

No 39  
February 2013

# The Alnmouth Village Newsletter

www.alnmouth.info

## Alnmouth Parish Councillors

Ian Aitchison  
(830107)

Peter Annett  
(830086)

Bill Bourne  
Chair  
(830530)

David Denton  
(830219)

John Hobbis  
Vice-Chair  
(830208)

Donald Hume  
(830096)

Pat Murphy  
(830858)

Nick Naylor  
(830733)

Jack Ross  
(830557)

George Ternent  
(830444)

Parish Clerk  
Hazel Eccleston  
(830042)

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

## Arts Festival Supports Local Schools

In keeping with one of the aims of the Arts Festival to promote interest in arts and crafts in the local community, the Committee has presented cheques for £250 to the three local first schools at Hipsburn, Shilbottle and Warkworth. Last year children from the schools produced artwork for the Trail Guide booths and members of the Committee are working with the schools to increase their involvement in this year's festival.

Our picture shows Bill Bourne presenting Hipsburn Headteacher, Dot Charlton, with the school's cheque.



## What did the Parish Council ever do for me? - (2)

*(The second in a series of articles about the role of the Parish Council and its Councillors aimed at encouraging more people to come forward to serve on the Council. In this article we look at some of the Council's other activities.)*

Last month's account was not all that the Parish Council is involved with. Over the last year it has been working with Northumberland Estates to get the best deal possible for the village from their proposed development of the Boys' Club and allotment sites. It reviews all planning applications, although it has no special status in planning issues and decisions as to whether to object or not are based solely on what the Council believes to be in the best interests of the village. Similarly, NCC asks its opinion on applications for street trading licences, and the PC does its very best to ensure that it fairly represents the views of the residents when responding. Your PC is always nagging NCC to remind them about our traffic and parking problems, to fix the streetlights, fill in potholes and repair footpaths. The PC also organises an annual sweep-up in Northumberland Street in the Spring.

There is always something to do and being a Parish Councillor involves much more than going to a meeting once each month. Apart from representing the residents, a Councillor can take on individual responsibility for a particular activity, which could be managing the marquee, liaising with NCC planners or fixing the War Memorial. Some of the work needs physical effort, as those who help clear out the boathouse or do the street Spring-clean will tell you. Unlike NCC, Alnmouth Councillors are not paid and don't even get their expenses - the only paid person is the Clerk, and she works many more hours than the ones she is paid for. If you would like to get involved, there are local elections at both County and Parish level on 3 May and nominations are due by noon on 5 April.

*Next month's Newsletter will give you all the details about the election process.*

## A Thank-You from the Christmas Lights Committee

"The Alnmouth Christmas Lights Committee would like to thank everyone who contributed to the success of this year's Christmas Lights. The Christmas Lights Committee and the villagers of Alnmouth worked hard to raise money for the displays through collecting tins, a fundraising coffee morning and by providing the power to illuminate the lights.

Our thanks also go to The Alnmouth Lions Santa Sleigh for visiting Alnmouth during the switch-on, to Charlotte and Grace Holden for switching on the lights, and Val McDermid for officiating again for us.

We look forward to seeing you all at the 2013 switch on ceremony."

## Organisations and Activities

### Alnmouth Parish Council

Meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> Monday (Haley Hackett 833711)  
[www.alnmouthwi.co.uk](http://www.alnmouthwi.co.uk)

### Alnmouth Autumn Club

Meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday (Alistair Sinton 830784 or Audrey McKane 830809)

### Alnmouth Camera Group

Meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](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)

## Senior Citizens' Lunch



More than 70 Senior Citizens enjoyed Christmas Lunch with wine thanks to the hard work and contribution made by so many individuals, businesses and organisations. They are too numerous to list them all here but special mention must go to Bren and Mel from the Sun Inn who prepared the meal, the Parish Councillors who served it, the Burgage Holders for their generous donation of £250, the Aln Men and the Hindmarsh Hall.

An even more special mention must be made of the seven ladies, pictured, who spent much time raising funds so the lunch and wine could be provided free.

## "Great Chieftain o' the Pudding-Race"



A packed Hindmarsh Hall commemorated Burns' Night with the traditional "haggis wi' bashit neeps an' champit tatties". The haggis, carried aloft by John Hall, was piped in by Andy Spencer, after which Gordon Inkster gave his spirited recitation of the "Address to the Haggis".

Val McDermid's witty, entertaining and erudite account of Burns' success as a poet and lover was greatly enjoyed, as was the country dancing under Gordon's instructions – not always faithfully followed! Music was provided by the band "Just Friends". Many thanks to all involved.

## Alnmouth and Lesbury Cricket Club

### Annual Jumble Sale by Auction

Wed, 20 Feb - doors open 12 noon, auction at 1pm

Items for the sale can be collected - contact Andrew Hodgson (830927) or Richard Lillico (830471), or take to HH on Tues, 19 Feb between 7 and 8.30pm.

## "Almost Anything Goes"

Tickets available in HH on Sat, 2 Feb from 10am-12noon

## Alnmouth WI - Winter Warmer Lunch

Tues, 5 Feb from noon until 2pm in HH  
Soup and a Pudding for only £5.

## See the Bigger Picture!

Go on-line and enlarge the pictures in the Newsletter at [www.alnmouth.info](http://www.alnmouth.info)

## What's On

(In HH unless stated)

### Alnmouth WI

Mon, 4 Feb at 7pm. "Secret Diary of a Jesmond Lady", with Alan Graham.

### Alnmouth WI

**Winter Warmer Lunch**  
Tues, 5 Feb from 12 noon to 2pm. Soup and a pudding, £5.

### Alnmouth Camera Group

Tues, 12 Feb at 7pm in the Hope & Anchor.

### Autumn Club

Tues, 12 Feb at 2.30pm.  
Maria Sibbald, "Nitrogen in our everyday lives".

### Barn Dances

Tuesdays, 12 and 19 Feb at 7.30pm. (Note consecutive Tuesdays this month)

### Alnmouth Local History Group

Meeting, Thurs, 14 Feb at 2pm.

### Alnmouth and Lesbury Cricket Club

Annual Jumble Sale, Wed 20 Feb at noon in Lesbury Village Hall.

### Aln Valley Railway

Thurs, 21 Feb at 7 for 7.30pm at Alnwick Station. "The Wissington Railway".

### Western Front Association

Mon, 25 Feb at 7.15 for 7.30pm in Alnmouth Ex-Servicemen's Club. "British Tactical Experiments in 1915".

### "Almost Anything Goes" at the Hindmarsh Hall,

Thurs, 28 Feb - Sat, 2 March at 7.30pm. Tickets, £8, on sale on 2 Feb from 10am-noon.

### Alnmouth New Wesleyan Chapel

Final Service, Sunday, 24 March at 2.30pm. More details next month.

## Promote Your Event Here

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