

No 52  
March 2014

# The Alnmouth Village Newsletter

[www.alnmouth.info](http://www.alnmouth.info)

## Alnmouth Parish Councillors

Donald Blythe  
(830416)

Bill Bourne  
Chair  
(830530)

Jill Brown  
(830140)

David Denton  
(830219)

John Hobbis  
(830208)

Nick Mattlock  
Vice-Chair  
(833709)

Mac McHugh  
(830584)

Pat Murphy  
(830858)

Nick Naylor  
(830733)

George Ternent  
(830444)

Parish Clerk  
Hazel Eccleston  
(830042)

The Newsletter is published by the Alnmouth Parish Council and edited by Terry Collinson.

## Boys' Club Vandalised

Tom Batey, whose company Shortridge Developments is taking over the Boys' Club site and lives in High Buston, offered to make the building available for this year's Arts Festival for one last time before its redevelopment. Sometime in early February vandals broke into the Club, causing considerable damage to the toilets, ripping out water pipes and electric cables.

This act of wanton vandalism could have been a major blow to the Arts Festival this year because artists had already been promised space in the building, but Tom has very generously said that he will honour his commitment to the Festival and will tidy the place up as much as possible for the Festival in June.

Thanks to him, the artists who have been allocated space there can still be accommodated. It will be necessary to install portable toilets to replace those damaged beyond repair, but the Boys' Club will make its final contribution to Alnmouth before vanishing forever.



## Bus Shelter Mystery Unsolved



From this .....

Although there were accounts from residents who heard a crash, and clear traces of blue paint on the shelter's gutter, no culprit has been found for the destruction of the Shepherds Hill Bus Shelter, despite the best efforts of the Police and the Parish Council. Your PC has had to pay about £550 to NCC for clearing the debris and will now have to decide how to fund a new shelter.



... to this. Cost: £550

## Alnmouth goes Hi-Tech

In late January, Alnmouth homes gained access to Superfast Broadband (SFBB), with download speeds in excess of 40Mbps - becoming one of the first villages in Northumberland to do so.

To gain access you will need to contact your internet provider, (if they haven't contacted you already!).



**Potholes and Street Lights** which are not working are among the most frequent complaints made by residents to the Parish Council, which does its best to get NCC to take action over them. Support for your PC's efforts could be given if you reported these issues directly to NCC as well, and the PC recommends that this should be done. NCC's website ([Northumberland.gov.uk](http://Northumberland.gov.uk)) allows you to do this on line, or you can phone 01665 660 733. Your PC maintains a record of potholes in our roads, together with progress made in fixing them, and will be monitoring the recent claim by NCC leaders that all potholes will be fixed very soon.

## Organisations and Activities

### Alnmouth Parish Council

Meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday

### St John the Baptist Church

Services 9.15am. (Fourth Sunday at 10am.)  
(Isabel Chalmers 830362)

### Alnmouth Women's Institute

Meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday  
(Haley Hackett 833711)

**Alnmouth Autumn Club**  
Meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday  
(Alistair Sinton 830784)

### Alnmouth Camera Group

Meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday  
(Terry Collinson 830228)

### Alnmouth Local History Group

(Adrian Osler 830112)

### Alnmouth Village Golf Club

Full and Social  
Membership available.  
(Clubhouse 830370)

### Brownies

Meets Tuesdays in HH.  
(Sue Jackson 830142)

**Yoga and Yoga Bugs**  
(Claire Lang 581434)

### Chapel Art Group

Every Thurs morning in  
the Old Methodist Chapel

### Alnmouth Youth Club

Meets **Tuesdays** from  
5 - 6.30pm in the Old  
Methodist Chapel.  
Ages 8 - 12.  
**Note change of Day!**

### River Aln Boat Club

(George Ternent 830444)

**Alnmouth Football Club**  
[www.alnmouthfc.com](http://www.alnmouthfc.com)

### Exercise, Movement & Dance for 50+

Wednesdays 9.30-  
10.30am in HH.  
(Emma Dunn 833780)

To hire the Hindmarsh  
Hall contact Jean  
Cullen (830501)

## Hipsburn School Got Your Help



In our February issue we publicised Hipsburn School's "Local Memories Project" and their appeal for people in the area to tell the children about their early lives in Alnmouth, Hipsburn and Lesbury.

Despite the terrible weather on the day, a large number of you turned out to answer questions about where you played, your favourite games, where you went shopping and much more. Our picture shows George Ternent with two of his charming "interrogators" whilst enjoying a cup of tea and a biscuit.

## Alnmouth Goes Travelling



As the Newsletter goes to press, the only performance of "Alnmouth Goes Travelling" to have taken place was that on the Preview Night. Those of you who are either about to go the other performances or have already seen one of them - depending upon when you are reading this article - will have either thoroughly enjoyed it or are about to do so. Another hit!

**Top attractions** will be offering free entry and discounts to people living in the county during the annual **Residents Festival** on 29 and 30 March. These include: Alnwick Garden, Bamburgh Castle, Craggside, Warkworth Castle and Woodhorn Museum. To find out more go to: [www.northumberland.gov.uk](http://www.northumberland.gov.uk)

## Dog Walkers' Dinner

The recent Dog Walkers' Dinner in the Sun Inn raised £336 for Alexa's Dog Rescue. Many thanks to everyone concerned.

## Lovers Walk

Although there has been no news about when the wall along Lovers Walk will be repaired, the Newsletter has been contacted by an ex-pat now living in the Midlands. He is asking whether there will be a public appeal to raise money as he is prepared to make a donation.

*We have said we will pass his offer on to Northumberland Estates!*

## What's On

(In HH unless stated)

### Alnmouth WI

Mon, 3 March, "Because I am a Girl" with Martyn Tuckwell.

### Barn Dances

Tuesdays, 4 and 18  
March Feb at 7.30pm.

### Autumn Club

Tues, 11 March at  
2.30pm. "Salter's Nick,  
Mesolithic Sites" with  
John Davies.

### Alnmouth Camera Group

Tues, 11 March at 7pm  
in the AVGC. "Bridges"

### Aln Valley Railway

Thurs, 20 March at  
7.15pm at Barter Books.  
"Railways to Richmond -  
the military connection"  
with Lt. Col John Young.

### Western Front Assoc.

Mon, 24 March at 7.15  
for 7.30pm in Alnmouth  
Ex-Servicemen's Club.  
"Haig: A Reappraisal"  
with Prof John Derry.

### Local History Group Meeting

Fri, 28 March  
at 2pm.

## Looking Ahead

### War Memorial Rededication

Sunday, 6 April at 2pm.

### Alnmouth Arts Festival

Sat and Sun, 21 and 22  
June.

### Annual Raft Race

Saturday, 23 August.

## Promote Your Event Here!

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

The closing date for  
items to be considered  
for the April issue is  
Friday, 28 March.