

No 5  
April 2010

# The Alnmouth Village Newsletter

## Alnmouth Parish Councillors

Ian Aitchison  
(830107)

Peter Annett  
(830086)

Bill Bourne  
Chair  
(830530)

Hilary Burns  
(830050)

David Denton  
(830219)

Judi Hill  
(830999)

John Hobbis  
(830208)

Donald Hume  
(830096)

Pat Murphy  
(830858)

George Ternent  
(830444)

Parish Clerk  
Roger Clark  
(830074)

This newsletter is published by Alnmouth Parish Council and edited by Terry Collinson. Comments and contributions are welcomed and can be emailed to [alnmouthnews@fsmail.net](mailto:alnmouthnews@fsmail.net) Or left at Alnmouth Post Office.

## Dog Fouling

Guaranteed to raise blood pressure in the village is the perennial problem of antisocial owners who will not clear up after their dogs. There is particular concern about the footpath from the Ex-Servicemen's Club through to Alnwood and the new cycle track between the Duchess Bridge and the Hipsburn School, but the problem is widespread throughout the village and the beach. The NCC Dog Warden (**Andrea Cowans, 07754 848 074**) will prosecute offenders, but needs witnesses to do so. Not everyone is prepared to confront offenders directly, and getting witnesses to come forward officially can be difficult. Another action, short of actual prosecution,



*I can't read. What does it say?*

is for the Dog Warden, or even the Parish Council, to write to offenders, pointing out that they are breaking the law. We need to upgrade the signs and have dog-waste bin in the

right places, but making people realise that they will be noticed if they don't clear up after their dogs would be a great help. *Dog faeces pose a serious health risk.*



## A New Life for the Methodist Chapel?

The Methodist Chapel on Shepherd's Hill has been under utilised for some time, but now a local charitable company called Picture Circle proposes a partnership with the Methodists to develop an "Arts and Wellbeing" centre of excellence which would give a new role to the building and be an important artistic development for the region. It would also provide for its continued use as a place of worship.

More information is available from the Alnmouth Post Office, the Alnmouth Country Store, or from Ruari Hardman or Emma Dunn (833 244).

There will be a public meeting in the Chapel on Wed, 7 April at 7pm where you can find out what is being proposed. Picture Circle will need the support of all those who want to see the building remain in use for the community, in a way which respects its history and its place in the life of the village.

## Get Alnmouth Growing Campaign

Current tenants, would-be tenants and other interested members of the community met on Wed, 17 March to discuss the future of Alnmouth Allotments. A Steering Committee was established to set up the new Alnmouth Allotment Association and work on an action plan for restoration and maintenance. The aim is to have allotments the village can be proud of and involve more people.

The Castle claim all the sites are let, even if not all are cultivated, and the Steering Committee is trying to establish a definitive list of tenants. It then intends, with help from volunteers, to clear the wilderness and fix the fences. If you want to be involved please contact Bill Bourne (830 530) or Sarah Murphy (830 858). Membership of the Association is free to everyone, either those directly involved, or those just keen to restore a valuable village asset.

## Potholes and Pavements

The worst potholes (see Issue No 3) have been repaired after the Parish Council sent NCC a detailed list including photographs.

NCC intend to start re-laying the village paving this April. They aim to complete the work by the Summer holidays. To minimise disruption the Parish Council have advised NCC of key dates when village activities are taking place

## Alnmouth Organisations and Activities

### Alnmouth Parish Council

Meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month in HH.

### St John the Baptist Church

Services 9.15am, first three Sundays of the month.  
(Peter Annett 830086)

### Alnmouth Women's Institute

Meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month in HH  
(Jean Cullen 830501)  
[www.alnmouthwi.co.uk](http://www.alnmouthwi.co.uk)

### Alnmouth Autumn Club

Meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month in HH.  
(Alistair Sinton 830784 or Audrey McKane 830809)

### Alnmouth Camera Group

Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7pm in the Hope & Anchor.  
(Barbara Aitchison 830107)  
See exhibition in H&A.

### Alnmouth Local History Group

(Fred Bettess 830638)

### Brownies

Meets Tuesdays in HH.  
(Sue Jackson 830142)

### Yoga and Yoga Bugs

(Claire Lang 581434)

### Chapel Art Group

Meets weekly in the Old Methodist Chapel on Thursday mornings.

**To hire the Hindmarsh Hall contact Jean Cullen (830501)**

## In March, Alnmouth Went Down Under.....



and 80 people enjoyed an evening of Australian Wine and fun, raising £485.38 to be divided equally between the Villages Performing Arts and the Aln Valley Railway Society.

## And the WI had their 92<sup>nd</sup> Birthday Dinner.....

with 50 members of the WI enjoying an excellent meal at Nether Grange.



## Family Fun Day Alnmouth Village Golf Club Sunday, 4 April

The event runs from 11 am until 3pm and is designed to be a fun day for all the family.

Activities include; Egg and Spoon Race, Chocolate Bingo, Grand Prize Draw, an Easter Egg competition and lots more.

**Don't miss it!**

## Alnmouth Arts Festival

To date more artists have booked to come to the Festival than attended last year's successful event, and more venues have been offered. To keep up to date with what's going on visit:

[www.alnmouthartsfestival.com](http://www.alnmouthartsfestival.com)

## The 2010 Annual Parish Meeting

Will be held on Monday, 10 May at 7pm in the Hindmarsh Hall and is your opportunity to raise any issues of concern directly with the Parish Council. Items which have been raised so far include:

*Traffic calming measures in the village and car parking.  
Upgrading the dog-fouling notices (see article on front).  
Alnmouth in Bloom? Extending the village's floral displays.*

If you can let us know of anything else you want to discuss we can put it on the agenda, or you can raise it at the meeting. Remember, it is your village, your Parish Council and it's your money being spent, so come to the meeting and have your say.

## Car Park Attendants

The Burgage Holders of Alnmouth wish to recruit one or two Car Park Attendants to collect parking fees for the Alnmouth Common Beach Car Park.

The car park operates from early April until October, seven days a week. A competitive rate of up to £8.00 per hour will be paid.

If you are interested and can work one, two or three days a week, for around 5 1/2 hours each day, please call in at the Alnmouth Country Store for an application form.

**The Newsletter is now available online at:**  
[www.alnmouth.org.uk](http://www.alnmouth.org.uk)

**or if you want to receive it by email, please contact the Editor**

## Don't Miss!

Note HH = Hindmarsh Hall

### Alnmouth Local History Group

Thurs, 1 April at 2pm in HH.

### Easter Workshop for Children

Sat, 3 April from 2.30 'til 3.30pm in St John the Baptist Church  
*Come and help make an Easter Garden.*

### Family Fun Day

Sun, 4 April, from 11am 'til 3pm at Alnmouth Village Golf Club (see panel this page)

### Barn Dances

Tuesdays, 6 and 20 April at 7.30pm in HH.  
Entry £2 to include refreshments.

### A New Life for the Chapel?

Public Meeting, Wed, 7 April at 7pm in Shepherd's Hill Chapel. (see front page)

### Christmas Lights Quiz

Fri, 9 April at 7pm in HH.

### Alnmouth WI

Mon. 12 April at 7pm in HH.  
Annual Meeting followed by Pie & Pea Supper

### Alnmouth Autumn Club

Tues, 13 April at 2.30pm in HH.  
Maureen Brook, author of "Herring Girls and Hiring Fairs".

### Alnmouth Camera Group

Tues, 13 April at 7pm in the Hope & Anchor. Topic: "Spring"

### Aln Valley Railway Society

Roger Darsley, "The Newcastle and Carlisle Railway".  
Thurs, 15 April at 7.30pm in the Waiting Room, Alnwick Station. (Roger Jermy 606168)

## Looking Ahead...

### Annual Parish Meeting

Mon, 10 May at 7pm in HH.

### Alnmouth Arts Festival

Sat, 26 and Sun, 27 June

### Alnmouth Raft Race

Sat, 21 August

### Promote Your Event

email

[alnmouthnews@fsmail.net](mailto:alnmouthnews@fsmail.net)

Or leave a message at Alnmouth Post Office, marked "Newsletter"