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The Alnmouth Village Newsletter

www.alnmouth.info

Alnmouth Parish Councillors

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This newsletter is
published by
Alnmouth Parish
Council and edited by
Terry Collinson.

Comments,
suggestions,
questions?

Then please email:
alnmouthnews@fsmail.net

Re-developing the Boys' Club Site

The Boys' Club was built and endowed in 1938 by Anne Scholefield in memory of her husband Arthur, who lived in what is now the Friary. Control of the Scholefield Trust and the building itself eventually passed to the Northumberland Association of Clubs for Young People who, in 2006, decided that the building was surplus to their requirements. They sold it to Northumberland Estates but it continues to be used in the short term



by the Youth Training Trust, which provides residential courses for disadvantaged young people.

In 2010 Northumberland Estates submitted a planning application to demolish the building and replace it with a complex of 10 holiday apartments. Alnmouth PC objected on the grounds that Alnmouth needed more affordable and appropriate residential accommodation and this site was a unique opportunity to provide it. In the end the application was withdrawn, not least because NCC's Conservation Officer was unhappy with some design details of the development. Reading through the correspondence between NCC planners and the Castle it is clear that the PC's objections were not given much attention.

The Castle has now resubmitted their plans, modified to meet the requirements of the Conservation Officer, but still resulting in 10 holiday apartments. Your PC has objected again, but it is clear that because the village does not have an approved village plan which addresses the problems of keeping a balance between holiday accommodation and the needs of the residential population, the planners don't have to take much notice. So they won't.

Your PC is now asking NCC planners to come and discuss with us these problems, crucial to the survival of a vibrant and sustainable residential community in this village. If you want to get involved there will be a village **Public Meeting on Tuesday, 29 November at 7pm in the Hindmarsh Hall**. Representatives from NCC and the Castle will be invited. We all appreciate and value the benefits of the holiday industry to our village and the PC is certainly not opposed to holiday developments, but if we want to stop Alnmouth going the same way as Beadnell we must act now. Please come to the meeting and have your say.

Arthur Scholefield's Portrait

When the Boys' Club was sold to Northumberland Estates its contents were sold to the Youth Training Trust, the present users of the building. This included the portrait of Arthur Scholefield, which your Parish Council feels should remain in the village. It therefore decided to buy this portrait, which is valued at about £200, when it goes to auction in a few weeks time and has also arranged to recover the plaque commemorating the opening of the Club when the building is demolished. These will be the only surviving reminders of what was a most generous gift to this community.

Temporary Road Closure

21-25 November, from 9.30am until 3pm

We have been advised by the NCC that the B1338 road from Hipsburn to Alnmouth will be closed to vehicular traffic for re-surfacing on the above dates and times.

The alternative route is via Lesbury and Foxtan and vice versa.

Organisations and Activities

Alnmouth Parish Council

Meets on the 2nd Monday in HH.

St John the Baptist Church

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

Alnmouth Women's Institute

Meets on the 1st Monday (Pam Muggleton 830315)
www.alnmouthwi.co.uk

Alnmouth Autumn Club

Meets on the 2nd Tuesday (Alistair Sinton 830784 or Audrey McKane 830809)

Alnmouth Camera Group

Meets on the 2nd Tuesday (Terry Collinson 830228)

Alnmouth Local History Group

(Fred Bettess 830638)

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 Fridays from 5 - 7pm in the Old Methodist Chapel. Ages 8 - 12.

River Aln Boat Club

(George Ternent 830444)

Alnmouth Football Club

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)

YOU DID IT!

Macmillan Coffee Morning

In the September Newsletter, we asked if you could raise more than the £1402 that was achieved in 2010. You did; the fantastic sum of £1520 was collected with 193 people passing through the doors (2010:184). Many thanks indeed to everybody involved.

Fred Bettess writes Autobiography

The recent History Group Coffee Morning saw the launch of Fred Bettess's autobiography, "Recollections". Fred said it was really only meant for his family, but was urged to make it more widely available. "But I gave it much thought before I decided to do so," he says.



It's a remarkable achievement, Fred.

Other items on display included the oldest known image of Alnmouth (painted in 1833) and details of what visitors wrote in the postcards they sent home 100 years ago.

Alnmouth Arts Festival

The competition, run in conjunction with the Northumberland Gazette, to find the poster image for the 2012 Arts Festival has been a great success. The winning entry will be named in the Gazette on 10 November.

Applications are now being invited from artists, photographers and craftspeople who wish to exhibit at next year's Festival. Full details and an application form can be found on the website:

www.alnmouthartsfestival.com

Note the closing date is 30 November.

Congratulations, Barbara, Sarah & Susan

"Degas Dress", which was one of the exhibits by Barbara Aitchison, Sarah Moor and Susan Waters at the 2011 Arts Festival, has been selected for display at the prestigious 5th Open Exhibition at the Gymnasium Gallery in Berwick-upon-Tweed. Some of Susan's previously unseen work will also be on show. The exhibition runs until 17 December.

Service of Remembrance

St John the Baptist Church, Alnmouth

Sunday, 13 November 2011 at 9.15am

This annual service will be led by Canon Christine Sindall who will also take the service at the War Memorial at 11am. Following the church service, coffee and biscuits will be served in the rear of the church before members of the congregation move to the War Memorial. Anyone planning to attend only the 11am service will be welcome to join us for coffee at 10.15.

Grand Prize Quiz Night (In aid of St John's Church)

Fri, 18 Nov at 7.30pm in HH
Teams up to 10, entry £6 pp to include supper – please bring your own drink
Register your team before 15 Nov with Helen (830236)

The White Gardenias (In aid of St John's Church)

Sat, 26 Nov at 7.30pm in HH.
Tickets, £7.50 on sale from Alnmouth Post Office.
Bring your own refreshments.

What's On

(In HH unless otherwise stated)

Alnmouth Village Golf Club

Saturdays, 5 Nov, Bingo Night
19 Nov, Quiz Night
26 Nov, President's Night.

Alnmouth WI

Mon, 7 Nov, Members' Night.

Barn Dances

Tuesdays, 1, 15 & 29 Nov at 7.30pm.

Autumn Club

Tues, 8 Nov at 2pm.
AGM followed by "Reivers" with Andy Griffin.
(Note earlier start time)

Alnmouth Camera Group

Tues, 8 Nov at 7pm in the Hope & Anchor. "People"

Murder Mystery at the Hindmarsh Hall

Fri, 11 Nov at 7pm for 7.30pm – optional school related dress, bring own drink and pooled buffet.

Christmas Promotion Night

Aln Gift Shop & Red Lion
Thurs, 17 Nov from 5pm.

Aln Valley Railway Soc

Thurs, 17 Nov at 7pm for 7.30pm in Alnwick Station. "Sierra Leone and York Railway Museums" with Steve Davies.

Christmas Lights Switch-On

Sat, 26 Nov at 4.30pm.

Western Front Association

Mon, 28 Nov at 7.30 for 8pm in Alnmouth Ex-Servicemen's Club. "I spy" with David Easton.

Public Meeting

Tues, 29 Nov at 7pm
See main article, front page

Local History Group Meeting

Thurs, 1 Dec at 2pm.

St John's Church Christmas Coffee Morning

Sat, 3 Dec, 10am to noon.