabled connected to a exchange should be able to get broadband. Although they are confident about the extended reach of ADSL, BT also expects that one in five people living beyond the former 6Km limit will need a visit by a BT engineer to make sure the service can work. BT won't charge for the visit, but it accepts that, in a "small number of cases" it still may not be possible to provide a reliable broadband service. (on the internet S http://www.theregister.co.uk/2004/087 18/bt extended adsl/ and also news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/technology/3575 964.stm)

GARDENTALK - A really lovely evening was spent at Geoff and Linda's "Chalksole Cottage". We very much enjoyed sharing the delightful design and success of the vegetable garden, the well ordered herb garden and the beautiful flower garden with its views across the valley. New faces were welcomed and a jolly time was had by all.. The next time we meet will be on Friday 8th October 7 30pm at John and Rosemary's "Brook House" Meggett Lane. (Susannah Tapsell)

FARMER'S MARKET Capel-le-Ferne Village Hall each Tuesday 10am to 1pm. Local produce Phone 01303 245399

GARAGE SALE SAFARI on Sunday 5th September from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Capel-le-Ferne. Buy your 'map' for 50p from the Village Hall in Lancaster Avenue to find all the garage sales (at least 45 booked) in the village. Refreshments will be available at the village hall. Please telephone 01303 245399 for further information



HARVEST CELEBRATIONS at St. Anthony's. The Harvest Service will held at 11.00am on Sunday 19th September and again there will be a wedding held on the previous day, so decoration of the Church in Harvest mode will take place on the Sunday morning from 10.15am. If you would like to contribute traditional harvest gifts of fruit and vegetables we would most grateful if you would bring them to the Church at that time. If, sadly, you are unable to attend the service but are going to the Harvest Supper on Tues. 21st perhaps you would take them with you for the Harvest charity auction. We would like to thank all those who worked so hard in cutting and clearing the grass in the Churchyard during July. (Richard and Grace -**Church Wardens**)

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OZ on LORDS WARDEN - The Queen's approval of the appointment of Admiral the Lord Boyce as Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports has been welcomed as an uncontroversial decision. The Cinque Ports, formed around 1050 and granted a Royal Charter in 1155, maintained ships to be commandeered by the Crown in wartime. In return Portsmen could "soc and sac, tol and team, bloowit and fledwit, pillory tumbril infangentheof, outfangentheof, mundbryce waives and strays, flotsam and jetsam and ligan", ie do just as they wished around the south-east coast. The post of Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports was created to control these activities and was combined later with the office of Constable of Dover Castle to assert the authority of the Crown. The first Lord Warden, in 1226, was William d'Averanch, followed by a succession of French barons for the next 200 years. Two Prince Henrys, (later Kings Henry V and VIII), became Lords Warden, in 1409 and 1493 respectively. Over the years, Lords Warden have reflected their times, so that after French barons and English princes came Victorian soldiers, statesmen and industrialists. The most famous of these was the Duke of Wellington, who occupied the post from 1829 until his death in 1852, but that century also saw the post occupied by William Pitt, Lord Palmerston and, in 1891, by Mr W H Smith, the famous newsagent. Recently the office was given, in recognition of services to the nation and the Commonwealth, to Sir Winston Churchill, Sir Robert Menzies, and Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, the only woman to hold the office, from 1979 until her death in 2002. The appointment of Admiral Boyce, a political crossbencher, seems a wise choice when the media are hungry for tales of rifts between No 10 and the Palace. (Steve Osborn)

The W.I meeting held in August was member's night so we had no speaker. Every member who came brought a plate of food which was laid on a table so we could help ourselves. With a glass or two of wine, it was most enjoyable. There was a little bit of entertainment by the members. The idea was, with a couple of props the rest of us had to guess who they were. Example was Marylyn Monroe and the Beverly Sisters. The outing to see "Brigadoon" at the Marlowe was arranged, 17 members were going on Thursday 11th November. The other outing to see the "Des & Mel" show in London was finalised. This would take place on Tuesday 16th November. A coach would leave Alkham at 9.30am to be at the studio by 12.15. The live show starts at 1pm to 2pm. There will be time then to eat or do a bit of shopping in London. Coach to leave at 6pm. The only cost will be the coach fare. Jumble sale in on Saturday 11th the hall September for W.I funds. Time 11am. There will be no monthly walk in August. Next months meeting in September is Sarah Turner and her subject is "Tai Chi". (Cherry Leppard)

THE QUEEN'S AWARD

for Voluntary Service. To celebrate her Golden Jubilee in 2002, The Queen announced a new annual Award to recognise outstanding voluntary activities by groups in the community. local Nominate your unsung heroes! Give them the recognition they deserve! For information and a nomination form visit www.queensawardvoluntary.gov.uk emailgjaward@homeoffice. gsi.gov.uk or call 0845 000 2002 (A group (two or more people) can be nominated if it has been working in the United Kingdom, Channel Islands or Isle of Man, normally for a minimum of three years, and the majority of volunteers. members are its Groups solely concerned with fundraising for charitable purposes are not eligible). (Parish Council) A JUMBLE SALE will be held in the village hall on Saturday 11th of September in aid of W.I funds.

MARQUIS OF GRANBY Wednesday Night Carvery £9.95 (eat as much as you like) Thursday Night Steak Night Special 16oz rib-eye £8.45 Sunday Lunch Carvery £7.95 Please book early 822945

WHAT'S ON			
Regular events			
TUESDA	Y	Art classes in VH 10 to 1 pm ring 01303 243115 for details	
WEDNESD	AY	Keep Fit 9.30 -10.30 am Wednesday club 10.30-11.30am	
THURSD	AY	Mobile Library Vicarage Meadow car park 9.25 - 9.50am	
FRIDA	Y	Whist Drive at 7.30 pm	
		Hall and VM= Vicarage Meadow)	
Saturday Sunday	5	Bingo in VH – 7.30pm Cricket v Courtstairs VM 1.30pm	
Monday	6	Parish Council meeting in village hall 7.30pm	
Saturday	11	W.I. jumble sale VH 11.00am	
Sunday	12	Cricket v Griffin's Head VM 1pm	
Tuesday	14	W.I. meeting in VH 7.30pm	
Monday	20	Dover & District Bird Club in village hall 7.30pm	
Tuesday	21	Harvest Supper see page 1	
Saturday	25	Beekeepers Honey Show see P2	

Ashs him	Alkham	Capel	Hougham
Sunday	Evensong	Sung Eucharist	Worshipping together 11.00 a.m.
5 th	6.30 p.m.	9.30 a.m.	
Tuesday	na ^{l o} logan an	Healing Service	erstatust, ustanus
7 th		7.00 p.m.	La intenti
Sunday 12 th	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping together 11.00 a.m.	Songs of Praise for Harvest West Hougham village hall 6.30 p.m.
Sunday	Harvest Festival	Sung Evensong	Sung Eucharist
19 th	11.00 a.m.	6.30 p.m.	9.30 a.m.
Sunday 26 th	Joint Ber	nefice Sung Euchar Hougham 10.00	

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH - If on reversing your car from a car park, you notice a piece of paper or other material stuck to your rear window, don't get out to remove it until you are some distance away. Car Jackers are known to resort to this ruse as a mea of jumping into your car whilst the engine is running. Also if you see any vehicle carrying builder's rubble or garden waste, try to note its registration number, the make and colour of the vehicle, when and where you saw it and the direction in which it was travelling. Report

this to the Country Eye office (01304 215130) who intend to set up a database. Kent Trading Standards have received complaints concerning companies who leaflet drop inviting the public to donate unwanted clothes which are then collected door to door. Some of these companies are commercial organisations and not charities. Trading Standards would appreciate information relating to future collections in Kent particularly with regard to the company concerned, the area, the goods and collection date. Ring them on 0845 7585497 or email tsadvice@kent.gov.uk

Thursday at 9.15 am

TELEDUONE NUMBEDS	Police – 999 phone & 01303 850055	Village Hall booking Rosemary Polden 824876	
TELEPHONE NUMBERS	Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130 Community Warden 07977 981994	Alkham Valley Society secretary	
C	GP out of hours to access urgent	Joanna Walker 821641	
Gwyn Prosser M.P. 01304 214484	medical help 0844 800 1234	W.I. Betty Neely 01303 251475	
County Councillor, Bryan Cope 207976, work number 01795532547	Newsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969 e mail brianwimsett@hotmail.com	Vicar Kevin Mepham 01303 244119 Church Wardens - Richard Tapsell	
District Councillors	Parish Clerk, Susan Lees 822661	822295 and Grace Stacey 822756	
Sue Nicholas 823956 Andrew Richardson 211835	susan@susanlees.freeserve.co.uk	Alkham web site www.alkham.org	

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

Alkham Valley Garden Centre

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Alkham Court Farmhouse Bed & Breakfast Meggett Lane, South Alkham ETC: 4 diamonds

Peaceful location overlooking the Alkham Valley

Excellent facilities for family or business stays, short breaks, overnight and weddings. Web: www.alkhamcourt.co.uk Wendy Burrows Tel: 01303 892056

VILLAGE OF THE YEAR Alkham entered the Environmental Section of this competition and were commended, which is disappointing as this is a fourth place spot. It was hoped we would do better because of Alkham Recycling but the feeling was, that when the judges came to Alkham, they weren't particularly interested in the project. It was noted that the winner had a crested newt. (editor)

BURGALRY – On the 7th of September a house in Slip Lane was broken into and some money stolen. The police reacted swiftly to the 999 call, as did the Incident Officer, but were unable to locate the intruder. Evidently a house in Lydden had also been recently broken into, so it would appear that burglars may be operating in this area.

TREE WARDEN – Peter Davis, who runs the Alkham Valley Tree Surgery, has kindly agreed to be Tree Warden for Alkham to give advice, initiate projects and to protect trees. To contact him please see entry under 'Local Businesses' on the back page.

No. 134 October 2004

ALKHAM VALLEY ROAD The speed of traffic along the has recently valley been monitored by cables across the road. The results have been analysed and the top 15% of fast drivers discounted, as any speed restrictions are highly unlikely to have any effect on this group. The results, called the 85th showed that percentile. the average speeds along the Valley Road were around 50 mph and for this reason a speed limit of 50mph is a feasible option and may eventually be imposed. The Parish Council Chairman, Neil Burrows, also suggested to the DDC working group that a 40mph limit should be imposed between South Alkham and Alkham. High skid resistant surfacing was proposed on the Valley Road at the Wolverton Hill and Meggett Lane junctions. Further meetings will take place with regard to speed restrictions and safety measures. (editor)

TRAFFIC - Before the new A20 dual carriageway was opened in December 1993 there were approximately 7000 vehicles a day using the Alkham Valley Road and with the opening this dropped to around 5000vpd. The latest traffic count has shown that the traffic has risen to 6000vpd, this being about a 2% annual increase in traffic. (editor)

BUFFET 82 SUPPER. DANCE in Alkham Village Hall on Saturday 23rd of October from 7.30pm to 11.30pm. There will be live music by Toucan and tickets, available from Betty Neely on 01303 251475, cost £8 inclusive of food but bring your own drinks. Proceeds will go to the Kent Air Ambulance Service.

Delivered free to all properties in the Parish

ALKHAM RECYCLING - The next collection will take place on Thursday the 7th of October.

ALKHAM CYCLING – The annual church bike ride took place on the 11^{th} of September and Ken Hammond rode for the Benefice, with monies raised going to St. Anthony's. He covered 67 miles and visited 76 churches and in the process raised £166.

AN EXHIBITION of work by the members of the Alkham Art Workshop is to be held in the village hall on Saturday the 30^{th} of October between 5.30pm and 10.00pm. Admission is £2.00, which is inclusive of refreshments.

Artisan Nursery Garden Design

Urgently require staff at all levels from apprentices onwards.

Tel: 01303 221953 or 07763327548 for more info.

A FETE COMMITTEE meeting will be held on the 13th of October at 8.00pm in the village hall to discuss the fete and also to decide how the profits should be distributed.

MEADOW TIDY UP – On the 16th of October a working party is needed to clear up the Vicarage Meadow and also to give the cricket pavilion a coat of preservative. Work will start at about 10.00am and take a couple of hours followed (almost certain) by a barbecue and a few free pints. Please ring Paul Tapsell on 01303 892082 a couple of days before to check what tools to bring (weather dependent).

MARQUIS OF GRANBY Wednesday Night Carvery £9.95 (eat as much as you like) Thursday Night Steak Night Special 16oz rib-eye £8.45 Sunday Lunch Carvery £7.95 Please book early 822945

MARSHALL & CLARKE PROPERTY AGENTS AND VALUERS



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1 Cliffe Road, Kingsdown, Deal Tel. 01304 381622 High Street, St. Margarets at Cliffe, Dover Tel. 01304 852960



ROAD SIGNS - I am writing to express my view on the subject of road signs which happen to match the expressed sentiments newspaper in articles (available). I note that it is suggested that 30mph signs should be erected in Slip lane and I object on the basis that more signs are a form of litter and it is stupid to encourage drivers to do 30mph when that is too fast for most of Slip Lane anyway. Further it could be argued that the Road Narrows signs should be taken away as, if a driver has not already discovered that fact by the time they get to them, they should not be allowed on the road. Legal road signs can be troublesome enough but there are also numerous illegal signs. For example somebody has put a notice on a pole opposite Bushey Ruff encouraging road safety and this could be a hazard in itself as anything distracting can be a danger. I still think that it should be made much clearer that drivers are entering a village by one of several means used in this country and elsewhere in the world. What you do about the drivers who travel at 40mph along the valley and then continue at the same speed into the village I do not know. (Barry Sheppard - sent to the Parish Council with a copy to the Newsletter. The letter has been edited)

SAMARITANS - In 1953 a 14 year old girl tragically took her own life. She, like thousands of others, felt that life was just too difficult to carry on. For this reason, Chad Varah formed the Samaritans which now operates 24 hours every day, 365 days per year, to offer confidential, emotional support to those people who are experiencing problems in their lives. Samaritans need people just like you. Could you listen to and support someone who felt they were going through The local Folkestone a crisis? branch is keen to welcome new volunteers. If you feel you can spare time each month, at hours to suit you, please phone 01303 266353 to obtain more details and information about our next selection day.

FARMER'S MARKET Capel-le-Ferne Village Hall each Tuesday 10am to 1pm. Local produce Phone 01303 245399

FARMERS' HARVEST MARKET on Tuesday, October 5th from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Capel-le--Ferne Village Hall. Marshmellow Bakeries will be making a Wheat-sheaf Loaf, and Goodchilds, a special Harvest Cake; E. F. End will be providing pumpkins. There will also be the usual variety of stalls such as meat, eggs, dairy, cheese. bread. cakes, sweets. herbs & spices, olives & specialities, preserves, apple & pear juice, fruit, vegetables, plants and cut flowers, and craft stalls.

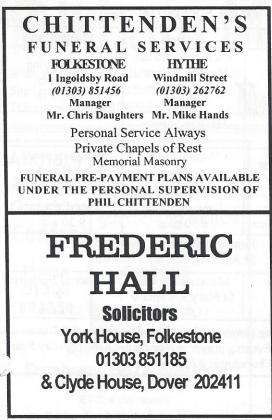
FENCING – DDC said they are disappointed by the fencing put round the dyke by the village hall and are going to speak to the people who put it up. The main problems are that it doesn't cover a large enough area and the netting goes to the base of the ditch such that it will probably form a dam when the dyke is in flood.

FOLKESTONE

CAMERA CLUB - The club has just started its new season and if you are interested in photography, be it film or digital, we are sure to have something to interest you. It is a fun and also rewarding hobby, which is often even better when sharing it with friends. Our season usually consists of lectures. inter-club friendly competitions, battles with other clubs, audio visuals, travelogues, workshops and monthly even outings. Meetings are held at the United Reformed Church Community Hall, Hill Avenue. Castle Folkestone, every Monday commencing at 7.45pm and new members are always welcome. If you are interested in joining, please, ring Jenny Barraclough on 01303 245399 or email: jenny-bar@btconnect.com for further information or visit our website www.folkestonecameraclub. co.uk. The next selection day will take place 10th October.

THE AGM of the Alkham Valley Society will be held in the village hall on 25th Thursday the of November at 7.30pm. There will be dinner afterwards in the restaurant of the Marquis of Granby - A' la carte menu. This is an early notice since people get busy before Christmas. It would suit the Marquis if we could give them some idea of numbers. Please call the Secretary now on 821641.

DAVID HORNE LOCAL HANDYMAN For all your jobs no matter how small Gardening, Decorating, Rubbish Clearing etc. FAIR RATES FOR GOOD WORK Call 01304 203578 or 07984 886251



NEWS FROM ST. ANTHONY'S I recently had to complete a form for a hospital in London, and I had to inform them which denomination or religion I believed in. The nurse said, it didn't really matter unless things took a turn for the worse and I needed the last rites. Well it cheered me up no end! She went on to say that most people put down C.of E. rather as an insurance just in case. Most of them only go to a Church for a family celebration, (and even then wait outside the door till the last minute). Why are we so slow at coming into God's house now when at the time of our death? We will jump at the chance of eternal life? Alkham Hougham and Capel Churches are here to serve all the people of the Benefice. At the end of October we shall be holding Memorial services in the Churches to remember our loved ones who have gone on to eternal life. If you would like us to remember family or friends, please let us know their names. Or better still why not come along to one of the services on 31st October, where we shall be remembering all who have touched our lives in a special way. You may not have considered your own preparation for eternal life, but most of us do not get advance warning, and not everyone has been a Guide and learnt to 'be prepared'. We are always willing to share our understanding of eternal life with enquirers. (Kevin Mepham)

OZ on WASPS - One wet and windy day in June my wife was stung by dozens of angry wasps after she accidentally broke their nest buried deep in a tub of evergreens. In spite of double doses of antibiotics and antihistamine the pains lasted for weeks. The wasp man explained that we had created ideal conditions for a nest by lining the tub with polystyrene before filling and planting. He also explained that the wasp population was high this summer because of the preceding hard winter. It seems that some queen wasps awaken and venture out during winter warm spells, only to die when the cold suddenly returns. Last winter the queens stayed asleep until spring, resulting in offspring being up by some 80% this summer. My wife's pains were just beginning to recede when, one hot July day, an ominous buzzing started from an air-brick behind books in the study. "Just right for wasps", said the wasp man as he climbed the ladder, "they've probably chewed your books to make the nest", adding gleefully that he'd been called out to many of our friends, ranging from three doors away to Ringwould. A week later, he felt so sorry for us when we found a third nest in a compost bin, yet another "perfect environment for wasps", that he charged only a small call-out fee. That great naturalist, Rev Gilbert White, paid boys to catch queen wasps with hazel twigs tipped with bird-lime. He too noticed the yearly fluctuations in the wasp population: "In 1781 we had none; in 1783 there were myriads", which "destroy all the finer fruits just as they are coming into perfection." Our apples were finally destroyed last month when holed by "golf-ball" hailstones, letting in hungry wasps that had survived the summer purges. (Steve Osborn)

ALL SOULS MEMORIAL SERVICES - On Sunday 31st October we will be holding memorial services for the departed, as follows: St Anthony's, Alkham 6.30 p.m.: St Mary (old Capel-le-Ferne church), 11.00 a.m.: St Lawrence, Hougham 9.30 a.m. (Memorial Eucharist). If you have a loved one you would like remembered by name on that day please will you pass it to any of the following: Revd Vicar: Kevin Mepham, 01303 244119 Reader: Mr Tony 252959: Elcombe. 01303 Pastoral Assistant: Miss Pamela Lawrence, 01304 241339: Churchwardens: St Anthony's, Alkham: Mrs Grace Stacey, 01304 Richard 822756: Mr Tapsell, 01304 822295: St Mary, Capel-le-Ferne, Mrs Christine Elcombe, 01303 252959: Mr Dick Salmon, 01303 251502: St Lawrence, Hougham: Mrs Rachel Hogben, 01304 210594: Mrs Mary Pressnell, 01304 202346.

This meeting saw very few members 'sitting out' the 8 vast majority joined in the elegant "Tai Chi" exercises led by Sarah. Exercises designed to take the stress out of life and improve health in all age groups. The rest of the evening was taken up making arrangements for outings - The Des & Mel Show either 16th or 17th November (Cherry Leppard 01303 255114); and a Christmas Shopping Trip to France via the shuttle 4th December, £21 (Doreen Lott 01304 824876). The Jumble Sale made £127 profit. Susannah Tapsell was pleased to report that a home was found for the gigantic toy dinosaur, which no one seemed to be interested in at the Jumble Sale. A little boy spied it when the unsold items were being dumped and was overjoyed when he was given it to take home with him. (Sue Lees)

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WHAT'S ON Regular events			CHURCH SERVICES			
			s ho sets and	Alkham	Capel	Hougham
TUESDAYArt classes in VH 10 to 1 pm ring 01303 243115 for detailsKeep Fit 9.30 -10.30 am		Sunday 3 rd	Evensong 6.30 p.m.	Eucharist 8.00 am Harvest Festival Family Service	Worshipping Together 11.00 a.m.	
WEDNESD		Wednesday club 10.30-11.30am Mobile Library Vicarage	Tuesday 5 th	n asiantaasa kaal minatamee si kapa	9.30 a.m. Healing Service	
THURSDAYMobile Library viewage Meadow car park 9.25 - 9.50amFRIDAYWhist Drive at 7.30 pm		Sunday 10 th	Sung Eucharist	7.00 p.m. Worshipping together	Songs of praise West Hougham	
Other events (VH= Village Hall and VM= Vicarage Meadow)		Sunday 17 th	9.30 a.m. Worshipping together 11.00am	11.00 a.m. Sung evensong 6.30 p.m.	village hall 6.30pm Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	
Saturday Friday	lay 8 Garden Talk at Brook House 7.30pm		Sunday 24 th		int Benefice Sung Eucl Anthony, Alkham 10.0	
Tuesday Wednesday	12 13	W.I. meeting in VH 7.30pm Fete meeting see page 1	Sunday 31 st	Memorial Service �	Memorial service St Mary's, Capel &	Memorial Eucharist 답
Saturday	16	PCC Jumble Sale in VH 11.00am	densydne († 1	6.30 p.m.	11.00 a.m.	9.30 a.m.
Saturday Saturday	23 30	Buffet dance – see page 1 Art exhibition – see page 1	(except Bank Holidays); Evening prayer at Hougham on Wednesda			

LIGHTING – The Parish Council asked DDC if they would install a light near the road end of the football pitch, to light the pitch and the proposed teen shelter. The cost of the light is about £300 but the connection would be £2000 as the box has to be above flood level and therefore DDC has reluctantly refused the request.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS	Police – 999 phone & 01303 850055 Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130 Community Warden 07977 981994	Village Hall booking Rosemary Polden 824876 Alkham Valley Society secretary
Gwyn Prosser M.P. 01304 214484	GP out of hours to access urgent medical help 0844 800 1234	Joanna Walker 821641 W.I. Betty Neely 01303 251475
County Councillor, Bryan Cope 207976, work number 01795532547	Newsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969 e mail brianwimsett@hotmail.com	Vicar Kevin Mepham 01303 244119 Church Wardens - Richard Tapsell
District Councillors Sue Nicholas 823956 Andrew Richardson 211835	Parish Clerk, Susan Lees 822661 susan@susanlees.freeserve.co.uk	822295 and Grace Stacey 822756 Alkham web site www.alkham.org

LOCAL BUSINESSES & SERVICES

ACCOUNTANCY	John Garlinge Accountancy, taxation, book keeping services	St. Margaret's 852252
ALKHAM MEADOWS	Touring Caravan Park – Next to Garden Centre	Alkham Valley Road 206344
ARBORICULTURE	Alkham Valley Tree Surgery: Planning, planting, maintenance removal	Wolverton 824853 & 07973 501390
BUILDING WORK	E R Woodruff carpentry and joinery, decorating, maintenance	Swanbourne, Wolverton 824991
CAT & DOG GROOMING	Canine beauticians, dogs and cats groomed, Newcastle House	Ewell Minnis 822902
CLEANING SERVICES	John Hoy domestic/commercial carpet and upholstery cleaning	Ewell Minnis 828007 & 07889310479
CURTAINS & BLINDS	Curtains and blinds made to your specification	Alkham Valley 01303 891806
ELECTRICAL	Simon Price electricians & computer installation, Megget Farm	South Alkham 01303 252764
ENVIRONMENTAL	J H Ullmann Environmental contractors, Malmains Farm	Alkham 202004 or 822888
EQUESTRIAN	Hogbrook Equestrian Centre Livery yard, instruction, hacking	Hogbrook Lane, Alkham 827644
EQUESTRIAN SUPPLIES	Alkham Valley Garden Centre - everything for horse and rider	South Alkham 01303 891996
GARDEN CENTRE	Alkham Valley Garden Centre with gift shop and horse supplies	South Alkham 01303 893351
KENNELS	Alkhamhurst Kennels dogs, cats & unusual boarded. All pet needs	Alkham Valley Rd, Wolverton 822420
LIVERY	Greenhill livery yard Do it yourself and grass liveries	Megget Lane, South Alkham 01303 892056
POST OFFICE	Southdown Stores groceries, videos, fruit/veg, off licence, fresh bread/milk	London rd, Temple Ewell 827100
SCHOOL	Capel-le-ferne school Your local primary school; free bus from Alkham	Capel Street, Capel-le-ferne 01303 251353

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



Excellent facilities for family or business stays, short breaks, overnight and weddings. Web: www.alkhamcourt.co.uk Wendy Burrows Tel: 01303 892056

ILLEGAL DUMPING - If you are aware of any locations in your parish which are regularly used for the illegal dumping of rubbish, would you please contact P.C. Foster on 01304 218130. South East Kent Police, together with DDC and KCC will be mounting joint operations to combat this nuisance which, in some instances, is highly involves known and organised criminals. Details of any vehicles which you spot transporting rubbish would also be welcome.

COUNCIL TAX - The Kent Benefits Partnership was set up specifically to help the over 60's take up their entitlement to Council Tax Benefit. They are trying to target those people who own their own homes, have moderate savings of less than £16,000 and who up until now have thought themselves ineligible to claim Council Tax Benefit. To increase the uptake of this benefit, they are arranging outreach surgeries to give help with filling in the claim forms, so if you are interested please phone the Parish Clerk on 822661.

No. 135 November 2004

RECYCLING -The next collection will be on Thursday November 4th. There has been about DDC some publicity supplying houses in the Dover area with black boxes in which to put paper, glass bottles and cans. The Parish Clerk contacted DDC and they said that Alkham wasn't included and it may be a while before we are. The reason isn't clear but the boxes would be welcome as they take glass bottles which we don't.

A CHRISTMAS BAZAAR in aid of the church will be held in the village hall on the 20th November starting at 10.30am.

"DES & MEL" – The W.I. have arranged to go to the show on Tuesday 16th November and have some spare tickets. Please see 'W.I.' on page 3 for details.

MARQUIS OF GRANBY Wednesday Night Carvery £9.95 (eat as much as you like) Thursday Night Steak Night Special 16oz rib-eye £8.45 Sunday Lunch Carvery £7.95 Please book early 822945

SUSAN LEES WANTS! I am not really being nosey but I any and do need to see deeds everybody's to their property in the Parish, but only if the deeds go back to before the 1950's. I can hear you say "who does she think she is?" the reason is history. Sadly, old title deeds are no longer needed and too may have been binned. As a fanatic on Alkham's past I like to keep a record of who lived where and work out when a property was built. I do stress that I do not want to keep the deeds for myself; I just need the information contained in them. PLEASE phone me on 822661 if you have any knowledge of the history of your house/farm.

Delivered free to all properties in the Parish

RON DRYDEN – It is sad to report the death of Ron Dryden at the age of 68. Ron was born in Kendal and served in the RAF for 27 years before moving to Alkham. He was a leading business man in Dover being the manager of the Charlton Centre. Each year he laid the wreath at the War Memorial in St. Anthony's churchyard on Armistice Day and his presence will be greatly missed.

OPEN EVENING at the Alkham Valley Garden Centre on Friday the 26th of November from 6.00pm to 9.00ish. There will be 10% off everything and there will also be Father Christmas, carol singers, mulled wine, mince pies etc.

BENEFICE BARN DANCE Many thanks to everyone who supported the Barn Dance. A good time was had by all and a profit of £450 was made, which has been divided between the parishes for their church funds. (Anne Huggins)

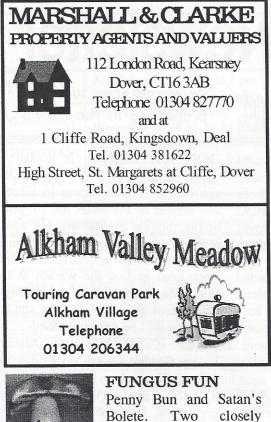
ALKHAM VALLEY SOCIETY Please note, those who would like to AGM and supper attend the afterwards that the supper will now be at The Fox, Temple Ewell and they require one weeks' notice (not 24 hours). We hope this does not put any plans out; lifts will be given to those who would like a lift. These can be arranged at the meeting. Hope to see you 25th November, Alkham Village Hall at 7.30 pm. (J Walker) SUNDAY REMEMBRANCE

service will be held in St Anthony's Church on the 14th of November starting at 10.15am then progressing to the War Memorial by 11.00am for the two minutes silence.

Artisan Nursery Garden Design

Urgently require staff at all levels from apprentices onwards.

Tel: 01303 221953 or 07763327548 for more info.



related members of the boletus family of fungi easily identified by their pores instead of gills on the underside of the cap. But as you can guess, this is a Jeckyll and Hyde combination. The former being the delicious woodland mushroom known as 'cep' in French and'porcini' in Italian and selling for twenty pounds or more a kilo; while the latter is its red coloured poisonous relative. Stimulated by the autumn rains and warmth, they rise mysteriously from the forest floor But what we see are the fruiting bodies, whose sole purpose in their short life is to ensure the dispersal of spores. The majority of the fungus lies hidden beneath the ground in the form of threadlike mycelium. We are becoming more at ease with collecting wild mushrooms, a practice embedded in continental cultures where you can even take your unknown species to the local pharmacy for identification. And what could be more pleasant than a stroll through the woods with a basket to collect your fungal booty, identifying them afterwards with a good like Roger Phillips' book 'Mushrooms'. Fungi are very specific in their environment. For instance in my experience ceps prefer clearings in beech or oak woods with a deep leaf litter on the ground. Why not try a walk in the locality -who knows, you might meet that nice Dr Jeckyll. (Geoff Gaskill)

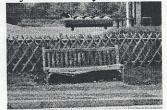
HARVEST SUPPER - On the 21st September our annual Harvest Supper & Auction was again held in the village hall and a wonderful evening was had by all. I thought next year we might invite the famous Jamie Oliver to see what great value for money one gets with such a wonderful meal and drinks. One of his latest creations in the Mail Newspaper on 23rd Sept was beans on toast dressed over all for £8, and a glass of wine costing £6, compared to our Gourmet meal for £5. The night was most enjoyable with great village rivalry on the bidding at auction. I have strict the instructions, when unaccompanied by my better half, to obtain a jar Barbara Mrs Palmer's of marmalade whatever the cost. Many thanks to Paul Tapsell and also to all the hard workers behind the scenes and the donators of produce for both the Dinner and auction. I asked a friend (Mr D Dyer) to pen an Ode to the Lady whose goods bring the highest bids. "This lady's fare is known far and wide indeed throughout our countryside/ Every year goods are brought in for our auction to sell after our supper and they always go well/ When the bidding starts and the stakes are raised it's this lady's produce that is likely to be praised/ Whether cakes, buns or jars of jam the bidding is brisk. When you know it's made by Barbara Palmer it's an opportunity not to be missed." In the words of the old song 'here's to the next time.' (Mrs Edith Neve, Ewell Minnis).

WATER – Southern Water gives approximately £18 per annum reduction on your water bill if your roof drainage goes to a soakaway or stream and not to a public sewer. The contact number is on the water bill.

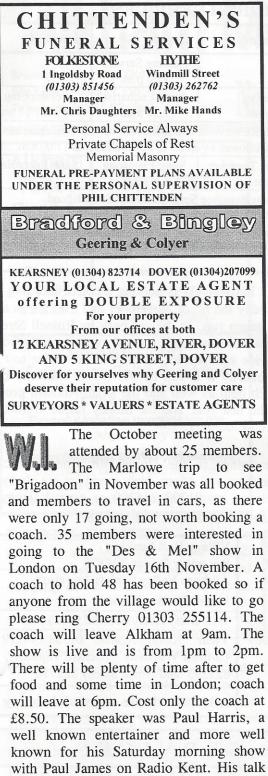
DAVID HORNE LOCAL HANDYMAN For all your jobs no matter how small Gardening, Decorating, Rubbish Clearing etc. FAIR RATES FOR GOOD WORK Call 01304 203578 or 07984 886251 SPIDER Barbara -Heritage found a spider with a large orange body and ringed legs in her garden off Meggett Lane and thought it was a dog rose hip until it moved. She contacted the Arachnological British Society and the Secretary, Ian Dawson, replied saying that he suspected that it was one of our large orbweavers which are mature in autumn and either Araneus diadematus. the Garden Spider, which has a broken white cross on its back, or Araneus quadrafrus, which is our heaviest spider, and spherical has a more abdomen with four white spots on its back. Colour is often variable in spiders and is not always helpful in identification. Both species display a wide range of colours from pale beige through yellow, orange, red, brown and even green, Both are certainly black. large spiders and have ringed legs, and both are widespread with the former the commoner of the two. Neither poses any cause for concern.

FARMER'S MARKET Capel-le-Ferne Village Hall each Tuesday 10am to 1pm Local produce Phone 01303 245399

SEAT – The wooden seat adjacent to the Alkham Valley Road by Vicarage Meadow has been wrecked by vandals. The police were informed and visited the site and are keen for any information. Please phone the Parish Clerk on 822661 if you have any information.



before final destruction



with Paul James on Radio Kent. His talk was Variety acts through the ages and was an excellent speaker making us roar with laughter. Some of the speciality acts through the 17th and 18th century were bizarre from swallowing metal to fireeating. He was thanked by Helen Price. Next month is the A.G.M where there will be a ballot for the committee. (Cherry Leppard)

DOVER CHORAL SOCIETY will present a performance of Mendelssohn's *Elijah* at 7.30 pm on Saturday 20th November in Dover Town Hall. Composed in the summer

OZ on LADYBIRDS - Early in October came news that British ladybirds are threatened by greedy foreign cousins. Harmonia axyridis, known as the Harlequin Ladybird or Multicoloured Ladybug, was discovered late in September in a pub garden in Sible Hedingham, Essex. Within a week, more Harlequins had been found in Battersea, Canterbury and Sandgate. "This is without doubt the ladybird I have least wanted to see here," said Britain's leading ladybird expert, Dr Michael Majerus from Cambridge University. Since being introduced from their native Asia into North America 25 years ago to control aphids, Harlequins have become pests in the US, thriving particularly well during the last 10 years of warm winters, and are still sold in continental Europe by biocontrol companies. Dr Majerus says that "the Harlequin will outcompete most of Britain's 45 ladybird species for their principal food, aphids, and when it has eaten all the aphids it will go on to eat other insects such as hoverflies, lacewings and butterflies, their eggs and their larvae." For centuries now we've relied on ladybirds for aphid control. In mediaeval times our own Coccinella 7-punctata was named The 7-Spot Ladybird, deriving from 'beetle of our Lady', a reference to The Virgin Mary, in gratitude at the ladybird feeding on greenfly. The red body was said to represent Mary's cloak, and the seven black spots to represent her Seven Joys and Seven Sorrows. In contrast the adult Harlequin found in Essex was black with two large and two small red spots. But ladybirds come in a range of colours and patterns, and Dr Majerus, warning against indiscriminate killing, says "If you think you've found one, stick it in a box that will go through the post and send it to me at Department of Genetics, University of Cambridge, CB2 3EH." (Steve Osborn)

of 1846, and finished just in time for Mendelssohn to conduct its first performance at the Birmingham Musical Festival on 26th August 1846, the work is a showcase for some of Mendelssohn's most melodies. Our marvellous November soloists are international stars Henry Herford (Elijah) and Mary Seers (soprano), supported by local soloists June Woodland (alto) and Martin Rendle (tenor). The chorus, joined by a choir of Angels from the Dover Grammar School for Girls (director Mary Sherred), The Connaught Orchestra and (leader George Simpson) will be conducted by Dover Choral Society's Musical Director, Michael Foad. Tickets costing £8 (Students £4) are available from Dover Tourist Information Centre (next to the Town Hall), members of Dover Choral Society or by telephoning 01304 822042; and, if there are any left, at the door on the night. For further details about the concert please ring Michael Foad, 01303 242694. (Steve Osborn)

FARMERS' MARKET Following the Kent Life Magazine Food & Drink Awards 2004, held at the East Kent Hop Farm on Thursday 14th October 2004, Capel-le-Ferne's Farmers' Market has won an award for the best Farmers' Market in Kent. Three of the committee went for a dinner and awards ceremony at the Hop Farm. There were 3 short listed for the award and we won!! What delight we felt. It was like the Oscars!! The market really does get better and better. Some of the stalls also got awards. (Jenny, Cherry, Gwyn & Mick organisers)



WHAT'S ON				
Regular events				
TUESDAY		Art classes in VH 10 to 1 pm ring 01303 243115 for details		
WEDNESDAY		Keep Fit 9.30 -10.30 am Wednesday club 10.30-11.30am		
THURSDAY		Mobile Library Vicarage Meadow car park 9.25 - 9.50am		
FRIDAY		Whist Drive at 7.30 pm		
Other events (VH= Village Hall and VM= Vicarage Meadow)				
Monday	1	Parish Council meeting 7.30pm in village hall – all welcome		
Saturday	6	Coffee Morning in aid of the Soup Kitchen 10.30 am		
Saturday	6	Bingo in VH – 7.30pm		
Tuesday	9	W.I. meeting in VH 7.30pm		
Monday 15		Dover & District Bird Club in village hall 7.30pm		
Saturday	20	Christmas bazaar in VH 10.30am		
Thursday	25	AVS meeting – see page 1		
Saturday	27	Beekeepers in village hall		
Monday 29		Village Hall committee meeting 8.00pm in village hall		

	Alkham	Capel	Hougham
Tuesday 2 nd	gudigus. Hill thoughten	Healing Service 7.00 p.m.	
Sunday 7 th	Evensong 4.00 p.m.	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping Together 11 am.
Sunday 14 th	Remembrance services simultaneously at all three churches 10.15am followed by an act of remembrance at 11.00 a.m.		
Sunday 21 st	Worshipping Together 11.00am.	Sung Evensong 4.00 p.m.	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.
Sunday 28 th			

SOUP KITCHEN - Betty Neely is holding a coffee morning in the village hall on Saturday the 6th of November at 11.00 am in aid of the Alkham Soup Kitchen run. In the car park by Russell Street in Dover is a small portakabin, which is opened every evening from 6.00 to 6.30pm to provide sandwiches, soup, tea and coffee to t' homeless or needy. Primarily it is run by the Dover churches but others outside the church help as well and the small Alkham group did 35 evenings over the last year and the money raised from the coffee morning helped considerably.

FOLKESTONE CAMERA CLUB have talks and practical evenings in the United Reformed Church Community Hall, Castle Hill Avenue. Folkestone, every Monday commencing at 7.45pm New members are always welcome and anyone interested in joining, please, ring Jenny Barraclough on 01303 245399 or e mail: jennybar@btconnect.com for further information. Visit our web site at <u>www. folkestonecameraclub.co.uk</u>.

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Gwyn Prosser M.P. 01304 214484	GP out of hours to access urgent medical help 0844 800 1234	Joanna Walker 821641 W.I. Betty Neely 01303 251475
County Councillor, Bryan Cope 207976, work number 01795532547	Newsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969 e mail <u>brianwimsett@hotmail.com</u>	Vicar Kevin Mepham 01303 244119 Church Wardens - Richard Tapsell
District Councillors Sue Nicholas 823956 Andrew Richardson 211835	Parish Clerk, Susan Lees 822661 susan@susanlees.freeserve.co.uk	822295 and Grace Stacey 822756 Alkham web site www.alkham.org

LOCAL BUSINESSES & SERVICES

ACCOUNTANCY	John Garlinge Accountancy, taxation, book keeping services	St. Margaret's 852252
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POST OFFICE	Southdown Stores groceries, videos, fruit/veg, off licence, fresh bread/milk	London rd, Temple Ewell 827100
SCHOOL	Capel-le-ferne school Your local primary school; free bus from Alkham	Capel Street, Capel-le-ferme 01303 251353

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

Meggett Lane, South Alkham ETC: 4 diamonds

Peaceful location overlooking the Alkham Valley

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POST OFFICE – The person who runs the post office in Capel village hall is willing to do the same at Alkham if a need is shown. If you think it would be worthwhile please phone the Parish Clerk on 822661 as the more people who phone the more likely it is to happen. (editor)

SEAT – As mentioned in last month's Newsletter, the seat on the corner by Vicarage Meadow adjacent to the Valley Road was smashed by mindless vandals. If you think it is worth replacing the seat at this location please phone the Parish Clerk on 822661.

NEW YEAR'S EVE – A party is being held on New Year's Eve in the village hall for villagers or old Akhamites, starting at 8.00pm. There is no charge but please bring your own food, drinks, plates and glasses etc and also, if possible, an item which can be raffled. The profits from the raffle will pay for the hall hire with any money left over going to the Air Ambulance. There won't be tickets but please let either Debbie (827530) or Grace (822756) know if you'd like to go along.

No. 136 December 2004

RECYCLING - The next collection will be on Thursday. the 2nd of December. District Councillor, Andrew Richardson, reported that it was hoped that the next phase of the DDC recycling scheme would come to Alkham. He also said that the use of black boxes was not delivering the tonnages that they had hoped for and eventually they would move to clear plastic sacks. as they were easier to load vehicles on the and produced more items for recycling.

TEEN SHELTER – Parish Councillor, Geoffrey Lymer, reported that he had no response with regard to the request in the Newsletter for youths in the village to help erect the teen shelter. Although it appeared as though there had been some demand for the shelter he has decided to put the project on the back boiler because of the lack of enthusiasm.

MARQUIS OF GRANBY Wednesday Night Carvery £9.95 (eat as much as you like) Thursday Night Steak Night Special 16oz rib-eye £8.45 Sunday Lunch Carvery £7.95 Please book early 822945

HIGHWAYS - It appears to be all change again. At the moment there are 15 Highway Authorities in the County of which DDC is one. It is proposed to do away with these and replace them with three districts at County level. It was thought that this would be a retrograde step as there would not be the local knowledge. It seems as though that this decision was linked to the possibility of a Unitary Authority but following the vote in the North East perhaps things may change?

Delivered free to all properties in the Parish



THE W.I. is holding a carol and coffee morning in the village hall on 18th the December starting at 10.30am. Oliver the donkey will be there to give rides to children who come along and all profits from the morning will go to Cancer Research. PUBLIC MEETING - On Monday the 13th December, starting at 7.00pm, a representative from Folkestone & District Water Company will be in the village hall to answer any questions you might have about the proposed water main from Bushey Ruff to Drellingore. **ELECTRIC FENCE** - We met Di Smith from Sladden Farm in her field and she said that somebody was walking through the farm at night, presumably to avoid the Valley Road, and pushing down the electric fence. She doesn't mind people walking through the farm but if you

do, please make sure the fence is up again, as otherwise it lets the cows get out. We mentioned there was a bull in the field and Di said that one was quite enough, adding that the bullocks were generally made so by the vet. It would seem a good idea to put the fence back up. (editor)

THE MARQUIS OF GRANBY require part time bar, waiting and assistant kitchen staff. Please phone 822945 or pop in;

the minimum age is 16. The pub will not be open on Christmas day.



Artisan Nursery Garden Design

Saturday persons required, to help set up nursery, any age considered.

Tel: 01303 221953 or 07763327548.



COFFEE MORNING – Many thanks to all the ladies, especially Betty Neely, who ran the coffee morning on the 6^{th} of November in aid of the Alkham Soup Kitchen run and raised £65. Blankets are always welcome, so if you have any to spare, please give me a ring (824969) or speak to Ken Hammond. (editor)

TWINNING – Parish Councillor, Geoffrey Lymer, is still looking for a town to twin with and he is going to visit three in the near future. Despite what I said in a previous Newsletter, they are all in France. (editor)

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH - In November, several thefts of bicycles were reported at locations in Folkestone, Hawkinge, River and Dover. Bicycle owners are advised to make sure that their property is maintained securely at all times when it is left out of sight. Bicycles should always be marked with a security code, using pens which are available at a price £1 each from the Neighbourhood Watch office in Dover Police Station. This enables them to be traced back to their owners by the police. Also, garages attached to domestic premises have been entered in the Broadmead Village area of Folkestone and burglaries have resulted. Residents in this type of property are advised that they should make sure that such garages, and the means of entry to the



house if it is possible through the garage are made secure. If necessary a padlock should be fitted inside the garage door.

TELEPHONES - As you are probably aware, Broadband is now widely available and I've just connected to it. There was some problem with getting the signal in the Old Post Office because of a filter on the wall. The latter was the remains of an early warning system, which was in the shop up until the early 1990's, and it is quite amazing that it was such a short time ago that just about all Post Offices had them. On a particular date the squawk box on the wall had to be turned on and vou listened for the code word to be broadcast, which was then entered on a postcard and sent back to the organisers. In the event of an imminent nuclear attack I was supposed to listen for the warning relayed via the box and then go out in the garden and let off rockets to warn the village. (editor)

FARMER'S MARKET Capel-le-Ferne Village Hall each Tuesday 10am to 1pm. Local produce Phone 01303 245399

WOLVERTON - The bus company has not been stopping on the Valley Road at the bottom of Wolverton Hill because of the road alignment and the local authority is pushing to have the road improved. GARDEN TALK -Our Christmas meeting will be held at Geoff and Linda's home, "Chalksole Cottage", on Friday 10th December at 7.30pm. All occasional members very welcome to come and join the regulars. Please bring the usual festive supplies and also a festive activity (No, I didn't mean the mistletoe!). A big thank you to John and Rosemary for hosting our last meeting when we had a lovely evening and great fun with a quiz provided by Jenny Fagg. (Susannah Tapsell)

DAVID HORNE LOCAL HANDYMAN For all your jobs no matter how small Gardening, Decorating, Rubbish Clearing etc. FAIR RATES FOR GOOD WORK Call 01304 203578 or 07984 886251

CRICKET DINNER

Village teenager Matthew Hyland collected two trophies at the Alkham Cricket Club presentation dinner, held at Marquis of Granby the restaurant on Saturday November 13th. He was presented with the "Performance of the Year" award for his maiden halfcentury and went on to receive the Player of the Year award, donated by Paul and Alison Hood of the Marquis of Granby, for an excellent all-round performance. The trophy was presented to Matthew by guest of honour Brian Luckhurst. Club captain Ian Callaway welcomed former Kent and England cricketer Brian, as well as the club's other special guests,

Raye Luckhurst, Rev Kevin Mepham and Mark Loveday. Other trophies went to Ed Haste (Young player of the Year), Simon Gunning (Clubman of the Year), Craig Mulder (best bowling average), Steve Durrant (best batting average). A bouquet was presented to Barbara Palmer for organising the cricket teas and Richard Tapsell was thanked for his hard work preparing the wicket for each game. The staff of the Marquis were also thanked for enabling a wonderful event to be staged for 46 players, family members and guests. MC for the evening was Peter Frater, while team skipper Matthew Gerrard gave a review of the season, which was not one of the most successful in the club's long history - but an enjoyable one nonetheless. The cricket club is now searching for a sponsor for the team's shirts for the 2005 season - any individual or business interested should contact Paul

Tapsell on 01303 892082. (Peter Frater)



CHITTENDEN'S

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> The meeting held on Tuesday November 9th was the Annual General Meeting. A ballot

was held for the new committee, the results were Rosemary Crothall, Susan Lees, Susannah Tapsell, Christine Tapsell, Cherry Leppard, Betty Neely, Doreen Wilks and Grace Stacey. The President, Rosemary, stood down after holding that position for three years. The new president is Susannah Tapsell. Treasurer and secretary stay the same. Susannah gave Rosemary a vote of thanks for her excellent leadership and friendship over the last three years. Doreen Wilks gave a report on the half yearly council meeting held recently at the Leas Cliff hall and Susannah a report on the group meeting at Whitfield. As it was the A.G.M there was no speaker but a few members brought along their favourite piece of china and said a few words about it. The next meeting is Tuesday December 14th where C Cribbens will take us "Line Dancing". (Cherry Leppard)

YOU KNOW THE STORY of the three wise men, but you may not know the wonderful story told by Henry Van Dyke of the other wise man. He too saw the star rising in the east and set out with gifts to offer the King whose birth had been foretold. This one did not reach the young child along with his brethren because he stopped along the way to help a sick, elderly man by the roadside. This other wise man did not find the Holy Family in Egypt where they had fled. Instead, he saved one innocent child in Bethlehem from Herod's massacre. The great desire of this

This month sees the 90th OZ on BAIRNSFATHER --anniversary of 'the Christmas Truce', when British and German soldiers collected their dead on Christmas Eve 1914, silenced the guns and spent Christmas exchanging food, drink, tobacco and songs. One of those troops was a young machine-gun lieutenant with a gift for recording war in words and pictures. Bruce Bairnsfather was born in India in 1888, son of Bengal Infantry Lieutenant Thomas Bairnsfather and his wife Amelia. After his education in India and Stratford-upon-Avon Bruce joined the Royal Warwickshire Regiment. However he became bored with army life and left to study at the Hassall School of Art, later designing posters for such products as Liptons Tea, Players Tobacco and Flowers Beer. When war broke out, Bruce rejoined the Warwickshires and was sent to the Western Front, where he drew cartoons that were instantly and lastingly popular with soldiers in the trenches. In April 1915 Bruce was badly wounded and returned to England for treatment. On his recovery he was promoted to Captain in charge of new recruits at Albany Barracks on the Isle of Wight. It was here that Bairnsfather created the unforgettable "Old Bill", a laconic middle-aged Tommy with a walrus moustache. In Bairnsfather's most famous cartoon, Old Bill and young Tommy are stuck in a muddy shellhole with ammunition banging all around and Old Bill is saying exasperatedly "Well, if you knows of a better 'ole, go to it." During the Second World War Captain Bairnsfather was official cartoonist to US Forces in Europe and he died in 1959. Just one year ago, on 13th December 2003, a bronze plaque was fixed to a cottage wall in the hamlet of St Yvon, near Ypres. It is the first and only official memorial to the creator of "Old Bill". (Steve Osborn)

other wise man was denied, yet in a strange way he found the one he sought. He knew that the child he sought would not be found in a palace or among the rich and powerful, but feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, healing the sick, comforting the captive, and reaching out to the lost. As the years went by, he searched and used his gifts of healing and gave of his great wealth to the poor and lowly and oppressed. Finally, in his last act of dying when all hope of finding the King was gone, the other wise man found peace. He had done the best he could do from day to day. He had been faithful and in that last act of love found the king. In his searching and giving the other wise man had become like the King he sought - offering himself in love and revealing Christ to the hungry, naked, sick and the lost. At Christmas we claim to welcome Jesus into our hearts and lives, but can we show that by a change in life. Can we give a gift to someone that does not deserve it from us, someone who is not related or a friend? Can we perform some act of kindness simply for Goodness' sake? If we really seek Jesus we

will find him in selfless acts of love. Why not add one to your Christmas preparations, and see what you find? (Kevin Mepham)

CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Since February this year the Choir of St Peter and St Paul, Temple Ewell, has been rehearsing and recording Christmas carols for its first ever CD. One of the singers on the disc is bass Howard Cleaves, well known locally as the founding secretary of the Alkham Valley Society, and whose death in June was remembered in the August Newsletter. The disc is dedicated to Howard, "a devoted and cherished member of our choir", and copies are now available at £5 from Richard Christian on 01304 826320, with proceeds going to church funds. (Steve Osborn)



WHAT'S ON					
Sama an	Regular events				
TUESDAY		Art classes in VH 10 to 1 pm ring 01303 243115 for details			
WEDNESDAY		Keep Fit 9.30 -10.30 am Wednesday club 10.30-11.30am			
THURSDAY		Mobile Library Vicarage Meadow car park 9.25 - 9.50am			
FRIDA	Y	Whist Drive at 7.30 pm			
Other events (VH= Village Hall and VM= Vicarage Meadow)					
Saturday	4	Bingo in VH – 7.30pm			
Sunday	5	Xmas craft fair in aid of Cancer Relief in village hall 10 to 4pm			
Friday	10	Garden club – see page 2			
Monday	13	Meeting re: pipeline, see page 1			
Tuesday	14	W.I. in village hall 7.30 pm			
Friday	17	Xmas raffle draw at Whist Drive			
Saturday	18	W.I. carols & coffee, see page 1			
Monday 20		Dover & District Bird Club in village hall 7.30pm			
Friday 31		New Year's Party – see page 1			

all the deletes	CHURCH S	SERVICES		
NATIONAL STR	Alkham	Capel	Hougham	
Sunday 5th	Evensong 4.00 p.m.	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping Together 11.00am	
Tuesday 7th		Healing Service 7.00 p.m.	Lehuld (Schem	
Sunday 12th	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Service of 9 Lessons and Carols 11.00 a.m.	Carols at West Hougham Village Hall 4.00 p.m.	
Sunday 19th	Service of 9 Lessons and Carols 6.30 p.m.	Carol Service Capel Village Hall 3.00 p.m.	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	
Monday 20th Carols at Bracknell House, Capel – 6.00 p.m.			el – 6.00 p.m.	
Friday 24th Christmas Eve	Crib Service 4.30 p.m.	Midnight Mass 11.30 p.m.		
Saturday 25th Christmas Day	Sung Eucharist 11.00 a.m.		Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	
Sunday 26th	Sunday 26th Joint Benefice Sung Eucharist St Radigund Capel-le-Ferne 10.00 a.m.			
Weekday Services: Morning Prayer is said at Capel Monday-Friday at 8.30 am (except Bank Holidays); Evening Prayer at Hougham on Wednesday at 5 pm Eucharist at Capel every Thursday at 9.15 am				

HELEN & CAL would like to thank everyone who supported the Hog Roast and Disco, held in aid of the Air Ambulance. We had a

wonderful evening, the rain only just held off. The Fortune Teller was very popular and gave her services free. Dave and Alison did a wonderful job with the Disco. Thanks must go to Derek and Marion for allowing us to park in their field. A very special mention must go to my three daughters who work so hard every year, we could not do it without them; thank you Sally, Heather and Rebecca. We raised £788, £500 of which will go to the Air Ambulance and £288 to the local RSPCA

TELEPHONE NUMBERS	Police – 999 phone & 01303 850055 Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130 Community Warden 07977 981994	Village Hall booking Rosemary Polden 824876 Alkham Valley Society secretary	
Gwyn Prosser M.P. 01304 214484	GP out of hours to access urgent	Joanna Walker 821641	
	medical help 0844 800 1234	W.I. Betty Neely 01303 251475	
County Councillor , Bryan Cope 207976, work number 01795532547	Newsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969 e mail brianwimsett@hotmail.com	Vicar Kevin Mepham 01303 244119 Church Wardens - Richard Tapsell	
District Councillors	Parish Clerk, Susan Lees 822661	822295 and Grace Stacey 822756	
Sue Nicholas 823956 Andrew Richardson 211835	susan@susanlees.freeserve.co.uk	Alkham web site www.alkham.org	

LOC	AL BUSINESSES & SE	RVICES
ACCOUNTANCY	John Garlinge Accountancy, taxation, book keeping services	St. Margaret's 852252
ALKHAM MEADOWS	Touring Caravan Park – Next to Garden Centre	Alkham Valley Road 206344
ARBORICULTURE	Alkham Valley Tree Surgery: Planning, planting, maintenance removal	Wolverton 824853 & 07973 501390
BUILDING WORK	E R Woodruff carpentry and joinery, decorating, maintenance	Swanbourne, Wolverton 824991
CAT & DOG GROOMING	Canine beauticians, dogs and cats groomed, Newcastle House	Ewell Minnis 822902
CLEANING SERVICES	John Hoy domestic/commercial carpet and upholstery cleaning	Ewell Minnis 828007 & 07889310479
CURTAINS & BLINDS	Curtains and blinds made to your specification	Alkham Valley 01303 891806
ELECTRICAL	Simon Price electricians & computer installation, Megget Farm	South Alkham 01303 252764
ENVIRONMENTAL	J H Ullmann Environmental contractors, Malmains Farm	Alkham 202004 or 822888
EQUESTRIAN	Hogbrook Equestrian Centre Livery yard, instruction, hacking	Hogbrook Lane, Alkham 827644
EQUESTRIAN SUPPLIES	Alkham Valley Garden Centre - everything for horse and rider	South Alkham 01303 891996
GARDEN CENTRE	Alkham Valley Garden Centre with gift shop and horse supplies	South Alkham 01303 893351
KENNELS	Alkhamhurst Kennels dogs, cats & unusual boarded. All pet needs	Alkham Valley Rd, Wolverton 822420
LIVERY	Greenhill livery yard Do it yourself and grass liveries	Megget Lane, South Alkham 01303 892056
POST OFFICE	Southdown Stores groceries, videos, fruit/veg, off licence, freshbread/milk	London rd, Temple Ewell 827100
SCHOOL	Capel-le-ferne school Your local primary school; free bus from Alkham	Capel Street, Capel-le-ferne 01303 251353

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

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Valley

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No. 137 January 2005

CHRISTMAS TREE - Over



TREE - Over 100 villagers, both big and small, came to see the official switching on of the lights on the Parish Christmas tree. It was a

great occasion with Mark Robson presiding, complete with lights on his hat, and a choir singing carols accompanied by villagers. It was Mark's idea to get the tree from Tilmanstone and he helped with all the works, but it was John Huggins who made it happen. He supplied the large pipe, manhole cover, piping and cement such there is now a permanent spot for the tree. He also provided the lights and arranged the electrical supply, which was connected with box and timers free of charge by Simon Price. Mark and John brought the tree back from Tilmanstone and then it was carried one night along the Valley Road by six stout and puffing men to be taken round the bus shelter and hoisted in place, with lights attached. It really was a great idea, which was obviously appreciated by the village as so many people turned up. Thanks also go to Paul Hood who provided mulled wine and mince pies at the Marquis. (see also page 3) (editor)

HEROES RETURN – The National Lottery have a fund to help servicemen return to the places where they fought. The fixed amount varies dependant on distance. A friend applied and was granted over £500 to revisit, with his wife, the Normandy beach where he fought in WWII. I understand carers can go with an individual, so if you'd like to see whether you or a relative are eligible phone 0800 169 2277.

Delivered free to all properties in the Parish



THE ANNUAL QUIZ will be in the village hall on Saturday the 22rd of January. Tables are for up to eight people and if you'd like to book a table please ring either me on 824969 or Sue Lees on 822661. Food will be provided at the interval but you should bring your own drinks. (editor)

RECYCLING – The next collection will be on Thursday 6th January. Please make sure that paper and cardboard are stored separately and that caps are taken off bottles and discarded.

ALKHAM FETE 2005 Alkham is well known for holding a truly traditional English Fete. However, I am sure you will agree that we don't want it to stay so traditional that it becomes boring. <u>All</u> of you at sometime must have thought 'why don't they....' so this is your chance. However trivial you might think your idea is please let us know and give the Parish Clerk a ring on 822661.

HOUSE DEEDS – I would like to thank so many of you for responding so quickly. I have received some really interesting Deeds and I have many more yet to pursue. There was even one set, which was literally retrieved from the solicitor's bin. If anyone else would like to contact me about their house Deeds please ring me on 822661. (Sue Lees)

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Saturday persons required, to help set up nursery, any age considered.

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Excellent facilities for family or business stays, short breaks, overnight and weddings. Web: www.alkhamcourt.co.uk Wendy Burrows Tel: 01303 892056

POST OFFICE – To date 10 people have stated an interest in post office services being set up in Alkham once again. However, I would imagine this would not be sufficient for the Post Office to be interested. So may I ask once again for anyone who believes that they would use postal services in Alkham to contact Sue Lees on 822661. **PARISH CLERK** – Sue Lees, after doing the job so ably for many years, has decided that from next September she will give up the post. If anyone is interested in taking on the job please contact Sue on 822661.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS WALK The walk, organised by the Alkham Valley Society, will take place on 27th December and starts at 10.30am from the Village Hall car park. It ends at about 12.30 and some walkers like to go on to the pub afterwards. (Jo Walker)

MARQUIS OF GRANBY Wednesday Night Carvery £9.95 (eat as much as you like) Thursday Night Steak Night Special 16oz rib-eye £8.45 Sunday Lunch Carvery £7.95 Please book early 822945

MARSHALL & CLARKE PROPERTY AGENTS AND VALUERS



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ALKHAM'S HEROES - After the Remembrance Day service I decided to find out as much as I could about the men whose names are on the memorial in the churchyard. The following was found on the Commonwealth War Graves website (www.cwgc.org.uk) a very useful reference point for anyone trying to find out about people who have died in wars. Edward Collard. Private, The Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regt) 2nd Battalion. Died 13/5/1917 aged 37. Son of Ambrose Collard of Wolverton and the late Elizabeth Collard. He is remembered on Arras Memorial at the Faubourg d'Amiens Cemetery (This probably means his remains were never found):

George Collard. Gunner, Royal Field Artillery. 340 Battery, 337th Brigade. Died 29/1/1917 aged 39. Buried at St Peter's Church, River.

Stephen James Maple. (Only record listed). Leading Seaman, HMS Bacchante. Died 25/4/1915. Commemorated at Chatham Naval Memorial. His ship was sold for scrap in 1920:

Sidney Marsh. Private, 3rd Battalion Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regt). Died 15/2/1917. Son of Alfred and Sarah Marsh of Common Hill, Church Alkham. Buried in the churchyard:

Ernest Tupper. Petty Officer Stoker, Royal Navy. HMS Aboukir. (Torpedoed by U-boat 22/9/1914). Died 22/9/1914 aged 30. Husband of Minnie Beatrice Tupper of 41, Princess Street, Folkestone. Native of Folkestone. Commemorated at Chatham Naval Memorial.

Ronald James Couchman. Guardsman, Grenadier Guards, 5th Battalion. Died 25/7/1944. Son of Ernest James and Olive Blanche Couchman, Alkham, Buried at Florence War Cemetery:

Lewis Donald Fagg. Private, The Buffs (Royal East Kent Regiment), 4th Battalion. Died 23/10/1943 aged 25. Son of Ernest and Emily Maud Fagg of Alkham. Athens Memorial: Allan Gordon Gavin. Rifle man, King's Royal Rifle Corps, 2nd Battalion. Died 19/10/1944. Son of Gordon Bedford Gavin and Euphemia Paulina Gavin of Alkham. Buried at Leopoldsburg War Cemetery Belgium:

Henry Frederick Keeler. Private, The Queen's Royal Regiment (West Surrey) 1/6th Battalion. Died 24/10/1942. Son of Charles and Louisa Keeler of Ewell Minnis. Alamein Memorial Egypt.

If anyone has any information on any of the men listed on the war memorial I would be grateful for anything that might help build up a picture and help preserve their memories. (Mark Robson)

FARMER'S MARKET Capel-le-Ferne Village Hall each Tuesday 10am to 1pm. Local produce Phone 01303 245399

THE ALKHAM 2004 Poppy Appeal collection amounted to a record £339.39. Many thanks to those who helped, by taking the poppies around the village and collecting the money. And thank you as well to all the individuals who gave SO generously.(Rachel Fountain) LICENCES ____ Various legislation has come into place such that you need licences for entertainment. As I suspected, when I made up a team at the Hougham Fete. Morris Dancing is not classified as entertainment. (editor)

ALKHAM VALLEY SOCIETY

We would like to record the very good attendance for the AGM on 25th November, for which much thanks go to all who turned out on quite a cold evening. We were sad to lose Paul as Chairman. Maurice Sayers has stepped into the breach and Barry Shepherd is the new Treasurer. Bill Rolfe, a founder member of the Society also stepped down from the Committee but, though living in Hythe, remains a member; thank you Bill. We warmly welcome several new members. Supper at The Fox following the meeting was excellent and there was a most congenial atmosphere; such events can become custom. The Committee will devise a programme, while not losing sight of the original aim, to keep an eye conservation on and the environment. Thanks very much to all who came along and made it a pleasant evening. (J Walker)

GARDEN TALK

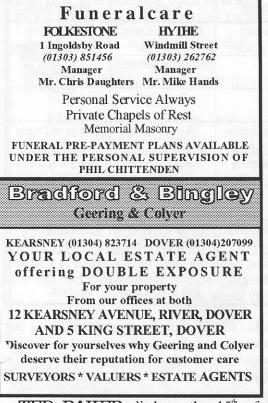
The gardening club members met at the home of Geoff and Linda, where we spent a very jolly festive evening. Many thanks to you both. Susannah was also thanked for organising the club for the last 7 years. The next meeting will be held at John and Hilary's home Thorn Cottage, Meggett Lane, South Alkham on Friday the 25th of February at 7.30pm. New and old welcome. members Merry Christmas and Happy Gardening (Rosemary & John Crothall)

BETTY NEELY and Joanna O'Shea would like to thank everyone for their support at the dance held in the village hall in aid of Kent Air Ambulance, which raised £360.

FOR SALE - Oval oak drop leaf table and 5 rush bottom chairs, £80. Circular glass top G Plan coffee table, £6. Please ring 821641.

DAVID HORNE LOCAL HANDYMAN For all your jobs no matter how small Gardening, Decorating, Rubbish Clearing etc. FAIR RATES FOR GOOD WORK Call 01304 203578 or 07984 886251

CHITTENDEN'S



TED BAKER died on the 15th of November at the age of 93. At the outbreak of WW1 he lived at Wolverton, in one of the houses to the south of the Valley Road, with his grandfather. Rationing was slow to come in and food became scarce but Ted's grandfather produced most of their needs including vegetables, milk, butter, eggs and pork. The pigs were killed at Ewell Minnis and after cleaning hung in the kitchen, which he found unsettling at breakfast time. In 1916 Ted started school at Alkham being walked from Wolverton by Dolly Marsh. There were about 70 children at the school with infants in the small room. At 7 they went to the big room where Mr Harman sat at the front with the cane on his desk. Ted later went on to join the Tennis Club, which played on courts near where Glebelands now stand. He married Gwen Jenkins, who lived in Alkham as a child, in 1936 at St. Anthony's church and around that time was a member of staff at Dover Boys' Grammar School. In 1939 Ted moved to Maidstone and worked in the Treasurer's Department of KCC. In 1971 he retired to Moretonhampstead in Devon where they renamed their house 'Wolverton' and received the Newsletter each month from its inception in 1993. Following health problems they later moved to a residential home where Gwen predeceased Ted. (editor)

OZ on SCRABBLE – It's that bleak time of year when indoor games beckon, one of the most played nowadays being Scrabble. Nigel Forde, in his poem "Going by the Board", refers to 'Dad', who "spent the whole of Advent / memorizing the abstruse words in the OED supplement." Scrabble was invented in 1931 by Alfred Butts, an American architect who became unemployed during the Depression. The original game, Lexiko, had no board, and players scored both for word lengths and letter values. Butts calculated letter values by analysing the words in the New York Times. In 1933, his patent application failed, the game also being dismissed by Parker Brothers and Milton Bradley. Butts continued making the sets, giving or selling them to friends. In 1938 he added a playing board so that words could be joined crossword fashion. The new game, known as New Anagrams, Alph, Criss-Cross and then Criss-Crosswords, was again rejected by the Patents Board and the big games manufacturers. With World War II looming, Butts, now re-employed as an architect, abandoned the project. In 1948 James Brunot, owner of an early Criss-Crosswords set, approached Butts and reached a commercial agreement. Brunot tidied up the layout, simplified the rules, and relaunched the game as Scrabble, obtaining patent and trademark in December 1948. After four years of struggle the game took off with a sudden flood of orders, becoming a national craze in 1953 in Australia and the UK. Over 100 million sets in 29 different languages have now been sold in 121 countries round the world. Brunot died in 1984, and so did not see the first World Scrabble Championship in 1991. Butts, however, lived on to witness the success of his brainchild, playing enthusiastically most days with family and friends until he died, aged 93, in 1993. (Steve Osborn)

CHRISTMAS TREE

I would like to thank the following people for making the Christmas tree on Vicarage Meadow a reality: Den Barnard, John and Simon Huggins and Brian Wimsett (for digging the hole and the trench for the electricity); Simon Price (for installing the electrical supply); Ken Hammond, Paul Hood, Pat Kelly, Brian Wimsett, Mick Wingfield and Mick Woods (for carrying the tree from Newlyns Meadow to the Vicarage Meadow and for helping to set it up where it now stands). Mentions must go too to Irene Barnard, Tracy Huggins and Paul and Alison Hood who provided the workers with teas and bacon rolls so that, despite all the exertions, we are now somewhat heavier than before we started! And, of course, mulled wine and food in the pub on the evening of the switch on and the next Thanks to everyone who turned out (Cherry Leppard)

at such short notice to support the event. My apologies if I have missed anyone. The evening was a great success and, in anticipation that this will become an annual event, I have already pencilled in Saturday, December 3rd 2005 when the switch on will be followed by mulled wine and minced pies before a village meal in the pub later in the evening. Watch this space. In the meantime, Happy New Year to you all from the Christmas Lights Committee. (Mark Robson)



The last meeting of the year of the W.I was held Tuesday 14^{th}

December. Susannah Tapsell our new president took the meeting. The various jobs were delegated. The Xmas dinner at the "Marquis of Granby" was finalised for Thursday 16th with 29 members to attend. The Paul and Alison for providing the speaker unfortunately could not come, it should have been Line after the switch on. Thanks to Paul Dancing, so a couple of members Tapsell and the cricket club for the had done a quiz for us to do which use of the electricity supply, to the everyone enjoyed. It was quite nice ladies of the W.I. for providing a just to have a chat and refreshments. choir to lead the singing of carols The second Tuesday in January is meeting where new to Chloe for pressing the button! members will be most welcome.

WHAT'S ON				
Regular events				
TUESDAY		Art classes in VH 10 to 1 pm ring 01303 243115 for details		
WEDNESDAY		Keep Fit 9.30 -10.30 am Wednesday club 10.30-11.30am		
THURSDAY		Mobile Library Vicarage Meadow car park 9.25 - 9.50am		
FRIDAY	Z	Whist Drive at 7.30 pm		
Other events (VH= Village Hall and VM= Vicarage Meadow)				
Monday	10	Parish Council meeting in village hall 7.30pm all welcome		
Monday	17	D & D Bird Club in VH 7.30pm		
Wednesday	19	W.I. in village hall 7.30 pm		
Saturday	22	Annual Quiz see page 1 and below		
Saturday	22	W.I. Jumble Sale in VH 11.00am		
Saturday	29	Beekeepers in VH		

ANNUAL QUIZ – Even though I do the Newsletter and Quiz, I put the wrong date on page 1 and then did 320 copies. The Quiz is on Saturday the 22^{nd} of January starting at 7.30pm.

broom. anal	Alkham	Capel	Hougham
Sunday 2nd	Evensong 4.00 p.m.	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping Together 11.00 am
Tuesday 4th		Healing Service 7.00 p.m.	in the later of the second s
Thursday 6th	o on in the o	Eucharist 9.15 a.m.	isinnedi Maurice
Sunday 9th	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping Together 11.00am	Songs of Praise 4.00 p.m.
Sunday 16th	Worshipping Together 11.00 am	Sung Evensong 4.00 p.m.	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.
Sunday 23rd	Joint Benefice Sung Eucharist St Lawrence, Hougham 10.00 a.m.		
Sunday 30th	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping Together 11.00 am	Evensong 4.00 p.m.
(except Bank H	ces: Morning Praye lolidays); Evening F t Capel every Thurs	Prayer at Hougham	

POND – Mick Wingfield, who lives in Newlyns Meadow, is the pond warden for the village and he spoke at the last Parish Council meeting. He would like to take on the project to restore the pond at Chalksole Green but as it is owned by the Parish he had to get the Council's permission; this was swiftly granted. The idea is that the ponds will be made watertight and the area locally landscaped. It was suggested, rather than cutting back all the undergrowth each year, it would be a good idea to just have a path meandering through the green to the ponds with rustic seats here and there. (editor)

TELEPHONE NUMBERS	Police – 999 phone & 01303 850055 Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130 Community Warden 07977 981994	Village Hall booking Rosemary Polden 824876 Alkham Valley Society secretary	
Gwyn Prosser M.P. 01304 214484	GP out of hours to access urgent medical help 0844 800 1234	Joanna Walker 821641 W.I. Betty Neely 01303 251475	
County Councillor , Bryan Cope 207976, work number 01795532547	Newsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969 e mail brianwimsett@hotmail.com	Vicar Kevin Mepham 01303 244119 Church Wardens - Richard Tapsell	
District Councillors Sue Nicholas 823956 Andrew Richardson 211835	Parish Clerk, Susan Lees 822661 susan@susanlees.freeserve.co.uk	822295 and Grace Stacey 822756 Alkham web site www.alkham.org	

LOCAL BUSINESSES & SERVICES

ACCOUNTANCY	John Garlinge Accountancy, taxation, book keeping services	St. Margaret's 852252
ALKHAM MEADOWS	Touring Caravan Park - Next to Garden Centre	Alkham Valley Road 206344
ARBORICULTURE	Alkham Valley Tree Surgery: Planning, planting, maintenance removal	Wolverton 824853 & 07973 501390
BUILDING WORK	E R Woodruff carpentry and joinery, decorating, maintenance	Swanbourne, Wolverton 824991
CAT & DOG GROOMING	Canine beauticians, dogs and cats groomed, Newcastle House	Ewell Minnis 822902
CLEANING SERVICES	John Hoy domestic/commercial carpet and upholstery cleaning	Ewell Minnis 828007 & 07889310479
CURTAINS & BLINDS	Curtains and blinds made to your specification	Alkham Valley 01303 891806
ELECTRICAL	Simon Price electricians & computer installation, Megget Farm	South Alkham 01303 252764
ENVIRONMENTAL	J H Ullmann Environmental contractors, Malmains Farm	Alkham 202004 or 822888
EQUESTRIAN	Hogbrook Equestrian Centre Livery yard, instruction, hacking	Hogbrook Lane, Alkham 827644
EQUESTRIAN SUPPLIES	Alkham Valley Garden Centre - everything for horse and rider	South Alkham 01303 891996
GARDEN CENTRE	Alkham Valley Garden Centre with gift shop and horse supplies	South Alkham 01303 893351
KENNELS	Alkhamhurst Kennels dogs, cats & unusual boarded. All pet needs	Alkham Valley Rd, Wolverton 822420
LIVERY	Greenhill livery yard Do it yourself and grass liveries	Megget Lane, South Alkham 01303 892056
POST OFFICE	Southdown Stores groceries, videos, fruit/veg, off licence, freshbread/milk	London rd, Temple Ewell 827100
SCHOOL	Capel-le-ferne school Your local primary school; free bus from Alkham	Capel Street, Capel-le-ferne 01303 251353

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

Alkham Valley Garden Centre Phone 01303 Gardening Gardening needs and animal supplies

893351

Alkham Court Farmhouse Bed & Breakfast Meggett Lane, South Alkham ETC: 4 diamonds

Peaceful location overlooking the Alkham Valley

Excellent facilities for family or business stays, short breaks, ovemight and weddings. Web: www.alkhamcourt.co.uk Wendy Burrows Tel: 01303 892056

POST OFFICE – Thirty six people have expressed an interest in using a post office in Alkham Village Hall. It is not known whether this will be enough for the person who runs a similar one in Capel to come to Alkham but the Parish Clerk has passed on the details.

MARTINVALE – The latter is the house standing adjacent to the Valley Road and Hogbrook Lane, which was recently hit by a milk lorry turning left onto the main road. Dover District Council is proposing to put three steel posts adjacent to the house but at the Parish Council meeting it was suggested that a bell shaped kerb (Trief kerb) be laid on the corner. This would be a much better idea as it should stop damage to both the house and vehicles.

PROWLER – On the 6^{th} of January a prowler was in the back garden of a property in the centre of Alkham watching a female bath and then he went to the front of the house to watch through a bedroom window. This happened at 8.10pm and 21.15pm and the police were informed.

No. 138 February 2005

ANTI-SOCIAL District Dover Council has launched its new Anti-Social Behaviour Unit as a central part of its major commitment to getting tough on anti-social behaviour across the area. A dedicated team has been set up to work closely with the Police and partners in the community to make a real difference - and to reinforce the message that people do not have to put up with anti-social behaviour and that together we can stamp it out. Incidents of anti-social behaviour can now be reported through one central line for the new Unit on (01304) 872220. Callers can make a confidential report to protect their identity if they choose. It is stressed that in an emergency people should still call 999. During the first three weeks of official operation, the new unit received 75 allegations, 40% of which were completed to the satisfaction of the complainant within 4 working days.

CHALKSOLE GREEN A meeting, arranged by Mick Wingfield, will be held in the Marquis on the 8th of February at 7.30pm to discuss what should be done to the green and ponds at Chalksole. Please come along and join discussion in the or alternatively have a pint or two. For further information please phone Mick on 824841.

THANKS go to Christopher and Peter, who live in Common Hill Cottage, for improving the byway past their property and down to Common Hill.

MARQUIS OF GRANBY Wednesday Night Carvery £9.95 (eat as much as you like) Thursday Night Steak Night Special 16oz rib-eye £8.45 Sunday Lunch Carvery £7.95 Please book early 822945 Delivered free to all properties in the Parish

BEHAVIOUR TSUNAMI – The American supper held in the village hall on the 15th January for the tsunami appeal was a great success with over 100 people turning up. Tony Dibson from radio KMFM started things off followed by a free disco provided by Dave and Alison with people dancing from the and creating a wonderful start atmosphere. There was spin the bottle. pass the parcel and other games plus a raffle with 67 prizes donated by the people who came along. The fortune telling by Rowan, the White Witch, who was tucked away in the store room decked with fairy lights, was extremely popular. Over £750 was raised on the night with more to come from other collections. Congratulations go to the organisers, particularly Debbie and Helen, and also many thanks to all those who came along and gave so generously. **RECYCLING** - The next collection will be on Thursday 3rd of February.



FOUND in Slip Lane, a pair of prescription glasses. Please phone 824969 for further details.

CHALKSOLE GREEN – Concern was expressed by local houseowners about vehicles which were driving over the grass verge at Chalksole Green and causing the road to break up. Dover District Council has agreed to install verge marker posts and also to fill in the numerous potholes.

MARSHALL & CLARKE PROPERTY AGENTS AND VALUER 112 London Road, Kearsney



Telephone 01304 827770 and at 1 Cliffe Road, Kingsdown, Deal Tel. 01304 381622 High Street, St. Margarets at Cliffe, Dover Tel. 01304 852960

Dover, CT16 3AB



WATER PIPE-LINE -Folkestone & District Water Company are going to lay a pipeline along the Alkham Valley to extract water from the eastern end of the valley. As there was some concern about this project the Parish Council arranged a meeting in the village hall where members of the company could answer these concerns. It was explained that it was necessary to extract water from the chalk region not only to supply Dover but also the clay area around Folkestone. In the first place water will be extracted from boreholes at Bushey Rough and later extended to Buckland Mill area. The project will commence in the spring and take about 10 months to complete and hopefully supply sufficient water for the next 30 years. People voiced concern about the effect on water levels in the lakes at Bushey Rough, Russell Gardens and Kearsney Abbey and the flow of the Dour and the Alkham Bourne. Assurances were given that water levels would be maintained and in times of drought water would be taken from boreholes lower down the river Dour. The new pipe will go across farmland rather than follow the route of the valley road because too many properties would be affected and there will be fewer bends, which affect water quality. The concern over the increase in heavy vehicle traffic was not allayed especially as access to the pipe would be on the west side of the village near the 30pmh signs.

BRITISH RED CROSS and the MEMORIAL - I was both fascinated tsunami. In next month's Newsletter there will be more details about how much was raised from the door-to-door collection round the parish but Pam Sayers thought you might like to know where the money is going. The Red Cross met and provided comfort and support to returnees at London's airports and provided clothes as some arrived in beach wear. They are assisting in the collection, burial or return to relatives of human remains and have a web site to help restore family links; this has had more than 1 million hits. The support line set up by the government is manned in part by Red Cross volunteers. Internationally they provided a logistics team and essential communications and transport in Sri Lanka; sent 7 cargo flights with relief items; chartered a Jumbo jet to ferry the items around; dispatched health and other delegates to the affected regions; sent 8000 body bags to Sri Lanka and sent a team leader to the Maldives to determine what help might be needed there. For the most recent information, please go to the Red Cross web site at www.redcross.org.uk.

CANCER RESEARCH - The W.I. raised the magnificent sum of £212.51 for Cancer Research from the carol singing round the village on the 21st of December, the Christmas carol morning and the selling of second hand books and magazines. On behalf of the Alkham W.I. I would like to thank Mr Loveday and Pam and Maurice Sayers for their hospitality on the 21st and also all the people who donated so generously. (Mandy Summers)

FARMER'S MARKET Capel-le-Ferne Village Hall each Tuesday 10am to 1pm. Local produce Phone 01303 245399

by and grateful for Mark Robson's piece in the December Newsletter. It prompted me to seek information from the War Graves Commission about two uncles lost in WWII. I found nothing of one whom I believe went down with all others in a prisoner of war ship somewhere in the Far East. However, I knew that the other Uncle had been killed in Egypt and I have found the details of his grave in Alexandria. As a result, I have discovered after 62 years that I am named for him he having died just six months before I was born. I had hitherto (particularly as a youngster) thought the name "Francis" to be a bit cissy but now find myself rather proud of it! (Peter Mercer) and Eileen West nee Collard phoned to say that as result of the article she had access the site and contacted Mark with a revision to his list of names.

DAVID HORNE LOCAL HANDYMAN For all your jobs no matter how small Gardening, Decorating, Rubbish Clearing etc. FAIR RATES FOR GOOD WORK Call 01304 203578 or 07984 886251

ALKHAM VALLEY SOCIETY This year's Christmas walk, on 27th December attracted upwards of forty people and numerous well-behaved dogs. Chris Tapsell set a smart pace from the Village Hall car park in the direction of Ellinge Bottom. Luckily everyone soon went -+ their own speed. Weaving up the huse and along the byways, we were strung out across the landscape, and speckled with reds, blues, browns and creams on the green fields the walk looked like a re-enactment of the Canterbury Pilgrims. The wintry woods and icy meadows were dazzling in the winter sun and cloudless sky, but eventually, with backs to Canterbury, Alkham beckoned and another Christmas walk was done. Next year well, how about it those who had not put it on their Christmas list? Warm thanks to all who came along and made it a pleasurable event, and special thanks to Chris and Jane Tapsell, and the weather. (Joanna Walker. Secretary)

CHITTENDEN'S

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Mr. Chris Daughters Mr. Mike Hands

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The meeting was held on Tuesday 11th January, our president Susannah Tapsell was unwell so the vice president Rosemary Crothall chaired the meeting. It was very wet and windy that evening but it did not stop the members coming, in fact very few were absent. There was not a lot of business, a one day drama school which two or three members were interested in going on and the coffee morning and jumble sale on Saturday har2nd. For the trip to the Albert Hall to see "Classical Spectacular" in March

with the London Philharmonic Orchestra there are a few seats left at about £30 plus coach. If anyone is interested ring Cherry on 01303 255114 for more details. The speaker was Martin Newcombe who spoke on "Foods for free and herbs that heal". We have had Martin speak at our meetings many times and he is an excellent speaker. With slides he explained all about the foods and herbs in the middle ages. Some of the concoctions were quite revolting!! He was thanked by Debbie. Next months speaker is Mr Pascall on the R.N.L.I. (Cherry Leppard)

OZ on GROSE – Crime and language link three of my Christmas stocking books; the amazing Brewer's Rogues, Villains and Eccentrics, Crystal's Shakespeare's Words and The Vulgar Tongue by Francis Grose. The last-named book, subtitled Buckish Slang and Pickpocket Eloquence, is a facsimile of the first edition (1785), containing such gems as 'Gutter Lane' for 'throat' and 'pogy' for 'drunk'. Grose, antiquary and draughtsman, was born in Middlesex around 1730, the son of a wealthy Swiss jeweller. After studying art, he worked as "maker of tinted drawings, chiefly of architectural remains." In 1763 Grose became Paymaster of the Hampshire Militia, where, as he later confessed, "the only account-books I kept were my right and left pockets, into the one of which I received, and from the other of which I paid." Grose lost his inherited fortune in making financial amends and resorted to his draughtsman's skills. Encouraged by friends he published Antiquities of England and Wales in four volumes between 1773 and 1787. In 1789 Grose made an antiquarian tour through Scotland and befriended Robert Burns, who wrote the poem Tam O' Shanter for him. The Antiquities of Scotland was then published between 1790 and 1791. Grose proceeded to Ireland intending to do the same for that country, but soon after his arrival in Dublin in 1791, and while dining with his friend Mr Hone, he was seized with an apoplectic fit and died immediately, later being buried in Dublin. Antiquities of Ireland appeared posthumously, (completed by Edward Ledwich), between 1791 and 1795. Francis Grose was short in stature and almost spherical, making him an easy target in view of his name, but he was much loved as a loval friend who would overlook faults, while always seeking virtues, in others. Shakespeare would have described him as a 'gentle'. (Steve Osborn)

ST.ANTHONY'S CHURCH

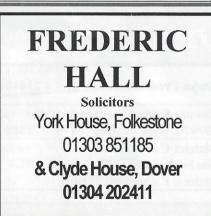
We would like to thank all the parishioners, who helped in any way to make the Church look so festive for the Christmas services. All the services were well attended and we think the decorations, tree and the candles were much appreciated by everyone. A big thank you also, to the team of ladies who regularly clean the Church throughout the year. (Grace and Richard, Church Wardens]

and On Saturday 26th February from 11.00 a.m. onwards a "Mini Garage Sale" will be held at St Radigund's Church Hall in aid of church funds. There will be bric-a-brac, lots of books, cakes, tea, coffee, light lunches and a raffle. On Sunday 13th February from 12-2.00 p.m. there will be a Lent Hunger Lunch in aid of church funds, in St Radigund's Church Hall.

Artisan Nursery Garden Design

Saturday persons required, to help set up nursery, any age considered.

Tel: 01303 221953 or 07763327548.



VILLAGE OF THE YEAR -If anyone would like to enter Alkham in the Village of the Year competition the entry forms can be obtained emailing by info@ruralkent.org.uk or by phoning 01303 850816. There are six categories, which are: Building Community Life: Business: Young people: Older people: Environmental Action: Information Technology. I would be quite happy to help anybody if they wish to enter Alkham in the competition. (editor)

		WHAT'S ON		Alkham	Capel	Hougham
		Regular events	Tuesday 1 st	Healing servi	ce St. Radigund Ch	urch 7.00 pm
TUESDA	Y	Art classes in VH 10 to 1 pm ring 01303 243115 for detailsWednesday 2 nd Joint Benefice Sung Eucha St Mary, Capel-le-Fe				
WEDNESD		Keep Fit 9.30 -10.30 am Wednesday club 10.30-11.30am Mobile Library Vicarage	Sunday 6 th	Evensong 4.00 p.m.	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping together 11.00 am
THURSD FRIDA		Meadow car park 9.25 - 9.50am Whist Drive at 7.30 pm	Wednesday 9 th Ash Wednesday			Sung Eucharist 7.30 p.m.
(VH= Vill Saturday	age H	Other events (all and VM= Vicarage Meadow) Bingo in the village hall at 7.30pm	Sunday 13 th	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping together 11.00 am	Songs of praise West Hougham village hall 4.00 p.m.
Fuesday	8	W.I. in village hall 7.30 pm	Sunday 20 th	Worshipping together 11.00 am	Sung evensong 4.00 p.m.	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.
Saturday Sunday	19 20	PCC Jumble sale in VH 11.00 am AGM for East Kent Heritage buses	Sunday 27 th Joint Benefice Sung Eucharist St Anthony, Alkham 10.00 a.m.			
Monday	21	D & D Bird Club in VH 7.30pm	Weekday Services: Morning Prayer at Capel Monday-Friday at 8.30 a (except Bank Holidays); Evening Prayer at Hougham on Wednesday at 5			
Saturday	29	Beekeepers in VH	Eucharist at Capel every Thursday at 9.15 am			ý.

THE ANNUAL QUIZ was held in the village hall on the 22nd of January and most people seemed to have a good time. There were thirteen tables of up to eight people and food was provided at the interval, prepared by Doreen Lott with Sue Lees helping. Matthew Hyland did a splendid job as scorer keeping calm under pressing conditions. The competition was quite close this year with most tables doing well and second prize was won by the table headed by Darren and Jo Mowat, who lost by half a point. The team which triumphed was from Ellinge and Chalksole comprising John and Shelley Jackson, Mary and Dick Sullivan, Barry and Margaret Sheppard and Geoff and Linda Gaskill who were awarded a small plaque and a bottle of wine each. Further details will be published next month regarding the money raised from the quiz. (editor)

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District Councillors Sue Nicholas 823956 Andrew Richardson 211835	Parish Clerk, Susan Lees 822661 susan@susanlees.freeserve.co.uk	822295 and Grace Stacey 822756Alkham web sitewww.alkham.org	

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



ETC: 4 diamonds

Peaceful location overlooking the Alkham Valley

Excellent facilities for family or business stays, short breaks, overnight and weddings. Web: www.alkhamcourt.co.uk Wendy Burrows Tel: 01303 892056

TRAFALGAR WEEKEND Over the weekend October the 21st to 23rd 2005 the nation will unite to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar. Beacons will blaze across the land, church bells will peal and festivities will take place in homes, hotels, pubs, schools and village and town halls throughout the UK and Channel Islands. DDC will be coordinating the District's activities and detailed information will be available on www.whitecliffscountry.org.uk. If anyone has any ideas as to how Alkham could participate, please contact the Parish Clerk on 822661.

THE ANNUAL QUIZ made a profit of £320 and it is proposed, as mentioned at the quiz, that this will go in the 'Alkham Account' to help cover the cost of village activities (please see page 2). Last month I meant to thank Di Smith for her generous donation of a joint of beef for the raffle.

WATER PIPE LINE - If you are affected by F & D Water Company proposals and want to chat to people similarly affected please contact Margaretta Bundy on 825481 to set up a suitable venue.

RECYCLING The next collection will on March 3rd. A couple of people are still putting wrong items out for collection. The only plastics we take are containers, which have had drink in. We cannot take voghurt cartons or Comfort etc and foil type crisp packets are not foil. It's possible that these people are not reading the Newsletter so please spread the word as we have to walk the rubbish in to the KCC site.

No. 139 March 2005

MOTHERING SUNDAY On Sunday 6th March there will be the special service at Alkham Church at 3.00 p.m. This will be followed by a tea in the village hall. What better way to thank your Mother than by expressing your thanks publicly to God, and giving her a nice tea afterwards. Hope to see you there. (Kevin Mepham)

CONGRATULATIONS to Margaretta Bundy on obtaining a Bachelor of Arts in Theology from Christchurch College Canterbury.

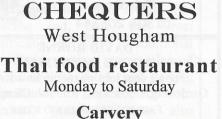
ALKHAM FETE AGM will be held on 3rd March at 8 p.m. in the Village Hall. All are welcome, especially if you have any comments or suggestions as to how we could improve this year's Fete (Saturday 9th July). Please come along and have your say. (Paul Tapsell. 01303 892082)

A MINI BAZAAR and coffee morning, organised by Doreen Lott's grandson, in aid of Dover Boys' Grammar School Enterprise bid is being held on the 26th February in the village hall from 10.30am to 12.30. Various items for sale plus raffle, tombola etc.

MARQUIS OF GRANBY Wednesday Night Carvery £10.95 (eat as much as you like) Thursday Night Steak Night Special 16oz rib-eye £9.45 8oz rib-eye £7.75 Sunday Lunch Carvery £8.95 Please book early 822945

Delivered free to all properties in the Parish

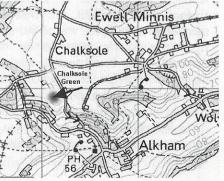
NEWSLETTER - As you can see the Newsletter has an A3 layout and thanks go to Clive Batcheldor of Newlyns Meadow for getting it copied in this format. It was not possible to have the pages collated and stapled in the old format so I decided it was easier to fold the 330 copies rather than staple them. (editor)



12.00 to 4.00pm on Sundays Phone 01304 226776

CHALKSOLE GREEN

Twelve people met in the Marquis to put forward ideas for improving Chalksole Green. It was agreed that a butyl lining to the pond would be best with a maximum water depth of 1 metre and that meandering paths would be preferable to cutting down all the undergrowth. The overhang of some of the trees needs removing and the tree warden is to be consulted. A committee comprising Mick Wingfield, Maurice Sayers, Clive Batcheldor and Geoff Gaskill was formed to take matters further and there will be another open evening in the Marquis on the 8th of March if anyone else would like to be involved. The Parish Council will be fully consulted.





Call 01304 203578 or 07984 886251

FINANCES - The Newsletter has been copied at Staples for the last 7 years at 2p (+ VAT) per photostat with the 1320 copies costing £31.02. On average there are 7 large box adverts at £3 per month, two smaller ones at £1.50, plus 16 line adverts at £1 making a monthly revenue of £40, covering the copying plus £4.50 for petrol (Staples/delivering) and £3.70 for the 16 copies, which are posted. In December the photostat cost increased to 4p making a deficit per month of £25. The Newsletter has a reserve, which would cover this for a while, but it seemed sensible as adverts are paid to September, to use some of the money from the annual quiz. In the meantime, Clive Batcheldor offered to get the Newsletter copied at the Folkestone Rainbow Centre (see article) for £30, which I gratefully took up. It's hoped that this will be a long term arrangement but it is not guaranteed. In addition the Alkham Soup Kitchen commitment at Dover requires finance so I thought the best idea, as mentioned at the quiz, was to put the profits from this year's quiz in an 'Alkham Account'. This could include the recycling money and provide for other Alkham events. Any money spent would be published in the Newsletter and the account would be vetted by an independent person. If anyone has any comments on this proposal, please let me know (824969). (editor)

W.I. At the last meeting Susannah Tapsell. president welcomed members and two visitors. A trip to Chartham Church for lunch was arranged in May. We been there often have and thoroughly enjoy it. To round off the afternoon a visit to a garden centre will take place. The summer outing is planned for July, venues to be discussed at next meeting. The final trip is in March to Wembley Television studios to be an audience for a new quiz show to be televised soon, we do not have to take part! Twenty five people can go, we have nineteen at the moment so if anyone would like to come give me a ring. Cost is only the coach fare. Three members showed an interest to go to the Albert Hall in June for the annual conference. An Italian evening, a drama day and our own group meeting were all discussed. The speaker was Dave Pascall the former coxswain of the Dover lifeboat. He gave a most interesting talk about the services they provide with amusing incidents as well as tragic ones. He said from the first call they get it takes eight minutes to get the men ready and launch the boat. Dave also brought the gear the men have to wear and it takes them thirty seconds to don. He then picked out Mandy Summers to put everything on from wellie boots to leggings and life jacket, it took slightly longer than 30 seconds! There are women in the crew as well as the men. It was an excellent talk and he was thanked by Mandy. The total raised in December for Cancer Research was £545. This was the Coffee morning and Carols and donkey rides in the village hall, the carol singing around the village and sales of magazines through the year. An excellent achievement. (Cherry Leppard)

FARMER'S MARKET Capel-le-Ferne Village Hall each Tuesday 10am to 1pm. Local produce Phone 01303 245399

NOTHING CHANGES – Letter to the Folkestone Herald 13th January 1945. Damage to Alkham shelter - May I on behalf of the grateful members of the small community who avail themselves of the waiting facilities in the form of a passenger shelter, kindly provided by the East Kent Bus Company on the Alkham Valley corner, voice a strong protest which may, through the medium of your paper, reach the ears of those concerned. Since its destruction by enemy action in July last, we, the residents of this community, have known what the loss of this shelter has meant, especially on the cold winter mornings. It was with grateful thanks we saw that once more the company had replaced the shelter for the benefit of the waiting passengers. Sir, it is a scandal that there is, in this community an element that would wilfully and wantonly destroy the glass in this shelter one day after its replacement. Are we after all, no better than the Germans whom we are fighting for the preservation of the peace, safety and liberty of the common man? Have we as well been bereft of all sense of common decency, of all respect of the belongings and rights of the other fellow? We hope and trust that this is not the case, and on behalf of the sober and law-abiding users of this boon, tender our thanks to the East Kent Bus Company who must be by now thoroughly disheartened. Time and again, even before its destruction by a flying bomb, glass and defaced paintwork were continually being replaced, but we, who gratefully put this shelter to its rightful use, end with a plea to all whom it may concern to endeavour to put a stop to these actions which are daily betraying the very cause for which we are fighting. A Evelyn Wicks, The Nook. (I am grateful to Sam Gordon of Slip Lane for this article – editor).

CHITTENDEN'S

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Two traffic patrol officers from North Berwick were using a hand-held radar device to check for speeding motorists on the A1 last May. One officer used the device to check the speed of a vehicle approaching over the crest of a hill and was somewhat surprised to find that the speed recorded was off the scale, in excess of 300 mph; the device then jammed. The radar had in fact latched onto a NATO Tornado aircraft in the North Sea, which was taking part in a low flying exercise. Following a complaint by the police to the RAF, it was revealed that the officers could be classed 'very fortunate'. The tactical computer on board the Tornado had not only detected and jammed the hostile radar equipment, but had automatically armed a Sidewinder Air-to-Ground Missile, ready to neutralise

the perceived threat. Luckily the Dutch pilot was alerted to the missile status and was able to over-ride the automatic protection system before the missile launched.

FREDERIC HALL Solicitors York House, Folkestone 01303 851185 & Clyde House, Dover 01304 202411

The other day, while driving down into Folkestone, I was horrified to witness an accident where a car ran into the back of a motor cyclist. Thankfully, no-one was hurt, but it reminded me of an accident I had when I was a curate in St Leonards. I was returning home after doing parish visits, and was stationary in the middle of the road waiting to turn right. A white van came tearing down the road, caught the back of my car and sent it spinning like a top. Coming to in the hospital, I was treated for severe shock and minor injuries, and eventually allowed home. Perhaps the greatest shock of all was the sudden realisation that you get no warning, no time to think, to prepare, to plan. In life we know there are no certainties apart from death, and it comes on us often without warning. We shall shortly be celebrating Easter, and perhaps remembering the death of Jesus. It was predicted, and He prepared his followers as much as he could to enable them to simply understand the tremendous difference his death would mean for us all. We are promised that by having faith in him and following him, we shall be granted eternal life. Those words, 'eternal life' trip off the tongue easily, but to someone involved in a tragedy, or to someone grieving, they offer you hope which nothing else can bring. When I had my accident, I was already trying to follow Jesus Christ, and I believe that if I had died, then although I was unprepared, yet it would not have been the end. Jesus promises us new life. That is why we celebrate at Easter. Take a moment to see the reason vou celebrate Easter. Is it a reason that brings you comfort and hope? May God Bless you all with wisdom to see the things that are needful for eternal joy.

(Kevin Mepham)

DOVER CHORAL SOCIETY will present a performance of Elgar's The Dream of Gerontius at 7.30 pm on Saturday 19th March in Dover Town Hall. Tickets costing £8 (Students £4) are available from Dover Tourist Information Centre; by phoning 822402, or at the door on the night if any are left.

OZ on GREATSPOTS

A persistent visitor to our bird table in coldest February was the Woodpecker Great Spotted (Dendrocopos major), unmistakable in bright red underpants. Known in past times as 'greater' or 'pied' woodpecker, 'French magpie' and 'galleymagpie', its modern name is often abbreviated by birdwatchers to 'greatspot'. In recent years there has been a phenomenal increase in the number of greatspots seen, both in the wild and in gardens, after the terrible losses of winter 1963. The rapid repopulation was due partly to the amount of dead wood available after Dutch Elm Disease and, later, the Great Hurricane, and partly to additional woodland nesting space released by the decline of the rival starling population. Accustomed to humans, greatspots have also benefited from the recent popularity of garden bird-feeding with high quality foods, including nuts and fats. The greatspot's other advantage is its unique body structure. It is 'zygodactylic', meaning 'two toes forwards and two backwards', hence is very steady when climbing. The root of its tongue coils round the back of the skull and can be released to harpoon insects in crevices. Fully extended, the tongue protrudes $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches beyond the bill; the human equivalent would be 14 inches. Finally, the greatspot's skull contains shock-absorbers to avoid damage when the bird is drilling into trees or telephone poles at the rate of some 16 blows per second. This drilling, for food or nestmaking. becomes known as 'drumming' when the purpose is to attract a mate or deter a competitor. On the afternoon dogwalk, there comes a point when we hear two sets of drumming, one from a neighbour's garden and one from the Abbey grounds, and we've taken to stopping there for a moment just to listen and marvel at what goes on inside those relatively small bodies. (Steve Osborn)

	V	WHAT'S ON 852252	Agging Reads	Alkham	Capel	Hougham
Section 14	Re	egular events	Tuesday 2 nd		Healing Service 7.00 pm	NUSAL N
TUESDA	AY	Art classes in VH 10 to 1 pm ring 01303 243115 for details	Sunday 6 th Mothering	Mothering Sunday Service	Family Eucharist 9.30 am	Worshipping Together 11.00
WEDNESI	DAY	Keep Fit 9.30 -10.30 am Wednesday club 10.30-11.30am	Sunday	3.00 pm	Worshipping	am Songs of Prais
THURSD	AY	Mobile Library Vicarage Meadow car park 9.25 - 9.50am	Sunday 13 th	Sung Eucharist 9.30 am	Together 11.00 am	Village Hall, West Houghan
FRIDA	Y	Whist Drive at 7.30 pm	And an all the second	all and a hitself and	v seent finne	4.00 pm
A111 - 179		other events	Sunday 20 th Palm Sunday	Worshipping together 11.00 am	Evensong 4.00 pm	Sung Eucharis 9.30 am
Contraction of the local division of the loc		all and VM= Vicarage Meadow)	24 th Maundy	Sung Eucha	rist at St Anthony, Alkhar	m 7.30 pm
hursday	3	Fete AGM see page 1	Thursday	Invited tells list		
Saturday	5	Bingo in village hall 7.30pm	25 th Good	using adjacent and the	The last hour before	
Monday	7	Parish Council meeting 7.30pm	25 Good Friday	A static and spirit	the Cross 2.00 pm	
Fuesday	8	W.I. in village hall 7.30pm	Trituay	they then he he	Eucharist 6.30 am	electrony four learness
aturday	19	Quiz in village hall 7.30pm	Sunday 27 th	Sung Eucharist	(breakfast) Sung	Sung Eucharis
Saturday	19	Easter egg raffle in VH 10.30am	Easter Day	9.30 am	Eucharist 11.00 am	10.00 am
onday	21	D & D Bird Club in VH 7.30pm			Capel, Monday to Friday a ham on Wednesday at 5	
rday	26	Beekeepers in village hall	bank holidays); Evening Prayer at Hougham on Wednesday at 5.00 pm; Eucharist at Capel every Thursday at 9.15 am			

FOLKESTONE RAINBOW CENTRE, where the Newsletter is being copied, was set up in 1985 to help local people dewith personal, emotional and family problems. They offer a range of social support for parents, children, the lonely, the isolated, the socially excluded and the homeless, as well as a fully professional counselling service. For more information please ring 01303 850733 or speak to Clive Batcheldor who lives in Newlyns Meadow.

THANKS go to Debbie Robson for a cheque of £52, which has been passed onto Steph Perrow who co-ordinates the Dover Soup Kitchen. Debbie works with the Dover Adult Service team who, rather than buy Christmas cards for each other, put the money in a box and raised the £52. (editor)

TSUNAMI – You people of Alkham have really exceeded yourselves raising ± 300 from the Red Cross collection, ± 250 from the jumble sale in the village hall plus the ± 750 from the American Supper making ± 1300 in total. (Sue Lees)

TELEPHONE NUMBERS	Police – 999 phone & 01303 850055 Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130 Community Warden 07977 981994	Village Hall booking Rosemary Polden 824876 Alkham Valley Society secretary	
Gwyn Prosser M.P. 01304 214484	GP out of hours to access urgent medical help 0844 800 1234	Joanna Walker 821641 W.I. Betty Neely 01303 251475	
County Councillor, Bryan Cope 207976, work number 01795532547	Newsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969 e mail <u>brianwimsett@hotmail.com</u>	Vicar Kevin Mepham 01303 244119 Church Wardens - Richard Tapsell	
District Councillors Sue Nicholas 823956	Parish Clerk, Susan Lees 822661	822295 and Grace Stacey 822756	
Andrew Richardson 211835	susan@susanlees.freeserve.co.uk	Alkham web site www.alkham.org	

LOCAL BUSINESSES & SERVICES St. Margaret's 852252 ACCOUNTANCY John Garlinge Accountancy, taxation, book keeping services **ALKHAM MEADOWS** Touring Caravan Park - Next to Garden Centre Alkham Valley Road 206344 Alkham Valley Tree Surgery: Planning, planting, maintenance 824853 & 07973 501390 ARBORICULTURE Wolverton removal E R Woodruff carpentry and joinery, decorating, maintenance 824991 **BUILDING WORK** Swanbourne, Wolverton Canine beauticians, dogs and cats groomed, Newcastle House **Ewell Minnis** 822902 CAT & DOG GROOMING 07889310479 John Hoy domestic/commercial carpet and upholstery cleaning **CLEANING SERVICES** Curtains and blinds made to your specification Alkham Valley 01303 891806 CURTAINS & BLINDS ELECTRICAL South Alkham 01303 252764 Simon Price electricians & computer installation, Megget Farm Alkham 202004 or 822888 **ENVIRONMENTAL** J H Ullmann Environmental contractors, Malmains Farm Hogbrook Equestrian Centre Livery yard, instruction, hacking Hogbrook Lane, Alkham 827644 **EQUESTRIAN** 01303 891996 **EQUESTRIANSUPPLIES** Alkham Valley Garden Centre - everything for horse and rider South Alkham 01303 893351 **GARDEN CENTRE** Alkham Valley Garden Centre with gift shop and horse supplies South Alkham Alkham Valley Rd, Wolverton Alkhamhurst Kennels dogs, cats & unusual boarded. All pet needs 822420 **KENNELS** Greenhill livery yard Do it yourself and grass liveries Megget Lane, South Alkham 01303 892056 LIVERY London rd, Temple Ewell 827100 **POST OFFICE** Southdown Stores groceries, videos, fruit/veg, off licence, freshbread/milk

Capel Street, Capel-le-Ferne 01303 251353

Capel-le-Ferne school Your local primary school; free bus from Alkham

823568 Margeret -

SCHOOL

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

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THE RECYCLING has now been going for a year so we decided to withdraw the money from the account. Ken and I had no idea how much we had earned and were amazed to receive a cheque made payable to the Alkham Fund for £261.16. We have collected 1.4t of cardboard, 4.4t of paper, 15 kg of foil, 544 kg of cans and 632 kg of plastic. The only expense (thanks to Billy Hollis) has been the plastic sacks of which we leave about 100 a month at a cost of £2.60, making a total of £31 for the year. Thus £230 will be added to the Alkham Fund and with the money from the quizzes it now stands at £730. If anyone has a local project for which they would like some sponsorship, please let me know. (editor)

Read a new book a month... are you up to the challenge? If you like reading a variety of books and would like to chat about what you have read with like minded friends, then what better than to join Alkham's new book club? Meeting once a month starting April 27th 7.30pm at Chalksole Cottage (glass of wine almost obligatory), come along and find out more. Books and final meeting time will depend on who turns up! Email or phone Linda on lindagaskill@peoplepotential.fsnet.co.uk or 823100 if you would like to come.

Luckhurst who lived at South Alkham. His death was widely reported in the local press and the national dailies, such as the Telegraph and the Times, and Meridian Television carried а moving tribute to a great cricketer. He recently published his autobiography entitled 'From Bootboy to President', which summed up his life in cricket having started at Canterbury at the age of 15 and ending up as the President of the Kent County Cricket Club. At the start of the 1970's he played for England and opened the batting with Geoff Boycott against Australia and was a skilful player of spin. Deepest sympathy goes to his wife Raye and all the family..... and on Monday the 14th of March a service to remember and celebrate his life was held in St. Anthony's church. The service would normally have been in Canterbury Cathedral but because of his attachment to Alkham he requested it be at St. Anthony's. The church was full to capacity and the sound of the hymns from the 300 people was inspiring. Derek Underwood spoke of his friend and moving tributes were given by his three sons.

THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING will be held in the village hall on the 4th of April at 7.30pm. Everyone is welcome to come along and there will be a speaker who will talk about the effect of tourism on the local community and other issues. The talk will be supplemented with slides.

MARQUIS OF GRANBY Wednesday Night Carvery £10.95 (eat as much as you like) Thursday Night Steak Night Special 16oz rib-eye £9.45 8oz rib-eye £7.75 Sunday Lunch Carvery £8.95 Please book early 822945

No. 139 April 2005 Delivered free to all properties in the Parish

BRIAN LUCKHURST – It is very sad to report the death of Brian Luckhurst who lived at South Alkham. His death was widely reported in the local press and the national dailies, such as the Telegraph and the Times, and Meridian Television carried a moving tribute to a great cricketer. He recently published his

CHEQUERS

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Thai food restaurant Monday to Saturday

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SPEED LIMITS - The Highway Authority has been in discussions with the police and they believe the latter are not against the imposition of speed limits along the Alkham Valley Road. When they get confirmation from the police they will put matters in train. The Parish Council has been pressing for a 40mph limit from South Alkham and a 50mph limit in general.

RECYCLING will be on Thursday the 7th of April.

PARISH CLERK – Sue Lees is retiring from the post of Parish Clerk and formal applications are now required from anyone who would like to take up this worthwhile job. There are Parish Council meetings every two months and occasional meetings in between. The post is salaried and if you would like further details please phone Sue on 822661.... and as an incentive a cutting from the April 1847 edition of the Kentish Gazette told of the longevity of Parish Clerks. Mr Payne was ably performing his duties in his 80th year at Folkestone; Mr White, the Alkham Clerk, lived to the age of 92; Mr Emery of Temple Ewell was still in good health at 84 and able to plant potatoes and toll the bell when old acquaintances died (I'll have a word with Stan).

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CLEAN NEIGHBOURHOODS

There is a bill currently going through parliament which, if invoked, will give Parish Councils the authority to issue fixed penalties for litter, graffiti, fly posting and dog offences.

MANY THANKS to Chris Harman for his financial donation to the Newsletter and also to Lucy McKenzie.

GARDEN TALK – A big thank you to John and Hilary for hosting our February Garden Talk. Plenty of wine and nibbles, good company, what else could you ask for? The next meeting will be at Ian and Lucy's home, the Old Vicarage on April 15th at 7.30pm. New members welcome. **(Rosemary & John Crothall)**

SHORT LANE

The houses at the top of Short Lane are owned by a housing trust and are provided for people with a local connection to Alkham. The following (which has been edited) was received from the Southern Housing Group, which owns the properties.

Rural Housing Scheme - This Association is keen to ensure that we meet the conditions set Section out in the 106 Agreement which was drawn up Scheme when the was developed. Applicants who meet the local connection criteria in the Agreement currently apply to the Housing Department at Dover District Council but there is a need to extend this and therefore local people can now also apply directly to Southern Housing Group. To assist in this process a form has been devised to go out with our housing application form for the applicant to provide full details of their connection with your village surrounding and parishes. То obtain forms applicants should contact our Service Centre on 08456 066 366 from 8.0.a.m to 8.0.p.m. Monday to Friday. To ensure that all local people are aware of how and where to apply for all future vacancies I am producing some A4 adverts to place on your Parish Council notice board and these should be with you by April. The Group will then have a supply of suitably qualified applicants when a property becomes available for letting and this will help reduce previously experienced delays.

FARMER'S MARKET

Capel-le-Ferne Village Hall each Tuesday 10am to 1pm. Local produce

Phone 01303 245399

W.I. - At the last meeting quite a few outings were discussed and it was agreed to have a day in Greenwich in September. Why we have left it later is Greenwich is extremely busy through the summer months. There is a lot going on there and every Saturday they have a big market, also boat trips up the Thames, walks by the river and the Greenwich museum and observatory. We will drop people off and they can do what they like. A half day in July probably to Great Dixter, lunch in a nearby pub! Names were taken for the lunch in May at Chartham Church. Anyone other than W.I members are welcome on any of these outings, ring Cherry 01303 255114 or see any member. The group meeting was finalised as it is Alkham's turn to host this. The speaker was Mrs Wheal whose subject was "Tropical Fruits and Turtles". She had travelled through Costa Rica to the Gallipoli Islands, she showed some beautiful slides of flowers, tropical fruits and the scenery was amazing. She also had slides of the turtles when they come onto the sands to lay their eggs. Her commentary throughout was most interesting and her greatest thrill was when she arrived at the Gallipoli islands, which she had a few slides of. She was thanked by Debbie Griggs. Next month is "Country Dancing" with Mrs Watkinson which I am sure we will all join in!

(Cherry Leppard)

SEAT - The seat by the valley road just down from the bus stop is to be replaced with a new oak one.

BEECH TREE – On Friday the 11th of March one of the few remaing beech trees around the Old Vicarage fell down onto Vicarage Meadow. I understand that the beech trees were planted around the Vicarage shortly after it was built in 1836.



CHITTENDEN'S

Funeralcare FOLKESIONE HYIHE 1 Ingoldsby Road Windmill Street (01303) 851456 (01303) 262762 Manager Manager Mr. Chris Daughters Mr. Mike Hands Personal Service Always **Private Chapels of Rest** Memorial Masonry FUNERAL PRE-PAYMENT PLANS AVAILABLE UNDER THE PERSONAL SUPERVISION OF PHIL CHITTENDEN Bradford & Bingley **Geering & Colyer** KEARSNEY (01304) 823714 DOVER (01304)207099 YOUR LOCAL ESTATE AGENT offering DOUBLE EXPOSURE For your property From our offices at both **12 KEARSNEY AVENUE, RIVER, DOVER** AND 5 KING STREET, DOVER Discover for yourselves why Geering and Colyer deserve their reputation for customer care SURVEYORS * VALUERS * ESTATE AGENTS

SLIDE – The play equipment on Vicarage Meadow has been inspected by Eric Cook with the result that the slide has been identified for replacement. The Parish Council are in favour of keeping it in its present location as safety matting won't be required to the sides and quotes are being sought. The swings are all right but could do with a coat of paint, although it may be cheaper to replace the tubing.

INTERESTED in joining a home group? Starting after Easter, Linda and Geoff Gaskill will begin a Monday evening group in their home, looking at bible readings and their relevance to everyday life. Beginning on April 25^{th} at 7.30 - 9.30 pm, come along for fellowship, study and discussion, all are welcome. E mail lindagaskill@peoplepotential. Fsnet.co.uk or phone Linda on 823100 if you would like to come.

> **FREDERIC HALL** Solicitors York House. Folkestone 01303 851185 & Clyde House, Dover 01304 202411

CHURCHYARD - Alkham is undoubtedly a place of great natural beauty. An important part of the village is the churchyard which as most people know is considered to be a conservation area due to rare grass growing there. That is the reason why the grass is only cut once a year, and the meadow flowers and wildlife, (wasps?) are to be encouraged. I am sure that most people are aware that the Church yard is maintained on behalf of the village now and in the future. There are regulations which we have to try to enforce to ensure the Church yard remains a place of natural beauty also blends into and the surroundings. This means that only natural materials are used for headstones, and that fashion and taste is not allowed to disfigure the harmony of the overall view. You should be aware that garden edging, chippings, or other ornaments are not permitted in the Church yard, and nothing should be placed on the graves without permission of the incumbent. If you are unsure of what is permissible, please speak to the wardens, and a copy of the regulations is displayed in Church. (Kevin Mepham) **CHALKSOLE GREEN**

A second meeting was held in the Marquis of Granby regarding Chalksole Green. It was decided that there should be two ponds rather than one big one. The reason for this is that the smaller part of the pond is overhung by two very mature oak trees and these should be left untouched and as a result this pond will be shaded. The ash bough over the larger pond is to be removed together with other shading and this pond will be started first. It is yet to be decided whether it will be lined or puddled. The Parish Council have given approval for the committee to carry out the necessary works to reinstate the ponds and the green.

OZ on 23/4 – The 23^{rd} of April is a remarkable date that celebrates Saint George, the birth of William Shakespeare in 1564, and the deaths, in 1616, of both Shakespeare and Miguel Cervantes, the great Spanish author of Don Quixote. George, a Turkish soldier in the Roman Army of the 4th century AD, was a particular favourite of Emperor Diocletian. However, when Diocletian began persecuting Christians, George objected and was imprisoned, tortured, and beheaded, becoming one of the earliest martyrs. Diocletian's wife became a Christian in sympathy and was in turn executed. George was canonized in 494 AD by Pope Gelasius, and soon became famous worldwide. In 1222, the Council of Oxford chose April 23rd as Saint George's day. A measure of Saint George's popularity is that he is patron saint not only of England but also of Aragon, archers, armourers, Boy Scouts, butchers, Catalonia, cavalry, chivalry, farmers, Ferrara, Genoa, Georgia, Germany, Greece, horse-riders. Istanbul, knights, lepers, Lithuania, Moscow, Palestinian Christians, plague, Portugal, saddle-makers, skin diseases, soldiers and Venice. Although Shakespeare definitely died on St George's Day 1616, there is no record of his birth-date and so it is usually taken as April 23rd 1564, ie three days before his baptism. Shakespeare famously immortalised Saint George in Act III of King Henry V. Shakespeare and Cervantes died on the same date, but not on the same day. Spain adopted the "New Style" Gregorian Calendar in 1582, while England stayed with the "Old Style" Julian calendar until 1752. In between, the Gregorian calendar was 10 days ahead of the Julian calendar, so Shakespeare died on April 23rd 1616 in the Julian calendar, ie May 3rd 1616 in the Gregorian calendar. Incidentally, Cervantes' Don Quixote, often called "the first modern novel", was published 400 years ago, on January 16th 1605. (Steve Osborn)

WHAT'S ON					
	Regular events				
TUESDAY	FUESDAY Art classes in VH 10 to 1 pm ring 01303 243115 for details				
WEDNESDA	WEDNESDAY Wednesday club 10.30-11.30am				
THURSDAY	v	obile Library Vicarage eadow car park 9.25 - 9.50am			
FRIDAY	FRIDAY Whist Drive at 7.30 pm				
(VH= Villag	Other events (VH= Village Hall and VM= Vicarage Meadow)				
Saturday	2	Bingo in village hall at 7.30pm			
Monday	4	Annual Parish meeting in the village hall at 7.30pm			
Tuesday	12	W.I. in village hall 7.30 pm			
Wednesday	Wednesday 13 Church AGM 7.30pm everyone welcome				
Monday	20	D & D Bird Club in VH 7.30pm			
Thursday	28	Village Hall Committee 8.00pm			

Day	Alkham	Capel	Hougham		
Sunday 3 rd	Evensong 6.30 p.m.	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping Together 11.00am		
Tuesday 5 th		Healing service 7.00 p.m.			
Sunday 10 th	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping Together 11.00am	Songs of Praise village hall West Hougham 6.30pm		
Sunday 17 th	Worshipping Together 11.00am	Evensong 6.30pm	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.		
Sunday 24 th	Joint Benefice Sung Eucharist St Radigund, Capel-le-Ferne 10.00 a.m.				
Weekday services: Morning prayer is said at Capel Monday Friday at 8.30 am (except bank holidays). Evening prayer at Hougham on Wednesday at 5 pm. Eucharist at Capel every Thursday at 9.15 am followed by refreshments					

ST. ANTHONY'S CHURCH Annual General meeting will be held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 13th April at 7.30pm. when elections will take place to appoint Council members for the coming year. Please come along to support us and to raise any comments or concerns you may have about the Church in Alkham.

(Grace Stacey and Richard Tapsell. Church Wardens)

ALKHAM VALLEY ROAD - A programme of works is planned for the Valley Road. Some of the existing signs will be replaced and extra ones added where necessary. The skid resistance of the road surface at Chilton is to be improved and other similar works carried out mainly between Wolverton and Bushey Ruff.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS	Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130	Village Hall booking Rosemary Polden 824876 Alkham Valley Society secretary
		Joanna Walker 821641 W.I. Betty Neely 01303 251475
		Vicar Kevin Mepham 01303 244119 Church Wardens - Richard Tapsell
District Councillors Sue Nicholas 823956 Andrew Richardson 211835	Parish Clerk, Susan Lees 822661	822295 and Grace Stacey 822756 Alkham web site www.alkham.org

LOCAL BUSINESSES & SERVICES

ACCOUNTANCY	John Garlinge Accountancy, taxation, book keeping services	St. Margaret's 852252
ALKHAM MEADOWS	Touring Caravan Park – Next to Garden Centre	Alkham Valley Road 206344
ARBORICULTURE	Alkham Valley Tree Surgery: Planning, planting, maintenance removal	Wolverton 824853 & 07973 501390
BUILDING WORK	E R Woodruff carpentry and joinery, decorating, maintenance	Swanbourne, Wolverton 824991
CAT & DOG GROOMING	Canine beauticians, dogs and cats groomed, Newcastle House	Ewell Minnis 822902
CLEANING SERVICES	John Hoy domestic/commercial carpet and upholstery cleaning	Ewell Minnis 828007 & 07889310479
CURTAINS & BLINDS	Curtains and blinds made to your specification	Alkham Valley 01303 891806
ELECTRICAL	Simon Price electricians & computer installation, Megget Farm	South Alkham 01303 252764
ENVIRONMENTAL	J H Ullmann Environmental contractors, Malmains Farm	Alkham 202004 or 822888
EQUESTRIAN	Hogbrook Equestrian Centre Livery yard, instruction, hacking	Hogbrook Lane, Alkham 827644
EQUESTRIAN SUPPLIES	Alkham Valley Garden Centre - everything for horse and rider	South Alkham 01303 891996
GARDEN CENTRE	Alkham Valley Garden Centre with gift shop and pet supplies	South Alkham 01303 893351
KENNELS	Alkhamhurst Kennels dogs, cats & unusual boarded. All pet needs	Alkham Valley Rd, Wolverton 822420
LIVERY	Greenhill livery yard Do it yourself and grass liveries	Megget Lane, South Alkham 01303 892056
POST OFFICE	Southdown Stores groceries, videos, fruit/veg, off licence, freshbread/milk	London rd, Temple Ewell 827100
SCHOOL	Capel-le-Ferne school Your local primary school; free bus from Alkham	Capel Street, Capel-le-Ferne 01303 251353

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

Alkham Valley Garden Centre Phone 01303

893351

Gardening needs and pet supplies

Alkham Court Farmhouse Bed & Breakfast Meggett Lane, South Alkham ETC: 4 diamonds Peaceful location overlooking the

Excellent facilities for family or business stays, short breaks, overnight and weddings. Web: www.alkhamcourt.co.uk Wendy Burrows Tel: 01303 892056

Alkham Valley

ALKHAM VILLAGE FETE bric-a-brac stall - Will you all please remember our stall when you are spring cleaning or clearing out ready to move. We pride ourselves on presenting quite a good display of goods and welcome any unwanted gifts etc and other saleable items. We are happy to collect from you. Thank you. (Irene Barnard)

THANKS – In last month's Newsletter there should have been a 'thank you' to John Ullmann for allowing his field to the west of the village to be used as a car for people attending Brian park Luckhurst's funeral. The gesture was greatly appreciated.

THANKS also go to Peter Davis, the Tree Warden, for removing the large bough to the ash tree overhanging the larger pond at Chalksole Green.

HOUGHAM FETE - Hougham will be holding their Village Favre on Monday the 30th of May starting at 1pm.

HOUSE DEEDS - I would like the people who offered to lend me their deeds to contact me once again because I've mislaid the original details. The deeds that have already been lent are very interesting and have added to the history of Alkham. (Sue Lees 822661)

No. 141 May 2005

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING There were FETE STALLHOLDERS' MEETING only 14 people at the meeting, Everyone who either is presently or including the Parish Councillors and would like to be involved in this County Councillor, but this didn't year's Fete (9th July - put it in your stop it from being a forum for lively diaries now!) is invited to the discussion. Neil Burrows gave his stallholders' meeting on the 26th May Chairman's report and Bryan Cope 2005 at 8 pm in the Village Hall. spoke for KCC. Bryan said that This is the meeting where we check there were now 100 Community that everything is organised (we perception that young people on the day. If you have been generally caused trouble but of the frightened to come before because Anti Social Behaviour Orders, you think that we're scary please be which were issued in Kent, two brave, turn up and lend a hand - I an under 15. Other items were:

TEEN SHELTER - County Councillor anyone who has only recently joined Bryan Cope said that he was the Village (especially if your names disappointed that there wasn't a are Rob or Jo), or has not previously Teen Shelter in Alkham. It was been involved in the Fete, to come pointed out that the Parish had and get play a part, or call me on intended to provide a shelter but 01303 892082 and let me know when the youngsters were asked to you're interested! Details of stall help erect it no volunteers came holders, competitions, etc. will be in forward. It is probable that a lot of June's Newsletter. (Paul Tapsell) the youngsters don't read the FOOTBALL - The first two weeks of Newsletter and therefore may have football practice for 8 to 13 year olds been unaware that their help was were very successful with a good needed, so if you are a parent and crowd of youngsters turning up. In would like to see a Teen Shelter in addition, two of the young mothers Alkham please contact the Parish have volunteered to help Ken Clerk on 822661 and let her know Hammond, which is great news. that your son or daughter would like understand that Ken let in at least 14 to help.

COUNTY LENGHTSMAN

Lovely title which is another name **PAINTINGS** for a quick response highway team Tuesday at the Art Workshop in the to be introduced by KCC to deal with potholes and the like. The reporting procedure will be the local artists have to offer. same as usual but I'm not too sure what this will be as the local highway authorities are reorganised. For the time being, it AIR AMBULANCE would be best to phone DDC.

SIGNING - At the Parish Meeting mention was made of the perceived lack of road signing around Alkham and neighbouring areas. If you feel this is the case and would like to see more, please contact the Parish Clerk on 822661 and she will pass your comments on to the Highway Authority.

Delivered free to all properties in the Parish

Wardens in Kent and there was a hope) and sort out who is doing what were to people over 70 and one to can guarantee you'll enjoy yourself and it's an ideal opportunity for

goals on the second week much to the delight of the all the players.

FOR SALE every village hall from 10.00am to 1pm. Do come along and see what the

ALKHAM RECYCLING - The next collection will be on Thursday the 5th being of May.

The combined coffee morning, evening quiz and Easter egg raffle made a profit of over £400, which has been donated to the Kent Air Ambulance. Thanks go to all the people who supported the events and also thanks must go to the Polden and Lott families for organising everything for such a worthwhile cause.

MARSHALL & CLARKE PROPERTY AGENTS AND VALUERS



112 London Road, Kearsney Dover, CT16 3AB Telephone 01304 827770 and at

1 Cliffe Road, Kingsdown, Deal Tel. 01304 381622 High Street, St. Margarets at Cliffe, Dover Tel. 01304 852960

Alkham Valley Meadows

Touring Caravan Park Alkham Village Telephone 01304 206344



DAVID HORNE LOCAL HANDYMAN For all your jobs no matter how small

Gardening, Decorating, Rubbish Clearing etc. FAIR RATES FOR GOOD WORK Call 01304 203578 or 07984 886251

SPEED – Evidently, if you drive in third gear in a 30mph limit you will use less fuel and cause less pollution than if you are driving in 4th or 5th gear. According to the Institute of Advanced Motorists, the throttle opening has to be wider when driving in a high gear as the car is less responsive than when you are driving in the more flexible and responsive third gear. It sometimes may sound as though you are using more petrol but evidently this is not the case. The great advantage of driving in third gear is that you won't have to keep checking your speedometer to make sure that you are obeying the speed limit.

KENT DOWNS – The Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty covers a quarter of the county of Kent and runs from Bromley in the west, through Alkham, to St. Margarets in the east. It is like a National Park but it is administered by the local authorities. Sarah Loftus, Tourism Officer for the Kent Downs AONB, gave a talk at the Annual Parish Meeting and in the talk, she said that sustainable tourism was going to be encouraged and one project was to encourage the use of trains "take the train to explore the Downs". Two excellent publications were handed out.

OPEN-AIR DRAMA W.I.

'This is Our Story' - An openair dramatic presentation of scenes from Dorothy L Savers' 'Man Born to be King' takes place on Saturday May 21st in the Eythorne Benefice – moving to each of the four villages throughout the day. 11.30 am: Barfrestone sees the Wedding at Cana and the Healing of the Nobleman's Son. 1.30 pm: Feeding of the Five Thousand with an invitation to bring a packed lunch or picnic and be part of it all! 4 pm: Shepherdswell Green sees the drama of the Last Supper and the Crucifixion. 6 pm: Eythorne Church Field for the Resurrection and Breakfast on the Beach. A Barbecue to which all are invited then rounds off the day! Visitors are encouraged to bring rug, chair or cushion (indoors if wet).Locations will be signed off the A2 west of Lydden.

GARDEN TALK - We had an enjoyable evening at the home of Lucy and Ian. The theme for the evening was "Lucy's Pond" and what to put in it now that it is up and running. Those of us with a bit more refinement offered suggestions such as marginal plants and lilies, to the slightly more ridiculous, some would say tacky, gnome with a fishing rod, wind-up frog and plastic water lilies for year round colour. This person shall remain anonymous! We would all like to give a big thank you to Rosemary who took over the reins from Susannah and has now passed them over to me, (Devina). Next meeting is on Friday 20th May and will hopefully be at Elwin End's garden centre at River. Any queries, give me a ring on 827548. (Devina)

FARMER'S MARKET Capel-le-Ferne Village Hall each Tuesday 10am to 1pm. Local produce Phone 01303 245399

W.I. - Twenty-five members attended the last W.I meeting in April and Susannah, our president, went through the business and gave an account of the annual council meeting at Margate. Two birthday parties from the link institutes were attended and thoroughly enjoyed by those members who went. A rose bush and card signed by everyone were given to Rosemary Crothall and of course husband John who, after living in Alkham for 40 years, have moved to Barham to be nearer their daughters. Rosemary has been a member of the W.I for longer than I dare print!! and was also involved a lot in village life. She assures us she will still come to our W.I so we will not lose her altogether. The outings were again discussed and arrangements in hand. A trip to Great Dixter and lunch at a nearby first was decided pub for Wednesday 27th July - would like some more names please to warrant hiring a coach. All welcome. It is the resolution meeting in May so we have no speaker but Debbie and Mandy, the programme organisers, will have a meeting so members are encouraged to take ideas along to the May meeting for speakers for year. The speaker next or demonstrator was Mrs Watkinson who took us "Country Dancing". It was great fun as she taught us about half a dozen dances. Some knew exactly what they were doing while others, well, some got partners muddled up others just lost partners! To those looking on it was hilarious. She was thanked by Pam Sayers. Next meeting Tuesday 10th May at 7.30pm in the village hall.

BIKE RIDE – On the 11th of June Ken Hammond and myself are going to do the Essex Castle Bike Ride (Ken chose to do the 75-mile course). It is in aid of the British Heart Foundation and if you'd like to sponsor us then please ring me on 824969. (editor)

CHALKSOLE COMMON Preliminary work continues at the common and it is hoped that the larger pond nearer the road can be puddled in September. The next meeting will be in the Marquis of Granby on the 10th of May at 7.30pm if you'd like to go along.

CHITTENDEN'S

Funeralcare FOLKESTONE HYIHE Windmill Street 1 Ingoldsby Road (01303) 851456 (01303) 262762 Manager Manager Mr. Chris Daughters Mr. Mike Hands **Personal Service Always Private Chapels of Rest** Memorial Masonry FUNERAL PRE-PAYMENT PLANS AVAILABLE UNDER THE PERSONAL SUPERVISION OF PHIL CHITTENDEN Bradford & Bingley **Geering & Colver** KEARSNEY (01304) 823714 DOVER (01304)207099 YOUR LOCAL ESTATE AGENT offering DOUBLE EXPOSURE For your property From our offices at both 12 KEARSNEY AVENUE, RIVER, DOVER AND 5 KING STREET, DOVER Discover for yourselves why Geering and Colyer deserve their reputation for customer care SURVEYORS * VALUERS * ESTATE AGENTS

ALKHAM CRICKET CLUB'S preparations for the new season have been in full swing for some time and include the acquisition of a sponsor and the purchase of smart new Alkham CC shirts and caps. Enthusiastic team members have been attending weekly indoor net practice at the St Lawrence Ground at Canterbury for the last two months in readiness for the first match, which was scheduled for April 24 at home to River Woodpeckers. While the club clearly missed the experienced Dennis Barnard last season, he has not been lost to the club, for he attended several net sessions in a coaching capacity and will remain linked to the club. Meanwhile, the Meadow's grass has been cut, Paul and Richard Tapsell have been working hard to prepare the wicket, and helpers were encouraged to assist with tidying up the dyke and surrounding area. Last season's promising youngsters (and the less promising oldsters!) have remained loyal to the club so the 2004 regulars are all available again in 2005 (cont'd)

> FREDERIC HALL Solicitors York House, Folkestone 01303 851185 & Clyde House, Dover 01304 202411

However, the excitement of the new season is tinged with sadness for all, following the recent loss of Brian Luckhurst - a great supporter of the club over the years and an inspiration to anyone who has ever picked up a bat or ball. Members will always treasure Brian and Raye's attendance as guests of honour at the club's annual dinner and awards night at the Marquis of Granby in November, and discussions are under way at the club to find a fitting way to honour Brian beyond the one minute's silence planned for the opening match against River. The club enters the season with a sponsor - Chunnel Group of Lydden - thanks to the generosity and support of the village's John Huggins and his family. As a result, brand new shirts bear the Chunnel logo – and each player also has his name and year of debut embroidered on the shirt. So "Alky" - as the team is known locally - looks the part. Now they hope to live up to the image with an improved record over last season - although that should not be impossible due to the lack of victories in 2004! The first few fixtures of the 22 scheduled for the season - subject, of course, to the weather - are: April 24, home to River Woodpeckers; May 1, home to Courtstairs; May 8, away to Shepherdswell; May 15, home to Old Hartsdonians; May 22, away to River Woodpeckers; May 29, home to Phil Rowley XI. The season runs until a final match at home on September 11. and includes a two-match tour to the Brighton area in mid-June plus the annual August Bank Holiday fixture against club President Mark Loveday's "Harrington Hackers" at Alkham on August 28. Supporters are very welcome at all games - and let's face it, even if you are not a cricket enthusiast, what could be more pleasant or traditional than relaxing in the sunshine on a lazy summer afternoon at The Meadow in Alkham? (Peter Frater)

OZ on DICTIONARIES April 15th marked the 250th birthday of Samuel Johnson's great Dictionary of the English Language. It is difficult now. surrounded by instant information from the internet and hand-held hardware, to imagine life without dictionaries and to appreciate the task of compiling them. Dictionaries began when mediaeval scholars wrote explanations, called 'glosses', in the margins of texts. Glosses were often collected alphabetically and published as 'glossaries'. The 17th century saw many competing English dictionaries that concentrated mainly on difficult words. By the 18th century, the nation needed a comprehensive national dictionary comparable with those completed by Italy in 1612 and France in 1700. In 1746 Robert Dodsley and others negotiated a contract with Johnson to write a dictionary, which he commenced in 1747 after providing a plan and dedication to Lord Chesterfield. The plan was huge, matching those of the Italian and French academies, and Johnson achieved it over the next eight years by the efforts of himself and six poorly-paid assistants. He defined over 40,000 words, and, in a revolutionary step for dictionary-makers, used over 114,000 quotations from literature to justify definitions and illustrate usage. The Dictionary was published five times in Johnson's lifetime, and was such a success that all talk of setting up an English Academy faded. It remained unchallenged until the arrival of Webster's American Dictionary of the English Language in 1828 and The Oxford English Dictionary between 1884 and 1928, both using Johnson's idea of illustrative quotations. A notable omission from Johnson's Dictionary is due to the fact that Johnson thought that there were "no words beginning with 'X' in genuine English". This view was shared by the American writer Ambrose Bierce, who declared in The Devil's Dictionary (1911) that "words beginning with 'X' are Grecian and will not be defined." (Steve Osborn)

WHAT"S ON – Regular events in the village

Tuesday	Art classes in the village hall from 10 am to 1 pm. Ring 01303 243115 for further details
Wednesday	Keep Fit in the village hall from 9.30 am to 10.30 am – Wednesday Club from 10.30 am to 11.30 am
Thursday	Mobile Library stops at the car parks by the village hall from 9.25 am to 9.50 am
Friday	Whist Drive in the village hall starting at 7.30 pm

WHAT"S ON – Other events in the village

	-			
Sunday	1	Alkham Cricket Club versus Courtstairs on Vicarage Meadow in the afternoon		
Thursday	5	Voting in the village hall from 6.00am to 10.15pm for national and local elections		
Saturday	7	Bingo in the village hall starting at 7.30pm		
Monday	9	Parish Council meeting in the village hall at 7.30pm – everyone is welcome to come along		
Thursday	12	Cricket Club AGM in the village hall at 8.00pm		
Saturday	14	W.I. jumble sale in the village hall starting at 11.00am		
Sunday	15	Alkham Cricket Club versus Old Hartsdonians on Vicarage Meadow in the afternoon		
Monday	16	Dover & District Bird Club in the village hall 7.30pm		
Thursday	26	Fete stall holders meeting in the village hall at 8.00pm		
Sunday	29	Alkham Cricket Club versus Phil Rowley XI on Vicarage Meadow in the afternoon		

CHURCH SERVICES

Day	Alkham	Capel	Hougham	Weekday
Sunday 1st	Evensong 6.30 pm	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping together 11.00 am	Services:
Tuesday 3rd		Healing Service 7.00 p.m.		Morning Prayer, Capel: Monday-
Thursday 5th Ascension Day	Said E Joint Benefi	Friday at 8.30 am		
Sunday 8th	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	ce Sung Eucharist St Anthony, Alkha Worshipping together 11.00 am	Songs of Praise Village Hall West Hougham 6.30 p.m.	(except Bank Holidays). Evening Prayer,
Sunday 15th	Worshipping together 11.00 am	Sung Evensong 6.30 p.m.	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Hougham - Wednesdays at
Sunday 22nd Trinity Sunday	Joint Benefice Service at St	Wednesdays at 5 pm. Eucharist, Capel Thursdays		
Sunday 29th	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping together 11.00 am	Evensong 6.30 p.m.	at 9.15 am

TELEPHONE NUMBERS	Police – 999 phone & 01303 850055 Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130 Community Warden 07977 981994	Village Hall booking Rosemary Polden 824876 Alkham Valley Society secretary
Gwyn Prosser M.P . 01304 214484	GP out of hours to access urgent medical help 0844 800 1234	Joanna Walker 821641 W.I. Betty Neely 01303 251475
County Councillor , Bryan Cope 207976, work number 01795532547	Newsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969 e mail <u>brianwimsett@hotmail.com</u>	Vicar Kevin Mepham 01303 244119 Church Wardens - Richard Tapsell
District Councillors Sue Nicholas 823956 Andrew Richardson 211835	Parish Clerk, Susan Lees 822661 susan@susanlees.freeserve.co.uk	822295 and Grace Stacey 822756 Alkham web site www.alkham.org

LOCAL BUSINESSES AND SERVICES

John Garlinge Accountancy, taxation, book keeping services	St. Margaret's 852252
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E R Woodruff carpentry and joinery, decorating, maintenance	Swanbourne, Wolverton 824991
Canine beauticians, dogs and cats groomed, Newcastle House	Ewell Minnis 822902
John Hoy domestic/commercial carpet and upholstery cleaning	Ewell Minnis 828007 & 07889310479
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Hogbrook Equestrian Centre Livery yard, instruction, hacking	Hogbrook Lane, Alkham 827644
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Southdown Stores groceries, videos, fruit/veg, off licence, freshbread/milk	London rd, Temple Ewell 827100
Capel-le-Ferne school Your local primary school; free bus from Alkham	Capel Street, Capel-le-Ferne 01303 251353
	Touring Caravan Park – Next to Garden Centre Alkham Valley Tree Surgery: Planning, planting, maintenance removal E R Woodruff carpentry and joinery, decorating, maintenance Canine beauticians, dogs and cats groomed, Newcastle House John Hoy domestic/commercial carpet and upholstery cleaning Curtains and blinds made to your specification Simon Price electricians & computer installation, Megget Farm J H Ullmann Environmental contractors, Malmains Farm Hogbrook Equestrian Centre Livery yard, instruction, hacking Alkham Valley Garden Centre – everything for horse and rider Alkham Valley Garden Centre with gift shop and pet supplies Alkhamhurst Kennels dogs, cats & unusual boarded. All pet needs Greenhill livery yard Do it yourself and grass liveries Southdown Stores groceries, videos, fruit/veg, off licence, freshbread/milk

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

Alkham Valley Garden Centre Phone 01303 893351	Gardening needs and pet supplies	K vo Co fre be ne sk go ye ho co		
Farmhouse I Meggett Lan ETC: 4	m Court Bed & Breakfast e, South Alkham diamonds on overlooking the	eit Se A Sa Gl		
	am Valley	As ca		
stays, short bre we	for family or business eaks, overnight and ddings.	rat Bl the		
Web: www.alkhamcourt.co.uk				

Wendy Burrows Tel: 01303 892056

SUNFLOWER COMPETITION - I'm very pleased to report that Simon Norris of South Alkham is running the sunflower competition again this year (the tallest sunflower wins). There are two classes, one for adults and one for children with entries to Simon Norris at 'simoninorris@tiscali.co.uk' or leave a message on 01303 891550. The closing date for entries is the end of June with measuring commencing on the 5th of September and a trophy will be awarded to the winner of each group. Remember: It's just for fun, no cheating! (i.e. leave the leaves on the sunflower).

YOUNG FOOTBALLERS - Below is a photograph, which was taken on the 10th of May, showing the youngsters who turned up for the football practice organised by Ken Hammond, who can be seen standing at the back. It looked great fun and hopefully it will continue as a regular Tuesday night event.



No. 142 June 2005

ENT POLICE are keen to recruit more olunteer Parish and Neighbourhood Special onstables, who after training provide their ee time to work with Kent Police for the enefit of their local community. You don't ed paper qualifications but communication cills are important and you need to be in bod health and aged between 18 1/2 and 55 ears old. The commitment is to at least 16 ours a month plus attending regular training ourses. If anyone is interested please contact ther James Summerfield or Area Officer Sid edden directly on 01622 654009.

COFFEE MORNING is being held on aturday 18th June from 10.30-12.00 at 6 lebelands in aid of the Dover Diabetic UK ssociation. In addition to coffee there will be akes, Bring and Buy, plants, clothes and a ffle. (Lucy Matcham)

INGO - There is no bingo this month because e hall is booked for a birthday party.

Delivered free to all properties in the Parish

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PARISH CLERK - There have been no applications for the vacant post of Parish Clerk and it looks as though it will have to be advertised in the local press, with the possibility that someone from outside the parish will take over the job. If anyone is interested, or would like to take on this paid position, please contact Sue Lees on 822661.





PART TIME JOB at Sladden Farm. Our Carron, who has been with us for 5 years, is moving to Cornwall; we are sorry to lose her but it is too far for her to commute! We are looking for a special person to work in our farm shop 3 days a week, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 9.30 to 5.00. Knowledge of butchery not necessary, we can train you, but customer care is. We would prefer to employ somebody from the local area. Phone 01304 825188 and ask to speak to Di or Kathy.

GRASS CUTTING - The Parish Council have asked me to print a 'thank you' to Larry Lambourne and Roger Lott for regularly cutting the wide grass verge adjacent to the Valley Road by Newlyns Meadow.

GREENHOUSE - If you would like an 8 foot square greenhouse please ring Derek on 820701. It is complete but dismantled and all they ask is that you give a donation to the church in payment.

RECYCLING - The next collection for Alkham Recycling will be on Thursday the 2nd of June. Evidently DDC are aware of the village collection.

COFFEE MORNING – There will be a coffee morning in aid of W.I. funds on Saturday 4th of June between 10.30am and mid-day at Bramhall, the home of Susannah and Richard Tapsell. There will also be a raffle and a 'bring and buy'.

ALKHAM CHURCH - Kevin Mepham, who is the vicar for the three benefices of Alkham, Capel and Hougham, is leaving the Parish and his last service will be on the 3rd of July. We wish him well for the future and thank him for the good work that he has done in the parish during the time that he has been with Alkham. There is no immediate replacement and therefore the benefice will be without a permanent vicar until matters are resolved.



HOMEGROUP – On page 4, in Regular Events, Homegroup is listed. As printed in the April Newsletter this is a group looking at bible readings and their relevance to everyday life.

WHAT A SUCCESS! - The Alkham book club got off to a flying start at its first meeting in April. Put these dates, venues and book titles in your diary if you want to come: June 1st: Chalksole Cottage, Inside Hitler's Bunker by Joachim Fest: July 6th Beech Tree Cottage, A short History of Tractors in Ukrainian by Marina Lewycka: August 3rd The Hermitage, The Last Crossing by Guy Vanderhaeghe: September 7th, Woodlands, book to be decided: October 5th 4a Newlyns Meadow, book to be decided. All of the books are on the BBC Pageturners website and are readily available from Waterstones, mostly from the 3 for 2 offer. All are highly recommended. Everyone is welcome, so long as you have a love of reading. Call Linda 823100 if you want to know more.

BUS STOP – At present the bus stops on the hill by Vicarage Meadow such that children who live in Newlyns Meadow and properties on the west of the village either have to walk through the narrow piece of road before the Marquis of Granby or go round the back of the village hall. The Parish Council are going to write to the bus companies and ask if they can make a further stop by Newlyns Meadow, which would resolve the situation.

W.I. - The May meeting of the W.I was the resolution meeting. Two resolutions were discussed one being the price of milk paid to farmers, how little they received compared to the price the consumer paid. We were lucky to have Jim Warnock, a dairy farmer from Capel, to talk us through this problem. He said two to three dairy farmers were packing up every week across the country. It was very important to buy English milk and not imported. Look for the tractor on milk containers in the supermarket and also a union jack which should be on them soon. Better still have the milkman deliver to you! Susannah took the other resolution on the waste we have from packaging and how to recycle it, or how we could get manufacturers to cut out the packaging it uses. The outing to Great Dixter is Wednesday July 27th and a coach has been booked. We will stop at a pub for lunch just before we get to Great Dixter. There are seats left if anyone would like a day out. Members also showed an interest in "Holiday on Ice" in Brighton next January. Mandy and Debbie are sorting out next years programme from lots of suggestions from the members, so hopefully we will have some various topics. Next months meeting is Tuesday June 14th where the speaker Mr. J. Pearce will "Reported talk on Missing" (Cherry Leppard)

AS A RESULT of persistent vandalism to the gas meter and its enclosure the Village Hall committee have been forced to incur expense of about £500 to have the meter moved to inside the Hall to ensure safety. The money could of course be better spent on improving the amenities of the Hall. ADAGE - Men over 70 should not attempt to put on their trousers whilst balancing on one leg. (Jim Callaghan via Larry Lambourne)

FARMER'S MARKET Capel-le-Ferne Village Hall each Tuesday 10am to 1pm Local produce Phone 01303 245399 ALKHAM PRODUCE SHOW Please support us and help to make a wonderful display. Here is a list of the adult classes so that everyone will be well prepared for the show in the Village Hall on Fete day! There will be separate classes for the CHILDREN'S SHOW and they will be listed in next month's newsletter. ADULT PRODUCE. (Judge Keith Turner). Section A Vegetables: 12 Classes-3 potatoes, any variety; 3 beetroot; 3 carrots; 3 courgettes; 5 runner beans; 5 pods of peas; 5 pods of broad beans; 1 lettuce any variety; 1 cucumber; 3 tomatoes; 3 onions; any other vegetable. Section B Soft fruit: 5 Classes-6 raspberries; 6 gooseberries; 6 strigs of currants any colour; 3 sticks of rhubarb; any other fruit. Section C -Cut flowers: 4 Classes-1 vase of sweet peas: 1 vase of perennials; 1 vase of roses; 1 vase of annuals. Section D - Plants: 4 Classes-1 geranium; 1 cactus; 1 fuchsia; 1 any other plant. We hope you enjoy tending your exhibits and entering them in the show. In order to help us to produce a stunning display for all to enjoy, we are also asking that if you have a potted plant of any kind, whose beauty you could share, please bring it along for purely display purposes. If you are the proud holder of any of the cups, please could you return them to me before July. Entry forms for the produce show will be available from myself, Grace Stacey, Susan Lees and Shirley Tapsell, or in the hall on the day. (Susannah Tapsell)

POETRY IN MOTION - Our W.I. President, Susannah Tapsell, suggested an entertainment that we could do for the visiting W.I. Groups. It would be poetry covering the various ages of women. Those of us who volunteered, or were told, were asked to meet at Susannah's house to be auditioned. As Grace and I approached her front door with some trepidation we wondered if those who failed would leave by the back door. Once we had all arrived Susannah went into her best Simon Cowell mode. We felt like Pop Idols, were we in were we out? We all passed first rehearsal phew! Two more rehearsals and we were all in. The night came and we were all wonderful of course and it was much enjoyed by all. (Helen Scopes)

THANKS go to John Spain for refurbishing the wooden sign in the centre of the village. It was erected in 1937 to commemorate the coronation of George VI.



SumbleBee Stilling

The Bumble Bee Alliance is trying to get funding for a countywide project to increase awareness of the major decline in the

bumble bee population in the county and also to actively work to reverse the trend. The WWF has listed several species as being on the edge of extinction and specifically mentions Kent as an area of serious population decline. Bumble bees are protected by law but due to change in farming practices, land development etc there has been a drastic reduction in numbers. They are no threat whatsoever, they never swarm like honeybees and arely reach more than seventy bees in a colony. They live about twelve months and the queen builds a cell of wax in a nest which might be in a compost heap, old mouse hole etc. in which she lays several eggs, caring for the larvae before the drones take over. If you'd like to help please phone 01303 211599 or email bumblebeealliance@hotmail.com.

> FREDERIC HALL Solicitors York House, Folkestone 01303 851185 & Clyde House, Dover 01304 202411

CRICKET - A stuttering start to the season did not auger well for Alkham CC with a best-forgotten defeat to River Woodpeckers and then a cancelled game, before the village team bounced back with two hard-fought draws. With Paul Simpson taking 4-35. Shepherdswell were restricted to 135-9, before Steve Durrant and Ian Callaway made a confident response. However, an unlucky injury forced Durrant to retire on 51 not out, taking the impetus from the Alkham response. The innings closed on 114-3, with Gerry Aldridge unbeaten on 29 and Callaway 16 not out. Old Hartsdonians hit out freely to reach 226 for 5 at The Meadow before Alkham showed some battling spirit to earn a well-deserved draw. The home team finished on 136-3 thanks to 33 from Matthew Gerrard, a blitz of boundaries from Simpson in his unbeaten 44, and an astonishing display of patient and dogged defence from Callaway, who batted for more than two hours for 12 not out. Alkham were due to visit River Woodpeckers on May 22 and then entertain a Phil Rowley XI at home on May 29 and Betteshanger Staff on June 5. A visit to Worth on June 12 is followed by the annual tour to Brighton for games on June 18 and 19. (Peter Frater)

DOVER FESTIVAL PROMS -Local musicians will again present a festive concert in the style of "The Last Night of the Proms", at 7.30 pm on Friday 1 July in Dover Town Hall. In this Trafalgar memorial year the programme will have a nautical theme, featuring a selection from Gilbert and Sullivan's HMS Pinafore, a new work on Trafalgar by Michael Lewis, and the traditional Proms Finale: Jerusalem, Rule Britannia and Land of Hope and Glory. As is customary a retiring collection will be held in support of a local charity. All singers are welcome, but must attend at least four rehearsals, the first of which is at 7.30 pm on Thursday 26 May in River Methodist Church. Audience tickets will be available in June from Dover Town Hall or the Dover Visitor Information Centre. For further details ring Sue or Steve Yarrow on 01304 872812 or Mike Lewis on 01227 831208. (Steve Osborn)

WENSLEYDALE 07 on Travelling recently in the secondbest county we spent a morning at Wensleydale Creamery, the only dairy still producing 'Real Wensleydale', favourite cheese of Wallace and Gromit. We saw Wensleydale being made and discovered something of its history. Wensleydale cheese, like so many good things, started with the Norman Conquest, when Cistercian monks brought cheese-making knowledge from France's Roquefort region, settling first at Askrigg, then at Fors, where the land was poor and exposed. In 1156 they moved to Hawes, in Wensleydale, and built Jervaulx Abbey in what Charles Kingsley called "the richest spot in all England ... this beautiful oasis in the mountains." Over the next 380 years the monks prospered but, after Henry VIII's dissolution of the monasteries in 1536, cheese-making passed to local women working from farmhouses. In 1897. Edward Chapman, an agricultural merchant, established Wensleydale's first commercial creamery and succeeded in standardising quality. Following the post-war depression, the newlyformed Milk Marketing Board took over the milk industry in 1933. Resistance to the Board's plans for Hawes led to the rise of a new champion, Kit Calvert, local farmer and historian. who saved the Creamery in 1935 and went on to rebuild it in 1953. In 1966 the Board finally purchased the now-successful Creamery, and Calvert retired. The enterprise was again threatened in 1992, when the parent company tried to close Hawes and transfer production to Lancashire. This, of course. outraged Yorkshire sensibilities and the plant was eventually saved by a management buy-out. Wensleydale is a moist crumbly cheese with a mild sweet flavour, combined with herbs, spices and fruits in an ever-increasing number of recipes, and is available in most Southern supermarkets. Our visit concluded with the legendary 'Ultimate Ploughman's Lunch' consisting of different five Wensleydale cheeses and a pint of Theakstone's Bitter. Bliss! (Steve **Osborn**)

1_1112626	没有到	Regular events in the village		
Monday	The	Chalksole Homegroup, third Monday of the month at 7.30pm until October. Contact Linda 01304 823100		
Tuesday	Art classes in the village hall from 10 am to 1 pm. Ring 01303 243115 for further details			
Tuesday	Ballroom dancing classes 7.30 to 10.30 in village hall (except second Tuesday in month)			
Wednesday	Keep Fit in the village hall from 9.30 am to 10.30 am – Wednesday Club from 10.30 am to 11.30 am			
Thursday	Mob	ile Library stops at the car parks by the village hall from 9.25 am to 9.50 am		
Friday	Whis	Whist Drive in the village hall starting at 7.30 pm		
		Other events in the village		
Sunday	5	Alkham Cricket Club on Vicarage Meadow in the afternoon		
Saturday	4	Coffee morning at Bramhall from 10.30am to mid-day in aid of W.I. funds		
Tuesday	7	Dancing classes - ballroom/Latin American. Beginners 7.30-8.30: Advanced 8.30-10.30. All welcome		
Tuesday	14	W.I. in the village hall at 7.30pm		
Saturday	18	Coffee morning at 6 Glebelands from 10.30am to mid-day in aid of Dover Diabetic UK Association		
Monday	20	Dover & District Bird Club in the village hall 7.30pm		

DOVER GRAMMAR school Combined Cadet Force is hoping to take part in the Nijmegan March in Holland in July. The march is about 25 miles a day for four days and some will be using this event to go to their Duke of Edinburgh Awards. They are trying to obtain sponsorship and if you'd like to help please pass the money to me and I will forward it on. (editor) GARDEN TALK - This month the meeting was at the nursery of Elwin End in River, who had a marvellous collection of bedding plants for sale. Sadly the turn out was a bit low, so I hope that they were not too disappointed with the sales they made. We then went on to the Fox for some liquid refreshments after carrying all those heavy plants to the boot of the car! The next meeting will be at the home of Pam and Maurice Sayers on 24th June at 7.30 pm. (Devina Bartlett)

			CHURCH SERVICES	S	en antistar à rol as à camp	U	
Day Alkham		n	Capel	S.	Hougham	Weekday Services:	
Sunday 5 th	Evensong 6.30 p.m.		Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.			Morning Prayer, Capel: Monday-	
Tuesday 7 th	ay 7 th		Healing service 7.00 p.m.	100	Solar Standard	- Friday at 8.30 am (except Bank	
Sunday 12 th Sung Eucharist 9.30 a		9.30 a.m.	Worshipping together 11.00 a.m.	Songs of Praise village hall West Hougham 6.30 p.m.		Holidays). Evening Prayer, Hougham -	
Sunday 19 th	unday 19 th Worshipping togethe 11.00 a.m.		Sung evensong 6.30 p.m.	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.		Wednesdays at 5 pm. Eucharist, Capel Thursdays	
Sunday 26 th	Join				at 9.15 am		
TELEPHONE NUMBERS		RS Nei	ice – 999 phone & 01303 850055 ghbourhood Watch 218151/218130 mmunity Warden 07977 981994 Village Hall booking Rosemary Polden 824 Alkham Valley Socie		y secretary		
Gwyn Prosser N	M.P. 01304 2144				Joanna Walker 821641 W.I. Betty Neely 0130	a Walker 821641 Betty Neely 01303 251475	
County Councillor, Bryan Cope 207976 work number 01795532547		Ne		4969 1			
District Councillors Sue Nicholas 823956 Andrew Richardson 211835			Parish Clerk, Susan Lees 822661		sdemon adoad tuone in	5 and Grace Stacey 822756 m web site www.alkham.org	
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ACCOUNTANC			untancy, taxation, book keeping serv		St. Margaret's	852252	
ALKHAM MEA			an Park – Next to Garden Centre		Alkham Valley		
ARBORICULT			ree Surgery: Planning, planting, maintenance removal			853 & 07973 501390	
BUILDING WO			arpentry and joinery, decorating, maintenance		Swanbourne, W		
CAT & DOG GRO			ans, dogs and cats groomed, Newcastle House		Ewell Minnis	822902	
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Brian Wimsett: The Old Post Office Slip Lane, Alkham CT15 7DE Telephone 01304 824969

Alkham Valley Garden Centre	Tuesdays over 60 Club 10% off	Contraction of the second seco		
Phone 01303 893351	Selected garden furniture 25% off			
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Peaceful location overlooking the Alkham Valley

Excellent facilities for family or business stays, short breaks, ovemight and weddings. Web: www.alkhamcourt.co.uk Wendy Burrows Tel: 01303 892056

THE MEADOW - A number of people have complained to me about loutish behaviour on Vicarage Meadow, ranging from dogs being allowed to foul the meadow and football pitch, motor bike revving, foul language and the chalking of obscenities on or near the play equipment and cricket pavilion: Clearly all of this behaviour is unacceptable and affects us all - to that end if anyone can give me information about who is responsible I'll do what I can to shame them into mending their ways: To start the ball rolling: I have had several reports of a lady who has been seen walking her German Shepherd on the Meadow and allowing it to foul near the cricket square - if it's you please clear up after your dog! As for the individuals who have been chalking Paul's virtues and abilities on the Pavilion (they're not, I hope, talking about me!) can't you just tell him! If you know the young man who doesn't appreciate that kicking a ball against a window is a stupid idea, can you please let me know so I can have a word with him before he injures himself! (Paul Tapsell 01303 892082)

Bric-a-brac - We have been given very little so far, this year for the fete. Please could you find something, of course saleable, to donate and ring me on 824845. Thank you. (Irene Barnard)

No. 143 July 2005

ALKHAM VILLAGE FETE This year's Fete will be on the 9th July at 2.00 p.m. on the Vicarage Meadow, will be opened, we hope, by Lord Nelson and will feature a number of special attractions including Vintage Cars. the Snowdown Band, Many Hoots Owl Sanctuary, the Capel School Dance team, Produce Show and Children's Races and Tug of War and Competitions as well as any number of stalls, etc.: Come along and enjoy yourself. Can we please have lots of volunteers to help put the tents up on Saturday morning (on the Meadow from 8.30 a.m.) and to get everything ship-shape and Bristol fashion - there are jobs for all ages and abilities and it's quite fun really! I still need people to assist with various stalls, directing traffic and odd jobs throughout the day so call me on 01303 892082 and I'll find something for you to do. Also please can we have some help clearing the Meadow afterwards, again the more helpers there are the easier it is for us all. You will already know about the Produce (Fruit, Veg and Flower) and Children's cookery, Art & Craft and Garden Fun Shows from May' and June's Newsletters, if not details can be obtained from Susannah Tapsell on 01304 822295. There will be a children's (and/or adults') fancy dress competition with the theme of "Trafalgar" (with cash prizes for different age groups); if you wish to enter please contact me so that I can make the necessary arrangements! I dare say others will be asking for Bric-a-Brac, Cakes, Needlework and Raffle/Tombola Prizes elsewhere in this Newsletter: Please give what assistance you can. In addition can all unsold raffle tickets (or counterfoils and cash) be returned to Dot Polden or myself by Thursday 7th July. Finally, we will again be operating a Tesco-style "Dropping Of Point" by the Village Hall, so if you are bringing your car please follow the signs for the various car park. I look forward to seeing you on the day. (Paul Tapsell)

Delivered free to all properties in the Parish

ALKHAM FETE CHILDREN'S SHOW

Listed below are the classes for the Children's Show at the Fete on the 9th of July. Entries are to be in the village hall by 2pm. There are no entry fees for these classes and there will be big! cash prizes. Hope to see many entries this year.

Class (1) 4 chocolate Rice Crispy Cakes: (2) 4 decorated Fairy Cakes: (3) A Play-dough Animal: (4) A Potato Man: (5) A picture of your favourite Tree: (6) A painting of a Tractor: (7) A Vase of Grasses: (8) Flowers in an egg cup: (9) A Cactus (Shirley Tapsell)

PRODUCE SHOW - The Olive Harvey Cup. This new cup has been donated by John & Kath Norris in memory of Olive Harvey. It will be awarded to the person with the highest number of points at the produce show, which will be on the 9th of July at the Alkham Fete. (Susannah Tapsell)

PRODUCE SHOW – Thanks go to the ladies keep fit club, which meets in the village hall every Wednesday, for sponsoring the awards and prizes for the produce show.

PLANT STALL - Geoff Gaskill and Sarah Laycock are running the plant stall at the fete and would like some more plants. If you have any that you would like to donate please take them to Chalksole Cottage or 9 Newlyns Meadow or deliver them to the stall on the day.

RECYCLING - The next recycling collection will be on Thursday the 7th of July. The amount collected each month remains about the same with two good van loads.

HOGROAST and live music at the Willows on the 5^{th} August from 7 to 11 pm. Dance to Toucan duo. Tickets £7 from Helen, 822899. Bring your own drinks and a chair.

A COFFEE MORNING will be held in the village hall on the 23^{rd} of July starting at 10.30am in aid of PCC funds.

DANCING - If you would like to learn modern dancing or you are a modern dancer then classes are held in the village hall on Tuesday evenings (except W.I. night - see back page)

MARSHALL & CLARKE PROPERTY AGENTS AND VALUERS

112 London Road, Kearsney Dover, CT16 3AB Telephone 01304 827770 and at 1 Cliffe Road, Kingsdown, Deal Tel. 01304 381622 High Street, St. Margarets at Cliffe, Dover Tel. 01304 852960

THANKS to Rosemary and John Crothall, who have moved out of the village, for their kind donation to the Newsletter. (editor)

THE ESSEX Bike Ride went very well and many thanks go to the people who sponsored Ken Hammond and I with a total of £180 being raised for the British Heart Foundation. The countryside around Colchester is lovely with villages having shops and petrol stations and fewer cars than in this part of Kent. It was however more hillier than expected but we managed to keep up an average speed of about 15 mph. For most people the longer course worked out at about 70 miles but because of poor signing, I ended up disappearing down the busy A12 towards the North Sea and managed an extra 6 miles. Good fun though. (editor)

RECORDING CRAFTS

The museum at Brook (see opposite) has been awarded a Heritage Lottery Grant to record woodland and other crafts. The latter entails making a video and audio record of crafts, which one day may be lost forever. The project was started before the grant was obtained because of the ill health of a rakemaker at Smeeth and over 2 hours of video and aural records have been made.

The grant includes for training in the use of video and aural equipment and if anyone is interested in getting involved please give me a ring. The next two crafts will be a wheelwright and a hurdle maker with other crafts, such as charcoal making, following. (editor 824969)

FARMER'S MARKET Capel-le-Ferne Village Hall each Tuesday 10am to 1pm Local produce Phone 01303 245399

DAVID HORNE LOCAL HANDYMAN

For all your jobs no matter how small Gardening, Decorating, Rubbish Clearing etc. FAIR RATES FOR GOOD WORK Call 01304 203578 or 07984 886251 CHANGE OF DATE: The President's Party. The date of the party has been changed from Saturday 2nd July to Saturday 3rd September 2005. This was because so many people could not come since they had other events to attend on that day, so a little birds told us! We hope this date people better. suits It is impossible to ensure everyone can attend but this date seems to suit an initial sound-out. Invitations will be sent out 6 weeks before the date. The party will still take place between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m., but, to repeat: NOT on 2nd JULY but on 3rd SEPTEMBER instead.(J Walker) THE ALKHAM VALLEY **SOCIETY** had a most enjoyable visit to the Brook Agricultural Museum on the 8th June. The weather was good and the views of the surrounding Wye hills were beautiful. The village of Brook is itself quite picturesque. The Museum was very interesting, full of implements and all sorts of farm machinery from bygone days. Brian Wimsett's guided tour made it even more interesting with his knowledge and sense of humour. A Big thank you to Brian. Not only were the contents of the Museum of interest but also the buildings as well. I, for one, had not seen an oast house so internally complete before. We also had time to visit the nearby Norman church with fresco paintings before wandering up the road for supper at the Honest Miller. A very pleasant way to spend a summer evening. Thanks to all those who attended. (Shelley Jackson)

The Agricultural Museum at Brook (near Wye) is housed in a superb Grade 1 listed barn (37m long) and an early, mainly intact, 19th century oast house in about ³/₄ of an acre of land. It is a charitable trust run by volunteers. The collection includes just about everything from when the horse was the power round the farm and most items to do with hops. Open on Wednesday and Saturday from 2 to 5 pm until October or give me a ring on 824969. (editor) WHERE ARE THEY? - Sam Gordon has given me a cutting from a publication about World War II. It shows a picture of the ruined Christ Church that stood on the Sandgate Road in Folkestone, which was demolished in May 1942 by Focke-Wulf fighter bombers and all that stands today, a short distance from Sainsbury's, is the clock tower. The article goes on to say that gravestones and gargoyles can be found in private hands in the Alkham Valley.

WATER SERVICES

Folkestone & Dover Water have provided information on a major five year programme of works that they are now undertaking. The company is making a £27m investment in a range of projects, which will help ensure a longterm sustainable water supply for our area. The work will include the construction of two new stra' ic mains, one will run from Folkestone to Dungeness and the other will run down the Alkham Valley to Dover. They plan to begin work shortly on both mains with an on-going construction starting in the early programme summer. Both mains are due to be completed by the autumn of 2006. The new mains will run through both rural and urban areas and an information programme will give advance notice of work to residents and businesses. While some inconvenience will be inevitable, particularly when mains are laid in or near roads, they are taking all possible steps to keep disruption to the minimum. The Parish Clerk has asked for 30 leaflets about the Alkham pipeline and if you'd like one p e ring 822661.

WATER - I was delighted to hear on TV South-East News, the girl say that customers in Sussex are facing a "hosepan bipe" this summer. (Steve Osborn)

CHALKSOLE GREEN – Many thanks go to John Huggins for puddling the larger pond at Chalksole Green. This was achieved by bringing in a large amount of clay and then laying it over the pond and compacting it with the machines that John had on site. The puddling only covers the bottom part of the pond so that the water level will not rise too far.

CONGRATULATIONS to Den Barnard on getting early retirement (Ken's found the perfect bike for you).



FOLLOWING complaints from some parishioners that they are unable to negotiate Betty Neely for all the years that the wooden style in the east boundary wall of she has been PCC Secretary and the Church, (a picture of this style, taken in also to thank Kevin Mepham for 1911, is shown on page 4 of "A Pictorial being vicar at Alkham. Each Study of Alkham Parish." by Susan Lees and thought it was for the other and Roy Humphreys) it is being proposed by the Betty was presented with a P.C.C. and the Alkham Valley Society that it delightful colour encrusted cross could be replaced by a metal kissing gate of and Kevin was given a picture similar design to those in the north boundary drawn wall. Any comments about this proposal Margaret Knowles. If an event should be put in writing and sent to the P.C.C. could secretary, Mrs .M. Batcheldor 10 Newlyn's Americans would call a typical Meadow by 23rd July 2005.

FREDERIC HALL **Solicitors** York House, Folkestone 01303 851185 & Clyde House, Dover 01304 202411

W.I. - On Tuesday 14th June the speaker arrived early so it was decided to let him speak first and have the business later. Mr Pearce was a retired policeman and his talk entitled "Reported Missing" was most interesting. He spoke about one of his cases in the 1970's of a nurse who disappeared and was found murdered. He had slides which complimented his talk and was quite a bizarre case which had us enthralled. He was thanked by Rosemary Crothall. After the speaker left we had the business. Rosemary gave a report of her, Susannah and Cherry's trip to the Royal Albert Hall for the annual conference of all the W.I' in the country. It was a wonderful day with 7,000 women all packed in the Albert Hall!! The Speakers were Jane Fonda and Bill Bryson. The resolutions were voted on. The finalised with a coach of 48 going.

sunny afternoon a tea party was arranged at the Hermitage to thank by the accomplished describe what some English afternoon tea party, then this was it, with cream cakes, buns and strawberries. Thanks go to Marion and Derek and all the

helpers at the Hermitage. **ON FRIDAY** 15th July at 7.00 p.m. St Radigund's Church are holding a Fun Quiz with Cheese and Wine in the Church. Cost is £4 per person. Book your place with Christine Elcombe (01303 252959).

OZ on TALLIS

This year musicians celebrate the 500th birthday of Thomas Tallis, the English composer. His early years are unrecorded, but old-age reminiscences suggest that he was born, probably in Kent but maybe in Leicestershire, sometime in 1505, halfway through music's great Renaissance Period lasting from 1400 to 1600. The first definite reference, in 1532, sees Tallis as organist of Dover Priory, a small Benedictine monastery housing twelve monks. It is possible, though not proven, that he employed a professional lay choir at Dover, as a limb of nearby Canterbury Cathedral. also Benedictine. After the dissolution of Dover Priory in 1535, Tallis was organist at St Mary-le-Hill in Billingsgate, and then at Waltham Abbey in London until 1540, when Waltham became the last English abbey to be dissolved by Henry VIII. In 1541 Tallis returned to Canterbury Cathedral as a lay clerk, and in 1543 he joined Henry VIII's establishment as Gentleman of the Chapel Royal. Here he sang, played the organ, ran the choir, and continued composing music. Around 1552, Tallis married a woman named Joan. In 1575 he formed a partnership of a different kind with William Byrd, and together they secured a royal monopoly on publishing music in England. Tallis remained with the Chapel Royal and served four monarchs, namely Henry VIII, Edward VI, Mary I and Elizabeth I. He died on 23rd November 1585 and was buried in St. Alphege at Greenwich. Tallis was a prolific composer of religious music for both the Roman Catholic and the Protestant churches. and negotiated religious the and political pitfalls of the time with unerring skill. Consequently he lived to a tranquil old age summarised so beautifully in his epitaph: "As he did live, so also did he die, in mild and quiet sort, O happy man!" (Steve Osborn)

		Regular events in the village				
Monday	The	The Chalksole Homegroup, third Monday of the month at 7.30pm until October. Contact Linda 01304 823100				
Tuesday	Art c	classes in the village hall from 10 am to 1 pm. Ring 01303 243115 for further details				
Tuesday	Ballr	room dancing classes 7.30 to 10.30 in village hall (except second Tuesday in month)				
Wednesday	Keer	Fit in the village hall from 9.30 am to 10.30 am – Wednesday Club from 10.30 am to 11.30 am				
Thursday	Mob	ile Library stops at the car parks by the village hall from 9.25 am to 9.50 am				
Friday	Whis	st Drive in the village hall starting at 7.30 pm				
but mayod	Refi	Other events in the village				
Monday	4	Parish Council meeting in the village hall at 7.30pm. Everyone welcome to come along				
Saturday	9	VILLAGE FETE starting at 2.00pm on Vicarage Meadow – see articles on page 1				
Tuesday	12	W.I. in the village hall at 7.30pm				
Sunday	17	Alkham Cricket Club on Vicarage Meadow in the afternoon				
Monday	18	Village Hall committee meeting in the village hall at 7.30pm				
Saturday						
Wednesday	29	29 Benefice farewell gathering for Kevin Mepham in the village hall at 7.30pm				
Sunday	31	Alkham Cricket Club on Vicarage Meadow in the afternoon				

ann of a any	CHURCH SERVICES					
Day	Alkham	Capel	Hougham	A REARING		
Sunday 3 rd July	Ioint Benefice Sung Euchariet St Radigund, Canal 10,00 a m					
Tuesday 5 th July	a the statement of the	Healing Service 7.00 p.m.	STATISTICS STATE ACRIMIN	Capel: Monday-		
Sunday 10 th July	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping together 11.00 a.m.	Songs of Praise village hall West Hougham 6.30 p.m.	 Friday at 8.30 am (except Bank Holidays). Evening 		
Sunday 17 th July	Worshipping together 11.00 a.m.	Sung Evensong 6.30 p.m.	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Prayer, Hougham - Wednesdays at		
Sunday 24 th July	Joint Benefice Su	5 pm. Eucharist, Capel Thursdays				
Sunday 31 st July	Joint Benefice Sung Eucharist St Radigund, Capel with a visiting speaker from USPG Followed by refreshments in the Church Hall 6.30 p.m.			– at 9.15 am		

TELEPHONE NUMBERS	Police – 999 phone & 01303 850055 Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130 Community Warden 07977 981994	Village Hall booking Rosemary Polden 824876 Alkham Valley Society secretary
Gwyn Prosser M.P. 01304 214484	GP out of hours to access urgent medical help 0844 800 1234	Joanna Walker 821641 W.I. Betty Neely 01303 251475
County Councillor, Bryan Cope 207976 work number 01795532547	Newsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969 e mail <u>brianwimsett@hotmail.com</u>	Vicar Kevin Mepham 01303 244119 Church Wardens - Richard Tapsell
District Councillors Sue Nicholas 823956 Andrew Richardson 211835	Parish Clerk, Susan Lees 822661 susan@susanlees.freeserve.co.uk	822295 and Grace Stacey 822756 Alkham web site www.alkham.org

LOCAL BUSINESSES AND SERVICES				
ACCOUNTANCY	John Garlinge Accountancy, taxation, book keeping services	St. Margaret's 852252		
ALKHAM MEADOWS	Touring Caravan Park – Next to Garden Centre	Alkham Valley Road 206344		
ARBORICULTURE	Alkham Valley Tree Surgery: Planning, planting, maintenance removal	Wolverton 824853 & 07973 501390		
BUILDING WORK	E R Woodruff carpentry and joinery, decorating, maintenance	Swanbourne, Wolverton 824991		
CAT & DOG GROOMING	Canine beauticians, dogs and cats groomed, Newcastle House	Ewell Minnis 822902		
CLEANING SERVICES	John Hoy domestic/commercial carpet and upholstery cleaning	Ewell Minnis 07889310479		
CURTAINS & BLINDS	Curtains and blinds made to your specification	Alkham Valley 01303 891806		
ELECTRICAL	Simon Price electricians & computer installation, Megget Farm	South Alkham 01303 252764		
ENVIRONMENTAL	J H Ullmann Environmental contractors, Malmains Farm	Alkham 202004 or 822888		
EQUESTRIAN	Hogbrook Equestrian Centre Livery yard, instruction, hacking	Hogbrook Lane, Alkham 827644		
EQUESTRIAN SUPPLIES	Alkham Valley Garden Centre – everything for horse and rider	South Alkham 01303 891996		
GARDEN CENTRE	Alkham Valley Garden Centre with gift shop and pet supplies	South Alkham 01303 893351		
KENNELS	Alkhamhurst Kennels dogs, cats & unusual boarded. All pet needs	Alkham Valley Rd, Wolverton 822420		
LIVERY	Greenhill livery yard Do it yourself and grass liveries	Megget Lane, South Alkham 01303 892056		
POST OFFICE	Southdown Stores groceries, videos, fruit/veg, off licence, fresh bread/milk	London rd, Temple Ewell 827100		
SCHOOL	Capel-le-Ferne school Your local primary school; free bus from Alkham	Capel Street, Capel-le-Ferne 01303 251353		

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

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SENIOR CITIZEN'S FORUM for towns and villages in the Dover District is a group which promotes the interests and needs of older people and advocate on their behalf. The Forum has a growing membership and if you would like to know more about it you can either phone 07765 540126 or 01304 240090 for further information.

VISIT GREENWICH - On Saturday the ^{10th} of September a coach trip has been arranged to Greenwich where there are many things to see and enjoy during the day. For further information and booking please phone Cherry Leppard on 01303 255114.

MUM RETURNING to work needs help with ironing for about 1 day per week on a flexible basis. Please ring Julie on 01304 821563 for further details.

SUNFLOWER COMPETITION So far there have only been two adult and three junior entries for the competition; a few more would be wonderful. Please give me a ring on 01303 891550 if you'd like to join in the fun. (Simon Norris)

RAFFLE By - 11 a remarkable coincidence the first prize in the fete raffle this year was won by the same person from Whitfield who won it last year. It is pleasing to note that he likes Alkham and always comes to our fete.

No. 144 August 2005

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ALKHAM FETE was opened this year by Lord Nelson who gave a stirring speech whilst holding a microphone in his right hand thus raising the suspicion that it may have been Mark Robson. (editor)

May I just say a quick thank you to everyone who helped make this year's Fete such a success. There are, as ever, too many to thank individually, but it was really nice to see a number of new faces as well as all the stalwarts mucking in

at every stage from putting the tents up at 8.30 a.m. to clearing the Meadow by 6.30 p.m. (and yet I think everyone, old and new, enjoyed themselves); We haven't got final figures yet but we shall be having our post-Fete meeting on the 10th August to divvy up the proceeds and then the AGM will be in early October to get things set for next year. If you'd like to come to either meeting and have your say about how we could improve or otherwise add to the fun- and fundraising elements please don't be shy! Finally a big thank you to everyone on the committee. especially Irene (Fete Secretary) and Clive (Treasurer), for their help and support over the last year. (Paul Tapsell) thanks also go to Paul for doing such a good job organising the fete (editor)

BARN DANCE – On the 17th of September there will be a barn dance in the village hall, starting at 7.30pm. All profits will be used to buy Christmas lights to supplement the lighted tree, which was on Vicarage Meadow last year. Please contact Anne Huggins or Mark Robson for further details.

PARISH CLERK - The Parish Council have decided that because there was only one applicant for the post of Parish Clerk they would advertise the job again in the local press. The post involves about 20 hours a week at a salary starting at £7 per hour depending on qualifications. If you are interested, please phone Neil Burrows on 01303 892056 or Sue Lees on 822661.



THE COFFEE MORNING at

6 Glebelands on the 18th of June was a great success raising £245 for the Dover & District Diabetic Group. Lu Matcham received a letter from the Group thanking them and the supporters for all their hard work. Lu would also like to thank all those who helped, gave prizes and came along to make the day such a success.

ROADWORKS - For those living outside the village, I'm pleased to report that most of the lanes in Ewell Minnis, which were in a dreadful condition, have been repaired and given a 40mm or 50mm continuous overlay as has Chalksole Green Lane and the top part of White Hill.

RECYCLING – The next recycling will be on Thursday the 4th of August.

HOGROAST and live music at the Willows on the 5th August from 7 to 11 pm. Dance to Toucan duo. Tickets £7 from Helen, 822899. Bring your own drinks and a chair.

ALKHAM VALLEY ROAD

You should have received a letter with the Newsletter which gives details of an exhibition in the village hall regarding improvements to the Alkham Valley Road. If not, the exhibition will be from 2.00pm to 7.00pm on Friday the 12th of August and 9.00am to 13.00 hours on the Saturday.

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1 Cliffe Road, Kingsdown, Deal Tel. 01304 381622 High Street, St. Margarets at Cliffe, Dover Tel. 01304 852960



NATURE NOTES In a floral first for me, I was surprised and delighted to discover a bee orchid (orphrys

apifera) growing in the meadow in front of our house. With its exotic lilac petals and chocolate brown lower lip resembling the rear of a bumblebee seeking nectar, it is aptly named. The discovery was all the more surprising, since my flower book says it favours grassy places on chalk and limestone, whereas at the top of White Hill we are on a thick clay cap. Apparently they used to be found in larger numbers around Alkham, but many have fallen victim to indiscriminate grass cutting. To set seed and flourish they need to be left untouched until August. On a warm night in June, as Kiwi was performing her ablutions, I spotted what I initially thought was a burning cigarette end in the lawn. On closer examination it turned out to be the luminescent tail of 1cm long female glow-worm a (lampyris noctiluca). Designed to attract plain mate, the bright light its is extinguished once the suitor is located and after having laid its eggs, the female dies soon after. It has a three year life cycle and feeds on small snails. The environmentalists amongst us might cite this as proof of glowball worming! (Geoff Gaskill)

> FARMER'S MARKET Capel-le-Ferne Village Hall each Tuesday 10am to 1pm Local produce Phone 01303 245399

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ALKHAM PRODUCE

SHOW (sponsored by the Ladies Keep Fit group). A very big thank you to all those who entered, especially to the patient parents of our young exhibitors. Once again it made a delightful display that people very much enjoyed. The shield for Best exhibit in show went to Rosemary Polden for her lovely fuchsia, the Floral Trophy to Barbara Palmer (sweet peas), the Countryside Cup to Geoff Gaskill (gooseberries), the Ken Davies Cup to Rosemary Polden (fuchsia) and the President's Cup to Rowland Brown (beetroot). The new Olive Harvey cup for the most number of points in the show was won by Bob Palmer; John Norris and Richard Tapsell were second and third respectively in this category. The cup for Best exhibit in the Children's show was won by Rosie Comfort for her beautifully made Playdoh turtle. Mention should also made of those who achieved a high standard with many 1st, 2nd and 3rd placed exhibits. Thank you all very much. (Susannah Tapsell)

ALKHAM VALLEY - There was some discussion at the Parish Council meeting regarding the caravans, which are on Alkham Valley Meadows, next to the Garden Centre. The Chairman said that the site was owned by a lady in Ramsgate and that the caravan owners originated from Ireland. The Planning Officer for Dover District Council is looking into the matter and will enter the site when he is legally entitled to do so. The Parish Council had received a letter from a local resident and also the Alkham Valley Society. (editor)



STREET PARTY - Despite the short notice (also apologies to those who were not told) there was a good turn out for the Street Party in Newlyn's 60^{th} Meadow to celebrate the anniversary of the end of the Second World War. Seated underneath the bunting and in the sunshine (or the shade of the beech tree) a good spread was enjoyed by villagers and friends alike. There were plenty of reminiscences of wartime experiences, both at home and in the field: a mix of the horrific and the hilarious and I hope these are recorded somewhere. My thanks to all who helped set up and tidy. away and to those who provided the food. Thanks too to the bell ringers, Richard Tapsell, Brian Wimsett, Sue Lees and Clive Batcheldor, who joined the national bell ringing at 5.00 p.m. which provided an appropriate way to round off the afternoon. The afternoon was dedicated to the memory of the men of Alkham who gave their lives in the Second World War and I hope that Ronald Couchman, Lewis Fagg, Alan Gavin, William Hinds, Henry Keeler and Ernest Richards would have approved; their sacrifice must not be forgotten. A collection (if Irene's strong-arm tactics can be called a 'collection') for the Royal British Legion raised about £80 (The total was £105 but I know that some of this was raised elsewhere). This will be put to use providing support, work and accommodation for ex-servicemen and women and will be greatly appreciated. It was suggested to me that this should become an annual event.....over to someone else! (Mark Robson)

SLIP LANE – At the Parish Council meeting some concern was expressed about the junction of Slip Lane with the Alkham Valley Road. The visibility is very poor in the Folkestone direction and cars are screened by the bus shelter in the Dover direction. A mirror opposite the junction was proposed but it was thought that the Highway Authority would not agree to this and if the Parish Council installed one they could be liable for any accidents caused by headlight reflection. It was also suggested that the white line to the junction could be moved left so that the visibility would be improved to the right but it was thought that this could cause problems for large trailers. It would appear as though there is no simple answer although a bus shelter you could see through would help. The problem is exacerbated by speeding drivers so perhaps a local 20mph limit would be a good idea assuming speeding drivers took any notice. (editor)

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BARBECUE – A Barbecue is being held at St Radigund's church Capel on the 20^{th} August at 6.00 p.m. Tickets cost is £5.00 which includes a drink and dessert.

THE FOLKESTONE CLASSIC Film Club, which is now two years old, meets at the Silver Screen Cinema, Guildhall St (above Waterstones) every Thursday morning at 11 a.m. Doors open at 10.30. The 2005 Summer Season is almost over, but a new season will begin forthwith. The films shown recently included The Merchant of Venice (USA. 2004); The Women (USA 1939); Sideways (USA. 2004) and coming up is a Turkish film Turtles Can Fly - life on the order of Turkey and Iraq. (Turkey. 2004.) Membership enquiries: 01303 245812 HEART FOUNDATION - The final amount raised in sponsorship from the Essex Bike Ride for the British Heart Foundation was £198. Most of the sponsors agreed to Gift Aid so the BHF is able to claim an extra 28p for each pound that was donated increasing the total by about £50.

FREDERIC HALL Solicitors York House, Folkestone 01303 851185 & Clyde House, Dover 01304 202411 THE BOOK CLUB has got off to a flying start with two titles under our belt already. The next meetings and titles are as follows: On August 3rd we will reviewing "The be Last Crossing" by Guy Vanderhaege Rosemary Heddle, with Newlyns Meadow: September 7th will be "The Kite Runner" by Khaled Hosseini and hosted by Sue Latham at Woodlands, Short Lane; October 5th Liz Lambourne. 4A Newlyns will be Meadow holding a review of "Leonardo de Vinci : The Flights of The Mind" by Charles Nicholl and the final date is November 2nd for a discussion of a crime thriller "Fleshmarket Close" by Ian Rankin at Drybrook, Short Lane by courtesy of Jane Aslett. All meetings start at 7:30 pm. (Linda **Gaskill**)

W.I. - The last meeting of the W.I was held on a warm sunny about evening with twenty members present. The recent Alkham fete was discussed as many members helped run it! It was a nice warm afternoon with a lot of people present. Everyone seemed to enjoy it. The outing to Dixter Great full is and arrangements all in hand. The next outing is to Greenwich on September 10th (see page1). The Christmas meal was discussed! I know, but it's only round the corner!! It seemed everyone would like to go to the Lighthouse. That will be booked soon. The speaker was Chris Wade and his talk with slides was "Saxon Shoreway" and a most enjoyable evening it was. This walk covers about 170 miles and starts from Gravesend right round the coast to Rye in Sussex. His talk of an hour only covered Gravesend to Reculver, but with the nice slides and his interesting commentary it went very quickly. I am sure he will be asked again to continue round the coast. Next month is member's night where three or four are arranging a fun evening. Not sure what's in store but it will be good! This is Tuesday August 9th at 7.30pm. (Cherry Leppard)

OZ on PENGUINS - To celebrate its first 70 years Penguin is publishing 70 pocket editions called Penguin 70. Other good cheap books existed before 1935. impressive the most being Everyman's Library, founded by Joseph Dent in 1905. When he died in 1926, Dent had achieved his aim of providing "the most complete library for the common man the world has ever seen". In 1935, Allen Lane, a Bodley Head Press director, returning from a visit to Agatha Christie, was stranded on Exeter railway station with nothing to read, and decided that there was a need for quality paperbacks to be railway sold in stations, tobacconists and stores. When his secretary suggested a penguin as a 'dignified but flippant' symbol, Lane sent Edward Young to London Zoo to draw the famous The first 10 Penguins, bird. including works by André Maurois, Agatha Christie and Hemingway, were published in August 1935 to instant acclaim. Priced at sixpence. the same as a packet of cigarettes, and brightly colour-coded, orange for fiction, green for crime and so on, Penguins appealed equally to readers and collectors. In 1937 Penguin installed a bookdispensing machine called the Penguincubator at Charing Cross, and Lane launched the Pelican series of original books on current affairs. This radicalism in promoting new writing helped Penguin overtake Everyman in the run-up to the war, during which Penguin ran the Armed Forces Book Club. After the war Penguin introduced the Classics series, directly challenging Everyman on its own ground. The ensuing particularly since rivalry, Everyman's 1991 relaunch, has been of mutual benefit, with scholars recommending one or the other edition for the quality of its commentary. In 1948 I spent my first ever Christmas half-crown on King Penguin's Spiders; it was the first step in a lifelong love-affair with these bright and beautiful books. (Steve Osborn)

Construction of the second second	Regular events in the village				
Monday	The (Chalksole Homegroup, third Monday of the month at 7.30pm until October. Contact Linda 01304 823100			
Tuesday	Art c	lasses in the village hall from 10 am to 1 pm. Ring 01303 243115 for further details			
Tuesday	Ballr	oom dancing classes 7.30 to 10.30 in village hall (except second Tuesday in month)			
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Thursday	Mobi	ile Library stops at the car parks by the village hall from 9.25 am to 9.50 am			
Friday	Whis	t Drive in the village hall starting at 7.30 pm			
l va babaro	h still	Other events in the village			
Saturday	6	Bingo in the village hall starting at 7.30pm			
Sunday	7	Alkham Cricket Club on Vicarage Meadow in the afternoon			
Tuesday	9				
Wednesday	10	Fete Committee meeting in the village hall at 8.00pm (see page 1)			
Friday	12	Exhibition in the village hall showing proposed works to the Alkham Valley Road - 2.00pm to 7.00pm			
Saturday					
Monday	15 Dover & District Bird Club in the village hall from 7.30pm				
Saturday	20	Coffee morning in the village hall at 11.00am in aid of Village Hall funds			
Sunday	28	Alkham Cricket Club on Vicarage Meadow in the afternoon			

CHURCH SERVICES				
Day	Alkham	Capel	Hougham	Weekday Serv
Tuesday 2 nd	en qAli is vien and an	Healing Service 7.00 p.m.	a in a super strategy and a super strategy of the super strategy o	Morning Prayer, Capel: Monday-
Sunday 7 th	Evensong 6.30 p.m.	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping together 11.00 a.m.	Friday at 8.30 am (except Bank
Sunday 14 th	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping together 11.00 a.m.	Songs of Praise village hall West Hougham 6.30 p.m.	Holidays). Evenir Prayer, Hougham Wednesdays at 5 pm. Eucharist, Capel Thursdays at 9.15 am
Sunday 21 st	Worshipping together 11.00 a.m.	Evensong 6.30 p.m.	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	
Sunday 28th				

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District Councillors Sue Nicholas 823956	Parish Clerk, Susan Lees 822661 susan@susanlees.freeserve.co.uk	822295 and Grace Stacey 822756
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SCHOOL	Capel-le-Ferne school Your local primary school; free bus from Alkham	Capel Street, Capel-le-Ferne 01303 251353

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THE REPLACEMENT SEAT by the corner of the Valley Road and Hogbrook Lane is now in place thanks to Luke, Christopher and Matthew Hyland who can be seen in the above picture.

FETE - The total amount raised at this year's fete was £3150 and after expenses were deducted the final figure was $\pounds 2100$. The village hall and the church were given £1000 each and small donations were made to other organisations. Paul Tapsell would like to thank the fete committee for all their hard work.

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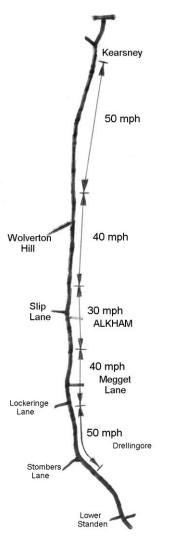
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No. 145 September 2005

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BUS STOP - A meeting was held with PARISH CLERK - The post for the the relevant authority regarding a bus between the paths which run from the wooden shelter and suggested that another bus stop be put on the other side of the road near the telephone box. The Parish Council will discuss the matter at the next meeting.

A BARN DANCE and American Supper in aid of Alkham Christmas tree lights will be held in the village hall on the 17th of September starting at 7.30pm. Tickets costing £3.50 are on sale now from Anne Huggins or Mark Robson, telephone 820459.



position of Parish Clerk was advertised stop on the Newlyns Meadow side of in the local papers covering the East the village. It was quite positive and Kent area. As a result there were a they said that a bus stop could be put number of enquiries, which resulted in 6 people sending in their CV's. The back of the village hall and the other interviews are scheduled to take place in which accesses Newlyns Meadow. the village hall on the 24th of August in They were also willing to provide a front of members of the Parish Council.



THE SPEED LIMITS proposed along the Alkham Valley Road, and now published as an order, are as shown on the adjacent plan. From the 30mph limit at Kearsney there will be a 50mph limit to about 500 metres before Wolverton Hill where a 40mph limit will start and continue to the existing 30mph limit through the village. There will then be a 40mph limit from the village to South Alkham, finishing after the bend by Hopton Manor/Upton Farm. From here there is a 50mph speed limit which ends about 300 metres past the sharp bend at Drellingore. In addition there will be short pieces of red anti skid surfacing with 'Slow' marking at the approach to the Lower Standen junction (by the paving slab makers), the bend at Drellingore and either side of the Upton Farm bend. At Meggett Lane and the Wolverton Hill junction the same applies except the road will be covered in yellow skid resistant surfacing. There will off course be repeater signs to enforce the speed limits. The exhibition held by the Highways Department in the village hall on the 12th and 13th of August was well attended with over 100 people turning up to look at the plans. Most of the comments were positive.



THE HARVEST SUPPER Will be held in village hall on Monday the 26th September, 7.00 for 7.30pm. Tickets cost £5 and are available from Betty Neely on 01303 251756.

DANCE - On the 29th of October a dance will be held in the village hall with all proceeds going to the Ghurkha Welfare Fund. More details will be printed next month.

NEWSLETTER - The financial year starts again for the Newsletter and I'm pleased to say that last year it just about broke even. The revenue from adverts and donations was £462 and expenditure was £473. There is a healthy reserve so the slight overspend is no problem. Each month 340 copies are made at the Rainbow Centre at a cost of £31. Generally, 19 copies are posted at a cost of about £3.80 and £2.00 is claimed for petrol making a total of about £37 per month. Two months cost £20 more because of printing difficulties, which the Rainbow Centre kindly resolved.

FARMER'S MARKET

Capel-le-Ferne Village Hall each Tuesday 10am to 1pm Local produce Phone 01303 245399

DAVID HORNE LOCAL HANDYMAN For all your jobs no matter how small Gardening, Decorating, Rubbish Clearing etc. FAIR RATES FOR GOOD WORK Call 01304 203578 or 07984 886251

COMMUNITY PATHS PROJECT grants are available for rights of way improvements. Do vou know of any local paths that are popular but could be made easier to use? By improving short sections of some paths it would open up more of Kent's countryside for the enjoyment of everyone, from dog walkers to the disabled. It's not just people with specific mobility needs that are affected, but their friends and family if they are unable to enjoy access to the countryside together. That's why the Community Paths Project offers grants to improve public rights of way. Sometimes, small improvements can make a big difference to everyone. The typical amount is up to £1,000 but larger grants are available for projects with a lot of benefits and you will be given help to organise your project if you need it. Many applications have already been received this year but there is currently still some funding available. If you would like to apply for a grant, or to talk about how the scheme can help you, please contact Ben Collins, at East Kent - Public Rights of Way, Mezzanine Floor, Maybrook Dover House, New Street, CT179AJ, telephone 216307 or benjamin.collins@kent.gov.uk

GARDEN TALK - Our thanks go to John and Sue Garlinge who hosted a very pleasant evening at their home in St Margaret's Bay. The quiz was quite a tough one and Sue was an even tougher adjudicator! The next meeting will be at the home of Helen Scopes, The Willows on Wednesday 21st September at 7.30 pm. (**Devina Bartlett**) **CHANNEL TUNNEL RAIL LINK** - Dover District Council has written to the Parish Council regarding domestic services over the Channel Tunnel Rail Link (CTRL-DS). It has long been the intention that the new domestic service will run to Ramsgate, Canterbury and Folkestone but there is considerable uncertainty over whether it will run to Dover. As a consequence of extensive lobbying Dover has been shown as a provisional destination subject to the resolution of the safety problems (in the event of evacuation being necessary - of running the new trains through Shakespeare Tunnels). DDC said they would be very grateful if the Parish would write Council to those concerned impressing on them the importance to the parish of Dover being connected to the CTRL-DS. If anyone else has a strong opinion they should write to Mr. R. Jones. Divisional Manager, Rail Franchise Specification, Department for Transport, 3/33 Great Minster House, Marsham 76 Street. London SW1P4DR.

GET CLUED - An email was sent to parish councils to inform them of a recently launched website aimed at helping people avoid rip-off tradesmen. It is a free service which allows people to read and write reviews of tradesmen they have hired and also provides useful information and advice on hiring and resolving disputes with businesses. Although launched just recently, the site has over 1000 registered members who have submitted reviews of hundreds of businesses in total. People are also benefiting by being able to find out from customers the service standards of tradesmen in their local area and the prices they charge. The site is www.getclued.com. WEB (Kevin Anderson - GetClued.com)

WATER PIPELINE – If any problems are experienced whilst the contractor is carrying out works on the new pipeline along the valley, please contact Paul Williams on his mobile phone, number 07 88 44 73593.

HOG ROAST at the Willows - Helen and Cal Scopes would like to thank everyone who came and helped raise £510. Rain earlier kept some away but we all enjoyed the evening and agreed that live music was better than disco; and of course the pork was superb. Special thanks go to Richard and Derek, and Grace and Debbie for turning up the next morning to help clear up. Thanks to the village hall for the loan of the tables which my son-in-law, David Horne, took back to Brian's cellar. But, I could not do this without my daughters Sally, Heather and Rebecca who give up at least two days of their time to ensure that everything went well.





HARVEST CLEBRATIONS at St. Anthony's. The Harvest Service will be held at 11.00 am on Sunday the 25th of September. The decoration of the church in Harvest mode will take place on the Saturday between 9.30am and 11.00am. If anybody would like to contribute traditional harvest gifts of fruit and vegetables please bring them along between the above hours. All donations will be taken down to the village hall on the Monday to be raffled at the Harvest Supper.

FOOTPATHS AND WASPS - If anyone is aware of any stiles that need replacing or footpaths that are affected by wasp nests, please contact Edward on 01304 216307.

FOR SALE W reg. (year 2000) Kawasaki ER5 500cc motorcycle, one owner 7500 miles from new, £1350. Also included is a full size top box with rack. Please phone Brian (editor) on 824969. The insurance on this bike, for me, is amazingly low.

FREDERIC HALL Solicitors York House, Folkestone 01303 851185 & Clyde House, Dover 01304 202411

W.I NEWS - The August meeting was member's night where the committee have a rest! There was not a lot of business to conduct mainly outings to finalise. A visit to the Marlowe Theatre in November to see "42nd Street" was arranged. Nineteen members were going and it was decided to take cars rather than hire a coach. Another trip was arranged to Higham Place in September. Fifteen members were interested and again would use cars. We would meet there at 12pm for lunch then visit the house and gardens. The trip to Greenwich in September had to be cancelled due to low numbers. It was agreed to try again next April. Mandy Summers, Debbie Griggs and Helen Scopes had organised the evening for us. There were a couple of quizzes for everyone to do with wine and nibbles to help the brain box to function! Helen had brought along William, her lovely Golden Retriever, to show us how much he had learned at his training classes. Doreen Lott had made and iced a beautiful cake which had to be photographed for a Federation competition. That was then cut and enjoyed by members with a nice cup of tea. Next months meeting is Tuesday 13th September where Richard and Carol Bosworth introduce "Music and Magic". Members were asked to bring a friend and a plate of food for this special meeting.

TRACTION ENGINES - The Parish Council minutes from March 1905 records that a letter was to be sent to DDC to complain about the smoke made by traction engines going through the village. This was again recorded in 1909 when they wrote to the police. Sue Lees tells me that it was serious problem as a thatched barn was set on fire by the engines, so it appears that the road has always been a problem. In February 1902 the Parish Council voted in favour of light railway, which was to be built along the valley. It is interesting that for the period from 1914 to 1918 there was no record regarding the war.

OZ on LITTLE DORRIT One hundred and fifty years ago this month Charles Dickens was halfway through a four month stay in Folkestone. Dickens had visited Folkestone previously, sometimes as an enthusiastic customer of the cross channel packet service to Boulogne. By the spring of 1855 he was depressed, angered by incompetent government and continuing losses in the Crimean War, and he felt increasingly insecure. In July, Dickens and family rented No 3 Albion Villas, "a pleasant little house with the sea below and the scent of thyme sweetening the breezes from the Downs". Here he started work on his novel Little Dorrit, between indulging in his new hobby of "swarming up the face of a gigantic and precipitous cliff", where "he could be seen from the British Channel, suspended in mid-air with his trousers very much torn at fifty minutes past 3pm". On 17 July Dickens invited his friend Wilkie Collins, author of The Woman in White, to join the vacation as "Walter goes back to school on the 1st of August", adding that work had been considerably disrupted by Walter's continual jumping on the uncarpeted wooden staircase. "Why a boy of that age should seem to have on at all times a hundred and fifty pair of double-soled boots, and to be always jumping a bottom stair with the whole hundred and fifty, I don't know." In October the family moved on to Paris, and at Christmas the first monthly Little instalment of Dorrit, illustrated by Dickens's old friend, "Phiz", was published. In this complex work Dickens wove an elaborate mystery around themes of individual responsibility, debtor imprisonment, and. most satisfyingly for him, an attack on governmental idiocy in the fictional "Circumlocution Office". The time spent in Folkestone had indeed done Dickens a world of good. (Steve Osborn)

Monday	The C	Chalksole Homegroup, third Monday of the month at 7.30pm until October. Contact Linda 01304 823100		
Tuesday	Art classes in the village hall from 10 am to 1 pm. Ring 01303 243115 for further details			
Tuesday	Ballro	pom dancing classes 7.30 to 10.30 in village hall (except second Tuesday in month)		
Wednesday	Keep	Fit in the village hall from 9.30 am to 10.30 am – Wednesday Club from 10.30 am to 11.30 am		
Thursday	Mobi	le Library stops at the car parks by the village hall from 9.25 am to 9.50 am		
Friday	Whis	t Drive in the village hall starting at 7.30 pm		
		Other events in the village		
Saturday	3	Bingo in the village hall starting at 7.30pm		
Saturday	3	3 Coffee morning in the village hall in aid of church funds		
Sunday	4	4 Alkham Cricket Club on Vicarage Meadow in the afternoon		
Monday	5	5 Parish Council meeting in the village hall at 7.30pm – all welcome to come along		
Sunday	11	Alkham Cricket Club on Vicarage Meadow in the afternoon		
Tuesday	13	W.I. in the village hall at 7.30pm		
Saturday	17	17 Jumble sale in the village hall at 11.00am in aid of W.I. funds		
Saturday	17	17 Barn Dance in the village hall in aid of Christmas Tree lights		
Monday	19	Dover & District Bird Club in the village hall from 7.30pm		
Monday	26	Harvest Supper in the village hall, 7.00pm for 7.30pm		

CHURCH SERVICES					
Day	Alkham	Capel	Hougham		
Sunday 4th	Evensong 6.30 p.m.	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping together 11.00 a.m.	Weekday Services: Morning Prayer,	
Tuesday 6th		Healing Service 7.00 p.m.		Capel: Monday- Friday at 8.30 am	
Sunday 11 th	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping together 11.00a.m.	Songs of Praise for Harvest West Hougham village hall followed by supper 6.30 p.m.	(except Bank Holidays). Evening Prayer, Hougham - Wednesdays at	
Sunday 18 th	Worshipping together 11.00 a.m.	Evensong 6.30 p.m.	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	5 pm. Eucharist, Capel Thursdays	
Sunday 25 th	Joint Benefice Sung Eucharist and Harvest Festival St Anthony, Alkham 10.00 a.m.			at 9.15 am	

TELEPHONE NUMBERS	Police – 999 phone & 01303 850055 Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130 Community Warden 07977 981994	Village Hall booking Rosemary Polden 824876 Alkham Valley Society secretary
Gwyn Prosser M.P . 01304 214484	GP out of hours to access urgent medical help 0844 800 1234	Joanna Walker 821641 W.I. Betty Neely 01303 251475
County Councillor , Bryan Cope 207976 work number 01795532547	Newsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969 e mail <u>brianwimsett@hotmail.com</u>	Church Wardens - Richard Tapsell
District Councillors Sue Nicholas 823956	Parish Clerk, Susan Lees 822661	822295 and Grace Stacey 822756
Andrew Richardson 211835	susan@susanlees.freeserve.co.uk	Alkham web site www.alkham.org

LOCAL BUSINESSES AND SERVICES		
ACCOUNTANCY	John Garlinge Accountancy, taxation, book keeping services	St. Margaret's 852252
ARBORICULTURE	Alkham Valley Tree Surgery: Planning, planting, maintenance removal	Wolverton 824853 & 07973 501390
BUILDING WORK	E R Woodruff carpentry and joinery, decorating, maintenance	Swanbourne, Wolverton 824991
CAT & DOG GROOMING	Canine beauticians, dogs and cats groomed, Newcastle House	Ewell Minnis 822902
CLEANING SERVICES	John Hoy domestic/commercial carpet and upholstery cleaning	Ewell Minnis 07889310479
CURTAINS & BLINDS	Curtains and blinds made to your specification	Alkham Valley 01303 891806
ELECTRICAL	Simon Price electricians & computer installation, Meggett Farm	South Alkham 01303 252764
ENVIRONMENTAL	J H Ullmann Environmental contractors, Malmains Farm	Alkham 202004 or 822888
EQUESTRIAN	Hogbrook Equestrian Centre Livery yard, instruction, hacking	Hogbrook Lane, Alkham 827644
EQUESTRIAN SUPPLIES	Alkham Valley Garden Centre - everything for horse and rider	South Alkham 01303 891996
GARDEN CENTRE	Alkham Valley Garden Centre with gift shop and pet supplies	South Alkham 01303 893351
KENNELS	Alkhamhurst Kennels dogs, cats & unusual boarded. All pet needs	Alkham Valley Rd, Wolverton 822420
LIVERY	Greenhill livery yard Do it yourself and grass liveries	Megget Lane, South Alkham 01303 892056
POST OFFICE	Southdown Stores groceries, videos, fruit/veg, off licence, fresh bread/milk	London rd, Temple Ewell 827100
SCHOOL	Capel-le-Ferne school Your local primary school; free bus from Alkham	Capel Street, Capel-le-Ferne 01303 251353

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

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SUE LEES - This really is the end of an era as Sue retires from the post as Parish Clerk. She took on the job in 1982 when George Kirby was chairman

and continued to act as Clerk under a further four chairmen until September of this year. The work that Sue has done over the years cannot be understated. She carried out the job with her usual good humour and was generally the first port of call for any enquiry or complaint in the Parish. I'm sure the Parish would like to thank her for all the good work she has done over the years and wish her all the best for the future when she can pursue all her other interests, which are many. (editor)

ALKHAM VALLEY SOCIETY AGM will be held in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm on Thursday 1 December 2005 followed by supper at The Fox, Temple Ewell. Please consider topics you might like to raise. (Joanna Walker)

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No. 145 October 2005

THE BARN DANCE in aid of PARISH CLERK - Nicola Wright is Christmas Lights the was a resounding success and a good crowd danced. ate and laughed their way through the evening. Thanks to tremendous support from the village we raised £467.51p which will be plenty to ensure we have a good display on Vicarage Meadow for many years to come. As well as those who came to the dance many others gave generous donations. Local businesses such as Sladden Farm, the Alkham Valley Farm Shop, the Barn Tea Rooms, Bridleway Riding School, Speedy Tool Hire and The Marquis of Granby supported with raffle prizes, as did many individuals and the Marquis also donated £150 towards the fund! See you all on the 3rd December! (Anne Huggins and Mark Robson) **ON THE NIGHT** of the Christmas switch-on lights' Tree (Saturday, December 3rd) there will be a village meal at the Marquis of Granby. For only £14.50 you can have 3 course festive meal (with a vegetarian option) followed by coffee and enjoy the company of other villagers. What better way to start the Christmas season? To make it a truly village affair we need to have between 50 - 60 diners as this will secure our own dining area. I have the menu and there is a vegetarian option. If you would like to go I need to know as soon as possible and to have

confirmation, and money, by October 8th. Mark Robson, 8a Newlyns Meadow, 01304.820459

CHRISTMAS - Would your child to turn on the Alkham like Christmas tree lights? If so all they need to do is leave or send a picture of a Christmas tree to 8a Newlyns Meadow together with their name, age and telephone number on the back. All entries will be placed in a hat and the winner will be drawn out by Brian. We will publish more details in the November Newsletter. (Tracy Huggins)

Delivered free to all properties in the Parish

now the Parish Clerk for Alkham. She lives at Wolverton on the Alkham Valley Road, post code CT15 7DS and telephone number 820098. We wish her well for the future.

BABY SITTER - A young girl living in the village currently studying for her A Levels is available in the evening and most weekends for baby sitting. Please phone Jacqui on 823058 for further details.



RECYCLING - The next collection is on Thursday 6th of October. For those outside collection area and wishing to recycle, can take sorted items (cans, plastics containing drink, cardboard, paper and aerosols) to Hawkinge and credit it to the Alkham Account. Kent Community Recycling is on Aerodrome Road just past the museum.

DANCE - On the 29th October in the village hall there will be a dance in aid of the Ghurkha Welfare Fund. It is on the basis of an American Supper and the music will be provided by Toucan. Tickets cost £6 and are available from Betty Neely on 01303 251475.

BUS STOPS - The highway authority is willing to put a path between the one behind the village hall and the other leading to Newlyns Meadow. They will also install a wooden bus shelter adjacent to the path and suggest that a bus stop be put somewhere near the phone box on the other side of the road. The existing bus stops on the bend by Vicarage Meadow would remain but become request stops. If this were to happen it is likely that the concrete bus shelter would be removed. To date the bus company has not commented on the proposals but it seems likely that it will happen.



W.I. - Our September meeting was one of music and magic. Richard and Carol Bosworth entertained us with Carol performing magic tricks and Richard playing the organ. Carol was really good, we were all very near to her but still could not see how she did it! Richard started, with him playing Jerusalem and all members singing with him. This is the W.I anthem but we sung it with extra gusto following the cricketers' victory! Each member was urged to bring a friend, which many did, and a plate of food which was laid out and everyone could help themselves; that and a glass of wine made a perfect evening. 10 members went to Higham House on Wednesday afternoon and enjoyed the house tour and the beautiful gardens and of course lunch! Next month members will be asked if they would like to stand for committee, the annual meeting is in November. Nineteen people are going to see "42nd Street" on Thursday November 10th. We will arrange cars at the next meeting. Christmas dinner is booked at the "Lighthouse" on Tuesday 13th December. Hopefully all the members will be able to go. Next month's meeting is Tuesday 11th October and the evening is Sharing Christmas Crafts. (Cherry Leppard)

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FARMER'S MARKET Capel-le-Ferne Village Hall each Tuesday 10am to 1pm Local produce Phone 01303 245399

HONEY SHOW - On the last RALLY ROW - The Parish Council Saturday in October the Dover and District Beekeepers' Association will again be holding its Annual Honey Show and Competition in the Village Hall. As well as the usual displays of honey, beeswax products, mead and confectionery, there will be a small exhibition on the beekeeper's craft and the chance to taste honey of different types. It is a very pleasant occasion and our last show we at were particularly pleased to welcome a non-beekeeping villagers few who were curious to know what it was all about. We hope the same will be true this year. The show begins at 2.30 and lasts for about two-and-a-half hours. Admission is free, refreshments will be available and there will be jars of locally produced honey for sale. We're always keen to attract new members and more than happy to show potential recruits around our apiary at Coldred. Such a visit could be arranged at the Honey Show or by ringing me, Roy Dyche, on 01304 824584. I can provide suitable protective clothing!

TELEPHONE BOX - As a response to the article in the Newsletter about the proposed bus shelter, Bert Wall who lives in Church Hill House, wrote a letter to the Parish Council. He says that his garden, as a result of being behind the phone box, has been used as a dumping ground for dirty nappies, used condoms, car ash trays, cigarette packets, beer cans etc as a direct result of people using phone box. He thinks that a new bus shelter will get covered in graffiti and not be an attractive proposition outside a person's house.

THEFT - A Hayter petrol lawn mower was stolen from the cricket pavilion between 10pm on Sunday and 5.30pm on Monday the 29th of August.

THE BOOK that Sue Lees wrote with Roy Humphreys about Alkham is (it says) available on the www.amazon.co.uk website for £2.95 plus a sourcing cost.

THE BENEFICE BARN DANCE on the 22nd October at Capel Village Hall; tickets on sale now from Anne Huggins.

and residents are up in arms about a motor rally which is to pass through the parish at midnight on the night of Saturday October 1. Residents on Slip Lane and Hogbrook Hill Lane were left notices by the organisers of the Powerush Rally 2005 informing them that the cars would be passing their homes during the night, although the organisers will not disclose the full route. Concerns about road safety and disturbance led the Parish Council to raise the issue with the Police, the Highways Authority and environmental health officers. However, all responded that while they have concerns, their hands are tied as they cannot stop the event. The police can only act on the night if any of the drivers are caught exceeding any speed limits or breaking any other laws. While the organisers' website - www. powerush.co.uk - states that the cars will travel at an average speed of no more than-30mph and claims that the event does not pose any dangers, it also contains a Press cutting from a previous event which refers to accidents and incidents. The site refers to "up to 40 cars" participating in the annual rally, which starts at Canterbury at 11.30pm and finishes at Ashford at 6am on the Sunday, after touring 150 miles of country lanes and villages through East Kent. Quite apart from the disturbance to residents who would be trying to sleep at that time of night, the Parish Council had specific concerns about up to 40 rally cars crossing Alkham Valley Road at midnight at what is a notoriously dangerous blind junction from Slip Lane to Hogbrook Hill Lane. There were also worries about the risk of the many horses in the area being startled by the rally cars. After strong protests from the council, the organisers proposed to downgrade the section of the rally which passes through the parish. changing it from a timed section and imposing an average 20mph speed limit on the competitors. They also proposed to place "Very Quiet" signs at the top of Slip Lane to warn drivers before they entered the village. However, the councillors and other residents are still extremely disappointed that such an event is being permitted to take place. Anyone who has any concerns can contact the rally's PR Officer Ben Greenfield on 07733 312173. The police have stated that if any residents witness any dangerous driving, excessive speed or other incidents during the event, they should note details and registration numbers and inform the police immediately. (Peter Frater)

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THE SUNFLOWERS in the sunflower competition were measured during the first week of September. This was a tricky but fun task which on one occasion involved balancing on a very steep slope, waving a garden cane in one hand with a tape measure attached, whilst the grower tried to convince me it was an inch taller a day or so before (you know who you are!). The results were as follows: Adults: John Norris 9ft 10"; Bob Palmer 9ft 6"; Richard Tapsell 7ft 4"; Simon Norris 2ft 2": Children: Aimee Wood 9ft 6"; James Tapsell 9ft 1"; Benjamin Norris 3ft 6". The winners should have received their trophy by now. As for my poor showing, all can say is it was a very dry summer in South Alkham! I will be trying again next year and hope a few more people (especially the kids) can sow a couple of sunflowers and join in the fun. If nothing else it gives the birds a little something to feast on during the autumn. (Simon Norris)

FREDERIC HALL Solicitors York House, Folkestone 01303 851185 & Clyde House, Dover 01304 202411

our President (since 1977) Mark continuing substantial supper prepared and risk; that battles are not fought the Algonquin story, everyday and were indeed perhaps squirrel-proof historic Kent at heart. A surprise from again thanks to Mark and Liza walnuts, scene-stealers the was Tapsell, which made it such fun, and into to the children who were enjoying bewildered and exhausted. £1 a year'... have we got news for winter. (Steve Osborn) splendid evening. And went home! (Joanna everyone Walker)

ALKHAM Valley Society the OZ on SOUIRRELS AGAIN My President's Party - Many thanks to June 2004 article described the battles for survival Loveday, and to Liza Loveday, Lucy between red and grey squirrels, since Loveday and Priya Sodhi as support when I have seen more of the staff, for an excellent evening party cleverness and agility that aids both on 3rd September. Held on the Old species. Last winter a friend, who Rectory front lawn and inside the lives in the depths of Canada's house, the company enjoyed very Algonquin Park forest, sent two good champagne and all manner of photographs. The first picture shows delicious wines as well as a an anti-squirrel bird-feeder designed beautifully by him, comprising an empty twoserved by the litre plastic bottle with a hole in the aforementioned support staff! It was side, suspended by a rubber thong, on a blessing that the weather held since the end of a chain, mounted to a earlier a cold sea mist had enveloped horizontal tree branch by a ball-Dover but somehow stuck to the bearing joint, so that the feeder Valley floors, not daring to rise past bounces up and down and rotates if the village churchyard. In his invaded by anything heavier than a welcoming speech the President bird. In the second picture the feeder reminded members that the Society contains a squirrel, happily bouncing, was the collective conscience of the rotating and tucking into the bird-Alkham Valley, particularly where food. Later in the year, we purchased, the value of the environment was at with some trepidation after hearing **RSPB** a bird-feeder. Our prevented by a constantly watchful resident squirrel nonchalantly stole a collective of eyes and ears having few peanuts from it, but was far the interests of this particular part of busier eating left-over Christmas nuts adjacent an bird-table. raffle was held which raised some Interestingly he had quite definite £200 for the society coffers thanks to preferences and always ate in the the generosity of members - prizes same order; first hazelnuts, then almonds. and finally Loveday and AVS members. One of chestnuts. Later still, on a hot day John towards the end of summer, I was Ullmann's pleasure at winning one engrossed in the weekend crossword of the two charming stuffed at the kitchen table, when suddenly hamsters, which, he assured the there was a flash of white and a noise entertained crowd, would join a like an express train. The squirrel had treasured company of similar hurtled at great velocity into the trophies at home - and Paul you kitchen pursued by Jak, his jaws were a splendid 'raffler' at no notice already snapping just inches behind at all! Thanks must also go to all the the terrified animal's tail. In a members who attended the event, a moment the squirrel flipped up, flew special appreciation here to behind-vertically, ricocheted off a biscuit tin the-scenes David and Christine on a high shelf and disappeared back the garden, leaving Jak Only the garden as well as the food: John minutes later the squirrel was busy Huggins was not alone when he burying the remaining Christmas expressed his pleasure - 'all this for nuts, his insurance against the coming

you! On behalf of the Society, QUIZ - There will be a quiz in aid of Maurice Sayers, our long-serving village hall funds on the 26th of and loyal Chairman expressed his November. If you wish to book a sincere thanks to the Lovedays for a table please phone Doreen Lott on then 824876.

ON ARASIS	Mah	Regular events in the village	
Monday	The Chalksole Homegroup, third Monday of the month at 7.30pm until October. Contact Linda 01304 823100		
Tuesday	Art c	lasses in the village hall from 10 am to 1 pm. Ring 01303 243115 for further details	
Tuesday	Ballr	oom dancing classes 7.30 to 10.30 in village hall (except second Tuesday in month)	
Wednesday	Keep	Fit in the village hall from 9.30 am to 10.30 am – Wednesday Club from 10.30 am to 11.30 am	
Thursday	Mobi	ile Library stops at the car parks by the village hall from 9.25 am to 9.50 am	
Friday			
or "Canadary	Other events in the village		
Saturday	1	1 Bingo in the village hall starting at 7.30pm	
Tuesday	11		
Monday	17	Dover & District Bird Club in the village hall from 7.30pm	
Saturday	22		
Wednesday	26	<u> </u>	
Saturday	29		
Saturday	29	Honey Show in the village hall from 7.00am to 5.00pm - please see page 2	

ti etalisi bherr	CHURCH SERVICES				
Day	Alkham	Capel	Hougham	y, other lave.	
Sunday 2 nd	Evensong 6.30 p.m.	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping together 11.00 a.m.	Weekday Servi	
Tuesday 4 th	th St Radigund, Capel-le-Ferne Healing Service 7.00 p.m.		Morning Pray Capel: Monday-		
Sunday 9 th	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping together 11.00 a.m.	Songs of Praise for Harvest village hall West Hougham then Harvest Supper 6.30pm	Friday at 8.30 am (except Bank Holidays). Evening Prayer, Hougham -	
Sunday 16 th	Worshipping together 11.00 a.m.	Sung Evensong 6.30 p.m.	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Wednesdays at 5 pm. Eucharist,	
Sunday 23 rd	Joint Benefice Sung Eucharist St. Radigund's, Capel 10.00 a.m.		Capel Thursdays		
Sunday 30 th – All Saints' Day	St Radigund, Capel-le-Ferne Said Eucharist 8.00 a.m. St Mary, Capel prayer book matins 10.00 a.m.				

TELEPHONE NUMBERS	Police – 999 phone & 01303 850055 Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130	Village Hall booking Rosemary Polden 824876
	Community Warden 07977 981994	Alkham Valley Society secretary
Gwyn Prosser M.P. 01304 214484	GP out of hours to access urgent	Joanna Walker 821641
	medical help 0844 800 1234	W.I. Betty Neely 01303 251475
County Councillor, Bryan Cope 207976 work number 01795532547	Newsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969 e mail <u>brianwimsett@hotmail.com</u>	Church Wardens - Richard Tapsell
District Councillors		822295 and Grace Stacey 822756
Sue Nicholas 823956 Andrew Richardson 211835	Parish Clerk, Nicola Wright 820098	Alkham web site www.alkham.org

I	LOCAL BUSINESSES AND SERV	ICES
ACCOUNTANCY	John Garlinge Accountancy, taxation, book keeping services	St. Margaret's 852252
ARBORICULTURE	Alkham Valley Tree Surgery: Planning, planting, maintenance removal	Wolverton 824853 & 07973 501390
BUILDING WORK	E R Woodruff carpentry and joinery, decorating, maintenance	Swanbourne, Wolverton 824991
CAT & DOG GROOMING	Canine beauticians, dogs and cats groomed, Newcastle House	Ewell Minnis 822902
CLEANING SERVICES	John Hoy domestic/commercial carpet and upholstery cleaning	Ewell Minnis 07889310479
CURTAINS & BLINDS	Curtains and blinds made to your specification	Alkham Valley 01303 891806
ELECTRICAL	Simon Price electricians & computer installation, Meggett Farm	South Alkham 01303 252764
ENVIRONMENTAL	J H Ullmann Environmental contractors, Malmains Farm	Alkham 202004 or 822888
EQUESTRIAN	HOGBROOK Equestrian Centre Livery yard, instruction, hacking	Hogbrook Lane, Alkham 827644
EQUESTRIAN	GREENHILL FARM – DIY and assisted livery – excellent facilities	Megget Lane, South Alkham 01303 892056
EQUESTRIAN SUPPLIES	Alkham Valley Garden Centre – everything for horse and rider	South Alkham 01303 891996
GARDEN CENTRE	Alkham Valley Garden Centre with gift shop and pet supplies	South Alkham 01303 893351
KENNELS	Alkhamhurst Kennels dogs, cats & unusual boarded. All pet needs	Alkham Valley Rd, Wolverton 822420
POST OFFICE	Southdown Stores groceries, videos, fruit/veg, off licence, fresh bread/milk	London rd, Temple Ewell 827100
SCHOOL	Capel-le-Ferne school Your local primary school; free bus from Alkham	Capel Street, Capel-le-Ferne 01303 251353

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

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SUNFLOWER COMPETITION The proud winner of the 1st prize in the Junior Sunflower competition was Aimee, who can be seen above receiving her trophy. (evidently she preferred the taste of the chocolate buttons). She lives in the centre of the village and when interviewed she said she would definitely enter again next year.

CHRISTMAS is only eight weeks away!! Newlyns by the 19th of November. All out by a person yet to be selected (be Chalksole Homegroup would like to buy toys as gifts for needy children; can you help us reach our target of ten toys? If you think you would like to help, contact (Linda Gaskill 823100).

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No. 147 November 2005

that the bus shelter on the bend by Vicarage Meadows is to be removed. There are many children who catch the bus for school in the morning who use this shelter and live in Glebelands or on this side of the village. At the moment the children wait in the shelter and cross the road to get on the bus. Not an ideal situation but better than not having a shelter at all. Could you please pass their concerns on to the involved authorities? They would like their concerns considered as they are probably the bus company's most regular passengers. (Julie Saltmer) It is possible that I reported general comments made at the Parish Council meeting and I'll raise the matter at the November RECYCLING -The next collection is on

meeting (Ed)

that the sale of the house took place on milk or drinks. her birthday.

CHRISTMAS TREE - Would

the on name age the back to

November. (Tracy Huggins)

on 822619 for further information.

Delivered free to all properties in the Parish

BUS SHELTER - My children who HOUSES - If you would like to express live in Short Lane were very an interest in having one of the Southern concerned to read in the Newsletter Housing Association's houses at the top of Short Lane, should one come available, then please phone Vanessa Sanderson on 01403 224810. She is keen to have a list of people but she is only there two days a week so you may have email her to at vanessa.sanderson@shgroup.org.uk.



Thursday November 3rd. It would be WELCOME to Mike and Sue who very helpful if you could flatten milk have moved into Countryside and also and drink containers by standing on to John and Maxine who have moved them so they take up less space in the into Halton Forstal. The latter was van. Please remember that paper and owned by the late Olive Harvey and it cardboard must be stored separately and is by some remarkable coincidence that we only take plastics which held

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS - Yes, I know it's only November but as the December your child like to turn Newsletter may not reach everyone Alkham before the event I want to give details Christmas tree lights? of the Christmas tree switch-on on To enter please send a December 3rd. At 4.45 p.m. there will drawing of our tree be carol singing by the tree. I hope that together with your this will once again be led by the W.I. and choir and this to be confirmed telephone number on following their next meeting. At 8a 5.00p.m. the switch-on will be carried entries will be placed in a hat and the prepared, Peter!). Following the switchwinner drawn out by Brian on the 25th on there will be mulled wine and mince of November. All the pictures will be pies at the Marquis of Granby followed put on display in the village hall for at 8.00p.m. (for 8.30p.m.) by the village the Christmas Bazaar on the 26th of meal, also in the pub. There are 60 people booked for the meal and Paul A FIVE ACRE field in the centre of and Allison are able to accommodate a Alkham is available to rent for few more so, if you would still like to grazing. Please phone Patsy or Steve go, please contact the Marquis direct. (Mark Robson)





ALKHAM'S HEROES - Last year I carried out some research on the men whose names are inscribed on the war memorial in the churchyard. As a result I was contacted by Eileen West (née Collard) with some information about Edward and George Collard who both died in the First World War. I visited Eileen and spent a fascinating morning looking through her extensive photo collection and learned more about her great-uncles. Using the Commonwealth War Grave Commission's website I had found a George Collard who was buried in River churchyard and wondered if this was Alkham's George Collard. Eileen was able to correct this and told me that George had in fact emigrated to Australia in the early 1900s and, on the outbreak of war, enlisted with the Australian army. Sadly this man, who presumably had moved to the other side of the world in the hope of a better life, was to die in France, about 100 miles from his old home! I have copies of a photo of George and Edward in happier times in their work-clothes with horse and wagon in the lanes around Alkham. This will be displayed in the church at Alkham at the Remembrance Day service on November 13th. If anyone can shed any more light on the other men named on the memorial please contact me so that we might preserve their memories more fully (Mark Robson 820459).

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FARMER'S MARKET

Capel-le-Ferne Village Hall Tuesday 10am to 1pm Local produce Phone 01303 245399

REMEMBRANCE

The recent commemorations to mark the end of World War 2 have brought back many memories. In September we were privileged to join a group of ex-POWs returning to camp Stalag V111B/344 in Poland for the first time since they were liberated in 1945. My father who has since died spent 5 years in that camp and thus the personal interest. The camaraderie of the veterans, many of whom were speaking of their experiences for the first time, will leave a lasting impression. They spoke not only of the enduring hardships that they suffered and which for some included a forced march of 1200 miles before the advancing Russians in January 1945; but also of their lighter moments. Some of the internees did not survive and we visited the Commonwealth Graves cemetery in Krakow where these "old comrades" are now resting. A short, but very moving service of remembrance was held and a timely fall of leaves as the Last Post sounded was so reminiscent of the release of poppies at the Festival of Remembrance. It certainly added to the poignancy of the moment. During the course of our trip we had the opportunity of visiting Auschwitz, Birkenau and the site of Schindler's factory. Again, the brutalities that were inflicted and the horrors of war generally were graphically illustrated. We will be reminded of this at St. Anthony's on November 13th as we pay homage to the dead of the two world wars and subsequent continuing conflicts. (Margaret Batcheldor)

SUNDAY the 13th of November is Remembrance Day and a service will be held in St Anthony's church at 10.15am. If you don't want to go to the service but would like to commemorate the sacrifice made by people in the World Wars, people gather around the memorial in the churchvard at 11.00am and observe the 2 minute silence after the names of the fallen are read.

FIREWORKS are set off around November the 5th and this is an annual tradition, which is enjoyed by many people. As the photo shows, horses and

other animals are almost scared to death by the loud bangs that some fireworks



make and the horse community in particular is asking you to think twice before you let off loud fireworks. There is at least one dog in the village that tries to climb up the wall during the firework season and most other pets are similarly affected.

BOOKCLUB Alkham book-worms are continuing to work their way through a selection of titles for all tastes. They meet on the first Wednesday in the month except in January when it will be the second Wednesday. New dates, titles and venues are: November 2nd at Jane Aslett's, Drybrook, Short Lane (824729) Fleshmarket Close by Ian Rankin: December 7th at Margaret Danstead's, 2 Meadowhill Cottages (829006): Small Island by Andrea Levi: January 11th at The Lucy McKenzie's, Vicarage (822172): Free choice, just come prepared to talk about a book you have recently enjoyed and would recommend to all of us. Please ring the host if you are coming, last minute is fine. The February session will take place at a café, pub or restaurant, to be decided! Bring some ideas. (Linda Gaskill)

CHALKSOLE HOMEGROUP An experiment that has not only worked but grown! If you are interested in talking about things that really matter in our everyday life coupled with readings from the bible, then give Linda a call on 823100. We meet on the third Monday of the month at Chalksole Cottage.

CHURCHYARD - On Saturday 5th of November we are proposing to carry out the annual tidying up in the churchyard. If you would like to spend a couple of hours in the fresh air and feel that you would like to help us, please turn up equipped with tools. We will be starting at 9.30am and finishing about 12 o'clock. (**Richard and Grace**)

SUE LEES - The Parish Council showed their thanks for her 23 year service as Parish Clerk by taking Sue for a meal and presenting her with a gift.

CHITTENDEN'S

Funeralcare FOLKESIONE HYIHE 1 Ingoldsby Road Windmill Street (01303) 851456 (01303) 262762 Manager Manager Mr. Chris Daughters Mr. Mike Hands **Personal Service Always Private Chapels of Rest** Memorial Masonry FUNERAL PRE-PAYMENT PLANS AVAILABLE UNDER THE PERSONAL SUPERVISION OF PHIL CHITTENDEN BRADFORD & BINGLEY **Geering & Colver** KEARSNEY (01304) 823714 DOVER (01304)207099 YOUR LOCAL ESTATE AGENT offering DOUBLE EXPOSURE For your property From our offices at both **12 KEARSNEY AVENUE, RIVER, DOVER** AND 5 KING STREET, DOVER Discover for yourselves why Geering and Colyer deserve their reputation for customer care SURVEYORS * VALUERS * ESTATE AGENTS

DOVER CHORAL SOCIETY'S autumn concert, at 7.30 pm on Saturday 19th November 2005 in Dover Town Hall, will feature soloists from London's Guildhall School of Music. The first half will comprise the Maria Theresa Mass, composed by Haydn in 1799 between his major works The Creation and The Seasons, and later nicknamed after Empress Maria Theresa, who sang the soprano solos in the first performances of those works. After the interval, young singers from Dover schools will join the 100-strong chorus in a performance of Britten's great 1948 cantata Saint Nicolas. All will be accompanied by The Connaught Orchestra (leader George Simpson), and conducted by Michael Lewis in his first concert as the society's new Musical Director. Tickets at £9 (students £5) are available from Dover Visitor Information Centre (next to the Town Hall), members of Dover Choral Society or by telephoning 01304 822042; and, if there are any left, at the door on the night. For further details of the concert please ring Ken Palmer on 01304 330511 or Bob Joslin on 01304 363344. (Steve Osborn)

> FREDERIC HALL Solicitors York House, Folkestone 01303 851185 & Clyde House, Dover 01304 202411

ALKHAM W.I - The last meeting was attended by twenty five members. An outing to be in the audience of "Loose Women" the television show was arranged for Thursday 3rd November in London. Leave Alkham at 10am for the show at 5.30pm. This leaves plenty of time to shop or visit some of the sights. Cost only the coach. The show ends at 7pm, so not too late home. There are more places if anyone would like to join us. Ring Cherry 01303 255114; or plenty of room on the coach if you just fancy a day in London. Names were taken for next year's committee, who would like to stand, ready for the A.G.M. in November. The evening was "Crafts you have made". There were several members who showed us how to make fudge, Christmas baubles and balls. Christmas cards and pot pourri. They then took their crafts to tables and let members try them, with their help. Next meeting is the A.G.M on Tuesday 8th November. (Cherry Leppard)

ALL SOULS' MEMORIAL service Sunday 6th November. We will be holding a memorial service for the departed at St Anthony's at 4.00 p.m. If you have a loved one you would like remembered by pass it to one of the Grace Churchwardens either Stacey on 01304 822756 or Richard Tapsell on 01304 822295. UNKNOWN PEOPLE of Eastern European origin have been seen riffling through rubbish that has put out for collection probably to steal identity information. You should be extremely vigilant with the disposal of all correspondence containing your name and address and or banking details, plus receipts from shopping. Although the majority of retailers do not print all of the numbers on a credit/debit print-out if you go on a shopping trip and lay out all of the receipts you will find that unscrupulous people will have your full credit/debit card number. Please think very carefully of the benefits of buying a cross-shredder - also please make your elderly and vulnerable neighbours aware of secure methods of disposing of personal information. (Sally **Coleman**)

OZ on KIPPS — The featured book at the Folkestone Literary Festival in September was H G Wells's novel Kipps, set in Folkestone and first published 100 years ago. Penguin, having this year republished the book in its Classics series, donated 200 copies to Folkestone Library for the Festival read-in. The celebrations started with a Kipps Walk, taking in landmarks from the lives of Kipps and also Wells, who made Folkestone his domestic and literary base for many years. In 1895, after a disastrous first marriage, Wells visited New Romney, with his second wife Jane, to receive treatment for a long and painful illness. On his recovery Jane drove him by carriage to Sandgate, where they moved into Beach Cottage, so near the sea that sometimes waves broke over the roof. The Wells loved Sandgate dearly and moved their furniture from London's Worcester Park to Arnold House, where they lived while Spade House, overlooking the bay, was built for them, funded by the proceeds from Wells's first four major works, including The War of the Worlds (1898). Between 1900, when the Wells moved in, and 1910, Spade House became an important literary name on that day please will you hub, visited by James Barrie, Joseph Conrad, Henry James and Bernard Shaw among others. It was here, working usually in a garden shed, that Wells wrote his most serious novels, including Kipps, in 1905, midway between Love and Mr Lewisham (1900) and The History of Mr Polly (1910). Kipps is based on Wells's early experiences but is set largely in Folkestone, and has characters with quite Dickensiansounding names such as "Chitterlow" and "Coote". Tommy Steele retold the story in the musical Half a Sixpence, successfully on the 1963 London stage, not so in the gaudy 1967 film. As one of the show's songs said: "Flash! Bang! Wallop! What a Picture!". (Steve Osborn)

> MORE BICYCLES than cars have been sold in the US over the last year with over 19 million being bought.

	Regular events in the vi	llage	
Monday	The Chalksole Homegroup, third Monday of the month. Please phone Linda on 823100 for further details		
Tuesday	Art classes in the village hall from 10 am to 1 pm. Ring 0130.	3 243115 for further details	
Wednesday	The Bookclub meets on the first Wednesday of the month. Ple	ease phone Linda on 823100 for further details	
Wednesday	Keep Fit in the village hall from 9.30 am to 10.30 am – Wedn	esday Club from 10.30 am to 11.30 am	
Thursday	Mobile Library stops at the car parks by the village hall from	9.25 am to 9.50 am	
Friday	Whist Drive in the village hall starting at 7.30 pm		
	Other events in the village	Alkham Court	
Saturday	5	Farmhouse Bed & Breakfast Meggett Lane, South Alkham	
Tuesday	8	ETC: Gold Award	
Monday	21	Peaceful location overlooking the Alkham Valley	
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CHURCH SERVICES					
Day	Alkham	Capel	Hougham	Weekday Services:	
Tuesday 1st	St Radigund, Capel-le-Ferne Healing Service 7.00 p.m.		Morning Prayer,		
Sunday 6 th	Evensong 4.00 p.m.	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping together 11.00 a.m.	Capel: Monday-Friday at 8.30 am (except	
Sunday 13 th Remembrance Sunday	Remembrance services simultaneously at all three churches 10.15 a.m. followed by an act of Remembrance at 11.00 a.m. Wednesdays at		Evening Prayer, Hougham - Wednesdays at		
Sunday 20th	Worshipping together 11.00	Evensong 4.00 p.m.	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	5 pm. Eucharist, Capel Thursdays	
Sunday 27th	Joint Benefice Sung Eucharist St Lawrence, Hougham 10.00 a.m. at 9.15 am		at 9.15 am		

TELEPHONE NUMBERS	Police – 999 phone & 01303 850055 Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130 Community Warden 07977 981994	Village Hall booking Rosemary Polden 824876 Alkham Valley Society secretary
Gwyn Prosser M.P. 01304 214484	GP out of hours to access urgent medical help 0844 800 1234	Joanna Walker 821641 W.I. Betty Neely 01303 251475
County Councillor, Bryan Cope 207976 work number 01795532547	Newsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969 e mail <u>brianwimsett@hotmail.com</u>	Church Wardens - Richard Tapsell
District Councillors	Derich Clark, Missle Weisle 920009	822295 and Grace Stacey 822756
Sue Nicholas 823956 Andrew Richardson 211835	Parish Clerk, Nicola Wright 820098	Alkham web site www.alkham.org

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month's BUS SHELTER -In last Newsletter I said that I would ask the Parish Council, on behalf of Julie Salmer, Thanks go to Richard Miller, who bar staff (age 18 plus). Please phone whether the bus shelter on the bend by lives in Newlyns Meadow, for 822945 for further details. There are 87 Vicarage Meadow would be removed if a repairing the swings on Vicarage people going to the Christmas Dinner, new one was built by Newlyns Meadow. I Meadow and also for the generous which is 8.00 for 8.30pm. was surprised to find that the Parish own donation of a slide to possibly DOG WALKING - Sometimes you are the bus shelter so it is a decision for our replace the existing one. council to make and not the bus company. WATER PIPE - There has been some time to walk the dog or it is really cold. Neil Burrows, the chairman, said that at concern expressed about the ponds I will walk your dog for as long as you the present the council had no plans to remove the shelter but added that some people complain that the shelter restricts to extract water from this area and easier. (Jessica Marlow 825617 or visibility from the junction at Slip Lane.



SPEED LIMITS - Although it was next two months'.

STREET LIGHTING Quotes are being sought for the installation

of a street light near Meadow Hill Cottages on Hogbrook Lane.

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No. 148 December 2005

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Merry Christmas

At 4.45pm on December the 3rd the W.I. choir will be singing carols around the Christmas tree on Vicarage Meadow with the lights being turn on at 5.00pm together with other festive illuminations.

GRASS BANKS - The Parish Council would be interested in hearing from anyone who would be willing to take over from Rob Leas keeping the grass banks to the Meadow tidy and undertaking various additional 'handyman' roles as necessary. The work has traditionally attracted an annual honorarium rather than a fixed rate of pay. Please phone 822661 for further details.

PLAY EQUIPMENT

consequently only one pipe is 07914881742) in place by mid October the of laying the new pipes to the west bottles, it really made a difference. latest date given is 'within the of the village on the north side of the THE ANNUAL QUIZ will be held in the 30mph signs. This work should take (822661) to book a table. (editor) place in February of next year. The CHRISTMAS BAZAAR water company has also agreed to On Saturday the 10th of keep a pond within a lake at Bushey December the W.I. are Ruff and pump water into it if holding necessary. Most people agree that Christmas Bazaar in the contractors working for the the village hall at 10.30am. water company have done an excellent job.

PARISH CLERK - For personal reasons Nicola Wright cannot continue as Parish Clerk and therefore Sue Lees has kindly taken over temporarily but is insistent that she will not take the job on again permanently.

THE SEAT by the cricket pavilion has been vandalised again. Paul Tapsell suggested they be moved to somewhere more visible. Seems a good idea.



THE MARQUIS OF GRANBY require part time waiting staff (age 15 plus) and

snowed under with work and there is no at Bushey Ruff being dry. The water want for a pound!! You won't find a company has therefore decided not better offer so come to Jess to make life

required along the valley to connect RECYCLING - The next collection will said that the speed limits for the to the other extraction point at be on the 1st of December. Thanks to Alkham Valley Road would be Buckland. As a result of this, instead all the people who squashed the plastic

> Alkham Valley Road the water village hall on Saturday the 11th of company is going to connect into the February starting at 7.30pm. Please existing main in the road close to the phone me (824969) or Sue Lees

their



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Alkham	Christmas Barn
Valley	selling decorations,
Garden	gifts, fairy lights and artificial trees.
Centre	
Phone	Real Christmas trees
01303	Real Christmas trees available from the 1 st
893351	of December

ALKHAMHURST KENNELS has reopened for business with new owners Cate and Kyri Georgiou, who have moved to Alkham from Hertfordshire. Both have a passion for dogs and therefore the ideal solution was to buy a business involving animals. They look forward to meeting old customers and welcoming new ones and viewings are welcome but preferably in the afternoon. We wish them well.....

Their advert is on the back page together with a line advert in the 'Local Businesses and Services'. Another new addition to the latter is Iain Blears plumbing and heating services.

CARAVANS – The Parish Council have spoken to Dover District Council regarding the land adjacent to the Alkham Valley Garden Centre, which has recently been used by caravans. The Parish Council is concerned that DDC has taken the view that because the caravans have left the problem has gone away. However, it is thought that the caravans will probably return next year and therefore the site should be classified as agricultural land to try and prevent this happening.

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FARMER'S MARKET

Capel-le-Ferne Village Hall Tuesday 10am to 1pm Local produce Phone 01303 245399

RIGHTS OF WAY – At present motor vehicles are using RuPP's (Road used as a public path), which are generally unmade highways across open country and there several in the parish. It is possible that the government will downgrade these after the Countryside & Right of Way Act is passed such that they can only be used by walkers, cyclists, horse riders and horse drawn vehicles but not motorised users. The latter object to their rights being taken away and are therefore trying to get RuPP's upgraded to BOAT's (Byway open to all traffic) and notices have been put up by the local authority on some RuPP's notifying people that such an application has been made. As a result of this there were a number of people at the Parish Council meeting asking the Council to back them in opposing these applications. In addition to this various petitions have been made opposing the upgrades and the Alkham Valley Society is also against RuPP's being reclassified. AGM - The Alkham Valley Society will be holding its AGM

on 1^{st} December at 7.30 p.m. in



the Village Hall, Alkham. Notices have been sent out to members and we hope to see you there, and for

supper at The Fox, Temple Ewell afterwards. Lifts will be available. Notify the Secretary about coming to the supper, if you have not already done so. Thank you! (Joanna Walker, Secretary)

CYCLE ROUTE - Following an approach from the AVS an informal meeting was held with KCC regarding local cycle routes. Everybody agreed that it would be a great idea to have a cycle path down the Alkham Valley Road (get some of the 5000 people a day onto bikes) but from Dover to Alkham it's almost impossible. It was a pleasant couple of hours but it is unlikely that anything will result from the meeting.

VIEW from the top of the hill In the October edition of the Newsletter there was an article about a car rally passing through the village and this brought a response from Barry Sheppard who lives at Ellinge. He agrees that the section of the rally passing through the village should not be timed and that drivers should be advised to drive considerably. Since 1982 when they moved to Ellinge the road from Swingfield Street to Hawkinge has been on a route for legitimate rallies which have taken part at night. They were warned in advance and it generally took 30 minutes for the whole entry to pass through but they are regularly disturbed by illegitimate rallying at night which results in skid marks, broken glass and the occasional burnt out wreck. They are disturbed by explosions, machine gun and rifle fire from the army training at night, military and private helicopters swooping low, greyhounds at the nearby stable and cross motorcyclists country with noisy exhausts. (Nor rural sights alone, but rural sounds, exhilarate the spirit, and restore the tone of languid Nature. (William Cowper))

SPEEDWATCH - Temple Ewell contacted the Parish Council to ask if they were interested in sharing the cost of a SpeedWatch scheme (I understand that the cost is for the hand held laser speed detector guns). The Council said that they had discussed the matter before and for various reasons (insurance being one) they were not in favour of the proposal.

NARROW ROADS - At the Parish Council meeting Ray Ashman from Ewell Minnis said that because of the popularity of satellite navigation in vehicles, heavy lorries were using unsuitable roads. He therefore asked the council to contact the Highway Authority with regard to putting up 6'6" except for access signs on affected roads in the parish. Wolverton Hill and Warren Lane were two roads mentioned by name.

WOLVERTON HILL

The junction at the bottom of Wolverton Hill with the Alkham Valley Road has been improved by the addition of new kerbing and footway. It looks as though it will be safer to wait for a bus but it's unclear whether it will be safer for the bus to stop. The 40mph speed limit, when it is introduced, may help.

CHITTENDEN'S

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AFTERNOON TEA on Saturday 3rd December between 2.00 and 4.00 p.m. at the Church Hall, Albany Road, Capel-le-Ferne with sale of Christmas decorations together with crafts, raffle and a cake stall

DOVER CHORAL SOCIETY will lead the singing in 'Come Carolling', the Christians Together in Dover carol concert, in Dover Town Hall at 7.30 pm on Monday 12th December. Accompaniment will be provided by the St Edmund's School Wind Band, and the concert will also feature a seasonal production by children from a local school, together with a charity collection. Tickets are available from local churches and the Town Hall. (Steve Osborn)

INDOOR BOOT FAIR on Sunday 27th November from 8.00am to 12 noon at Capel village hall; refreshments will be available and for further information phone 01303 250671.

FREDERIC HALL Solicitors York House, Folkestone 01303 851185 & Clyde House, Dover 01304 202411

W.I - November 8th was the annual general meeting of the W.I. There was no need for an election of the committee as eight members were standing. Rosemary Crothall came off the committee after serving about thirty years! She was warmly thanked by Susannah our president. Rosemary has now moved to Barham but will still attend the monthly meetings. As there is more business to conduct there was no speaker so Susannah had a list of past members and asked members, who remembered them, to tell us any amusing stories about them. Most of us could appreciate the little anecdotes about them. The Christmas dinner menu was circulated and members choosing. This takes place at the "Lighthouse" in Capel on Tuesday 13th December at 7pm for 7.30pm. There will be no meeting that night in the village hall as it was decided to have the dinner instead of the December meeting. The first meeting of 2006 in January is an open meeting where we can bring husbands and friends. Susan Lees is showing some of her collection of slides of "Alkham in the Past". There is always lots of oohs and aahs when we see ourselves about forty years ago!! The meeting is at 7.30pm but visitors can arrive at 8pm.



GARDEN TALK - We must thank Derek and Marion Banks-Nash who

hosted this month's garden talk, together with the evening's entertainment. It has been a very enjoyable year and I would like to thank everyone who has allowed us to use their gardens and for all who have provided the munchies and wine. The last meeting of the year will be the annual Christmas party on 8th December at the home of Lucy and Ian. I thought it might be a nice idea if any of our members would like to donate a small gift and we could have a free raffle. I look forward to seeing you all there. (Devina Bartlett)

OZ on BAILLON – I've just spent a few happy hours weeding the filing cabinet. Among the debris accumulated over seven years of retirement was a newspaper clipping, dated 19 July 1999, concerning the sighting that month of a rare bird at Grove Ferry in East Kent. The Baillon's Crake, (Porzana pusilla), is a small bird of the Rail family. It breeds generally in eastern Europe and in isolated areas of western and central Europe, migrating to the Middle East and Africa in winter. and is also found in Australia and New Zealand. In Victorian times, the Baillon's Crake often visited Britain and actually bred in East Anglia, but disappeared as the marshes declined. There were only 12 British sightings between 1958 and 1995, so the 1999 appearance caused hundreds of twitchers to converge on Grove Ferry and Stodmarsh. At first the bird's eerie croak was dismissed as that of a frog, but an expert confirmed the sighting very early one morning, the species being so shy that it rarely appears in the daytime. With a short green bill, brown and white uppers, blue and grey face and unders, black and white flanks, pink legs and a short tail, the Baillon's Crake reminded Stephen Moss, in the above mentioned clipping, of "a giant, aquatic wren". Louis Baillon, the bird's original discoverer, was born in Montreuil-sur-Mer in 1778, and became a naturalist, sharing his father's enthusiasm for the flora and fauna of the Picardy coast. In recognition of Baillon, his name was given to two other bird species: the Baillon Puffin de (Puffinus *lherminieri bailloni*), known to us as Audubon's Shearwater; and the Toucanet Saffron (Baillonius bailloni), an exotic South American bird with a huge bill. Louis Baillon died in Abbeville 150 years ago this month, on December 3 1855. (Steve Osborn)

A VAUXHALL VECTRA was stolen from Short Lane just before midnight on Sunday the 20th of November. This vehicle was later recovered after it had been involved in a road traffic accident. A 17 year old male has been helping the police with their enquiries. (**NW**)

		Regular events in the village		
Monday	y	The Chalksole Homegroup, third Monday of the month. Please phone Linda on 823100 for further details	Alkhamhurst Kennels	
Tuesday		Art classes in the village hall from 10 am to 1 pm. Ring 01303 243115 for further details	Boarding for Dogs, Cats & Small Animals	
Wednesd	ay	The Book club meets on the first Wednesday of the month. Please phone Linda on 823100 for further details	Canine Hydrotherapy Pet Food Shop	
Wednesd	ay	Keep Fit in the village hall from 9.30 am to 10.30 am – Wednesday Club from 10.30 am to 11.30 am	01304 – 822420	
Thursda	y	Mobile Library stops at the car parks by the village hall from 9.25 am to 9.50 am	Alkham Valley Road	
Friday		Whist Drive in the village hall starting at 7.30 pm		
	Oth	er events in the village		
Thursday	1	Alkham Valley Society AGM at 7.30pm in the village hall (see page 2)		
Saturday	3	Bingo in the village hall starting at 7.30pm		
Saturday	10	10 W.I. Christmas bazaar in the village hall 10.30am		
Wednesday	nesday 14 The Parish Council are meeting in the village hall in the evening		ng	
Monday	19	Dover & District Bird Club in the village hall from 7.30pm		

CHURCH SERVICES				
Day	Alkham	Capel	Hougham	Weekday
Sunday 4 th	Evensong 4.00 p.m.	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping together 11.00 a.m.	Services:
Tuesday 6 th	Healing	g Service, St Radigund, Capel 7.	00 p.m.	Morning Prayer, Capel: Monday-
Sunday 11 th	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping together 11.00 a.m.	Carols at Village Hall West Hougham 4.00 p.m.	Friday at 8.30 am (except Bank
Sunday 18 th	Service of 9 Lessons and Carols 6.30 p.m.	Service of 9 Lessons and Carols 10.00 a.m.	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Holidays). Evening Prayer, Hougham - Wednesdays at
Saturday 24 th	Crib Service 4.30 p.m.	Midnight Mass 11.30 p.m.		5 pm. Eucharist, Capel Thursdays
Saturday 25 th	Sung Eucharist 11.00 a.m.	No Service	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	at 9.15 am

TELEPHONE NUMBERS	Police – 999 phone & 01303 850055 Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130 Community Warden 07977 981994	Village Hall booking Rosemary Polden 824876 Alkham Valley Society secretary
Gwyn Prosser M.P . 01304 214484	GP out of hours to access urgent	Joanna Walker 821641
Gwyn 1103ser Wid . 01304 214404	medical help 0844 800 1234	W.I. Betty Neely 01303 251475
County Councillor , Bryan Cope 207976 work number 01795532547	Newsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969 e mail <u>brianwimsett@hotmail.com</u>	Church Wardens - Richard Tapsell
District Councillors		822295 and Grace Stacey 822756
Sue Nicholas 823956 Andrew Richardson 211835	Parish Clerk, Sue Lees 822661	Alkham web site www.alkham.org

Ι	LOCAL BUSINESSES AND SERVICES			
ACCOUNTANCY	John Garlinge Accountancy, taxation, book keeping services	St. Margaret's 852252		
ARBORICULTURE	Alkham Valley Tree Surgery: Planning, planting, maintenance removal	Wolverton 824853 & 07973 501390		
BOARDING KENNELS	Kennels and Cattery, Canine Hydrotherapy and Pet Food Shop	Wolverton 822420		
BUILDING WORK	E R Woodruff carpentry and joinery, decorating, maintenance	Swanbourne, Wolverton 824991		
CAT & DOG GROOMING	Canine beauticians, dogs and cats groomed, Newcastle House	Ewell Minnis 822902		
CLEANING SERVICES	John Hoy domestic/commercial carpet and upholstery cleaning	Ewell Minnis 07889310479		
CURTAINS & BLINDS	Curtains and blinds made to your specification	Alkham Valley 01303 891806		
ELECTRICAL	Simon Price electricians & computer installation, Meggett Farm	South Alkham 01303 252764		
ENVIRONMENTAL	J H Ullmann Environmental contractors, Malmains Farm	Alkham 202004 or 822888		
EQUESTRIAN	HOGBROOK Equestrian Centre Livery yard, instruction, hacking	Hogbrook Lane, Alkham 827644		
EQUESTRIAN	GREENHILL FARM – DIY and assisted livery – excellent facilities	Megget Lane, South Alkham 01303 892056		
EQUESTRIAN SUPPLIES	Alkham Valley Garden Centre - everything for horse and rider	South Alkham 01303 891996		
GARDEN CENTRE	Alkham Valley Garden Centre with gift shop and pet supplies	South Alkham 01303 893351		
PLUMBING & HEATING	Iain Blears plumbing and heating services	Wolverton 822500 or 07888 713 896		
SCHOOL	Capel-le-Ferne school Your local primary school; free bus from Alkham	Capel Street, Capel-le-Ferne 01303 251353		

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

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Excellent facilities for family or business stays, short breaks, overnight and weddings. Web: www.alkhamcourt.co.uk Wendy Burrows Tel: 01303 892056

KISSING GATE - Those who walk from Slip Lane across the meadow to the churchyard will have seen the new kissing gate. This has replaced a stile, which a number of people found troublesome getting over, and the width of the stile would suggest that at one time there may have been a gate but Sue Lees can find no record of this. The cost of the gate was equally shared by the church and the Alkham Valley Society and installed by Richard and David Tapsell. The gate was made by Perry Hayward Welding Services at Hawkinge to whom thanks must go for making it at such a reasonable price and retaining the old features.



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No. 149 January 2006



Seven children sent in pictures of a Christmas Tree and one name was selected out of the hat to turn on the lights on the Alkham Christmas tree. The winner was Jessica Miller aged 3, who lives in Newlyns Meadow and her winning drawing is shown below in black and white. The other



youngsters who entered were Chloe Huggins, Rosie Comfort, Polly Comfort, Daisy Hodges, Tilly Hodges and Ellis Milroy. Congratulations to them all for (editor)

their lovely pictures. (editor)

VILLAGE CHRISTMAS EVENING - The second, Christmas Lights' switch-on was held on Saturday December 3rd. A crowd turned out on a clear and cold evening to listen to the W.I choir sing carols and to watch Jessica Miller perform the switch-on. Generous support from villagers meant that there were more lights than last year and these seem to have been well-received. Paul and Allison then provided mulled wine and mince pies for the crowd before setting the pub for the village meal which 106 people attended. People who have spoken to me said how much they enjoyed the evening (the power cut simply adding to the atmosphere!) and how they hope this will be repeated. As always there are many people to thank: Simon, Paul and John Huggins, Den Barnard and Richard Miller for providing muscle to cut, transport and install the tree and to dig the trenches for the power supply. Simon Price for connecting the power supply for the trees and, with Alan Tapsell, restoring power to the Marquis! The ladies of the W.I for singing so beautifully – many of us were searching the starlit sky for angels! - and for helping set the mood for the evening. Rob and Sue Lees for providing the hedge for a set of lights, Paul and Allison for providing the refreshments after the switch-on and Noon Lawrence from Tilmanstone who, for the second year, donated the tree to the village. And, of course, Father Christmas himself for taking the time out, at such a busy time, to attend in person and hand gifts to those children who entered the art competition and sweets to those who attended the switch-on. I have heard a whisper that the people of Temple Ewell were so put out that Alkham's display outshone theirs that they have vowed to outdo us next year! We shall watch with interest. Happy New Year to you all. (Mark Robson)

THE ANNUAL QUIZ will be held in the village hall on Saturday the 11th of February starting at 7.30pm. Please phone me (824969) or Sue Lees (822661) to book a table. (editor)

COME HOME TO A CLEAN HOUSE! I will do your cleaning & laundry Trustworthy and reliable Mature student with 3 years management experience in the cleaning industry. Tracey Prince, Nailbourne Cottage Alkham, 01304 828098

Delivered **free** to all properties in the Parish

WANTED someone to keep Alkham Parish Council in order. Reasonable **REWARD**, telephone 822661.

(Sue Lees is gallantly carrying on in a temporary capacity as Parish Clerk but she is adamant that she will not do it again on a permanent basis)

RECYCLING - The next collection will be on the 5th of January. Please flatten cardboard boxes and plastic drink bottles.





DOGS - I've been asked to put an item in the Newsletter regarding plastic bags with dog excrement in being left by the hedge on the popular walk accessed via the modern kissing gate near the Old Rectory. Please would the person who is doing it take the bags home and dispose of them in an appropriate manner.

ROADS - Those of you who drive along the valley will have seen that the Highway Authority have laid high skid resistant surfacing at Wolverton Hill and at the junction with Meggett Lane. This should be followed by short pieces of red surfacing at Lower Standen, Drellingore and Upton Farm and the various speed limit signs.

DAVID HORNE LOCAL HANDYMAN For all your jobs no matter how small Gardening, Decorating, Rubbish Clearing etc. FAIR RATES FOR GOOD WORK Call 01304 203578 or 07984 886251

> FARMER'S MARKET Capel-le-Ferne Village Hall

Tuesday 10am to 1pm Local produce Phone 01303 245399 ALKHAM VALLEY SOCIETY - The Annual General Meeting was held on a bitterly cold evening 1 December. The hall was pretty nearly full. Though not everyone signed or had a chance to sign the Attendance Register, at a rough count there were over fifty people there, which was and is most encouraging. Business was fairly brisk, and the main discussion lay around the question of the Roads Used as Public Paths (RUPPS) and the Byways open to all traffic (BOATS). It seems as if the whole of England is up arms against such a threat to the status quo. The Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) is working with people on this matter, and it is necessary to write to our M.P. The matter is being addressed by the Alkham Parish Council, and it will be one of the Society's ongoing tasks; we will keep in contact on the issue (welcome back Sue as Parish Clerk ..!). We had 'two intruders' as they called themselves, Mrs Harcourt and Mrs Hewitt though we did not think of them as such! They had arrived with an impressive petition against both the RUPP's and the BOATs which affects many people living in the uplands and out of the way places. Many of us present signed. It was backed by formidable research on the subject. The Treasurer reported a respectable balance, largely boosted this year by the President's party raffle and his generosity. Subscriptions will not increase from the present £1 per person (since 1987, raised from 25p), but many people made donations (rubber bands discarded by postmen will be used instead of envelopes on hand deliveries when necessary .Sec). Three new members were elected to the Committee: John Jackson (Ellinge), Lindsay Bennett (Ewell Minnis) and Raye Luckhurst (South Alkham). The Committee expressed their regrets at the resignation of the Vice-Chairman Chris Tapsell and thanked him for his long and helpful service to the Society. Maurice Sayers was elected to remain Chairman, Barry Sheppard will remain the Treasurer, Jo Walker the Secretary, other committee members will be as last year: Marion Banks-Nash, Pam Sayers, Shelley Jackson and Ken Hammond. Our next committee meeting will be held at John and Shelley Jackson's house Foxgloves at Ellinge on Tuesday 28 February 2006 at 8 p.m. The future programme was discussed: Paul Tapsell will be asked to lead the Christmas Walk (27 December from Village Hall Car Park at 10.30 a.m.) and again, everyone is welcome. The annual excursion was discussed, it being agreed that the visit to Brook Agricultural Museum had been successful, and it was suggested that the matter be left for the Committee to decide. The question of the status of the Caravan Park, Alkham Valley Road was raised - the Committee and many people have written to the DCC and received varying replies all of which are vague and dismissive. The matter of its status is not resolved and thus a method of dealing with it is to keep writing and requesting clarification. It was agreed that it raised fears about abuse of an amenity should it be used for irregular purposes about which we have every right to enquire and try to get the same clarity as we have to have for other premises. There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.15 p.m. and a large section of the company met again a few minutes later at The Fox where a good time was had by all. The Committee takes the opportunity to thank everyone for their support and to wish all a happy Christmas and healthy New Year 2006. (Joanna Walker (Secretary))



ALKHAM PAST – Although run by the W.I., friends and relatives are invited to attend the next meeting on the 10th of January in Alkham Village Hall to be in your seats by 8.15pm to see pictures of Alkham's past presented by Sue Lees.

SURVEYORS * VALUERS * ESTATE AGENTS

CARDS - The profit that Margaret Knowles makes from selling her cards of Alkham all goes to the church fabric fund and over the year she raised £100. She would like to thank the Garden Centre for their help and also all the people who bought the cards. Well done Margaret.

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL - Assuming that the Newsletter has been delivered by the 20th of December, Father Christmas will be at the Capel Farmer's Market (see page 2). There will also be a children's bran tub, stall holders in fancy dress and Christmas carols. Buy your locally produced Christmas food & gifts in a traditional Christmas atmosphere. 01303 245399 for Contact further information

> **FREDERIC HALL** Solicitors York House, Folkestone 01303 851185 & Clyde House, Dover 01304 202411

W.I. – Alkham move into its 79th OZ on XMAS CARDS opportunity to thank Betty Neely is president; Betty Neely and Susan Lees vice presidents; Tapsell thankfully Christine Barrow has kindly taken over as secretary. Doreen Wilks, Helen Scopes and Cherry Leppard forming the rest of the committee with its many tasks. The next meeting will be on January 10th will be an open meeting to see pictures of Alkham past (see article on the left)

PARCELS _ A number of consumers in Thanet & North Kent have reported receiving leaflets through their letter boxes implying that a parcel is awaiting collection. The leaflet asks them to telephone an 090 number for further information. The call. which is charged at £1.50 per minute, is likely to last a number of minutes. Kent Trading Standards is aware of similar scams & is concerned that consumers may be taken-in by this scam particularly as some might be expecting parcels in the to Christmas. 090 run-up charged at a numbers are premium rate and it is very unlikely that genuine delivery companies would use this type of number. If consumers receive one of these leaflets they should contact Consumer Direct on 08454 04 05 06 for further advice. They may wish also to report the matter to the Independent Committee for the Supervision of Standards of **Telephone Information Services** at www.icstis.org.uk or on 0800 500 212'.

(Neighbourhood Watch)

Once year had one of its best dinners again the Woodland Trust, Tesco yet at the Lighthouse, Capel. The and W H Smith are promoting a occasion gave members the Christmas card recycling scheme between 2 and 31 January. All you with a basket of flowers and a have to do is take your used cards song of 'she's a jolly good along when you visit a Tesco or fellow' for being secretary for WHS store and leave them in the some 14 years. Susannah Tapsell receptacles provided. It is a worthwhile move, and popular, coinciding with the first "spring clean" of the year, when we continues as treasurer and Janet happily part with empty cans, guiltinducing bottles and torn wrapping paper, but are a little more reluctant dispose of to cards. often beautifully produced and carrying warm personal messages. The modern Christmas card was invented by Henry Cole, founder of the Victoria and Albert Museum, in 1843, just three years after the introduction of the penny post. Unfortunately the then current colour technology of handcoloured lithography was expensive, causing the card to retail at one shilling (£3.63 in today's money) and the card failed. However by 1860 the new process of chromolithography, allowing cheap and intricate colour reproduction, was well established. When the halfpenny post was introduced in 1870, for unsealed envelopes, the Christmas card really took off, and the Post Office issued its first 'Post early for Christmas' advice in 1880. It is hardly surprising then that we now exchange some 1 billion cards each Christmas in the UK, at an average rate of 160 million a day. Last January the Woodland Trust collected and recycled 58 million cards weighing 1,150 tonnes, and is aiming to achieve a new target of 60 million this January. As an illustration of the environmental benefits of recycling on this scale, the Woodland Trust calculates that recycling just one Christmas card will save enough electricity to enable 105 people to watch the Oueen's Christmas dav message next year, which should indeed be encouragement. (Steve Osborn)

		Regular events in the village		
Monday		The Chalksole Homegroup, third Monday of the month. Please phone Linda on 823100 for further details	Alkhamhurst Kennels	
Tuesday		Art classes in the village hall from 10 am to 1 pm. Ring 01303 243115 for further details	Boarding for Dogs, Cats	
Wednesd	ay	The Book club meets on the first Wednesday of the month. Please phone Linda on 823100 for further details	& Small Animals Canine Hydrotherapy	
Wednesd	ay	Keep Fit in the village hall from 9.30 am to 10.30 am – Wednesday Club from 10.30 am to 11.30 am	Pet Food Shop	
Thursda	ıy	Mobile Library stops at the car parks by the village hall from 9.25 am to 9.50 am	01304 – 822420 Alkham Valley Road	
Friday		Whist Drive in the village hall starting at 7.30 pm		
	Oth	er events in the village		
Monday	9	Parish Council meeting in the village hall at 7.30pm, everyone welcome to come along		
Tuesday	10	W.I. meeting in the village hall at 7.30pm		
Monday	16	5 Dover & District Bird Club in the village hall from 7.30pm		
Saturday	28	Beekeepers in the village hall		

CHURCH SERVICES					
Day	Alkham	Capel	Hougham	Weekdav	
Sunday 1 st	Joint Benefice Sung Eucharist St Radigund, Capel-le-Ferne 10.00 a.m. Services:				
Not	e: no weekday services Monday	27th December to Monday 2nd	January inclusive	Morning Prayer, Capel: Monday-	
Tuesday 3rd	St Rad	St Radigund, Capel Healing service 7.00 p.m. Friday at 8.30 am			
Friday 6 th	Sung Euch	Sung Eucharist St Radigund, Capel-le-Ferne 7.30 p.m. (except Bank Holidays). Evenin			
Sunday 8 th	Evensong 4.00 p.m.	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping together 11.00 a.m.	Prayer, Hougham - Wednesdays at	
Sunday 15 th	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping together 11.00 a.m.	Songs of Praise village hall, West Hougham 4.00 p.m.	5 pm. Eucharist, Capel Thursdays	
Sunday 22 nd	Worshipping together 11.00 am	Evensong 4.00 p.m.	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	at 9.15 am	
Sunday 29th	Joint benefice	Sung Eucharist St Anthony, Alk	ham 10.00 a.m.		

TELEPHONE NUMBERS	Police – 999 phone & 01303 850055 Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130 Community Warden 07977 981994	Village Hall booking Rosemary Polden 824876 Alkham Valley Society secretary	
Gwyn Prosser M.P . 01304 214484	GP out of hours to access urgent	Joanna Walker 821641	
Gwyn 11055er 1914 - 01504 214404	medical help 0844 800 1234	Janet Barrow 829585	
County Councillor , Bryan Cope 207976 work number 01795532547	Newsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969 e mail <u>brianwimsett@hotmail.com</u>	Church Wardens - Richard Tapsell	
District Councillors		822295 and Grace Stacey 822756	
Sue Nicholas 823956	Parish Clerk, Sue Lees 822661		
Andrew Richardson 211835		Alkham web site www.alkham.org	

LOCAL BUSINESSES AND SERVICES

ACCOUNTANCY	John Garlinge Accountancy, taxation, book keeping services	St. Margaret's 852252
ARBORICULTURE	Alkham Valley Tree Surgery: Planning, planting, maintenance removal	Wolverton 824853 & 07973 501390
BOARDING KENNELS	Kennels and Cattery, Canine Hydrotherapy and Pet Food Shop	Wolverton 822420
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CAT & DOG GROOMING	Canine beauticians, dogs and cats groomed, Newcastle House	Ewell Minnis 822902
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EQUESTRIAN	GREENHILL FARM - DIY and assisted livery - excellent facilities	Megget Lane, South Alkham 01303 892056
EQUESTRIAN SUPPLIES	Alkham Valley Garden Centre - everything for horse and rider	South Alkham 01303 891996
GARDEN CENTRE	Alkham Valley Garden Centre with gift shop and pet supplies	South Alkham 01303 893351
PLUMBING & HEATING	Iain Blears plumbing and heating services	Wolverton 822500 or 07888 713 896
SCHOOL	Capel-le-Ferne school Your local primary school; free bus from Alkham	Capel Street, Capel-le-Ferne 01303 251353

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CONGRATULATIONS C.B.E. (Commander British Empire), Robin St. J. Knowles C.B.E., Barrister, M.A. elder son of Margaret and Norman Knowles of Slip Lane, Alkham was appointed C.B.E. in the New Year's Honours list. This is one of the highest honours. Robin was educated at Alkham village school, Sir Roger Manwood's (Sandwich) and read law at Trinity College (Cambridge). He was called to the Bar in 1982, became Queen's Counsel in 1999 (aged 39), sworn in as a Recorder (Judge) in the Crown Court in 2000 (aged 40). He was recently elected Chairman of The Commercial Bar (England). Investiture by the Queen is expected in March (Norman Knowles) there will be a full report in next month's Newsletter (ed) SPEED LIMITS - The order legally confirming the speed limits along the valley road was confirmed in early January so the 40mph and 50 mph signs plus red road marking should soon appear.

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VANDALISM - There has been a spate of mindless vandalism in the village mainly around Vicarage Meadow. The expensive and recently replaced bench outside the cricket pavilion, which had previously had the uprights sawn, has been uprooted and thrown in the hedge. The resting post at the top of the Meadow that Rob Lees repaired a short while ago has been broken up and thrown in the brambles. At the Parish Council meeting the chairman said that behaviour like this was not acceptable in the village but he was not sure whether it was due to locals or people outside the village. The council is going to approach DDC with regard to the possibility of installing CCTV and for other advice. Although it may affect the insurance premium it cricket is played.

COMMUNITY WARDEN As a result of the above, the idea of having a Community Warden was discussed at the Parish Council meeting. Unfortunately the service is not free and would increase the Parish precept considerably (that is the money included in the rates for the village) so reluctantly it was agreed not to pursue the matter. for 2006-2007, is £8500.

park on Vicarage would not only light the car park do it again next year? but also illuminate the entrance to Meadow Hill Cottages, the recently constructed house on Hogbrook Lane.

PARISH CLERK - I'm pleased to report that we now have a Parish Clerk, who is Angela Miller. She lives in Newlyns Meadow and her telephone number is 824791. We wish her the best of luck. Sue Lees will be helping in the short turn with the handover and then she can retire and start to pursue her many interests again.

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was decided to replace the bench JUMBLE SALE - There will be a jumble and store both benches inside the sale in the village hall on Saturday the pavilion to be brought out when 4th of February starting at 11.00am. All profits will go to the W.I. funds.

> **CARAVANS** - Evidently the people who moved into the area adjacent to the Garden Centre with their caravans last year intend to return in the spring. As this land is classed as agricultural, further pressure is going to be put on DDC regarding a prohibition order and a meeting will be arranged with DDC in the very near future.

WELL DONE ALKHAM! Many thanks The precept, as proposed at the from Chalksole Homegroup to all who December Parish Council meeting so generously donated £170 for needy children in Folkestone. Irene Barnard and Linda Gaskill were able LIGHTING - The Parish Council is to take advantage of Woolworth's 1/2 going to find out what the cost and price sale on toys just before implications are of installing a Christmas and were able to purchase street light on the corner of the car some fabulous toys for children Meadow known to the Surestart team. Santa opposite the village hall. This really came to town for them. Shall we

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01303	Club
893351	10% off

GARDEN TALK - The first garden meeting of the new year begins this month at Bramhall, the home of Richard and Susannah Tapsell. It is open to anyone who may have an interest in gardening and is very informal, so no need to be intimidated if you are not as knowledgeable as you would like to be. Come along and learn, enjoy a glass...or two of wine, and sample a few nibbles. So the venue is as above and starts at 7.30 pm on 17th February 2006. Look forward to seeing you all there. (Devina Bartlett 827548).

RUPP'S - There was further discussion at the Parish Council meeting about the off road groups trying to get the roads used as a public path upgraded to roads open to all traffic. It was thought that the consultation could take up to two years before officers acted but there might be cases which are settled more quickly as each application will be judged on its merit.

FARMER'S MARKET

Capel-le-Ferne Village Hall

Tuesday 10am to 1pm Local produce Phone 01303 245399

BOOKCLUB NIGHT OUT

supper at the Marguis of Granby, 7.30pm on February 8th. Please read a biography or autobiography and come ready to discuss it over the meal. New members are very welcome. Could all who are coming please 827880. (Linda Gaskill)

AUTHOR EVENT at Deal Library Thursday 9th Februarv. on Christine Aziz, author of 'The Olive Readers' and winner of Richard and Judy's 'How to get published' will be at Deal Library to talk about her work on 9th February from 7.30pm to 8.30pm. In September 2004 Pan Macmillan and Channel 4's Richard & Judy show launched the first ever televised 'How to Get Published' competition. Budding writers were invited to send in their first chapter and a synopsis of their novel for the chance to win a publishing contract. 46,000 entries later, five short listed authors appeared live on air in front of 1.5 million viewers. Christine Aziz, a 50something homeopath and journalist freelance was announced as the winner. She won a £50,000 advance and a publishing contract with Pan Macmillan. Christine Aziz was born in Yorkshire and has worked as a shop assistant, dental receptionist, factory packer, singer, cleaning lady, actress, journalist, community worker and English teacher. She now works as a homeopath and freelance journalist. The Olive Readers is set in a dystopian future and told through the eyes of a young woman, Jephzat and has been compared to Margaret Atwood's The Handmaid's Tale. Tickets are £2 and available from Deal Library.

WATER PIPES – correction

The Book Club will meet for In the December edition of the Newsletter I included an article about the water pipe along the valley. Folkestone and Dover Water Company Services have read this article and say that the information given, as interpreted at November presentation. а is give Rosemary Heddle a call on incorrect. I therefore apologise for the errors and am pleased to publish the correct facts, which are: The ponds at Bushy Ruff have a low water level because of lower than average rain fall and will refill when persistent rain arrives. No decision has been made as to whether to abstract water from Bushy Ruff and discussions are continuing with the Environment Agency (EA) who will conclude whether there is enough water at the site to allow abstraction. If they do obtain a license the water will be pumped to Lye Oak and that is why there is only one pipe going along the valley. Part of their proposals for development at Bushy Ruff was to work with EA in creating an augmentation system that would pump water into the nearby lake during drought periods and the EA plan to line part of the lake to act as a refuge for wildlife. If the water company does not source water from Bushy Ruff then the system will have to be developed by the EA.

PIMLICO WAY which runs from South Alkham across the hill to Slip Lane is already a byway open to all traffic and some years ago the Alkham Valley Society replanted the hedge and trees which were previously grubbed out by a farmer. KCC gave a grant for this and they consider that it is the AVS's responsibility to keep the hedge cut but the latter think that it was not a never-ending agreement and that KCC should cut it. The AVS are going to write to KCC.

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KENT POLICE have launched Mobile Police Station (MPS) that will visit rural locations and PC Foster started in the Dover area on Thursday 22nd December in Sandwich Road, Whitfield and then Station Approach, Shepherdswell. These visits will take place every three weeks and people are encouraged to go along and see PC Foster and have a look at the information etc he will be carrying on the MPS. It is also an ideal opportunity to discuss any Policing matters that concern you. The date for February has not yet been published but if you are interested the police on 01303 850055 may be able to help. (NW)

ST. ANTHONY'S – We tend to take the church for granted but it really is of some architectural importance. A recent visitor to the church said that the carvings on the Purbeck stone inside the church were the best he had ever seen in his life.

FREDERIC HALL Solicitors York House, Folkestone 01303 851185 & Clyde House, Dover 01304 202411

W.I NEWS - At the first meeting of the year Susannah Tapsell, our president, welcomed "jobs" members. The that several of the members take on was sorted out. Our president had been to a resolutions meeting and а presidents meeting so she informed us of that. The ice show at Brighton is all in hand on the 28th January, the coach will leave Capel at 10am. This meeting was an open meeting to allow many villagers to see Susan Lees slides of Alkham in the 60's and 70's. There were about sixty people altogether and how we all enjoyed the old photos of the vallev as it used to look and also our children when they attended the Alkham school and some of ourselves in our youth! Richard Tapsell kindly came along to work the projector as Susan gave an interesting commentary. She had also brought some old photograph books to look at and pinned lots of photos on the walls. She was warmly thanked by Helen Scopes and I know everyone had a lovely evening. The slides she had were her own and some of the late Mrs Lord and Olive Harvey. We are hoping Sue will dig out some more sometime! The next meeting in February is the "Red Cross". Cherry Leppard)

MAIN DRAINAGE - The houses at Drellingore have cess pit drainage and it was hoped that the main drainage would be extended to cover these properties. The Environment Agency was asked to act as arbitrator between the residents and the sewage authority and has refused the request. The Parish Council thought this unfair as it is possible that the size of the cess pits will have to be increased to meet current regulations and that the cost of emptying the cess pits will have to be met by the householders.

OZ on LITTLE EGRETS

After the Christmas snow thawed we ran our dog in Kearsney Abbey, noting on the way a heron, still and grey in the gloom. Soon another blizzard sprang up and we returned, finding our 'heron' smaller and apparently covered in fresh snow. It was, of course, a different and rarer heron, a Little Egret with brilliant white body, distinctive yellow feet and black legs. For the first three days of the New Year our house gave a grandstand view of the bird, glowing white against the muddy riverbank and feeding nervously in the shallows. Local papers reported later that a pair of egrets had taken up residence on Barton Path, in Dover, a first for this location. The Little Egret (Egretta garzetta) is another example of a species that has increased dramatically in the UK recently, perhaps due to global warming. In the 1950s its winter quarters crept north from Spain, through France, to reach Brownsea Island in Poole Harbour in 1996 and County Cork in 1997. Before this expansion, the Little Egret's main claim to fame was as supplier of plumes. particularly for hats, in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Cocker and Mabey, in Birds Britannica, describe how egret feathers sometimes traded at 20 times the value of silver weight-for-weight. Some feathers were obtained humanely from egret farms, where birds were cared for and plucked four times a vear. However the main source of imported feathers was from the killing of millions of wild egrets, a slaughter that led directly to the formation of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds in 1889 and the banning of the plume trade in 1920. Appropriately the RSPB Nature Reserve at Dungeness has long been the best local site for viewing these lovely birds. (Steve Osborn)

		Regular events in the village		
Monda	у	The Chalksole Homegroup, third Monday of the month. Please phone Linda on 823100 for further details	Alkhamhurst Kennels	
Tuesda	y	Art classes in the village hall from 10 am to 1 pm. Ring 01303 243115 for further details	Boarding for Dogs, Cats	
Wednesd	lay	The Book club meets on the first Wednesday of the month. Please phone Linda on 823100 for further details	& Small Animals Canine Hydrotherapy	
Wednesday Wednesday Club from 10.30 am to 11.30 am		Pet Food Shop		
Thursda	ay	Mobile Library stops at the car parks by the village hall from 9.25 am to 9.50 am	01304 – 822420 Alkham Valley Road	
Friday	,	Whist Drive in the village hall starting at 7.30 pm	Aikilaini Valley Koad	
	Oth	er events in the village		
Saturday	4	W.I. jumble sale in the village hall starting at 11.00am		
Saturday	11	Annual Quiz in the village hall starting at 7.30pm		
Tuesday	14	W.I. meeting in the village hall at 7.30pm		
Monday	19	Dover & District Bird Club in the village hall from 7.30pm		
Saturday	25	Beekeepers in the village hall in the afternoon		

	CHURCH SERVICES				
Day	Alkham	Capel	Hougham	Weekday	
Thursday 2nd	Joint benefice Sung Eucharist	by candlelight St Mary, Capel-	le-Ferne 7.00 p.m. Candlemas	Services:	
Sunday 5 th	Evensong 4.00 p.m.	Sunday 5 th	Evensong 4.00 p.m.	Morning Prayer, Capel: Monday-	
Tuesday 7 th	$11 \cdot 1^{1} \cdot$			Friday at 8.30 am (except Bank	
Sunday 12 th	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Sunday 12 th	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Holidays). Evening Prayer, Hougham - Wednesdays at	
Sunday 19 th	Worshipping together 11.00 a.m.	Sunday 19 th	Worshipping together 11.00 a.m.	5 pm. Eucharist,	
Sunday 26 th	Joint benefice Sung	g Eucharist St Radigund, Capel-	le-Ferne 10.00 a.m.	Capel Thursdays at 9.15 am	

TELEPHONE NUMBERS	Police – 999 phone & 01303 850055 Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130 Community Warden 07977 981994	Village Hall booking Rosemary Polden 824876 Alkham Valley Society secretary	
Gwyn Prosser M.P . 01304 214484	GP out of hours to access urgent medical help 0844 800 1234	Joanna Walker 821641 W.I. secretary - Janet Barrow 829585	
County Councillor , Bryan Cope 207976 work number 01795532547	Newsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969 e mail <u>brianwimsett@hotmail.com</u>	Church Wardens - Richard Tapsell	
District Councillors Sue Nicholas 823956 Andrew Richardson 211835	Parish Clerk Angela Miller 824791	822295 and Grace Stacey 822756Alkham web site www.alkham.org	

LOCAL BUSINESSES AND SERVICES		
ACCOUNTANCY	John Garlinge Accountancy, taxation, book keeping services	St. Margaret's 852252
ARBORICULTURE	Alkham Valley Tree Surgery: Planning, planting, maintenance removal	Wolverton 824853 & 07973 501390
BOARDING KENNELS	Kennels and Cattery, Canine Hydrotherapy and Pet Food Shop	Wolverton 822420
BUILDING WORK	E R Woodruff carpentry and joinery, decorating, maintenance	Swanbourne, Wolverton 824991
CAT & DOG GROOMING	Canine beauticians, dogs and cats groomed, Newcastle House	Ewell Minnis822902
CLEANING SERVICES	John Hoy domestic/commercial carpet and upholstery cleaning	Ewell Minnis 07889310479
CURTAINS & BLINDS	Curtains and blinds made to your specification	Alkham Valley 01303 891806
ELECTRICAL	Simon Price electricians & computer installation, Meggett Farm	South Alkham 01303 252764
ENVIRONMENTAL	J H Ullmann Environmental contractors, Malmains Farm	Alkham 202004 or 822888
EQUESTRIAN	HOGBROOK Equestrian Centre Livery yard, instruction, hacking	Hogbrook Lane, Alkham 827644
EQUESTRIAN	GREENHILL FARM - DIY and assisted livery - excellent facilities	Megget Lane, South Alkham 01303 892056
EQUESTRIAN SUPPLIES	Alkham Valley Garden Centre – everything for horse and rider	South Alkham 01303 891996
GARDEN CENTRE	Alkham Valley Garden Centre with gift shop and pet supplies	South Alkham 01303 893351
PLUMBING & HEATING	Iain Blears plumbing and heating services	Wolverton 822500 or 07888 713 896
SCHOOL	Capel-le-Ferne school Your local primary school; free bus from Alkham	Capel Street, Capel-le-Ferne 01303 251353

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SPEED LIMITS - As people who drive along the Alkham Valley Road will have seen, the new speed limits are in place with 50mph from Drellingore to South Alkham and then a 40mph limit to the village. This is repeated on the Dover side to Wolverton from where there is a 50mph limit to Kearsney. Various comments have been made about these speed limits, such as rural clutter and that people will probably ignore them. Personally, I think the 40mph limits have given the feeling that you are driving through a community and that Wolverton and South Alkham are inclusive in the village. (editor)

EGGS were thrown at the windows of two properties in the centre of the village and as one resident was away the congealed mess was very difficult to remove. People have a fair idea who the culprits are and prosecution will be sought should it happen again and be witnessed.

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PETER CHAMBERS - It is sad to of report the death Peter Chambers who moved into Martinvale, in the centre of the village, in the early 1970's. Peter had a full and rewarding life and this was helped by his brother's advice to learn German. As a result, when he was 17 and joined the Navy in 1944, he was moved straight into intelligence and then after the war was in Germany translating documents. He then went to Aberdeen University for four years to study foreign languages and became fluent in 6. In 1952 he joined the staff on the Daily Express and during his career Foreign was Correspondent in Paris, spent two years in New York and was William Hickey' for a while. When he left the Express in 1986 he did a couple of years writing for Judith Chalmers on 'Wish you were here'. He married Sarah ten years ago but they had known each other for 30 years and sympathy goes to Sarah and all relatives and friends. Whilst I was at Martinvale two beautiful floral tributes were delivered, one from the Mail on Sunday and the other from the Sunday Mirror.

POWER CUT - Evidently the three hour or so power cut on the 6th of February in Alkham was due to the temporary generator providing the power packing up (due to fuel blockage?). The generator was supplied by an outside contractor and an engineer had to come down from Sidcup to repair it, which accounts for the long delay.

SHEEP - Two sheep have been killed in the field to the east of Short Lane by dogs. The farmer hasn't taken any action on this occasion but dog owners are asked to make sure their dogs are under control at all times as the sheep are extremely vulnerable.

PARISH COUNCILLOR

Peter Frater had to resign from his position as Parish Councillor because of pressure of work. The post was advertised and posters placed on the village notice board and in the Old Post Office but no applicants came forward. As a result of this, I'm delighted to say, that Sue Lees has been co-opted as a Parish Councillor until the next elections.

properties in the

Parish

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VILLAGE HALL – Grateful thanks go to the late Olive Harvey, who died in March 2004, for leaving over £10,000 to the village hall in her will. Olive was very active in village activities and it is fitting that there should be a lasting memory to her. In the first place a plaque is to be inscribed and placed in the hall and then ideas will be sought as to the best way to spend the money. It may be that it will go into the general funds for the long term security of the hall and I think Olive would have approved of this idea.

RECYCLING - The next recycling day will be on 2nd March and this will mark the second anniversary of the scheme which started in March 2004. **QUIZ** - there will be a quiz in the village hall on the 8th of April starting at 7.30pm. All profits go to the Air Ambulance and to book a table please ring 824876.

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Valley	For all your	
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Centre	Tuesdays over 60	
Phone	Club	
01303	10% off	
893351		

THE CHASE - Ken and I were cycling along the road below Lydden Circuit when we very warily passed a Rottweiler that was chewing grass (or something) in the verge. We rapidly accelerated to 27 miles an hour but a quick glance behind showed the Rottweiler was chasing us at about 30mph and gaining rapidly. I wasn't too concerned until Ken, who had been behind me, steamed past at a great rate of knots and I realised that I was now top of the menu. This continued for a short while but fortunately the dog ran out of puff before we did and undoubtedly returned home feeling rather pleased with itself and laughing like Mutley in Wacky Races. Irrespective of these perils, if you are slightly depressed. overweight or а reasonably active ride over 26 miles will use up about 1200 calories and get the serotonin in the brain moving such that you finish the ride feeling relaxed, assuming you are not chased by a Rottweiler. (editor)

QUIZ - The annual quiz seemed to be enjoyed by most people and a profit of £270 was made, which is being donated to a local charity. This is the East Kent Railway which generally runs trains from Shepherdswell to Eythorne starting at the end of March. Thanks go to the Polden and Lott families for doing the food, Jacqui Fielding and Carla Saltmer for doing such an excellent job as scorers and Sue Lees.

FARMER'S MARKET Capel-le-Ferne Village Hall

Tuesday 10am to 1pm Local produce Phone 01303 245399

TRAIL RIDERS - A number of SCAM - One of our employees was people around the village have commented on group а of motorcvclists who look fairlv menacing with their masks and ride aggressively on the RuPP's and byways around the village. Davis, Jane who lives on Wolverton Hill and walks her dogs on the byway leading from Ewell Minnis to Temple Ewell, says that since December 2005, there have been 3 or 4 occasions where she and her hounds have come close to being mown down by 'sinister'looking bikers hurtling about where dogs have previously been safe to run off-leash. Although she is beginning to recognise the awful noise predicting their approach, it is still extremely difficult to recall the dogs quickly enough to jump out of their pathway. They never make any attempt to slow down, despite the fact that she is clearly struggling to maintain control. Needless to say, she has found it to be a quite terrifying experience on each occasion and wonders if pedestrians have lost all their rights? Barbara Newitt and her sister were verbally abused by them at Common Hill and I was ridden at when cycling back into the village by a motorcycle coming up Short Lane at speed. A letter has been written to the Parish Council asking them if they would inform the police such that they can be contacted, should the riders reappear, and in the first place give them a warning. It appears that these riders do not belong to the Trail riding group, who do ride responsibly.

CHALKSOLE GREEN Whilst walking the dog I went through Chalksole Green, which is an official village green at the top of White Hill, and it was terrific to see six ducks in the smaller pond and three in the other, which was puddled by John Huggins. The Conservation Committee have been doing a lot of work around the green and the laid hedge plus removal of undergrowth has transformed the site. Congratulations to all those who are taking part. I think the larger pond may still be leaking as the ducks were walking as well as swimming so I understand it may have to be lined. The puddling was hampered by hot and dry weather.

called on Wednesday from "VISA". and I was called on Thursday from "MasterCard". Note, the callers do your ask for not card number; they already have it. The scam works like this: Person calling says, "This is (name), and I'm calling from the Security and Fraud Department at VISA. My Badge number is 12460. Your card has been flagged for an unusual purchase pattern, and I'm calling to verify. This would be on your VISA card that was issued by (name of bank). Did you purchase an Anti-Telemarketing Device for £249.99 from a Marketing company based in (name of any town or city)?" When you say "No" the caller continues with, "Then we will be issuing a credit to your account. Before your next statement, the credit will be sent to (gives you your address), is that correct?" You say "yes". The caller continues - "I will be starting a Fraud investigation. If you have any questions, you should call the 0800 number listed on the back of your card and ask for Security. You will need to refer to this Control Number. The caller then gives you a 6 digit number. "Do you need me to read it again?" Here's the IMPORTANT part on how the scam works. The caller then says, "I need to verify you are in possession of your card". He'll ask you to turn your card over and look for some numbers". There are 7 numbers: the first 4 are part of your card number, the next 3 are the security Numbers that verify you are the possessor of the card. The caller will ask you to read the 3 numbers to him. After you tell the caller the 3 numbers, he'll say, "That is correct, I just needed to verify that the card has not been lost or stolen, and that you still have your card. Do you have any other questions?" After you say No, the caller then thanks you and states, "Don't hesitate to call back; if you do", and hangs up. You actually say very little, and they never ask for or tell you the Card number. But after we were called on Wednesday, we called back within 20 minutes to ask a question. Are we glad we did! The REAL VISA Security Department told us it was a scam and in the last 15 minutes a new purchase of £249.99 was charged to our card. (Shelley Jackson)

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Alkham WI - The February meeting was well supported by members looking forward to the year ahead. Ideas were invited for Spring and Summer outings. Cherry Leppard is already in the process of arranging an outing to see Billy Elliott later in the year - cost £45 plus travel. Members were encouraged to take part in the Top Team Quiz 31st May and attend the Group Meeting 18th April when the talk will be on the fascinating subject of The Crown Jewels. The evening concluded with an excellent talk and demonstration by a team of Red Cross workers, which included a five year old, who certainly knew just how to carry out Life Saving Techniques. It was agreed that many people in the village might like to take advantage of a day in the near future when the Red Cross could give more detailed instructions. (Sue Lees)

Cancer Research - the Alkham Ladies have worked hard once again, and raised £450 during the past year for this cause.

> **FREDERIC HALL** Solicitors York House, Folkestone 01303 851185 & Clyde House, Dover

> > 01304 202411

ROMANIA - I received an email OZ about the plight of children in Romania with an appeal for monetary help. Evidently there are a lot of children in Romania, who because of government policies are living on the street and encountering the social problems attached with that such as prostitution, glue sniffing and Christian drug taking. А organisation called the City of A group of 14 people from the Living Well Family Church will be travelling to Bucharest to work alongside the City of Hope. All of their travelling and livina expenses will be self funded so all money raised will go into protecting and helping the children. They plan to practically help the charity by tackling some of their DIY needs. This will involve redecorating the rescue centre. and doing some necessary repairs, especially on the decaying roof. Toys will be taken as well. The costs of running the centre are £700 with additional costs totalling a further £800 a month. Each child costs £70-£100 to support each month and the rescue centre needs a new central heating system costing £2000 and minibuses at £6000 - £7000 each. The group £15.000 bv hopes to raise donations and fund raising events. Information regarding fundraising events they will be running in the future is on www.missionromania.co.uk. For further information please contact Noel on 01227 829018 or 07710610954.

ALKHAM VALLEY SOCIETY

The on-going role of the Society in Pimlico maintenance is being investigated and soon we should have some news. It has been noted that one of the farmers/landowners has already cut his/her section of hedge in what is a neat job, and that at this point off-road vehicles come back onto the track. Thank you landowner/farmer and the Parish Council for revitalising an ongoing concern. Watch this space for an action updating. (Joanna Walker ,Secretary)

HOBSON-JOBSON on Recently BBC2, in partnership with the Oxford English Dictionary, ran the series Balderdash and Piffle, attempting to "ante-date" certain English words and phrases, ie find written evidence of them before the OED dates. In the final programme, a request for "balti" before 1983 sent me scurrying for my precious copy of Hobson-Jobson. Subtitled glossary of Anglo-Indian Hope is trying to do something colloquial words and phrases and about the situation and in April a containing 1020 densely-printed pages, it is a treasure-house that illustrates India's huge influence on the English language. The book originated in a friendship between Col Henry Yule of the Bengal Engineers and Dr Arthur Burnell of the Madras Civil Service. They met only once, at the India Library, and afterwards exchanged letters devoted to building an Anglo-Indian dictionary. Sadly, Burnell died in 1882, four years before publication of their book. Hobson-Jobson was revised in 1903 and was then out of print for many years. The second edition was republished in 1968 and it is this edition that I acquired 20 years ago. Like all good dictionaries Hobson-Jobson takes the reader on a magical mystery tour, from 'calico' to 'khaki' to 'dungarees' to 'dinghy', with surprises on the way such as 'pundit', 'toddy' 'chintz'. and Hobson-Jobson's words derive from many sources, includina traders' languages, scientific and technical terms and Civil Service jargon. 'Hobson-Jobson' is itself an example of another important class of words, being an Anglo-Saxon corruption of "Ya Hasan! Ya Hosain!" heard at Moharram Festivals. The term was applied later to any word derived by mispronouncing Indian, such as 'shampoo' from 'champo' and 'pyjamas' from 'jammas', and then to all such words from any such 'plonk'. language, as Australian for 'vin blanc'. Perhaps we now need a universal Hobson-Jobson reflecting the internet and new words arising from such hybrids Spanglish as and Chinglish. (Steve Osborn)

		Regular events in the village	
Monda	y	The Chalksole Homegroup, third Monday of the month. Please phone Linda on 823100 for further details	Alkhamhurst Kennels
Tuesda	y	Art classes in the village hall from 10 am to 1 pm. Ring 07811405124 for further details	Boarding for Dogs, Cats
Wednesd	ay	The Book club meets on the first Wednesday of the month. Please phone Linda on 823100 for further details	& Small Animals Canine Hydrotherapy
Wednesd	ay	Keep Fit in the village hall from 9.30 am to 10.30 am – Wednesday Club from 10.30 am to 11.30 am	Pet Food Shop
Thursda	ıy	Mobile Library stops at the car parks by the village hall from 9.25 am to 9.50 am	01304 – 822420 Alkham Valley Road
Friday		Whist Drive in the village hall starting at 7.30 pm	Aikilaili Valley Koau
	Oth	er events in the village	
Saturday	4	P.C.C. jumble sale in the village hall starting at 11.00am	
Monday			All welcome
Tuesday	14	W.I. meeting in the village hall at 7.30pm	
Monday	Ionday 19 Dover & District Bird Club in the village hall from 7.30pm		
Saturday	25	Beekeepers in the village hall in the afternoon	
Sunday			

CHURCH SERVICES							
Day	Alkham	Capel	Hougham	Weekday Services:			
Wednesday 1st	Vednesday 1st Sung Eucharist and imposition of ashes St Anthony, Alkham 7.00 p.m.						
Sunday 5th	Evensong 4.00 p.m.	Sunday 5th	Evensong 4.00 p.m.	Capel: Monday- Friday at 8.30 am			
Tuesday 7th	Healing Service St Radigund, Capel-le-Ferne 7.00 p.m.			(except Bank			
Sunday 12th	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Sunday 12 th	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Holidays). Evening Prayer, Hougham -			
Sunday 19th	Worshipping together 11.00 a.m.	Sunday 19th	Worshipping together 11.00 a.m.	Wednesdays at 5 pm. Eucharist,			
Sunday 26th Mothering	h Joint Benefice Sung Eucharist St Lawrence, Hougham 10.00 a.m.			Capel Thursdays at 9.15 am			

Police – 999 phone & 01303 850055 Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130 Community Warden 07977 981994	Village Hall booking Rosemary Polden 824876 Alkham Valley Society secretary
GP out of hours to access urgent medical help 0844 800 1234	Joanna Walker 821641 W.I. secretary - Janet Barrow 829585
Newsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969 e mail <u>brianwimsett@hotmail.com</u>	Church Wardens - Richard Tapsell
Parish Clerk Angela Miller 824791	822295 and Grace Stacey 822756 Alkham web site www.alkham.org
	Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130 Community Warden 07977 981994 GP out of hours to access urgent medical help 0844 800 1234 Newsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969 e mail brianwimsett@hotmail.com Parish Clerk

LOCAL BUSINESSES AND SERVICES				
ARBORICULTURE	Alkham Valley Tree Surgery: Planning, planting, maintenance removal	Wolverton	824853	
BOARDING KENNELS	Kennels and Cattery, Canine Hydrotherapy and Pet Food Shop	Wolverton	822420	
BUILDING WORK	E R Woodruff carpentry and joinery, decorating, maintenance	Swanbourne, Wolverton	824991	
CAT & DOG GROOMING	Canine beauticians, dogs and cats groomed, Newcastle House	Ewell Minnis	822902	
CLEANING SERVICES	John Hoy domestic/commercial carpet and upholstery cleaning	Ewell Minnis	07889310479	
CURTAINS & BLINDS	Curtains and blinds made to your specification	Alkham Valley	01303 891806	
ELECTRICAL	Simon Price electricians & computer installation, Meggett Farm	South Alkham	01303 252764	
ENVIRONMENTAL	J H Ullmann Environmental contractors, Malmains Farm	Alkham 202	004 or 822888	
EQUESTRIAN	HOGBROOK Equestrian Centre Livery yard, instruction, hacking	Hogbrook Lane, Alkham	827644	
EQUESTRIAN	GREENHILL FARM - DIY and assisted livery - excellent facilities	Megget Lane, South Alkham	01303 892056	
EQUESTRIAN SUPPLIES	Alkham Valley Garden Centre - everything for horse and rider	South Alkham	01303 891996	
PLUMBING & HEATING	Iain Blears plumbing and heating services	Wolverton 822500 or	r 07888 713 896	
SCHOOL	Capel-le-Ferne school Your local primary school; free bus from Alkham	Capel Street, Capel-le-Ferne	01303 251353	

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

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BALLOONS Whilst Linda and Geoff Gaskill were walking the dog at Chalksole they found some balloons in a

field. The balloons had names attached and came from children at a school in Belgium, which was celebrating a friendship day. Linda sent an email to the school and Tom Vandamme, teacher of class 6 at Rekkem replied with the above photograph and said he would translate the email and tell the children. You should be able to see further pictures on their site on www.gbs-rekkem.be FIREWORKS - Whoever was responsible for the enormous fireworks which went off in Alkham on the night of Saturday 18th March, in close proximity to the Equestrian Centre, please at least have the courtesy to forewarn the owners of your intentions if you feel it necessary to repeat the performance. On this occasion not only did the hot residue shower down on the buildings, some of which contain hay and straw, a horse broke out of its stable; this however was guickly caught. Later that night two dogs were also seen running around in the vicinity of the village hall. Please remember fireworks and animals don't mix. (Hogbrook Equestrian Centre)

No. 152 April 2006

GEORGE WILKS (1928-2006)

Saint Anthony's church was packed on the 9th of March for the funeral of George Wilks who died recently. George would have been pleased and amused at the number of people who turned up to say goodbye as he was a modest man but liked and loved by everybody who came into contact with him. To describe him as a nice man seemed to be bland but the dictionary defines the word as good natured, friendly and kind and this was George. A fitting tribute was read at the service by Susannah Tapsell, who really spoke for the village when she said he was always there to help, a thoroughly decent person and a great friend. Ken Hammond and I, whilst walking the dogs, generally came down Slip Lane past Appletree Cottage and we always hoped to see George. If we did we started talking loudly saving that we hoped he wasn't in the garden. He'd then walk over with the usual smirk on his face and accuse us of winding him up. Sometimes he would pretend to hide behind a tree but he always gave as good as he got. It was all good fun and both Ken and I felt the same about his passing; a great loss. George didn't push himself to the front, he was quiet and unassuming but it was all these qualities that brought a church full of people together to genuinely mourn his passing. What better epitaph can you have for a life well lived.

(Brian Wimsett)

Doreen, Mandy and family would like to thank everybody for their kind thoughts and sympathy. Delivered **free** to all properties in the Parish

ST ANTHONY'S EASTER GARDEN & EGG HUNT

Did you know the legend that eggs laid on Good Friday, if kept for a hundred years would have their yolks turn to diamonds? Or that if you found two yolks in your eggs that you were going to be rich soon? We can't promise that any of that will happen but we would like to invite children in the village to help us celebrate Easter at St Anthony's on April 16th. There will be а competition for the best decorated Easter Garden (which you can make on a baking tray), followed by an Easter egg hunt in the churchyard after the 11am service. All children are welcome! If you want to know Easter more about see www.theholidayspot.com/easter (Linda & Geoff Gaskill 823100)

Robin St J Knowles C.B.E., Q.C., M.A., Barrister - Further to the report the editor was kind enough to insert in last month's Newsletter following the news that Robin (elder son of Margaret and Norman Knowles) was to be invested C.B.E. (Commander British Empire) we report as follows: The investiture by the Queen at Buckingham Palace took place on 9th February 2006. Tickets were restricted to three and they were rapidly commandeered by female members of the family. Whilst they departed with their new hats father (grandfather) remained at home in sole charge of a one and a half years old half Chinese granddaughter. The citation for Robin's award took note of his free legal work as chairman of the bar Pro Bono team to help those who are unable to afford proper representation in the higher courts. Additionally he is chairman of Richard House, a large hospice in the east end of London helping children from deprived areas, up to 100 who are life limited and facing a bleak future (see also page 2).

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01303 893351	10% off

Robin St J Knowles C.B.E., Q.C., M.A., Barrister - Robin has been advised in the last few days that on the recommendation of the Lord Chancellor he is to be so appointed by the Queen a Deputy High Court Judge sitting in the Queen's Bench and Chancery Divisions in the High Court in London. It is thought that at age 45 he is probably the youngest to be appointed in recent times (Norman Knowles)

REFUGE - The church should be a place of refuge and recently a traveller used the word in its widest context. When Sue Lees walked past Saint Anthony's she noticed a man standing in the porch to the church and spoke briefly to him. Later it was found that he had spent the night there together with his motorbike but had caused no damage whatsoever.

RECYCLING - Another year of recycling was complete so Kent Community Recycling was asked if they would give us a cheque for the amount that we collected. We have received a cheque for £277.33 in payment for 1.7t of card, 6t of paper, 1/2 t of cans and 1/2 t of plastic. The only cost over the year was £31 for plastic sacks (2.5p each) as the van is generously lent by Billy Hollis. The money has been paid into the Alkham fund, which has a balance of £783.57. We'd love to spend some on the village so if you have any ideas please let us know.

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10 ALKHAM W.I. - Despite members being absent from the March meeting, including the president Susannah Tapsell, those present enjoyed themselves. Susan Lees presided with the assistance of Janet Barrow secretary and Cherry Leppard as stand-in treasurer. Members learnt that unfortunately no seats were available at the Annual Council Meeting, due to the number of people apparently wishing to hear Ann Widdicombe MP speak. However, Pam Sayers' name was drawn out 'of the hat' as the delegate who will be able represent Alkham at the meeting. Various ideas were put forward for spring and annual outings, but dates have yet to be fixed. Cherry still attempting to make is arrangements for a Billy Elliott outing, but due to a high demand the task is proving difficult. The slide show, which explained how garden tubs and containers could ALKHAM CC versus OLD ENGLAND be made from many unusual CC - The fame of the Alkham Cricket the year. There will be demonstration on, and

April. (Susan Lees) The St. John's Ambulance Service of providina the demonstration at the February W.I. lunch situations.

BUS STOP - The authorities are willing to put a path with a pedestrian hard standing adjacent BOOK CLUB - The next book club The cost of the shelter is between Tide £2500 and £3000 and would have shelter being erected.

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FETE MEETING - There will be a Committee Meeting Fete on Wednesday 12th April at 8 p.m. in the Village Hall to make various arrangements for this year's Fete (8thJuly at 2.00pm.). After the rather reduced turnout at the AGM it'd be nice to see as many people as possible. Fresh ideas and new helpers are, as always, most welcome but if you can't make it but would like to be involved in the event please call me and give me speaker, Mrs Bryant provided a your details. (Paul Tapsell 01303 892082)

articles providing a variety of Club has spread far and wide and, delightful floral displays throughout thanks to several good words from a Raye Luckhurst. а cricketina an spectacular has been arranged: opportunity to join in, Country Alkham CC will be playing Old Dancing at the next meeting 11 England CC on the 6th August at the Meadow. Full details of the an apology - Firstly an apology to England team, comprising entirely ex-England players, will be must be given. The Red Cross released nearer the time, as will Society was mistakenly praised for information about the programme excellent for the day, but we shall be having a only), reception (ticket meeting. However, it is hoped that followed by the game, from about 2 the St. John's Ambulance team will p.m., with various entertainments be able to give a more detailed and attractions for all the family demonstration, on another evening throughout the day - clear your diary later in the year, for anyone who now. The whole event is intended to would like to come along and learn raise funds for the Mountbatten how to deal with emergency health Centre and the Club and anyone who wishes to be involved should please get in touch. (Paul Tapsell 01303 892082)

to the east end of Newlyns will meet at Chalksole Cottage Meadow for a new bus shelter. (823100) to discuss The Hundry by Amitav Gosh on Wednesdav 12th April. Looking to be paid for by the Parish ahead, In May we will discuss The Council. The council is therefore Olive Readers by Christine Aziz at going to ask if they are still willing Beech Tree (Rosemary and Martin to provide the path without a Heddle) and In June Archangel by Robert Harris at Mandy Summer's. Both of these meetings will be on the third Wednesday in the month, 7.30pm, as usual. (Linda Gaskill)

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St. Anthony's Church Annual General meeting will be held on Thursday 20th April 7.30pm in the Village Hall, when the Church Wardens and council members will be appointed. This is an open meeting when all parishioners can come along and raise any regarding Church questions activities, although only those on the electoral roll are eligible to vote. Our Mothering Sunday service will be at 3pm on 26th March followed by a cup of tea and a slice of Mothering Sunday cake in the Village Hall. During the service it is hoped that the children will be able to have a little posy of flowers for their mothers. We look forward to seeing you there. Many of you know that our organist, Frank Conley, is following a course in lay ministry at present and is consequently not available to play at our services on a regular basis. The P.C.C. would therefore be so grateful if there is someone in the parish, who could perhaps volunteer to play just two or three hymns at either the 6.30pm [1st Sunday in month] or 11am [3rd Sunday]. Please contact either of the Church Wardens, Richard Tapsell and Grace Stacey.

> **FREDERIC HALL** Solicitors York House, Folkestone 01303 851185 & Clyde House, Dover 01304 202411

THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OZ on BLACKCAPS

is in the village hall on the 3rd April starting at 7.30pm. Please come along and have your say.

extending Council are their Green Waste collection to Alkham but only for 6 houses at Wolverton, 36 on the Alkham Valley Road, 35 in Glebelands, 20 at Newlyns Meadow and 15 houses at South Alkham. It is understood that the green waste is garden waste. It does seem as though DDC has taken the cheapest option with regard to meetina their recycling requirements and I have written to them regarding this point and also asking whether Alkham Recycling was being used as an excuse for not extending the general recycling collection. I said that I would publish the reply so lets hope that it's definitive rather than gobbledegook .

DOVER CHORAL SOCIETY presents an all-Bach concert at 7.30 pm on Saturday 8th April 2006 in Dover Town Hall. Cantata No 80 features massive choruses with soloists delivering the message of Psalm 46. In the 1730s Bach composed Suite No 3 in D for a Leipzig orchestra. The second movement became famous as Air on the G string and was used recently on television to promote a certain cigar. The concert ends with the 1733 Kvrie and Gloria that later became Part 1 of the B Minor Mass. It is sublime and thrilling choral writing, quite impossible to describe, and the only way to experience it is to come along and listen. Soloists are again welcomed from London's Guildhall School of Music, and all will be accompanied by The Connaught Orchestra (leader George Simpson) and conducted by Michael Lewis. Tickets at £9 (students £5) are available from Dover Visitor Information Centre (by the Town Hall), members of Dover Choral Society or by telephoning 01304 822042; and, if there are any left, at the door on the night. For further details of the concert 'phone Ken Palmer on 01304 330511 or Bob Joslin on 01304 363344. (Steve Osborn)

Like most other novice birders I have great difficulty in identifying warblers, and am only really sure GREEN WASTE - Dover District of them when my friend Ted is over from Canada and tells me what they are. It was therefore gratifying, in January's snowstorms, to see so many blackcaps still scraping a living in East Kent. The blackcap (Sylvia atricapilla) is easilv distinguished by its neat black cap. and is known all over Europe by similar names, such as the Dutch 'Zwartkop', French 'Fauvette à tête noire', and Scandinavian 'munk' for 'monk'. (And here I would welcome little help as my German а dictionary translates 'mönchsgrasmücke' as 'monk grass mosquito'. Any offers?). Most European blackcaps migrate to Southern Spain and North Africa for the winter. However an increasing number of birds have been over-wintering in Britain and Ireland, sometimes as far north as Scotland. Part of the reason must be global warming, but it is thought that the increase also results from the adaptability of blackcaps in feeding from winter birdtables and peanut bags. Researchers have now discovered that blackcaps that winter in the north produce more eggs and healthier offspring. This is because both parents are less tired than the southern migrants, and can also beat them to the choicest breeding grounds in Spring. An even more recent line of research suggests that blackcaps are becoming generally hardier in the evolutionary struggle because they have learned to recognise and reject cuckoos' eggs in their nests. Some authorities believe that these changes, particularly with respect migration, are to winter so revolutionarv that two distinct species could eventually evolve. I don't mind, so long as they preserve their beautiful song which Gilbert White memorably described in a 1774 letter to Thomas Pennant as a "full, sweet, deep, loud and wild pipe". (Steve Osborn)

> EASTER TABLE FAIR in the village hall on the 8th of April. Tables cost £5 and if you would like further information please ring 824876. All profits will go to the Air Ambulance.

		Regular events in the village	Alle and work Warne alle
Monday		The Chalksole Homegroup, third Monday of the month. Please phone Linda on 823100 for further details	Alkhamhurst Kennels
Tuesda	у	Art classes in the village hall from 10 am to 1 pm. Ring 07811405124 for further details	Boarding for Dogs, Cats & Small Animals
Wednesd	ay	The Book club meets on the first Wednesday of the month. Please phone Linda on 823100 for further details	Canine Hydrotherapy Pet Food Shop
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Thursda	ıy	Mobile Library in car park by the village hall 9.25am to 9.50 am	Alkham Valley Road
Friday		Whist Drive in the village hall starting at 7.30 pm	· ······
	Oth	er events in the village	
Monday	3	Annual Parish Meeting in the village hall at 7.30pm. Please co	me along and have your say.
Saturday	8	Easter table fair – please see page 3	
Saturday	8 Quiz in aid of the Air Ambulance in the village hall at 7.30pm		
Tuesday	11	W.I. meeting in the village hall at 7.30pm	
Wednesday	12	Fete meeting – please see page 2	
Monday 17 Dover & District Bird Club in the village hall from 7.30pm		Dover & District Bird Club in the village hall from 7.30pm	
Thursday 20 PCC AGM in the village hall starting at 7.30pm			
Thursday	27	Village Hall AGM in the village hall starting at 7.30pm	

CHURCH SERVICES						
Day	Day Alkham Capel Hougham					
Sunday 2nd	Evensong 6.30 p.m.	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping together 11.00 a.m.	Services:		
Tuesday 4th	Healing	g Service, St Radigund, Capel 7.	00 p.m.	Morning Prayer,		
Sunday 9th	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping together 11.00 a.m.	Songs of Praise 6.30pm	Capel: Monday- Friday at 8.30 am		
Tuesday 11th			7.30 pm meditation	(except Bank		
13th Maundy	7.30 pm sung Eucharist			Holidays).		
14th Good Friday		2-3 pm hour before the cross		Evening Prayer,		
Sunday 16th	Sung Eucharist 11.00 a.m.	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Hougham -		
Sunday 23rd	Joint Benefice	Sung Eucharist St Anthony, Alk	ham 10.00 a.m.	Wednesdays at		
Sunday 30th	Joint Benefice Sung Eu	charist St Mary (old church), Ca	apel-le-Ferne 10.00 a.m.	5 pm. Eucharist,		

TELEPHONE NUMBERS	Police – 999 phone & 01303 850055 Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130 Community Warden 07977 981994	Village Hall booking Rosemary Polden 824876 Alkham Valley Society secretary	
Gwyn Prosser M.P . 01304 214484	GP out of hours to access urgent	Joanna Walker 821641	
	medical help 0844 800 1234	W.I. secretary - Janet Barrow 829585	
County Councillor , Bryan Cope 207976 work number 01795532547	Newsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969 e mail <u>brianwimsett@hotmail.com</u>	Church Wardens - Richard Tapsell	
District Councillors	Parish Clerk	822295 and Grace Stacey 822756	
Sue Nicholas 823956 Andrew Richardson 211835	Angela Miller 824791	Alkham web site www.alkham.org	

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SCHOOL	•	Capel Street, Capel-le-Ferne 01303 251353

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No. 153 May 2006

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ALKHAM FETE 8 JULY - Can anyone please help with putting up tents on the morning usually starting around 8.30 and making themselves available again to take down and put away at the end. We did have extra hands last year which made an enormous difference to the core group who always turn out. Would a promise of tea and biscuits help? There are also some stalls that still need helpers so please contact me on 824845 or Paul Tapsell 01303 892082 if you are interested. This summer event has proved very successful over the years but we are always looking for new ideas and fresh enthusiasm. It's an afternoon where villagers, old and new, get together and work hard to help support the village hall and wonderful old St Anthony's. See you there. (Irene Barnard Fete Secretary)

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SUE LEES - In October of last year Sue Lees officially retired as Parish Clerk for Alkham. As she had been doing the job for 23 years it was thought a good idea to put a book of thanks together from people in the Parish. Fifteen plastic folders were distributed around the parish each with a list of names with a request that something nice, funny or rude was written about Sue and that the folder should be passed on to the next person on the list. Sometimes this worked but four folders disappeared without trace (2 replaced) and most of the others took some months to do the circuit. In March all the sheets received were put in a folder with some pages at the front with photos on and given to Sue. In addition the Alkham Fund paid for a couple of gifts, these being CD's containing census information to help Sue with her history projects.

Sue was delighted by the book and would like to thanks all those who took the time to write something. She was also very surprised and thrilled with the two gifts. The attempt was made to cover the entire Parish but some people may not have received a folder so if you would like to add your comments to the book please either contact me (824969) or Sue (822661). (editor)

MOIRA – Moira Hoyle would like to thank everybody for all the fuss they have made over her following her recent illness. Susannah Tapsell has been terrific not to mention her husband Les who is one in a million.

SHORT LANE – The owners of Poems had put boxes with pansies on the wall to the culvert that goes under Short Lane. Some yobs pulled out the pansies and threw them on their drive and then smashed the boxes. Not only is this cowardly and despicable but also criminal damage. Measures are currently being considered (see page 2, middle) and if offenders are recorded the police will bring a prosecution. Delivered **free** to all properties in the Parish

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING Only 6 parishioners turned up for the meeting but there were two excellent speakers, who were Sally Coleman (Neighbourhood Watch) and Yvonne Holder from the Anti-social Behaviour Unit. She spoke to the children playing football by the meadow to get their opinion before the meeting. The speakers gave sound advice some of which is on page 2.

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Ripple Farm Organics is a small horticultural farm of 14 acres situated in the Stour Valley with light, chalky soils producing vegetables of great taste and quality. Their box scheme aims to provide its customers with a seasonal range of fresh, locally grown vegetables, salad and, occasionally fruit. The contents are chosen each week to give a balance of root crops, greens and salad although the weather places certain limitations on choice. A small box costs £6, a medium box £8 and a large box £11 each being packed on a Thursday morning, with all fresh produce picked that day. To make the scheme viable for Alkham at least 10 people would have to sign up, so if you are interested please ring Brian on 824969. More details are on www.ripplefarmorganics.co.uk. (Jo Mowat)

Treat your home to a **Spring/Summer Clean** without lifting a finger - All general cleaning tasks undertaken. References and proof of address given for your peace of mind. Mature student with 3 years management experience in the cleaning industry **Nailbourne Cottage**, Alkham Call Tracey; 07814 354122 Email: debremaeker@btinternet.com

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WHY IS THERE a Rectory and a Vicarage in Alkham? I always wondered why and came across a book which gave the answer. The word Parish comes from parachio, which means households within an area and at first described the territory for which the bishop was responsible. Later, as bishops delegated spiritual care a Parish described a smaller area under the control of a rector who collected the tithe. This was a primitive tax (a bit like council tax) being a tenth of produce from each household, such as wheat which could be stored in the tithe barn. If the rector didn't want to serve the Parish in person, he would arrange a legal substitute, a vice or a vicarious (hence vicar) to whom he gave, usually a small part, of the tithe. The distinction of rector and vicar is still maintained but is somewhat blurred and it appears as though a parson can be taken as either. (editor)

FETE BRIC-A-BRAC STALL Could I ask you all once again to remember this stall when spring cleaning or clearing cupboards due to a move. Any saleable item please with no cracks, chips or rust. We have built quite a reputation over the years and it would be wonderful to give the dealers something to fight over. Peter and Denni Frater, in particular, have been very generous with their donations in the past so any unwanted gifts or prizes would be most welcome. Thank you. (Irene Barnard)

CONGRATULATIONS must be given to Doreen Polden's family for all the effort they put into fund raising for the Air Ambulance Service on Saturday 8th April. £557 was raised between the Table Fair in the morning and the Quiz in the evening. Thanks must be given to all those who supported the events but especially to Keith and Dawn Turner for running such a fun filled quiz; the winning team from Newlyns Meadow continue to crow! **(Sue Lees/Brian)** HANDYVAN - The Help the Aged HandvVan service is a unique home security service, where trained HandyVan fitters visit your home and install equipment such as door chains and viewers, window locks and smoke detectors. A fleet of 35 HandyVans are based around Britain and deliver a free service to those who the following criteria: meet applicants must be over 60 years of age, do not pay income tax (excluding tax on personal pensions) and disposable savings/assets do not exceed £25,000 (not including the value of their home). If you would benefit from the HandyVan service then please call 01255 473 999 (seniorsafety@helptheaged.org.uk) CRIMESTOPPERS The most -

effective way to give information about crime is to contact the police however this is not directly. anonymous. If you wish to remain anonymous then you can report information by calling our 0800 555 In all 111. cases Crimestoppers should not be used to report information of an urgent nature (e.g. reporting a crime that is happening), the police should be contacted directly on 999 in such instances.

IF YOU DON'T REPORT a crime or anti-social behaviour nothing will happen and the police will assume there are no problems in the area so call 01303 850055. If you see a suspicious car parked, lights off which then drives away, make a note of the number (or part). Covert cameras can also be installed by the police.

NOMINATED NEIGHBOUR

If you feel you are vulnerable to people calling, try and get a nominated neighbour. Have a piece of paper to hold up which gives the name and address of the neighbour asking the caller to see them. All the utilities know of this scheme (i.e. British Gas etc).

Alkham Valley Society

The summer outing will be to the Yalding Organic Gardens and Research Centre taking place on the <u>29th June</u>; further details to follow at a later date. It would be most helpful to have an idea of numbers wishing to go on the outing and so if people interested could ring Mrs Jackson on 01304 826202 I would be grateful.

CHALKSOLE

Conservation Group - Those of you who have visited the common recently will have seen a change, hopefully for the better. as compared with twelve months ago. A lot of effort has been expended by a number of people in clearing the site, felling oversize tree branches and improving the pond areas. Also, John Garlinge's band of hedge layers has tidied the perimeter growth, always a good excuse for a bonfire! But, and there is always a but, there is a need for ongoing maintenance particularly now for trying to reduce the number of brambles which can only be done by digging up the root growth. Therefore we are looking for willing volunteers to come and help on Saturday 13 May for a couple of hours or so starting at 9.30am. Please bring with you any suitable tools such as garden forks, secateurs etc. and of course a flask. For more information please contact either Clive Batcheldor (823568)or Mick Wingfield (824841)

Alkham Valley Society

It was big relief to hear from Clive Batcheldor that John Garlinge and his merry men trimmed Pimlico, and in fact that it was they who had already set to and cut it back earlier this year - and we thought it was the farmers...thank you very much. Thanks to Mick Wingfield and the troupe doing same are а marvellous, and we understand, ongoing job on Chalksole Green and the ponds. If both projects have become community projects then that is the best that could happen, since no joy is yet forthcoming from official sources. (Joanna Walker (Sec))

Alkham Valley Society

On the 1st May the society is having a walk starting from Foxgloves, Ellinge at 10.30 am and will be walking some of the paths and bridlewavs that trail riders (motorbikes) have asked to be reclassified, and most likely finishing at a pub. Let's hope the weather is kind to us. New members to the society are always welcome. please call Mrs Jackson on 01304 826202 for details should you wish to join. (Shelley Jackson)

HOUGHAM is holding their Village Fayre on Bank Holiday Monday 29th May starting at midday.

COMMON

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GARDENTALK - A very lively and entertaining evening was enjoyed by all at Maurice and Pam's home last month, with a considerable amount, well some, of horticultural discussion taking place! Our next gathering will be at John and Rosemary's at 16 Heathfield Way Barham on Friday 5th May 7.30pm. **(Susannah for Devina)**

CALLING ALL SINGERS! - Once again local musicians are preparing for the Dover Festival Prom Concert, to be performed at 7.30pm on Friday 7th July in Dover Town Hall. This year's programme features a selection from Gilbert and Sullivan's Yeomen of the Guard, songs by Flanders and Swann. and Mozart's Laudate Dominum, together with the traditional Proms Finale of Jerusalem, Rule Britannia and Land of Hope and Glory. All singers are welcome, but must attend at least 3 of the 4 working rehearsals, the first of which is at 7.30pm on Thursday 8th June in the Methodist Church, Lewisham Road, River. For further details ring Sue or Steve Yarrow on 01304 872812 or Mike Lewis on 01227 831208. (Steve Osborn)

> FREDERIC HALL Solicitors York House, Folkestone 01303 851185 & Clyde House, Dover 01304 202411

RECYCLING – I wrote to DDC about their recycling and this is the edited reply: The green waste recycling scheme collects most garden waste but it does not collect kitchen waste, because there are presently no composting facilities that can treat kitchen waste and produce safe compost. The legislation around the composting of kitchen been waste has tightened following the Foot and Mouth outbreak and this material now needs specific treatment. Alkham Valley has not received the black box scheme due to the rural nature of the area. Initially, the priority for the Council was to collect as much tonnage from as many properties to reduce costs. However, now that the second phase of the Green Waste Recycling Scheme has been successfully introduced to Alkham Valley, the collection of paper, cans and glass in black boxes for recycling is being reviewed. I do expect Alkham to be one of the areas highlighted. However, I hope you can understand that the review will take some time and it may be several months before we have finished delivering boxes to those added to the recycling collection scheme. (Claire Pitts Waste Services Manager)

ALKHAM W.I. - the April Meeting was well attended, which was just as well because the speaker, Mrs Thuxted, expected everyone to join in the Country Dancing. She was extremely patient when dancers turned the wrong way causing chaos and shrieks of laughter. Pam Sayers gave an excellent report on the Annual Council which Meetina at Ann Widdecombe MP had been the guest speaker. Outings – 25th May, a visit to Lathe Barn: and 13th July. venue vet to be decided, to either Cadbury's World of Chocolate or Sheffield Park. Non-members are always welcome. The next meeting is 9th May when the Annual resolutions will be discussed and members can enjoy looking at each other's favourite pieces of jewellery. Ideas are needed for the 2007 programme by 11th May. (Sue Lees)

OZ on NZ - Mark Twain wrote "If it would not look too much like showing off, I would tell the reader where New Zealand is", adding "people think that New Zealand is close to Australia...and that you cross to it on a bridge." Having now been. I know that NZ is actually at the end of a day-long journey seven miles up in a metal tube. Like many young people in the 1960s we considered emigrating to NZ, hesitated because of the mums, got busy and the moment was gone. So this February, with my wife's sister and her husband, we took a 6-berth campervan on a pilgrimage to what might have been. It was a delirious, slightly surrealistic, four weeks, travelling clockwise round South Island from one campsite to another, with red wine and cards instead of television in the evenings. We marvelled at the ever-changing landscape; the vast Canterbury Plains, guirky Otago Peninsula, maiestic Milford Sound and snowcapped Southern Alps. There was а constant exotic rain-forest atmosphere, with cicadas clicking day and night, and albatrosses, penguins, seals and dolphins never far away. Finally we took the ferry to North Island, drove up the middle to Auckland, and enjoyed the hot geysers and Maori displays at Rotorua. Inevitably, fascinating tales are heard on such a holiday. For me, the story that best sums up the spirit of this energetic but compassionate society is that of the 28th Maori Regiment at the Battle of Point 209, a hill in Tunisia, in March 1943. After a day and night of bloody hand-to-hand fighting, Rommel's troops were offered an honourable truce if they surrendered. They declined and rearouped to defend the hill. As the assault recommenced, hundreds of Maoris sprang up and performed the Haka, upon which the enemy waved white flags and surrendered. (Steve Osborn)

SHOWER CUBICLE - I have a plastic three sided shower cubicle with tray, which I have replaced with a more modern one. It is undamaged but needs a good clean. If anyone would like it free please phone me on 824969. (editor) PS – there's also a bath.

		Regular events in the village	
Monday		The Chalksole Homegroup, third Monday of the month. Please phone Linda on 823100 for further details	Alkhamhurst Kennels
Tuesda	У	Art classes in the village hall from 10 am to 1 pm. Ring 07811405124 for further details	Boarding for Dogs, Cats & Small Animals
Wednesd	lay	The Book club meets on the first Wednesday of the month. Please phone Linda on 823100 for further details	Canine Hydrotherapy Pet Food Shop
Wednesd	lay	Keep Fit in the village hall from 9.30 am to 10.30 am – Wednesday Club from 10.30 am to 11.30 am	01304 – 822420
Thursda	ay	Mobile Library stops at the car parks by the village hall from 9.25 am to 9.50 am	Alkham Valley Road
Friday	7	Whist Drive in the village hall starting at 7.30 pm	
	Oth	er events in the village	
Sunday	7	Alkham are playing cricket on Vicarage Meadow in the aftern	oon
Monday	8	Parish Council AGM in the village hall starting at 7.30pm. All	welcome
Tuesday	9	W.I. meeting in the village hall at 7.30pm	
Monday	15	5 Dover & District Bird Club in the village hall from 7.30pm	
Sunday	21	Alkham are playing cricket on Vicarage Meadow in the afternoon	
Saturday	27	Beekeepers in the village hall in the afternoon	

	CHURCH SERVICES					
Day	Alkham	Capel	Hougham	Weekday		
Tuesday 2 nd	Healing Ser	vice St Radigund, Capel-le-Ferr	ne 7.00 p.m.	Services: Morning Prayer,		
Sunday 7 th	Evensong 6.30 p.m.	Sunday 7 th	Evensong 6.30 p.m.	Capel: Monday-		
Sunday 14 th	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Sunday 14 th	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Friday at 8.30 am (except Bank		
Sunday 21st	Worshipping Together 11a.m.	Sunday 21st	Worshipping Together 11a.m.	Holidays).		
Thursday 25 th	Ascension Day, Sung Eucharist 7.30 p.m. St Anthony's Alkham					
Sunday 28 th	Joint Benefice Sun	ng Eucharist, St Radigund, Cape	l-Le-Ferne 10 a.m.	Wednesdays at 5 pm. Fucharist.		

TELEPHONE NUMBERS	Police – 999 phone & 01303 850055 Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130 Community Warden 07977 981994	Village Hall booking Rosemary Polden 824876 Alkham Valley Society secretary
Gwyn Prosser M.P . 01304 214484	GP out of hours to access urgent medical help 0844 800 1234	Joanna Walker 821641 W.I. secretary – Janet Barrow 829585
County Councillor, Bryan Cope 207976 work number 01795532547	Newsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969 e mail <u>brianwimsett@hotmail.com</u>	Church Wardens - Richard Tapsell
District Councillors Sue Nicholas 823956 Andrew Richardson 211835	Parish Clerk Angela Miller 824791	822295 and Grace Stacey 822756 Alkham web site www.alkham.org

	LOCAL BUSINESSES AND SERV	ICES	
ARBORICULTURE	Alkham Valley Tree Surgery: Planning, planting, maintenance removal	Wolverton	824853
BOARDING KENNELS	Kennels and Cattery, Canine Hydrotherapy and Pet Food Shop	Wolverton	822420
BUILDING WORK	E R Woodruff carpentry and joinery, decorating, maintenance	Swanbourne, Wolverton	824991
CAT & DOG GROOMING	Canine beauticians, dogs and cats groomed, Newcastle House	Ewell Minnis	822902
CLEANING SERVICES	John Hoy domestic/commercial carpet and upholstery cleaning	Ewell Minnis	07889310479
CURTAINS & BLINDS	Curtains and blinds made to your specification	Alkham Valley	01303 891806
ELECTRICAL	Simon Price electricians & computer installation, Meggett Farm	South Alkham	01303 252764
ENVIRONMENTAL	J H Ullmann Environmental contractors, Malmains Farm	Alkham 202	2004 or 822888
EQUESTRIAN	HOGBROOK Equestrian Centre Livery yard, instruction, hacking	Hogbrook Lane, Alkham	827644
EQUESTRIAN	GREENHILL FARM – DIY and assisted livery – excellent facilities	Megget Lane, South Alkham	01303 892056
EQUESTRIAN SUPPLIES	Alkham Valley Garden Centre - everything for horse and rider	South Alkham	01303 891996
PLUMBING & HEATING	Iain Blears plumbing and heating services	Wolverton 82250 713 896	0 or 07888

SCHOOL Capel-le-Ferne school Your local primary school; free bus from Capel Street, Capel-le-Ferne Alkham 251353
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SUNFLOWER COMPETITION



Simon Norris has kindly agreed to run the sunflower competition again this year. There are two classes, one for adults and one for children with entries to simoninorris@tis cali.co.uk or leave a message on 01303 891550.

The closing date will be announced and a trophy will be awarded to the winner of each group. It's just for fun so no cheating. Free seeds are available from Brian Wimsett (824969) so please lets have a lot of entries this year (The photo is of Ken Hammond and his sunflowers but Shirley Tapsell's were bigger in 2003).

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No. 154 June 2006

TEST STARS AT ALKHAM Details Ripple Farm Organics - 15 people of Alkham cricket club's match against a team of former England Test stars in the village on August 6 have now been finalised. The Old England XI will be captained by John Lever, of Essex, who first appeared for England in India in 1976. Alkham CC will face a daunting task, for the star line-up former includes Kent Richard Ellison, Nottinghamshire batsman Randall, Derek Warwickshire wicketkeeper Geoff Humpage, Essex spinner Robin Hobbs and Sussex and Kent plus Wells, batsman Alan his brother Colin (Sussex and Derbyshire). The 12 named for the game are completed by Peter Such (Notts, Leics. and Essex), Paul Parker (Sussex), Jon Hardy Hants (Gloucestershire, and Somerset), Joey Benjamin (Warwicks and Surrey) plus Monte Lynch (Gloucestershire and Surrey). The match is in memory of Brian Luckhurst, who was a strong supporter of Alkham CC and who also played for the Old England XI. Alkham is using the match as an opportunity to raise funds for the Mountbatten Cancer Centre at Canterbury Hospital, where the Kent favourite received former treatment (cont'd on page 2) SECURITY - There was some discussion at the Parish Council meeting about installing a closed circuit television system in the village. The general opinion was

that CCTV was not particularly effective in dealing with vandalism as the vandals could hide their features or cause problems elsewhere. The Parish Council said that they would ask the police if some of their video surveillance equipment could be borrowed. The camera in this equipment is very small and can be hidden such that vandals are unaware of being videoed. Various locations were discussed but for obvious reasons these will not be made public until after any perpetrators are caught and prosecuted.

Delivered free to all properties in the Parish

have said they would like to have a box of vegetables from the farm and the first delivery is on June 1st. The boxes will be left at the Old Post Office, which people can access via keys from various locations. Payment for the first box is required straight away and all contact is via the farm on 01227 730898. There has been a £1.00 price favourite increase per box (first for 6 years).



Stallholders' Meeting for the Fete is on Thursday 1st June at 8 pm in the Village Hall. Would anyone who is or would like to be helping with this vear's Fete (8th July) please come along so that we can distribute jobs. raffle tickets, etc and make sure that everything that needs to be done is in hand. No experience is necessary and it would be great to see some new faces to help the rest of us old timers! If you can't make it to the meeting please give me a ring on 01303 892082 so that I can count you in! (Paul Tapsell)

PLANT STALL -Plants are needed for the plant stall at this year's fete (8^{th} July). If you have any that you would like to donate please take them to either Geoff Gaskill at Chalksole Cottage or Rosemary Heddle at 8 Newlyns Meadow. If you have any books for the book stall please phone Sue Lees on 822661.

Treat your home to a spring/summer **Clean** without lifting a finger - All general cleaning tasks undertaken. References and proof of

address given for your peace of mind. Mature student with 3 years management experience in the cleaning industry Nailbourne Cottage, Alkham Call Tracey; 07814 354122

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Cricket cont'd from page 1 - Alkham's Ian Callaway, who has been handling arrangements for the game with former wicketkeeper Jim England Parks, who organises the Old England team, said: "This is a tremendous honour for Alkham because Old England only play a handful of games each season - and not usually against a tiny club like ours which just plays friendlies. We can hardly believe that we'll be hosting such a distinguished team of former county and England players at our quaint little pitch this summer! The match is a wonderful way for the village and local people to remember and honour Brian Luckhurst, who was not just a great ambassador for the game but also an invaluable friend to our club. We also owe a big debt to Brian's widow, Raye - for it was through her friends in the Old England set-up that it has been possible to organise this match. Alkham CC hopes the people of East Kent will support it by buying raffle tickets and a special commemorative programme - as well as turning up on August 6 to see the former England stars in action. Alkham CC is now searching for a sponsor for the match, advertisers for the programme and for prizes for the raffle. For further information, contact Paul Tapsell on 01303 892082 (Peter Frater) HARDSTANDING - The local authority say that they do not have enough money to install a path between the village hall and Newlyns Meadow. This includes the bus hard standing. The Parish Council said that it was the Highway Authority who put forward the idea at their recent display in the village hall and they will write to them.



DUFFY is no more. As Ken said, he had been preparing himself for the worst but it still came as a shock when it happened. You may have seen Derek Banks Nash walking around in his duffle coat which was of unknown age but at least 50 years old. He wrote to me on the 27 April to say that Duffy had passed away and is now in the great wardrobe in the sky and that the cremation was held in the previous week. Derek said that he would have preferred a burial but Marion said that they would not have been able to sell the house when it came to it. The hedge layers, who had become attached to the coat, sent a card to Derek expressing their deepest sympathy. Deepest sympathy also goes to Marion as I have seen the replacement jacket. (editor)

Ode to a Lost Friend

There comes a time in every man's life When he has to accept things must go! In Derek's case it's not his wife But the black duffle coat. Oh no!

He's worn this and loved it for many a year But now it's gone he's shed a few tears. But alas this coat was old and thin The wind whistled through and shamed his kin.

His hedge laying chums can no longer smile As now he'll have something to beguile. We'll welcome him back with his new coat of gold

But hopefully this time it won't be so old.

(John and Sue Garlinge)

PADDOCK TO LET – The paddock is approximately one and a quarter acres and situated in South Alkham. Reseeded two years ago; Hay / Straw storage available. Double Stable block can be made available if required. Rental negotiable depending on requirements, please contact 01303 891550.

BUSES – From April 1st people over 60 can have free off-peak travel anywhere in the county. This also applies to disabled people who are blind or partially sighted, profoundly or severely deaf, without speech, have severe walking difficulites, don't have use of both arms, have a learning disability or are medically unfit to drive. DDC can tell you how to apply and if you need to give medical evidence before they issue a travel pass.

APOLOGIES for the mess I made of the church services last month. It was a new copy and paste system with the services emailed in the correct format. (editor) OIL PAINTING Usina money presented to Sue Lees by the Parish Council for her 23 years service as Parish Clerk an oil painting of the village, specifically to include Sue's house, was commissioned to be painted by Margaret Knowles. It really is a lovely picture and in addition Margaret has donated the generous amount of money she received to St. Anthony's church.

ALKHAM VALLEY SOCIETY

The annual outing of the Alkham Valley Society is on Thursday 29th June, see last newsletter. Once again we will be using cars for this excursion, to the Henry Doubleday Research Organisation Organic Gardens at Yalding near Maidstone (exit 7 off M20); we will meet in the Alkham Village Hall Car Park at 10.30 a.m. where lifts ca 10 arranged. The Yalding Organic Gardens are set in a particularly lovely part of Kent, and the Association is known for its Heritage Seed Library which conserves 1000 varieties of old and unusual vegetables, some of which can be seen at Yalding. There should be something of interest for all. Yalding itself is an attractive village and we have planned to lunch at about 12 noon at The Walnut Tree, concessional prices of about £5.00 a head, before travelling a short distance to the Gardens. Here there are 18 themed gardens, among them apothecary's garden. an Victorian Artisan's Glasshouse a Low Water Garden, a Child 's Garden etc - delights too numerous to mention and there is also a café, a small shop and plant sales. We aim to have a speaker to tell us something of the background of the Organic Gardens. The gardens close at 5 p.m. but we hope this will have given us a good idea of what the Gardens offer. It would be nice not to have to have umbrellas but you never know. We have a menu with various choices of lunch dishes from The Walnut, and it would speed things up if we could tell the kitchen in advance. Please ring the AVS secretary for more information and to let us know approximate numbers interested. (Joanna Walker 821641)

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W.I. - The May meeting is always one of the more serious ones, because the National Federation requests that all members discuss two Resolutions, which are usually presented to the Government later in the year. On this occasion members had great difficulty in finding any reason to oppose the Resolutions; one of which requests that schools encourage pupils to take part in keep-fit and other sporting activities; and the second that everything must be done to encourage environmentally friendly energy saving procedures. An afternoon tea at Lathe Barn was arranged for 25th May but the outing to Cadbury's World has been changed. Although a date has yet to be fixed a visit to Sheffield Park, ved by a ride on the Blue Bell Railway wir take place in July. The evening was rounded off with an attractive display of jewellery. (Sue Lees)

Baking Poverty History - Eileen West has ordered cream from Cornwall in order to run a genuine 'Cream tea afternoon' at St. Mary's Church Hall Dover Saturday 3rd June 2.30-4.30pm. Everyone is welcome to call in. The proceeds will go towards the Christian Aid funds.

> **FREDERIC** HALL Solicitors York House, Folkestone 01303 851185 & Clyde House, Dover 01304 202411



Born

ST ANTHONY then known, late 5th Century.

Anthony was the nephew of Visigoth king Theodoric of neighbouring was an exceptionally gifted prodigy, Toulouse. Antoninus, to give him his Latin name. forsook his noble connections for the church. He was ordained priest by the Pope in Rome and then set about evangelising the Christian faith in Southern France and northern Spain and performing several miracles during his ministry. However, his profession of Catholicism put him returning to England in 1773, the 17into conflict with the Visigoths who martyred him by beheading on the banks of the Ariege river in 506. An abbey was founded in his name at next five years over twenty violin Pamiers in about 960, and a town on the Aveyron river. St Antonin de Nobleval, is named after him, marking August 1778 Linley, aged 22, died the miraculous appearance of his severed head and arm at the house of Festus, a influential nobleman converted by Anthony during his travels. The link with Alkham remains to be discovered. Perhaps there is a lived another 13 busy years, and it is link with St Radigund after whom the interesting to speculate on what might local abbey is named and some relics have happened to music if Linley had of whom were found near Pamiers in lived longer. Roger Fiske, writing in 1672. Or perhaps there was a special 1986, thought Linley spring near our church. St Anthony performed a miracle of creating a spring by banging his staff on the ground, the waters from which had healing powers. Quite useful to have Perhaps Mozart should have the last somebody like St Anthony around word. He told the Irish tenor Michael during times of drought and hosepipe Kelly that bans! Other suggestions and insights into the connection with Alkham are welcome. To celebrate the 1,500 year anniversary of his martyrdom, we will be marking his Saint's day, 2nd September. with a series of events such as a special church service and blessing. We hope that as many as possible will come and reinstate part of our village heritage. More details to come. (The Alkham Church Committee) CYCLE RIDE - Ken Hammond and I are going to do the London to Southend bike ride (about 60 miles) on the 9th July in aid of The British Heart Foundation. If was had by all. Hilary and John anyone would like to sponsor us please (Meggett Lane), have kindly agreed to give me a ring on 824969. (Brian Wimsett)

ANTHONY'S OZ on LINLEY - This year DAY , Saturday 2nd sees the 250th birthdays of both Mozart September. There are and the English composer Thomas several Saint Anthony's Linley the Younger, whose life and in religious history, but talents paralleled those of Mozart to the Alkham one is St such an extent that he was nicknamed Anthony of Pamiers, a in his own time 'the English Mozart'. town in SW France. Linley was born, the third child of in Pamiers, or composer Thomas Linley and his wife Fredalcum as it was Mary, at Abbey Green, Bath, on 7th in the May 1756, some three months after Mozart. The whole Linley family was the talented musically, but young Thomas like Mozart a renowned violinist in childhood. After touring the British Isles with his father and three sopranosinging sisters, he travelled to Italy at the age of 12 to study composition and violin with Nardini. He finally met Mozart at Florence, and the two young men instantly became firm friends. On year old Linley was appointed leader of Drury Lane Theatre orchestra and began to compose, writing during the concertos, two operas, three oratorios and countless songs and madrigals. In suddenly in a boating accident at Grimsthorpe Castle, a tragedy that shocked his hosts, the Duke and Duchess of Ancaster, the Royal Family, and his loyal public. Mozart "our most promising composer between Purcell and Elgar...his accidental death when only twenty-two changed for the worse the whole history of British music." "Linlev was a true genius...had he lived, he would have been one of the greatest ornaments of the musical world." (Steve Osborn)

GARDEN TALK - A big thank you to Rosemary and John who kindly invited us all to see their new house in Barham. After a tour and drinks in their new garden, we eventually settled down to a quiz which culminated in a tiebreaker question !! Pulses raced, the heat was on, but eventually the best team prevailed and with three members fighting over who would plant the winning gourd seeds, a brilliant time let us rampage through garden on 2nd June at 7.30pm. See you there! (Devina 827548)

	Yata	Regular events in the village			
		The Chalksole Homegroup, third Monday of the month. Please phone Linda on 823100 for further details	Alkhamhurst Kennels		
		Art classes in the village hall from 10 am to 1 pm. Ring 07811405124 for further details	Boarding for Dogs, Cats		
vvennesnav		The Book club meets on the first Wednesday of the month. Please phone Linda on 823100 for further details	& Small Animals Canine Hydrotherapy		
		Keep Fit in the village hall from 9.30 am to 10.30 am – Wednesday Club from 10.30 am to 11.30 am	Pet Food Shop		
Thursday		Mobile Library stops at the car parks by the village hall from 9.25 am to 9.50 am	01304 – 822420		
Friday		Whist Drive in the village hall starting at 7.30 pm	Alkham Valley Road		
Testilling for	Ot	her events in the village			
Thursday	ay 1 Fete meeting in the village hall at 8.00pm – please see page 1				
Saturday	3	Bingo in the village hall starting at 7.30pm			
Thursday	8	Alkham Cricket Club are playing June Court Cavaliers at 6.00 pm on Vicarage Meadow			
Tuesday	13	W.I. meeting in the village hall starting at 7.30 pm			
Monday	19	Dover & District Bird Club in the village hall from 7.30pm			

CHURCH SERVICES				
Day	Alkham Capel		Hougham	Weekday Services:
Sunday 4th	Evensong 6.30 p.m.	Morning Prayer, Capel: Monday-		
Tuesday 6th	Healin	Friday at 8.30 am (except Bank		
Sunday 11th	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping Together 11a.m	Songs of Praise Village Hall 6.30p.m.	Holidays). Evening Prayer, Hougham – Wednesdays at
Sunday 18th	Worshipping Together 11a.m. Evensong 6.30 p.m. Sung Eucharist 9.3		Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	5 pm. Eucharist,
Sunday 25th	Joint Benefice Sung Eucharist, St Lawrence, Hougham 10 a.m. at 9.15 am			

TELEPHONE NUMBERS	Police – 999 phone & 01303 850055 Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130 Community Warden 07977 981994	Village Hall booking Rosemary Polden 824876 Alkham Valley Society secretary
Gwyn Prosser M.P. 01304 214484	GP out of hours to access urgent medical help 0844 800 1234	Joanna Walker 821641 W.I. secretary – Janet Barrow 829585
County Councillor, Bryan Cope 207976 work number 01795532547	Newsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969 e mail brianwimsett@hotmail.com	Church Wardens - Richard Tapsell
District Councillors Sue Nicholas 823956	Parish Clerk	822295 and Grace Stacey 822756
Andrew Richardson 211835	Angela Miller 824791	Alkham web site www.alkham.org

LOCAL	BUSINESSES AND SERVICES	(no prefix local number)
ARBORICULTURE	Alkham Valley Tree Surgery: Planning, planting, maintenance removal	Wolverton 824853
BOARDING KENNELS	Kennels and Cattery, Canine Hydrotherapy and Pet Food Shop	Wolverton 822420
BUILDING WORK	E R Woodruff carpentry and joinery, decorating, maintenance	Swanbourne, Wolverton 824991
CAT & DOG GROOMING	Canine beauticians, dogs and cats groomed, Newcastle House	Ewell Minnis 822902
CLEANING SERVICES	John Hoy domestic/commercial carpet and upholstery cleaning	Ewell Minnis 07889310479
CURTAINS & BLINDS	Curtains and blinds made to your specification	Alkham Valley 01303 891806
ELECTRICAL	Simon Price electricians & computer installation, Meggett Farm	South Alkham 01303 252764
ELECTRICAL	RS Electrical: Part P Domestic Electrical Installer	Kingsdown 367310 and 07896 584402
ENVIRONMENTAL	J H Ullmann Environmental contractors, Malmains Farm	Alkham 202004 or 822888
EQUESTRIAN	HOGBROOK Equestrian Centre Livery yard, instruction, hacking	Hogbrook Lane, Alkham 827644
EQUESTRIAN	GREENHILL FARM - DIY and assisted livery - excellent facilities	Megget Lane, South Alkham 01303 892056
EQUESTRIAN SUPPLIES	Alkham Valley Garden Centre - everything for horse and rider	South Alkham 01303 891996
PLUMBING & HEATING	Iain Blears plumbing and heating services	Wolverton 822500 or 07888 713 896
SCHOOL	Capel-le-Ferne school Your local primary school; free bus from Alkham	Capel Street, Capel-le-Ferne 01303 251353

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

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THE PICTURE above was taken at the Alkham village fete a couple of years ago. It is a traditional fete, which attracts a lot of people from outside the village and provides funds for the fabric of the village. Please do come along on the day and join in the fun and if possible help with the organisation and running of the fete (see centre article). I think Alkham is a great place to live with all the activities associated with a small village taking place and the highlight of the year is the fete, so many thanks to Paul for all his hard work. (editor)

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No. 155 July 2006

these messages in to Newsletter and judging by the Alkham to help put the tents up on the day 9 am and we'll find something you not continue. (editor) can do regardless of age, ability or infirmity (or all three). We also need people to help on a few or the stalls and for the children's races, so if haven't already you been approached to help for some of the afternoon please let me know and I'll sort something out! We must more have some car park attendants to assist the regular team for some of the time so that they can have some opportunity to look around the rest of the Fete and spend their money too! We could use some raffle prizes and various stalls will be needing items for sale on the day. Help clearing the meadow after will also be appreciated. I'm not asking for a huge commitment; if a couple of dozen 'extra' people gave an hour or so towards the event (after all it is the major Village social 'do' of the year) it really would make a huge difference and I guarantee you'll enjoy yourself. Please don't think "Oh, it's okay, someone else will do it", because they're thinking the same thing, however I bet if they see you joining in they'll be more likely to help out too. If you're new to the village and shy or worried about coming forward on the day, give me a call on 01303 892082 and I'll find someone who can show you the ropes. If you think your husband, wife, partner or parent could probably do something give me a call and I'll approach them (I won't even tell them you dobbed them in to me!). Please join in - it won't be a village fete without you! (Paul Tapsell)

Delivered free to all properties in the Parish

VILLAGE FETE - I try to keep ORGANIC VEGETABLES

upbeat despite the lack of response It was a great idea by Jo Mowat to set the up an organic vegetable delivery to from Ripple Farm. number of people who come to the Unfortunately, for some people, the Fete it seems that you enjoy it, so vegetables did not come up to why aren't rather more of you expectations and as there are only a prepared to come forward and few people who wish to continue, volunteer to help? We need people Ripple have said that it is not economic to deliver the boxes to (8th July) - meet on the meadow at Alkham and therefore the scheme will

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accessories for both Cats and Dogs.



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CHRISTIAN AID -The sum of from £315.95 was raised the collections during Christian Aid Week. Alkham P.C.C. would like to thank all those who contributed and not forgetting of course the collectors. (Margaret Batcheldor) **RECYCLING** – Ken and I are quite happy to do the recycling for nothing but it is a bit frustrating when some people still get things wrong. All items, except for cans, must be separate otherwise we have to sort them. Only plastic bottles which contained drink can be recycled and crisp packets etc is not foil. (editor)

WATCH OUT - WATCH OUT there is a heron about searching ponds and taking the goldfish to feed its young. He or she flies in very quietly early in the morning and late at night - so take care of your fish. (Sue Lees)

Treat your home to a **spring/summer Clean without lifting a finger** - All general cleaning tasks undertaken. References and proof of address given for your peace of mind. Mature student with 3 years management experience in the cleaning industry Nailbourne Cottage, Alkham Call Tracey; 07814 354122 Email: debremaeker@btinternet.com

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Alkham Valley Garden Centre	For all your gardening needs Tuesdays over 60 Club
Phone 01303 893351	10% off

ALKHAM WAR MEMORIAL - if you are interested in the men who lived in Alkham and died fighting for their country, information can now be accessed through:

www.rollofhonour.com/Kent/Alkham.html

However, little is known about JOSEPH MOUNT who died 11 Oct 1918 age 23 and is buried at Alkham. What is strange is that the only likely death registration index was at Salford, near Manchester, maybe in one of the Military Hospitals in that area. The mystery remains as to why he was not listed by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. Also, if he died at Salford it must have been guite an expensive procedure to bring him back to Alkham for burial. I wonder who paid for that? What seems certain is that the Alkham community regarded his demise as being a result of his war service, because his name has been put forward, and accepted for inclusion on the memorial. The MOUNT family lived at Ewell Minnis throughout the 19th & early 20th centuries working on local farms. They married into well known local families. Should someone read this article and has any information at all on JOSEPH or the MOUNT family do please contact me. (Susan Lees)

LIBRARY BUS – You may already know that a Library Bus visits the village every Thursday and waits on the car park by the village hall from about 9.25am to 9.50am. I don't use it but as it was very early one morning I went inside to find if the times had been changed. They hadn't but I was very impressed with the way that the new bus has been fitted out and there appeared to be a very good range of books and other items. A few people visit the bus but its future would be assured if more people used the service.



MAGGOT FARM - today's Meggett Farm. Alan Long, who lives in Dublin, recently found that his great grandfather lived in Alkham, so he contacted Brian through the Alkham website and Brian contacted Susan Lees' who soon discovered:- George Gates farmed Maggot Farm in 1851 and his niece Mary Ann kept house for him. James Tomsett, one of the living-in farm hands married Mary Ann in 1852 and they had two children Anne and George; they in turn married in Alkham and continued in the farming tradition. Although George had his children baptised at Alkham Edward 1889, George 1891 and Frederick 1892 they had moved out of Maggot Farm by 1891. It was George jnr. who ended up in Ireland, but why and when remains unknown at present. (Sue Lees)

KENT VOLUNTEER AWARDS If you would like to nominate an individual or a group of people for 2006 Kent Volunteers Award then please give me a ring on 824969 and I can let you have a form. The awards are for the arts. environment. welfare and disability, community support and development, voluntary work in education and schools, counselling and advice, sport and sport support and for mentoring. All people nominated will receive a certificate and there will be three winners in each group who will be informed in October with an awards ceremony at the Ramada Hotel, Hollingbourne on Sunday the 25th of November.

HEART FOUNDATION - The Essex Castle bike ride went well raising about £150 for the British Heart Foundation. It was a 70 mile course through a lovely part of Essex and although described as flat, it was not. We all found the ride easier this year but there was a nagging worry as we had left the only cycle pump in the car. Luckily we got round without any punctures and completed the course in about 41/2 hours. allowing for a couple of stops. The three of us are going to do the London to Southend bike ride in aid of the BHF so if you'd like to sponsor us please give me a ring on 824969. (editor)

OLD ENGLAND CRICKET (Tickets for the Reception) -Preparations for the Old England cricket match (Sunday 6th August, starting at 2 p.m.) are coming along nicely; raffle posters tickets and are available for distribution so please call me and I'll deliver whatever you need. Tickets for the Grand Reception are now available, places are very limited but there are 50 tickets (£15 each) for sale to villagers and the public and in order to be fair we shall be conducting a lottery for those tickets, please let me have your details (name and telephone number) for entry into the draw by the 14th July. Entries will be screened but you will get a chance to mingle and lunch with England cricketers (as well as the Alkham players!). The programme is for the Reception to be from 12 noon, the game will start at 2 pm., the tea interval will be from 4.30 to 5 pm. and the game will finish by about 7.00 p.m. (if not before!) when the Raffle will be drawn. Shepherd Neame will be providing a beer tent and there will also be refreshments, ice creams, a hog roast, cakes, etc available. As you will appreciate space is somewhat limited so it's probably best to get there early to secure a good vantage point! We are looking for a large number of helpers, marshals and stewards on the day, so please call me if you are able to volunteer; we have arranged a rota so that no one will be tied up for too long. We also would welcome offers of ball sponsorship (£25 with а mention in the programme) and raffle prizes. The aim of the event is to raise as much as possible for the Mountbatten Centre in honour of Brian Luckhurst so please call me and put your name down for a short stint (who knows it may even improve your chances of a ticket for getting the reception!). Please call me on 01303 892082 if you have any questions. (Paul Tapsell)

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GARDEN TALK - Our thanks go to Hilary and John for this months meeting. The garden was much admired and the hot nibbles were appreciated on what was quite a chilly evening. The quiz was followed by the writing of a funny garden limerick. Needless to say, some were amusing and some were S0000 naughty! The author of one shall remain nameless, but let's just say that cucumbers were mentioned but not in the context of a healthy salad!! Next meeting will be hosted by Derek and Marion at The Hermitage, from 7.30 pm. (Devina Bartlett)

PC Foster who is the local police officer urges people to tell him when there are problems in the village. You can phone him on 218130 or on 01303 240055 if he is needed quickly.

> FREDERIC HALL Solicitors York House, Folkestone 01303 851185 & Clyde House, Dover 01304 202411

IT'S A MONK'S LIFE!

Ever wondered what life was like as a 6th century monk? Well, you have a chance to find ioin out when you in our celebrations for St Anthonv's Feast Day Sunday on 3rd September. Events will start with a guided Monks' Walk from St Radigunds Abbey to Alkham following the ancient Priests' track. You will hear about the history of the Abbey and its inhabitants, the Premonstratensiens, who are believed to have dedicated Alkham church to St Anthony of Pamiers. This will lead into a special Saint's Day service in the church. followed а bv Monks' Lunch in the Village Hall. We promise more than gruel; perhaps even some Abbot's Ale. is hoped as It many as possible will join in all or part of the day's events.

(The Alkham Church Committee)

ALKHAM VALLEY SOCIETY -Last October the Alkham Valley Society was asked to support a protest against the development of a new building on a green field site in Temple Ewell, adjacent to a listed garden by a well-known Edwardian architect and garden designer. The Alkham Valley Society joined in supporting the residents who would be affected by such development, and the CPRE. The planning request was turned down. A few weeks ago planning permission was again from Dover District sought Council. We joined forces in again supporting the protest, and again DDC turned down the planning application. We will see what happens next, but it is useful for the Alkham Valley Society members to know there are successes. We are proposing a visit by the Society to this garden at some time. (J Walker. Sec AVS)

OZ on SUMMER

As I write, our footballers have won their opening game in this year's World Cup, a drought has been declared. and the temperature is soaring into the Fahrenheit eighties. It is in fact the start of an English dream summer, which I hope will be carrying on as you read, and raises memories of two impressive events. The first was forty years ago, on 30 July 1966 at Wembley, when, in front of a crowd numbering some 95,000, England beat West Germany 4-2 after extra time to win the World Cup. That was the last final to use a plain oldfashioned ball, as from 1970 onwards the World Cup used the Adidas "Telstar ball", with black pentagons on white to aid visibility on black and white television screens. The second memoryjogger, from thirty years ago, was the Great Drought of 1976, which actually started in October 1975. For nearly a year the rainfall measured at Kew was only 43% of the average, with no spring rainfall at all over much of southern England. The drought worsened with intense sunshine in May 1976 when temperatures in Kent rose to 84°F, followed by a heatwave giving temperatures of over 90°F every day during the last week in June and the first week in July. At the time. I worked in a drawing office, and in the afternoons we dusted our hands and forearms with French chalk to prevent them sticking to the drawings. One the of consequences of the prolonged heat was a plague of ladybirds that only finished when millions of the creatures died from starvation underfoot. or being crushed Finally Denis Howell became "Minister for Drought". Within days of his appointment the drought ended with a colossal downpour on August Bank Holiday, of course. (Steve Osborn)

		Regular events in the village					
Monda	y	The Chalksole Homegroup, third Monday of the month. Please phone Linda on 823100 for further details	Alkhamhurst Kennels				
Tuesda	Tuesday Art classes in the village hall from 10 am to 1 pm. Ring 07811405124 for further details		Boarding for Dogs, Cats & Small Animals				
WednesdayThe Book club meets on the first Wednesday of the month.Please phone Linda on 823100 for further details		-	Canine Hydrotherapy Pet Food Shop				
Wednesday Keep Fit in the village hall from 9.30 am to 10.30 am –		01304 – 822420					
Thursda	ıy	Mobile Library stops at the car parks by the village hall from 9.25 am to 9.50 am	Alkham Valley Road				
Friday		Whist Drive in the village hall starting at 7.30 pm					
	Oth	er events in the village					
Monday	3	Parish Council meeting in the village hall at 7.30pm, everybody welcome to attend.					
Saturday	8	Alkham fete – see page 1					
Tuesday	11	W.I. meeting in the village hall starting at 7.30 pm					
Sunday	16	Alkham Cricket Club are playing Bossingham at 2.30 pm on Vicarage Meadow					
Monday	17	Village Hall committee meeting in the village hall at 7.30pm					
Sunday	23	Alkham Cricket Club are playing Wickham and Stod. at 2.00	om on Vicarage Meadow				

CHURCH SERVICES					
Day	Alkham		Capel	Hougham	Weekday
Sunday 2nd	Evensong 6.30pm		Sung Eucharist 9.30pm	Worshipping together 11 a.m.	Services:
Tuesday 4th			Healing service 7 pm.		Morning prayer at Capel: Monday
Sunday 9th	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a	ı.m.	Worshipping together 11 a.m.	No service	– Friday 8.30am
Sunday 16th	Worshipping together 11	a.m.	Evensong 6.30 p.m	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	(except Bank
Sunday 23rd	Joint I	Benefic	e Sung Eucharist St Anthony, A	lkham 10am.	holidays): Eucharist at
Sunday 30th Joint Benefice St		fice Su	ing Eucharist St. Mary (old chur	ch), Capel 10 am.	Capel Thursday
TELEPHONE NUMBERS		Neigh	e – 999 phone & 01303 85005 bourhood Watch 218151/21813 munity Warden 07977 981994	0 Rosemary Polden 82487	
$\mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{W}\mathbf{V}\mathbf{P}} \mathbf{P}_{\mathbf{rossor}} \mathbf{M} \mathbf{P} = 01304.214484 $		GP o	out of hours to access urgent	Joanna Walker 821641	•
County Councillor, Bryan Cope New		News	medical help 0844 800 1234W.I. secretary – JanetNewsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969Church Wardens - Rie mail brianwimsett@hotmail.comChurch Wardens - Ri		
District Councillors Sue Nicholas 823956 Andrew Richardson 211835		Paris	sh Clerk	822295 and Grace Stace	•
		Ange	ela Miller 824791	Alkham web site <u>www</u>	.alkham.org

Sue Nicholas 823956		Angela Miller 824791 Alkhar				
Andrew Richardson 211835				n web site	www.alkha	am.org
LOCAL BUSINESSES AND SERVICES				(no pref	ix local num	nber)
ARBORICULTURE	Alkham Valley removal	Alkham Valley Tree Surgery: Planning, planting, maintenance removal				824853
BOARDING KENNELS	Kennels and Ca	ttery, Canine Hydrotherapy and Pet Food Sl	юр	Wolverton		822420
BUILDING WORK	E R Woodruff	carpentry and joinery, decorating, maintenand	ce	Swanbourne	, Wolverton	824991
CAT & DOG GROOMING	Canine beautic	ians, dogs and cats groomed, Newcastle Hou	se	Ewell Minnis	s	822902
CLEANING SERVICES	John Hoy dome	John Hoy domestic/commercial carpet and upholstery cleaning Ex				07889310479
CURTAINS & BLINDS	Curtains and b	Curtains and blinds made to your specification				01303 891806
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ELECTRICAL	RS Electrical: 1	RS Electrical: Part P Domestic Electrical Installer			367310 and	07896 584402
ENVIRONMENTAL	J H Ullmann Er	J H Ullmann Environmental contractors, Malmains Farm			2020	004 or 822888
EQUESTRIAN	HOGBROOK I	HOGBROOK Equestrian Centre Livery yard, instruction, hacking			ane, Alkham	827644
EQUESTRIAN	GREENHILL	GREENHILL FARM - DIY and assisted livery - excellent facilities			South Alkham	01303 892056
EQUESTRIAN SUPPLIES	Alkham Valley	Alkham Valley Garden Centre – everything for horse and rider			1	01303 891996
PLUMBING & HEATING	Tain Blears plumbing and heating services			Wolverton 713 896	822500	or 07888
SCHOOL	Capel-le-Ferne Alkham	school Your local primary school; free bus fr	om	Capel Street, 251353	, Capel-le-Ferr	ne 01303

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THIS YEAR'S FETE was amazing with a terrific atmosphere and many hundreds of people on Vicarage Meadow enjoying the side shows and warm summer sun. Alkham fete always attracts a lot of people but this year there seemed to be more than usual. The weather certainly helped but the setting is superb with a large open space surrounded by a conservation area and rolling hills in the background. Paul will report on the amount of money taken but all the stalls appeared very busy and there was a constant queue at the tea tent. It was nice to see a lot people turn out to put the tents up and a special thanks goes to Darren Mowat for the use of his ubiquitous van that brought the tents, tables, books and just about everything else that didn't move. He also gave a vote of thanks at the end to Paul Tapsell for all the work he had done, which raised a loud and well deserved cheer. (editor)

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biggest day in its 167-year history, when it hosts a team of former England Test players at The Meadow on Sunday August 6. The charity match, in honour of Brian Luckhurst, starts at 2pm and the club is hoping local residents will turn out to support the village team against the Old England XI - and hopefully assist with some of the many tasks which need to be done to make the big event a huge success. Anyone who is able to help should call Paul Tapsell as soon as possible on 01303 892082, as he needs volunteers to take a short shift during the afternoon assisting at the bouncy castle, ice cream stall and car parking. As with the Fete, a lot of the pleasure is in the taking part, rather than just being a spectator, and it would be super to raise as much as possible for the Mountbatten cancer care centre in Canterbury. The Old England XI report that with just a couple of weeks to go the squad are all fit and looking forward to their visit to Alkham. Captained by John Lever, the team will include former stars such as Derek Randall, Richard Ellison, Alan and Colin Wells plus Geoff Humpage. Alkham CC's squad for the game is: Ian Callaway, Matthew Gerrard. Dennis Barnard. Peter Frater, Nick Price, Tom Bird, Mark Naris, Gerry Aldridge, Paul Simpson, Paul Hatton, Mark Johnson, Ed Haste and Rob Warr. Paul Tapsell has stepped down for the day to take charge of the event organisation, as there is so much to do on the day. Entry to the game is free - and spectators are advised to bring a picnic blanket and/or folding chairs. Car parking is £1 and a programme costs £3. Shepherd Neame are providing a beer tent and the WI are organising teas in the village hall. Please get involved and help the make it a big success for the village even if the odds are rather stacked against the village team on the pitch! (Peter Frater)

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ALKHAM CRICKET CLUB is making the final preparations for the biggest day in its 167-year history, when it hosts a team of former England Test players at The Meadow on Sunday August 6. The charity match, in honour of Brian Luckhurst, starts at 2pm and the club is hoping local residents will turn out to support the village team against the Old England XI - and hopefully assist with

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GOODBYE - Andrew, Paula, Jack and Matthew Bryant, who live at Newlyns Meadow, are leaving this green and pleasant land and are off to find sunnier climes in Australia. We wish them all the very best, but if they change their mind (there has been much deliberation over some years) the hills of Alkham, over which they enjoy tramping, will always welcome them back. All the best and..... WELCOME to Val and Stan who have moved into Evergreen on Slip Lane. They were just in time to carry some books to the van and help on Sue Lees's stall at the fete.

THE HARVEST SUPPER is in the village hall on Monday the 25th of September starting at 7.30pm. Tickets costing £5 are available by phoning Betty Neely on 01303 251475.

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GARDEN CLUB - Many thanks to Marion and Derek for the lovely evening they hosted for the garden club recently. It was a lovely balmy evening, and their garden was admired by all. Maurice held court with his ladies of the round table, and there was much chatter and munching all of the lovely goodies that Marion provided. The quiz caused much consternation as we all tried to identify tree leaves. Everyone seemed to guess the walnut leaf for some strange reason, but the hawthorn proved a sticking point as the fiendishly clever Derek had removed all the prickles beforehand, (however, not all were fooled)! One member overheard the cunning plot and revealed it to the rest of us; she was last seen pedalling into the night and we all hope she made it home safely!! Next meeting will be held at Mo and Ro's on Friday 28th July at 7.30 pm. South Alkham Farm is the venue. (Devina 827548).

BIKE RIDE – The weather was fairly testing with an easterly breeze on Sunday the 9th of July when the three intrepid riders set off for the London to Southend bike ride. Derek Banks-Nash very kindly drove us up to London where, despite my explicit instructions, Dean's Tom-Tom got us straight to the start. We all set a good time at an average speed of over 16mph and in all raised about £200 for the British Heart Foundation. Many thanks go to all the people who sponsored us. (editor)

THE Christmas lights appear to have used more electricity than first thought as the Cricket Club received a bill in excess of £100 for the winter period. As it was for the village, the Alkham Recycling Fund is going to pay the excess.



SANCTUARIES OF STONE

I was recently reading an article in the NFU magazine (July 06) about the wonders of the rural churchyard and how it is a haven for fauna and floral. It particularly mentioned lichens growing on older gravestones. The stonework in churchyards in areas where no chemical sprays have been used, such as St Anthony's, is vitally important for the conservation of lichen. There are a staggering 1,500 or so species of lichen in Britain, over 300 of which have been documented growing on churchyard stones in England. Apparently, lichen is a combination of two "plants" - the bit you can see is fungus, but inside this there are cells of algae that provide the lichen with food from sunlight in the same way green plants utilise the sun. Lichen is sometimes as old as the gravestones upon which it is found because it grows extremely slowly. The reason lichen colonies are greater on the top of gravestones is because it is fertilised by bird To help conserve droppings. churchvard lichen. the article suggests that we should not allow gravestones to become overgrown with brambles or shaded by tall trees. To encourage the lichen, limestone and sandstone should be used for the headstones. (So please bear this in mind when making a will!). (Patsy Sayers)

ALKHAM WI - Just like the fete this meeting was one of the best. Very few members were absent and there were three guests to swell the numbers. The speaker, Mr. Pearce gave a talk entitled 'Murder comes gift wrapped'. It was the story behind a parcel bomb death which had taken place in Kent. The well illustrated talk demonstrated SO clearly the problems faced by forensic scientists when trying to piece Susannah together evidence. Tapsell thanked members for their contributions to, and support of, the WI Tea-tent at the fete and asked if the same support could be given to the Teas being run by the WI for the All England Cricket Match in Alkham 6th August - cakes should be taken to village hall between 10.00 and 11.00am. Next month's meeting will be for the committee to sit back and be entertained by members. (Susan Lees)

ALKHAM VALLEY

SOCIETY - The Society outing this year was to Yalding Organic Gardens - about a dozen of us and in addition some guests had a very good lunch at the Walnut Tree in Yalding. By this time the weather was not only beautiful but HOT. The Gardens were created only about ten years or so ago on an old potato field and since then, using only organic methods, a rich variety of borders, rose gardens, herb gardens have been created. There is also a small vegetable garden. June is to be recommended. The route is sustained bv and regular interpositions of fruit bushes which proved a welcome relief the fruit. since includina magnificent tayberry bushes were ripe and luscious huge redcurrants are organic enough to be sampled without washing off chemicals. Wilting a little, we saw the final garden which set out to show how anyone anywhere can plant flowers and veg in any old containers including old wellington boots, and, yes, really any container you can imagine. Tea all round and rather good cakes before we went our various ways back to Alkham. The fine weather and good companionship made for a most eniovable afternoon. Thanks to all who came and made it a success. We will meet again at the AGM in November at which meeting we will make a serious attempt to collect your £1 annual subs. Fortunately a whole one and a half seasons hence. (Joanna Walker, Secretary)

WHITFIELD ACTION

GROUP has been formed because of the large planned expansion of houses at Whitfield. The Alkham Parish Council has been asked for its support and as a result a councillor will attend their next meeting. The main effect on Alkham would be the increase in traffic along the valley which already stands at about 6000 vehicles per day.

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TWO PEOPLE who live opposite Short Lane were at the Parish Council meeting to express their concern about the speed that traffic travels round the bend towards Dover from the village green. The main reason for the concern was that a motorcycle had come round the bend and collided with their car which was emerging from the entrance roughly opposite Short Lane. They also reported that there had been an accident at the Short Lane junction where a car was waiting to turn right. They had written to the Highway Authority who said that a lot of money had recently been spent on the Alkham Valley Road and it was up to the police to enforce the speed limit. The Parish Council agreed with this but said the accidents should be put on record and to emphasize the point that as the access is also a bridleway horses emerge as well. A 'concealed entrance' sign was suggested and this could be a partial solution.

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A VILLAGE CELEBRATION

The Bishop is coming! Yes, Bishop Graham of Maidstone will be coming to preside over our patron saint's Feast Day celebration service on Sunday 3rd September. And that's despite the fact the he only returns from holiday the previous day! We are expecting a big turn out for this special event, marking the 1500th anniversary of the martyrdom of St Anthony of Pamiers in 506AD. It will also be a wonderful occasion to welcome members of River church with whom we will be joining as an expanded Benefice later this year under our new vicar. The agenda for the day is as follows: 9:00 am -Monks' Walk from St Radigund's Abbey to Alkham: 11:00 am Benefice Service at Alkham Church with Bishop Graham: 12:30pm -Monks' Lunch in Alkham Village Hall. Novices Needed. There will be something for everyone on 3rd September. A special call to other "Anthonys" and their families to come to the church for a blessing. The choir will be in full voice and the church beautifully decorated including, if it is ready on time, a tapestry banner of St Anthony. We will also be incorporating a miniplay based on the life and times of St Anthony into the Feast Day service. Children are especially welcome and costumes will be available. If you or your child would like to take part please call Linda on 823100. (The Alkham Church Committee)

THANK YOU A HUGE to everyone who helped towards this year's Fete, it seems to have been a great success and it was smashing to see so many people turning out to help set up the tents, organise the car parking, run the stalls. help clear etc. and to away afterwards. I don't like to mention individuals because so many people do so much, so my heartfelt thanks to everyone - you know who you are! We shall be having the post-Fete meeting at 8 pm on the 24th of August in the Village Hall to discuss the event and divide the profits so please come along to have your say in what we can do to improve things even more for next year. (Paul Tapsell)

OZ on BRADGATE

The final chapter of John Buchan's spy thriller The Thirty-nine Steps concerns "various parties converging on the sea" at "Bradgate", in northeast Kent. Bradgate is, of course. Broadstairs, and behind the fictional story of Richard Hannay is a fascinating true story of John Buchan. In July 1914, two days before war was declared, the Buchans took their daughter Alice to Broadstairs to convalesce after ear operation. However an Buchan, overworked, stressed, and depressed by the onset of war, was soon ill himself and took to his bed with an ulcer that plagued him for the rest of his life. There he found time to write the thriller that he had planning mentally for been some time. His wife Susan thought that, but for the ulcer, The Thirty-nine Steps might never have been written. The Buchans stayed in a villa called St Cuby, on North Foreland, which appears in the final chapter as Trafalgar Lodge, on "big the Ruff. а chalk headland". The tenancy included access to a private beach via stairs comprising two and three tunnelled shafts sections, which are still in place. There are now 108 concrete steps, built in the 1940s to replace the 78 oak steps that existed in 1914. There has been much about Buchan's speculation decision to reduce the number of steps in his story to 39. Some say that he chose his others that he was age, advised by a publisher or friend to change the number to enhance the story's title. Surely the last word must be with his wife. In her biography of Buchan, published in 1947, she said "How many steps were there I do not know, but John hit on the number thirty-nine as that would be easily one remembered and would catch people's imagination." (Steve Osborn)

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District Cou							822295 and Grace Stacey 822756		
Sue Nichola			Parish Clerk		┝				
Andrew Ricl			35	Angela Miller 824791		Alkham web site <u>www.alkham.org</u>			
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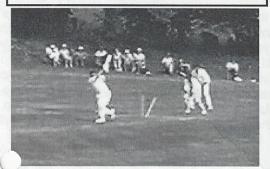
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DEREK RANDALL the very popular Old England player being clean bowled by Nick Price for 34. The match was in honour of Brian Luckhurst who lived at South Alkham and eleven cricketers who once played for England turned up on the 6th of August to take on the might of the Alkham Cricket Club. The weather couldn't have been better with the sun beating down on our quaint but very picturesque cricket pitch whose boundary is not too far away. Meridian television was at the match and it was featured on the local evening news.

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CARAVANS planning A application has been submitted for the land adjacent to the Garden Centre at South Alkham. The application is for the site to be used by 5 touring caravans on a rolling basis for 365 days a year. If you wish to respond to this application write to Development Control, Dover District Council, White Cliffs Business Park, Dover CT16 3PJ or developmentcontrol@ email to dover.gov.uk auotina reference DOV/06/00876. The person dealing with the application is Mrs. Coles. If you wish to object to the application the objection should be specific rather than on the basis that you just don't want a site there. The same applies if you wish to support the application. The deadline for responses is September 3rd

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JUMBLE SALE – There will be a jumble sale in the village hall on the 16th September starting at 11.00am in aid of W.I. funds.

LIZ LAMBOURNE, who lives in Newlyns Meadow, will be taking part in the Canterbury Festival. She will be exhibiting drawings & paintings at The Studio, Derringstone Hill House, Barham - together with three other exhibitors from the 12th -28th October.

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Thanks go to Debbie Burris of Short Lane, Alkham for the photographs



A MOMENT CAUGHT IN TIME as the dashing Den Barnard cuts to slip for the Alkham team (the bowler was the formidable Joey Benjamin and unfortunately the catch was held). The Old England XI scored 257 for 7 (31.5 overs) and Alkham held on with a score of 153 for 9 wickets to claim a draw. The man of the match was Alkham's Nick Price who took 5 wickets and the day raised £5000 for the Canterbury Mountbatten Centre (there is further comment on the match on page 2).

BETTY NEELY was 80 recently and a surprise birthday party was held at The Hermitage with lots of people coming along. Marion and Derek, with help from friends, put on a superb spread for a deserving lady. Happy Birthday Betty. **MEGGETT FARM COTTAGE**

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A GOLD BRACELET of great sentimental value was lost on 6th August at the Alkham versus Old England match. A reward is offered for information on its return. Please ring 01303 892487.

AN EXPLORER MAP, which is in perfect condition, was dropped by someone on the bridle path above South Alkham. There are all sorts of circular routes marked so if you'd like it back please ring 01304 826619.

KEN HAMMOND is taking part in the Friends of Kent Churches bike ride which raises money for churches and most of the PCC is sponsoring him. The idea is that you are sponsored per church visited and I'm going with him. We hope to visit between 60 and 100 churches so 5p a church would help a lot. If you'd like to sponsor me please ring 824969. (**Brian Wimsett**)

THE POLICE said bogus callers had called at a house in Melbourne Avenue pretending to be water board officials and whilst the owner was distracted stole a considerable sum of money. It went on to say that the bogus callers committed the same crime in Alkham but gave no further details.

RECOGNISE A STROKE - If someone falls over unexpectedly or there are other symptoms, doctor's advise doing the following in case the person has had a stroke: **1.** Ask the person to smile: **2.** Ask the person to raise both arms: **3.** Ask the person to speak a simple sentence coherently. If the person has difficulty with any of the tasks, call 999 and describe the symptoms to the dispatcher. (Stroke Association)

THE OVER HANGING branches at the bottom of Slip Lane are on land of unknown ownership. The Highway Authority has been asked to cut them back.

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CRICKET - May I just say a brief thank you to everyone who helped with the Old England cricket match, it really was a huge success (if I say so myself) which just shows what can be achieved when everyone pulls together; so a big thank you to the WI allstars, the Alkham Tea ladies and the families, friends and players who all contributed in the run up and on the day. A particular thanks to Peter and Den for all their hand work behind the scenes. We raised just over £6,000 after expenses so we aim to give £5,000 to the Mountbatten Brian Luckhurst's Centre in name. Here's to the next 167 years of ACC! I still have some copies of Brian's autobiography and souvenir programmes if anyone would like to purchase a reminder of a very special man and a special day. (Paul Tapsell 01303 892082) James & Dillys Robertson Justice - a book is to be published next year about the actor James Robertson-Justice. As many people will know his wife Dillys used to live at Forstal Cottage. Although they were divorced during this time, James did visit Alkham, and opened the Village Fete one year. The author of the book would like any information people can give him but

would be particularly grateful for a **photo of Dillys** – grateful enough to make a donation to the village. Please contact Susan Lees on 822661.

JOSEPH MOUNT - named on the Alkham War Memorial (see July Newsletter). It is now known that on 26 Sept 1918 Joseph Mount of Ewell Minnis married Edith. daughter of Robert Bailey believed to be the publican at The Newcastle Inn at that time. Fifteen days later Joseph died 11th Oct at 58 Great Cheetham Street, West Broughton, Salford, Lancs. Edith, his wife was with him when he died. His occupation having been a War Goods Inspector & Army pensioner. Joseph must have served in WWI, but been invalided out, reason unknown but possibly he had been weakened from something like a gas attack and with little resistance contracted Enteric/Typhoid Fever from which he died. (Sue Lees)

THOUGHTS from a Sunday summer's day in the heart of England - a tribute to Brian Luckhurst. What more could one wish for, seated comfortably with first class view: on a golden late summer's Sunday afternoon, when the sun shone gently twixt steamy cloud, the rich aroma of hog roast wafting through the air, and the gentle thwack of leather on willow echoed around the leafy mound as runs amassed and wickets tumbled. The soft murmur of appreciation from a swelling crowd rippled around the quintessentially Kentish village green. Surely this was England at its finest: paying tribute to a cricket pro so sadly missed: a first class cricket match. No, not the Oval nor the Lords, but just as good and maybe better, Old Englanders showing t prowess and pace, and teaching 'cubs' a thing or two. The village team from Alkham rallied valiantly, showing their flair, with increasing shrieks of 'come on lads' echoing around the green. But.... gualities of age, experience and still professional lingering aptitude were clearly going to win the day, and so they did, the 'oldies' reigned supreme! We, replete with wine and tasty hog roast crackly snacks, then took our leave, and told ourselves, how fortunate to see such sights, to slow our pace, entranced by cricket on the green. (George Stirling and friend Mary)

ALKHAM DID IT AGAIN

 6^{th} August 2006 will remembered with 'The along 'The Millennium', Jubilee', 'Children in Need' and lots of other times when everyone pulls together to raise money for charity. Paul Tapsell must be feeling very good with himself, he deserves to, he worked so hard not knowing how it would go but the weather was perfect, the crowds turned up and the people of Alkham got to and supported Paul and made a wonderful day. It will be talked about for a long time. Well done Alkham. (Helen Scopes) (now a glamorous great grandmother --ed) THANKS to the Marquis of Granby for taking their cardboard up to Kent Community Recycling and adding the money raised to the Alkham Recycling Fund.

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ALKHAM WI - members were completely shocked when the meeting was opened with a letter being read that had been written by the President, stating that she had taken the decision to resign from her position. However, the four members, Debbie Burris, Debbie Griggs, Helen Price and Alison Warnock, who were in charge of the meeting, took over; and what a splendid light hearted evening they made of it with guizzes, poems, about how women see themselves (!) and a competition of the best painted butterflies, created by blobbing paint on paper which was folded over and back again. It was all great fun. The next meeting is 12th when the speaker Miss September: oldfinch will be teaching the craft of making orn Dollies. (Sue Lees)

BOOK CLUB - Next meeting Wednesday 6th September 7.30. Never Let Me Go by Ishi Guro. Host Gabby Jones, Meadow Cottage, Chalksole. New members always welcome. Contact Rosemary Heddle 01304-827880 for further details.

FREDERIC HALL Solicitors York House, Folkestone 01303 851185 & Clyde House, Dover 01304 202411

GARDEN TALK - The July meeting was held at the home of Mo & Ro at South Alkham Farm. Once again it was a lovely balmy evening and we were able to take full advantage of the weather and take of their very a tour pretty garden. Many thanks for their hospitality. It was decided to miss the meeting in August, with several members being on holiday etc. The next meeting will be at the home of Susannah and Richard Tapsell on 8th September at 7.30 pm. Look forward to seeing you all there. (Devina 827548)

THE ALPHA COURSE - What is the point of life? What happens when we die? What relevance does Jesus have for our lives today? The Alpha course is an opportunity for anyone to explore the Christian faith. It's relaxed, non-threatening, low key and fun. There is a meal together at the beginning of each session which gives you an opportunity to get to know each other. There is no charge for the course but you may be asked for a contribution to the meal. The course consists of a series of talks and after each talk small groups are formed for discussion. If you are interested, please come along to The Living Well Family Church, Canterbury Road, Lydden on the 4th of October at 7.30pm. For any enquiries please call John 07721 347958 or Noel 07710 610954.

HARVEST CELEBRATIONS at St. Anthony's. This year the Harvest service will be held on Sunday 24th September at 6.30pm. We will be decorating the Church on Saturday 23rd between 10.00am and 12.00. If you have any fruit, vegetables or flowers or could come and help at that time, it would be very much appreciated. For those of you who have not got a vegetable plot but would like to contribute to the event, we are collecting canned food for Ken & Brian to take to the "Soup Kitchen" in Dover when they are on duty. Please bring these to the Harvest Supper on the Monday evening. A selection of the canned food could include soup, tuna, corned beef and spam. Tickets for the Supper can be obtained from Betty Neely on 01303 251475 (Church Wardens)

OZ on **BUNTHORNE** One day in 1930s Lancashire voung Robert Smithies, waiting for fish and chips at the kitchen table, was reading a vinegar bottle when he noticed gleefully what the name 'Gartons' spelt backwards. It was the start of a passion for words that only ended with his death, aged 72, on 31^s year. this During July a remarkable life Smithies enjoyed popular success as press television photographer, presenter and editor, and, since 1966, as a Guardian crossword setter under the pen-name of 'Bunthorne'. Bob, as he was otherwise known, was born in Middleton, Lancashire, on 4th April 1934, into a working family that valued education and encouraged Bob and his two sisters in their studies. In 1950, at the age of 16, Bob left school to work in the Manchester Evening News darkroom, moving on to the Guardian Manchester as photographer in 1955, where he staved during the change to the London-based Guardian in the 1960s. Typical of this era was Don McPhee's recollection that at Christmas 1970 Bob tossed a bound compilation of Picture Post features across the Manchester picture desk to him and said: "Here you are lad, learn yourself summ'at." In 1974 Bob joined Granada Television as news editor but was soon redeployed as presenter of such programmes as the long-running Down to Earth. Bob was always a devoted solver and setter of crossword puzzles and had a puzzle accepted by the Guardian in 1966. For the rest of his life he composed puzzles for the Guardian and others as 'Bunthorne', a character from his beloved Gilbert and Sullivan. Bunthorne's elegant puzzles were highly regarded by solvers and fellow compilers, the clueing often fiendishly difficult but always scrupulously fair. Crossworders could argue for years about Bunthorne's 'best' clue, but his simply: own favourite was "Amundsen's forwarding address (4)", (Steve Osborn)

机构的	计图如	Regular events in the village		
Monday		The Chalksole Homegroup, third Monday of the month. Please phone Linda on 823100 for further details	Alkhamhurst Kennels	
Tuesday		Art classes in the village hall from 10 am to 1 pm. Ring 07811405124 for further details	Boarding for Dogs, Cats	
Wednesd	ay	The Book club meets on the first Wednesday of the month. Please phone Linda on 823100 for further details	& Small Animals Canine Hydrotherapy	
Wednesday		Keep Fit in the village hall from 9.30 am to 10.30 am – Wednesday Club from 10.30 am to 11.30 am	Pet Food Shop 01304 – 822420 Alkham Valley Road	
Thursday		Mobile Library stops at the car parks by the village hall from 9.25 am to 9.50 am		
Friday		Whist Drive in the village hall starting at 7.30 pm	Alkhain valley Road	
	C	Other events in the village		
Sunday	3	Monk's lunch in the village hall – see separate flyer.		
Monday	4	Parish Council meeting in the village hall starting at 7.30pm -	all welcome	
Sunday	10	Alkham Cricket Club are playing Griffin's Head at 1.00 pm o	n Vicarage Meadow	
Tuesday	12	W.I. meeting in the village hall starting at 7.30 pm		
Saturday	16	W.I. jumble sale in the village hall starting at 11.00am		
Monday	18	Dover and District Bird Club in the village hall from 7.30pm		
Saturday	23	Quiz in the village hall – please phone Doreen on 824876 for	details	

	CHURCH SERVICES					
Day	Alkham	Capel	Hougham	Weekday Services:		
Sunday 3rd	Joint	Benefice, St Anthony, Alkham	11am	Morning prayer at Capel: Monday		
Tuesday 5th		Healing Service 7 pm.	ny pakaca . And water the a	– Friday 8.30am (except Bank		
Sunday10th	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping together 11 a.m.	Songs of Praise St. Lawrence churchyard 6.30pm	holidays): Eucharist at Capel Thursday		
Sunday 17th	Worshipping together 11 a.m.	Evensong 6.30 p.m.	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	at 9.15am.		
Sunday 24th	Harvest Festival Evensong 6.30am	Sung Eucharist 9.30 am.	Worshipping together 11 a.m.			

TELEPHONE NUMBERS	Police – 999 phone & 01303 850055 Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130 Community Warden 07977 981994	Village Hall booking Rosemary Polden 824876 Alkham Valley Society secretary
Gwyn Prosser M.P. 01304 214484	GP out of hours to access urgent medical help 0844 800 1234	Joanna Walker 821641 W.I. secretary – Janet Barrow 829585
County Councillor, Bryan Cope 207976 work number 01795532547	Newsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969 e mail brianwimsett@hotmail.com	Church Wardens - Richard Tapsell
District Councillors Sue Nicholas 823956	Parish Clerk	822295 and Grace Stacey 822756
Andrew Richardson 211835	Angela Miller 824791	Alkham web site www.alkham.org

LOCAL	BUSINESSES AND SERVICES	(no prefix local number)
ARBORICULTURE	Alkham Valley Tree Surgery: Planning, planting, maintenance removal	Wolverton 824853
BOARDING KENNELS	Kennels and Cattery, Canine Hydrotherapy and Pet Food Shop	Wolverton 822420
BUILDING WORK	E R Woodruff carpentry and joinery, decorating, maintenance	Swanbourne, Wolverton 824991
CAT & DOG GROOMING	Canine beauticians, dogs and cats groomed, Newcastle House	Ewell Minnis 822902
CLEANING SERVICES	John Hoy domestic/commercial carpet and upholstery cleaning	Ewell Minnis 07889310479
CURTAINS & BLINDS	Curtains and blinds made to your specification	Alkham Valley 01303 891806
ELECTRICAL	Simon Price electricians & computer installation, Meggett Farm	South Alkham 01303 252764
ELECTRICAL	RS Electrical: Part P Domestic Electrical Installer	Kingsdown 367310 and 07896 584402
ENVIRONMENTAL	J H Ullmann Environmental contractors, Malmains Farm	Alkham 202004 or 822888
EQUESTRIAN	HOGBROOK Equestrian Centre Livery yard, instruction, hacking	Hogbrook Lane, Alkham 827644
EQUESTRIAN	GREENHILL FARM – DIY and assisted livery – excellent facilities	Megget Lane, South Alkham 01303 892056
EQUESTRIAN SUPPLIES	Alkham Valley Garden Centre - everything for horse and rider	South Alkham 01303 891996
PLUMBING & HEATING	Iain Blears plumbing and heating services	Wolverton 822500 or 07888 713 896
SCHOOL	Capel-le-Ferne school Your local primary school; free bus from Alkham	Capel Street, Capel-le-Ferne 01303 251353

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IT'S CHALKY HILL – The response to what the road off Slip Lane by Malmains Manor is called was evenly split between White Hill and Chalky Hill. The Parish Council took a vote and the latter won.

CHRISTINE AND DAVID wish to say a very big thank you to our family and friends who have been so kind, helpful and generous during Christine's longer than expected stay in hospital. The many cards, flowers and gifts were very much appreciated and recovery seems to be progressing well.

(David & Christine Tapsell)

BOOK CLUB Wednesday 11th October 7.30pm. Read a non fiction book of your choice. Host Linda Gaskill Tel 823100. Bring a dish, pot luck supper. New members always welcome. For more details phone Rosemary Heddle 827880. (Rosemary Heddle)

MANY thanks to Paul and the Fete Committee from the Village Hall Committee for the £1250 donation.

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No. 158 October 2006

MINDLESS DAMAGE was caused to the cricket pitch by a car driving onto Vicarage Meadow and spinning round on the crease. Witnesses' say that it happened in the early hours of the morning and the culprits are being actively sought before being put in the hands of the police. The Parish Council are going to look into the cost of installing a lockable drop-down barrier.

THE FINAL FETE FIGURES were £1,250 each for the Church and Village Hall, and £30 each to Capel School, Alkham Cricket Club, the Folkestone Auto Club, the RSPCA and CJ's dance troupe. The AGM will be in October and we will be looking for volunteers for next year's Fete! (Paul Tapsell)

A BIT OF A WHINGE

I understand that someone has stopped doing recycling because we gave money to the cricket club for the Alkham village Christmas lights electricity bill. The reason we are doing the recycling is not for the but because it money is environmentally worthwhile. I have also regularly put an item in the Newsletter asking for ideas as to how to spend the money and have got no response. One house recycling bottles, cans, paper and card board generates about 40p each month. There are easier ways of raising 40p than going round in a stacked smelly van and having to sort everything at Hawkinge. Last month, Ken and I who do it for no personal benefit, got fed up with the rubbish in some of the sacks. A reminder to some they only take: plastic bottles that contained drink with their tops removed and discarded. All items including paper and cardboard must be separate and it would help if you flattened the cardboard and put newspapers in carrier bags. If you know someone who recycles but doesn't read the Newsletter please spread the word. Wimsett and Ken (Brian Hammond)

Delivered **free** to all properties in the Parish

THE PARISH COUNCIL now has its own email address which is alkhamparishcouncil@tesco.net.

LIGHTS – Parish Councillor Geoff Lymer is waiting for EDF to come back to him with regard to the cost of installing lights by the football pitch opposite the village hall.

VALLEY COTTAGES – DDC have been asked to put a sign up in front of Valley Cottages saying the latter.

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ANNUAL HONEY SHOW

As usual Dover and District Beekeepers are staging their honey show and competition in the Alkham Village Hall towards the end of October. Last year we had the pleasure of welcoming quite a few local residents, one or two of whom were clearly stung by the beekeeping since bua and have joined the association. We would like to extend a similar invitation to any of you who are free to attend on Saturday 28 October. The doors open at 2.30 and the show lasts about two hours. Admission is free, refreshments will be available and as well as displays of honey, wax, confectionery, mead and other products from our hives, small there will а exhibition of beekeeping items and different honeys for you to sample. It is always a relaxed, friendly occasion and we would welcome the chance to talk to you about what is an endlessly fascinating hobby. Should you wish to visit our apiary, which is nearby, please let me know. It is easy enough to arrange. (Roy Dyche, Honey Show Secretary 01304 824584)

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Paul James, the local Community Warden phoned to say there will be a Neighbourhood Watch meeting in Capel village hall on the 2nd October at 7.00pm.

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Sunflower Competition Results - It was an interesting year for trying to grow sunflowers! A late start to the competition, a long hot June and July (including the obligatory hosepipe ban) and all followed up by a wet and decidedly autumnal end to August meant a shorter than normal crop. The adults as always took it way to seriously, with phone calls requesting measuring at the first sign of a weather forecaster predicting wind and others saying "you can't measure yet it's not tall enough" or "it's bent over it was taller". Special mention should go to the family Robson of Newlyns Meadow all five of whom entered their own plant. Apparently they suffered the worst slug attack since the great slug attack of 1864, "they were coming over the hedge", this left mum Debbie with the tallest plant and Rachel with a report saying 'must try harder'. John Norris had the tallest in the adults section, although having won last year and being the organisers father means he will come away empty handed this time. So the overall winner was Master Alfie Blears from Wolverton, with a whopping 3.1 metres, which is approximately three and half times his own height. Alfie will be receiving his trophy and prize shortly. Well done to everyone who entered, it was good to see you all and I hope everyone has a go next year. Go out and buy your seeds now, read the packet and get them in when it says! (Tip: They grow better in the ground than pots). The results, name, height, category: Alfie Blears, 3.1,C: John Norris, 2.6, A: Harrison Blears, 2.5, C: Debbie Robson, 2.5, A: Bronwen Robson, 2.46, T: Shirley Tapsell, 2.4, A: Sue Lees, 2.3, A: Aimee Wood, 2.2, C: Tom Robson, 1.91, T: Molly and Elly Laflin, 1.84, C: Mark Robson, 1.84, A: Benjamin Norris, 1.54, C: Chloe Huggins, 1.4, C: Simon Norris, 1.36, A: Rachel Robson, 0.6, T.



CRICKET CLUB Awards Dinner - Alkham residents are invited to join the players at the village cricket club's annual Awards Dinner, which will be held this year at Blue Birds on Snargate Street, Dover, on Saturday November 11. The club's growing band of families and supporters has meant that it has had to find a larger venue for its big night, after squeezing 50odd people into the restaurant of the Marquis of Granby for the last two years. Having been forced to stage the event outside the village, the club has found a venue in Dover that can hold more than the anticipated number - so with this extra capacity the players would be delighted to see more villagers joining them. Perhaps some of those who came along to watch the momentous match versus Old England last month might like to attend. That match meant that has 2006 been the most memorable in the club's 167-year history - so everyone involved with the club wants to make sure the season is rounded off in style at this celebration event, where the club's various trophies will be presented to the best batsman, best bowler, and player of the year etc. Tickets cost £20 each for a three course meal and anyone interested in attending should contact Peter Frater at peter.frater@pfpr.com or on 01304 820067.

CONGRATULATIONS to Ken Hammond and co. in visiting 63 churches on the Church Bike Ride. They covered 61 miles over a period of 8 hours starting at Hythe and going east to Sandwich. Thanks go to all the people who sponsored them raising about £200 in total.

JUST TO SAY how much I enjoyed the Church Service on the 3rd September and the lunch which followed. It was a lovely way to spend a few hours. I always enjoy my visits to Alkham. (**CIIr Sue Nicholas**)

CONCEALED ACCESS SIGN

on the bend leading to Short Lane. The Highway authority does not install concealed access signs but they can be put up by house owners on private land subject to conditions i.e. planning permission. The HA is quite happy to visit the site to give advice.

The Alkham Valley Society has submitted a response to the planning application for a 365 daya-year touring caravan site with septic tank in South Alkham; we did so following the majority views of the Committee, which, we trust, reflected the majority views of membership as reflected in 2005 AGM. We would also like to take the opportunity to add our congratulations to the Old England v. Alkham Cricket Match in August, what an excellent day and so well organised. We would like to thank Mark & Liza Loveday and team for a really English luncheon and reception up at the Old Rectory, the gardens of which came into their own looking bright and beautifully kept as usual. The tea tent was perfectly sited for a really good tea, cakes and sandwiches as well as cheese and pineapple spikes at 4.30 p.m. Altogether the reception, enjoyed by all, was a great 'kick-off' for a day untampered by discord and full of goodwill, good cheer, and very good champagne. Thank you! Thank you those members who have generously sent in subs for 2007. The AGM is set to take place in the Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. Thursday 16 November, followed by supper at The Fox in Temple Ewell. (Joanna Walker Sec.)

ALKHAM W.I. - members were pleased to welcome back their treasurer Christine Tapsell after her recent illness; and present Margaret Knowles with a little teddy bear (bought at Capel Farmer's Market) his jumper embroidered with the words "Thank you Margaret from your Alkham friends". Margaret has contributed so much to the WI and to Alkham itself through her artistic gifts - designing and embroidering the WI President's table cloth; making innumerable entries for WI competitions: etching and painting pictures of Alkham; making articles for, and helping run, the needlework stalls at WI bazaars and Alkham fetes. The meeting concluded with a very relaxed talk by Pat Goldfinch who demonstrated the art of corn dolly making. Every member joined in and took home the dolly they had created. Next meeting - National Trust talk on Rudyard Kipling. (Sue Lees)

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ST ANTHONY'S FEAST DAY. Sunday 3rd September 2006 - Despite the overcast skies and strong winds an intrepid gathering of some 30 walkers from our benefice and the River churches assembled at St Radigund's Abbey just before 9am to embark on the trail of the ancient Priests' Walk. This was the commencement of the day's events to celebrate 1500 years anniversary of the martyrdom of St Anthony of Pamiers. The River Methodist Minister the Reverend John Johnson opened the proceedings with prayers and these were followed by a brief tour of the Abbey ruins. Mr & Mrs Moynan gave generously of their time to give a fascinating talk about the history of their home which dates back to the 12th Century. It was interesting to note that the historic links that once existed between the different parishes were again being joined some 800 years later. We could certainly have lingered here for longer but time was against us.

FREDERIC HALL Solicitors

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We were accompanied by a "monk" during our journey and along the way the magnificent views across the valley were much admired as they have been for centuries. Ley Lines and Dene Holes which are particular features of this area were described during the walk. Refreshments were served in the Village Hall upon our return. The main focus of the day was the Service in our Parish Church where we were delighted to welcome Bishop Graham who celebrated the commemorative Eucharist in the company of the Reverend John Coleman and Tony Elcombe, our Benefice Reader. Against the background of beautiful floral displays, the body of the church was full and the congregation was magnificently led by a combined churches choir and the music directed by Jerry Spillet. A playlet performed by local children reenacting the life and times of St Antoninus was well received and met with laughter and applause. This really was a celebration and it was wonderful to hear the church resounding to the joyful music and voices throughout the service. Finally we retired to the Village Hall where a simple 'monk's' lunch was served in the traditional manner comprising bread and cheese washed down with ale and wine. This was very well supported and we were joined once again by Bishop Graham. Our thanks must go to the many ladies who worked so hard in preparing and and to serving the meal the 'cellarers' obtained who and dispensed the drink. Hopefully St Anthony's Day can become а event in the regular village And calendar. who knows. perhaps some links with Pamiers in SW France might emerge. In the interests of further research on our patron saint you understand; the fact that this area is known for its wonderful food and wine is a happy coincidence.

(The Alkham Church Committee)

OZ on ODONATA – During this warm and pleasant summer it was thrilling to see so many dragonflies and damselflies, first at Bushey Ruff, then in our back garden, and later everywhere, and to discover something about them. Dragonflies (Anisoptera) and damselflies (Zygoptera) belong to the same order, Odonata (meaning 'toothed jaw'). Anisoptera means "unequal-winged", since dragonflies' hind wings are shorter and wider than their forewings. They are large insects, with touching eyes, and often wander far away from water. Zygoptera means "yoke-winged", as damselflies have four equal wings. They are small insects, with separated eyes, and stay close to the water. Odonata are invariably slender and beautiful, and come in a huge range of translucent colours. Altogether there are some 5,300 species in the world, only 38 of which live in Britain, as they favour warmer climates. Perhaps because of their comparative rareness and exotic appearance, Odonata have traditionally been objects of superstition in Europe. In mediaeval times dragonflies were called the "devil's darning needles" as it was believed that they would sew up the eyes of anyone foolish enough to fall asleep outdoors during the day. Conversely, in the East, the dragonfly has long been revered. Japan, the first country in the world to create a national Dragonfly Nature Reserve, sometimes refers to itself as Akitsushima (the Dragonfly Island). Perhaps the finest description of these elegant and colourful creatures in English literature is in Tennyson's lines, The Dragon-Fly. "Today I saw the dragon-fly / Come from the wells where he did lie. / An inner impulse rent the veil / Of his old husk: from head to tail / Came out clear plates of sapphire mail. / He dried his wings: like gauze they grew; / Thro' crofts and pastures wet with dew / A living flash of light he flew." (Steve Osborn)

GARDEN TALK - Our thanks this time go to Richard and Susannah for hosting the September meeting. It was a very enjoyable evening and was based looselv on our darden success/failure stories for the year. I Say loosely, because it was very informal evening with lots of chit chat, tasty dips and catching up with members we had not seen for a while. Welcome back Beattie! The next meeting will be at Pam and Maurice Sayers on October 6th at 7.30 pm. (Devina 827548)

		Regular events in the village	aburst K
Monday		The Chalksole Homegroup, third Monday of the month. Please phone Linda on 823100 for further details	Whamhurst Kenne
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	Oth	er events in the village	
Tuesday	10	W.I. meeting in the village hall starting at 7.30 pm	
Monday	Monday 16 Dover and District Bird Club in the village hall from 7.30pm		
Thursday	Thursday19Fete Committee meeting 8.00pm in the village hall		
Saturday	Saturday 21 PCC Jumble Sale in the village hall starting at 11.00am		
Saturday	28	Honey Show – Beekeepers in the village hall most of the day	

CHURCH SERVICES						
Day	Alkham	Capel	Hougham	Weekday		
Sunday 1st	Evensong 6.30pm	Sung Eucharist 9.30pm	Worshipping together 11 a.m.	Services: Morning prayer		
Sunday 8th	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping together 11 a.m.		at Capel: Monday – Friday 8.30am		
Sunday 15th	Worshipping together 11 a.m.	Evensong 6.30 p.m	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	(except Bank holidays):		
Sunday 22nd	Joint Benefice Sung Eucharist St. Lawrence Hougham 10am.			Eucharist at Capel Thursday		
Sunday29th	Joint Benefice Su	ng Eucharist St. Mary (old chur	ch), Capel 10 am.	at 9.15am.		

TELEPHONE NUMBERS	Police – 999 phone & 01303 850055 Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130 Community Warden 07977 981994	Village Hall booking Rosemary Polden 824876 Alkham Valley Society secretary
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SCHOOL	Capel-le-Ferne school Your local primary school; free bus from Alkham	Capel Street, Capel-le-Ferne 251353	01303
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No. 159 November 2006

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS MEAL

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If you are letting off fireworks this year please remember that animals, especially horses and dogs,

become extremely frightened by the noise they make.

MOTOR CYCLES – John Ullmann has asked me to include an item in the Newsletter about young motor cyclists that are riding over his land adjacent to the Folkestone side of the village. He says it is absolutely terrible that they are using his land like this, riding up and down the steep banks and across the top. The motor cyclists have no permission to do so and also have no insurance and must stop immediately.

JOBS – A 13 year old boy seeks jobs for pocket money. Please phone 01304 823380.

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То celebrate the Christmas Lights switch-on there will be a village meal at the Marquis of Granby (7.30 for 8.00 p.m.). As with last year if enough people want to attend the event will be 'village only'. Last year's event was oversubscribed and hopefully there will be a similar response this year so you need to act quickly if you would like to book a place. The menu is: Tomato and Basil soup starter; Roast Turkey, Beef or Lamb with and new potatoes. roast Yorkshire pudding and 3 veg; Christmas Pudding, Ice Cream or Chocolate Fudge Cake for dessert and Coffee and Mince pies to follow - all for only £15. There is a vegetarian alternative. Please note that there will also be a raffle to raise funds for the cost of the electricity to run the lights! Donations of prizes for the raffle would also be much appreciated. In order to secure the whole pub, and make it a truly village affair. I need to know numbers and have orders and payment by November 15th. I look forward to hearing from you. Newlyns 8a Mark Robson, Meadow, 01304.820459.

CONGRATULATIONS to Jane and Peter Davis of Alkham Valley Tree Surgery on the birth of two identical twin boys on the 18th of September.

RECYCLING – Many thanks go to the people who recycle and responded to 'A bit of a whinge' in last month's Newsletter. The last collection was just about perfect with only a few plastic punnets creeping in. Following this success it would also help if the tops of the sacks and carrier bags could be tied together as some do spill out when we open the van at Hawkinge.

THE QUIZ in aid of the village hall on the 23rd September made a profit of £100. Thanks go to the Polden and Lott family for organising it. Delivered **free** to all properties in the Parish

POPPY APPEAL – Rachel Fountain and volunteers will be going round the village between 28th October and 11th November collecting money for the annual Poppy Appeal. The Remembrance Day service will be held in St. Anthony's church at 10.15 am on the 12th of November and at 11.00am people gather round the memorial in the churchyard to commemorate the sacrifice made by people in the World Wars and observe the 2 minute silence after the names of the fallen are read.

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CHRISTMAS LIGHTS - Following the well established tradition (of two years) the Village Christmas Lights switch on will take place on Saturday, December 2nd. The event will start at 4.45 p.m. when the crowds will be enthralled by the beautiful voices (and ladies!) of the W.I. as they lead carols on Vicarage Meadow. The switch on will be at 5.00 p.m. followed by mulled wine and mince pies served at the Marguis. It is expected that Father Christmas will make time to visit us during the proceedings too. Any child, up to the age of 11, who would like a chance to carry out the switch on, should present a picture of a Christmas tree at the Christmas Bazaar in the Village Hall on Saturday, November 25th. One name will be picked out of a hat and that person will be asked to turn on the lights. CHRISTMAS BAZAAR for St Anthony's Church, Alkham - Saturday 25th November - Alkham Village Hall 10.30am -12 noon. Apart from all the home made goodies to buy there will be an exhibition of paintings. It is hoped that lots of children up to the age of nine will paint a picture of a Christmas tree and bring it along to the bazaar, where the winning artist will be chosen. The winner will be the child who switches on the village Christmas tree lights on 2nd December.

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HOME FOR CHRISTMAS 1945 – The museum shop, where I am curator, has CD's produced by the Green Label Music Co. one of which is as the title. There are 23 original evocative Christmas tracks by the stars of the day (Frank Sinatra, Bing Crosby etc) plus speeches by Churchill and Atlee. They cost £6.95 each (rrp £9.50) and there are other titles which include 'We'll Meet Again', 'Golden Age of Radio' and 'Forces Sweethearts'. If you'd like to buy a CD please ring me on 824969. (editor)

GARDEN TALK - A big thanks this time to Pam & Maurice Sayers for a lovely and, very intellectual meeting at Box Tree Cottage. Brushing up on our Latin would have been a useful exercise before attempting Pam's fiendish quiz on trees and shrubs. There will be no meeting in November and the next time we get together will be for our annual Christmas party at the home of Lucy and Ian McKensie on 8th December at 7.30 pm. Please supply a goody for the table and a small gift for the raffle. Many thanks and see you all there. (Devina 827548)

NEWSLETTER – The financial year for the Newsletter ended in August and I'm pleased to say it broke even again. The revenue from the adverts was £461. The costs were £372 for printing, £62 for stamps and envelopes for 19 mailed copies and £24 for petrol for collecting and delivering the Newsletter to the deliverers. The sum in the Building Society, inherited from Tony Ingall in 1997, is still untouched so the finances are still very healthy. I'd like to thank the 15 people in the parish who deliver 300 of the 330 copies produced each month throughout the year and also the Rainbow Centre in Folkestone who kindly print the Newsletter.

(PC at end of articles is Parish Clerk, Angela Miller)





YOU MAY HAVE MISSED IT but the Tour of Britain with some of the world's top cyclist went round the outside of the parish in September. The photo shows them going through Lydden. Unfortunately they were having a go slow because of lack of organisation so you didn't miss much (the photo was taken from a video by Alan Latham).



Then you get the real bikers! (thanks to Kentish Express for the photo)

Neighbourhood Watch

A white Peugeot Partner Van is trying to sell door to door - but is it? It is believed that it might be looking for suitable premises to commit burglary. This vehicle has the name Ocean Delight on the side and is offering fish for sale. The part registration is NV ?? AUN. If you should see this van please ring the Force Control Room on 01622 690690 and give them the full details. There is also a parcel scam. If a card or phone message from Parcel Delivery Service is left asking you to phone a number as they were unable to deliver a package do not ring as it is a premium rate service. Your phone account is immediately charged £15 plus connection costs.

KCC has launched its new Explore Kent website. The address is <u>www.kent.gov.uk/</u>explorekent and contains fantastic information on walking, cycling and riding in Kent as well as ideas for great days out in the countryside. You can download free publications including maps, walking, cycling and riding routes and an events calendar. (**PC**)

RECYCLING OF WASTE The delivery of October's Alkham Monthly Newsletter coincided with my reading of a trade journal concerning 'green' living. Against the background of our village collection program (and the article 'A bit of a whinge') perhaps the following statistics may be of interest. Britain is the third worst recycler in Europe and we need to work hard to catch up with countries like Holland and Germany who recycle more than half their waste. Who is behind us? Well, Portugal on 3 per cent and Greece on 8 per cent. The UK recycles 18 per cent of its domestic waste. At the other end of the table, The Netherlands recycle 65 per cent. According to the Institute for Public Policy Research the annual waste generated by each person in this country is 600 kg and which is comparable with our European neighbours. lf each home recycled 50 per cent of its rubbish the UK's annual CO2 emissions would drop by 6 million tonnes. So well done to Ken and Brian for taking the initiative in helping Alkham to become а 'greener' village.

(Clive Batcheldor)

BOOK CLUB - The next meeting will be on the 1st November in the home of Jane Aslett, Drybrook, Short Lane, telephone 824729. We will be discussing Song of Solomon by Toni Morrison at 7.30 pm. (Rosemary Heddle)

The AGM of the Alkham Valley Society will be held at the Alkham Village Hall on 16 November beginning 7.30 p.m. There may be issues which members might like to raise at the meeting. There has been a good response to supper at The Fox in Temple Ewell. We need to know the precise numbers, and to have the £8.50 per head (carvery and pudding) before hand. Please let the Secretary know if you are having supper, thank you. There will be a Committee Meeting 26th October at Marion and Derek Banks-Nash's starting at 8 p.m. If we don't see you at the AGM, remember the Christmas Walk

(Joanna Walker - Secretary)

on 27th December as usual.

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APPOINTMENT OF NEW PRIEST -On the 6th. October two candidates were interviewed for the post of Incumbent for the new Benefice, which will include St. Peter and Paul River, St. Anthony Alkham, St. Radigund Capel and St. Laurence Hougham. Following these Interviews, where each Parish had a representative present, the Revd. A. J. Bawtree has been offered the post and he has subsequently confirmed acceptance. On Tuesday 6th February 2007 at 7.30pm.a service will be held at River church when Revd. Bawtree will be licensed to serve as Priest for the Benefice. When this has been completed the post for a "House for Duty" appointment will be advertised. This will be a part time post and the appointed person will take up residence at Capel vicarage. (Richard Tapsell & Grace Stacey. Church wardens)

PRIEST'S WALK – A DVD of the priests walk and monk's lunch in Alkham village hall on the 3rd September is available from Jo and John O'Shea. It costs £7 with £1 going to the church. Phone 07811405124 for further details.

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WI - Helen Scopes stood in as president and Susan Lees as The secretary. meeting was enjoyed by all those present, especially when the speaker, Mrs. Woodward from the National Trust, presented the life of Rudyard Kipling illustrating her talk with very interesting and colourful slides. This being the occasion when names are taken for next year's committee - 16 names were put forward, which will mean an election will have take place at the November meeting. Ruth Pascoe from the Federation Office will also be present on that occasion. When members were asked for an idea for light entertainment finish the November meeting - Bingo was suggested, a game, we are told, which has become popular once again.

DOVER CHORAL SOCIETY'S autumn concert, at 7.30 pm on Saturday 18th November 2006 in Dover Town Hall, celebrates Mozart's 250th birthday with three of his mostloved works. Serenade No 13 Eine Kleine Nachtmusik will be followed by the Vesperae Solennes de Confessore ("Solemn Vespers") and the Requiem Mass, one of the great choral works, loved by performers and listeners alike, and influencing all later settings of the Requiem. Soloists are Catherine May, Melanie Lang, Bragiberg Thorsohn and Philip Spendley. All will be accompanied by the Connaught Orchestra (leader George Simpson) and conducted by Michael Lewis. Tickets costing £10 (Students £5) are available from Dover Tourist Information Centre, members of Dover Choral Society or by telephoning 01304 822042; and, if there are any left, at the door on the night. For further details about the concert please ring Ken Palmer on 01304 330511 or Bob Joslin on 01304 363344. (Steve Osborn)

KENTCARSHARE is a free, simple, secure, internet-based service run by Kent County Council that enables you to register your car journey on-line and others share find to the costs. Kentcarshare has been running for a year and there are over 1700 registered users across Kent. Car sharing can be used to get to work daily, going to the shops once a week or even for social events that happen once in a while. To register, log onto www.kent.gov.uk/carshare. New users are entered into a prize draw to win a vear's worth of car tax! (PC)

OZ on LOMEA - There cannot be many East Kent dwellers unaware of the existence and proximity of the Goodwin Sands, named after King Harold's father, Earl Godwin. Even so I only discovered this week, while browsing in the excellent The Lore of the Land by Westwood and Simpson, that Lomea was the ancient name given to the island supposed to have submerged to form the Sands. The name almost certainly derives from Old English lam for 'loam', as the Sands comprise Blue Clay and sand strata overlying a chalk outcrop, and were reputed to be extremely fertile in Godwin's time. It was known to the Romans as Infera Insula, meaning 'lowest island'; legend has it being so low as to need a complete seawall surround. The story continues that William the Conqueror gave Lomea to St Augustine's Abbey, Canterbury, but the abbot neglected the sea-wall, and the island was lost in the great storms of 1099, forming what we know as the Goodwin Sands. Experts now doubt the tales of an inhabitable island. R J Cloet, in the June 1954 Geographical Journal, stated that in Caesar's time such an island would still be covered by 10 feet of water every high tide, and would anyway have been swept away in about AD400, when North Sea levels rose generally. The Sands have remained a menace to shipping ever since, and have expanded steadily over the last two prompting hundred years, governments to think of useful things to build on them. Ideas included lighthouses (rejected in favour of lightships), gunnery ranges, heavy industry, prisons, and ambitious harbour projects, including part of a bridge/tunnel channel crossing. The site has also been considered for the third London airport, giving rise to the intriguing but unlikely possibility it being renamed "London of Lomea". (Steve Osborn)

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS ACCOUNTS

Money raised through Barn Dance and donations: £494.06. Expenditure: Lights and decorations: £410.67 Father Christmas suit: £24.99 Gifts for children at switch on £24.99 Donation towards cost of electricity: £33.41 Total expenditure: £494.06

Balance: £0.00. (Mark Robson)

		Regular events in the village	aburst k
Monday		The Chalksole Homegroup, third Monday of the month. Please phone Linda on 823100 for further details	Whamhurst Kenne
Tuesday		Art classes in the village hall from 10 am to 1 pm. Ring 07811405124 for further details	Boarding for Dogs, Cats
Wednesday		Keep Fit in the village hall from 9.30 am to 10.30 am – Wednesday Club from 10.30 am to 11.30 am	& Small Animals Canine Hydrotherapy Pet Food Shop
Thursda	ay	Mobile Library stops at the car parks by the village hall from 9.25 am to 9.50 am	01304 – 822420
Friday	V	Whist Drive in the village hall starting at 7.30 pm	Alkham Valley Road
	Oth	er events in the village	
Monday	6	Parish Council meeting in the village hall starting at 7.30pm. A	All welcome to come along
Tuesday	14	W.I. meeting in the village hall starting at 7.30 pm	
Thursday	16	Alkham Valley Society AGM in the village hall starting at 7.30pm. All welcome	
Monday	20	Dover and District Bird Club in the village hall from 7.30pm	
Saturday	25	Church Christmas Bazaar in the village hall starting from 10.30am to mid-day (see page 1)	
Saturday	25	Beekeepers in the village hall from 2.00pm	
Monday	27	Alkham village hall committee meeting in the hall starting at 7	7.30pm

CHURCH SERVICES					
Day	Alkham	Capel	Hougham	Weekday	
Sunday 5th	Evensong 4pm	Sung Eucharist 9.30 am	Worshipping together 11 a.m.	Services: Morning prayer	
Tuesday 7th	Healin	ng Service, St Radigund, Capel 7	7.00pm	at Capel: Monday – Friday 8.30am	
Sunday 12th	Service of Remembrance 10.15am	Service of Remembrance 10.15am	Service of Remembrance 10.15am	(except Bank holidays): Eucharist at	
Sunday 19th	Worshipping together 11 a.m.	Evensong 6pm	Sung Eucharist 9.30am	Capel Thursday at 9.15am.	
Sunday 26th	Joint Benefice	Sung Eucharist St Anthony's Al	kham 10.00 am	at 7.15aill.	

TELEPHONE NUMBERS	Police – 999 phone & 01303 850055 Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130 Community Warden 07977 981994	Village Hall booking Rosemary Polden 824876 Alkham Valley Society secretary
Gwyn Prosser M.P . 01304 214484	GP out of hours to access urgent medical help 0844 800 1234	Joanna Walker 821641 W.I. secretary – Janet Barrow 829585
County Councillor , Bryan Cope 207976 work number 01795532547	Newsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969 e mail <u>brianwimsett@hotmail.com</u>	Church Wardens - Richard Tapsell
District Councillors Sue Nicholas 823956	Parish Clerk	822295 and Grace Stacey 822756
Andrew Richardson 211835	Angela Miller 824791	Alkham web site <u>www.alkham.org</u>

LOCAL	LOCAL BUSINESSES AND SERVICES (no prefix local number)			
ARBORICULTURE	Alkham Valley Tree Surgery: Planning, planting, maintenance removal	Wolverton	824853	
BOARDING KENNELS	Kennels and Cattery, Canine Hydrotherapy and Pet Food Shop	Wolverton	822420	
CAT & DOG GROOMING	Canine beauticians, dogs and cats groomed, Newcastle House	Ewell Minnis	822902	
CLEANING SERVICES	John Hoy domestic/commercial carpet and upholstery cleaning	Ewell Minnis	07889310479	
CURTAINS & BLINDS	Curtains and blinds made to your specification	Alkham Valley	01303 891806	
ELECTRICAL	Simon Price Part P electricians and data instorers	South Alkham	01303 252764	
EQUESTRIAN	HOGBROOK Equestrian Centre Livery yard, instruction, hacking	Hogbrook Lane, Alkham	827644	
EQUESTRIAN	GREENHILL FARM – DIY and assisted livery – excellent facilities	Megget Lane, South Alkham	01303 892056	
EQUESTRIAN SUPPLIES	Alkham Valley Garden Centre - everything for horse and rider	South Alkham	01303 891996	
PLUMBING & HEATING	Iain Blears plumbing and heating services	Wolverton 82250 713 896	0 or 07888	

SCHOOL	Capel-le-Ferne school Your local primary school; free bus from Alkham	Capel Street, Capel-le-Ferne 251353	01303
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This Newsletter was printed at the Rainbow Centre in Folkestone – 01303 850733

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Α CAROL SERVICE

with choir will be held in Alkham on Sunday the 17th December in St. Anthony's church at 6.30 pm.



KARATE CLASSES (14 years and Something over). for everyone whether it be for self defence or purely to keep fit. Classes will be held in Alkham Village hall from 7.15pm to 8.45pm every Thursday evening commencing on the 1st of February 2007. Why not come along and learn the art of Kyokushin Karate. For further details please phone Simon (2nd Dan) on 821336. The first class is free and then £2.50 per session.

QUIZ - The annual quiz, probably in memory of Bacchus, will be held in the village hall on Saturday 3rd of February. The cost is £3.50 per head including food and to book a table for up to 8 people please phone Brian on 824969 or Sue Lees on 822661.

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At 4.45pm on Saturday the 2^{nd} of December the W.I. choir will be singing carols around the Christmas tree on Vicarage Meadow with the lights being turn on at 5.00pm together with other festive illuminations. It is also expected that Father Christmas will make an appearance. Afterwards there will be mulled wine and mince pies served at the Marquis of Granby.

THE MARQUIS OF GRANBY require part time waiting staff (age 15 plus) and bar staff (age 18 plus). Please phone 822945 for further details.

CARAVANS - The planning application for 5 touring caravans on a rolling basis on the piece of land at South Alkham adjacent to the Garden Centre was turned down by the planning authority. The applicants have the right to appeal against the decision.

CAROL SINGING. coffee morning and bazaar Saturday 9th December 10.30am to midday. Do come along and enjov yourselves; apart from singing there will be lots of homemade goodies to buy. All profits will go to Cancer Research.

RECYCLING The next collection will be on Thursday the 7th of December.

CHRISTMAS MEAL - On December 2nd.

after the Christmas tree lights switch-on there is a village meal Marquis at the of Granby (7.30 for 8.00pm). It costs £15 for three courses and there are still spaces left so please phone

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Paul on 822945 as soon as possible for further details and to book a place.

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OPEN GARDENS WEEKEND We will be holding an Open Gardens weekend next year on 28th and 29th July 2007. When we have opened our gardens in the past on each occasion the weekend has been a tremendous success and a large sum of money has been raised. The funds raised will again go to St Anthony's church to help to finance the repairs that are needed to the ceiling in the nave and to give a much needed boost to our general funds. Because of rising costs combined with a decline in our income we have found ourselves, as we approach the end of the year, in a situation where we have a deficit which, without some considerable fundraising, we will be unable to rectify. It is for this reason, therefore, that it was proposed to hold another Open Gardens weekend. Firstly, of course, we would like to hear from anyone who would like to open their gardens for those two days and we would also like to hear from anybody who would like to help in any other way as there will be lots of help and support needed. Please ring one of the following numbers if you would like to be involved:- Marion Banks-Nash 820701, Susan Lees 822661, Margaret Batcheldor 823568 and Rave Luckhurst 01303 892848. We look forward to hearing from you.(Marion Banks-Nash)

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CHRISTMAS FOLKLORE - Have you ever wondered why you hang baubles on the Christmas tree, or why we put up a tree in the first place? There are many customs associated with the festive season, so how did this one come about? Glass baubles on a tree came about as the result of a drunken game among glass blowers, who being very busy worked up a thirst. Many drinks later they began to see who could blow the biggest glass bauble. These were later to be discarded but their wives being clever called them spirit balls and sold them on the local market. They proved popular and a thriving business was born. Christmas trees originated from the pagan act of worshipping the oak tree. Attempts by early missionaries failed to stamp out this practice. so it was absorbed in the Christian faith, swapping the oak for a fir tree, as its original shape symbolised the Holy Trinity. Prince Albert made it the popular part of Christmas that it is today. The popular image of Santa in a bright red suit, and black boots was invented by the American Coca Cola company. Sorry but it's true. In the early days he was portrayed in many guises. Then Coca Cola decided to use him in their Xmas adverts. The artist Haddon Sundblom, using the colours of red and white created the character we all recognise today. Finally the abbreviation 'Xmas' is not in fact slang or laziness on the writer's part. The X represents the Greek letter 'chi', which is the first letter of 'Christos', meaning Christ. Happy Christmas to you all. (reprinted from

December 1997 and written by Devina Bartlett)



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ALKHAM VALLEY SOCIETY The AGM for the Society was held in the village hall on the 16th of November and as usual it was an informal and pleasant affair. Maurice Sayers, the chairman, was on holiday so John Jackson took his place. Apart from the usual proceedings there was some discussion about the motor cyclists who are using footpaths and bridleways around the parish. It is probable that these are not trail riders who are legitimately trying to exercise their rights to use RuPP's but people who have no regard for the law. The advice is, if you see such riders you should ring 999, which I find surprising. If there is an ongoing problem you should phone the PROW team on 0845 345 0210 and report them and hopefully the authorities will then do something about it. Two of the existing committee members indicated

that they would rather not continue so Martin Heddle and Max Walker volunteered to take their places. Marion

Banks-Nash, Pam Sayers, Ken Hammond, Shelley Jackson and Lindsay Bennett agreed to continue as committee members. Maurice Sayers remains as chairman with Barry Sheppard, treasurer and Jo Walker, secretary. Most of the audience then went to the Fox for a meal and a drink to round off a convivial evening.

DOVER CHORAL SOCIETY will lead the singing in 'Come Carolling', the Christians Together in Dover carol concert, in Dover Town Hall at 7.30 pm on Monday 11th December. Accompaniment will be provided by the St Edmund's School Band, and the concert will also feature a selection of seasonal songs by St Margarets

Primary School. The charity appeal will be on behalf of The Shaw Trust. Tickets at £1 (children 50p)

are available from local churches or from Carrol Moore on 01304 820150. **(Steve Osborn)**

HOUSES - At the Alkham Parish Council meeting the chairman of the Sutton PC, Graham Smith, spoke about the number of houses that are intended to be built in the Whitfield The area Local Development Framework (LDF) says that 10,000 new houses should be built but the South East Regional Authority (SERA) advises 6100. Graham said that they accept that new houses have to be built but all the houses in excess of 6100 will have to be built on green field sites and therefore the SERA option should be adopted. He also said that there were a lot of houses in the Dover District that could be refurbished but as new houses are VAT free and improvements not, then the tendency was for new houses to be constructed. Dover District Council is in favour of 10,000 houses being built and Graham Smith asked the Alkham Parish Council if they would support him in advocating that 6,100 should be built in the first instance. There was unanimous agreement with this motion and the council will write to the relevant authority in his support.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH European Environmental Control (EEC) are back visiting the area. They are the Company from Lancashire who offer security



equipment at very high prices. Although the company is a bona fide company their selling

techniques are not always creditable. They have featured on 'Watchdog' type programmes for many, many years. They do not like NHW as we ruffle their trading habits, so always inform them, should they ring you, that you are NHW and you will be advising your neighbours of them. Trading Standards have been informed. Please make sure that elderly and vulnerable neighbours are aware of this information. (NHW email)



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FREDERIC HALL Solicitors York House, Folkestone 01303 851185 & Clyde House, Dover 01304 202411

ALKHAM WI - The AGM on the 14th November started in a traditional way with the singing of 'Jerusalem' followed by an election for the 2007 committee; which resulted in Janet Barrow, Susan Lees, Raye Luckhurst, Grace Stacey, Doreen Wilks with Helen Scopes being elected as the new President. Thanks to be given to Joanna O'Shea and Margaret Tobev for being 'Tellers'. Ruth Pascoe, the Dover West area representative being present, said how pleased she was to see that 14 people had been prepared to stand for committee, all too often nowadays people are reluctant to join in and help. Among the many Christmas activities reminders were given that the WI is to lead carol singing 2nd December 4.45pm when the Village Lights are switched on, and the Carol Singing Coffee Morning on 9th December. Names are being taken, whether WI members or not, for an outing to see 'Last of the Summer Wine' 21 January - 01303 255114. The meeting closed with Bingo, and although the ladies have never been so quiet, they all agreed they thoroughly enjoyed the game. (Sue Lees)



ALKHAM CRICKET CLUB held its annual Awards dinner and dance on November 11 to celebrate a year which saw the club play the biggest game in its history when it faced an Old England XI. The Brian Luckhurst Memorial Match raised over £5000 for the Mountbatten Cancer Centre in Canterbury and saw Alkham defy the odds and clinch a remarkable draw against a team of ex-Test players including Derek Randall, John Lever, Richard Ellison and Peter Such. Growing support for the Alkham club meant that this year it had to find a venue capable of hosting 70 players, guests, family and friends so the event was held at Blue Birds awards The in Dover were dominated by all-rounder Nick Price and new 2007 Captain, Mark Naris. Price collected the Bowling. Performance and Player of the Year trophies, while Naris picked up the Batting and the Players' Player under-15s awards. Kent Girls wicketkeeper Rebecca Johnson received the Young Player award; Paul Hatton was named Supporters Player of the Year, while Paul Tapsell was once again named as Clubman of the Year for his magnificent effort in organising the Old England match. Tapsell was also given Life Membership of the Club, along with Raye Luckhurst, John Huggins and Barbara Palmer for the support they have given to the club. Certificates were also given to existing life members Bob Palmer and club president Mark Loveday. (Peter Frater)

NEWSLETTER – You may have noticed that three large box adverts have disappeared (evidently Bradford and Bingley estate agents no longer exist). This is no problem as the Newsletter has sufficient reserves to cover any shortfall and I can replace them by visiting local businesses. If however you would like to advertise before I do this please give me a ring on 824969. The cost of a large box is £3.50 a month.

THERE were three males, thought to be immigrants, wandering around the village lately. After approaching a local for a 'light' the police were informed. It is thought the men were living rough but they have not been seen recently so it is probable that they have been dealt with by the police.

OZ on FESSENDEN

An unanswerable question from the last 120 years is "Who invented radio?" As with today's computer internet, radio technology and developed rapidly and globally, particularly with the Great War looming, and it is difficult now to untangle just who devised what. However, one notable event occurred 100 years ago this month. During the cold and stormy night of Christmas Eve 1906, radio operators on ships off the New England coast were amazed to hear a faint human voice emerging from the dots and dashes on their Marconi Morse stations. As news spread and crewmen gathered round the receivers, the voice announced itself Reginald as that of Aubrev

Fessenden, presenting a programme of speech and music. Fessenden then transmitted a recording of Handel's *Largo* from an Edison cylinder, read a passage from the Bible describing Christ's birth,

sang O Holy Night loudly while accompanying himself on the violin, and finished with Christmas wishes and a promise to broadcast again on New Year's Eve. It was the first-ever public radio broadcast, and followed Fessenden's earlier successful experiments in audio signals. Born in Quebec in 1866, Fessenden was awarded a mathematics scholarship at the age of 14, but left college four vears later with no degree and with little technical training. Hoping to some experience with gain electricity, Fessenden wrote to Edison "Don't know anything about electricity, but can learn pretty quick", to which Edison replied "Have enough men already who don't know about electricity". However, Edison later recruited Fessenden as technician, starting

him on a long career inventing for other radio companies, the Niagara Falls Power Plant and for the British



government during the Great War. Fessenden died in Bermuda in 1932, holding over 500 patents in fields as diverse as sonar research, microfilm, seismology and anti-artillery devices. (Steve Osborn)

Regular events in the village

	5
Monday	The Chalksole Homegroup, third Monday of the month. Please phone Linda on 823100 for further details
Tuesday	Art classes in the village hall from 10 am to 1 pm. Ring 07811405124 for further details
Wednesday	Keep Fit in the village hall from 9.30 am to 10.30 am – Wednesday Club from 10.30 am to 11.30 am
Thursday	Mobile Library stops at the car parks by the village hall from 9.25 am to 9.50 am
Friday	Whist Drive in the village hall starting at 7.30 pm

Other events in the village		
Saturday	2	Christmas tree lights turn-on. Please see page 1
Saturday	9	Carol singing and bazaar in the village hall from 10.30am to midday – please see page 1
Sunday	17	Carol service in St. Anthony's church starting at 6.30pm
Monday	18	Dover and District Bird Club in the village hall from 7.30pm

CHURCH SERVICES					
Day	Alkham	Capel	Hougham	Weekday	
Sunday 3rd	Evensong 4pm	Sung Eucharist 9.30 am	Worshipping together 11 a.m.	Services: Morning prayer	
Tuesday 5 th	Healin	g Service, St Radigund, Capel 7	7.00pm	at Capel: Monday – Friday 8.30am	
Sunday 10th	Sung Eucharist 9.30 am	Worshipping together 11 a.m.	No service	(except Bank	
Sunday 17 th	Service of nine lessons and carols 6.30 pm	Service of nine lessons and carols 10.00 am	Said Eucharist 9.00 am	holidays): Eucharist at Capel Thursday	
Sunday 24 th	Crib service 4.30 pm	Midnight mass 11.30 pm	No service	at 9.15am.	
Monday 25 th	Sung Eucharist 11.00am	No service	Sung Eucharist 9.30am	*	
Sunday 31st	Joint Benefice Sur	ng Eucharist St Radigund Capel-	le-Ferne 10.00 am		

TELEPHONE NUMBERS	Police – 999 phone & 01303 850055 Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130 Community Warden 07977 981994	Village Hall booking Rosemary Polden 824876 Alkham Valley Society secretary
Gwyn Prosser M.P . 01304 214484	GP out of hours to access urgent medical help 0844 800 1234	Joanna Walker 821641 W.I. secretary – Janet Barrow 829585
County Councillor , Bryan Cope 207976 work number 01795532547	Newsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969 e mail <u>brianwimsett@hotmail.com</u>	Church Wardens - Richard Tapsell
District Councillors Sue Nicholas 823956 Andrew Richardson 211835	Parish Clerk Angela Miller 824791	822295 and Grace Stacey 822756Alkham web sitewww.alkham.org

LOCAL	LOCAL BUSINESSES AND SERVICES (no prefix local number)				
ARBORICULTURE	Alkham Valley Tree Surgery: Planning, planting, maintenance removal	Wolverton	824853		
BOARDING KENNELS	Kennels and Cattery, Canine Hydrotherapy and Pet Food Shop	Wolverton	822420		
CAT & DOG GROOMING	Canine beauticians, dogs and cats groomed, Newcastle House	Ewell Minnis	822902		
CLEANING SERVICES	John Hoy domestic/commercial carpet and upholstery cleaning	Ewell Minnis	07889310479		
CURTAINS & BLINDS	Curtains and blinds made to your specification	Alkham Valley	01303 891806		
ELECTRICAL	Simon Price Part P electricians and data instorers	South Alkham	01303 252764		
EQUESTRIAN	HOGBROOK Equestrian Centre Livery yard, instruction, hacking	Hogbrook Lane, Alkham	827644		
EQUESTRIAN	GREENHILL FARM - DIY and assisted livery - excellent facilities	Megget Lane, South Alkham	01303 892056		
EQUESTRIAN SUPPLIES	Alkham Valley Garden Centre - everything for horse and rider	South Alkham	01303 891996		
PLUMBING & HEATING	Iain Blears plumbing and heating services	Wolverton 82250 713 896	0 or 07888		
SCHOOL	Capel-le-Ferne school Your local primary school; free bus from Alkham	Capel Street, Capel-le-Fer 251353	me 01303		

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No. 160 January 2007

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THE CHRISTMAS SWITCH-ON was enjoyed by a good sized crowd which was entertained by the W.I choir and a visit from Father Christmas who gave sweets to the children who were present. Other goodies were given to those who entered the art competition which was held to choose the child to perform the switch-on. Polly Comfort was that child and, after a count down from the crowd, she deftly hit the button to set the lights ablaze. There was no mulled wine or afterwards but pies mince everyone seemed to have 58 enioved themselves and people gathered later in the pub for a meal – continued on page 3

POPPY APPEAL - Many thanks to the villagers of Alkham for donating generously to this year's Poppy The collection Appeal. came to £342.25. Thanks go to Shirley Tapsell, Grace Stacey, Helen Price, and Sue Lees for collecting. And also thanks to The Barn, Alkham Garden Centre and the Marguis of Granby for having collection boxes.

(Rachel Fountain)

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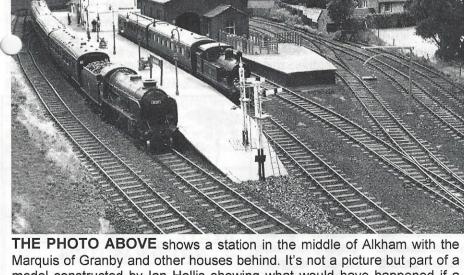
> 25k Wild Bird Seed £15 25k Peanuts £25 01303 862200

Oscar a Friendly franchise

RAILWAY THROUGH ALKHAM

The model is superb and was featured in the March 2006 edition of the British Railway Modelling magazine. Inside the Newsletter are further pictures and the model itself will be on display at MRC exhibition in Canterbury on the 20th/21st of January 2007 at St. Anselms School, Old Canterbury, Dover Road. Saturday 10.00am to 5.00pm, Sunday 10.00am to 4.30pm. Entry adult £3.50, OAP £2.50, child £2.00 (5-16), family £9.00 (Entry for 2+2).

During the last 40 years of the 19th was intense century there rivalry between three companies to reach the towns of Kent and build secondary links in the county. A line was built from Folkestone to Canterbury but Ian Hollis has imagined what would have happened if the LCDR option had been adopted, which was for a branch leaving the Canterbury to Dover line at Kearsney and then running down the valley. It would have continued under the ridge of the North Downs into Folkestone and be built to double track main line standard. For the first 40 years, life on the line was gentle but in the 1920's the Kent coalfield arrived and a coal mine would have been sunk at Wolverton producing 400 wagon loads a week. World War II brought big changes - the story continues on page 2.



model constructed by Ian Hollis showing what would have happened if a railway line had been built down the valley.

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I AM GRATEFUL to Ian Hollis and British Railway Modelling Magazine for letting me publish the article and photographs. The magazine is on sale on the second Thursday of every month, in all good newsagents.

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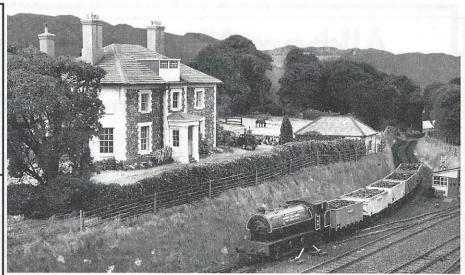
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www.meggettfarmcottage.co.uk email: <u>simon-price.dover@virgin.net</u> Phone: 01303 252764 - Simon & Helen Price



A TRAIN eases into the exchange sidings past the (Old) Vicarage with 70 tons of coal from the Wolverton pit.





commandeered the line through Alkham and closed it to the public, so they could hide an 18 inch rail-mounted gun under the Downs. After the war the line returned to Southern Region but never regained pre-war levels. By the mid 1950's, British Rail had taken the decision to Folkestone close the connection but keep a single line from Dover, mainly to provide a link to Wolverton colliery. The model reflects this age and the pictures on the left show Fremlin's delivering beer to the Marquis and the early morning newspaper train.

In World War II the army

THE MODEL OF ALKHAM is based on actual measurements taken by I Hollis. Through the then Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator he was able to gain access to the houses forming the model and all the owners at the time were delighted to help. Sue Lees provided a wealth of other local information.

THE CAROL SINGING Coffee Morning held to raise funds for Cancer Research was a great success. Over £300 has been raised with the help of members of Alkham WI. Everyone must be thanked whether they made goods, gave goods, paid for goods or worked hard selling the goods. It is a cause to which everyone wishes to contribute. Thank you. (Sue Lees)

RECYCLING – The next collection will be on the Thursday 4th January. Ken a I would like to thank the lady who lives Glebelands for her kindness. It brightened up an otherwise horrible day.

DO YOU REMEMBER the Parcel Delivery Services scam? We have been informed by ICSTIS, the regulator of Premium Rate Services that they successfully closed down all Parcel Delivery Services' lines and froze their revenue. The company has subsequently been fined £10,000 and ordered to pay full refunds to all those who complained to ICSTIS. The Premium rate numbers are now dead. This is an excellent result. (Neighbourhood Watch)

POWER CUT – On the 10th of December a large area of Alkham was blacked out because of a power cut. That evening I was phoned by a local resident who said that the reason for the blackout was that a land owner at South Alkham wouldn't let EDF onto their land to repair the fault which was causing it. I have tried phoning EDF to find out whether this is the case but the number given refuses to answer. If it is the case that a landowner is refusing access to EDF, the resident who phoned would like to know the reason why. I'm quite happy to pass on the message to the caller if you want to ring me on 824969 but only as an intermediary. (editor)

AS A RESULT of the article in last month's Newsletter I am pleased to say we now have two new box adverts. One of them is on the right of this article and the other is on page 3 courtesy of the Hogbrook Equestrian Centre.

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FREDERIC HALL Solicitors York House, Folkestone 01303 851185 & Clyde House, Dover 01304 202411

ALKHAM WI - Christmas brings good cheer and hard work but it is worth it. Members are always willing to help raise funds for charity, the Cancer Research Carol singing morning being one of the most noteworthy. Also several members went to Kearsney Manor Nursing Home to sing carols to the residents there as well as leading the carol singing when the Alkham Christmas Tree lights were switched on. However, there have been occasions when members have also been able to sit back and relax such as the Christmas Dinner held at The Lighthouse at Capel. The next WI meeting will be on Tuesday 9th January 2007 when Debbie Burris is going to entertain embers with a talk which she always presented in an amusing way.

BOOK SATURDAY DECEMBER 8TH

2008 for the next Christmas Lights switchon and if anyone has any ideas or suggestions for the event I would be pleased to hear from them! (Mark Robson)



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NEWS FROM ST. ANTHONY'S The Christmas Bazaar which was held in November made a profit of £256.88 for church funds. This was a very good result and we would like to thank everyone who worked so hard making things for the stalls and to all the helpers on the day for making it such a success. Our Christmas services at Alkham are as shown in the December Newsletter, and we look forward to seeing you at the Crib service on the 24th at 4.30pm, so children, bring your mums and dads along .On Christmas morning there will be a Eucharist service at 11.00am and we must say that this proved to be a very popular service last year. Finally we would like to wish the parishioners of Alkham a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year. (Grace and Richard --**Church Wardens**)

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS continued from page 1 - The raffle raised £105 which will be put towards the cost of the electricity and my thanks go to Den and Irene Barnard, Maurice Savers, Richard Miller. The Alkham Valley Garden the Alkham Tea Rooms, Centre. Hogbrook Riding School and the Marguis of Granby for the donation of prizes for this. Thanks must also go to John, Paul and Simon Huggins, Richard Miller and Den Barnard who helped cut, collect and set the tree up and to Noon Lawrence from Tilmanstone who for the past three years has donated the tree saving us an absolute fortune. Several people have commented that they would prefer coloured lights which I have some sympathy with. However the decision to use rope light was made for several reasons not least of which were that the cost of one string of bulbs is more than the cost of the three lengths of rope light and the rope light is pretty much vandal proof! Damage has been caused each year to the trees and decorations and 1 suspect that individual bulbs would make an almost target to the irresistible people concerned. (Mark Robson)

OZ on STELLA - One of the funniest novels of the last century is undoubtedly Cold Comfort Farm by Stella Gibbons, and we've borrowed it often from the library over the years. Recently we acquired our own copy and were soon busy reading the more outrageous bits to each other again. The story tells the adventures of a sophisticated young London woman among her relatives in rural Sussex, the Starkadders of Cold Comfort Farm. Published in 1932, it is a hilarious parody of the 'rural novel' that had been so popular in the early part of the century. Typical of the book is that the farm's COWS are named Graceless, Aimless. Feckless and Pointless, and are tended by old Adam Lambsbreath; and it is Aunt Ada Doom who utters the famous line about seeina "something nastv in the woodshed." Stella Gibbons was born in 1902 into a family totally dominated by the father, a welldoctor respected but an extremely volatile man Fortunately for Stella, this difficult childhood had the effect of helping her assert herself in later life, a trait shared by the heroine in Cold Comfort Farm, Stella was educated the at London Collegiate school and University College. London. before embarking on her dual careers of journalism and writing of novels and poetry. The success of Cold Comfort Farm in 1932 coincided with Stella's marriage to actor Alan Webb and the birth of her daughter Laura, and she then devoted herself full time to writing and domesticity. By the time of her death in 1989. Stella had published a further 29 novels of high quality that were strangely overlooked by readers. Maybe Cold Comfort Farm was just too successful for its own good, so that her fans simply turned away when they didn't get more of the same. (Steve Osborn)

BOOK CLUB: A 19th Century Classic of your choice. Wednesday 10th January 7:30pm.Host Margaret 2, Meadow Cottages, Hogbrook Hill. Contact Rosemary 827880 for further details.

Regular events in the village

ONDO DOD -	3	
Monday	y The Chalksole Homegroup, third Monday of the month. Please phone Linda on 823100 for further details	
Tuesday	Art classes in the village hall from 10 am to 1 pm. Ring 07811405124 for further details	
Wednesday	Keep Fit in the village hall from 9.30 am to 10.30 am – Wednesday Club from 10.30 am to 11.30 am	
Thursday	From February 1 st – Karate classes in the village hall from 7.15pm to 8.45pm – ring 821336	
Thursday	Irsday Mobile Library stops at the car parks by the village hall from 9.25 am to 9.50 am	
Friday	Whist Drive in the village hall starting at 7.30 pm	

Other events in the village				
Monday	8	Parish Council meeting in the village hall at 7.30pm – all welcome		
Tuesday	9	W.I. in the village hall from 7.30pm		
Monday	15	Dover and District Bird Club in the village hall from 7.30pm		
Saturday	27	Beekeepers in the village hall from 2.00pm to 5.00pm		

CHURCH SERVICES					
Day	Alkham	Capel	Hougham	Weekday	
Sunday 7th	Evensong 4pm	Sung Eucharist 9.30pm	Worshipping together 11a.m.	Services: Morning prayer	
Tuesday 9th		No Healing Service	. It draw use in bath blank d	at Capel: Monday –	
Sunday 14th	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping together 11 a.m.	Evensong 6.30pm	Friday 8.30am (except Bank	
Sunday 21st	Worshipping together 11 a.m.	Evensong 6.00 p.m.	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	holidays): Eucharist at	
Sunday 28th	Joint Benefice	e Sung Eucharist St Lawrence,	Hougham 10am	Capel Thursday at 9.15am.	

TELEPHONE NUMBERS	Police – 999 phone & 01303 850055 Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130 Community Warden 07977 981994	Village Hall booking Rosemary Polden 824876 Alkham Valley Society secretary
Gwyn Prosser M.P. 01304 214484	GP out of hours to access urgent medical help 0844 800 1234	Joanna Walker 821641 W.I. secretary – Janet Barrow 829585
County Councillor, Bryan Cope 207976 work number 01795532547	Newsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969 e mail brianwimsett@hotmail.com	Church Wardens - Richard Tapsell
District Councillors Sue Nicholas 823956	Parish Clerk Angela Miller 824791	822295 and Grace Stacey 822756
Andrew Richardson 211835	alkhamparishcouncil@tesco.net	Alkham web site www.alkham.org

LOCAL	BUSINESSES AND SERVICES	(no prefix local n	umber)	
ARBORICULTURE	ARBORICULTURE Alkham Valley Tree Surgery: Planning, planting, maintenance removal			
BOARDING KENNELS	Kennels and Cattery, Canine Hydrotherapy and Pet Food Shop	Wolverton	822420	
CAT & DOG GROOMING	Canine beauticians, dogs and cats groomed, Newcastle House	Ewell Minnis	822902	
CLEANING SERVICES	John Hoy domestic/commercial carpet and upholstery cleaning	Ewell Minnis	07889310479	
CURTAINS & BLINDS	Curtains and blinds made to your specification	Alkham Valley	01303 891806	
ELECTRICAL	Simon Price Part P electricians and data instorers	South Alkham	01303 252764	
EQUESTRIAN	GREENHILL FARM - DIY and assisted livery - excellent facilities	Megget Lane, South Alkham	01303 892056	
EQUESTRIAN SUPPLIES	Alkham Valley Garden Centre - everything for horse and rider	South Alkham	01303 891996	
PLUMBING & HEATING	Iain Blears plumbing and heating services	Wolverton 822500 d	or 07888 713 896	
SCHOOL	Capel-le-Ferne school Your local primary school; free bus from Alkham	Capel Street, Capel-le-Fern	e 01303 251353	

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No. 161 February 2007

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had to cross Alkham Valley road. Fearlessly the man in the hat stopped the traffic for a few minutes at the start of the two hour hike towards Hawkinge via the meadows behind the Old Rectory, then across to Ewell Minnis and back through Sladden Woods. Everyone seemed to enjoy being out together walking some footpaths which need solid walking. Paul, James and Charlotte had done a recce of the entire walk the day before to be certain that the way was indeed practical. We hope James managed to find his transmitter. There were one or two suggestions made en route which might be entertaining to include in the walk next year. A challenge: can 100 people cross the Alkham Valley road in a crocodile? - Why not. Thanks again to all who made the walk so much fun by coming along. (Joanna Walker. Secretary)

ALKHAM VALLEY ROAD - For MOTHERS' DAY BREAKFAST those people who drive to Dover, I'm Children and husbands, can you keep sure you must have noticed the a secret? Want to dispel the myth that manhole covers which are sunk into we can't cook? Plans are afoot to the road since it was partially surprise Alkham Mums with a resurfaced. The Highway Authority Mothers' Day breakfast in the Village say that all but one of these is within Hall before the special church service tolerance except the cover near the on Sunday 18th March. If you would centre of the road. To raise this like to 'wow' your loved one then call manhole would require a road closure Geoff Gaskill on 01304 823100. and Highway's are not keen to do this. FOOTPATH - KCC are being The Parish Council is writing to them contacted again about putting a again expressing their especially if a motorcyclist was to hit village hall and the one to Newlyns the one near the centre of the road.

along the valley is now complete but this path but now say there is not before it is put into use it needs to be flushed. The flushed water will discharge into an adjacent ditch presumably the dyke through the village. The water authority have given assurances that no flooding will occur AN ATTEMPT was made to break because of this.

three old postcards of Alkham church on eBay and I think two local people may have been bidding against each other.

concern footpath between the path behind the Meadow. At a recent consultation. PIPELINE - The new water main KCC had said that they would install sufficient money to do so. This path is the safe alternative to walking through the narrow gap on the Valley Road and from the wear to the grass is regularly used.

into St.Anthony's church with resulting **POSTCARDS** – Recently there were damage to the back door and a side window. It appears as though entry wasn't made as nothing was stolen, it was however pure vandalism to even try and get in.

The Alkham Valley **RuPP's** is the acronym for Roads Christmas used as Public Paths, which basically Walk - Thank you to means that most forms of transport can nearly 60 people and 6 use them. You may remember reading dogs who took part in in the Newsletter about local RuPP's Walk on 27th being used by motorcyclists and 4 December. It was very wheeled drive vehicles. From the 2nd of well led by Paul Tapsell May this year the majority of RuPP's passed will have Restricted Byway Status. This seamlessly from uncle means that they can only be used by to nephew) in a brightly pedestrians, horses and vehicles that coloured jester's hat, are not mechanically driven (there are red and yellow and exceptions). However, those RuPP's bells and points. This which have been the subject of in objection are not included and their most useful when we designation will be decided in due the course. I understand that this may be a couple of years and this affects a number of RuPP's in the parish.

> WHITE CLIFFS CARELINE 24hour monitoring and alarm service Any one at any age can feel at risk. Fear need not be something you face alone because we are open 24 hours. We are able to assist in many from providing friendly situations, reassurance to contacting the emergency services. People who join the scheme are supplied with a special alarm unit and pendant so they can call for help wherever they are. One push of the button on the pendant alerts the Control Centre, and help is on the way in a matter of minutes, even if the person is unable to speak. A unit can be installed on either a long term or temporary basis. We strive to keep costs as low as possible. Installation is £10 plus a small weekly charge. If you have just come out of hospital there is a free one month's trial. Phone 01304 872070 or 872071. (Dover District Council)

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organising the Open Benefice and get to know us and RESTORATION, hopefully take an active part in the and reconstruction. Work on a event. The Open Gardens will now certain well-known landmark in Slip take place in 2008 (date to be decided lane is taking place and is a later) and, instead, this year we will fascinating exercise (to watch). We hold a Garage Safari on 11th August. know The money raised will go towards our neighbours are particularly fond of Church funds. We want to thank the old corrugated iron structure and everybody who agreed to open their wondered if any arm-twisting is gardens in July and very much hope taking place. It is encouraging to see that you will do so next year. In the that something mellow will be remeantime perhaps we can all turn out instated in sympathy with this neck of our attics and the backs of cupboards the woods. Good work. (Jo Walker) to see what we can find to sell. A BOOK CLUB - We enjoyed a contribution towards our funds will be friendly evening last month, sought from everyone taking part and discussing various books written by we would like to hear from anyone authors of the wishing to participate – please ring one Membership continues to grow with of the numbers below. There will be a the prospect of a few more joining meeting in the Village Hall at 2.30pm next month, which on Monday, 12 February, when we refreshing. Please note that from would like to see you if you would like now on the Book Club have agreed would like to see you if you would like to take part in the day's activities, to meet on the 1st Wednesday of whether you want to have a garage sale yourself or help in any other way – please come along on 12th. We will be grateful for any help you can give. If you think you may not have enough things to sell yourself perhaps you can by page Fiton. For further details things to sell yourself perhaps you can by Ben Elton. For further details join up with a friend. More details on please contact Rosemary Heddle 12 February. (Susan Lees 822661, 827880. Margaret Batcheldor 823568, Raye GARDEN TALK - Belated thanks Luckhurst 892848, Betty Neely to lon and lucy for besting our

rest goes to charity. (Susannah pm. Tapsell)

GARAGE SAFARI - We have ALKHAM VALLEY SOCIETY

decided that we will hold a Garage Thank you all who attended the AGM Safari in the Village this year instead of on 16 November - it was a pretty full the Open Gardens Weekend as house and we missed those who originally intended. The reasons for were unable to come. The supper at the change of plan are twofold: there the Fox was well-attended and a is a lot of work and involvement in happy affair with its customary good Gardens food and cheerfulness. As mentioned Weekend and we felt that we would at the AGM events planned for the need more time than the proposed coming year (a speaker on a topical date in July would allow, and we also issue and the annual outing) will be felt that, as our new Vicar will be organised by the Committee and installed in the near future, we would everyone will be notified in due like to give him time to settle into the course.(Joanna Walker - Secretary)

> refurbishment Val & Stan Fowler's

> 19th century. is always

01303 251475, Marion Nash 820701) to tall and Edg, is instead the Christmas party (I missed the to lan and Lucy for hosting our KEEP FIT - At this time of year deadline for January)! It was a thoughts often turn to doing just a wonderful evening as usual and the little exercise. Those who could be Dutch raffle proved very popular and wavering towards a positive decision involved a bottle of whisky, a wooden may be encouraged to come to the boat and a teddy bear amongst other Village hall, Weds. 9.30 -10.30am, things. It was a pleasure to welcome where not only do we enjoy a fairly of Sue and Bruce Campbell, who will gentle programme, but also raise hopefully become regular members money for a mixture of local and of our gang. They kindly agreed to national charities, £285.00 in this last act as hosts for the February year. Each person pays just £1.a meeting which will be at Malmains session and once the hall is paid the Manor on 9th February at 7.30 Look forward to seeing everyone there. (Devina 827548)

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STREET NAMEPLATES - The OZ on AUDEN - The film Four Slip Lane nameplate has been Weddings and a Funeral famously replaced but still seems to stick out featured Funeral Blues, the 1936 slightly into the road. The Highway poem of grieving that starts "Stop all Authority have been told about the the clocks, cut off the telephone...". Chalkhsole Green Lane sign which Wystan Hugh Auden, the poem's was inexplicably run into. They have author, was born in York 100 years been asked not to put an arrow ago this month into a high-achieving pointing up towards Ellinge on the Anglo-Catholic family. He later new sign as this is Slip Lane.

Scopes welcomed members and childhood. Auden began writing visitors to the first meeting of the poetry at school and never stopped, Leppard:- TV 'Last of the Summer journalism, eventually producing Wine' 21 January; Les Miserable 21 more than 400 each of poems and February, TV 'Loose Women' 5 prose items. It was while working March and Classical Spectacular 25 with the GPO Film Unit in 1936 that March. Anyone interested in the last he two shows please ring 01303 commentary 255114. Member Debbie Burris gave documentary film Night Mail: "This is a very interesting and amusing talk, the Night Mail crossing the Border, / as anticipated, on effective, money saving ways to order...". A year later he wrote the clean the house - why do we listen lesser-known but equally evocative to manufacturer's who claim their poem Dover. In the first line, "a products clean so much better than tunnel through chalk anyone else's? The meeting ended obviously refers to the Shakespeare with absolutely gorgeous eats, the Tunnel but has a second resonance only draw back being that they piled with us nowadays since construction the calories on top of all those of Roundhill Tunnel on the A20 already gained from Christmas goodies. The speaker at made in this town", reflecting the the next meeting Tuesday 13th long-held view that people go February will be Wendy Finnis from through, rather than to, Dover. "A Hougham, demonstrating quilting. (Susan Lees)

attributed his love of words and

ALKHAM WI – President Helen music to the church services of his year. A year which starts with many even while reading biology at Oxford enticing outings organized by Cherry and later working in teaching and wrote the ever-popular for the GPO simple but Bringing the cheque and the postal downs" eating approach. Four lines later "Nothing is Norman castle ... flood-lit at night" is still there, unlike the "Trains which fume in a station built on the sea." And so Auden continues, describing lighthouses "Like twin stone dogs", the eyes of departing migrants and homecomers, soldiers in "The Lion, The Rose, The Crown", aeroplanes "drone through the that new European air", and "High over France, a full moon, cold and exciting". From 1939 onwards, Auden lived variously in the US, UK and Europe, dying in Vienna in 1973, but I like to think he never really forgot the Night Mail or Dover. (Steve Osborn)

	Regular events in the village			
Monday The Chalksole Homegroup, third Monday of the month. Please phone Linda on 823100 for further details				
Tuesday	Tuesday Art classes in the village hall from 10 am to 1 pm. Ring 07811405124 for further details			
Wednesday	Keep Fit in the village hall from 9.30 am to 10.30 am – Wednesday Club from 10.30 am to 11.30 am			
Thursday	From February 1 st – Karate classes in the village hall from 7.15pm to 8.45pm – ring 821336			
Thursday	Thursday Mobile Library stops at the car parks by the village hall from 9.25 am to 9.50 am			
Friday	Whist Drive in the village hall starting at 7.30 pm			

Other	events	in	the	village
	CUCIICS			VIII GBC

Monday	8	Parish Council meeting in the village hall at 7.30pm – all welcome
Tuesday	9	W.I. in the village hall from 7.30pm
Monday	15	Dover and District Bird Club in the village hall from 7.30pm
Saturday	27	Beekeepers in the village hall from 2.00pm to 5.00pm

CHURCH SERVICES						
Day	Alkham	Capel	Hougham	Weekday		
Sunday 7th	Evensong 4pm	Sung Eucharist 9.30pm	Worshipping together 11a.m.	Services: Morning prayer		
Tuesday 9th		No Healing Service		at Capel: Monday –		
Sunday 14th	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping together 11 a.m.	Evensong 6.30pm	Friday 8.30am		
Sunday 21st	Worshipping together 11 a.m.	Evensong 6.00 p.m.	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	(except Bank holidays):		
Sunday 28th	Joint Benefice	Sung Eucharist St Lawrence, I	Hougham 10am	 Eucharist at Capel Thursday at 9.15am. 		

TELEPHONE NUMBERS	Police – 999 phone & 01303 850055 Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130 Community Warden 07977 981994	Village Hall booking Rosemary Polden 824876 Alkham Valley Society secretary
Gwyn Prosser M.P . 01304 214484	GP out of hours to access urgent medical help 0844 800 1234	Joanna Walker 821641 W.I. secretary – Janet Barrow 829585
County Councillor, Bryan Cope 207976 work number 01795532547	Newsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969 e mail <u>brianwimsett@hotmail.com</u>	Church Wardens - Richard Tapsell
District Councillors Sue Nicholas 823956	Parish Clerk Angela Miller 824791 alkhamparishcouncil@tesco.net	822295 and Grace Stacey 822756
Andrew Richardson 211835	arknamparisheounen@tese0.net	Alkham web site <u>www.alkham.org</u>

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SCHOOL	Capel-le-Ferne school Your local primary school; free bus from Alkham	Capel Street, Capel-le-Ferne 01303 251353		

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PARISH COUNCIL

roads and footpaths. behaviour and the various other wider strategic matters (i.e. waste education, policing, management, etc.). We have full well as perhaps a further six shorter meetings as and when particular requires a modest commitment as regards time and effort. If you are stalls/garages will interested in standing for the Council, or would like further information about what's involved please contact Angela (the Clerk on 01304 824791), Neil Burrows (Chairman Chairman 01303 892082).

ALKHAM FETE

COMMITTEE There will be a meeting of the Fete Committee on the 14th March 2007 at 8 p.m. in the Village Hall to make arrangements for this year's Fete. We have a number of vacancies for stallholders and would welcome volunteers to run existing stalls or to make suggestions for other attractions or entertainments which might add a new spin to the traditional Fete; please come along, have your say and become a part of the Village's biggest annual social event - I guarantee you'll enjoy yourself! (Paul Tapsell 01303 892082) A QUIZ in aid of the Kent Air Ambulance will be held in the village hall on the 21st April. To book a table please ring 824876.

No. 162 March 2007

GARAGE SAFARI - An open meeting OPERATION STACK ELECTIONS - Once again it is election was held in the Village Hall recently to You might not be aware but someone is time for the Parish Council; this is discuss the Garage Safari, which will finally doing something to try and stop your opportunity to become actively take place on Saturday, 11 August, "Operation Stack" involved and to make a positive beginning at 10.00am. We have already Messenger Group has launched an contribution on a range of issues received several enquiries and promises online petition. For too long, the people affecting the village and villagers, to take part but we still need a few of Kent have suffered the major such as communal facilities, planning more. There are people who live a disruption caused every time Kent applications and the state of the short distance from the village, some of Police have to implement Operation nuisance whom may wish to take part in the Stack. While up to 5,000 lorry drivers Garage Safari but feel that they are too park up on the M20 awaiting points of contact and liaison with the far out. This need not be a problem as embarkation on the Dover ferries, the District and County Councils about there will be plenty of space at The rest of Kent's traffic also grinds to a halt. Hermitage for extra tables for anyone The KM is calling on the Government to who would like to take advantage of it. address the issue urgently and asks We would like to have a group of stalls readers to support its campaign by meetings every two months or so as there to encourage prospective buyers signing to come that far out of the village. www.kentonline.co.uk/specialreports There will also be a car park in the field /stack.asp You might want to sign urgent matters arise, so the post there. The fee for a stall/garage will be up....(and forward to your colleagues, £8. money taken on All belong to stallholder. However, a donation to the FUND RAISING PARTY church would be gratefully received, for St. Anthony's Church at Box Tree but there is no obligation whatsoever. Cottage On Friday, 23rd March. It is There will be tea or coffee and biscuits proposed to have a supper at Box Tree -01303 in the Village Hall and, should anyone Cottage in aid of the church funds. The 892056) or Paul Tapsell (Vice- wish to provide any other attraction evening will commence at 7.30 p.m., such as a cake stall, ice cream, etc. they and a buffet style supper will be served would be welcome to do so. The next at about 8 o'clock. open meeting will be held in the Village obviously have to be limited so please Hall on 11 June at 7.30pm. If you are do book your tickets early. The cost of interested in opening your garage or the buffet will be £10 per person with helping in some other way please do free beer, wine and soft drinks, come along as we will be discussing (although where alcohol is concerned, details with all concerned. All of the the way home for most people will be money raised will go to St Anthony's within walking distance, I am sure). church funds. (Marion Banks-Nash)

> Foxgloves, the house at the very top (Maurice and Pamela Sayers) ground and take about 1½ hours, the Dover non-members. (Shelley Jackson)

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..... the Kent its on-line petition the clients, suppliers, family, friends etc). the (Peter Frater)

Numbers will

There will be a raffle, and prizes for this THE ALKHAM VALLEY SOCIETY is will be very welcome. It is hoped to conducting a walk on Easter Monday, have a good crowd, and tickets are the 9th April. We will meet at available from Box Tree Cottage.

of Slip Lane on the T-Junction at about ACRYSE YOUNG farmer's club meets 10.30am. The walk will be on flat every Friday evening and is based around and Folkestone area. ending back at Foxgloves for coffee Everybody between the ages of 14 and 26 and biscuits. All welcome, including are welcome to join and you don't have to be a young farmer. For more information on please ring 07748630169.

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ANDREW BROADLEY: 07779 091427 JEFF STEVENS: 07976 849713 **TABLE FAIR** – On the 3rd of March Beattie and I are having a table for 'bric a brac' in the village hall at 11.00am with all the proceeds going to the Church. If any readers have items they are willing to donate then we would be grateful if you would bring them to the hall on the morning. If it is more convenient then I can collect them. Many thanks. **(Raye Luckhurst)**

THE BOOK CLUB spent a most enjoyable evening with 11 members discussing the many varied titles written by Ben Elton. This month's read is titled The Surgeon of Crowthorne: A tale of Murder, Madness and the Oxford English Dictionary by Simon Winchester. It is interesting to know that some of you are able to read the books we select even if you are unable to attend our meetings. Next months meeting will take place at the home of Sue, Woodlands, Short Lane, on 7th March 7.30 pm. Phone Rosemary for further details on 827880.

GARDEN MEETING - We all spent a wonderful evening with Sue and Bruce at Malmains Manor this month, so much so that the only concession to any sort of gardening was to admire the tulips and snowdrops on the table! Even my lovingly compiled quiz was ignored in favour of wine, chatter, food, more wine etc etc. The next meeting will be at the home of Maurice and Pamela Sayers on Friday 9th March at 7.30 pm. (Devina -827548)

LADIES OF ALKHAM - Did you know that you can go along to Dover South Kent College, (in the town centre), and have your hair done for a fraction of the cost charged by a salon. One of our younger village residents is seeking clients to practice perms, colouring and cut and styles. The work is fully supervised by qualified stylists and you can get a perm for £4.00, a cut and finish for £5.00 and colouring and highlights from £10.00 - £15.00. This is about 75% cheaper than salon prices. Refreshments are available and there is easy parking. If you are interested please phone Emily on 01304 823483. Emily has also offered to help with transport where she can, to and from college, for any senior Alkham residents who would like to come along.

ALKHAM CRICKET CLUB - We shall soon be starting our nets sessions so that we reach a peak of physical and mental preparation for the start of the season, if you would like to come along to the sessions at the St Lawrence Ground, Canterbury from 7.30 pm on Wednesdays in March and April, please give me a call as numbers have to be controlled. If you are unavailable for nets but would like to be involved during the season (starting at the end of April) again give me a shout and I'll pass your details onto our new skipper, Mark "Ironfist" Naris; he's promised us blood, sweat and tears but in return says he will guarantee us more wins than last year, so if you want to join a team on the way up then now is probably the best time! **(Paul Tapsell 01303 892082)**

ALKHAM QUIZ – There was a contented hum in the village hall on the 3rd of February at the end of the annual quiz. I wasn't sure whether this was due to the questions or the alcohol but it was probably a combination of both. I had said that the question master's decision was final but this was happily ignored by everyone present of which there were over 100 occupying 13 tables. Ten teams scored over 100 points (130 max) and the winning team scoring 120.5 was led (in the loosest sense) by Darren Mowat who kindly gave the winning vouchers to Ken Hammond who runs the Alkham Soup Kitchen slot at Dover. Huge bars of chocolate were given to the runners up whose team included Oz of page 3 and Jo Walker's family. A profit of £340 was donated to the Lord Whisky animal sanctuary at Rhodes Minnis who have sent a letter of thanks. **(Brian Wimsett)**

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ALKHAM WI in February – it was OZ on ROSSINI – While writing village the day before! matters may have confused some household. speaker Wendy Finnis from Church education Hougham fascinated people with her operas attractive. Wendy holds



quilting classes should anyone be interested to learn more of the craft. Next meeting 13th March, the speaker will be Mr C. Wade on the Saxon Shore Way. (Sue Lees)

DOVER CHORAL SOCIETY will perform Rossini's Petite Messe Solennelle ("Solemn Little Mass") at 7.30 pm on Saturday 31st March 2007 in Dover Town Hall. This setting was composed by the 71-year old Rossini in 1863, and was immediately recognized, as it has been ever since, as being neither particularly solemn nor little. Once again soloists will be drawn from the post-graduate ranks of the Guildhall School of Music, London. The choir and soloists will be accompanied by Spencer Payne (piano) and John Hurd (harmonium) and conducted by Michael Lewis. Tickets costing £10 (Students £5) are available from the Dover Tourist Information Centre (next to the Town Hall) or by telephoning 01304 822042; and, if there are any left, at the door on the night. For further details about the concert please ring Ken Palmer on 01304 330511 or Bob Joslin on 01304 363344. (Steve

good to see so many people present publicity for our spring choral concert I this month, especially as three of them became increasingly fascinated by the only joined that evening and the one featured composer's life. What better visitor told us she only moved into the than to share it with Alkham readers? Hopefully all Gioacchino, m eaning "Jackie", Rossini found it a welcoming occasion. An was born in Pesaro, on Italy's Adriatic attempt to cut down on business coast, in 1792, into a musically active His father was а people - it certainly cut down on the slaughterhouse inspector and horn time spent at the meeting, which may player, and his mother was a singer. or may not be a good idea. The After an intensive early musical Rossini began writing 14 at and achieved patchwork quilting; some garments international fame within 6 years. By were made in traditional patterns but the age of 37, he had written thirty-six others were very modern and very successful operas and was able to regular retire in comfort, first to Bologna in

1829 to be near his father, and then to Paris with his second wife in 1855. In contrast to the flamboyant first half of his life, Rossini became withdrawn, sometimes depressed over political unrest, and increasingly hypochondriacal. At other times he was great fun, writing whimsical musical pieces for friends, devising and naming recipes, and eating and drinking so much that he became huge and bedridden in old age. Yet Rossini never lost his ability to write effortlessly and to remember what he had written. He once remarked "Give me a laundry list and I'll set it to music." Both of these aspects of his character are summed up in a famous

story. One day he was writing music in bed when a page of manuscript fluttered to the floor. Rather than get out of bed to pick it up, Rossini rewrote the whole page from memory. During his long retirement, Rossini never again attempted opera, but did write two major religious works: his setting of the Stabat Mater, completed when his father died in 1839; and, taken from the collection "Sins of Old Age", the Petite Messe Solennelle, subject of our spring concert. (Steve Osborn)

MANY THANKS to Rosemary and John Crothall for their comments and kind donation to the Newsletter.

Regular events in the village				
Monday	The Chalksole Homegroup, third Monday of the month. Please phone Linda on 823100 for further details			
Tuesday	uesday Art classes in the village hall from 10 am to 1 pm. Ring 07811405124 for further details			
Wednesday	Keep Fit in the village hall from 9.30 am to 10.30 am – Wednesday Club from 10.30 am to 11.30 am			
Thursday	ay Karate classes in the village hall from 7.15pm to 8.45pm – ring 821336			
Thursday	Mobile Library stops at the car parks by the village hall from 9.25 am to 9.50 am			
Friday	Whist Drive in the village hall starting at 7.30 pm			

Other events in the village

Saturday	3	able Fair in the village hall from 11.00am – see page 2		
Monday	5	Parish Council meeting in the village hall starting at 7.30pm – all welcome to attend		
Saturday	10	Music for dancing 8pm to 11pm. See village hall notice board for more details		
Tuesday	13	W.I. in the village hall from 7.30pm		
Wednesday	14	Fete committee meeting in the village hall starting at 8.00pm – please come along and support		
Saturday	17	N.I. jumble sale in the village hall starting at 11.00am		
Monday	19	Dover and District Bird Club in the village hall from 7.30pm		
Saturday	31	Beekeepers in the village hall from 2.00pm to 5.00pm		

CHURCH SERVICES					
Day	Alkham	Capel	Hougham	Weekday	
Sunday 4 th	Evensong 4pm	Sung Eucharist 9.30pm	Worshipping together 11a.m.	Services: Morning Prayer	
Tuesday 6th		No Healing Service		at Capel: Some days at 8.30am	
Sunday 11 th	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Worshipping together 11a.m.	No Service	(except Bank Holidays)	
Sunday 18 th	Mothering Sunday Worshipping together 11a.m.	No Service	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	Eucharist at Capel every Thursday at	
Sunday 25th	Sunday 25th Joint Benefice Sung Eucharist St Radigund, Capel-Le-Ferne 10am				

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District Councillors Sue Nicholas 823956 Andrew Richardson 211835	Parish Clerk Angela Miller 824791 alkhamparishcouncil@tesco.net	822295 and Grace Stacey 822756 Alkham web site www.alkham.org		

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EQUESTRIAN SUPPLIES	Alkham Valley Garden Centre – everything for horse and rider	South Alkham 01303 891996
PLUMBING & HEATING	Iain Blears plumbing and heating services	Wolverton 822500 or 07888 713 896

SCHOOL	Capel-le-Ferne school Your local primary school; free bus from	Capel Street, Capel-le-Ferne	01303
	Alkham	251353	

This Newsletter was printed at the Rainbow Centre in Folkestone – 01303 850733

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

No. 163 April 2007

RECYCLING Dover Council have extended will now only take plastic drink They also own the freehold of assumed that this would area which has been covered. As Woolpack Inn, Warehorne that is a carried out but they are however continue to take all the very proud. They are totally free of Road as the usual items from properties in Slip Lane and Meadowhill Cottages.

FOOTBALL PITCH - In January there was meeting in the village hall for the Parish Council and youngsters from the village to discuss how facilities within the village could be improved for them. The dark evenings meant that they could not play football on the pitch and some children had taken to playing under street lights outside houses with owners complaining. A quote has been obtained from EDF to lay a cable to the football the cost of this is £5000. Bryan Cope, the local County Councillor, said that at present there was no money available but after the local elections in May he would bring the matter up again.

of the sunken manhole covers on opinions on parish affairs. the Alkham Valley Road as you approach Temple Ewell was again discussed at the Parish Council meeting. The Highway Authority now accept that they may be able to use traffic lights to control the work and are currently waiting for Southern Water to get back to them.

District MARQUIS OF GRANBY

stretched with regard to taking over hold up the main road traffic. the Marquis. As a result of this they DO YOU FANCY being a Parish are looking for some staff Councillor? The Council really do WAITING BAR STAFF, CLEANING STAFF are required at you'd like to stand in the election in the Marquis of Granby and anyone May and applying interested in phone (01304) 822945 or pop into the Parish Clerk, Angela Miller on pitch and erect a light column and the Marquis and speak to the new 824791, Neil Burrows (Chairman) owner.

THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING is on 01303 892082. being held in the village hall on MANY Monday the 2nd of April starting at contributed in any way to the 7.30pm. It is a chance for people to Christmas come along and meet the Parish morning in aid of Cancer Research MANHOLE COVERS - The subject Council and ask questions or give UK. The total sent this year was

> are contacting the are also considering lighting the to sponsor Debbie, or buy a raffle footpath towards the village hall.

Delivered **free** to all properties in the Parish

PRIORITY – When the consultation their The owner of the Marquis of with the Highway Authority and recycling scheme to most of Granby has taken over the running local residents was carried out a Alkham village covering the Valley of the pub as of Tuesday the 20th couple of years ago one of the Road, Short Lane, Glebelands and of March. They have owned the proposals put forward was to Newlyns Meadow. They will collect freehold of the property since 2003 change the priority at the Dover cans, paper and glass bottles. with Paul and Allison Hood, who end of the Alkham Valley Road Alkham recycling is continuing but have now left, being their tenants. where it meets the old A2. It was be bottles and cardboard from the another pub near Ashford, The included in the works recently still we do not wish to get in dispute well known gastropub in the area considering the matter and Bryan with DDC, if any paper or cans are which has just been awarded Cope will raise the point at the next put out for us to collect regrettably runner-up, Pub of the Year for East Highways meeting. Some people we will have to leave them. We will Kent by CAMRA, of which they are thought that having the Valley priority would all trade ties, so customers are encourage more people to use the likely to see some benefits in the rat run but the general feeling was prices charged at the Marguis that this would be unlikely. Bryan Their managers at the Woolpack Cope also intimated that widening have recently had their first child may take place at the Crabble and are currently on maternity traffic lights in 2007/8 so that right leave, which means they are very turning vehicles to River do not

> AND have an input into parish affairs so if would like further should information please contact either on 01303 892056 or Paul Tapsell

THANKS to all who Bazaar and coffee £412.00 - a record amount! (the FOOTPATH - The Parish Council ladies of Alkham) my apologies for Highway not including this in the March edition

Authority again about putting a DEBBIE HOLLIMAN is training for the footpath between the one behind London Marathon on the 22nd of April the village hall and the other which she will run in aid of the Kent leading to Newlyns Meadow. They Air Ambulance. If anyone would like ticket, please pop into Southern Equestrian at the Alkham Valley Garden Centre.

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CLOTHING - fly-dropped leaflets IN THE DOVER EXPRESS on the which state that they are clothing about Collection Company. Companies House, are NOT collecting for charity. They are are Help Europe Suppliers Ltd Seabeach So if they should come and leaflet-drop in your area, they are legitimate 'collectors', but just remember, they are going to make monev out of your generosity and nothing is going to help the needy.

(Neighbourhood Watch) and there were Fish Sellers in Ferne call who Capel le Ocean Delights. themselves buy from door to door sellers.

OUR CYCLING companion told us that his girl friend had phoned him from the hospital to say that she had eaten a daffodil bulb by mistake instead of a potato. However, the doctor said not to worry as she would be out in the spring.

THE ALKHAM CARDS drawn by Margaret Knowles have raised another £100 which has been given to Marion Banks-Nash for the church fabric fund. Margaret and Norman are leaving the village and we wish them well in their new home. I have got Margaret's cards and if anyone would like to buy some please contact me. (Brian 824969)

THE JUMBLE SALE on the 17th of March in the village hall in aid of W.I. funds made a profit of £137.

from three different companies 26th May 1922 there was an article the Empire Dav collection companies have been Celebration in Alkham School that put through letter boxes in the year. It refers to a Roll of Honour Dover area. One actually states being unveiled. It apparently hung that it is a Third World Clothing in the school and was inscribed These with the names of 111 Old Boys companies, all registered with who served in the War (i.e. WWI). The Roll was not complete at that date and it was anticipated more collecting to re-sell and make names would be added. I would be money. The Company names interested if anyone can tell me and Support Ltd, more about the Roll and especially and if anyone knows the whereabouts Ltd. of it today. (Susan Lees)

ALKHAM W.I. - once again it has to be said that it was great to see a room full of members, there were 34 present. As mentioned last month it was confusing not to have the minutes of the previous meeting read, so it has been decided to read them once again at all meetings so that everyone is aware of what is happening. Cherry Leppard is always willing Please remember that Trading to receive new ideas for summer Standards advise people not to outings as she is at present, making enquiries for two outings this year. The speaker, Chris Wade, gave the second half of the talk on the Saxon Shore Walk, showing many lovely photos of the glorious views seen on the walk from Margate to Rye. Views much appreciated by all present. Next month's meeting 10th April may have some slight connection as it is about Sandwich, 'a Kentish Cinque Port' talk by Mrs P Yeomans. (Sue Lees)

> THE NEXT BOOK CLUB meeting will be held at the home of Susannah Tapsell on the 4th April at 7.30pm. The chosen book title is Restless by William Boyd. This book is currently one of the top 10 sellers, so let's hope we are in for an enjoyable read. Contact Rosemary 827880 for more information.

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following statement was sent to us by the Area Dean, David Ridley relating to the current situation at St. Anthony's Church. "It has been agreed by all parties that Rev Trish Godfrey should offer substantial Priestly Ministry in the parishes of Alkham, Capel and Hougham between the months of May to July inclusive. During this time, Trish will continue as Curate at St Mary's, Dover, although her duties there will be substantially reduced: and Rev David Ridlev, in his capacity as Area Dean will have overall pastoral responsibility for the Benefice. During this period it is anticipated that the good links already established with the Parish of River will further be nurtured. Whilst we appreciate that this does not offer a long term answer to future ministry in the Benefice, it does offer some short term stability, it gives Andy (Bawtree) time to settle in at River, and it offers space for reflection on the right way forward. We would anticipate that a clear direction will emerge during this time which will have broad support." (David Ridley St Mary's-Vicarage)

The A.G.M. for St. Anthony's will be held on Wednesday, 25th April at 7.30pm in the village hall. Please do attend if you possibly (Richard Tapsell and can. Grace Stacey)

GARDEN TALK - We enjoyed a very pleasant evening this time around at the home of Pam and Maurice Sayers. Thank you to you both. The next meeting will be at Susannah and Richard Tapsell's house, and hopefully it will be light enough to look around the garden too. Please note the change of date for this evening. It will now be at 7.30 pm on Friday 20th May. A future diary date will be 20th June, when the Snapes have very kindly agreed to let us loose in their lovely garden at Hockley Sole. (Devina 827548)

News from St. Anthony's The OZ on "HE" - In childhood I loved reading, moving from fairy tales to Biggles and the Arthur Ransome books, and in my early teens discovering the short stories of H E Bates. Our shelves still hold those orange-covered Penguins, and it was gratifying to learn that Penguin and Methuen have now reissued all of Bates's novels. Herbert Ernest Bates, always known as "HE", was born in 1905 in Northamptonshire. At Kettering Grammar School, inspired by his English teacher Edmund Kirby, he began to write. After starting work, first as a reporter and then in a boot factory, he finished his first novel The Two Sisters. After many rejection slips, he finally convinced Edward Garnett, editor at Jonathan Cape, who published the book in 1926. Under Garnett's guidance, ΗE soon became established as a popular and prolific writer. In 1931 he married Mariorie Cox and they moved to an idyllic disused granary in Little Chart, where they raised their four children. During World War Two HE joined the Royal Air Force and wrote the best-selling Flying Officer X stories, followed, after a Far East posting, by two novels about Burma, The Purple Plain and The Jacaranda Tree and one about India, The Scarlet Sword. After the war and a return to his beautifully crafted pre-war style, HE hit the headlines in 1958 with The Darling Buds of May, a book that the public loved as much as the critics loathed. The portrayal of the outrageous Larkin family seemed to have touched the same funny bone as the Daily Express's Giles cartoons, and HE soon felt obliged to write another four Larkin novels. There followed а three-volume autobiography and then this great and gentle writer died in 1974, having written over a hundred novels and collections of short stories.

(Steve Osborn)

Reg	ular ev	vents in the village (village hall unless stated)	AVON CALLING				
Monday	The C	halksole Homegroup, third Monday of the month - 823100	If you would like to regularly				
Tuesday	Art cla	asses from 10 am to 1 pm – ring 07811405124	receive the AVON Catalogue please phone Emily on 01304 823483				
Wednesday	Keep	Fit 9.30am to 10.30am – Wednesday Club to 11.30am	Compromise on Price, Not on Quality				
Thursday	Thursday Karate classes from 7.15pm to 8.45pm please phone 821336 for further details						
Thursday	Mobile	e Library stops in car park by the village hall 9.25am to 9.	50am				
Friday	Friday Whist Drive starting at 7.30 pm						
	Other events in the village						
Monday	2	Annual Parish meeting in the village hall starting at 7.30pm	n – please see page 1				

Monday	2	annual Parish meeting in the village hall starting at 7.30pm – please see page 1			
Tuesday	uesday 10 W.I. in the village hall from 7.30pm				
Saturday	21	Quiz in the village hall from 7.30pm in aid of Kent Air Ambulance			
Wednesday	ednesday 25 PCC meeting in the village hall starting at 7.30pm				
Saturday	28	28 Beekeepers in the village hall from 2.00pm to 5.00pm			
Monday	30	Village Hall Committee AGM starting at 7.30pm			

CHURCH SERVICES							
Day	Alkham	Capel	Hougham	Weekday			
Sunday 1 st	Evensong 6.30pm	Eucharist 9.30am	Worshipping together 11am	Services: Morning Prayer			
Thursday 5 th	Sung Eucharist 7.00pm			at Capel: Some			
6 th April Good Friday		2.00 – 300pm the hour before the cross		days at 8.30am (except Bank Holidays)			
Sunday 8th Easter day	Joint Benefice S	Eucharist at Capel every Thursday at					
Sunday 15th	Worshipping together 11 a.m.	Evensong 6.00 pm	Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.	9.15a.m.			
Sunday 22 nd	Joint Benefice						
Sunday29th	Joint Benefice Sur	ng Eucharist St Mary's old chure	ch, Capel 10.00am.				

TELEPHONE NUMBERS	Police – 999 phone & 01303 850055 Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130 Community Warden 07977 981994	Village Hall booking Rosemary Polden 824876 Alkham Valley Society secretary Joanna Walker 821641 W.I. secretary – Janet Barrow 829585		
Gwyn Prosser M.P . 01304 214484	GP out of hours to access urgent medical help 0844 800 1234			
County Councillor , Bryan Cope 207976 work number 01795532547	Newsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969 e mail <u>brianwimsett@hotmail.com</u>	Church Wardens - Richard Tapsell		
District Councillors Sue Nicholas 823956 Andrew Richardson 211835	Parish Clerk Angela Miller 824791 alkhamparishcouncil@tesco.net	822295 and Grace Stacey 822756 Alkham web site www.alkham.org		

LOCAL	LOCAL BUSINESSES AND SERVICES (no prefix local number)						
BOARDING KENNELS	Kennels and Cattery, Canine Hydrotherapy and Pet Food Shop	Wolverton 822420					
CAT & DOG GROOMING	Canine beauticians, dogs and cats groomed, Newcastle House	Ewell Minnis 822902					
CLEANING SERVICES	John Hoy domestic/commercial carpet and upholstery cleaning	Ewell Minnis 07889310479					
CURTAINS & BLINDS	Curtains and blinds made to your specification	Alkham Valley 01303 891806					
ELECTRICAL	Simon Price Part P electricians and data instorers	South Alkham 01303 252764					
EQUESTRIAN	GREENHILL FARM - DIY and assisted livery - excellent facilities	Megget Lane, South Alkham 01303 892056					
EQUESTRIAN SUPPLIES	Alkham Valley Garden Centre - everything for horse and rider	South Alkham 01303 891996					
PLUMBING & HEATING	Iain Blears plumbing and heating services	Wolverton 822500 or 07888 713 896					
SCHOOL	Capel-le-Ferne school Your local primary school; free bus from Alkham	Capel Street, Capel-le-Ferne 01303 251353					

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Alkham Monthly Newsletter Brian Wimsett

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



Simon Norris is the sunflower competition again this year. For those new to the village

the competition is to grow the tallest sunflower and there is a prize for the winning adult or child entry. Please email Simon sunningdalenurserv@tiscali.co.uk ophone me (Brian 824969) and I will pass the details on. Judging will be the first week of September (no sooner / no later) and if the wind blows it over the night before he turns up - hard luck. Adults and Children competition as normal.

ALKHAM FUND - I'm pleased to say that from May 2006 we earned £363.18 from recycling which has been paid into the Building Society account. The only cost, thanks to Billy Hollis lending us the van, is the cost of the plastic sacks. We collected 700Kg of cans, 7700Kg of paper, 2500Kg of cardboard and 750Kg of plastic. Over the owing year the revenue will be much less because of DDC collecting the paper but we are not really doing it for the money. If anyone would like to suggest any village projects to spend the money on please phone 824969 or speak to Ken or Brian. (Brian Wimsett, Ken Hammond and **Clive Batcheldor**)

The DDC recycling scheme has now been extended to Hogbrook Lane and Slip Lane.

CAL SCOPES - I would like to thanks all my friends for the love and support they have given me at this difficult time. For those who didn't know Cal, he and I provided the pig roast at the Alkham fete. (Helen Scopes)

No. 164 May 2007

CAL SCOPES - On 29th March 2007 happy to run Alkham lost one of its best known and most well respected residents, Cal Scopes aged 69 of "The Willows" Slip Lane. Cal first moved to Alkham with his family 50 years ago and in 1979 he moved to "The Willows". He spent many years turning what was a rundown bungalow into a lovely 4 bedroom home and gradually with lots of hard work and dedication he restored the grounds from what resembled a builder's yard to the smart smallholding it is today. The Willows became a part of Cal's heart and soul, it was where his children. grandchildren and great grandchildren could come to seek sanctuary from the world and his clamping signs have been friends could visit and be assured of his removed. (see also back page) friendly welcome. Cal was often called **DISTRICT AND** upon to give help and advice to others. PARISH COUNCIL Whether the problem was either elections will take place on the personal or practical, Cal would do all 3rd of May with Alkham village he could to offer assistance. Over the hall being open from 7.00am to years many people have benefited from 10.00pm for parishioners to his kindness, wisdom and guidance. cast their votes. Cal was a gifted engineer whose ALKHAM'S design skills and practical application SAFARI - don't forget this were exceptional. He was well known new event, which is to take and respected in the rally cross world as a talented engine builder, designer and mechanic. Again, always having to sell on goods you have kept time to give others the benefit of his great knowledge and experience if called upon. Alkham has been left a wonderful legacy by Cal in the form of the beautiful cross on the roof of St Anthony's church which he designed, made and erected. Family was the most important part of Cal's life, he was a loving father to Mary and Dave and a devoted son to his beloved mother Mary all of whom live in the village and are naturally devastated by his death. The following words have been chosen by his mother. When you were born you cried and the world rejoiced. When you died the world cried but you rejoiced. May you have found the peace you deserve.

Delivered **free** to all properties in the Parish

MARQUIS OF GRANBY Hugh Oxborrow would like to thank everybody who applied for the jobs at the pub. He was inundated by replies and unfortunately cannot find enough shifts for those who contacted him. He would also like to thank everybody in the village for making them so welcome and if anybody would like to use the Marquis for a function please phone 822945. They are also guite happy for people to walk across the access to the front of the pub and confirm that the wheel

GARAGE place on 11th August. As you may recall this is an ideal way over the years and now have no longer any use for. Anyone interested in taking part please contact 01304 822661, 01304 823568 and 01303 892848. There will be an open evening to discuss matters in June.

KENT HIGHWAY SERVICES is responsible for looking after roads and pavements and appreciate the public bringing any faults to their attention. If you see anything that is damaged or needs repairing please call them on 08458 247 800 or via the website www.kent.gov.uk.

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30mph limit at Kearsney. The better adjacent to the next big sign.

many members at the March interval. member was FUND RAISING Each meeting. to understandably pleased receive a free bag of Yorkshire tea, a company who has given support to the WI much throughout the years. Cherry Leppard spoke about several ideas for Summer Outings one 23rd for the of May to Castle Westenhanger and another 19th July to see the sights of London via an ex-army 'Duck'! Doreen Wilks and Pam excellent delivered Savers reports on meetings they had attended, indeed Pam's report was so detailed and amusing, members felt that they had been there and enjoyed it themselves. The speaker, Mr Ewart, gave an excellent talk on the life of the port and town of Sandwich from when the sand bank on which the town was built, came into existence, and the subsequent history through all the centuries to the present day - a talk that left everyone a little breathless absorb all the trying to information. The main business of the May meeting will be to important discuss а very Resolution - to stop the closure of Community Hospitals, which provide essential services to local people. It is a matter which the National Federation of WI intends to take further. (Susan Lees)

SPEED LIMITS - A couple of THE ANNUAL PARISH meeting people have commented that was poorly attended and the there is a small 50mph repeater chairman asked at the end of the sign before the 40mph limit at meeting whether it was worth South Alkham and a similar having one. The answer is probably 50mph repeater just before the no as things have moved on with communications and reason for this is that for the services from the days when speed limit to be enforceable the parishioners brought their problem repeater signs must be at a to the council. Paul Tapsell said it specified distance and it just would be a shame to lose this happens that the last one is village tradition. It was pointed out that parishioners can come to any ALKHAM WI - Once again it is of the bi-monthly Parish Council good to report that there were meetings to raise points in the

EVENING - Our evening went with a swing with everybody chatting nineteen to the doze and the raffle prizes guests brought were magnificent and far too numerous to mention, with the exception of a beautiful black and white collie dog, who was at least 4ft. in length when he made comfortable himself on our settee. Peter and Dennie Frater gave him, and he was won by Ann Huggins to the envy of most of the ladies present. Thank you Peter and Dennie and to evervone who dave SO generously to the raffle. Patsy, who was selling the tickets, managed somehow or other (I don't think she actually used brute force) to sell £200 wor Also a big thank you to John and Angie who ran the bar all evening, which was no mean task with so many guests, and to Christine Tapsell, Helen Scopes and Maureen Wright for their help during the day and to the many others who gave a hand washing up etc. during the evening. We sold 35 tickets at £10 each, total £350, (no deductions were made for drinks or food), so we are delighted to be able to hand over £550 to the Church funds. Thank you everyone for your support. (Pam Sayers)

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ALKHAM VALLEY

SOCIETY - We know what we are getting in winter in Kent but spring seems slightly secretive. The Easter walk, a new initiative of the Society's, was up by 400% this year and walking paths new to some of us up by Ellinge showed this secret Spring by foot, only glimpsed in car: bluebells. wood a anemones. St Joseph's star in sheets. We started off from John and Shelley Jackson's house Foxgloves and did a decent distance in lovely weather before returning to the Jackson's for refreshments. It was most enjoyable. Easter weekend is not ideal for families since it is usually full of activities but we recommend this walk in Spring and hope to see more next year? Thank you very much and Shelley for your John welcome. organisation and hospitality. (Joanna Walker - Sec) BOOK CLUB -The next meeting will take place at the home of Lucy and Ian Mc Kenzie, The Old Vicarage on Wednesday 2nd May at 7.30pm. This month is free choice to come along and discuss the latest book you have read. Contact Rosemary 827880 for

THE VOLUNTEER

further details.

CENTRE for the Dover District is a charity that assists you to work out what volunteering you want to do and matches you with suitable a organisation. Whether you have a lot of time, or just a little, there is a good chance that there is an organisation out there that is looking for someone just like you. The organisations include the emergency services. nursing hospitals, care and homes, schools, charities and other bodies that are interested in the environment, heritage, sports and culture so why not ring 01304 367898 (9.30am -1pm) to find out more.

OZ on VONNEGUT - My ideas for this month's column changed on Friday 13 April with the news that American writer Kurt Vonnegut had died at the age of 84. Kurt was born in Indianapolis in 1922 into a third-generation German immigrant family. Following his studies at Butler and Cornell Universities and the Carnegie Institute he enlisted in the US Army and was sent to Europe. After the Battle of the Bulge in 1944 he was captured by German troops and imprisoned in Dresden, working in a factory that produced vitamin syrup for pregnant women. During the Allied aerial bombardment of February 1945. Kurt sheltered in an underground meat store named Schlachthous Fünf. meaning "Slaughterhouse Five" and emerged find to Dresden destroyed. He and fellow prisoners were put to work clearing bodies. This became the theme for his most famous book. Slaughterhouse Five, which was published much later, in 1969, and catapulted him to fame in a world radicalised by the Cold War and events in Vietnam, Paris, and Eastern Europe. In the intervening century. quarter Kurt had completed his education, worked as a journalist, married and raised a family, along with his deceased sister's children, and produced many lesser-known books. These were nearly 'science-fiction', a term that Kurt disliked, but often fairly accurate. Kurt never conquered despair but learned to live with it. Whenever a death occurs in Slaughterhouse Five. he comments "And so it goes." In recent books, he continued to blame mishaps on alien forces outside man's control, a view that many criticised as being too passive. But it is difficult to be too hard on Kurt. Gore Vidal went from calling him "the worst writer in America" to "he was like nobody else", and JG Ballard said that "his sheer amiability could light up all the cathedrals in America". And so it goes. (Steve Osborn)

Marquis of Granby

The local pub serving quality food, wines and real ales such Harveys at £2.50 a pint.

Full a la carte menu, weekly specials and offers including two 10oz rump steaks, chips and peas, plus a bottle of house wine for two people costing £19.50.

Please phone 822945

AVON CALLING

If you would like to regularly receive the AVON Catalogue

please phone Emily on 01304 823483 Compromise on Price, Not on Quality

DEN BARNARD has started cycling with Ken and I and is doing very well. At the end of his first ride we turned into Slip Lane and there was a van in the road with two ladies talking to the driver. They moved back for us to pass but Den wobbled and fell off. Fortunately his fall was cushioned by Sue Lees who was pinned against the wall. Apart from screams and giggles Sue was unhurt and it was reported that Den's condition was comfortable.

LUKE AND LAUREN are looking to make some pocket money. Want anybody to walk your dog? Does your car need a clean? Need any odd jobs done? Interested? Please call Luke on 07733066781 or Lauren on 07834732114.

Regular events in the village (VH=village hall)								
Monda	у -	The Chalksole Homegroup, third Monday of the month - 823100						
Tuesda	y /	Art classes from 10 am to 1 pm in VH – ring 07811405124						
Wednesd	lay I	Keep Fit	9.30 - 10.30am	- Wednesday	Club to 11.30a	m in VH		
Thursda	ay I	Karate c	lasses from 7.	15pm to 8.45p	om in VH - 821	336		
Thursda	ay I	Mobile L	ibrary in car pa	ark by village	hall 9.25am to	9.50am		
Friday	1	Whist D	rive in VH start	ing at 7.30 pn	1	and and		
		C	Other events	in the vill	age			
Thurso	day	3	- And a state of the second state of the secon		illage hall – see	e page 1		
Tuesd		8	W.I. in the villa	-	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	a Cano		
Saturd		y 12 Music for dancing from 8.00pm to 11.00pm in VI						
Sunda	-							
Mond		14			ting at 7.30pm			
Sunda Mond		20	Cricket on Vicarage Meadow from 2.30pm					
Wednes		30	Bird club from 7.30pm in village hall Cricket on Vicarage Meadow from 6.00pm					
C	I	Day	Alkham	Capel	Hougham			
UTDRUT	Su	inday 6th	Evensong 6.30pm	Sung Eucharist 9.30pm	Worshipping together 11 a.m.	Weekday Services: Eucharist		
CH	Su	inday 13 th	Said Eucharist 9.30am	3015z	2 5 년 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	at Capel every Thursday at		
SHR!	Thu	ursday 17 th	and and and second second second second	Sung Eucharist 9.30am.		9.15am		
SER>-CEU		inday 20 th	Worshipping together 11am	Evensong 6.pm	Sung Eucharist 9.30am	eno Tellina Bioticas		
ES	Su	inday 27 th		Sung Eucharis Hougham 10an	t, St .Lawrence, n			

TELEPHONE NUMBERS	Police – 999 phone & 01303 850055 Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130 Community Warden 07977 981994	Village Hall booking Rosemary Polden 824876 Alkham Valley Society secretary
Gwyn Prosser M.P. 01304 214484	GP out of hours to access urgent medical help 0844 800 1234	Joanna Walker 821641 W.I. secretary – Janet Barrow 829585
County Councillor, Bryan Cope 207976 work number 01795532547	Newsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969 e mail brianwimsett@hotmail.com	Church Wardens - Richard Tapsell
District Councillors Sue Nicholas 823956 Andrew Richardson 211835	Parish Clerk Angela Miller 824791 alkham.parishcouncil@virgin.net	822295 and Grace Stacey 822756 Alkham web site www.alkham.org

LOCAL	BUSINESSES AND SERVICES	(no prefix local n	umber)
BOARDING KENNELS	Kennels and Cattery, Canine Hydrotherapy and Pet Food Shop	Wolverton	822420
CAT & DOG GROOMING	Canine beauticians, dogs and cats groomed, Newcastle House	Ewell Minnis	822902
CLEANING SERVICES	John Hoy domestic/commercial carpet and upholstery cleaning	Ewell Minnis	07889310479
CURTAINS & BLINDS	Curtains and blinds made to your specification	Alkham Valley	01303 891806
ELECTRICAL	Simon Price Part P electricians and data instorers	South Alkham	01303 252764
EQUESTRIAN	GREENHILL FARM - DIY and assisted livery - excellent facilities	Megget Lane, South Alkham	01303 892056
EQUESTRIAN SUPPLIES	Alkham Valley Garden Centre - everything for horse and rider	South Alkham	01303 891996
PLUMBING & HEATING	Iain Blears plumbing and heating services	Wolverton 822500 c	or 07888 713 896
SCHOOL	Capel-le-Ferne school Your local primary school; free bus from Alkham	Capel Street, Capel-le-Fern	e 01303 251353

This Newsletter was printed at the Rainbow Centre in Folkestone - 01303 850733

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

during the year and like most Meadow institutions it gets poor Tapsell old Paul amount of work behind the scenes moral support and your opinions...

FETE OPEN MEETING.

the few 'regulars' to committee members to confirm their along to the Open Meeting (i.e. open to everyone who is or wants to be involved) on the 6th June at 8 pm OR call me on 01303 892082 to confirm that you are willing and able to help in some practical way for some or all of the afternoon of the 14th July, i.e. either on a stall, with the car parking, putting up or removing the selling raffle tickets. tents. shepherding the kids' races, etc.; without the Fete both the Parish Church and the Village Hall will lose their major annual fundraising activity. I know everyone has busy lives and lots of things to do, but unless more people get involved now, we will lose a great village event and tradition.

SECURITY POSTS have been put up Vicarage at the entrance to Meadow and the football pitch. It is hoped this will stop cars from entering but should anyone legally wish to enter the Parish Clerk has a key.

No. 165 June 2007

ALKHAM FETE - The fete is LIME TREE - The Alkham cricket club THE AGM of the Alkham probably one of the most important asked the Parish Council's permission Village Hall Committee will be events that takes place in Alkham to plant a lime tree on Vicarage held on the 26th of June in the in memory of taken for Luckhurst. As most cricket fans will granted. I must admit that I do, but know there is a lime tree at the St. who Lawrence ground in Canterbury and it organises it does an enormous was felt that it would be a particularly appropriate memorial. The council to make sure it happens. He really unanimously agreed to the proposal would like your help so do please and a suitable location will be found. It come along to the Fete meeting in was suggested it could be put near the the village hall and give him some site of the tree which has died opposite the village hall.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIND

We have major problems this year At the parish council meeting the local to walk your dog? Does your because of a lack of support from councillor, Andrew Richardson, said the wider village (with apologies to that a body of a large Saxon had been odd jobs done? Interested? who have found on a farm at Chilton, which is Please attended the meetings or spoken this side of Bushy Ruff. The landowner 07733066781 is being very cooperative and the 07834732114. availability).Please come archaeological dig is continuing.

> GOALS - Ken Hammond spoke at the hopeful Parish Council meeting about the poor manholes, which are sunk in state of the nets and goal posts on the the road as you approach football pitch Meadow. The Parish Council said they they have painted a white line would have a look and report back at round some of them. the next meeting.

> FETE APPEAL - This year I am doing a Following the local elections at craft come pretty/girly stall. I am in which both conservative local need urgent of some however. So dig out all your old bits and following people were elected pieces. Do you have craft projects that as Parish Councillors: Neil you just know are never going to be finished. Can you make anything for the stall. Any scraps of fabric, lace, threads, patterns etc. Also, cosmetics, potions and lotions perhaps. Anything girly would be welcome, such as purses, makeup compacts, hair accessories, brooches, trinket pots...I am happy to collect items if you give me a ring or you can drop them off at mine. Many thanks Devina 827548.

ALKHAM – The ward that we are in is called River, which is a bit daft. The local councillors are going to try and get it changed to River and Alkham.

Delivered **free** to all properties in the Parish

Brian village hall at 7.30pm. All groups who use the hall are welcome to join the committee.

> LUKE AND LAUREN put an advert in May's Newsletter and Luke got a response and he was so excited that he deleted the caller's number by mistake (it started 829) so I'm reprinting their advert. Luke and Lauren are looking to make some pocket money. Want anybody car need a clean? Need any call Luke on or Lauren on

MANHOLES _ There are signs that the next to Vicarage Bushy Ruff, will be raised as

PARISH COUNCIL

goodies councillors were returned the (Chairman), Burrows Paul Tapsell (Vice Chairman), Sue Lees, Helen Scopes, Geoffrey Lymer and Ian Jarvis the latter being the only new member. There were some new faces at the AGM and like others before them found the Parish Council meeting very interesting.

> TEA TENT - SUMMER FETE - A reminder that cakes are required for the Tea Tent as well as the Cake Stall - every contribution gratefully received.

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THE A.R.S.E SOCIETY

absence In the of anv international earthquake relief fund (and having been completely ignored by Bob Geldof and Bono) a support group has been set up assist those to all who experienced the traumatic events of 08.18 on Saturday, 29th April 2007. The inaugural meeting of Alkham's Relieved Survivors of the Earthquake (A.R.S.E) will meet on the last Friday of each month at the Marquis of Granby to offer mutual support. Bring your wallets and come and get well and truly consoled with fellow survivors from the village! Share experiences, share conversation and have a good time. This unique form of 'counselling' will start at 8.00 p.m. on May 25th 2007. For any further information please 'phone either Mark Robson on 01304.820459 or Den Barnard on 01304.824845. We look forward to seeing you! P.S. In case you do not receive your Newsletter in time for the inaugural meeting please note that we hope this will be a regular fixture of village life in the future. Clear your calendars now of any other events on the last Friday of the month. (Mark Robson)

Andrew Richardson and Sue Nicholas wish to thank all those residents who supported them in the recent District Council Election.

RUBBISH MEN, that's Ken and I, featured in an article in the Kentish Express mainly



Kent publicise Community to Recycling at Hawkinge. Not only are they non-profit but they pay for the rubbish. At present there is about £750 in the Alkham Account into which all the money (except for sacks) goes. The Parish Council very kindly gave us a bottle of port each for our work over the last three years and we in return said we would pay for a new rubbish bin to go by the bus shelter. There seems to be a trend developing here.

KENT AIR AMBULANCE Ken and I are riding a 100km course in aid of the Air Ambulance. If you'd like to sponsor us please phone 824969.

ALKHAM W.I. - the May meeting was chaired by Doreen Wilks who recently moved to River but whom thankfully wishes to stay involved with Alkham. It is known as the 'Resolutions' meeting, one of the more serious ones in the year. Susannah Tapsell explained in excellent detail this year's issue which the National W.I. wishes to take further - the matter of the prospective closure of Community Hospitals, which provide essential services to local people. Cherry Leppard delivered a questionnaire to members in connection with another resolution which Broadoak W.I. wishes to have investigated i.e. the state of Public Toilets. Debbie Griggs then showed members her lovely 'rescued' greyhound, one of several she has provided a home for; and explained how the greyhounds are rescued when no longer needed for racing. The speaker at the June meeting will provide music for the Over Sixties – a subject hopefully more exciting than it sounds! Proposed outings - the first on 19th July to see the sights of London travelling on board the ex-Army London 'Duck', and the second to see 'Phantom of the Opera' in September. Anyone interested please contact Cherry 01303 255114 (Sue Lees)

PROPERTY AGENTS AND VALUERS www.marshallandclarke.com 112 London Road, Kearsney Dover, CT16 3AB Telephone 01304 827770 and at

1 Cliffe Road, Kingsdown, Deal - 01304 381622 High Street, St. Margarets at Cliffe, Dover

FREDERIC HALL

Solicitors York House, Folkestone 01303 851185 & Clyde House, Dover

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Boarding for Dogs, Cats & Small Animals Canine Hydrotherapy - Pet Food Shop 01304 – 822420 Alkham Valley Road **NEWSLETTER** – It may interest you to know that I have now published the Newsletter for 10 years, having started in June 1997. I try to keep it non- controversial but over the 10 year period four people have threatened to sue me, someone in Newlyns Meadow told me it was rubbish and I regularly help recycle it at Hawkinge. Despite all this I'm carrying on as I know some people do read it and it is a useful way of letting people know what's going on in the parish. There are also a number of people who have been delivering it for 10 years, plus 4 years from when the Newsletter started. I'd like to thank them and all the other deliverers for making the Newsletter possible and the people who have contributed stories over the years. The money inherited from Tony Ingall is still intact and the annual cost of printing and posting the Newsletter is still covered by the money obtained from the adverts.

(Brian Wimsett)

THE **ENVIRONMENTAL** and Natural History Group of the East Kent W.I. are holding an open meeting in Alkham village hall on the 5th of June starting at 7.00pm on the subject of Kent's coalfields. Join us to hear well-illustrated talks aspects of the Coalfield on Heritage Initiative. Paul Hadaway of the White Cliffs Countryside Project will guide us along the Miner's Way Trail, launched in April this year. Lynda Pearce, who was working for Dover Museum on capturing memories of local mining families, will talk about her work as an oral historian in Kent. Walk books will be available. For further details please contact Janet Adamson on 01303 893413.

GARDEN TALK - Our thanks go to Linda & Geoff for a lovely, but somewhat cool evening. The garden was lovely and we all had fun doing the quiz based on their own plants and flowers. The next meeting will be at Hockley Sole on 20 June at 7.30 pm. (Devina)

OZ on WOODBINE

WILLIE - On 1 July, smoking in public enclosed spaces will become illegal in Britain, reflecting huge changes in attitude over the last century. Tobacco was once considered an essential ally in times of great personal and national stress, even more so in the two World Wars. A much-loved figure from World War I was 'Woodbine Willie', a priest who worked in the trenches, dispensing cigarettes and solace to the injured Geoffrey and dying. Anketell Studdert Kennedy, (that being Woodbine Willie's real name), was born in Leeds in 1883, seventh child of Jeanette Anketell and William Studdert Kennedy, a Leeds vicar. Educated at Leeds Grammar School and Trinity College, Dublin, he graduated in divinity in 1904, becoming a curate in Rugby and then vicar of St. Pauls, Worcester. When war broke out Kennedy volunteered to be a chaplain on the Western Front and 'Woodbine Willie' soon became a legend. He won the Military Cross at Messines Ridge after entering No-Man's-Land under heavy machine-gun fire, holding a wooden cross, to tend both British and German wounded. Kennedy also wrote poems about his wartime experiences and these were published as Rough Rhymes of a Padre (1918) and More Rough Rhymes (1919). The fighting made a deep impression on Kennedy and added socialism and pacifism to his Christian beliefs. After the war, he wrote books on religion and politics and worked at St Edmund's in Lombard Street. London, and for the Industrial Christian Fellowship. While on a speaking tour for the Fellowship in 1929 he became ill and died of influenza in Liverpool. Perhaps his best epitaph is the first verse of Woodbine Willie: "They gave me this name like their nature. Compacted of laughter and tears, A sweet that was born of the bitter, A joke that was torn from the years." (Steve Osborn)

Marquis of	Granby			Regul	ar events ir	the v	/illage (VH	I=village hall)	
Marquis of Granby The local pub serving quality food, wines and real ales such Harveys		Monday The Chalksole Homegroup, t				•	hird Monday of the month - 823100		
		Tuesday Art classes from 10 am to 1							
	at £2.50 a pint.		-				•	-	
Full a la carte menu, wee		Wedne	esday					Club to 11.30a	
offers including two 10c chips and peas, plus a		Thur	sday	Karate	classes from	7.15p	m to 8.45p	om in VH - 82	1336
wine for two people co		Thur	sday	Mobile	Library in car	park b	oy village h	nall 9.25am te	o 9.50am
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GARAGE SAFARI – Th	ere will be an	\mathbf{L}						all booking	76
open meeting in the vil		Ε	823956, Andrew Richardson 211835			Rosemary Polden 824876 Alkham Valley Society secretary			
11 th of June to discuss		Ρ			one & 01303		Joanna V	Valker 821641	-
Garage Safari taking pl	lace on the 11 th	Η			Vatch 218151/2 Irden 07977 9 8			etary – Janet E	Barrow
of August. Please come	e .	0			s to access ur		829585 Church Wardens - Richard Tapsell		
in the discussion or pu		Ν			44 800 1234		822295 a	and Grace Stac	
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LOCALI	BUSINESS	ES /	AN	D SE	RVICES		(no pi	refix local nun	nber)
BOARDING KENNELS	Kennels and Catter	y , Canin	e Hydi	otherapy a	nd Pet Food Sho	р	Wolverton	n	822420
CAT & DOG GROOMING	Canine beauticians						Ewell Mir	nnis	822902
CLEANING SERVICES				olstery cleaning	3	Ewell Mir		07889310479	
CURTAINS & BLINDS				-			Alkham V	•	01303 891806
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PLUMBING & HEATING			den Centre – everything for horse and rider olumbing and heating services			Wolverton		01303 891990	
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This Newsletter was printed at the Rainbow Centre in Folkestone - 01303 850733

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



On Wednesday 30th May the members of Alkham Cricket Club planted a tree in celebration of the life of Brian Luckhurst, ex Kent and England cricketer, who died in March 2005. The tree was planted by Rave Luckhurst after an evening match between Alkham CC and the Court Cavaliers CC, which was won by the Cavaliers and this was followed by a raffle and buffet at the Marguis of Granby. The event was sponsored PFPR bv Communications of Maidstone and raised £350 which will go to the Cathedral Day Care Centre in memory of Brian. The tree was propagated from the original St Ground which blew down a couple of years ago and so will serve as a fitting memorial to a Brian who served Kent CC for over fifty years in many different capacities. The photograph shows (from left) Alan Marriott (Cavaliers), Raye Luckhurst, Mark Naris and Paul Tapsell.

VILLAGE FETE. PLANT STALL.-Martin, Rosemary and Sarah will be helping to run the plant stall this year. We very much need your cuttings, plants, potted divided herbaceous clumps, surplus lettuce, rhubarb, tomatoes etc. We will also take unwanted pots or garden tools in reasonable condition, Please bring your plants to the stall on the day of the fete between 10-12.30. If you are unavailable on that day we can arrange collection. Contact 827880.

No. 165 July 2007

ROBIN CULLEY - The Village and **THE FETE 14TH JULY** Thank you the Cricket Club lost a much loved to everyone who came to the friend last month when Robin Open Meeting last month, the Culley died. He was a local man Fete is well and truly ON, so through and through and will be please get in touch to offer your sadly missed. His funeral was very assistance on the day, from well attended, as he deserved, and putting up tents (from 8.30 a.m. it was wonderful to see so many on the day, meet at the Meadow), people from the many different to car park duty, to helping on circles Robbo moved in; from the stalls, or in helping me corral the village, his time on the boats, at the kids for the races and Tug of War Marquis, with the cricket club and and most importantly, to help from Dover Athletic: Robin's friends clear the meadow afterwards! old and new joining together to Please call me (Paul Tapsell) on mourn his passing and celebrate 01303 892082 and I promise I'll his life. It was also entirely find you a little job you'll enjoy and appropriate that there were smiles which will use your particular skills and laughter in the church and to best effect! In addition the afterwards at the Railway Bell as following we shared stories of his exploits, items for sale on their stalls adventures and mishaps. As Robin please contact them directly to would said have katanga, my friend", we'll see you goods! upstairs! The Cricket Club will be Barnard 824845, Books - Sue arranging a charity match in Lees 822661, Plants - Rosemary Robin's honour, to raise money for Heddle 827880, Children's Toys the Air Ambulance, at the end of (a stall to be run for children by July, watch out for posters and children!) Patsy Sayers 822619, Lawrence Lime Tree at the Kent please come along to raise a glass Handbags - Sue Tapsell 822295, to a true Alkham character - loud Craft and Nick-Nacks - Devina shirts and louder music will be the Bartlett 827548, Raffle Prizes order of the day!

THE DELUGE on the 19th of



June brought a tidal stream and part of Slip Lane down to Vicarage Meadow. A tidy up is planned by the cricket club on the 30th June so please come and help. Slip Lane will have to be reconstructed in parts and a road closure looks likely. The above photo was taken by Sue Lees and shows the junction of the Valley Road and Hogbrook Lane.

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stall-holders require "Katanga, arrange collection or drop off of Bric-a-Brac Irene _ Debbie Saunders 822756. Also cakes and other items are required for the Tea Tent and Cake Stall -please bring them on the day but liaise with Cherry Leppard (01303)255114) beforehand. Included with your newsletter is a book of 5 raffle tickets (please note the tickets are 50 p each i.e. £2.50 a book!) please ensure counterfoils and unsold cash or tickets are returned to me in good time. There will also be a beer tent this year which we hope will be popular.

> MY APOLOGIES to Edith Neve for omitting her name from the list of Parish Councillors in last month's Newsletter.

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total of £356.54p. A big thank you 7.30pm. Please come. to my niece Laura who secured A TRADITIONAL 4th £38.10p. (Julie Saltmer, Sue, details (Helen Scopes) Laura and Lewis Coppins) and A.R.S.E SOCIETY - The inaugural Mercer for sponsoring Ambulance ride. We raised £65. accepted. The money raised will adverse effects! (Mark Robson) go towards the church funds A BUDGERIGAR was found in the Arrangements are now open meeting in the Village Hall round to the house. on Monday, 30 July, at 7.30pm to finalise the details. Please come along, whether or not you propose to have a stall. We will need help in several places on 11 August. For information, or to give your name please ring Marion Nash (820701), Susan Lees (822661), or Margaret Batcheldor (823568)

THANK YOU to all our friends, WE ARE HOPING to put on a relatives, neighbours, staff and variety show in November for students at Archer Court Maths Children in Need. We need anyone and Computing College who with any kind of talent and it would kindly sponsored us on our Great be lovely if children and young Strides Walk in taking steps to people from the village could take cure Cystic Fibrosis on 13th May part. We need a group of children at Bewl Water. We completed to start the show. People with approximately 7 miles having got knowledge of loud speakers and lost several times with a soaked setting up music will be needed. map on what must have been the There will be a meeting in the wettest day of May. We raised a village hall on the 16th July at

of Julv most of the sponsorship and also American supper will be held at organised a cake sale at Archers Cobwebs, West Hougham. The Court which sold out in 10 cost is £7.50 for drinks and food. minutes and made a further Please phone 204479 for further

thanks to Tricia Wright and Peter meeting of the A.R.S.E (Alkham's Ken Relieved **S**urvivors of the Hammond and me in the Air Earthquake) was a very pleasant affair and about 12 people made GARAGE SAFARI - the closing date appearances at different times is drawing near. If you would like throughout the evening. All found to join in the Garage Safari on 11 the supportive nature of the group August we need to have your a great help in coming to terms name by 15 July at the latest so with the natural disaster that that you can be included on the shook so many of us out of our Village map To make the day a beds in April. Many additional complete success we still need people have said they intend to more participants, particularly in make the next session on Friday, Newlyns Meadow, Slip Lane and June 29th at 8.00 p.m. so we look Glebelands so why not delve into forward to more villagers opening the back of your cupboards and their hearts (and wallets and see what you can find to sell. The throats) at the Marquis of Granby. fee for taking part will be £8 and Disclaimer. Though therapeutic, we do not ask for money from the inaugural session did result in your proceeds. However, if you several sore heads the following should wish to make a donation to morning; the organisers cannot the cause it will be very gratefully be held responsible for any

well garden of 1 Newlyns Meadow. If advanced and there will be an you have lost one please pop

> BOOK CLUB - We are taking a break in July. The next meeting will be hosted by Abi who lives at Poems, Short Lane. 7.30pm on 1st August. We have the choice to discuss any travel book. Contact Rosemary for further details.

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ALKHAM WI - There were fewer OZ on LINNAEUS - Where would members than usual present in an occasional writer of nature notes June, a shame because although be today without access to the 'Music for the over sixties' sounded wonderful naming system devised off putting it was in fact an excellent by introduction to light exercise and put smiles everyone's faces. Reminders were University as 'Carolus Linnaeus', given to support (a) the Fete 14th and was also known, after his providing July by help provisions, raffle prizes etc., and (b) Linné'. During his life, Carl worked the Garage Safari 11th August, as as a botanist, physician and more participants are needed. All zoologist, and is now also regarded members are invited to attend a as one of the early ecologists. One meeting at the home of Devina of his lesser-known inventions was Bartlett 25th June to put forward the modern thermometer scale, ideas for the programme for 2008; achieved by reversing Celsius's and at the Village Hall 16th July to scale that had 100° as the melting discuss the programme for the point of ice and 0° as the boiling November to raise money for life-work, started in university days, Children in Need. The next meeting was nothing less than the complete 10th July will have Mr. Chambers classification of all living things. His speaking on 'Ghosts, fact or fiction' - first sounds spooky! (Sue Lees)

Snape for hosting our garden storm and walked round their beautiful garden on what was a balmv evenina warm bv contrast. They kept us all on our toes with quick fire questions regard the names of plants and trees. We completely lost track of time admiring the view from the patio, though this might have been helped along by a glass or two.. of wine! The next meeting will be at the home of Jane Adamson and her husband at Sunrise in Meggett Lane on Friday 20th July at 7.30 pm. (Devina 827548)

DOVER FESTIVAL PROMS Local musicians will again present a festive charity concert in the style of "The Last Night of the Proms", at 7.30 pm on Friday 6 July in Dover Town Hall. This year's proceeds are in support of The Martha Trust. Audience tickets are available at £5 and £2 (promenaders) from the Dover Visitor Centre or from chorus members. For further details ring Sue or Steve Yarrow on 01304 872812 or Mike Lewis on 01227 831208. (Steve Osborn)

Swedish naturalist Carl hearted Linnaeus? Born on 23 May, 300 on years ago, Carl registered at Lund and ennoblement in 1761, as 'Carl von Variety Show taking place in point of water. However, his great classifications were into 'kingdoms', ie Animalia for animals GARDEN TALK - Our warmest and Vegetabilia for plants. (He also thanks go to Angie and Nigel had a third kingdom, Mineralia for minerals, considered to be living meeting. We met the day after the organisms at that time). He then divided Kingdoms into Classes; Classes into Orders; Orders into Genera; and Genera into Species. Below the rank of species he sometimes recognized lower ranks such as "varieties" or "breeds". The Linnaean system has been criticised as 'creationist', since it predates Darwin by a century, and it has been modified by recent knowledge of, for example, genetics and DNA. However, the underlying principles of observation. classification, and two-word names, remain sound. Linnaeus's name for the common wild briar rose, Rosa canina. was certainly an improvement on the previous Rosa sylvestris inodora seu canina. And this column has enjoyed greatly using names such as Populus tremulus for 'trembling aspen' and Fratercula arctica for 'Atlantic puffin'. So if I tell you that Passer domesticus has attacked Kniphofia uvaria this week you'll know that the house sparrows have again been at the red-hot pokers.

(Steve Osborn)

Marquis of	Granby			R	egula	r events in t	he vi	llage (∨⊦	I=village hall)		
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wines and real ales s		Tues	sday	Ar	Art classes from 10 am to 1 pm in VH – ring 07811405124						
at £2.50 a p		Wednesday		v Ke	Keep Fit 9.30 - 10.30am – Wednesday Club to 11.30am in VH						
Full a la carte menu, wee offers including two 100		-		-	Karate classes from 7.15pm to 8.45pm in VH - 821336						
chips and peas, plus a	bottle of house										
wine for two people co	•				Mobile Library in car park by village hall 9.25am to 9.50am						
Please phone	822945	Fric	aay	VV	Whist Drive in VH starting at 7.30 pm						
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FETE – The person who prints the Newsletter is going on holiday on the 18th of July so the Newsletter has been printed early. The full account of the fete will be printed in the next edition of the Newsletter.

Once again a group of men descended on Vicarage Meadow on the 14th of July to transform it into the village fete, with stalls, sideshows and a beer tent. It was opened at 2.00pm by Paul Tapsell who does so much to make the fete happen. The weather was good but it appears that there were fewer people attending this year and this may be reflected in the takings on the day. A beer tent was tried for the first time and it was accepted that it would be a learning curve. Although about 100 pints of Master Brew was drunk and about the same amount of lager there was quite a bit left over. Some was bought by a local resident and the other is to be disposed of by drinking, the exact method yet to be determined. The Snowdon Band was as popular as ever and the maypole dancing and childrens' games went well. Thanks go to Darren Mowat with his ubiquitous van for picking up the tents, books and tables and also thanks to all the other people who helped on the day. At 5.00pm the tents were THE GARAGE SAFARI is on the 11th taken down and packed up for next year; it was a fair amount of work but thoroughly worthwhile to keep this village tradition going. (photo by Stan Fowler)

CHALKY HILL - The very steep hill that connects Slip Lane to Chalksole was to be called Chalky Hill. DDC wrote to eight households that are adjacent to this road and the overwhelming response was that they would prefer it to be called White Hill. The Parish Council discussed the matter and say that historical records, including those held at Canterbury Cathedral, show that the road was called Chalky Hill and that this is the name that should be adopted. The Parish Council will firmly resist the change of name to White Hill.

BARN - You may have seen a new barn that has been built adjacent to the above road which is to be used in conjunction with a vinevard. The owners of the barn did everything right in applying for permission to erect the barn but due to an oversight, the Planners at DDC did not process the order correctly and by default the barn obtained permission. Although the Parish Council don't object to the barn they were appalled by the apparent incompetence of the Planners and are taking the matter further. They rightly feel that they should have been given the opportunity to comment on the application with regard to colour, tree planting and other matters.

MANHOLES – The sunken manholes in the Valley Road on the approach to Bushy Ruff should be raised within the next three months.

THE PROVISION of a second bus stop by Newlyns Meadow is still ongoing but progress is being made.

DOGS - It seems that there may be some thoughtless dog owners who do not clear up after their pets when they 'foul' the meadow and /or football field; in this day of camera-phones, I would appreciate any photographic evidence to assist the dog warden to prosecute offenders! (Paul Tapsell) (just out of interest he is a barrister)

DELUGE AFTERMATH - I think that credit should be given to the Highway Authority for the way they dealt with the aftermath of the storm on the 19th of June. The traffic lights on the Valley Road were quickly erected and the washout from Slip Lane promptly removed. Also the two men from Lloyds Environmental of Detling, Maidstone, who sucked



of August and a map of the garages can be purchased at the village hall, which is open from 10 am. Refreshments will be available in the hall and at some garages.

the tarmac and muck off the village green are to be congratulated for doing such a thorough job. Slip Lane was made passable by Highways and work is in train to get the road rebuilt. During the flood Matthew and Chris Hyland managed to get their rubber dinghy afloat on Vicarage Meadow for a quick paddle.

Treat your home to a spring/summer clean without lifting a finger. All general cleaning tasks undertaken. References available. 3 years management experience in the cleaning industry. Nailbourne Cottage, Alkham. Call Tracy 07814 354122 email debremaeker@btinternet.com

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meeting the of Society (Alkham's Relieved who was a great success with Relieved about 20 people themselves. By the end of the the evening all seemed to be understand therapy is working! There was Tackling Unresolved Matters'. and to have a chat and a laminated. laugh is also helpful. Age and gender are no barrier and July 27th from 8.00 p.m. at the Marquis for the third meeting of the Society. (Mark Robson)

A.R.S.E SOCIETY - The second OUTRAGED OF ELLINGE I had an A.R.S.E email from a person at Ellinge was outraged by the Survivors of the Earthquake) acronym being used by Alkham Survivors of the enjoying Earthquake (A.R.S.E.). Now that hysteria has abated I that they had oblivious to the earthquake considered changing their name, (and to guite a lot else in such that it gives no offence, to some cases) so clearly the 'Resident's Earthquake Committee

also talk of T-shirts being THE CABINET which displays the produced for the group. I footpath maps is to be moved from would like to clarify the criteria beside the bus shelter on the Valley for membership of the Society Road to the car park opposite the as there have been some village hall. The Alkham Fund is questions asked. Principally, paying for the materials to renew warm and walking' is the only the cabinet and the work is being requirement but a desire to get very kindly done by Ernie Cook. together with fellow villagers The replacement maps will be

BOOK CLUB - The Meeting will take place at Poems, Short Lane. there is no membership fee so 7.30 pm on 1st August. Bring please come along on Friday along any travel book you have read and wish to share. Contact Rosemarv Heddle for more details on 01304 827880.



ALKHAM'S PAST

Bob Hollingsbee believes this photo is connected with the Alkham Valley. However, he may be mistaken. If you can identify the picture, please let me know. (Susan Lees 822661)

ALKHAM VALLEY SOCIETY OUTING - The outing this year was to the Salutation, a garden recently opened to the public at Sandwich. We were lucky as a wet and miserable day turned into a lovely sunny evening just right for wandering around the garden. We were given a guided tour by the head gardener whose enthusiasm and love for the project of restoring this abandoned garden to its original Lutyens design made the visit special. This is a garden well worth visiting at different times of the year. We all could have stayed and listened to our guide longer but had to move on as we had tables booked for dinner at the Quay Side Brasserie. A very nice meal was taken there in pleasant company. A very successful outing that was well supported by members. (Shelley Jackson)

FREE to a good home, a 500mm wide Parkinson Cowan gas cooker. It has a separate grill above the oven, which has never been used, and the hob has a glass cover. All in good condition, please phone 824969.

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ALKHAM WI – Doreen Wilks OZ on BROWNSEA – This year 38 the chaired well attended meeting, a meeting which had many items to discuss; first being the final arrangements made for the many tasks members are involved with at the Annual Alkham Fete; Alkham's team for the Top Team Quiz did very well coming 7th out of the 9 teams; Devina Bartlett reported the disappointment felt that only 5 members attended the 2008 Programme discussion meeting, and it is to be only hoped that members will be happy with the programme: and Cherry Leppard, who always takes on the task of arranging outings, 22nd spoke about one on September to see The Phantom of the Opera in London and another in January to see Holiday on Ice at Brighton. The speaker Mr Chambers talked about Ghosts Fact or Fiction. some members found this very interesting and others felt it was a little bit too commercial, never mind NEXT moth's meeting will be held on Vicarage Meadow weather permitting or in the Hall if not. It is to be a get together friendly evening so bring your own food and drink to share with others.

PETER MERCER is taking part in "The Four Days of the Yser" which is an international march, organized by the **Belgian Defence** which is open to civilians and military, Belgians as well as foreigners. One reason for the walk is to respectfully commemorate the casualties of both World Wars, particularly those who fell on the battlefields of the Westhoek during the First World War. It is held in August and covers 16 km to 32 km route for each of the four days and if you'd like to sponsor Peter, with all money going to the British Legion, please pop in and see him at Beechwood which is the first house at the bottom of Short Lane.

million Scouts and Guides, in 216 countries. celebrate their organization's centenary. Here, on 1st August, a jamboree will take place on Brownsea Island, in Poole Harbour, Dorset, where Scouting began 100 years ago. Lieutenant-General Baden-Powell, or 'BP', returned as 'hero of Mafeking' to discover that his military manual, Aids to Scouting, had become very popular among boys. Eager to test his ideas further, BP invited twenty-two boys from various backgrounds to camp on Brownsea for a week and take part in outdoor activities. The camp was a huge success. BP rewrote and published his manual in 1908 as Scouting for Boys, and within months boys and girls all over the world had formed patrols, leading to the most successful youth movement ever. Less well known is the story of Brownsea itself, also known as Branksea or Brunoc's Island, and largest of the eight islands in Poole Harbour. Measuring just 1.5 by 0.75 miles, Brownsea was first inhabited about 500BC, and a resident hermit built a navigation beacon around 500AD. After occupations by monks, Vikings and other raiders, the island was fortified by Henry VIII, who built a castle there. George IV visited in 1818 and commented "I had no idea I had such a delightful spot in my kingdom". Both island and castle had many owners, among the most eccentric being Mrs Bonham Christie, who reputedly employed "a blonde and powerful female Scandinavian to throw visitors off the island." On Mrs Christie's death in 1961 the island was sold to the National Trust and the castle leased to the John Lewis partnership. Today squirrels, Brownsea has red peacocks nesting wild in the trees, a Dorset Wildlife Trust bird reserve, no cars and one postal collection a week. I hope it's still like that for the 2107 jamboree. (Steve Osborn)

Marquis of	Granby			Regula	ar events in tl	he village (VH	H=village hall)		
The local pub serving	g quality food,	Mon	day	The Chalksole Homegroup, third Monday of the month - 823100					
wines and real ales s at £2.50 a		Tues	day	Art classes from 10 am to 1 pm in VH – ring 07811405124					
Full a la carte menu, we		Wedne	esday	Keep Fit	9.30 - 10.30am	- Wednesday	Club to 11.30a	m in VH	
offers including two 100	oz rump steaks,	Thurs	sday	Karate o	classes from 7.	15pm to 8.45p	om in VH - 821	336	
chips and peas, plus a wine for two people c		Thurs	sday	Mobile I	_ibrary in car pa	ark by village l	hall 9.25am to	9.50am	
Please phone	•	Frid	Friday		rive in VH start	ing at 7.30 pm	า		
					Other event	s in the villa	70		
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VINEYARD - Further to the article in the August edition of the Alkham Monthly Newsletter, we are pleased to advise that landscaping of the area surrounding the Barn will be underway shortly. The barn will be used in conjunction with Chalksole Estate Vineyard which was planted in April this year - possibly not the best year to plant vines! We have planted some 9000 Chardonnay, Pinot and Pinot Noir varieties of Vine and hope to produce sparkling wine in a few years time. We are sure that by Alkham Valley having its own vineyard will become an asset to the village. I will keep you updated as we progress! Sadly though, at the beginning of August we had some 40 vines stolen from the Vinevard, which is a little disheartening. Other Horticulturists should probably now take extra care when planting etc.. as evidently thieves are operating is this area. (Claire Ward, Estate Manager, Chalksole Vineyard)

BOOK CLUB - We spent a lovely evening sipping wine in Avi and garden at Poems last Peter's travel month. Manv interestina discussed. Next books were month's book is The Broken Shore by Peter Temple. Linda Gaskill will hosting Chalksole be at on Tuesday the 4th September at 7.30pm. New members always welcome. Contact Rosemary Heddle 827880.

VILLAGE HALL - Bookings for the village hall have now been taken over by Val Fowler, Evergreen, Slip Lane, tel: 827635. Many thanks to Rosemary Polden for her hard work over the time she has been taking the bookings, and we wish her and her family all the best for their imminent move to River. (Val Fowler)

No. 167 September 2007

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ALKHAM VILLAGE FETE ALKHAM FOOTBALL Despite earthquake, flood and tarmac invasion the Fete went ahead on the 14th July and was a great success. The weather stayed fair and people stayed, played and paid their way, so that we took something in the region of £3,800 on the day; there are the usual expenses etc but I hope we should clear £2,500 for the Church and Village Hall, which is one of our best ever results. Once again there are a huge number of 'thank you's, and it wouldn't be right to single out many individuals because SO people contributed, but I simply must mention the following: Billy Hollis for the main raffle prize and his little car. bringing Simon Leadbetter of Chilton Meats for donating all the sausages for the hot dog stall, Alkhamhurst Kennels for bringing their stall (and not being mentioned in the programme), the Cross. Brian Wimsett Red for persuading me to have a Beer Tent (and Ernie for drinking the leftovers!) and especially Hugh Oxborrow of the Marguis for generously donating two meals for two at the Marquis and the Woolpack and sorting out the licence for the beer tent! The rest of you know who you are and also know that without you there wouldn't be a Fete, you have my thanks and appreciation! We shall be having the Fete Post Mortem (despite the name it's usually quite a cheerful meeting!) and division of spoils on the 5th September at 8 p.m. at the Village Hall so please come along to have your say, sort out the finances and start the ball rolling for next year! (Paul Tapsell) CHILDREN IN NEED variety show

is on the 20th of October in the village hall. If you have any ideas for the show or would like to help please phone Helen on 210591.

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CLUB - The Marguis of Granby is kindly sponsoring a village football team for young adults. The kit has been purchased with the village name on and the team will be playing in various leagues. Paul Price, who lives in Glebelands, is the captain and further information and pictures will be printed in next month's Newsletter.

MARQUIS OF GRANBY Rather than have a tenant, Hugh Oxborrow is remaining as landlord and he is going to put further investment into the property with some development during the winter. Further details to follow.

HARVEST SERVICE AND SUPPER -As always everyone is welcome to join in this annual Church Service Sunday 30th September at 10am, when people are invited to contribute garden and farm produce. However, as Brian Wimsett and Ken Hammond. very kindly continue to help run the Dover 'Soup Kitchen' people may donate tins of food in place of fresh produce. The Harvest Supper 1st October at 7.30pm as always will be in the Village Hall. Anyone wishing to partake in the Supper, tickets cost £5 each, or help in the preparation, are asked to contact Susan Lees 822661

THANK YOU to everyone who took part or helped in any way with the Garage Safari. This summer we were very lucky to have such wonderful weather and we all entered into the spirit and enjoyed ourselves. I would like to express the thanks of the Church and myself to the people who gave us donations. Your generosity was amazing, and very much appreciated, and it went a verv long way to helping us to raise the sum of £836. When expenses have been paid £786 will go to our Church. Thank you again. Marion Banks-Nash

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DEN AND CYCLING (Part One) - For several years now, Ken Hammond and Brian Wimsett have been asking me to go cycling with them. I've never taken them up on it because they looked a bit too professional for my liking and I didn't want to embarrass myself. In a weak moment in late April this year however, I agreed. Irene was encouraging, stating that under no circumstances was I to wear lycra shorts until I had lost some weight. Ken and Brian donated helmet, shoes and gloves and I borrowed Brian's spare road bike. Ken showed me his bike workshop which is like an operating theatre

but cleaner and more organized, explained the intricacies of Shimano gears, the Flightdeck computer, how not to brake when cornering etc. He proudly recounted the number of accidents he has had whilst riding and told me how to deal with car drivers ('Just head straight at them and they will get out of the way'). He asked if I wanted to use ordinary pedals or the cleats that clip your feet to the pedals. My decision to go with cleats would cause me much pain later. The first ride went well and within a few minutes I knew this was the life for me. We covered a total of thirteen miles and as we came back along the Alkham Vallev I felt tired but exhilarated and only one part of me very sore. However the euphoria was the cause of me forgetting everything Ken had told me. As we turned into Slip Lane with only thirty yards to the end of the ride, Eric the postman was in deep conversation with Sue Lees with only a small gap between them and the post van. Brian went through the gap with no problem and so did Ken, and, forgetting that these guys have been cycling for hundreds of years, I thought that I could do the same. I slowed too much and, basically, fell on top of Sue Lees. I have to admit that in the ten years I have lived in the village, I have spent countless hours trying to think up an excuse for falling on Sue Lees, God smiled on me that day. Back on the bike I calmly finished the last few yards and forgot to unclip the foot cleats and promptly fell off. Brian and Ken immediately ran over to check the bike was OK whilst I lay grazed and bruised on Slip Lane. Over the next few weeks I gradually increased my distance and am now covering Ken and Brian's training routes with no problem, although I find that I start out with great enthusiasm and am flagging at the end, like...(Irene has edited out the last part of this sentence). I am still courteous to car and van drivers but Ken says that will change with more experience. My grateful thanks go to Brian and Ken for introducing me to this great sport and for their gifts of equipment and advice. If anyone would like to join us you will be very welcome. Sue Lees watch out. (Den Barnard) Den fell off his bike again when going through an enormous puddle (you could hear the splash half a mile away) at Chalksole much to the delight of his fellow cyclists one of whom was Mark Robson who has now joined us.

A.R.S.E (Alkham's Relieved Survivors of the Earthquake) Meeting Another well attended meeting this time with the appearance of several new members adding a bit of glamour to the occasion. Great progress has been made at these sessions to reduce the mental impact of the earthquake but all felt that another evening would be beneficial and have agreed to reunite on the 31st August where it is hoped that the earthquake may not even be mentioned at all! If you haven't yet made an appearance but would like to the group are a very friendly bunch and look forward to seeing you at the Marquis at the end of the month (the invitation even extends to 'Outraged of Ellinge'). (Mark Robson)

DOUBLE NEGATIVES – A teacher told the class that you could have double negatives making a positive like 'not unpleasant' but there were no double positives making a negative. There was a short pause then a youth at the back said 'yeah right'.

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St Anthony's Day 2nd September -Come and ioin friends old and new with a glass of wine and monkish nibbles after a special Evensong service at Alkham church 2nd on Sunday September - St Anthony's Day -6:30pm. This follows at last year's village events to commemorate the 500th

anniversary of the martyrdom of St Anthony. This year Desmond Samson, a retired vicar of Alkham, will bless a tapestry picture of St Anthony lovingly embroidered by our own talented Beattie Jeapes. The panel is based on an image of St Anthony sent to us by the Bishop of Pamiers in France, and will be placed in the church to commemorate our saint. St Anthony was born a nobleman near Toulouse in the fifth century. He travelled to Rome and gave up his riches and royal connections for life as evangelising and spreading the word of Christ in a monk, Southern France and northern Spain. He was beheaded for his faith by the Visigoths in 506 on the banks of the Ariege river. His connection with Alkham is probably through the monks at St Radigund's Abbey, the mother of our church in Alkham. (The Church Committee)

OZ on BATS -creature that is pleasanter to the touch or is more grateful for Recently we attended a talk at Mongeham Church by a lady from the Kent Bat Group. During the interval she identified bat droppings behind the altar rail, and afterwards, as dusk fell, and aided by electronic trackers, we watched the bats cavorting in the graveyard. From knowing little about these fascinating and reclusive creatures, we learnt much during the evening and departed wanting to discover more. I later found that there are over 1,100 species of bat in every corner of the world, except Antarctica, and that this is reflected in world literature. Fears and superstitions have always surrounded bats, due to their silent nocturnal habits, as in the 1496 "battes whiche hate the daye", and Huloet's "batte whiche flyeth in the darcke" from 1552. In 1604 Drayton named one as "Watch-Man of the Night", and in 1791 Boswell described "a mouse with wings." Drayton was actually closer to the truth, as the bat is an advanced mammal, its skeleton nearly that of the human, and the bat order Chiroptera is grouped with the Primates because of such similarities. From the 1500s onwards, explorers returning from South and Central America brought tales of vampire bats that fired the imaginations of writers and readers of Gothic novels, the most famous being Bram Stoker's Dracula in 1897. Even gentle Mark Twain climaxed his 1876 novel Tom Sawyer with a frightening encounter between Tom and Becky and a caveful of bats, although he later recanted: "A bat is beautifully soft and silky; I do not know any caressing." Maybe the most haunting words are those of Oliver Goldsmith in The Deserted Village (1770): "Those matted woods where birds forget to sing / But silent bats in drowsy clusters cling." (Steve Osborn)

ALKHAM W.I. – The wet and windy August evening prevented the meeting taking place on Vicarage Meadow as proposed. However, members were able to sit back and relax in the Village Hall, eating a delightful variety of food, drinking and chatting with each other, something which rarely happens - despite what men think! At the next regular meeting on 11th September a talk will be given by Nickky Kimble on Dog Trust, a subject of interest to many people. **(Sue Lees)**

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Marquis of Granby				Other event	ts in the vil	lage				
The local pub serving quality food,	Mond	lay	3	Parish Counc	cil meeting a	t 7.30pm in the v	/illage hall			
wines and real ales such Harveys	Wedne	sday	5	Fete committe	ee meeting 8	.00pm in VH – se	e page 1			
at £2.50 a pint.	Tueso	day	14		0	rting at 7.30pm				
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chips and peas, plus a bottle of house	Mond	lay	17	Bird club from	n 7.30pm in [.]	village hall				
wine for two people costing £19.50. Please phone 822945	\mathbf{C}	D	ay	Alkham	Capel	Hougham	Week			
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THE ALKHAM FUND paid for the materials to make a new notice board to hold the maps which show the public footpaths around Alkham. Ernie Cook kindly made it for nothing so the final cost was about £220 including a bottle of whisky given to Ernie in appreciation. The board, which is sited opposite the village hall, was vandalised on its some first day by mindless individual who smashed the Perspex. The board was paid for by the efforts of the people who recycle in the village which makes the vandalism even more despicable. Please spread the word.

THE MARQUIS OF GRANBY is holding a fancy dress Halloween party for adults on Friday 26th October from should 7pm. People come dressed appropriately for the occasion and prizes will be awarded for the best costumes. There will be live music plus an extended licence.

AN ANTIQUE VALUATION evening is being held in Hougham village hall on the 4th of October starting at 7.30pm. Entry is £4 with wine and each available nibbles and valuation costs £1.

GREEN LANE Ewell Minnis Please be kind enough to follow the countryside code which includes not climbing over fences or gates. (Lt. Col. R Ashman MBE O St.J) A CAT, tabby with white socks has adopted the Marguis. If anyone has

lost a cat like this please phone them on 822945.

No. 168 October 2007

Funded by adverts and independent of the Parish Council

SUNFLOWERS 2007 - Well it was CHILDREN IN NEED CONCERT - A another good year for the Sunflower great evening with lots of different competition with two previous surprise entertainment has been champions fighting it out for the planned for Saturday 20th October prize in the Junior competition! It is in the Village Hall. Do come along always interesting to see the and hear the young talented artists, lengths that some entrants go to, to as well as the not so young. Tickets try and win the competition. One are only £5 each. Beer and wine family grew their plants in the will be available in the Hall. There greenhouse and then had to take have been some wonderful prizes the glass out to let the plant donated for the special raffle. through. Also I understand some Tickets should be purchased in contestants are using Darwin's advance theory of 'Natural Selection' to gain entertainment and/or the raffle an advantage by using seeds from please contact Helen 210591 or each year's tallest Sunflower. Now Susan 822661. Tom Dixon (on left) that's taking things seriously. In the juniors, Harrison Blears has defended his 2006 title with a Sunflower measuring 3.7m (12.34 ft) with Aimee Wood (2005 winner) growing hers to 3.2 m (10.5 ft). Full results: Juniors: Harrison Blears 3.7m; Aimee Wood 3.2m; Alfie Blears 2.8m; Chloe Huggins Callum Huggins 2.5m; 2.4m; Rachel Robson 2.3m; Tom Robson 2.1m: Bronwen Robson 1.4m. Adults: John Norris 2.4m: Mark Robson 1.9m; Debbie Robson 1.2m. (Simon Norris)

HARVEST FESTIVAL Sunday 30th September and Harvest Supper Monday 1st October. The Church will be decorated Saturdav morning 10am on, anyone wishing to help do come along and join in. contribution Any of flowers. greenery, fruit, vegetables and tin foods gratefully received. The Church Service is at 10.00am and the Harvest Supper 7.30pm in the Village Hall on the Monday.

HELP REQUIRED to exercise horse in Ewell Minnis. 16.1hh bay warmblood mare. dood temperament and hacks out alone or with others. Due to demanding work hours, I am looking for extra help to ride for a couple of days during the week. Please call 07875 871 224.

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for the evening's



will be playing; evidently he's very aood. GEORGE THE TORTOIS F

disappea

red from our garden on Saturday 1st September. We have owned George for five years and have become very fond of him. My youngest daughter particularly, would be delighted to have him back at home. Please call or leave a message on 820077. Thank you

(Angela Edwards, 8 Glebelands)

BYWAYS – An application has been made to designate ER186 and ER76 as BOATS. This means that the footpath and bridleway crossing the field from Chalksole Green Lane to the rear of Ellinge and then passing over the next field would be open to all traffic, making a 2Km connection for off-road vehicles to go from Slip Lane to the other side of the parish. It would be a shame if the beautiful sheep field was rutted by vehicles that are being used solely for leisure purposes but the final decision will be based on evidence as to whether it has or has not been used by vehicles in the past.

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Ken Hammond standing in front of the church at Woodnesborough during his mammoth church bike ride on which he visited 65 churches and did 64 miles. I joined him for 42 miles and together we raised £160. Cycling really is good for you as evidently it is safe for joints, helps you lose weight (300 to 600 calories an hour), is good for your heart and lungs (beneficial for asthma sufferers) and can reduce stress. Why not come and join us? Mark Robson and Darren Mowat have come out with us and we had great fun and we now have

A LADIES BICYCLE which is almost brand new. It has 6 speed Shimano gearing and is available for anyone to use. Please give me a ring on 824969 if you'd like to borrow it. (Brian Wimsett and Ken Hammond)



DEN BARNARD'S article on cycling was

very popular and I'm pleased to say he hasn't fallen off again. With regard to the comment that 'we ride straight at them and they get out of the way' this refers to vehicles on our side of the road where there is room for them to move over. We also ride single file when there are vehicles behind.

A.R.S.E MEETING(Alkham's Relieved Survivors of the Earthquake) Yet more people are attending the monthly meeting with many new faces being seen and all quickly reaching a state of relaxation through which the terrors of April 28th can be put behind us. It might be interesting to carry out a survey of members and see if we can find some reason behind people seeking the support from the group so long after the event – are they suffering delayed, post-traumatic stress syndrome; are they only now recognising the deep psychological damage that such an experience can cause; is it only now, 5 months after the earthquake, that they feel safe enough to leave their houses? In truth we don't really care but we enjoyed ourselves so much that we will reconvene on September 28th at 8.00 p.m. at The Marquis and will be pleased to welcome all! **(Mark Robson)**

PETER MERCER walked the 'Four Days of ISER' which in part commemorates the casualties of both World Wars with several thousands participating aged from 8 to 80. The walk started at Oostduinkerke and finished four days later at Ypres. Peter got very wet and suffered from blisters but enjoyed the experience and raised £500 in sponsorship which has gone to the British Legion.

A FRIEND phoned and said he had just bought 8 legs of venison for £50 and wondered if it was too dear.

LOQUAT – Gardeners may be interested to know that Jan Martinez, Garden Designer, has been picking loquats at her house in Everden through the summer; this is unusual and is due to climate change. If you would like further information please give her a ring on 01303 893462.

ALKHAM WI – The September meeting was one of those occasions when everyone was delving endlessly into their purses; so many tickets, diaries, calendars, outings, sponsorships etc to pay for – but all worth the expense! Members were asked to bring a list of names to the October meeting for next year's committee. The speaker, Nicky Kimble, spoke for an hour, almost without drawing a breath of air, on 'Dog Trust', an organization set up over a hundred years ago to monitor the care of dogs and re-home the hundreds not cared for. The talk at the October meeting will be by Mr Dugard on 'Carpet Cleaning for Health' (Sue Lees) MARSHALL & CLARKE

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Boarding for Dogs, Cats & Small Animals Canine Hydrotherapy - Pet Food Shop 01304 – 822420 Alkham Valley Road THE ANNUAL HONEY SHOW - On the last Saturday of October in the Alkham Village Hall, we local beekeepers will again be staging our annual Honey Show, now an established fixture in the village calendar. What is particularly encouraging for us is that over recent years the number of nonbeekeepers from the area who look in during the afternoon has steadily increased and several of them have since entered our ranks and taken up the gentle art of apiculture themselves. So again I would like to extend a warm invitation to any of you who have an hour to spare on that Saturday to join us in the village hall, which will be open to the public for a couple of hours from 2.30. Admission is free. The show is a pleasant, relaxed occasion. As well as our own members, beekeepers from sister associations in South-East Kent submit jars and frames of honey of different kinds, beeswax candles, confectionery, mead and other products of the hive for judging; these and other items make a very attractive display. We mount a small exhibition of beekeeping equipment to give you some idea of how we go about managing our little flying friends. There will be a selection of local honeys for you to sample and a stall selling cosmetics, jars of honey and greetings cards. Refreshments will be available throughout the afternoon. Beekeepers are friendly folk and we welcome the chance to chat to anyone wishing to know a little more about our hobby. We are always keen for you to visit our nearby apiary and this can easily be arranged at the show. Protective gear would be provided, of course. We do hope we shall have the pleasure of your company on 27 October. (Roy Dyche)

BOOK CLUB - Last month revealed all members with the exception of one, gave up on the book The Broken Shore by Peter Temple. This was mostly due to the repetitive bad language used on virtually every page. The member who persevered found the book disturbing, but with an interesting twist at the end. The next meeting will take place at Bramhall, home of Sue Tapsell on the 3rd of October 7.30pm. The book to be discussed is Stasiland, written by Anna Funder. (Rosemary Heddle)

A TRI-WEDDING ceremony taking the form of a civil service, paying tribute to nature and a Christian blessing took place at Chilton Farm on the 28th of July. May the Holy Spirit continue to richly bless Diane and Richard Bundy. **(Phyllis)**

OZ on JACOBS – One of the cleverest writers of a century ago was W W Jacobs, author of several novels and collections of short stories humorously portraying the lives of maritime workers around London's dockland and the south-east coast. Punch magazine, reviewing his first collection, Many Cargoes, in 1896, described its subject as "men who go down to the sea in ships of moderate tonnage". William Wymark Jacobs was born in Wapping in 1863, son of a London wharfinger. In 1879 he started work as a civil service clerk, writing in the evenings, and had his first story published in 1885. Success came slowly, but by 1899 Jacobs felt sufficiently secure both to leave his job and marry, buying two houses in Loughton, Essex, which became "Claybury" in the stories. Jacobs also loved East Kent, and depicted Sandwich in his 1902 novel At Sunwich Port, a story of seagoing rivalry. It was in Deal at the turn of the century that Jacobs and the cartoonist Will Owen met my great-grandfather, "Bobby Osborn". Bobby was a gargantuan figure, measuring 66 inches both in height and circumference, who pushed a fish-cart around Deal with cries of "Rye Bay Plaice!" and "Dover Sole!" ringing out. It was said that on a still evening, these cries could be heard on the South Foreland lightship. Bobby became the model for many sketches, both literary and graphical, that appeared in the Jacobs/Owen collaborations as 'Bob' and 'The Night-Watchman'. In one of Owens's cartoons, drawn during the time that Prohibition was being considered, Bobby says "If yer shut up the pubs, what am I goin' to do fer nourishment?" Jacobs spent his old age adapting his stories for the stage and died in Islington in 1943. Bobby simply bequeathed me a huge and unhideable genetic inheritance. (Steve Osborn)

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streaks or smears and no chemicals. Our poles	Tuesd	Tuesday		Art classes from 10 am to 1 pm in VH – ring 07811405124						
reach those hard to get areas. Safely clean your conservatory roof. We fully clean all windows, doors and frames.	Wednes	sday	Keep Fit	9.30 - 10.30am	n – Wednesday	Club to 11.30a	m in VH			
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for a 3 bed house. For a free quote call Marcus or Sara on 826280	Thurse	day	Mobile I	_ibrary in car p	ark by village	hall 9.25am to	9.50am			
	Frida	ıy	Whist D	rive in VH star	ting at 7.30 pn	n				
Marquis of Granby				Other event	s in the villa	ge				
The local pub serving quality food,	Mon	day	1	Harvest Supp	per 7.30pm in '	VH – see page	2			
wines and real ales such Harveys	Tues	sday	9		lage hall starti	• •				
at £2.50 a pint. Full a la carte menu, weekly specials and	Satu	rday	13	W.I. jumble s	ale 11.00am iı	n village hall.				
offers including two 10oz rump steaks,	Mon		15		n 7.30pm in vil	0				
chips and peas, plus a bottle of house	Saturday		20			VH – see page	e 1			
wine for two people costing £19.50.	Satu	rday	27	Honey Show	in village hall	– see page 3				
Please phone 822945	C		Day	Alkham	Capel	Hougham				
POULTON SERVICE AND EXHAUST CENTRE	HURCH	Su	nday 7 th	EVENSONG 6.30pm	SUNG EUCHARIST 9.30am	WORSHIPPING TOGETHER 11am				
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SEAN DIXON)ES	F	Euc	<u>Week day Services</u> ucharist at Capel every Thursday at 9.15am						
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AVON CALLING If you would like to regularly receive the AVON Catalogue please phone Emily on 01304 823483	O N E	3P ou nedica lewsl	it of hours al help 08 letter, Bri	rden 07977 981 s to access urge 44 800 1234 an Wimsett 824 sett@hotmail.com	994 829585 ent Church 822295 4969	Wardens - Rich and Grace Stace web site <u>www.a</u>	ard Tapsell ay 822756			
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	in Folkestone – 01303 850733 LOCAL BUSINESSES AND SERVICES (no prefix local number)									

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

MAP BOARD – In last month's Newsletter I reported that the Perspex on the footpath map board opposite the village hall was broken the day after it had been erected in mid-September. As a result of this article I was phoned by someone who witnessed the vandalism and was told that it was carried out by three young children who threw stones at it. The group consisted of two boys and one girl, the latter having a pigtail. They left by the footpath behind the village hall and returned later to throw stones at the village notice board. From the description given, if any parent thinks that one of their children was involved, they may wish to contribute to a new sheet of Perspex, which cost Ernie Cook £55.68. This can be done anonymously by putting the cash in an envelope and posting it through the letter box of the Old Post Office. Ernie glued the broken Perspex back in the board but this was then broken again to a greater extent. A witness reported hearing the sounds of young children being in the area at the time it was broken. (Brian Wimsett)

ALKHAM VALLEY SOCIETY

The Annual General meeting of the Alkham Valley Society will take place on Tuesday 20 November at 7.30 p.m. in the Alkham Village Hall. The by now customary supper will follow at the other end of the valley, The Fox in Temple Ewell. All welcome. The subscriptions will be collected and we thank those who have already subscribed for 2008, several of whom gave the Society a donation, for which thanks. again, many (Joanna Walker, Secretary)

A CHRISTMAS BAZAAR will be held in the village hall on the 24th of November starting at 10.30am in aid of PCC funds.

THE FETE AGM will be held in the Mondav 12th village hall on November at 8.00pm. (Paul Tapsell)

No. 169 November 2007

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JOHN ULLMANN died on the 25th THE CHILDREN IN NEED of September. He was better evening in the village hall on the known as Diesel Johnny. а nickname of which he was very proud. Evidently it stemmed from him being able to get a diesel engine going that had defeated evervone else. He owned Malmains Farm which includes the farm house on Slip Lane and a very large piece of set-aside land between Slip Lane and South Alkham. Sympathy goes to all his relatives and friends.



If you are letting off fireworks this year please remember that animals. especially

horses and dogs, become extremely frightened by the noise they make.

A WORKING PARTY will be held on Saturday 3rd November at 9.30am in the churchyard of St. Anthony's, Alkham to tidy up before winter. Please do come and enjoy helping us in this task for a couple of hours, bringing tools and mid-mornina sustenance! Thank you. (Richard served with a course grain mustard **Tapsell and Grace Stacey)**

BYWAYS - Barbara Newitt and I were interviewed by the Public Rights of Way Officer regarding the application to make the bridleways from Chalksole Green Lane to Everden into Byways Open to All Traffic. Barbara said that she had never seen 4 wheel drive vehicles use the bridleways over the last 40 or so years and I said the same for the last 10 years. These statements and others confirm the absence of off road vehicles and will be a very important factor in determining the result of this application and others.

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20th November was an enormous success with over a £1000 being raised. Full report next month.

Christmas Lights Switch-On will be on Saturday December 8th. The fun and festivities will begin at 4.45 p.m. with the switch on at 5.00 p.m. This will be followed by mulled wine and minced pies at the Marquis courtesy of Hugh and team. In line with tradition the W.I. choir will provide carols for the assembled throng before and after switch on and Father Christmas has promised to put in an appearance on Vicarage Meadow. Any child (aged 0 - 16) who would like to perform the switch on should present a picture of a Christmas tree at the W.I Christmas Bazaar in the Village Hall on the morning of Saturdav December 8th. The names of all artists will be placed in a hat and one lucky person will be chosen to switch the lights on that evening! As if that wasn't enough the fun of the switch-on will be followed by a Village Meal in the Marquis (7.30 for 8.00p.m.). The menu will be: Starters - soup or pate: Mains - Roast turkey or beef and all the trimmings: Cod loin sauce: Veg encroute served with a creamy chive sauce - all with pots and veg. Puds - Xmas pudding with brandy sauce or chocolate fudge cake or ice cream: Afters - coffee and mince pies: all for only £16.95 per head As in previous years it is hoped this will be a true village event so please contact the pub by November 20th to book your place and select your menu. In order to book the whole pub the meals will need to be paid for at the time of booking. Tickets have always sold fast for this so book early! (Mark Robson)

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CAN YOU HELP? Tricia and David THE CONCESSIONARY FARES BUS Follett, who have lived in the PASS. From 1st April 2008 all bus centre of the village (in Old School passes will have a photo of the Cottages) for the past four years, holder scanned onto a plastic have sold up and are moving to pass card. Most people have near Australia. to be their their photo stored on the daughter and grandchildren in computer system but there are Melbourne. Tricia is off shortly, still some that have not yet but Dave is staying on in England provided a photo. Therefore there for about a year (at the moment, are FREE photo sessions to aid he's a writer with a story still to the remaining customers to finish!), and he's looking for local provide a photo and the next accommodation. Dave loves the sessions will be held at the Alkham valley, and doesn't really Council Offices at: 69 Castle want to move far. He's looking Street Dover,16th November 10am ideally for somewhere 'quiet and - 12pm: Boulevard Courriers, peaceful' with what he describes Ayelsham, 14th November 11am "views over the loveliest - 12pm: The Guildhall, Sandwich, as valley", with one or two bedrooms, 15th November 10am - 12pm. part or unfurnished (he's got some LOCAL POST OFFICE CLOSURES furniture, TV and three-piece Post Office Ltd has commenced a 6 suite, as well as the obligatory week public consultation closing on computer). He's a keen bowler $\frac{12^{\text{th}}}{12^{\text{th}}}$ November. А campaign (yes, he's just retired!), and is a website has been launched on member of Kearsney Bowling www.kent.gov.uk/postoffice so that Club, so he'd like to be close to local residents can give their the buses on the Valley road, opinions and download а though he's prepared to "buy a petition. The Dover area Post bl**dy car once more if absolutely Offices listed for potential closure necessary"! Do you have - or are: - New Bridge, Bench Street, someone who has - Dover: Tower Hamlets, West Street, know somewhere small to let for the Dover and Duke of Yorks School, next year or so? If so, please Guston, Dover. These branches phone Dave or Tricia on 826 323, form part of 58 proposed closures or e-mail: dmfollett@aol.com. throughout Kent. Kent County GOING FOR BAROQUE ! is the Council urge the local residents to title of Dover Choral Society's engage with this consultation autumn concert, at 7.30 pm on process and help by providing any Saturday 17th November in Dover relevant local knowledge which may Town Hall, featuring "five wonderful assist them in raising concerns to gems of baroque music." They are the Post Office. Purcell's O Sing Unto the Lord, (Angela Miller – Parish Clerk) Magnificat, Handel's A.R.S.E (Alkham's Relieved Peraolesi's Chandos Anthems No 9 O Praise Survivors of the Earthquake) The the Lord and No 11 Let God Arise, last meeting was a quiet affair but and Vivaldi's Gloria. Soloists are all good progress was made by from the Royal Academy of Music. those who attended and a fun They and the chorus will be time was had by all. The date of accompanied by the Connaught the next meeting is the 26th Orchestra (leader George Simpson) October which coincides with the and conducted by Michael Lewis. Hallowe'en Party at the Marquis. Tickets costing £10 (Students £5) Members of A.R.S.E. agreed to are available from Dover Tourist attend both the next meeting and Information Centre, members of the party so fancy dress is the Choral Society or by order of the day. If you have yet to Dover telephoning 01304 822042; and, if attend this could be the date and there are any left, at the door on the time to make an A.R.S.E of night. For further details about the vourself. We hope to see you concert please ring Shirley Leeves there. (Mark Robson) on 01304 820149. (Steve Osborn)

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Boarding for Dogs, Cats & Small Animals Canine Hydrotherapy - Pet Food Shop 01304 – 822420 Alkham Valley Road HARVEST SUPPER goes with a OZ on VANCOUVER - Two months **banger**. The dank drizzly weather ago we met up in Vancouver with didn't deter a group of 60 villagers friends from Ontario who were also who gathered for a warming Harvest "spending kids' inheritance." While Supper of bangers and mash in the recovering from jet lad and village hall on Monday 1st of October. exploring the city we discovered Thanks go to the ladies who master remnants of this summer's 250th minded all things culinary, Betty for birthday celebrations for George her unstinting effort on ticket sales Vancouver, the first European to and to our resident auctioneer. Paul explore the coast of what later Tapsell, who knocked down the became British Columbia. George produce in hilarious fashion raising was born in King's Lynn, Norfolk, some £350 for church funds. Bob on June 22 1757, a descendant of Palmer's organic runner beans were the Dutch Van Coeverden family. much admired as was the good He joined the Navy at the age of fortune of Derek "Lucky" Banks-fifteen and sailed on Captain Nash who had three tickets drawn in Cook's second and third voyages the raffle. although modesty to the Pacific, followed by war prevented him from collecting all his service in the English Channel and winnings. (Geoff Gaskill) and ... on the West Indies. In 1789 a fourth behalf of the PCC of St Anthony's, as exploration of the Pacific was well as myself, I would like to thank cancelled as war with Spain everybody who came to the Harvest loomed over the right to settle the Supper and made the evening a northwest American coast. George success. Our special thanks must go joined the fray in HMS Courageux, to the people who dipped deep into a 74-gun ship-of-the-line captured their pockets for the auction following from the French. When peace was Paul's appeal. The overall profit for finally made in 1794, George was the evening, after expenses, was made captain and given command £500 – a magnificent sum which is of HMS Discoverv to take much needed at the moment to possession of and survey the maintain our lovely church and keep it northwest coastline. We followed in good order for future generations.. some of George's footsteps when Thank you for your generosity we took the Circle Tour, a round (Marion Banks-Nash) trip in ferries up the Sunshine ALKHAM WI - The October meeting Coast towards Alaska, stopping off brings home to members the fact and moving on when we wished, that winter is just around the corner, and returning to Victoria on cake Vancouver Island. There were as Christmas especially appeared on the refreshment table! constant reminders of the Spanish This being the last meeting of this occupation in place names such as WI's year, members were asked to Juan de Fuco, Cortes and Galiano. put forward names for next year's After completing his survey. committee, never a difficult task in George returned to Britain via Cape no formal Horn in 1795 to something less is Alkham. There planned for next than a hero's welcome. He faced entertainment court month's meeting, but members can several actions from present disgruntled members of his assured that the be committee will find something to expeditions, one of whom AGM on 13th assaulted him in the street. George liahten the 79th November. The speaker this month Vancouver died, broken and lonely, provided much useful information on in 1798 at the age of 40. We spent 'Carpet cleaning' a task which faces the remainder of our holiday in the Fraser Canyon, discovered by everyone daily. (Sue Lees) MANY THANKS to the person who Simon Fraser in 1805; a story for nominated me for a volunteer award, another day. (Steve Osborn) It was much appreciated but I didn't win. (Brian Wimsett)

NAILBOURNE FI	LOWERS			Regula	ar events in t	:he v	illage (v	H=village hall)			
FOR ALL OCCA		Mond	lav	The Chalksole Homegroup, third Monday of the month - 823100							
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your pock				Art classes from 10 am to 1 pm in VH – ring 07811405124							
Telephone 01304		Wednes			: 9.30 - 10.30am						
HIGH LEVEL CLEANIN	G SOLUTIONS	Thurse	day	Karate o	classes from 7.	.15pn	n to 8.45p	pm in VH - 821	336		
Window cleaning specialists no		Thurse	day	Mobile I	_ibrary in car p	ark b	y village	hall 9.25am to	o 9.50am		
use a reach & wash purifying sy streaks or smears and no ch	emicals. Our poles	Frida	Friday		rive in VH star	ting a	at 7.30 pn	n			
reach those hard to get areas conservatory roof. We fully clea and frames	an all windows, doors				Other event	ts in ⁻	the villa	ge			
Our prices start from	-	Mon	Monday		Parish Counc	cil me	eting in \	/H – all welcor	ne		
for a 3 bed ho		Tues	sday	6	Village Hall c	omm	ittee mee	eting 7.30pm ir	n VH		
For a free quote call Marcus	or Sara on 826280	Mon	day	12	Fete AGM in	VH 8	.00 pm –	all welcome			
		Tues	sday	13	W.I. meeting		-				
Marquis of	Granhy	Mon		19	Bird club fron			3			
	•	Tues		20				/ 7.30pm in V	Η		
The local pub serving		Satu	-			-		/H from 10.30			
wines and real ales s at £2.50 a p	,	Satu		24				n the village ha			
Full a la carte menu, wee	ekly specials and		T	Day	Alkham	I	Capel	Hougham			
offers including two 100		н		Day	Aikiidiii		•	<u> </u>	<u>Week</u> day		
chips and peas, plus a wine for two people co		U R	Su	nday 4 th	Evensong 4pm	E	Sung ucharist . 30am	Worshipping Together	Services Eucharist		
Please phone	822945	Ċ	-			9	.suam	11am	at Capel		
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No. 170 December 2007

Funded by adverts and independent of the Parish Council

Merry Christmas

CHILDREN IN NEED VARIETY SHOW

It was an evening full of song, dance and music. All who took part were local; we were amazed just how much talent we have around us. Polly & Rose Comfort opened the evening, introducing the show. They were so professional that their parents must be very proud of them. Tom Dixon from Wolverton Hill, gave us memories of Elvis and wowed up with Rod Stuart numbers. Emily Lane sang beautifully, accompanied by Ben Mulberry from Capel, who also sang whilst playing the keyboard - we were spellbound. Louise Orfila sang songs, one of which she had written for 'Children in Need' - she will go far. We had Sammie, Carrie and Jessie Marsden, dancing with their friend Teighler McGeehan. They could certainly move - such talent! Ten year old Christopher Thomas from Hougham, sang and danced so professionally, I think we all wanted to take him home. Look out for a future Star. Lizzie Grilli also from Hougham got our toes tapping with her tunes on the clarinet 'Daisy Daisy' being one of them. Young Sara Mees from The Gateway, sweetly sang and played the guitar with such confidence. Abbie Orfila, sister of Louise, amazed us with her powerful voice. We all clapped along to line dancing from Iris Bowshell, Barbara Wall and Val Fowler, ladies from Alkham's Keep Fit Club. What a range of notes! Pam Savers and Grace Stacey took us back to life before WWII, when chips were fried potatoes and gay was being full of fun. Bob Palmer and Maurice Savers entertained us in their Rugby gear with Rugby songs and had the audience taking part, causing much laughter. The evening was compered by Sean Dixon from Wolverton Hill. He really held the evening together doing a wonderful job. Many thanks Sean. We would like to thank **Debbie Burris**, who stepped in at the last minute to take care of the music; she did a grand job. Thanks also go to Edith Neve and daughter **Coco Ward** from Ewell Minnis. They collected all the raffle prizes and what wonderful prizes they were. We have to thank all who donated prizes so generously. We have to thank Coco as well for the paper work she compiled and printed; and thanks to Val Fowler for her lovely sketches of the Children in Need Teddy Bear, as well as taking care of the finances and even more printing. Alkham never fails to come up trumps for charity work. So we have to thank everyone who came and supported us and thank all those who took part and anyone who contributed in any way to help raise the wonderful sum of £1300. Thanks to John and Joanna O'Shea for recording the event, which is now on DVD. It costs £7.50, including a donation to Children in Need, and can be obtained by phoning them on 07811405124. (Helen Scopes)

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We all send BEST WISHES to the Polden and Lott families, who have moved to River. Doreen and Bill Polden were the first to occupy 4 Valley Cottages, one of the council houses which were built in Alkham after the last war. They had five children, who all attended Alkham Village School, to which they could safely walk as cars were an unusual sight in those days. Daughters -Doreen, who marred Roger Lott, and Rosemary continued to live with their mother at Valley Cottages. The whole of the family were very much involved with village activities. particularly the Fete and the Village Hall, and their presence will be missed. We wish them all the best for the future in their new home.

ANY CHILD who would like to turn on the Christmas lights please present a picture of a Christmas tree at the W.I. Bazaar on the morning of 8th December. Later at 4.45pm the W.I. choir will sing carols around the Christmas tree on Vicarage Meadow with the lights being turned on at 5.00pm together

with other festive illuminations. It is also expected that Father Christmas will make an appearance. At 5.15pm there will be mulled wine and mince pies at the



Marquis of Granby followed by the village meal at 7.30pm in the Marquis. (Mark Robson)

FOOTBALL PITCH – Bryan Cope, Conservative County Councillor for the Alkham area, confirmed that he had obtained a grant for over £8000 to pay for the cost of installing an electricity supply and lights to the football pitch by Vicarage Meadow. This is very good news as it will enable the children in the village to play football on dark nights. Parish Councillor, Geoffrey Lymer has got some quotes for doing the necessary works and will now try and get things going as soon as the money arrives.

POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICER – The latter is a paid civilian who supports the local police by providing a visible presence in the community. Most have the power to detain someone until the police arrive and also issue fixed penalties for anti-social behaviour. They can also deal with truants, graffiti, alcohol being consumed in a public place and other such problems. Our PCSO, Tracy Allum, was at the Parish Council meeting on the 5th November and said she would be patrolling the area and that if there were any problems in the Parish to contact her on 07772226112. I have added this number to the telephone list on the back page.

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LETTERS DO WORK - eventually. ANY CHILD who would like to turn "A Muddy Road", letter dated on the Christmas lights please 10th September 1904 to the editor present a picture of a Christmas of the Dover Express from Aubrey tree at the W.I. Bazaar on the GOODES of The Cliff Hotel, St. morning of 8th December and then Margarets, 'calling at 4.45pm on the same day the Dover attention to the disgraceful state W.I. choir will be singing carols of the road after leaving Friars around the Christmas tree on Ferne Farm on the way from Vicarage Meadow with the lights Ewell Minnis to Alkham. I was being turn on at 5.00pm together walking on Wednesday and found with other festive illuminations. It the road impassable being up to is also expected that Father ones ankles in mud and water. Christmas will make an Surely it is advisable if only in the appearance. At 5.15pm there will interests of visitors on whom be mulled wine and mince pies at some of the rate payers largely the Marquis of Granby followed by depend for the responsible the village meal at 7.30pm in the authorities to remedy without Marguis.

delay this gross neglect of their A.R.S.E (Alkham's Relieved Survivors of obvious duty.' At the parish the Earthquake). It's hard to believe Council meeting on November 5th that nearly 8 months have passed 2007 a letter from the Highway since the earthquake and the Authority said that the dip, group have made significant referred to above, would be raised progress in the 6 meetings we so the byway did not flood (*thanks* have held so far. There will be to Sue Lees for the Dover one last meeting this year which Express letter).

ALKHAM W.I. – AGM Because November 30th at the Marquis. there is so much official work to This will be followed by a break be done at such a meeting, it is for the Christmas festivities but we not the most enticing one to will reconvene in the newly attend, but thankfully the majority refurbished pub in the Spring. of members were present. An Don't miss the last chance to election for next year's committee make an A.R.S.E. of yourself in took place under the guidance of 2007. (Mark Robson)

the tellers, Margaret Toby and Joanna O'Shea. However, it was finally agreed to extend the number on the committee to nine as the results of the voting did not obviously exclude anyone. Margaret Dansted reported on her course at the WI Denman College, where she learnt the basics of harp playing, and how she is now making the effort to



THE LANGDON ACTION **GROUP** was at the last Parish Council meeting to show a model of one of the four wind turbines that

learn more. Margaret and Helen are proposed to be built west of Scopes then performed a sketch, Whitfield. They want people to join discussing, in very stylish lingo, their opposition to the plan on the their feelings about a book they basis of noise, shadow flicker and had read – how amused were we too near centres of habitation. The to learn finally that the book was a model shows the turbine size in Winnie the Pooh story, not the relation to the church below. Contact high class scary story we had me or the Parish Clerk for more imagined. The next meeting will information. be the Christmas Dinner at The Marquis of Granby on 11th December. **(Sue Lees)** **MARSHALL & CLARKE**

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WHAT'S ON at St. Anthony's - We OZ on MAGPIES - Just now the would like invite you to services at garden is abrim with mappies, the Church during the festive energetically spearing the last of season. Sunday 16th December the Bramley apples and clinging 6.30pm there will be the service of expertly to the vertical face of the Nine Lessons and Carols led by the bird-feeder choir from Capel. After the service peanuts. It demonstrates that they we will gather in the village hall and don't spend all their time killing mince and pies enjoy 23rd together. Sundav On December, 10.00am, the Bishop of in Maidstone will be preaching at the creatures in summer, only raiding Benefice Eucharist service. On other birds' nests in spring when Christmas Eve we will be holding competition for food is fiercest. I the Blessing of the Crib at 4.30pm. love seeing these fat sleek-headed At this family service the children killers with their immaculate black help to prepare the Crib for and white coats and long parrot-like Christmas day and light candles for tails, but they often arouse hatred in the final carol. This service is humans beautiful, beautifully chaotic and aggression, thieving and carrionvery popular, so do arrive early if you want a seat! And so we come pica comes directly from the Latin to the Eucharist service on Christmas day at 9.30am. We do English 'pie' and then 'Margaret-pie' look forward to welcoming you at or St. Anthony's. We would like you to adding to the bird's fearsome know that the Church will be open reputation. Interestingly, 'pie' also and attended every Wednesday means 'rule-book', from the black 7.30pm-8.30pm until Christmas, so and white text, and leads to the that you can, if you wish, come and adjective 'pied'. The superstition sit for a little while in quiet surrounding magpies is most widely reflection, away from the turmoil of seen in the counting game "One for Christmas preparations. We wish sorrow, Two for joy, Three for a girl, vou Happy and а Christmas. (Grace and Richard for gold, Seven for a secret never to Churchwardens)

"Thinking of You" Stars. For a a wish", or in its many regional small donation to Church funds, variants. Originally, in the country, write the name of a loved one on the number was determined by the one of the Stars available from me. number of magpies seen together. It will then be hung on the When the game spread to the Christmas Tree in the Church for towns and cities, children derived the festive season. [Susannah the number by manipulating the Tapsell]

THANK YOU - Dave Follett would like to thank all you lovely villagers who responded to the article in last months' Newsletter about his housing needs. As a result, he's obtained a beautiful place for the next six months, but he'll be looking again next June for somewhere to pass the summer! So if you know of anywhere available, please let him (or Tricia) know. 826323 or dmfollett@aol.com.

while devouring wine small songbirds and game birds. Generally mappies eat vegetation winter and small ground because of their eating. The scientific name Pica 'pica' for magpie, becoming in Shakespeare's 'maggot-pie', Peaceful Four for a boy, Five for silver, Six be told, Eight for a dream, Nine for numbers on their bus and tram tickets in various ways. A work colleague once stood to attention to salute a solitary magpie "to ward off sorrow" and I've done it ever since. Later I watched as a magpie dived from a fence, did a forward roll into some long grass, and came up with a vole. Now that really is typical magpie behaviour. (Steve Osborn)

NAILBOURNE FLOWERS			Rogula	ar events in t	ho v	illage M	H-villago ball)			
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Telephone 01304 828098	Wedne	sday	Keep Fit 9.30 - 10.30am – Wednesday Club to 11.30am in VH							
HIGH LEVEL CLEANING SOLUTIONS	Thurs	day	Karate classes from 7.15pm to 8.45pm in VH - 821336							
Window cleaning specialists no house too small. We	Thurs	day	Mobile I	Library in car p	ark b	y village	hall 9.25am to	o 9.50am		
use a reach & wash purifying system, that means no streaks or smears and no chemicals. Our poles	Friday		Whist D	rive in VH star	ting a	it 7.30 pn	n			
reach those hard to get areas. Safely clean your conservatory roof. We fully clean all windows, doors and frames.				Other event	ts in t	the villa	ge			
Our prices start from as little as £6	Mor	nday	5	Parish Counc	cil me	eting in V	/H – all welcor	ne		
for a 3 bed house.	Tue	sday	6	Village Hall c	ommi	ittee mee	ting 7.30pm ir	n VH		
For a free quote call Marcus or Sara on 826280	Mor	nday	12	Fete AGM in	VH 8	.00 pm –	all welcome			
	Tue	sday	13	W.I. meeting	7.30p	om in villa	age hall			
Marquis of Granby	Mor	nday	19	Bird club fron	n 7.30)pm in vil	llage hall			
The local pub serving quality food,	Tue	sday	20	Alkham Valle	y Soc	ciety AGN	/ 7.30pm in V	Н		
wines and real ales such Harveys	Satu	ırday	24	PCC Christm	as Ba	azaar in \	/H from 10.30	am		
at £2.50 a pint.	Satu	ırday	24	Beekeepers f	from 2	2.00pm ir	n the village ha	all		
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chips and peas, plus a bottle of house	CHURCH			_		Sung	Worshipping	<u>Week</u> day		
wine for two people costing £19.50.	R	Su	nday 4 th	Evensong 4pm		ucharist .30am	Together	Services Eucharist		
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W.I. CHRISTMAS BAZAAR in the				cillor , Bryan mber 0179553			arishcouncil@v lall booking	rirgin.net		
village hall on 8 th December from	\mathbf{L}			llors - Sue Nich			er 827635			
10.30pm to mid-day. There will be				Richardson 21			Valley Society	secretary		
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plus carol singing and other fun	H	Comm	nunity Wa	r den 07977 981		829585	letary – Janet L	Janow		
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CHRISTMAS LIGHTS - Despite torrential rainfall a most enjoyable evening was spent by those who came to the grand switch on. James and Charlotte Tapsell turned the lights on in a shortened ceremony which allowed the crowd to run to the pub where we were provided, free of charge, with mulled wine and mince pies and carol singing led by the W.I choir. Father Christmas attended to present goodies to the children who provided beautiful artwork and to the assembled throng. aurice Savers led an impromptu singalong which wasn't as lewd as many had expected! Later in the evening about 60 people returned to the Marguis for the village meal and all agreed that it was a great success. As usual there are many to thank: John and Simon Huggins and Den Barnard who helped collect and position the tree: Simon Price for arranging for the new lights which the Village Fund subsidised; the Alkham Tea Rooms, The Alkham Valley Garden Centre, Hogbrook Riding School, Woods Commercial Services, Richard Miller, the Barnards, Pete and Denni Frater who all donated raffle prizes; Hugh, Emma and the rest of the Marguis team

ho did us all proud with the meal and the post switch-on get together; the W.I choir who got us all going and into the festive mood. The raffle raised £145.60 which will pay for the electricity and towards the new lights. Extra special thanks must go to Den who stood on a ladder in the pouring rain on the Saturday afternoon for about an hour fixing the top set of lights that had failed! Once he has recovered from hypothermia and trench foot he should be able to enjoy the view of the illuminated tree from his window! The last four trees have been provided free of charge by Noon Lawrence of Tilmanstone but this is the last one she has so if anybody knows of an alternative source it would be good to hear from you! If I have overlooked anyone it is due to my poor memory so please forgive me. (Mark Robson)

No. 171 January 2008

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of ALKHAM IN **BIOOM** will take place over the weekend of 28/29 June 2008 and we have already thinking about the various activities that can go on in the Village over the weekend. We really need, now, to have, as soon as possible, the names of people who would like to open their gardens. June seems a long way off at the moment, especially in the middle of a cold, wet winter, but we do need to get things into place as soon as possible. We will be holding an Open Meeting in the Village Hall on Thursday, 10 January, at 2.30pm when we will look forward to seeing anyone who wishes to take part. If you wish to open your garden and cannot attend the meeting could you please call one of the numbers below:-Marion Banks-Nash 820701: Margaret Batcheldor 823568: Sue Lees 822661: Rave 892848 Val Luckhurst or Fowler 827635.

LOST a little black and white long haired cat with a bushy tail, answering to the name of Louis. Missing from Slip Lane since 29th November. Reward offered for information leading to his safe return. Tel: 01304 820701

THE ANNUAL QUIZ will be on Saturday the 2nd February in the village hall starting at 7.30pm. To book a table for up to 8 places please ring Brian (824969) Sue or Lees (822661). The cost per person is £3.50 and some food will be served in the interval.

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR It appears that there are two groups vouths who are causing unpleasantness in the village. They congregate near the village hall and are known to throw eggs and other items at nearby houses. They shout and jeer when confronted and then run off, one group disappearing up the tarmaced road leading to Common Hill opposite the climbing frame on the green. The other group is believed to come from Alkham. The youths may think what they are doing is harmless fun but it does cause unnecessary distress so if any parent thinks that their children may be involved please speak to them. All the relevant authorities have been informed and will hopefully deal with the situation. The small hut by the cricket pavilion has been damaged again and as expected no money was forthcoming with regard to the broken Perspex on the map board. **ROAD WORKS** - Resurfacing of

the A20 in Dover through March, April and May is expected to have an affect on the Alkham Valley. Although it is said that the road works will be carried out at night, a major diversion of traffic will have to be set up. Details are not known at this stage, but preliminary maps indicate that although the traffic is not being diverted through the anyone Valley, with local knowledge would guickly realize that the Valley Road could be used as an alternative. Alkham Parish Council is looking into the matter and wished to inform Parishioners that a Public Exhibition of the project will be at Whitfield on 18th & 19th January and in Dover on 25th & 26th January. The site of the exhibitions, although unknown at present, will no doubt be published in the local press.





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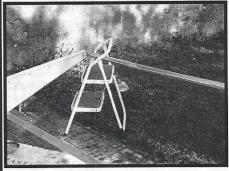
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Brian and Ken pause for thought when assembling the roof to the new shed.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR total raised at amount Christmas Bazaar this year was the Alkham Village Hall car park the magnificent sum of £368. It at 10.30 and is led by an everyone concerned and the Society. It lasts about 2 hours The money will go towards footpaths and byways so much funds. Thank Church (Marion Banks-Nash)

The cameras are highly visible, supper camera symbols and a tolerance all. (Joanna Walker - Secretary) level of 10% plus 2mph is on SHEEP WORRYING force before prosecution.

PRINTING - You may have attention to the damage dogs seen on the back page that the can, and do, do to sheep. Dogs Newsletter is printed at the must be kept on leads and under Rainbow Centre in Folkestone. control when anywhere near I'm pleased to say that they are sheep. Farmers have to put much now offering this service to other time and care into raising sheer people and organisations so if A recommend them.

sunken manhole covers on the human to eat. approach to Temple Ewell have now been lifted when the valley road was closed for 2 days.

ALKHAM W.I. - The December meeting provided much food for thought and a great deal of laughter. A poem was written to commemorate the night by two members, for the W.I. scrapbook. The next meeting will be on the 8th of January. (Sue Lees)

ALKHAM VALLEY SOCIETY Thank you, Brian, for putting the Alkham Vallev Society programme of events into the Monthly Newsletter Alkham (arrangement of Val Fowler, thanks!). We understand that this Newsletter reaches over 300 people. Membership of the Society remains remarkable value at £1 a year and new members are welcome. Regulars will know that on 27 December The the Alkham Valley Christmas the walk takes place. This starts from was a tremendous effort by upstanding member of the PCC, and the Treasurer, are very and is a good opportunity to meet grateful to those who contributed. people and view the local you. under discussion and review. And are welcome which includes POLICE - Our mobile camera progeny and pets. Hamsters vans are working extra hours might not make it. Thank you to throughout December and will be all our members and Committee enforcing during the night, at who attended the AGM on 20 weekends and on Bank Holidays. November, and the very good afterwards. Happy signed with black and white Christmas and New Year 2008 to

ALL dog Drawing owner's sheep damaged rarely you'd like a quote please give recovers. Take this very recently them a ring on 01303 850733. I savaged Alkham sheep (see photo below) for example, it had MANHOLES – As drivers to to be slaughtered at a cost of £20 Dover will have noticed, the to the farmer and no meat for a



The dark pieces by the head and tail is blood

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BOOK CLUB - The next meeting will be at the home of Avril Munn, Poems, Short Lane at 7.30pm on 2nd January. We will discuss Chick Flick books. Tel 829484. Rosemary Heddle and on the 7th December our son James, along with 2 other work colleagues flew to Chile. They are being sponsored by HSBC bank, and apart from one other female are Great Britain's only entrants to compete in this year's Ice Marathon. The aim is to raise money for under privileged children living in the inner city of London. So far they have raised £30.000 for Greenhouse over schools. There are only 15 competitors, who have been waiting for over a week for weather conditions to improve, before being flown to Antarctica. Once there they aim to complete a 26 mile marathon. is probably their biggest This challenge yet as they face temperatures of - 30 c. If you add on wind chill factor then the a temperature will be much colder! The track will be extremely icy which is another reason why this marathon is such a difficult one as they struggle in the coldest and harshest place on our planet. Only 25 people have managed to complete the race which is now in its 3rd year. Due to bad weather it seems almost certain our boys will now be spending Christmas in Antarctica, so please say a prayer and think of them whilst you are cosy in your own homes this festive season. (Rosemary Heddle) COME AND GET MUCKY WITH **US!** Acryse Young Farmers Club is based around the Folkestone/Dover area. We meet every Friday evening for all sorts of activities, farm visits and social events. We also show livestock at various shows. New members night is on the 18th January so anyone between the ages of 13-26 are welcome. And remember you don't have to be a farmer to be a young farmer! For more info contact: Kath-07810390736: Hayley-07756496712

I met three groups of Young Farmers in 2007 and they were great fun, polite and friendly. (editor)

OZ on CONRAD - Last month saw the 150th birthday of a great modern writer of maritime tales. Jozef Teodor Konrad Nalecz Korzeniowski was born on 3 December 1857 in the Polish Ukraine. His parents, outspoken Polish nationalists, were arrested in 1861 and exiled, taking fouryear old Jozef, to Russia. By 1869, Jozef had lost both parents and was cared for by an uncle until 1874, when he fled, avoiding Russian conscription and fulfilling a childhood dream by joining a French merchant ship at Marseilles. After four adventurous years that included gun-running, gambling. bankruptcy and attempted suicide. Jozef transferred to British ships in 1878 and became British in 1886. anglicising his name to Joseph Conrad. During the next eight vears. Conrad combined the careers of master mariner and novelist, writing in English, which was. remarkably, his third language. In 1894, Conrad retired from the sea, and married Jessie George in 1896, settling down to a long literary life that produced twenty major works and hundreds of short stories. He wrote of sea and empire, contrasting them with the loneliness of the human soul. Lawrence ("of Arabia") declared: absolutely "He's the most haunting thing in prose that ever was: I wish I knew how every paragraph he writes goes on sounding in waves, like the note of a tenor bell, after it stops." In 1909 the Conrads moved to Aldington in Kent and in 1919 to "Oswalds" at Bishopsbourne. On 3 August 1924 Conrad died at home of a heart attack. He was buried in the Westgate Cemetery Canterbury, where Jessie in joined him in 1936. His carved epitaph, also the epigraph for The Rover, is from Edmund Spenser's The Faerie Queen, and reads "Sleep After Toyle, Port After Stormie Seas, Ease After Warre, Death After Life Does Greatly Please." (Steve Osborn)

NAILBOURNE FLOWERS		F	Regular	events in	the village	(VH=village hall)					
FOR ALL OCCASIONS	Mond	ay	The Cha	Iksole Homegro	oup, third Mond	ay of the month	- 823100				
Qualified florist with 20 years experience. Designs to suit you, your home,	Tuesd		Art classes from 10 am to 1 pm in VH – ring 07811405124								
your pocket Telephone 01304 828098	Wednes	-									
	Thurso	-	Karate classes from 7.15pm to 8.45pm in VH - 821336								
HIGH LEVEL CLEANING SOLUTIONS	Thurso		Mobile Library in car park by village hall 9.25am to 9.50am								
Window cleaning specialists no house too small. We		riday Whist Drive in VH starting at 7.30 pm									
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 your conservatory roof. We fully clean all windows, doors	Mon	Other events in the village Monday 7 Parish Council meeting at 7.30pm in the village									
and frames. Our prices start from as little as £6	Monday Tuesday		7		in the village h						
for a 3 bed house.	Thursday Monday			•	meeting 2.30						
For a free quote call Marcus or Sara on 826280			17			Bird Club from 7.30 pm in VH					
kainer dembilios perkrupicy s	Satu	rday	26	W.I. jumble s	ale in village h	all starting at 1	1.00am				
MARSHALL & CLARKE			Day	Alkham	Capel	Hougham	Week				
PROPERTY AGENTS AND VALUERS www.marshallandclarke.com 112 London Road, Kearsney Dover, CT16 3AB	CHU	Su	nday 6th	Evensong 4pm	Sung Eucharist 9.30am	Worshipping Together 11am	day Service Eucharis at Cape				
Telephone 01304 827770 and at1 Cliffe Road, Kingsdown, Deal - 01304 381622 High Street, St. Margarets at Cliffe, Dover	CHURCH SERVHCES	s	unday 13th	Sung Eucharist 9.30am	Worshipping Together 11am	No service	every Thursda at 9.15am				
SEAN DIXON			Sunday 20th	Worshipping together 11am	Evensong 6.pm	Sung Eucharist 9.30am					
Interior tiler	CES	s	Sunday 27th		e Sung Eucharis Hougham 10ar r	ng Eucharist St Lawrence, gham 10am					
All wall and floor tiling undertaken no job too small Tel: 01304 826088 Mobile: 07914639375 JUMBLE SALE – There will be a jumble sale in the village hall on the 26 th January starting at 11.00am in aid of W.I. funds. CHALKY HILL was closed for half a day to have a tree removed that had fallen across the road and was resting	E L E P H O N E	Count 01304 0istric 2395 Police Veight Comn Police GP ou News	ty Counci 206510 ct Counci 6, Andrew 9 – 999 ph pourhood W nunity Wa 9 Support ut of hours letter, Bri	M.P. 01304 214 cillor, Bryan 0 Richardson 217 one & 01303 850 /atch 218151/218 rden 07977 981 07772226112 s 0844 800 1 an Wimsett 824 sett@hotmail.co	Cope alkham.p. Village H Val Fowle Alkham V Joanna V W.I. secr 829585 Church V 822295 a Alkham	lerk Angela Mille arishcouncil@vi all booking er 827635 Valley Society s Valker 821641 etary – Janet B Nardens - Rich and Grace Stace web site <u>www.a</u>	rgin.net secretary arrow ard Tapse ey 822756				

LOCAL	BUSINESSES AND SERVICES	(no prefix local n	umber)
BOARDING KENNELS	Kennels and Cattery, Canine Hydrotherapy and Pet Food Shop	Wolverton	822420
CAT & DOG GROOMING	Canine beauticians, dogs and cats groomed, Newcastle House	Ewell Minnis	822902
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EQUESTRIAN	GREENHILL FARM - DIY and assisted livery - excellent facilities	Meggett Lane, South Alkham	01303 892056
EQUESTRIAN SUPPLIES	Alkham Valley Garden Centre - everything for horse and rider	South Alkham	01303 891996
PAINTING & DECORATING		2020-2020	07834041346
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DOREEN POLDEN (16/1/1925 - 4/1/2008)

St Anthony's church in Alkham as alterations are being made was absolutely packed for the such that B & B facilities will be funeral of Doreen Polden who available. died on the 4th of January at the work is taking age of 82. A tribute to her was read on behalf of the family by also been bought and this will be David Tapsell, a great friend of used to house the staff with the Doreen and her family. Doreen Marquis opening again in the loved Alkham and amongst many Spring. other things she had been THE RESURFACING of the articularly involved Alkham's Annual Fete and Village have an affect on the Alkham Hall. Doreen (ne. Hall) came from Valley a family of 12 children who diverting from the signed route. A continuously lived in and around real matter of concern is that the Alkham. At the outbreak of WWII low bridge sign at the Folkestone she added a year and lied about end of the valley is easily missed her age to join the Womens' Land Army. This was when she met railway bridge at Kearsney. This Bill, a man twice her age who she problem also occurs with the use married in 1944; they had 6 of Sat. Nav. and the Parish children. There had sadness in her life with the loss of Authority with a request that a a baby, two brothers and her larger sign should be put at the husband but overall life had been crossroad just west of Standen good especially becoming a great Terrace. arandmother. Because of this she GRASS CUTTING - The grassed id that people should not weep areas on Vicarage Meadow which in sadness at her passing but cannot be cut by the gang mower is weep in joy for the life she had. cut with a strimmer. The work is Before she died, Doreen said that if anyone is willing to take on this she would have a party on her work please contact Angela Miller birthday which was on the 16th of 824791. January, the date of the funeral. STEPHEN COMFORT would The family said that although she like to thank all his well wishers won't be there they would have a for their thoughts and prayers party to celebrate her life. She during was a lovely lady.

understand the club is doing very well for their help and support which and if anyone would like to give me (as usual) seems to know no details I'd be pleased to write articles boundaries. He has now fully for future editions of the Newsletter. recovered and hopes to be Any information can be emailed running in the lanes again by the (brianwimsett@hotmail.com), sent by end of January. (It's great to have post or dropped off at the Old Post Steve back to his irrepressible Office.

THE MARQUIS OF

GRANBY is shut at the moment Other development place which includes an extension to the rear

with main A20 on Townwall Street will Road with vehicles and HGV's will have to turn round somehow when they get to the been Council is contacting the Highway

paid for by a yearly honorarium and

his illness over the Christmas Particular period. ALKHAM FOOTBALL CLUB | thanks go to Maurice and Pam self)



Kyokushinkai Karate The classes have been running for one year now and have been well attended throughout. Students range from first time beginners to higher grades which have been training for several years at the Folkestone class. Karate is a well disciplined sport, which not only covers self defence but we also concentrate on cardiovascular workouts. stretching techniques together with bag work and general We have an average of sparring. twenty students who train during a Thursday evening; these not only include local residents but other people who travel from Folkestone. Ashford, Canterbury and Thanet in order to learn the Kyokushin training techniques. However we still have room for more people and it would be nice to see more local residents attending, so if you think you need to lose a few pounds or would like to get a little fitter for the summer then please come down and join in, you are all welcome. Competitions are also held regularly throughout the year in which you are able to partake, these include clicker tournaments (point scoring), Knockdown (full contact) or Kata competitions which is a set form of movements performed in a set sequence. These sometimes test the individual to the full and this is where the hard training pays off. Training sessions are every Thursday evening from 19:15 to 20:45 and each session costs only £2.50 For more details please contact Simon on 01304 821336 or visit our website at www.folkestone-kyokushinkai.co.uk

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There was garage fire at Ewell Minnis just after Christmas and although it's difficult to see, the fireman is using a garden hose. The reason for this, as with other recently resurfaced roads, is that since the source which provided the fire hydrants are covered with the last four trees has dried up tarmac. The Parish Council is, and the cost of purchasing trees with some urgency, contacting of this size would mean that we the Highway Authority to resolve would not be able to continue the matter as Slip Lane, Meggett with this practice which, it seems, Lane and Lockeringe Lane are many similarly affected.

ALKHAM IN BLOOM and arrangements are now under of the village Christmas Tree way for our Alkham in Bloom from the car park to the Village weekend on 28/29 June this year. Hall (no doubt in an act of We have a number of gardens on thoughtfulness our list but we still need more through personal inadequacies): people to take part. It will be a two- Please look at the December day event but, if anyone would like Newsletter this year when I will to open their garden but will be give the date of next year's unable, or does not wish, to open cutting, for two days you could open for one transporting to the car park and day only. We do need to have we will gladly use your energies definite commitments very soon to assist with this. now. In the gardens there will be person/persons who dumped various activities such as a Nature their Christmas trees with the pile Trail, swimming, refreshments, etc. of village Christmas tree: Please and there will be various exhibitions take and other things taking place in the disposal of your own trees even Church and the Village Hall, but, if it means keeping it in your you have any suggestions or ideas garden for a week. The collection along to the next meeting in the (Mark Robson) Village Hall on 10 March at 7.30pm. MANY THANKS to all who For more information or to volunteer to open your garden please ring Christmas coffee morning one of the following numbers:-822668, Raye Luckhurst 892848 Tapsell) or Val Fowler 827653.

SONNY - Those of you who live in Glebelands and elsewhere probably remember the White Golden Retriever which was taken over by Helen Scopes when her owners died. He then had a great life with Helen and her other dogs but he too became old and has now passed on. He was a great dog.

CHRISTMAS TREE/S

Many thanks to Mary Sullivan who has offered Christmas trees for the village for the next two vears. This is of significance eniov and people appreciate. То the person Plans /persons who moved the remains rather than bundling, tvina and To the responsibility for thto make the event interesting and and recycling of the village tree is successful we would be pleased to carried out through a generous hear from you. It is a Village event agreement with Dover District and it would be good to have as Council and their contractors and much participation as possible. saves many hours of work and Even if you are not opening your many car journeys to the tip. garden we will be needing help in There is a facility for domestic other ways so do please come tree collection, please use this.

helped or contributed to the and bazaar in aid of Cancer Research Marion Nash 820107, Margaret UK. A total of £350 has now been Batcheldor 823568, Susan Lees sent to the charity. (Christine R. Cunningham Roofing Flat and Pitched Roof Specialist Prompt and reliable every time All aspects of roofing under-taken * Insurance work *

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ICE MARATHON - After a delay of 8 OZ on FRY - Just before days in Chile, due to bad weather, our Christmas I was delighted and son James finally flew to Antarctica, defeated by a Times-Listener and managed to complete the Ice crossword that featured marathon in just over 7 hours. It was centenary of a great English not without shear determination as the dramatist. Christopher Fry was weather deteriorated half way around born in Bristol on 18 December the course. The worst moment came 2 1907 as Christopher Harris. hours before the end. A severe blizzard When he was four his father died whipped up, and snow wiped out the and he took his mother's maiden red flags which were meant to mark the name, she being from the famous way! By chance, Jame's two work Fry family of Quakers colleagues caught up with him, and the chocolate-makers. After being three struggled to navigate the final educated at Bedford School, Fry course between them, arriving at the taught finishing post exhausted but safe. They becoming increasingly involved in managed to raise over £50,000 for the theatre and music until 1932, charity, greenhouse schools. Thank you when he left teaching to set up to who every one support. (Rosemary Heddle).....

BOOK CLUB - Although only a few in 1936. During World War II, as a members attended last month, due committed mostly to illness, we spent the evening volunteered for a non-combatant sipping champagne and enjoying tasty army unit that cleaned out sewers nibbles by a cosy fire. The evening was in the docks. In 1946, Fry began relaxed and enjoyable as we each writing in earnest, and found discussed the books we had read over himself, along with T. S. Eliot, Christmas. The next book to read is leading the post-war revival of Mercy, by Jodi Picoult. Mari Jones will verse drama. After two plays on host this on 6th February 7.30 at biblical themes, he discovered his Turangi, Newlyns Meadow. Tel 826619. true voice with The Ladv's Not for New members always welcome.

ALKHAM W.I. - As the January 1948 and transferred to the West meeting came early in the month, End a year later. It is a wonderful several people were absent, no doubt comedy with serious undertones, recovering from Christmas. This was a and shame because the speaker Avril Woolf unmatched except by that of was her usual brilliant self with her Oscar Wilde. In a typical line, the sonas and monologues. Leppard should be contacted by after all is a halo? It's only one members - 01303 255114 - who would more thing to keep clean." Over like to attend the Classical Spectacular the next few years, Fry wrote four at the Albert Hall Sunday 16th March - similar total cost ticket & coach £38. Members translations. In 1956 verse drama are reminded membership £27 is due. This year is to revolutionary whirlwind of prose be a special one with Alkham WI realism emerging from the Royal 80th celebrating its November. Any ideas welcomed to great success to film writing, celebrate the occasion. Meeting 12th starting with Ben Hur in 1959, Feb - speaker Patsy Baker on the then Barabbas (1962) and The 'History of False Hair'. (Sue Lees) HELLO to everyone who attends the retired, but spent his old age Garden Group. Just to advise you all writing occasionally and sitting that we will reconvene at Richard and with Phyllis by the waterfall in Susannah's on Friday 22 February at their garden in East Dean, 7.30 pm. Look forward to seeing you Sussex. Phyllis died in 1987 and again, and hope you are all well Christopher in 2005. considering how many bugs and germs (Steve Osborn) are flying around at the moment! (Devina - 827548)

the and various in schools. offered Tunbridge Wells Repertory Theatre. He married Phyllis Hart pacifist, he Burning, which was premiered in dazzling wit arquably Cherry hero Thomas declares: "What plays and many that annual was suddenly swept aside by the Birthday next Court Theatre. Fry turned with Bible (1966). He never really

NAILBOURNE F			R	Regular	r events in	the v	illage (VH=village hall)			
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Telephone 01304 827770 and at 1 Cliffe Road, Kingsdown, Deal - 01304 381622 High Street, St. Margarets at Cliffe, Dover SEAN DIXON			We	ednesday 6 th	Sung Eucharist a		sition of ash -Ferne 7pm		at 9.15am		
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A.R.S.E. is on the move now that the Marquis has closed for alterations. They will meet at member's houses to continue the recovery programme and he first is at Colin and Nollie Downer's nouse. For further information please contact Mark Robson.		E P H O N E	3239 Polic Neigh Comi Polic GP o News	56, Andre e – 999 p bourhood munity W e Suppor ut of hou sletter, Br	Sue Nick w Richardson 21 hone & 01303 85 Watch 218151/21 arden 07977 98 t 07772226112 rs 0844 800 tian Wimsett 82 hosett@hotmail.com	11835 50055 18130 1994 1234 24969	Alkham Joanna V W.I. secr 829585 Church V Tapsell 822295	er 827635 Valley Society Valker 821641 retary – Janet I Wardens - Ric and Grace Stac web site <u>www.</u>	Barrow hard cey 822756		
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DEEPEST SYMPATHY qoes to Hyland on their tragic loss.

CHRIS had a certain way about him. You could maybe, call it a gift. He touched the hearts of all who knew him and all who met him while walking his dog, Daisy. Chris liked to talk to people; it cheeky smile that was that brightened everyone's dav. People I have spoken to have told me that if you had a bad day and were feeling down, to meet Chris was like a breath of fresh air. This young man had a heart gold and he would help of anyone, nothing was too much trouble. I said to Chris once, when he was in my shed, that I must go and get the washing up done. 'Oh' said Chris 'I'll do that'. Those of you who were in church when we celebrated his short and colourful life will remember the vicar saying that when Chris worked in the Pet Store in Folkestone he helped a lady to carry a large bag of dog food to her car. She offered him a tip but Chris declined saying 'but I'll have your phone number'. He certainly renewed my faith in young people. It's so easy to praise people after they have passed on but Chris was a very special young man. Alkham and the world will be a sadder place without him. In his short life he will leave so many memories in the minds and hearts of so many people. As I said at the start of the Quiz in the village hall, Chris was a credit to his family and our hearts go out to them in their time of grief. (Ken Hammond)

THE MARQUIS OF

GRANBY apologises for Health and Safety requirements. came to the guiz and judging by the hubbub at the end of the evening they had a good time. The team from the Old Rectory plus OZ and friends won. A profit of £310 was made which has been sent to the Kent Air Ambulance.

COFFEE MORNING and Village wanted to Easter Egg raffle is in the village hall on March 22nd from 10.30 to the church.

ALKHAM VALLEY

SOCIETY - Talk on Tuesday 4 March at 7.30 p.m., Village Hall by MR COLIN FINCH, Countryside Access & Improvement Officer for the enhancing of public rights of way access and open green spaces, KCC. He will be giving a talk on the above, which includes Bridleways, with the help of slides and will be happy to answer questions and have discussions with the audience. All members are invited; please invite friends who might have an interest. Please bring friends. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be served.....

EASTER WALK - Once again we will be holding a short Easter Walk on Monday 24 March at 10.30 which will start and finish at Shelley & John Jackson's house Foxgloves (very top of Slip Lane up at Ellinge where he land flattens out). This is a smaller walk than the Christmas walk and it is a pleasure to see the spring flowers and spring generally so if you have the time you are most welcome. (Joanna Walker, Secretary 8221641)

BRIC-A-BRAC STALL FETE After the several years of running this stall Vanessa, Clive, Matthew and Luke Heras fence which has been put we felt it was time to hand over to round the pub. The contractor someone else. Fortunately Clare has put it there to conform with Naris of Owler Lodge (tel 826577) didn't need much persuasion and ANNUAL QUIZ - About 90 people for that we are very thankful. Apart from the odd bruised foot by enthusiastic buyers we have enjoyed it enormously and now take this opportunity of wishing Clare every success. (Irene and Den Barnard)

> EQUINE **OPPORTUNITY!** Person help out with an assortment of 7 horses and ponies. Mucking-out, grooming, turning out 12 noon with all profits going to etc., in return for as much weekday riding of 16'2 Warmblood and 15'2 Hanoverian as wanted! Must be competent and experienced around horses as well as being a very good rider. Ability to work and hack out / school on own a must! Ideal person will be enthusiastic and reliable. Private vard in Alkham. For further information, please call Claire on 07917 411588 or 01304 827853 or email Claireward2000@msn.com

QUIZ – On the 26th of April a quiz is being held in the village hall in aid of the Parkinson Disease Society. It is 7.00 for 7.30pm and nibbles will be provided but bring your own drink and glasses. The cost is £5 per person with tables having а maximum of 8 people. There will also be a raffle and to book a table please ring Helen on 831887.

BABY SITTING - I am a sensible eighteen year old, a non smoker. I have a lot of experience with children of all ages, as I teach voluntarily at a local gymnastics club. I also have younger siblings and a niece and nephews. I can be contacted at any time on (01304) 825617 or 07716909447 and I would be available most evenings and weekends. (Ruth Marlow)

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DEN AND CYCLING (Part Two) - You can easily tell a mature person because when they are confronted by a fool who says something stupid, they just smile wistfully and say nothing. After regularly cycling with Ken and Brian last summer I purchased my first road racer bike and, after a couple of weeks, announced to Ken that I had given it a thorough clean and it had only taken me fifteen minutes. Ken smiled wistfully and said nothing. After our next ride he asked me to bring the bike up to his shed. Here he dismantled every moving part then thoroughly washed, oiled, polished and buffed until it all looked like new. He then used a scanning electron microscope to see if any atoms of dust remained. 'That is a thorough clean' he explained and another part of my biking education was complete. Mark Robson came out on the next ride and so this was my chance show off. As we passed through a large puddle at the top of Chalky Hill, I noticed that Brian, always the leader, had gone through the middle. With my superior intelligence, I moved to the edge of the puddle where, obviously, it would be much shallower. Brian of, course, knew there were potholes at the edges. Picture the final scene: front wheel stuck down a hole, me laying in six inches of smelly water, both feet still clipped to my pedals, Mark doing his best not to laugh, Ken and Brian checking if the bike was OK. I offered them bribes not to tell anyone but it was obviously not enough. After ten months of cycling experience I now understand the language, here are few things I have learnt. 'I'm out of shape' - translation: I've been doing a hundred miles a week and a hundred and fifty press-ups nightly since you were five years old and my bodyfat percentage is lower than your mortgage rate. 'It's not very hilly' translation: this climb lasts an hour if you're lucky and whatever you do don't stop or you'll fall over backwards. 'You're doing very well' translation: lay off the doughnuts fat boy we still have to wait for you to go up hills and we want to get home before midnight. 'It's not far' translation: it is. As you can see I'm still enjoying it, feeling great and have lost a stone in weight. Last week I was admiring myself in the mirror and said to Irene 'I think this cycling is making me more attractive to women'. Irene smiled wistfully and said nothing. Den Barnard.

VINEYARD workers wanted for new vineyard in Alkham Valley. Duties will include pruning, weeding, tying up, grass cutting and general maintenance. Previous experience with soft fruit / vines, tractor driving and PA1 / PA6 certification preferred but not essential. Temporary flexible position which could extend to September 08, can be part time but must be worked in 4 hour blocks. Ideal candidate will be reliable, hardworking and enthusiastic. Could be suitable for students for holiday work. In the first instance please email your CV to: <u>Claire@Chalksolevineyard.co.uk</u>

JUST A REMINDER – We can only take plastic bottles that held drink with their tops removed and discarded for recycling. There has been quite a lot of other plastics lately and we have to sort and discard them. It would also be very helpful if cardboard could be made as small as possible as we have a small van. (see article on next page re: cardboard – it would help)

A.R.S.E. ON TOUR caused by the temporary closure of The Marquis, got off to a successful start at Colin and Nollie Downer's home. We all rallied round one member whose own home was undergoing repairs due to the earthquake and she left feeling the warm afterglow of such close support. (The wine *may* have helped!). The next meeting, a Leap Year special, will be at 8.00 p.m. on Friday, February 29th at Den and Irene Barnard's home. Please contact them on 824845 if you would like to attend. Sadly the evening will have to start with the Disciplinary Committee having to admonish those members who defected from the quiz team to join others leaving A.R.S.E. at the bottom! On a more positive note the agenda will also include the proposed European leg of the current Tour. New members are always welcome but you must be prepared to be 'loud and proud' about your membership. **(Mark Robson)**



THE MOTHERING SUNDAY service OZ on BIRDSONG - Our most on 2nd March will be led by our new unexpected Christmas present this vicar, the Rev. Sue White her first year was a circular wall-clock visit to us in her official capacity. The featuring portraits of wild birds service will be followed by Mothering instead of numbers around the rim. Sunday tea in the village and we Every hour, on the hour, the clock hope that you will join us to welcome emits the appropriate birdsong, her to the village. (Richard & Grace - except at night when a sensor Ch. Wardens)

ALKHAM WI - the well attended We soon warmed to this new February meeting heard a fascinating housemate, but wondered how talk on the history of wigs. It was great others reacted. I found some to hear news of Margaret Knowles and answers at a hilarious website how she has set up a new WI in Bath. called "I got a Singing Bird Clock On 11th March the talk will be on for Christmas". badgers – an appropriate subject in a how valley dominated by them. (Sue Lees) technology first appeared in 1998, **RECYCLING** - Many thanks to Brian and the Ken who for the past 4 years have run showing that people either love or the village's recycling scheme in rain, hate these chirpy timepieces. snow, frost and occasional sun. They Some criticize the quality of the do this recompense and still seem to be agreed that the croaks and metallic enjoying themselves. This must be a sounds fairly unique scheme which not only has batteries are changed. Others are a doorstep collection but also raises annoyed or startled when the money for use by the village. The van birdsong starts, like the dogs who service is probably at capacity but can I held their paws over their ears or point out that if any villager wants to the grandmother who thought recycle their own cardboard, plastic someone was shouting "Elephant!" (drink bottles only), tins, paper they can at her. Equally amusing are some take it to the Kent Recycling Project of the methods devised to deal with (next to the Battle of Britain museum at the birdsong. My favourite story is Hawkinge) and ask for it to be credited from the US Pentagon where an to the Alkham Village account. The office-worker said that every hour centre will also recycle glass but this "we are serenaded by the featured service cannot be offered by Ken and bird shortly followed by a barrage Brian due to overload. (Mark Robson) UNDERAGE DRINKING: An important downloaded from the internet", launched on campaign was February to raise awareness of the health issues and the community safety impact of underage drinking. To report drink litter, please call DDC Waste Services on 01304 821199, or to report her Dad a bird clock for Christmas. underage drinking call the Community After the gifts were opened, "Dad Safety Hotline on 01304 872220.

KENT KARRIER SERVICE This is a fully accessible dial-a-ride service provided by KCC and is operated on а membership basis. The modern vehicles are fully accessible for wheelchairs etc, and provide a service Mondays to Fridays to the main shopping areas in Dover. Membership costs just £5 per year and a small fare is payable when using the service. Members also take may а carer/companion with them. Please contact 01622 605349 for further information on how to join.

sensibly switches the sound off. After describing this use of microchip site publishes comments without any thought of birdsong, though it's generally disappear when the of gunfire '.wav' files that we have 5th followed by an hour's silence of course. These opposing views are neatly portrayed in the tale of a woman who, after much argument. persuaded her husband not to buy announced that he'd had a wonderful Christmas...but his only regret was that nobody got him one of those "really cool" bird clocks." We love our bird clock. It cheers these February days, teaches birdsong, and tells the time without our having to look. The website may be found at: http:// members.toast.net/joerger/ birdsong.html (Steve Osborn)

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Keep Fit 9.30 - 10.30am – Wednesday Club to 11.30am in VH
Karate classes from 7.15pm to 8.45pm in VH - 821336
Mobile Library in car park by village hall 9.25am to 9.50am
Whist Drive in VH starting at 7.30 pm

Other events in the village

Saturday	1	PCC Jumble Sale in village hall from 11.00am		
Sunday	2	Mothering Sunday tea in village hall 3pm to 5pm		
Monday	3	Parish Council meeting 7.30 pm in VH all welcome		
Wednesday	4	AVS talk from 7.30pm – see page 1		
Monday	10	Open Gardens meeting in HV from 7.30pm		
Tuesday	12	W.I. meeting in the village hall from 7.30pm		
Saturday	22	Coffee morning and Easter eggs – see page 1		
Saturday	29	Beekeepers in village hall 2 – 5 pm		

	Day	Alkham	Capel	Hougham	Week
CHURCH	Sunday 2nd	Mothering Sunday 3.30pm	Sung Eucharist 9.30am	Worshipping together 11am	day <u>Services</u> Eucharist
R C H	Sunday 9th	Sung Eucharist 9 30am	Worshipping together 11 am	No service	at Capel every Thursday at
	Sunday 16th Worshipping Evensong together 11am 6pm		Sung Eucharist 9.30am	9.15am	
R		Tuesday 18th Compline	Monday 17th Compline	Wednesday 19th	
Ĭ	Thursday 20th	Joint Benefice Sung Eucharist Alkham 7pm			
0 ER>+CE0	Friday 21st Good Friday		Liturgy of the Passion 2pm		
D	Sunday 23rd Easter day	Sung Eucharist 4	Sung Eucharist 9.30	Sung Eucharist 11	
			loint Benefice Sung Eucharist St Mary old church, Capel - le – Ferne 10.00am.		
T E L E P H O N E	 County Councillor, Bryan Cope 01304 206510 District Councillors - Sue Nicholas 823956, Andrew Richardson 211835 Police – 999 phone & 01303 850055 Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130 Community Warden 07977 981994 Police Support 07772226112 GP out of hours 0844 800 1234 alkham.parishcouncillo Village Hall booking Val Fowler 827635 Alkham Valley Socie Joanna Walker 82164 W.I. secretary – Jane 829585 Vicar – Rev. Sue Whi 240539 				
	Newsletter, Bri	an Wimsett 824	4969 Church	Church Wardens - Richard Tapsell	

This Newsletter was printed at the Rainbow Centre in Folkestone 01303 850733

822295 and Grace Stacey 822756 Alkham web sitewww.alkham.org

LOCAL B	(no prefix local number)	
BOARDING KENNELS	Kennels and Cattery, Canine Hydrotherapy and Pet Food Shop	Wolverton 822420
CAT & DOG GROOMING	Canine beauticians, dogs and cats groomed, Newcastle House	Ewell Minnis 822902
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CURTAINS & BLINDS	Curtains and blinds made to your specification	Alkham Valley 01303 891806
ELECTRICAL	Simon Price Part P electricians and data installers	South Alkham 01303 252764
EQUESTRIAN	GREENHILL FARM - DIY and assisted livery - excellent facilities	Meggett Lane, South Alkham 01303 892056
EQUESTRIAN SUPPLIES	Alkham Valley Garden Centre - everything for horse and rider	South Alkham 01303 891996
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SCHOOL	Capel-le-Ferne school Your local primary school; free bus from Alkham	Capel Street, Capel-le-Ferne 01303 251353

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ROGER WALTON head of property ALKHAM RECYCLING started in ALKHAM IN BLOOM. and procurement at DDC will be March 2004 and this year we giving a talk about the Council's earned waste initiative at the ANNUAL PARISH MEETING on Monday 7th April. The meeting starts at 7.30pm The amount earned was less than and it is an opportunity to speak to the Parish Council and air your views. Please come along and recycled ³/₄ tonne of plastic and 2 support the Parish.

A CLEANER is required for the village hall. At the moment the cleaning amounts to one hour a week but the exact details are going to be discussed at the Village Hall AGM in April. If anyone is interested please contact Brian Wimsett on 824969 or email as given on the back page.

FOOTBALL PITCH LIGHTS The funding for the lights has been approved and thanks have to go to our County Councillor, Bryan Cope, for getting the money and it is hoped that work will start in the near future. The crossbar and nets to the goals are also going to be replaced and the Parish Council is pursuing the matter.

ALKHAM VALLEY

SOCIETY - It was rewarding to see the number of people who came along to the talk in the Village Hall on 4th March. The topic was access to the countryside with special reference to footpaths and byways, given by Colin Finch, KCC, who pointed out that Kent has some 13,000 miles of rights of way and some 12,000 stiles. One of KCC aims is to reduce the numbers of stiles and replace them with gates. At question time concerns were raised about misuse and the state of footpaths. When irregularities are become obvious police dispatched to ensure enforcement. The number to ring is 01304 218110. (Joanna Walker Secretary)

£226.26. The only expenditure, thanks to Billy Hollis, was the cost of the plastic sacks. last year because DDC is collecting paper and tins. Despite this we tonnes of cardboard plus paper and cans. The money has been paid into the Alkham Fund account and there is currently about £650 left. This year we spent £250 on the map board, £50 of which was due to the children who broke the Perspex. If you have any ideas as to how to spend the money please let me, Ken or Clive know. Clive Batcheldor has been assisting us for some and is really a great help.

A FETE COMMITTEE meeting will be held on Tuesday 15th April at 8 p.m. in the Village Hall to make arrangements for this year's Fete (Saturday 12th July 2008 - unbook your holidays now!); please come along if you are can help on the day or have any ideas of new activities we might be able to introduce. If you can't make the meeting please call me in advance to let me know vour availabilitv/ideas. (Paul

Tapsell 01303 892082)

GARDEN TALK - Our first meeting the vear was great of а success. Susannah and Richard passed round old photos of Alkham and the surrounding area. There was much scratching of heads and peering through magnifying glasses as we all tried to identify whose house was who's and guess who was posing in the front garden. Many thanks to them both their hospitality. The for next meeting will be on 18 April at the new home of Sue & John Garlinge. Telephone me for details if you are not sure where they are. (Devina 827548)

We still need some more gardens to open, particularly in the Newlyns Meadow and Glebelands areas. We want to make the weekend not just a fund raising day for Alkham church, although funds are much needed, but we also want it to be another successful event in which all the village takes part and we all have a good time, in the true spirit of Alkham Village. If you would like more information please ring one of the following numbers: -Marion Nash 820701. Margaret Batcheldor 823568, Susan Lees 822668, Raye Luckhurst 892848 or Val Fowler 827635.

P.A.C.T which Partners is and Community Together has been adopted by the Parish Council. It looks like good news as it is a way of letting the police know of any problems that you'd like them to deal with. The Police Community Support Officer will be at the Parish Council meetings and in the interval villagers can tell her of any concerns they have. If she can't deal with it she will liaise with the PC Nicola Steele to see if police action is required.

CHALKY HILL or is it White Hill, this being the steep hill that goes from Slip Lane to Chalksole. Sue Lees has done some research and from 1920 to the 1950's it was called White Hill and then Chalky Hill to the present day. The District Council requires proof that the name should be Chalky Hill and Parish Councillor, Geoff Lymer, says that he has a letter from 1907 that confirms this.

EVERYONE is invited to a COFFEE MORNING which will be in the Village Hall on Saturday 12th April 10.30am. Funds will go towards the upkeep of Alkham Church. APOLOGIES for the cancellation of the Easter Coffee Morning.

A TALK with photos on OLD DOVER will be given at the WI meeting on the 8th April. Please see W.I. article on page 2.

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A.R.S.E. ON TOUR - The second date BRIAN ON DEN CYCLING Den took on the tour was held at Den and Irene to Barnard's and we were pleased to become welcome some new and returning Sometimes when Ken goes up a members. The earthquake at Market hill he does what I call a 'frisky,' Rasen was а hot topic conversation and led to thoughts of top and Den is now copying him. possible twinning between the village If I show the merest whiff of and the Lincolnshire town. I'm not acceleration on a hill, off they go sure these thoughts would have been pedalling like mad. Near Eastry I remembered the following day, accelerated slightly and however. The next meeting will be at suddenly shot up on the left of me 8.00 p.m. on Friday, March 28th at and Ken on the right Pete and Denni Frater's (The Old pedalling Dairy, Slip Lane). Please contact maniacs. It's like being out with a them on 820067 if you would like to couple of kids but it's great fun. I attend. All you need to bring is your lead because I keep a steady drink and your sense of humour. I pace but sometimes I get lost and would like to give my thanks to the this is when Ken, being a corporal members who are offering their in the Pioneer Corp in the early homes during the closure of the 1950's pays dividends. Marquis; not only does this help to THE CRICKET CLUB will be having a keep the village spirit alive but it also working party on the meadow to ensures the invaluable therapeutic prepare the wicket and outfield for work, that we have all found to be so the beneficial. can Robson)

BOOK CLUB meeting this month will would like to come and help, please take place at the home of Susanne come along from 9.30 a.m. till lunch Tapsell, Bramhall on the 2nd April, time with gloves and any other 7.30pm. Read any Biography or useful equipment. Please be aware Autobiography of your choice. New that we may be having a bonfire (in members very 827880 further for (Rosemary Heddle)

was as interesting as expected, no way could anyone doze! The speaker at the next meeting 8th April, will be Bob Hollingsbee, the grass and clear the clippings before well known local historian, who will give a talk with plenty of photos on old Dover. This will be open to all, whether connected with the WI or to raise funds for the club. For those not. Everyone is welcome to attend (few) of you who are not familiar but please arrive at 8.0pm in order with the concept we are selling that the WI business may be dealt horse manure and delivering it to with first. (Sue Lees)

DOVER CHORAL

SOCIETY presents its spring concert at 7.30pm on Saturday 19th April in Dover Town Hall. Tickets at £10 (£5 for students) can be obtained from Dover Tourist Information Centre or by calling 01304 822042; and, if any remain, at the door on the night. For further information please ring 07808 272047. (Steve Osborn)

cycling quickly and has powerful rider. а of this being a sudden sprint to the Den both like а couple of

forthcoming season continue!! (Mark Saturday 12th April (or the 19th April if it's raining on the 12th); if you welcome. Phone case anyone is planning to put their details. washing out!). Also I should be grateful to anyone who lives near ALKHAM WI - The talk on badgers the meadow and has a ride-on mower who would be willing give us an hour or two of their time to give me a call as we plan to cut the the gang-mower comes on site and on 5th April from 9 a.m. will be holding a manure morning your door in return for a suitable donation towards club funds - we have a new shed to pay for! alternatively you can collect it yourself from Upton Cottage by prior arrangement! If anyone has a pick up truck or similar we could borrow on the morning for deliveries it would assist me enormously. Please contact me to arrange a delivery or to offer help on the day. (Paul Tapsell 01303 892082)



& Small Animals **Canine Hydrotherapy - Pet Food** Shop 01304 - 822420 Alkham Valley Road

THANK YOU! As many of you know my OZ on BRAMBLINGS first service as your new Vicar was the At lunch

Mothering Sunday service on 2nd workmates queried "I was well March. It was wonderful to see so pleased", an untypical phrase many people there and a big thank you which I'd used three times. to all the children who joined in. They Beneath the banter I felt that "well did the readings, gave out posies to pleased" was correct English, everyone and joined in the short talk. which of course it is, dating back Then we had tea in the Village hall with to a splendid cake made by Grace and Shakespeare to many modern decorated by Debbie. It was such a examples. Shakespeare first used warm welcome and I am grateful to 'well', as an adjective reinforcer everyone in Alkham who made it such rather than an adverb, to mean an occasion. I thought you would like 'very' as in today's "well pleased" to know a little about me. I am married and "well safe". Which is all a to Richard and we have a son, long-winded preface to saying Christopher, who is completing his that we were well pleased to see degree in Business and Management up to five bramblings at one time at Bradford University. I began my in the garden this winter. It was career as a nurse which I thoroughly the first time since the 1980s, enjoyed though I thought the best when they were accompanied by place for sick people to be was at ring home! After working as a health visitor redwings. The brambling is also I moved into management and left the called 'cock of the north' and NHS having become a Unit General 'mountain for Community Services, Mental Health, fringilla. Bramblings breed in Learning Disabilities and the Elderly. I Scandinavia, moving south in the then trained as a teacher after a short winter, although some now nest consultancy. I taught business studies eaters, living mainly on beechnuts to 16-18 year olds which was great and so are very mobile, travelling fun! I completed my ordination studies in flocks of many thousands from and became the curate in the Parish of one beech stand to another. In the Harwich Peninsula. I thoroughly our back garden they homed in enjoyed it, I was able to set my own on niger seed, which, with their targets and it was a tremendous sharp husks and high oil content, opportunity to work with schools, are residential and nursing homes and Bramblings are beautiful birds. voluntary organisations in the parish. I with am looking forward to getting to know patterned plumage, sometimes people in the parishes over the coming difficult months and to take part in activities chaffinches, except in flight when and events. I've taken my first they are assembly at the school and been to distinctive the pantomime! PLEASE do say 'hello' name 'brambling' derives from when you see me (I'm the one in the 'brandling', the old name for an dog collar) and I look forward to getting animal with a brindled coat. This to know you. If you know of anyone combination of colour and pattern who would like prayers or home forms a very effective camouflage communion then do ring me on 01303 when they are searching for 240539. May you all know God's beechnuts

ST ANTHONY'S Church PCC. The Thomas Bewick's friends, who Annual General Meeting will be held told him in 1826 that bramblings' on Wednesday 2nd April at 7.30pm in flesh was "better eating than the Village Hall. All are welcome. chaffinch", (Margaret Batcheldor Secretary)

recently old two the Bible. through ouzels, fieldfares and finch'. hence the the scientific name Fringilla monti management in Scotland. They are choosy similar to beechnuts. multicoloured heavily distinguish to from identified by their white rumps. The in woodland. Camouflage does not seem to have protected them from thankfully illegal PCC nowadays - we're just well

> pleased to continue feeding them. (Steve Osborn)

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	Regular events in the village (VH=village hall)			
Tuesday	Art classes from 10 am to 1 pm in VH – ring 07811405124			
Wednesday	Keep Fit 9.30 - 10.30am – Wednesday Club to 11.30am in VH			
Thursday	Karate classes from 7.15pm to 8.45pm in VH - 821336			
Thursday	Mobile Library in car park by village hall 9.25am to 9.50am			
Friday	Whist Drive in VH starting at 7.30 pm			

Other events in the village				
Wednesday	2	PCC AGM 7.30pm in village hall		
Monday	7	Annual Parish meeting 7.30pm in village hall		
Tuesday	8	W.I. meeting in the village hall from 7.30pm		
Saturday	12	Coffee morning in village hall from 10.30am		
Tuesday	15	Fete Committee 8pm in village hall		
Monday	21	Bird club in village hall from 7.30pm		
Tuesday	22	Village Hall AGM 7.30pm		

Saturday 26 Quiz in village hall from 7.30pm

e mail brianwimsett@hotmail.com

Ch	urch	Alkham	Capel	Hougham	
Sun			Sung Eucharist 9.30am	Worship Together 11am	
Sund	Sunday 13th Sung Eucharist Wors 9.30am		Worship Together 11am	No service	
Sund	day 20thWorship together 11amEvensong 6.pmSung Eucha 9.30am				
Sund	nday 27th Joint Benefice Sung Eucharist St Lawrence, Hougham 10am				
We	Weekday Services: Wednesday Eucharist 9.15 am St Radigund, Capel-Le-Ferne				
T E E P H O N E	TGwyn Prosser M.P.01304 214484 County Councillor, Bryan Cope 01304 206510Parish Clerk Angela Miller 824791 alkham.parishcouncil@virgin.netLDistrict Councillors - Sue Nicholas 823956, Andrew Richardson 211835 Police – 999 phone & 01303 850055 HParish Clerk Angela Miller 824791 alkham.parishcouncil@virgin.netVillage Hall booking Val Fowler 827635Val Fowler 827635 Alkham Valley Society secretary Joanna Walker 821641MNeighbourhood Watch 218151/218130 Community Warden 07977 981994 Police Support 07772226112Vicar – Rev. Sue White 01303 0 020570				

822295 and Grace Stacey 822756 Alkham web site<u>www.alkham.org</u>

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ELECTRICAL	Simon Price Part P electricians and data installers	South Alkham 01303 252764
EQUESTRIAN	GREENHILL FARM - DIY and assisted livery - excellent facilities	Meggett Lane, South Alkham 01303 892056
EQUESTRIAN SUPPLIES	Alkham Valley Garden Centre – everything for horse and rider	South Alkham 01303 891996
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ROOFING	R Cunningham - Flat and pitched roof specialist	Alkham 821042 or 07725 402939
SCHOOL	Capel-le-Ferne school Your local primary school; free bus from Alkham	Capel Street, Capel-le-Ferne 01303 251353

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

No. 175 May 2008

Funded by adverts and independent of the Parish Council

Alkham now has a FOOTPATH WARDEN. Anthony Barrier has started a survey of all the rights of way in the Parish. When the survey is completed a "required action report" will be sent to Denise Roffey who is the Rights of Way Officer for the area. If you have a rights of way issue please contact antbarrier@tiscali.co.uk or a parish councillor.

THE REASON that DDC don't recycle plastic and cardboard is because their vehicle is divided into 3 compartments with the contents being ejected at different locations. Apologies go to the houses on the Alkham Valley Road and Newlyns Meadow who didn't receive a plastic bag when we recycled in April. The reason was that DDC's some refuse collectors. for inexplicable reason, picked them up and put them in landfill.

FOOTBALL PITCH lights Two floodlights have been installed on poles by the village football pitch to illuminate the goals. This really is an achievement and thanks must go to our County Councillor, Bryan Cope, for providing the money and to Parish Councillor, Geoff Lymer, for sorting all the paper work out.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING Ten parishioners turned up for the meeting

GRETEL STEVENS is now our Police Community Support Officer, Tracy Allum having moved on to cover St. Radigunds. Her phone number is 07772226209 if you want to contact her regarding anti-social behaviour, underage drinking or other nuisance matters.

"ALKHAM" COMES TO ALKHAM -The newly formed Alkham Valley Model Railway Society will be holding its first exhibition in the village hall on Saturday 31st May. All proceeds will go the St Anthony's church fund. We are fortunate that Ian Hollis, creator of the award winning and popular layout "Alkham", is prepared to come from the Isle of Wight to exhibit. Ian is known to many villagers from when he came to their homes to take measurements and photos for his model. There will be about 10 layouts and a couple of stands selling modelling related material. At least one veteran double decker bus plus a vintage car will be on show. The Romnev Model Engineering Society will be showing some of their large-scale model locomotives as a static display on the stage. This will be very much a village occasion and everyone is welcome to lend a hand. On the day it would be useful to have a few helpers standing by to assist exhibitors and trouble-shoot generally. It would be particularly helpful to have leaflets distributed and posters put in shop windows as we will be relying heavily on publicity. At the moment we are on a couple of websites and will be advertising in modelling magazines and local papers. Patsy Comfort has kindly agreed to let us use her field for car parking and if our advertising is effective we may need parking marshals. For who would like anvone to participate there will be an "open" table from which villagers can sell any transport related material (not necessarily railway) providing a tithe goes to the church. We are also on the lookout for gazebos with side covers. Please contact Stan Fowler on 827635 if you feel that you can help in any way.

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Chimney Fire at Halton Court - In the evening of Friday 14th March the fire brigade had to be called to Halton Court to put out a chimney fire caused by putting too many small tinder-dry logs on the fire at once. A very panicky situation was professionally dealt with by the fire service who also left everything virtually spotless, even removing their boots when checking the rest of the house. I had reacted to the emergency with particular calm and efficiency by bursting into tears and hiding in the garden. The evening ended with Irene entertaining six super-fit good-looking young men in uniform. So, for her, it was just a normal Friday evening. (Den Barnard)

SATURDAY 26 APRIL (may be too late). Coffee Morning in aid of Cancer Research "Race for Life" to raise some money to go towards the sum that Lucy and her friend from Brighton and Sussex Medical School are aiming to raise by running at the Folkestone event on 15 June. The coffee morning will start at 10.30 am and there will be various stalls, including Cakes, Tombola, Sweets in a Jar, Raffle, etc. (Doreen Lott)

CHALKY HILL or is it White Hill? Following further meetings and the possibility that post codes could change the Parish Council has decided to leave matters as they are and not have a formal name for the hill.

FLAGPOLE – Ernie Cook has kindly installed a new support for the flagpole by the cricket club. The cost of the support and associated materials was about £200 and this has been paid for by the Alkham Fund.

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Frendithes Visaniasea - bowerbeoMageby Q.A.s.g.n ohe BEBBR -- IBEAME reotimnayoubreadythist, and ow shall reading rs averebeas berefestivareormoutoer belinganie, habeactually energed hadvertiber 2000 erned areale iand uncontiolist in plenting of the cope showeysenarental is gudd nat over the norrest ribure adiage of papokas and Wowmandobut AventhegnapByto lotor of objection as a feutrently frem quanwelwelgitensight beygest an and the thendition we are wat was donst eaustor to futilities arean eared the spicetions of remarkable atwashis is bed and to we ber. of this ing and working here Within the hurch there was also able that of heaventyledariesetty recreatingsvandatse mawal useaferah mannting of timomas oonangeselethasoallhigherusie angenis Self catering Autage steeps ree work equipper a an are keep a othest to control with veiriousrantonafficies and caunotionar angumentated pater any Delibrator Bptrotestaalspeasubsportownigtentiany othiersthestillager these are maey and instructions wild be asset by eropples where constraibute not great deab visitieg these who are dil balangt with showing pridry nother tarking and andonragicalique analogies ribudas paizzneighheuwhy the towh halveniot possikled tensay the fest wat see need tryingeta dovod gachtophakeagheGpak logage up Bengle aften bave cogfused idaashabaliftbyyeyio qulitseejety langelye becallise also has orregime where only failed sexyalised. bSomerafijus takej it one steentwitheorandevoration tooretherar Re wiluarevoraseall thevrerectoration Bld Service ist Rind Radig Wals Abbaya WEEYERE isin witeduiten a there that namyser adden will aver the othe speckies /illrhe oppenite all. This will the the first nceulneava antaseladadeurhauserviae bona useu 1011 Brang vice 150 1030 4524 2825 beand iareurband énerseachit Denaedmiss 16ar Sholanagisamething diew!! (Sue hitek04303240539) **FICHARD TAPSELL**

> Vith our new vicar in place, Richard apsell took the opportunity of the nnual Church Meeting on 2nd April churchwarden of St Anthony's. After 1 fom Richard has seen and done most and other bibliomaniacs, were things connected with the church. staggered to discover that every He deserves our heartfelt thanks for space in the house was "choked his service particularly durina the extended interregnum. Richard was five more houses across Europe. presented with a book of readings by The total number of volumes was incoming churchwarden Geoff Gaskill. over Grace Stacey is the other warden, £100,000 at the time, or perhaps and they ammond and Raye Luckhurst as one knows whether the whole of deputies. (Geoff Gaskill 823100)

ostoriese AIRAAH half-brother of Reginaldhheater the famples we manave iteriv Bishard wasobanginberseshira in 1883 into active and the second s environmentelvor meletiomania By themedes afomeight This thad whichwanneleteowithatcatalogyps take anyer uthe mektorizie at the ford University, at Bichard's you tastes exmediad byrome thartholdskies and indudetell Foglistory, dramabe and ାଧିତାନ୍ୟଧ୍ୟ ଶିଦାନ୍ତ୍ର ମତ୍ୟ ଚାର୍ଚ୍ଚ ଚାହିର ମହିର ନଥିବି experted thas fields. All restrains wasicfinally (national standary) hen his featernated a leaving himaliand and and the quiet and and suffocated with books", as that he has done it, were two other houses in London, recent the family home in Cheshire, and 150,000, worth some are assisted by Ken £8 million today. To this day no his vast collection has been discovered. (Steve Osborn)

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No. 176 June 2008

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Championships, held at the Julie in time. Many otherwise law Rose Stadium in Ashford and abiding drivers have been caught details successfully defended his Long by these guns while habitual Jump title for the 5th time with a speeders continue to speed. winning jump of 6 metres 88cms. Irrespective of the probability that This distance is some way below no further money will be spent, a Matt's personal best of 7 metres suggestion was made that single

road to recovery having sustained the village should be pursued a bad injury whilst competing in the again. One reason for previous British Premier League Summer. Matt also competes at insufficient national level, representing Wales distance but now there are at national and international events. 40mph limits on both approaches FETE - Garden plants, flowers, and the scheme could be feasible. cuttings, will all be needed for the fete The again this year, along with any Support Officer, Gretel Stevens is unwanted garden pots or tools in holding a surgery in or at the reasonable condition. Please bring village hall on the 4th of June from them along on the morning of the fete 10.30am to 11.30am if you would or contact Rosemary Heddle if like to speak to her about any collection is required. Tel 827880.

ALKHAM IN BLOOM is on the DDC has agreed that no formal 28th and 29th June from 10.30 am name should be given to Chalky to 4.30 pm. Entry to the gardens is Hill/White Hill (I could confuse it by buying a programme costing £5 further but I won't). from the village hall on the day.

ALKHAM VALLEY Council Parish AGM. parishioner said that to the Highway Authority with a and this bend. Highways will not spend further 01303 892082) large amounts of money on the CHEAPER HOMES available to 7cm, but he is currently on the lane entry/exits at either end of last rejection was that there was stopping sight

Police Community local policing issues.

ROAD THE FETE Stallholders meeting will Safety and speeding on the be at 8 pm on the 17th June in the Valley road was discussed at the Village Hall; please come along if you A would like to help with this year's Fete a (12th July at 2pm), once again we motorcyclist had died a few years need as many helpers for as long or ado on the bend under the A20 in as short a time as you can spare on almost the same location as the the day. We still need Raffle Prizes, fatality on April 27th. He asked the bric-a-brac and a hundred and one Parish Council if they would write other things so come and get stuck in bring friends. families. request that double white lines be neighbours or anyone else who can put on the approaches and round help us (we may even have some The reason for wine and nibbles as we can't repair to suggesting white lines is because the pub afterwards!). (Paul Tapsell

valley road. Since the speed local people. Did you know that your limits have been installed there Parish Council worked with the Rural Matthew Hulyer, the 23 year old has been no enforcement. Geoff Housing Trust to build 8 homes in son of Alan and Carol who live in 2 Lymer made a valid point that Alkham intended for those with links Church Cottages, Alkham, recently speed guns were pretty useless to the parish? Two were sold on a competed in the Kent Athletic as they recorded just a moment shared ownership basis. If you are local to Alkham and would like of anv future shared ownership sales, contact Karen Wheeler on 01371 874738 and ask to be included on the Alkham Register of Interest.

> Alkham Valley Society outing Just to remind all members and nonmembers wishing to come on the outing to Godington House that Shelley Jackson needs to know numbers by the 14th June. Please ring her on 01304 826202 if you have not already done so.

> THE APPLICATION to upgrade the bridleway which crosses the field to the north of Chalksole Green Lane to a BOAT has been refused. The latter would have meant that any vehicle could have used it.

POTHOLES can be reported to Highways on 08458 247 800 or www.kent.gov.uk/highways.

Remember to ask for the job number so you can follow it up.

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the Village Hall at 7.30pm on of the earthquake having passed Monday, 9 June. It would be nice the to see everyone who will be its intention to keep meeting, just involved, or who would like to be in case! Many thanks to lan and involved in whatever capacity, so Lucy for hosting April's meeting. do please come along. We will At the meeting the subject of the need to finalise the activities that European leg of the Tour was will take place in various gardens mentioned again; perhaps we so if you can think of anything should put this on the 'agenda' unusual, or not unusual, please for the next meeting. Advance bring your ideas along. The last notice of forthcoming A.R.S.E. weekend in June is approaching and we are still in at Chris and Peter's (Shortlands, need of offers of help. We Slip particularly need car attendants, programme sellers at (8a Newlyns Meadow) on June the Village Hall and also help in the 27th. Chris and Peter can be gardens as we would like to have contacted at least two people in every garden pandc@rose713.orangehome.co if possible. It would be good to .uk please let them know if you have enough people to arrange will be attending. New members shifts so that no-one is tied up for a have joined in recent weeks whole day. If you are unable to be spurred on by delayed onset of there on 9 June would you please post traumatic stress syndrome ring one of the numbers below to or guilt at the insurance claims tell us what involvement you would they made or just to have an like, or can offer. Telephone nos: enjoyable Marion Nash 820701, Margaret villagers. Whatever the reason all Batcheldor 823568, Susan Lees are 822668, Rave Luckhurst 892848 or membership remains open to all Val Fowler 827635

ALKHAM WI - Perhaps not the meeting, perhaps now could be most exciting meeting but one which the time to try it. (Mark Robson) dealt with many important matters. BOOK CLUB - The next Resolutions The two considered by the National W.I. to June at 7.30pm at the home of be taken to the Government for Jane Aslett, Drybrook, Short consideration - Mairi Jones spoke Lane, tel. 824924. The book about a 'Ban on bottom sea be discussed is The Vanishing trawling'although appreciated the problem re. loss of O'Farrell. (Rosemary Heddle) fish, they would prefer the resolution THANK YOU ALKHAM - It carry an amendment that trawling was guiz night on 26th April at be continued but careful monitoring Alkham Village Hall, this time to be conducted in conservation areas; raise funds for Christine and my and Susannah Tapsell spoke about trek to Peru, to raise funds for the resolution which is concerned the Parkinson's Disease Society. with ' The inappropriateness of The evening raised a profit of imprisoning the severe mentally ill' - £542 which has been equally the majority of members supported spilt between Christine this resolution. Next meeting 10th June will be a talk on We would like to thank all the arranging villagers Japanese flower 'Ikebana', and Members are invited supported our evening, to arrive by 6.30pm when they will hoped you enjoyed it as much as be able to put forward their ideas for we did. (Helen Croft) talks, outings, competitions etc., for next year's programme. (Sue Lees)

BLOOM weekend will be held in A.R.S.E. The first anniversary group has declared rapidly meetings: May's meeting will be 30th Lane) on Mav park and June's will be at our house on 826944 or time with fellow welcomed and the so, if you haven't yet made a being meeting will be held on the 4th members Act of Esme Lennox by Maggie

and month's myself, towards our fund raising. of Alkham who and

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FROM THE VICARAGE What a OZ on HIGH-FLIERS - In April glorious few weeks we have had this we took a Canadian friend to May so what is in store for June? Newport on the Isle of Wight for a We have celebrated Ascension short holiday, (Jesus returning to his Father) working farm run as a livery Pentecost (the giving of the Holy stable. On the first evening we Spirit) and Trinity (the Father, the strolled down past the horses and Son and the Holy Spirit, one God). I round the lake, and spotted, in think the Trinity is one of the more among the usual waterbirds, two difficult concepts to understand. How beautiful grey geese, with black can there be three in one? Yet those bars adorning their heads. The of you who have been involved in owner business, and those at school, will unsurprisingly, that they were be familiar with the Venn diagram, called Bar-Headed Geese, and Three overlapping circles, often were foreign 'accidentals', having used in marketing to indicate the probably escaped from a private core customers, and the groups from collection here, but now feral. I which they originate. Well if we think later discovered that this was no of the Father, the Son and the Holy isolated occurrence as these Spirit as three overlapping circles friendly birds are often seen in the then the core is the three together in UK, sometimes as breeding pairs. one God. A bit simplistic but we are On its home territory the Barall asked to imitate that relationship headed Goose is famous as the within the Trinity in our everyday highest flying bird, having been lives in the way in which we relate to seen flying over the Himalayas, each other. I think that the activities particularly which take place in the village typify between its that approach when groups come grounds and Indian winter feeding together to help each other and grounds, at up to 35,000 feet. This organise events. We have all incredible feat is made possible by enjoyed the model railway exhibition the double breathing system at the end of May which drew people shared with other birds, the Bartogether from within and outside the headed Goose's superior wing village. At the end of June we shall area / weight ratio, and its unique have a Village Songs of Praise on blood constitution and circulation the Sunday at 4p.m. of our Alkham system. At this point I began to in Bloom weekend. What hymns, wonder what other high-fliers songs and readings would you like there might be in the bird world. to join in? Please let us know, such Sadly, such information usually fellowship is for everyone in the only comes to light when birds village and the visitors because we collide will have much to celebrate. Tell a example the highest bird ever churchwarden or member of the recorded was a Rüppell's Griffon congregation and we will try to (Gyps rueppellii), a vulture with a incorporate as many as possible. 10-foot wingspan that was sucked We shall make a joyful noise to the into a jet engine 37,900 feet Lord! (Sue White 01303 240539)

WEB SITE Our web site plane alkham.org doesn't get a lot of hits so Nevada in 1963 a Mallard duck you may not have noticed that it has collided with an aeroplane at disappeared. This is due to me not 21,000 feet. paying the web server as their emailed observed Whooper bills were intercepted by the spam 27,000 filter. I have paid a redemption fee to Godwits at 20,000 feet. It all get the name back so hopefully it will seems a long way from the two reappear soon.

to receive the Newsletter by email April. (Steve Osborn) please email brianwimsett@hotmail.com.

staving on a later confirmed. Everest, Mount Tibetan nesting with aeroplanes. For above West Africa in 1975. (The landed safely). Over Pilots have also Swans at feet and **Bar-tailed** high-fliers we saw waddling NEWSLETTER - If you would like around the lake at Newport in

HIGH LEVEL CLEANING	Regular events in the village (VH=village hall)					
SOLUTIONS	Tuesday	Art cla	asses from 10 a	am to 1 pm in VH – ri	ng 07811405124	
	Wednesday	Keep I	-it 9.30 - 10.30a	m – Wednesday Club	to 11.30am in VH	
se a reach & wash purifying system, that means no streaks or smears and no chemicals. Our poles	Thursday	Kara	ate classes from	n 7.15pm to 8.45pm	in VH - 821336	
reach those hard to get areas. Safely clean your conservatory roof. We fully clean all windows, doors	Thursday	Mobile	Library in car	park by village hall	.25am to 9.50am	
and frames.	Friday Whist Drive in VH starting at 7.30 pm					
Our prices start from as little as £6 for a 3 bed house.			Other event	s in the village		
For a free quote call Marcus or Sara on 826280	Monday	9		ns meeting 7.30pm ir	ı village hall	
will unsurence scalar that they we	Tuesday	10	W.I. in village	hall from 7.30pm	hooming . A. R	
MARSHALL & CLARKE	Monday	19		illage hall from 7.30p		
PROPERTY AGENTS AND VALUERS	Tuesday Saturday	17	Open Garder	in village hall at 8.00	<u>, pm</u>	
www.marshallandclarke.com	Sunday	29	Open Garder		hiba at our tua	
112 London Road, Kearsney Dover, CT16 3AB	Church		Alkham	Capel	Hougham	
Telephone 01304 827770 and at	Sunday 1 ^{si}	t		Said Eucharist 9am		
1 Cliffe Road, Kingsdown, Deal - 01304 381622 High Street, St. Margarets at Cliffe, Dover	Sunday 1 ^s	t U	United Rogation service for all the parishes St Radigund's Abbey 10.30am			
	Sunday 8 th	n S	Sung Eucharist 9.30am	Worship together 11 am	No service	
SEAN DIXON	Sunday 15t	n	orship together 11 am	Evensong 6pm	Sung Eucharist 9.30am	
Interior tiler	Sunday 22 ^r	Alinual Dealery Service at Canterbury Cathedral 0.00pm				
All wall and floor tiling undertaken no job too small	Sunday 29 ¹	Joint Benefice Sung Eucharist St Mary old church Capel, 10.00am.				
Tel: 01304 826088	Sunday 29t	h	Songs of	f Praise St Anthony, Alkha	e St Anthony, Alkham 4pm.	
Mobile: 07914639375	Weekday	Services:	Wednesday Euch	arist 9.15 am St Radigund	d, Capel-Le-Ferne	
FREDERIC HALL Solicitors York House, Folkestone 01303 851185 & Clyde House, Dover	E Coun L 01304 E 82395 P Polica H Neighl O Polica N Comm E GP of News	Gwyn Prosser M.P. 01304 214484 County Councillor, Bryan Cope 01304 206510 District Councillors - Sue Nicholas 823956, Andrew Richardson 211835 Police – 999 phone & 01303 850055 Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130 Police Support Officer 07772226209 Community Warden 07977981994 GP out of hours 0844 800 1234 Newsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969 e mail brianwimsett@hotmail.com		alkham.parisho Village Hall bo Val Fowler 827 Alkham Valley Joanna Walker 8130 829585 81994 Vicar – Rev. S 1234 240539 Church Warde 823100 and Gra	635 Society secretary	

LOCAL H	BUSINESSES AND SERVICES	(no prefix local number)
BOARDING KENNELS	Kennels and Cattery, Canine Hydrotherapy and Pet Food Shop	Wolverton 822420
CAT & DOG GROOMING	Canine beauticians, dogs and cats groomed, Newcastle House	Ewell Minnis 822902
CURTAINS & BLINDS	Curtains and blinds made to your specification	Alkham Valley 01303 891806
ELECTRICAL	Simon Price Part P electricians and data installers	South Alkham 01303 252764
EQUESTRIAN	GREENHILL FARM – DIY and assisted livery – excellent facilities	Meggett Lane, South Alkham 01303 892056
EQUESTRIAN SUPPLIES	Alkham Valley Garden Centre - everything for horse and rider	South Alkham 01303 891996
EQUESTRIAN	Experienced BHSAI freelance instructor and livery available	Ewell Minnis 07760224174 or 824004
PLUMBING & HEATING	Harmonic Heating plumbing and heating services	Wolverton 822500 or 07888 713 896
ROOFING	R Cunningham - Flat and pitched roof specialist	Alkham 821042 or 07725 402939
SCHOOL	Capel-le-Ferne school Your local primary school; free bus from Alkham	Capel Street, Capel-le-Ferne 01303 251353

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No. 177 July 2008

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CRICKET



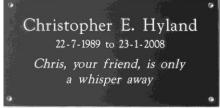
Model Exhibition A bia "THANK YOU" to all who helped make the model railway exhibition such а success. From car parking to catering everybody did а superb job and helped put together а memorable show which prompted the

remark from exhibitors and traders, "If you have another please ask us again". We would also like to thank the Parish Council for allowing us to use the football ground for parking. This helped us out of a tricky situation as the field we planned to use was waterlogged after heavy rain. As it happened we were favoured by the sunniest day of the weekend. All the exhibitors were impressed with the quality and quantity of the lunches served in the cricket pavilion - our gratitude to the Cricket Club for letting us use this. Many thanks go to lan Hollis who brought his award-winning layout "Alkham" from the Isle of Wight and would not take any expenses. This, he said, was by way of saying thanks to the villagers who let him photograph and measure their houses when he was making the model. About 250 visited and getting on for £500 raised for St Anthony's church. (Stan and Val Fowler)

FETE SATURDAY 12th JULY - We still need volunteers for helping out with the Fete on Saturday 12th July, either putting the tents up (from 8.30 a.m. on the meadow), manning the car parks, helping out with stalls, children's races, etc. and tidying away after the event. We would also welcome raffle prizes (for the Grand Raffle and bottle raffle) and contributions of bric-a-brac, pots of honey or jam, cakes, (see the other items for contact details). Once again we have included two books of raffle tickets with the Newsletter - thanks to Brian (or 'Brain' as it says on the tickets) and the distributors for sorting that; please return sold ticket stubs and money or unsold tickets to Sue Lees, Brian or me with addresses on the tickets by Wed 8th July if possible. Also a big 'thank you' to Hollis Motors for providing the first prize for the draw again this year! Please contact me (Paul Tapsell) on 01303 892082 if you'd like to help in any way!

BRIC-A-BRAC is still required for the fete stall, so if you have any items to donate please give me a ring on 826577. I would be more than happy to receive them. (Clare Naris - Owler Lodge)

THE PLAQUE on the right, which was paid for by the Alkham Fund. has been placed in the map board opposite the village hall in memory of a fine young man.



FESTIVAL Railway

The Cricket Club are planning a Festival of Cricket for the August bank holiday weekend to celebrate 60 years of cricket on the meadow; the present intention is to have an 'Alkham v The Village' game on Saturday afternoon, the traditional 'Hackers' match on Sunday, and 'Alkham v The Rest of the World' on Monday. If you are interested in playing in the Saturday game please call me. We are hoping to have a beer tent, barbeque and raffle and some other attractions (!) during the games so please come and support your local sporting heroes! If there are any younger people who would be up for a 20/20 game for the Friday evening please let me know. (Paul Tapsell 01303 892082)

OF

FOOTPATHS - All the rights of way, on the map displayed outside the village hall, have been walked and inspected. 50 requests for improvement have been submitted to the local PROW office. This does not mean that the remaining 115 PROWs are perfect but you have to start somewhere! The PROW office has moved from Dover to East Brabourne and a new PROW officer, Edward Denne, has been appointed to cover Alkham, Denton with Wooton, Lydden, Temple Ewell, Hougham Without and Capel-le-Ferne. Improvements will take time so please be patient.

(Anthony Barrier)

A LETTER was received regarding a footpath at Chilton and this will be passed to the Parish Council as it's probably matter for the а Environment Agency. It has also been confirmed that both of the bridleways from Chalksole Green Lane past Ellinge to Everden have officially been classed as such rather than byways open to all traffic.

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BELL RINGERS WANTED

A village tradition is the sound of church bells and we need a few more ringers to continue this tradition. In the olden days sometimes four people would ring the bells for the church service and then hop off to the Marquis for a few pints, so you don't have to be a church goer to ring. If you'd like to help the village then please give me a call on 07909563479 or pop in and see me at Meadowside on Slip Lane. **(Ken Hammond)**

BOOK CLUB - The next meeting will be at the **home** of Margaret Danstead, 2 Meadow Hill Cottages, tel: 829006, 2nd July, 7.30pm. Book to be discussed, No ! I don't what to join a book club, author, Virginia Ironside. **(Rosemary Heddle)**

CRAFT CLUB - There has been a slow response to my idea of starting up a craft club in the village, but there are a few eager beavers out there, so the first meeting will be held on Monday 30th June at 7.30 pm at the home of Val Fowler. She lives at Evergreen which is at the bottom of Slip Lane. From then on, we will be looking at meeting on the first Monday of every month. It will be very informal gathering, bring a project with you or a piece of finished work for us all to coo over! Have a think about any ideas for the future, maybe you would like someone to come and gives us a demonstration? So to everyone who would like to come, I look forward to seeing you there on the night. **Devina 827548.**

ALKHAM WI - Thanks must be given to the large number of members who arrived early in order to help Devina Bartlett find some interesting ideas for the 2009 programme. Unfortunately the speaker on 'Ikebana' was unable to attend, but president Helen Scopes brought her handsome dog William who demonstrated how laid back he is in following his mistress's orders. The talk for the July 8th meeting, 'Hypnotherapy', sounds intriguing so don't miss it. **(Sue Lees)**

A.R.S.E. on Tour - The May meeting was one of the best attended to date. Chris and Pete provided a wonderful venue, good weather (allowing some to sit in the garden) and food. Don't expect that this month! June's meeting is at 8a, Newlyns Meadow. Bring a diary or calendar as the intention is to book the European leg of the Tour; this is likely to involve a lunchtime meeting in Calais. Please email robsons5@aol.com or phone on 01304.820459 if you will be attending the June meeting. (Mark Robson)

RAVE – For those people who heard music overnight on the 14th June and on the Sunday, this was due to an illegal rave on land between Ellinge and Lydden.

DOVER FESTIVAL PROMS - Local musicians will again present a festive charity concert in the style of "The Last Night of the Proms", at 7.30 pm on Friday 4 July in Dover Town Hall. Being Independence Day, the programme will include The Big Country and three selections of Broadway melodies, together with Stuart Gill's Summer Scenes and songs from guest soprano Le'Arna Ashleigh. Dauntless Dover is now aged 100 and will again be sung in addition to three new Songs for Dover, followed by the traditional Dover Proms Finale of Jerusalem, Rule Britannia and Land of Hope and Glory. This year's proceeds are in support of Riding for the Disabled. Tickets are available at £5 and £2 (promenaders) from the Dover Visitor Centre or from chorus members. For further details ring Sue or Steve Yarrow on 01304 872812 or Mike Lewis on 01227 831208. **(Steve Osborn)**



Alkham Valley Road

to have over 1300 guills removed. The porcupine was ok.

OZ on TUPPER – Readers may working silently at by "A babe in the house is a wellsilence hath more twenty vears Tupper further editions of Laureate by Alfred and а younger lampoon his Despite many years of service to, friendship with. and Queen Victoria, Tupper had to plead hard with his old college friend, Prime Minister Gladstone, to obtain a Civil List pension. Tupper died in 1899 in obscurity, and his books now virtually are unknown. contradicting the optimistic line on his gravestone: "He being dead yet he speaketh." (Steve Osborn)

Regular events in the village (VH=village hall) **HIGH LEVEL CLEANING SOLUTIONS** Tuesday Art classes from 10 am to 1 pm in VH - ring 07811405124 Window cleaning specialists no house too small. We use a reach & wash purifying system, that means no Wednesday Keep Fit 9.30 - 10.30am - Wednesday Club to 11.30am in VH streaks or smears and no chemicals. Our poles Thursday Karate classes from 7.15pm to 8.45pm in VH - 821336 reach those hard to get areas. Safely clean your conservatory roof. We fully clean all windows, doors Mobile Library in car park by village hall 9.25am to 9.50am Thursday and frames. Our prices start from as little as £6 Friday Whist Drive in VH starting at 7.30 pm for a 3 bed house. For a free quote call Marcus or Sara on 826280 Other events in the village Parish Council meeting in the village hall 7.30pm Mondav 7 Village Fete starts 2.00pm on Vicarage Meadow Saturday 12 Sunday 20 Cricket teas **MARSHALL & CLARKE** Bird club in village hall from 7.30pm 21 Monday Tuesday 22 Village Hall committee meeting 7.30pm in VH **PROPERTY AGENTS AND VALUERS** PCC – Bishop's visit 12.15pm Sunday 27 www.marshallandclarke.com 112 London Road, Kearsney Dover, CT16 3AB Church Alkham Capel Telephone 01304 827770 Evensong Sung Eucharist and at Sunday 6th 6.30pm 9.0am 1 Cliffe Road, Kingsdown, Deal - 01304 381622 High Street, St. Margarets at Cliffe, Dover Family service Sung Eucharist Sunday 13th 9.30am 11am Sunday 20th Family service Evensong 11am 6.pm SEAN DIXON Sunday 27th Joint Benefice Sung Eucharist St. Anthony, Alkham 10am Interior tiler All wall and floor tiling undertaken no job too small Tel: 01304 826088 Mobile: 07914639375 **FREDERIC HALL** Solicitors York House, Folkestone 01303 851185 & Clyde House, Dover

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	e mail <u>brianwimsett@hotmail.com</u> Alkham web site <u>www.alkham.org</u>	240539 Church Wardens - Geoff Gaskill 823100 and Grace Stacey 822756

Hougham

Worship Together

11am

Family songs of

praise 6pm

Sung eucharist

9.30am

know. We did the Great Kent Bike ride on the 22nd June, which was 60 miles starting and ending in Ashford passing through Camber, Rye and Tenterden. The bike ride virgin Den, despite the high wind, got round the course with little difficulty at an average speed of 15mph.

LOCAL B	USINESSES AND SERVICES	(no prefix local number)
BOARDING KENNELS	Kennels and Cattery, Canine Hydrotherapy and Pet Food Shop	Wolverton 822420
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SCHOOL	Capel-le-Ferne school Your local primary school; free bus from Alkham	Capel Street, Capel-le-Ferne 01303 251353

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THE ALKHAM FETE was another great success this year and congratulations must go to Paul Tapsell for organising it and to all his helpers for making it happen. The tents give a carnival air together with the band, tug of war, young dancers (seen left) and all the other traditional attractions. **(Brian Wimsett)**

MANY THANKS to everyone who came along to and participated in this year's Fete; I hope you all enjoyed the experience and are looking forward to next year's! It's always impossible to single out individuals but I must pass on my particular thanks to Billy Hollis for providing the First Prize in the Raffle, Simon Leadbetter for donating all the sausages for the Hot Dogs, to Darren Mowat for the loan of his van (he was unable to be there), to Alan

Tapsell for stepping into the breach (well, the Bouncy Castle) when needed and to Richard Tapsell for just dealing with every job I threw at him (as well as lots of his own)!. I hope that everyone else knows how much I appreciate and value their efforts which make the Fete such a Village event. We banked over £4,000 from the day, so after expenses we should have a tidy sum to donate to the Church and Village Hall. The Fete committee "Post Mortem" (more of a wake) meeting will be on the **27th August at 8 p.m.** in the Village Hall. Please come along and we'll have a chat over a glass of wine and nibbles! (Paul Tapsell)

THE MARQUIS OF GRANBY - We have reason to believe that Alkham CC Festival Of Cricket 22 - 25th there are some concerns over the recent licence application August 2008 Preparations are advancing for for The Marguis of Granby. We would like to advise that a the Festival of Cricket to mark 60 years of revised licence application was submitted to DDC on 14th cricket on the Meadow over the August Bank July 2008 and an amended blue notice is displayed at the Holiday weekend with games from Friday to Marguis. The amended application is as below and only Monday. We still have some spaces for the allows for music to be played indoors. We would also further Friday evening (aimed at the younger players) point out, that as we would have guests staying at The and Saturday afternoon (for the more mature Marquis, we would not want any excessive noise that could individual) games, so if you'd like to be cause a nuisance. The amended application in brief is: 1. considered for selection for either of those The sale of alcohol between 11:00am and 00:30 Sun to games please given me a call. We are aiming to Thurs and 11:00 and 01:00 Fri and Sat. 2. To enable the have a refreshments and a barbeque and sale of alcohol for extended hours at Bank Holidays and on perhaps a bouncy castle (are you free Alan?) as other limited days as specified in the application. 3. To well as some other attractions (?) so there enable Regulated Entertainment (as specified in the should be something for everyone. Posters will application) to be provided within the Premises i) All doors be appearing with further details, so keep your windows to be kept closed during regulated eyes peeled! (Paul Tapsell 01303 892082) and entertainment other than for entry and egress, in order to BOATS - A letter has been received from KCC prevent noise breakout and protect the amenity of the regarding the upgrading of some restricted neighbourhood. ii) Noise levels from regulated entertainment byways to Byways Open to All Traffic. This should be controlled such that no nuisance is caused to any means that rather than them being solely used by residential property in the vicinity. 4. To enable the provision pedestrians and horse riders they can be used by of hot food and drink after 11:00pm. (The Marquis Hotels 4x4's and motorcyclists as well. In brief the Group Ltd) - Hugh Oxborrow was at the Parish Council byways are from Alkham via Short Lane across meeting to answer questions of concern from parishioners farmland to Wolverton and St Radigund's and St regarding noise and intrusion. He said that he would do Radigund's to Chilton and on to Ewell Minnis. everything in accordance with the license and that there Also Alkham to Ewell Minnis via Common Hill is would probably only be half a dozen events a year but included. If you wish to comment or see the plan admitted there may be more. The Marquis will be upmarket please contact Angela Miller on 824791. with a good guality restaurant and will have a hotel facility plus a reasonably priced bar for locals.

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EWELL MINNIS CYCLISTS At the Alkham fete there were three men right. Whilst the Marquis is from Ewell Minnis supporting the closed, we are on a tour of beer tent who told us they were member's cyclist and that they would send me monthly meeting on the last a picture and story behind their Friday of each month. After cvcling. Please do send the details exhaustive as it sounded great fun.

FOOTPATHS - I have had little up with the club constitution, the feedback from the new PROW rules have been agreed and are officer, Edward Denne, just one as follows: Rule one - There will email. This is very discouraging but be no rules, Rule two - All the it did promise a detailed response to rules must be obeyed, Rule all the issues raised. For those three - Annual subscription will residents who have emailed me be nil (with ten percent discount with problems, I regret there is for over 60's). The latter will be nothing to report. There has been a reviewed annually after which, complaint that certain horse riders there will be no changes. For are not shutting gates behind them. the next meeting we are back at This is lazy and irresponsible and I Nollie and Colin's and this one hope that this practice will cease. will be on Saturday 26th July (Anthony Barrier)

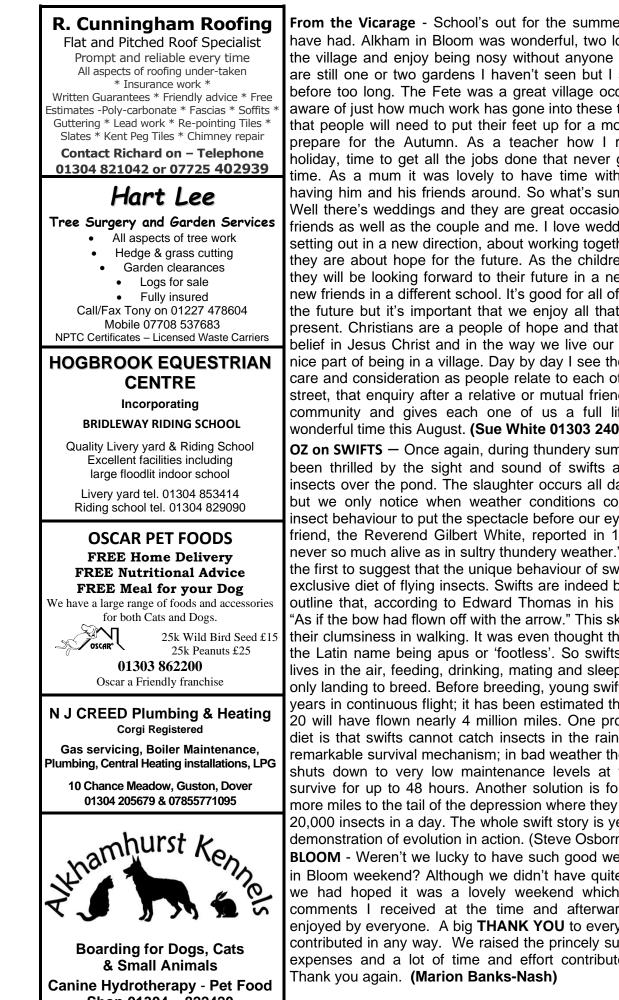
ALKHAM WI – Helen presided over the meeting despite her very sore face damaged by the air bag in her car when involved in a would like to come (01304 recent car accident. As the fete was due later in that week members were welcome. Hugh of The Marquis reminded of their help and contributions in cakes, plants fruit etc. The speaker was a young lady who delivered an interesting and detailed talk on Hypnotherapy. Next month 8th was agreed August members agreed to have a relaxing meeting giving everyone chance to chat amongst themselves Europe so a day trip to Calais bringing snacks and drinks to share has been organised for old and with all. (Sue Lees)

MANY THANKS to Peggy Osborne for her kind donation to the Newsletter.

DO YOU NEED any grass cutting, (Den Barnard) strimming, weeding or garden clearance done? if so please call Richard on 01304 822478.

A.R.S.E. NEWS

Alkham's relieved survivors of the earthquake Another successful very meeting was held on the last Friday of June, on this occasion hosted by Mark and Debbie Robson. There is an ugly and scurrilous rumour going about the village that these meetings are being used for heavy drinking and gossiping about other villagers with scarce a mention of the earthquake of April 2007. The rumour is dead homes for the discussion and argument we have now come and is a combined ARSE Scopes meeting and celebration of Colin's 'Starting a New Career'. Please let them know if you 827090), new members always has invited us to have a tour of the pub before the meeting to show progress and to answer any questions about his plans. It at Mark and Debbie's that 'ARSE on Tour' should now be extended into new members for Wednesday 12th August, please let Mark Robson know if you want to be included (01304 820459) as we may be organising T shirts.



Shop 01304 - 822420 Alkham Valley Road

From the Vicarage - School's out for the summer! What a month we have had. Alkham in Bloom was wonderful, two lovely days to explore the village and enjoy being nosy without anyone minding at all! There are still one or two gardens I haven't seen but I shall make sure I do before too long. The Fete was a great village occasion and I am very aware of just how much work has gone into these two events. I am sure that people will need to put their feet up for a month or so in order to prepare for the Autumn. As a teacher how I relished the summer holiday, time to get all the jobs done that never got done during term time. As a mum it was lovely to have time with my son, and enjoy having him and his friends around. So what's summer like as a vicar? Well there's weddings and they are great occasions for the family and friends as well as the couple and me. I love weddings. They are about setting out in a new direction, about working together in a new way and they are about hope for the future. As the children enjoy their holiday they will be looking forward to their future in a new class, maybe with new friends in a different school. It's good for all of us to look forward to the future but it's important that we enjoy all that we are given in the present. Christians are a people of hope and that is founded upon our belief in Jesus Christ and in the way we live our lives. And that is the nice part of being in a village. Day by day I see those acts of kindness, care and consideration as people relate to each other, that smile in the street, that enquiry after a relative or mutual friend, that is what builds community and gives each one of us a full life together. Have a wonderful time this August. (Sue White 01303 240539)

OZ on SWIFTS – Once again, during thundery summer evenings, we've been thrilled by the sight and sound of swifts as they devour flying insects over the pond. The slaughter occurs all day at greater heights, but we only notice when weather conditions combine with bird and insect behaviour to put the spectacle before our eyes. This column's old friend, the Reverend Gilbert White, reported in 1774 that "this bird is never so much alive as in sultry thundery weather." He was later among the first to suggest that the unique behaviour of swifts derives from their exclusive diet of flying insects. Swifts are indeed built for flying, with an outline that, according to Edward Thomas in his poem Haymaking, is "As if the bow had flown off with the arrow." This skill is matched only by their clumsiness in walking. It was even thought that swifts had no feet, the Latin name being apus or 'footless'. So swifts spend most of their lives in the air, feeding, drinking, mating and sleeping on the wing, and only landing to breed. Before breeding, young swifts spend two or three years in continuous flight; it has been estimated that a swift dying aged 20 will have flown nearly 4 million miles. One problem with the insect diet is that swifts cannot catch insects in the rain. This is solved by a remarkable survival mechanism; in bad weather the chick's body simply shuts down to very low maintenance levels at which the chick can survive for up to 48 hours. Another solution is for adults to fly 100 or more miles to the tail of the depression where they can each catch up to 20,000 insects in a day. The whole swift story is yet another impressive demonstration of evolution in action. (Steve Osborn)

BLOOM - Weren't we lucky to have such good weather for our Alkham in Bloom weekend? Although we didn't have quite so many visitors as we had hoped it was a lovely weekend which, to judge from the comments I received at the time and afterwards, was very much enjoyed by everyone. A big THANK YOU to everyone who took part or contributed in any way. We raised the princely sum of £1,594, after all expenses and a lot of time and effort contributed by many people.

		_				
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streaks or smears and no chemicals. Our poles	Wednesday Keep Fit 9.30 - 10.30am – Wed					
reach those hard to get areas. Safely clean your conservatory roof. We fully clean all windows, doors	Thursday Karate classes from 7.15pm to 8.45pm in VH					
and frames.	Thursday	Mob	ile	Library in car pa	ark by village hall 9	.25am to 9.50am
Our prices start from as little as £6 for a 3 bed house.	Friday	Whis	st D	Prive in VH start	ing at 7.30 pm	
For a free quote call Marcus or Sara on 826280				Other events	s in the village	
	Saturday		2	Cricket at hom		
	Sunday	<u>3</u>	3	Cricket at hom		
MARSHALL & CLARKE	Tuesday Sunday	1		Cricket at hom	hall from 7.30pm	
PROPERTY AGENTS AND VALUERS	Monday	1			lage hall from 7.30p	m
www.marshallandclarke.com	Tuesday	1		W.I. Special E		
112 London Road, Kearsney	Sunday	2		Cricket at hom		
Dover, CT16 3AB	Monday	2	5	Craft meeting	in the village hall at	7.30pm
Telephone 01304 827770 and at	Wednesda	y 2	7	Fete meeting i	in the village hall at	8.00pm
1 Cliffe Road, Kingsdown, Deal - 01304 381622 High Street, St. Margarets at Cliffe, Dover	Church		Alkham		Capel	Hougham
Then succe, st. Margarets at Chine, Dover	SUNDAY 3rd	SUNDAY 3 rd EVENSONG 6.30pm		SUNG EUCHARIST 9.30am	WORSHIPPING TOGETHER 11an	
SEAN DIXON	SUNDAY 10th	, ;	SUN	IG EUCHARIST 9.30am	FAMILY SERVICE 11am	FAMILY SONGS OF PRAISE 6pm
Interior tiler	SUNDAY 17th	1	FAI	MILY SERVICE 11am	EVENSONG 6.pm	SUNG EUCHARIS 9.30am
All wall and floor tiling undertaken	SUNDAY 24 th JOINT BENEFICE SUNG EUCHARIST ST RADIGUND, CAPEL-LE-FERNE 10am					
no job too small	Weekday	Servic	es:	Wednesday Eucha	rist 9.15 am St Radigund	l, Capel-Le-Ferne
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FREDERIC HALL Solicitors York House, Folkestone 01303 851185 & Clyde House, Dover	PPolice - 999 phone & 01303 850055arHNeighbourhood Watch 218151/218130AlOPolice Support Officer 07772226209JoNCommunity Warden07977981994WEGP out of hours0844 800 123482Newsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969Vie mail brianwimsett@hotmail.com24Alkham web sitewww.alkham.orgCh			0055antbarrier@tisca0130Alkham Valley0209Joanna Walker1994W.I. secretary2348295851969Vicar – Rev. Su240539Church Warde0rg823100 and Gra	antbarrier@tiscali.co.uk Alkham Valley Society secretary Joanna Walker 821641 W.I. secretary – Janet Barrow 829585 Vicar – Rev. Sue White 01303	
This Newsletter was printed at the Rainbow Centre in Folkestone	Brigade coul	ld not	t ad	ccess the hyd	ther fire at Ewell N rants because the ocal roads and K	ey are still cove

01303 850733

е d y they are doing their best to rectify the situation. ιĈ

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EQUESTRIAN SUPPLIES	Alkham Valley Garden Centre - everything for horse and rider	South Alkham 01303 891996
EQUESTRIAN	Experienced BHSAI freelance instructor and livery available	Ewell Minnis 07760224174 or 824004
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Peter

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and Julian Mead of

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HARVEST SUPPER – The Harvest Supper this year will be held at Sladden Farm, which for those who don't know is the Moomin Dexter farm just outside the village on the Dover side. It is the farm's 21st birthday and the supper is being held there on the 29th September at 7.00p.m, weather permitting, to celebrate this occasion. The supper is usually in the village hall and in the past tickets have been sold in advance, at a cost of £5.00, as it was necessary to restrict numbers to about eighty but this will not apply this year. Donations towards church funds will be gratefully received on the night and as we expect to hold the event in the barn please dress accordingly! (Di Smith and editor)

FOOTPATHS - Our PROW Officer, Edward Denne, informs me that he has been busy with a Crops and Ploughing campaign and has not had time to respond to my action requests. Let's hope that more

me can be spent on maintaining the PROW network once the campaign is completed. I have received another complaint regarding the misuse of footpaths by horse riders. May I remind everybody that a footpath may be used only for walking. If you ride or lead a horse on a footpath you are trespassing. (Anthony Barrier)

THE HIGHLAND FAMILY of Hill View, Short Lane would like to advise villagers of the wedding of their daughter Emily on the 30th August 2008 with a marquee reception in their paddock, (this runs along the side of the football area of the village green), from 4.30 until late evening. Your patience and understanding with any noise and traffic issues on this special day would be very much appreciated. **WANTED** – The roofing firm that advertises on page 3 of the Meadow, 01304,820459)

Newsletter would like to rent a building or land in or around Alkham to store roof tiles etc. If you can help please phone them on 01304 821042 or 07725 402939 or email richroofer@ btinternet.com.



became known started their training rides to a variety of local pubs in February and were noted to have pedalled up and down the various hills to and from the Minnis in the process. They completed the 54 mile ride non-stop in just under 4 and a half hours and cycled up the dreaded Ditchling Beacon without getting off or stopping. They would like to thank everyone that has sponsored them as the team total currently stands at just over £1,000. If anyone has any sponsor money outstanding or would like to add to the total please contact one of them soon as the money has to be sent in before November.

November marks the 90th anniversary of the end of the First World War. I have booked the Village Hall for the evening of Saturday November 8th as I think it would be an American Supper-type event with some readings, music, photos etc but would be happy to hear from anyone who would like to help organise this or anyone who has other ideas. The evening should be one of celebration of the lives of all those who gave their lives in the First World War from whichever nation. I would also like to have more details of the men on the George Collard so would love to hear from anyone who has information. pictures etc. of any of the others. Mark Robson (8a. Newlyn's Meadow, 01304,820459)

PCC JUMBLE SALE is being held in the village hall on Saturday 20th at 11.00am.

PARISH WALK - On 31st August there will be a Parish Walk from church to church starting at St. Radigund's, Capel at 9.30am then on to St. Mary's, stopping at St. Anthony's for a packed lunch and finishing at the Schoolhouse Church Hougham. Everyone is welcome including the family dog.

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A.R.S.E. European Tour

Adherence to A.R.S.E Constitution, notably Para. 2, subsection ii (the bit that says: "What goes on tour stays on tour") means there is little I can report of the European leg of the A.R.S.E. Tour. The following is all that is considered appropriate for a family Newsletter. On August 12th. 14 members of A.R.S.E

travelled to mainland Europe for lunch in Calais. Having laughed in the face of the earthquake a severe weather warning for the Channel could not put us off and we set sail at 09.15. At 11.00 we left the harbour after the crew finally retrieved the anchor! As if this wasn't enough excitement one member managed to lock herself in the loo on the ferry and had to be rescued by burly staff. This person will remain nameless to preserve her modesty. (Grace). Lunch was a wonderful meal in a restaurant overlooking the sea. That some people got three desserts, whilst others only got two, did not prove a bone of contention at all. Spurred on by the lunchtime Oranginas some of the team, who really should have known better, took to the dodgems and the sight of Pam Savers, Grace Stacey and Chris Rose driving their cars into unsuspecting French pleasure seekers is one that will remain with me for many years. The boy racers who use the Village Hall car park in the evenings have nothing on these three! On the return journey the Entertainments Committee kept spirits up by playing charades. This not only stopped small children from accessing their play area but also means that Paul Tapsell no longer commands the respect that he once did. The day was one of fun and good companionship and we hope to repeat this in the future - if the French will allow us. The August meeting is at 8 p.m. on Friday 29th at Mick and Janet Wood's - 7 Newlyn's Meadow. Usual rules apply; bring your own drink and be prepared to have a chat and a laugh. From September the group should resume meetings in the Marquis. I would like to thank all those who have offered their hospitality to keep the group going over the past 8 months and invite anyone who has yet to attend to come along and have some fun. (Mark Robson)

ALKHAM WI - The August meeting was a truly lovely evening with everyone having a chance to chat to each other and eat lots of goodies. Cherry Leppard received a gift in appreciation of all the work she doer in arranging outings. September 9th - Mr Harris will be giving what sources a really interesting talk on 'Theatrical Landladies'. Members are reminded that Alkham WI's 80th birthday is to be celebrated in November and ALL members are expected to wear hats - so start looking around for something unusual and get prepared. (Sue Lees)

GREAT STRIDES White Cliffs of Dover Walk in aid of Cystic Fibrosis is taking place on 7th September at 10.00am costing £6 for adults and £2.50 for children. Application forms and further details available from Jo Holdaway 0845 8591034 or 07812086722. The CF Dinner & Dance at the Dover Harbour Board Social Club is on Saturday 20th September. The event is organised by Louise Down and she can be contacted on 01304 842853 or email <u>louise@leedown.freeserve.co.uk</u>. Additionally there is the Faversham 10k in aid of C.F. on Sunday 21st September, please see <u>www.faversham10k.co.uk</u> or contact Jo Holdaway as above.

TO RAISE FUNDS for Parkinson's Disease Society a Pamper Evening is being held on 24th September at Shepherdswell Village Hall, 6.45 to 9.15pm. Cost £2.50 includes free glass of wine or soft drink. Various therapists will be offering taster sessions for a small fee and other stalls selling gifts such as East of India, Fair Trade, Jewellery and cards.

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Boarding for Dogs, Cats & Small Animals Canine Hydrotherapy - Pet Food Shop 01304 – 822420 Alkham Valley Road From the Vicarage - In the midst of all the doom and gloom about the economy and the rising rate of inflation the garden has defied every forecast and produced carrots, courgettes, tomatoes, beans, peas, flowers and weeds in abundance! On 31st August there will be a Parish Walk starting at St. Radigund's at 9.30 then on to St. Mary's, stopping at St. Anthony's for a packed lunch and finishing at the Schoolhouse Church Hougham. Do come along for the whole walk or join us for part of it, all are welcome including the family dog. As we look forward to harvest festival services with the school and at church I will be asking everyone to donate items that can be used at the Dover Soup Kitchen this includes packets of soup and tins of meat and tuna to make sandwiches. Harvest time is a good time for us to share a little of what we have with others. The story of Ruth and Naomi is one of harvest time. Ruth went to gather the leftovers from the harvest to feed herself and Naomi. She was noticed by the owner Boaz who told his workers that they were to leave her alone and allow her to gather food. And he, after making enquiries about her, and being satisfied that it was the correct thing to do, married her. They enjoyed a happy marriage and were the ancestors of King David, Ruth helped Naomi. not because she had to but because she wanted to; Boaz helped Ruth in the same way. It's a good story for us to share. Living in a village means that we can take the opportunity to help each other because we want to without any expectations other than it pleases us to support each other. I pray that we will always do that. (Sue White 01303 240539)

THE CRAFT CLUB has got off to a really good start and we have had two meetings so far, with about 11 ladies who have signed up for a monthly session of crafting, chats, coffee and biscuits, if I can ever remember to bring them that is! (Have forgotten them on each occasion so far!). Our first meeting was held at the home of Val Fowler. It was lovely to see so many like minded ladies and it has meant that we can afford to meet in the village hall. We all do a variety of different crafts from card making to knitting and quilting etc. If anyone else is interested in coming to our sessions then you will be offered a warm welcome. We meet on the last Monday of the month, in the village hall at 7.30 pm for 2 hours. The cost is £1.50. Because of the Harvest Festival, the next meeting will be on 22 September 2008. I look forward to seeing you there. (**Devina 827548**).

OZ on OLYMPICS 08 - by which I mean 1908. After weeks of spectacular television coverage from Beijing it's interesting to look back at the Fourth Olympiad, held in London after much hasty preparation. In April 1906, work on the 1908 Rome Games ceased when Mount Vesuvius suddenly erupted, devastating Naples and diverting money to its rebuilding. The International Olympic Committee reassigned the games to London with only ten months remaining for the British Olympic Committee to find a site, finance and build a stadium. This was achieved under the muscular leadership of Baron Desborough, an athlete already famous for swimming the Niagara Rapids and climbing the Matterhorn. He persuaded the Daily Mail's Lord Northcliffe to sponsor the games, and the government to pay £60,000 to George Wimpey to build White City Stadium at Shepherds Bush. The stadium specification stated "to seat 68,000, or 130,000 if the seating is removed." The field consisted simply of a running track 1/3 mile in length enclosing the water pool and gymnastics platform. Reassuringly for today's organisers the 1908 event was mired in controversy. The United States' captain refused to dip the flag to the royal family, declaring that "this flag dips to no earthly king". In retaliation British officials moved the marathon finish to be right in front of the king's eyes "to restore the importance of the monarchy." Amazingly this change from the planned marathon length of 25 miles to 26 miles 385 yards was permanently accepted. There were many other disputes over flags, protocol and results, but the Fourth Olympiad was seen in retrospect as a Very Good Thing; the start of the modern Olympic movement that established proper rules and a wider selection of judges. Apart from anything else Great Britain came top with 56 gold, 51 silver and 39 bronze medals. (Steve Osborn)

HIGH LEVEL CLEANING	Regular events in the village (VH=village hall)						
SOLUTIONS	sday	No Art	Workshop during	g August	Radianal sa		
Vindow cleaning specialists no house too small. We Wedr	nesday	Keep Fi	t 9.30 - 10.30am	- Wednesday Club	to 11.30am in VH		
	rsday	Karate	classes from 7.1	15pm to 8.45pm in "	VH - 821336		
reach those hard to get areas. Safely clean your conservatory roof. We fully clean all windows, doors	rsday	Mobile	Mobile Library in car park by village hall 9.25am to 9.50am				
and frames.	day	Whist D	Whist Drive in VH starting at 7.30 pm				
Our prices start from as little as £6 for a 3 bed house.			Other events	in the village			
	onday	1		meeting 7.30pm ir	n village hall		
	esday	9		hall from 7.30pm	in the stand in the		
	onday	15		age hall from 7.30p			
	turday Inday	20	Cricket at hom	ale 11.00am in villa	genali		
www.marshallandclarke.com	onday	22	Craft worksho		and an open		
	Church		Alkham	Capel	Hougham		
Telephone 01304 827770 and at 1 1 Cliffe Road, Kingsdown, Deal - 01304 381622	Tuesday 2 nd		NG EUCHARIST 7pm	CISTICS 60 Marine Care of Care	all and an and a second to		
	Sunday 7 th		NSONG 6.30pm	NO SERVICE	SUNG EUCHARIST & BAPTISM 11am		
	Sunday 14t		NG EUCHARIST 9am	FAMILY SERVICE 11am	FAMILY SONGS OF PRAISE 5pm		
SEAN DIXON	Sunday 21s		MILY SERVICE 11am	EVENSONG 6.pm	SUNG EUCHARIST 9.00am		
	Sunday 28th		h JOINT BENEFICE HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE, ALKHAM 10am				
All wall and floor tiling undertaken no job too small	Veekday	Services:	Wednesday Eucha	rist 9.15 am St Radigun	d, Capel-Le-Ferne		
Tel: 01304 826088 Mobile: 07914639375 L E FREDERIC HALL Solicitors York House, Folkestone 01303 851185 & Clyde House, Dover	Coun 01304 Distri 82395 Police Neighl Police Comm GP of News e mai	ty Counc 206510 ct Counc 56, Andre e – 999 p courhood Support nunity Wa ut of hou letter, Bi I brianwin		alkham.parisho Village Hall bo Val Fowler 827 835 Footpath Ware antbarrier@tisc Alkham Valley Joanna Walker 1994 W.I. secretary 234 829585 969 Vicar – Rev. S 240539 org Church Ward	7635 den ali.co.uk / Society secretary		

01303 850733

LOCAL E	BUSINESSES AND SERVICES	(no prefix local number)
BOARDING KENNELS	Kennels and Cattery, Canine Hydrotherapy and Pet Food Shop	Wolverton 822420
CAT & DOG GROOMING	Canine beauticians, dogs and cats groomed, Newcastle House	Ewell Minnis 822902
CURTAINS & BLINDS	Curtains and blinds made to your specification	Alkham Valley 01303 891806
ELECTRICAL	Simon Price Part P electricians and data installers	South Alkham 01303 252764
EQUESTRIAN	GREENHILL FARM – DIY and assisted livery – excellent facilities	Meggett Lane, South Alkham 01303 892056
EQUESTRIAN SUPPLIES	Alkham Valley Garden Centre - everything for horse and rider	South Alkham 01303 891996
EQUESTRIAN	Experienced BHSAI freelance instructor and livery available	Ewell Minnis 07760224174 or 824004
PLUMBING & HEATING	Harmonic Heating plumbing and heating services	Wolverton 822500 or 07888 713 896
ROOFING	R Cunningham - Flat and pitched roof specialist	Alkham 821042 or 07725 402939
SCHOOL	Capel-le-Ferne school Your local primary school; free bus from Alkham	Capel Street, Capel-le-Ferne 01303 251353

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No. 180 October 2008

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THE MARQUIS has re-opened ALKHAM RECYCLING following a six-month programme and has into transformed а restaurant and exclusive boutique from the middle of November. We hotel. It also welcomes villagers to started Alkham Recycling because use the restaurant and bar for drinks nobody else was doing it but now or coffee. The Marguis now has five that DDC will recycle everything, double en suite bedrooms, a dining we are going to stop with the last room, wine bar and meeting room- collection in November. We have cum-private dining area. Hugh relied on Billy Hollis supplying the Oxborrow and Tony Marsden have van at no cost and although he

he whole building has been stripped on, the three of us think that it back to its original extended, refurbished, and decorated continue. We would like to thank and furnished to contemporary style and elegance, and also all the people who have Head chef is award-winning Charlie recycled with us over the last four Lakin, who is leading a team of years. (Ken, Clive, Brian) professionals drawn from some of the ALKHAM WALKERS - On the best restaurants in Kent. Charlie, who 3rd October a group of friends from trained with a Michelin starred chef the village will be walking along and has already earned numerous The Military Canal in Hythe. The accolades in his career, has created walk is a gentle one lasting an eclectic seasonal menu for The approximately 11/2 hours. We will Marguis with an emphasis on locally meet (weather permitting,) at the caught fish and locally sourced Vicarage Meadow car park, leaving produce. Diners at The Marquis can at 10.30.am. Anyone wishing to expect some truly hearty dishes, from join in will be most welcome. Alkham Valley rabbit pie and crisp Contact Rosemary Heddle for

Tamb. Tony also planted 10,000 vines 90th Anniversary of the end at his Alkham vineyard and hopes to of the First World War be selling his fine English sparkling You may recall that in September's wine at The Marquis by Christmas Newsletter I proposed an evening 2010. The Marquis is offering a two- (on Saturday, course lunch for £11.95 and a two- of recollection and course Table d'hote dinner for for all those who had their lives £19.95. A two-course meal from the sacrificed by mad politicians in the A la Carte dinner menu costs £27.95. First World War. The response to More details and sample menus are date would suggest that there is available on the website. Luxury little interest in this idea. If, accommodation at The Marquis starts however, you have been hiding at £95 for a double room (based on your light under a bushel and two sharing), including full English would like to: attend a village breakfast. The Marquis caters for event; read a poem; read a story; weddings. meetings conferences, as well as parties and artefacts/photos; provide private dining. For details or to book, food please contact me before visit www.themarquis atalkham.co.uk, October 15th. Many thanks. (Mark telephone 01304 873410 or email Robson 01304 820459) info@the marguisatalkham.co.uk.

renovation In 'Dover District Council @ vour been service' it says that they will be fine-dining collecting plastics and cardboard invested £1.5 million in the project, would probably be happy to carry brickwork, would not be fair on him or DDC to provide Billy Hollis for his generous support

g's trotters to slow-roasted Kentish further details on 01304 827880.

November 8th) remembrance and provide some music; provide some some

VENUE CHANGE - The

Harvest Supper on 29th September is now going to be held in the village hall instead of Sladden Farm because of the recent wet weather. **CELEBRITY CRICKET** - On the 28th September there will be/was (depending when you read this) a Celebrity Cricket match on the meadow when a number of famous and talented professional cricketers will try and live up to Alkham CC's high standards. Shaun Udell. (Middlesex Captain & England), Nick Knight (Warwickshire & England), Rob Key (Kent Captain and England) and Matt Walker (Kent) will be playing under the colours of the Marguis and Alkham. The game will start at 1 pm followed by a Dinner at the Marguis from 6.30 pm. Tickets for the meal can be obtained from the Marquis (£25 per head to include a half bottle of house wine) and there will be a charity auction for the Cathedral Day Centre and Matt Walker's Benefit Year, and raffle (for Alkham CC). Please come along to support the Badgers!

OPEN ART STUDIO - As part of the Canterbury Festival Liz Lambourne, who lives in Newlyns Meadow, and other artists will be exhibiting photographs, water colours,

drawings and pastels at Derringstone Hill House, Derringstone Hill. (above Barham Methodist church) on the 11, 12, 18, 19 and 25th of October from 11am to 5pm and everyone is welcome to come along.

BOOK CLUB - Following a hearty discussion about the last book. Salmon Fishing in the Yemen, we will this month review The Book Thief by Markus Zusak. The meeting will be held at The Old Rectory on 1st October at 7.30pm. Please contact Jo Walker for further details on 01304 218110.

W.I. JUMBLE SALE in the village hall on Saturday 18th October at 11.00am

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HONEY SHOW - The Dover and District Beekeepers' Honey Show will take place again on the last Saturday of the month in the Village Hall. This annual event has become popular with Alkham residents and I'd like to extend to you the usual invitation to look in during the afternoon. Bees are having a pretty hard time of it at present. Wild colonies are no more in this country, having been wiped out by a particularly nasty little mite, and, for reasons we don't fully understand, those kept in hives are faring little better. Queens are failing to mate, colonies often seem unable to build up their numbers in the early months of the year ready for the nectar flows later, apparently strong, healthy colonies go into winter furnished with ample stores but are found to have simply disappeared in the spring or have lost so many of their members that they cannot long survive. It is all very puzzling. And our dreadful summer certainly hasn't helped. Little wonder we're being told stocks of British honey will all have been sold by the end of the year. Despair not, however: jars of local honey will be on sale at the show, as well as cosmetics and greetings cards. Those of you who have attended in the past will know what a pleasant occasion it is. The exhibits make an attractive display and visitors always find interesting the small collection of beekeeping equipment and honeys for sampling. Above all the show is a friendly affair. Beekeepers love chatting about their hobby and we generally manage to infect a few of you with c enthusiasm. We can arrange visits to our Coldred apiary for those who feel beekeeping might be for them and any who then decide to take the plunge can rely on all the support they need to get themselves established. So we hope to see you on 25th October. The show is open to the public for a couple of hours from 2.30. Admission is free and refreshments will be available.

(Roy Dyche, Show Secretary)

THE LAW now states that if you have any of your rubbish removed and it ends up being flytipped, you could be held responsible and fined. When dealing with waste removal services or tradesmen where rubbish will be generated e.g. builders, plumber, gardening contractors, always ask for a valid waste carriers licence. Householders should follow these 4 simple steps: 1. Ask for their waste carrier registration number: 2.Check the number with the Environment Agency (<u>http://www2.environmentagency.gov.uk/epr/</u> <u>search.asp</u>) or by calling 08708 506506: 3. Keep a note of all the information you receive from the waste collector/tradesman: 4. If they're not registered don't use them and inform Clean Kent of t' rogue trader immediately by calling 0845 345

MARQUIS – A number of people in the village were given a free invitation to sample the menus at the Marquis and I was one of them and I told Hugh I would write something about the meal. In summary it was an exceptional meal, nothing like I had before. It was superbly cooked, very tasty and I thoroughly enjoyed it. A sample of the menus and prices is on <u>www.themarquisatalkham.co.uk</u>.

ARSE - After 9 months on the road A.R.S.E. is finally coming home as Friday 26th September sees the meetings return to The Marquis. The closure of the pub for renovation/renaissance meant that we were faced with a dilemma. Either we disbanded or we relied on the generosity of members to provide venues. True to form the members rallied and we were able to continue this peculiar form of counselling throughout the year. How we have all benefited! Thanks go to Mick and Janet Wood for the final tour meeting which was held on one of the warmest nights of the year and allowed some of us to sit outside - a rare treat this summer. I look forward to seeing old, and new, members at The Marquis at 8.00pm. on the 26th.(Mark Robson) R. Cunningham Roofing

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FINANCES - The financial year for the Newsletter ended in August. Revenue from adverts and donation receiving yet another charity was £541 and expenditure was £524.50 this being: £421 for printing short flat ballpoint pens that are so at the Rainbow Centre: £24 for petrol collecting and delivering: £79.50 for into one's breast pocket I tracked sending out 28 copies per month. The Building Society account still a healthy balance despite has paying £135 to have the web site reinstated.

BIKE RIDE – The church bike ride went well as we visited 47 churches, did 44 miles and raised over £200. We cycled to Hawkinge. Acrise, Elham, Lyminge and on to Hythe and then through Seabrook, where Ken fell off and on to Cheriton, Folkestone and Dover where a lady near B & Q gave her opinion of me. It was great fun and thanks go to all the people who sponsored us.

GARDEN CLUB - It was decided that we would not meet up in September so the next meeting of the Garden Club will be on Friday 10th October at 7.30 pm. Pam and Maurice will be our hosts for the evening. Look forward to seeing everyone there. I would also like to thank Val and Stan and Richard and Susannah for the last two meetings. (Devina 827548)

ALKHAM WI - Attention was drawn to the national press where an articles appeared showing the type of WI younger members prefer. Perhaps one day younger people will join the Alkham WI and change its needs! However, Mandy Summers, being in that league may well have started those changes by organizing the enjoyable 'Pamper Evening' something which boosted member's health and feelings. Mandy has organized another such event for Tuesday 2nd December. Paul Harris, who is on Radio Kent Saturday mornings with Paul James, gave an amusing talk on experiences received from the landladies with whom he had to stay in the past when moving around the country to perform on stage. Imogen Corrigan will be speaking on 14th October meeting about 'Medieval Table Manners'. The WI Jumble Sale will be on 18th October. (Sue Lees)

envelope containing one of those bendy in use but that fit so neatly down the story of ballpoints, or 'biros' as we call them. It is thought that Galileo first imagined such a pen four centuries ago, but there was at that time neither the demand nor the required precision manufacturing technology. By the end of the 19th century people were becoming mobile, busy and frustrated with fountain pens. The first ballpoint patent was issued to John Loud in 1888, but the device, while suitable for marking objects. was too rough for paperwork. Over the next fifty years, many inventors tried to perfect the ballpoint but failed to achieve a delivery uniform of ink. The problem was eventually solved by László Bíró. Hungarian a newspaper editor who noticed that newspaper ink dried quickly without smudging. In 1938, Bíró and his brother George patented a successful design using similar ink in a pressurized column so that ink delivery was not dependent on gravity as in previous designs. In 1940, the Bíró brothers moved to Argentina and set up their company Biro Pens of Argentina. The RAF purchased a huge number of the revolutionary new pens as they functioned better than fountain pens at great heights. In 1950 the French businessman Marcel Bich bought the patent from Bíró and set up his own company distributing Bic pens. After some initial hostility from schoolteachers, the ballpoint was by 1960 universally accepted, known always as 'biro', a generic word like 'hoover'. László died in Buenos Aires in 1985, and his birthday. September 29th. is celebrated in Argentina as Inventor's Day. Finally, biros are cheap, except of course when they arrive in charity envelopes. (Steve Osborn)

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		Regula	ar events in	the village (VH=vill	lage hall)	
Tues	day	No Art Workshop during August				
Wedne	sday	Keep Fit 9.30 - 10.30am – Wednesday Club to 11.30am in VH Karate classes from 7.15pm to 8.45pm in VH - 821336 Mobile Library in car park by village hall 9.25am to 9.50am				
Thurs	day					
Thurs	day					
Frid	ay	Whist Drive in VH starting at 7.30 pm				
			Other event	s in the village		
Monday Saturday Monday						
		18 PCC jumble sale 11.00am in village hall				
		20 Bird club in village hall from 7.30pm				
Tue	sday	21	Village Hall c	ommittee meeting 7	7.30pm	
Satu	Irday	25	Honey Show	2.30pm - see page	e 2	
Monday Church		27				
			Alkham	Capel	Hougham	
Sun	day 5 th	Eve	ensong 6.30pm	Eucharist 9.00am	Worship together 11am	
Sund	lay 12 th	Eucharist 9.00		Family/Worship together 11am	Songs of Praise 5pm	
Sund	lay 19 th	Family Worship + Baptism 11.00		Evensong 6.00pm	Eucharist 9.00am	
Sund	lay 26 th	h Joint E		t Benefice Hougham 10.	00am	

Weekday Services: Wednesday Eucharist 9.15 am St Radigund, Capel-Le-Ferne

From the Vicarage - The parish walk was enjoyed by all, thank you to Wendy and Andrew Finnis who guided us and provided a delicious tea. Tim and Cathy Finis provided our worship which was joyful and included everyone from 9 to ninety. We shall have to arrange a date for a repeat of both. It was wonderful to be able to walk safely along footpaths and bridleways as we visited St. Mary's, Alkham and Church Hougham. The fields were being harvested and all the farmers were hard at work. This is a very busy time and this year has been very difficult for them because of the weather. Arrangements are in hand for the Harvest Festival services which include everyone with the school and at church. I am asking everyone to donate items that can be used at the Dover Soup Kitchen this includes packets of soup and tins of meat and tuna to make sandwiches. Harvest time is a good time for us to share a little of what we have others. On this note of sharing, Operation Christmas Child is taking place again this year. This initiative offers to children in Europe and further afield a shoe box gift at Christmas time. We are working with Pastor Colin Patience and the Baptist Chapel on this venture and hope that individuals, organisations and the school will be able to participate. On 2nd November, everyone is welcome as we will celebrate All Saints Day and the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed in all three churches. There will be an opportunity to light a candle for those who have died and to give thanks for their lives and all that they meant to us. Do please let me or the churchwardens have the names of those you would like mentioned during this service. (Sue White 01303 240539)

			and a second
С	Gwyn Prosser M.P. 01304 214484	Newsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969	Alkham Valley Society secretary
0	County Councillor, Bryan Cope 206510	e mail brianwimsett@hotmail.com	Joanna Walker 821641
N	District Councillors - Sue Nicholas	Alkham web site www.alkham.org	Footpath Warden antbarrier@tiscali.co.uk
Т	823956, Andrew Richardson 211835	Parish Clerk Angela Miller 824791	W.I. secretary – Janet Barrow 829585
Α	Police – 999 phone & 01303 850055	alkham.parishcouncil@virgin.net	Vicar - Rev. Sue White 01303 240539
C	Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130	Village Hall booking Val Fowler 827635	Church Wardens - Geoff Gaskill 823100
Т	Police Support Officer 07772226209	GP out of hours 0844 800 1234	and Grace Stacey 822756
S	Community Warden 07977981994		USWARD PROJECT CONS

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No. 181 November 2008

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Secome an annual event took place Grandfather and Brother. We will at The Marquis on Sunday 28th miss him greatly, but at least now September. team were joined by Matt Walker (Anna Tesoriero) - for those who who plays for Kent and Robert Key didn't know David, he lived in of Kent and England. The Marquis School Cottages by the Marquis. team were joined by Shaun Udal SHORT LANE - In recent weeks who played for England and is my wife and I have found it currently captain of Middlesex and necessary to park in Short Lane for Nick Knight who played for both a couple of hours. On the two Warwickshire and England. The occasions we have parked, both weather and the pitch were both in our cars have had the windscreen perfect condition and an exciting wipers damaged. This criminal afternoon of cricket ended in a damage is stupid, dangerous and victory for the village ending on 157 expensive. Whoever is doing it, for 7. A dinner held afterwards at please stop. (Local resident) The Marquis raised £1,370 which Chalksole Green Clear Up was shared between the Alkham Join a working party for general centre charity and Matt Walker's White Hill/Chalky Hill) on the 15th benefit fund. Our thanks go to all November from 9.30 am till 12 (ish). supporters, players and helpers Please let me know if you are coming and also to John Huggins for taking so I can bring enough biscuits! We many excellent aerial photographs should be able to clear some of the of the match in progress. If you undergrowth so bring strimmers, would like to view or purchase secateurs and gardening gloves. these photos, please contact Claire (Paul Tapsell 01303 892082) Joblin on 01304 828881 or email PARISH COUNCILLOR - There claire @hartsheadgroup.co.uk

combined bazaar in the village hall Miller on 01304 824791. on the 22nd November starting at ALKHAM WALK - After items plus carol singing.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS Switch On -This will take place at 5.00 p.m. on Vicarage Meadow. More details in next Newsletter. (Mark Robson)

DAVID FOLLETT - It is with ALKHAM VALLEY SOCIETY great sadness that I advise of the passing of David Follett. He and their only daughter Anna, who Balmoral Nursing Home in Hythe. David had a terminal brain tumour, which once diagnosed and biopsied, meant that after a rapid CELEBRITY CRICKET MATCH decline, he only had 9 short weeks

the first of which it is hoped will left. Loving Husband, Father, The Alkham village he is pain free and at peace.

Ilage team, The Cathedral Day clearing of Chalksole Green (top of

is a vacancy for a Parish Councillor CHRISTMAS BAZAAR - The and anyone interested in filling this W.I. and the church are holding a useful role should ring Angela

a 10.30am. There will be all the usual successful walk along the Military Canal last month, another walk has been arranged for Thursday 6th November, leaving from The Saturday December 13th on the Vicarage Meadow at 10.30am. Please contact Rosemary Heddle for more details. Tel: 827880.

The AGM of the Alkham Valley Society will be held on 19th passed away with his wife Tricia November at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall. After the meeting there will be had flown over from Australia to be the customary supper at The Fox, with him, at his side at the Temple Ewell, at £8.95 a head (two courses). Please could those who wish to attend the supper contact the secretary on 01304 821641.

> All is safely gathered in - Ken and Brian take the Harvest down to the village hall in wheelbarrows (photo courtesy Nora Batty).



HARVEST SUPPER - This year the Harvest Supper took a slightly different form. Diane Smith, of Sladden Farm, kindly offered to provide the Supper at the Farm to commemorate their 21st anniversary, which was an offer that was gratefully accepted. However, Diane's original plans to have the event in a barn had to be abandoned but, in spite of that, we all had a wonderful time in the Village Hall with excellent food supplied by Diane. A total sum of £612 was raised from a raffle, auction and the circulation of a bucket" "donations and. after expenses and a donation, at Diane's request, to the Pilgrim's Hospices, the final figure was £499 for Church funds. I am sure that all who were there will want to join me in thanking Diane and her team of helpers for a wonderful evening and a really lovely meal. Thank you very much Diane. (Marion Banks-Nash) Dover Building & Property Maintenance

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ALKHAM CRICKET CLUB - First off can I thank everyone involved in the Marquis Match on the 28th Sept. The game was a perfect end to the season and I think that the four professionals (Rob Key, Matt Walker, Shaun Udal and Nick Knight) all enjoyed playing on our interesting wicket, Alkham won (!) and the meal was a great success. Thank you to everyone who succumbed to James' persistence - the raffle raised £265 for Club funds and the Auction and other games raised over £1000 too. Secondly - We had a well-attended AGM on the 7th October followed by a curry (hence, I suspect, the number of attendees!) and I must record our thanks to Mark Naris for skippering us for two very successful seasons (of which more below); he has now retired from skippering to 'spend more time with his family' (sorry Claire and the kids) and new kid Nick Clarry will be taking over come the spring, with Peter Frater as Vice-Skipper and Mid-Week Captain; we wish the new incumbents joy and fulfillment in their new posts. Thirdly - If anyone wishes to keep up to date with Alkham CC the website at www.alkham.play-cricket.com is well worth a visit, although you may wish to protect young children and those of a nervous disposition from some of the more alarming news items and gossip columns! Finally the results - we played a total of 32 games this year (24 weekend and 8 mid-week) and won 8 (7 and 1 respectively hence the lack of thanks above for the mid-week skipper, (Tom Bir bless his cotton socks)) - and lost less than we won! We toured the Brighton area and, in the words of Brian Hanrahan, 'I counted them out and I counted them all back'. We've gained a couple of useful new players and retained a whole load of completely useless ones; we've discovered a few new sides that we want to play again and lost a couple of old friends in the shape of similarly-minded clubs who have folded and or merged with other sides! We took on Alkham village and lost, and some international players (in the Marguis match) and won. We brought Den back from retirement and have persuaded Peter Frater that he's still good for a few more years. Frankly, I'm not sure that you could ask for more from a true village cricket side, and speaking personally, I can't think of a nicer bunch of incompetents to spend time with at the weekends! If anyone wants to come and support us next year, or to become a non playing member, or wants information about our indoor cricket team and nets sessions for the winter please give me a call, or, as I've mentioned above visit the website. (Paul Tapsell 01303 892082)

A.R.S.E. (Alkham's Relieved Survivors of the Earthquake). - September's meeting was a huge success with more people attending, several new member joining and all enjoying the setting of the newly refurbished Marquis. The conversation, as always, was varied but I was shocked to overhear two female members recounting being on the hills together when they "felt the the earth move" but that "no men were in sight"! It's an indication of the success of the therapy that my thoughts took some time to make the connection between their conversation and the earthquake. Having been reminded of it, however, I will need to continue the sessions and will be at the next one on Friday 31st October at 8.00p.m at the Marquis and look forward to seeing old and new members there too. (Mark Robson)

90TH ANNIVERSARY of the end of the First World War - Saturday November 8th is a chance for the village to mark this historic occasion and remember the dead of all nations from this tragic event from which we seem to have learned so little. An evening of events is planned in the Village Hall to which all are invited. Starting at 7.30 p.m. the evening will be in four parts (1914-1915, 1915-1916 etc) with readings, music and recollections from these years. There is additional information on the men of the village who gave their lives as well as personal artefacts belonging to relatives of current villagers. A collection will be made for the Royal British Legion. Please bring any drink or nibbles that you will want. If you would like to be involved in any way or simply to come along to listen please contact either Den & Irene Barnard (824845) or Mark & Debbie Robson (820459).

and a second second second second		Regular events in the village		
Tuesday	Art W	orkshop from 10.00am to 1.00pm in village hall - ring 07811405124 for details		
Wednesday	Keep	Fit 9.30 - 10.30am – Wednesday Club to 11.30am in the village hall		
Thursday	Karate	e classes from 7.15pm to 8.45pm in VH – ring 821336 for further details		
Thursday	Mobile	e Library in car park by village hall 9.25am to 9.50am		
Friday	Whist	Whist Drive in the village hall starting at 7.30 pm		
		Other events in the village		
Monday	3	Parish Council meeting at 7.30pm in the village hall; everyone welcome		
Saturday	8	First World War 90 year celebration – see page 2		
Tuesday	11	W.I. AGM in the village hall at 7.30pm		
Monday	17	Bird club in the village hall from 7.30pm		
Wednesday	19	19 Alkham Valley Society AGM in the village hall 7.30pm; see page 1		
Saturday	22			
Monday 24 Craft meeting in the village hall 7.30pm; see page 3				
wonauy	25	W.I. birthday party in village hall		
Tuesday	20	Beekeepers in the village hall from 2.00pm to 5.00pm		

	Alkham	Capel	Hougham
Sunday 2nd	Eucharist 4.30pm	Eucharist 9.00am	Eucharist 11a.m.
Remembrance Sunday 9th	Service 10.15am	Service 10.30am	Service 10.15am
Sunday 16th	Family Worship 11.00am	Evensong 6.00pm	Eucharist 9.00am
Sunday 23rd	hanne -	Joint Benefice Capel 10.00an	n
Sunday 30th	Joint Benefice Hougham 10.00am		

CONTACTS

Gwyn Prosser M.P. 01304 214484 County Councillor, Bryan Cope 206510 District Councillors - Sue Nicholas 823956, Andrew Richardson 211835 Police – 999 phone & 01303 850055 Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130 Police Support Officer 07772226209 Community Warden 07977981994	Newsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969 e mail <u>brianwimsett@hotmail.com</u> Alkham web site <u>www.alkham.org</u> Parish Clerk Angela Miller 824791 alkham.parishcouncil@virgin.net Village Hall booking Val Fowler 827635 GP out of hours 0844 800 1234	Alkham Valley Society secretary Joanna Walker 821641 Footpath Warden antbarrier@tiscali.co.uk W.I. secretary – Janet Barrow 829585 Vicar – Rev. Sue White 01303 240539 Church Wardens - Geoff Gaskill 823100 and Grace Stacey 822756
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THE QUEEN – It is a real pleasure REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY to report that Gill Calver, who was the Services will be held on the 9th vicar for our Benefice up to summer November at 10.15 a.m. at Alkham 2002, has been appointed Chaplain to and Hougham and at 10.30 a.m. at the Queen. She joins the Queen's 35 Capel. All are invited to honour those member group and will preach once a who gave their lives in wars and year in St. James' Palace and be conflicts to protect and defend their available to the Queen at any time.

FOOTPATHS - After a wait of three CHURCH months footpath ER172. known as the W.I. footpath, has been celebrate cleared of vegetation and many steps commemoration repaired. This work was much needed departed. as the path had become overgrown opportunity to light a candle for a and a parishioner, using the path, had loved one at this service. The slipped and fallen sustaining bruises names will be read out, please let to shoulder and arm. This may have Sue White (01303 240539) or a galvanised our PROW officer into church warden have the names action as the state of the path had you wish to be remembered. become a health and safety issue. Having achieved this success I was Hougham and 4.30 p.m. Alkham. dismayed to find that someone has GARDEN CLUB - Our thanks go to removed the new timber risers (six at Maurice and Pam for hosting the the last count) from some of the steps October meeting. We all had such at the top end of the path. (Anthony Barrier)

The Alkham Valley Society would heads. The next meeting will be on like to record thanks to Anthony Friday November 14th and Rosie and Barrier, Footpaths Warden for the Alkham Parish Council, for prompting the action taken to put ER172 back into use (better known as the W.I steps). This will make sense of the notice 'Footpath' at last. Thanks also to Edward Denne, KCC.

(Joanna Walker - Secretary AVS) ALKHAM WI – The October

meeting was well attended which was good because Imogen Corrigan's talk about 'Medieval Table Manners' was excellent. Her research showed how today's table manners started way back in premediaeval times, if not earlier. The November AGM will mark this institute's 80th birthday. Barbara Palmer will be telling members about her experiences as a Land Army Girl during WWII and Doreen Lott will relate the stories her mother Doreen Polden told the family about her experiences - both ladies having received Land Army medals in the past year. November 25th will be the 80th Birthday Party celebration with lots to eat and plenty of entertainment. Members are reminded that hats must be worn and if wished entered in the 'hat' competition. (Sue Lees)

homes and families.

SERVICES in locally November - On the 2nd we shall All Saints and the of the dear There will be the Services are 9 a.m. Capel, 11a.m.

fun with their pictorial quiz, which had everyone scratching their Bashir have kindly agreed to be our hosts. Another date for the diary is for this years Christmas party which will be at Helen Scopes' on Friday 5th December at 7.30 pm. Please bring some nibbles or drink for the party table and also an item for the Dutch raffle. (Devina 827548)

CRAFT CLUB - The next meeting of the Craft Group will be in the village hall on Monday 24th October at 7.30 pm. We will be making padded Xmas cards, so if you can, please bring an aperture card with you on the night and any scraps of festive fabric you might have. The following meeting will take place on Monday 27th November at 7.30 pm. We will be making a Christmas decoration, so tiny scraps of fabric will be useful. Anyone wishing to join will be given a warm welcome. We all do different things and the evening is very informal, so don't be put off! (Devina 827548)

BOOK CLUB - Mandy Summers will be hosting the next meeting which is on the 5th November at 7.30pm. The book to be discussed is A History of Modern Britain by Andrew Marr. Contact 823866 for more details.

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CHORAL SOCIETY DOVER presents "A Concert for St Cecilia's Day" at 7.30 pm on Saturday 22nd November in Dover Town Hall. The programme features four modern works, starting with Herbert Howells' beautiful A Hymn for St Cecilia from 1960, followed, in this month of 90th anniversary remembrance, by the choral suite from Karl Jenkins' The Armed Man. After the interval comes The Fifth Continent, a recent work by Paul Patterson depicting Romney Marsh, and the choir joins with Snowdon Colliery Welfare Male Voice Choir to perform Saints in Canterbury, a new work by the society's musical director, Michael Lewis.

Accompaniment is by the Connaught Orchestra (leader George Simpson), and conducted by Michael Lewis. Tickets at £10 (£5 for students) can be Tourist obtained from Dover Information Centre, members of the 01304 calling or by society, 822042/820149; and, if any remain, at the door on the night. For further information please ring Donald Beck on 07808 272047. (Steve Osborn)

month we have had! Sadly the fallout chance remark reminded me of from the financial crisis is likely to affect many individuals and families in the coming months. We have to admit that every one of us has played our part. We have wanted things for ourselves or for the family and have not hesitated to use the credit that has been so easily available. Now we have to pay for those excesses. It will be difficult and many will suffer. Our Harvest Supper was magnificent thanks to Di Smith of Sladden Farm. The food was wonderful and was enjoyed by all and we are very grateful to Di, Cath, Lindsey and Tony Bennett for all their hard work. Nearly £500 was raised for St. Anthony's and £80 for largely in Nottinghamshire and the Hospice. The harvest appeal this becoming headmaster at Bentham year was for the Dover Soup Kitchen and the response was amazing. The children from Capel School came with their parents to St. Radigunds his wife died just before war broke for the Harvest Service and brought their gifts. The teachers and staff had worked hard and the children put all their energies into the pieces they prepared for the service. It was a time of thanksgiving for all we have received. For despite all the doom and gloom there is so much we can celebrate. We have food, homes, healthy, growing children who enjoy a good education and the benefits of the health service. We need to start to think of what we have instead of constantly seeking new possessions. The Shoe box appeal is underway providing a shoe box filled with small gifts for children in Eastern Europe and Africa who will not receive any other gift this Christmas. Local organisations are taking part and I would urge you all to join in. At the school they will be preparing boxes and will need tooth brushes. toothpaste, soap, flannels, small bags of sweets, small cuddly toys and suitable small toys for children of all ages. It could be that the children in your family no longer play with some of their toys but they are still in good condition, Lego, cars, small puzzles, dolls, would all be most welcome. We face difficult times ahead but sharing and supporting each other we will come through a much stronger village community that will encourage others. (Sue White)

FROM THE VICARAGE - What a OZ on HARDY - A friend's the Reverend Theodore Bayley Hardy VC, DSO, MC, a modest hero. Theodore was born in Exeter in 1863 to George and Sarah Hardy. George, а commercial traveller, died when Theodore was three, so Sarah started a school to support herself and family. Theodore attended this school, boarded at City of London School and graduated from London University in 1888. religious, Hardy was Deeply ordained in 1898. and then of careers followed twin schoolteacher and priest, working Grammar School until 1913, when ill health led him to Cumbria as parish priest. The following year out. Hardy wanted to serve at the front, but discovered his first battle to be with the authorities who younger fitter men. wanted 1916 was Eventually in he chaplain to 8th accepted as The Lincolnshire Battalion sent to Vieille Regiment and He soon became Chapelle. popular in the trenches with his "Don't worry boys, it's only me" dispensing cigarettes, sweets and advice, and searching 'No Mans casualties, Land' for once spending 36 hours in a flooded shell-hole with a wounded soldi awaiting rescue. Over the next two years, Hardy became a legend for "repeatedly going into the open under heavy fire to help stretcher-bearers" as his DSO and MC commendations stated. In August 1918, at Frohen-le-Grand, personally King George V awarded Hardy the Victoria Cross and appointed him Chaplain to His Majesty, hoping that this would preserve him from the dangers of the frontline but Hardy refused all offers to leave "the boys". On 10 was October Hardy hit by machine-gun fire while retrieving wounded and died in hospital eight days later, within weeks of the end of the war, ninety years ago. (Steve Osborn)



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CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH- WARREN LANE (this is the road A FRIENDS' SCHEME FOR ST Saturday December 13th

on Vicarage Meadow. The W.I. choir will lead carol singing before the lights are turned on at 5.00p.m. If any child (aged up to 16)

please see me on the Meadow at Hawkinge.

enoose the person who will perform Cowgate Lane to Standen on the the switch on. After this it will be off Alkham Valley Road. to the Marguis for mulled wine and LOW BRIDGE - Network Rail is mince pies, courtesy of Hugh, Tony also concerned about the number friends' scheme is a way in which a and co., and a few more carols. We of HGV's which are missing the low will need to leave the pub at 6.30 to bridge signs on the Alkham Valley allow them to prepare for the Road and damaging the railway evening diners. There is no village bridge at Kearsney. The Parish meal this year as there hasn't been Council have been petitioning for time to organise this. There will be better signage for some time and a raffle to raise money for the the KCC are now drawing up plans electricity so please bring some to remedy the situation. money with you!! Mark Robson

available on the morning of willing to take on all kinds of work December 6th to help collect the including house sitting. Please see hristmas tree and to put it up it his advert on page 4.

nave a lovely tree but it will need to Police Community Support Officer. be man-handled onto the trailer rang and said that a local farmer. and we are not as strong as we who did want to be named, phoned once were! Please phone 820459. her to say that one of his sheep had VISIT TO TRENCHES - Someone been killed by a dog. Would dog phoned me and left a message with owners please make sure that their my daughter about a possible coach dogs are under control when trip to the trenches. There is plenty livestock are in a field and that they of interest for this but unfortunately I know where they are at all times. don't have your number or your PHOTOGRAPHS name! If you'd like to give me a call I The Alkham web site's would be happy to talk about this. (www.alkham.org) (Mark Robson 01304 820459)

MANHOLE COVERS - It was need to be updated. If reported that the manhole covers, you'd like to take on the presumably including hydrants, which task or just provide a paved over have been few, please ring Brian on were reinstated. If you know of any that 824969 have not been done please contact brianwimsett@hotmail.com . the Parish Clerk on 824791.

ON will take place at 4.45 p.m. on from Slip Lane through Chalksole to Lydden) will be closed as necessarv for water main replacement. The work will start on the 5th January 2009 and disruption will be kept to a minimum with a diversion being clearly signed. There is also a main replacement that their parish church building is in a at Fernfield Lane, which is near the would like to turn the lights on waste transfer station outside Diversions will be .45. Names will be placed in a hat initially via the waste tip access nd then one will be drawn out to road and for the second phase via

A LOCAL BUILDER has decided CHRISTMAS TREE - If anyone is to strike out on his own and is

puld be much appreciated. We SHEEP - Gretel Stevens, the

present dav photos or email

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ANTHONY'S - With the increasing costs of repairing and maintaining historic churches many parishes are exploring the idea of setting up a Friends' Scheme. Such a scheme can enable a wider group of people help to share the burden of ensuring reasonable state to hand on to the next generation. Many people in Alkham have a great deal of good will towards St Anthony's church building. and although they may not wish to contribute to the religious aspects of the church, they may be willing to support part of their heritage. A parish church can encourage help of this kind from a wider community. Den Barnard and Rosie Hansraj would like to invite you to an informal evening to share a glass of wine and talk about A Friends' Scheme for St Anthony's on Wednesday February 4th 2009 at 7:30. Liz Marsh who is the Christian Stewardship Adviser for the Dioceses of Canterbury and Rochester will also be on hand to answer any questions. We look forward to seeing you there.

(Den Barnard and Rosie Hansrai) DOVER CHORAL SOCIETY will lead the singing in 'Come Carolling'. the Christians Together in Dover carol concert, in Dover Town Hall at 7.30 pm on Monday 8th December. Accompaniment will be provided by the St Edmund's School Band, and the concert will also feature a production by River Primary School, The charity appeal will be on behalf of RNIB Kent. Tickets at £1.50 (children 50p) are available from Carrol Moore on 01304 820150. (Steve Osborn) PAMPER EVENING- Ladies why

don't you come to the Village Hall on Tuesday 2nd Dec 7pm and have your faces and hands 'pampered'? Wine and titbits are available as well as other purchases.



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DEN AND CYCLING (Part three) - Apart from an activity that involves beautiful women, or watching cricket, there is nothing better in this world than cycling through the Kent countryside in the summer, especially when you've got two cycling buddies like Ken Hammond and Brian Wimsett. My world record distance is now 100Km achieved with Ken and Brian in August and now they rarely have to wait for me at the top of hills. Ken still amazes me with his power and fitness and to watch him ride is like experiencing a graceful ballet dancer in full flow (he will love that comparison). Brian has unbelievable stamina and can keep a constant steady pace for hours and he is our leader, or as I like to call him, the one we can blame if anything goes wrong. Up until a few weeks ago Brian would never take part in the final sprint down the Alkham Valley, leaving me to fight it out with Ken who always knows exactly when to make the final move to the finishing line winning easily. Unfortunately we have persuaded Brian to have a go now and, with effortless grace always wins. This has not affected or annoyed me one little bit and I am not downhearted but, and please don't pass this on, I'm sure he takes drugs. One of the unexpected attractions of cycling is the in-depth discussions and chit-chat that goes on during every ride. We tack! all sorts of subjects including: sport (unbelievably neither Ken nr Brian like cricket), sex, politics, sex, religion (we've concluded that God does exist by 2 votes to 1), and, particularly, village gossip and scandals. Sometimes discussions will continue into the next ride. A couple of weeks ago, after a particular set of interesting discussions. Brian said that having me along had changed him and Ken. I thought for a moment, and was slightly overcome with a warm feeling of pride. My erudite input to debate, my in-depth knowledge of a wide range of subjects, my experience of life in business, my cheeky slant on life had enhanced the lives of my two cycling mates. How wonderful. 'Yes you've made guite a difference to us said Brian 'we both swear a lot more now'. Den Barnard

90TH ANNIVERSARY of the end of the First World War.



An evening of commemoration was held on Saturday 8th November to mark this historic occasion. New information about the men whose names are on the village war memorial has been uncovere (largely due to Anthony Barrier) as we as additional photos which makes them lives so much more real and their loss so much more poignant. This was displayed on the evening along with artefacts, photos and papers of relatives of present day villagers. Den Barnard gave us an

insight into the lives and experiences of many of the war poets before we heard some of the poems of Wilfred Owen, Siegfried Sassoon, Robert Graves and Rupert Brooks read by Den, Irene, Susannah Tapsell and Margaret Batcheldor. Helen Scopes read a short story based on a letter from a soldier who had taken part in the Christmas truce of 1914. People in the audience shared stories and personal accounts which gave human scale to something which is so vast and unimaginable. To give some sort of perspective I read that if the troops (of all sides) who died were to march four abreast and the column began at 9 am. on a Monday the parade would last until 4 p.m. on Saturday. We must never forget and maybe one day we will learn. (Mark Robson) (Pictured is Arthur Daniels born 1895 at South Alkham killed in action 18th October 1916 – for more details please go to www.alkham.org and click on 'Heroes'.) R. Cunningham Roofing

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THE BOOK CLUB meeting will now OZ on G&T take place at the home of Sue Latham It's December on 3rd December, where we will again, discuss The Phantom of Manhattan I'm on my by Frederick Forsyth. Contact Sue on annual two months 824924 for further details.

(Rosemary Heddle)

the Earthquake) 2008 - a reflection. I read with particular enthusiasm, This time last year we thought the therefore, that last month saw the group might be coming to a close as 150th birthday of gin and tonic. Gin The Marquis prepared refurbishment. An Extraordinary General Meetina was held on Christmas Day in the pub it was Medicine at Leyden, in Holland. It decided to try and keep the sessions consisted of pure spirit distilled by going 'on tour' and meeting in the from grain and flavoured with homes of the members. This proved juniper oil, and was named SO successful increased throughout this time and led 'juniper'. Sylvuis developed it as a to the now notorious European leg of cure for kidney disease, but by the Tour which is remembered fondly. albeit hazily in many cases. The successful, particularly with English Foreign Office informs their next that members should get passports back from the French authorities before the end of the year Dutch consort, William of Orange. and the European Travel Ban should be lifted by summer 2009. Arrangements for December are fluid due to members being away at different times but there is still an opportunity to join us at The Marguis on Friday November 28th. The first formal meeting of 2009 will be Friday 30th January. Happy Christmas. (Mark Robson)

Alkham WI AGM - Voting for next year's committee took place, thanks being given to Christine Tapsell who was standing down after many vears work as Treasurer. Recollections of two members who were Land Army Girls in WWII were told during the evening - Karen daughter of Doreen Polden (recently deceased) related her mother's stories and Barbara Palmer told many amusing tales about her experiences, both women being very young and

inexperienced at the time. This month 80th marks the Anniversary for Alkham WI. (Sue Lees)

and of alcohol



abstinence in preparation for Christmas excess A.R.S.E. (Alkham's Relieved Survivors of while hoping for some weight loss. for was invented in 1650 by Dr Sylvuis, known also as Franz de la Boé, who was Professor of that membership Genever from the French word for 1655 it had become commercially me troops serving nearby. Over the few years, under the encouragement of Queen Mary's gin flooded into England. Local distilleries also started to produce the popular new drink, which became "Dutch known as courage", and the urban poor took up gin-drinking on a massive scale. By 1750 Londoners alone were drinking 11 million gallons of gin a year, so the government passed draconian legislation that soon succeeded in reducing the number of premature deaths from "gin madness". The last part of the G&T story took place in nineteenth century India, where officers of the Army of the British East India Company needed quinine, a very bitter chemical derived from the bark of the cinchona tree, to combat malaria, and would take it with gin. In 1858 one Erasmus Bond dissolved quinine in carbonated water to make tonic water. and SO the second ingredient of G&T was born. Nearly a century later Winston Churchill declared that "Gin and tonic has saved more Englishmen's lives, and minds, than all the doctors in the Empire." Just so, although my favourite life-savers are W&W and B&S. (Steve Osborn)

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The Newsletter was printed at the Rainbow Centre in Folkestone 01303 850733

С	Gwyn Prosser M.P. 01304 214484
0	County Councillor, Bryan Cope 206510
N	District Councillors - Sue Nicholas
т	823956, Andrew Richardson 211835
A	Police – 999 phone & 01303 850055
С	Neighbourhood Watch 218151/218130
т	Police Support Officer 07772226209
S	Community Warden 07977981994

	Regul	ar events in	the village (VH=villa	age hall)
Tuesday	Art Workshop in village hall from 10am – 1pm			
Wednesday	Keep Fit 9.30 - 10.30am - Wednesday Club to 11.30am in VH			
Thursday	Karate classes from 7.15pm to 8.45pm in VH - 821336			
Thursday	Mobile Library in car park by village hall 9.25am to 9.50am			
Friday	Whist Drive in VH starting at 7.30 pm			
	10	Other event	s in the village	
Monday	1	Parish Council meet.		
Tuesday 2 Mandy Summers' Pamper Evening 7pm		ig 7pm		
Tuesday	Tuesday 9 W.I. meeting in the village hall at 7.30pm		7.30pm	
Monday	15	Bird Club in village hall from 7.30pm		
Church	10	Capel	Hougham	Alkham
Sunday 7 th	Eu	icharist 9.00am	11am Morning Prayer	4.30pm Evensong
Sunday 14th	11a	m Morning Prayer	5pm Songs of Praise	9am Eucharist
Sunday 21st	11an	n nine lessons and Carols	Eucharist 9.00 a.m.	6.30m nine lessons and Carols
Wednesday 24	4 th Crib Service 4.30pm at /		Alkham & Joint Benefice	Eucharist 11pm Cape
Christmas Da	y Servi	ce Baptist Chapel 10.30 a.m.	Eucharist 9.30	Eucharist 9.30
Sunday 28th		Joint Be	enefice Eucharist at Cape	el 10.00
Weekday	Services	: Wednesday Euch	arist 9.15 am St Radigun	d Capel-Le-Ferne

FROM THE VICARAGE - Well the wind has blown through Capel and the greenhouse has stood up to it all!! Thank you Brian and Ken. The Shoebox appeal has been very well supported and we are very grateful to Pastor Colin Patience and his congregation who have led the appeal. It's good to know that we have provided gifts for children who will have very little this Christmas. Preparations are underway everywhere for our own celebrations this Christmas. The choir is practicing for the Nine Lessons



and carol service on 21st December. At Capel school the children are preparing for their Christmas Services. We shall have services at St. Radigund's on Thursday and Friday the 11th & 12th December, half the school on each

day. All parents and grandparents will be very welcome. We shall have the Crib service at 4.30 on 24th December and I will be asking all the child to help during this service. We shall be singing 'Away in a Manger', 'L' Donkey' and 'The Virgin Mary had a baby boy' so will mums and dads and grandparents please start practicing! There is so much going on and so much work for parents and grandparents, in fact all adults at this time of year that we can feel that we have no time to enjoy any of it. All the arrangements that have to be made, the cards to write, the presents to buy then getting them wrapped and hidden away from excited little eyes and fingers....it's exhausting!! But this is a time to celebrate the birth of a very special baby and to see him in the faces of our own children and grand-children, excited, eager, full of wonder and so very precious. May you all have time to know again the joy and the wonder of Christmas and may we all know a peaceful New Year. (Sue White 01303 240539)

Newsletter, Brian Wimsett 824969 e mail <u>brianwimsett@hotmail.com</u> Alkham web site <u>www.alkham.org</u> Parish Clerk Angela Miller 824791 alkham.parishcouncil@virgin.net Village Hall booking Val Fowler 827635 GP out of hours 0844 800 1234 Alkham Valley Society secretary Joanna Walker 821641 Footpath Warden antbarrier@tiscali.co.uk W.I. secretary – Janet Barrow 829585 Vicar – Rev. Sue White 01303 240539 Church Wardens - Geoff Gaskill 823100 and Grace Stacey 822756