

No 25
Dec 2011

The Alnmouth Village Newsletter

www.alnmouth.info

Alnmouth Parish Councillors

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(830530)

David Denton
(830219)

Judi Hill
(830999)

John Hobbis
(830208)

Donald Hume
(830096)

Pat Murphy
(830858)

Jack Ross
(830557)

George Ternent
(830444)

Parish Clerk
Roger Clark
(830074)

Emilia and Lucy Set Alnmouth Alight

A large crowd gathered outside the Hindmarsh Hall to see Emilia Galecka, aged 7, and Lucy Ridley, 12, switch on this year's Christmas lights display. Emilia and Lucy (pictured right with Val McDermid) were the winners of the competition which asked young people aged 12 or under to say in no more than 25 words why they wanted to carry out the official ceremony.



Emilia wrote, "I would like to switch on the Christmas lights because I think they are really pretty and I'd love to turn them on."

Lucy's entry said, "I have lived in Alnmouth all of my life and I've always wanted this opportunity, so I thought I should grab it while I can!"

Many congratulations, girls, you did a fantastic job.

Alnmouth Welcomes

Following the tradition we started in the very first issue, the Newsletter is delighted to welcome Maria and David Sibbald (pictured right) to the Village Tearooms.

We wish you every success.



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

The 18th Annual Raft Race

This year's Raft Race raised £1,200 which has been donated to the Amble Lifeboat.

The Red Lion Beer Festival

October's festival raised £2,750 for Aniridia Research.

Welcome To Our Second Anniversary Issue

Yes, it really is two years since the Parish Council launched the Alnmouth Village Newsletter. In that time we have covered a variety of topics, we have tried to keep you up to date with what your Parish Council is doing, tell you about what is happening in the village and about the numerous social activities which take place.

Your response to the Newsletter has been very encouraging and gratifying, but is the Newsletter useful to you? Is there anything else we should be covering?

We want to hear your views. Please contact us at alnmouthnews@fsmail.net or talk to any of your Parish Councillors.

Bill Bourne

Arts Festival Poster Competition

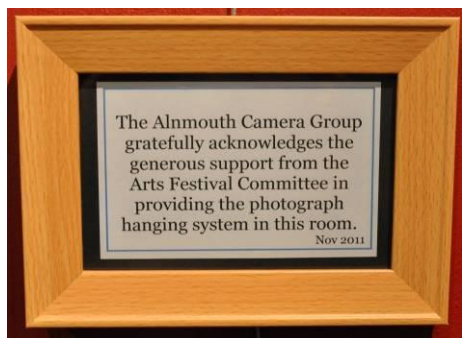
Local readers will have seen that the Arts Festival's media partner, the Northumberland Gazette, announced that the winner of the poster competition was Francesca Simpson from Hipsburn. Francesca is pictured with her winning entry.

The response to the competition exceeded all expectations and the judging panel had a difficult task in selecting the winner, but their decision was unanimous.

Francesca's image will be now seen in the coming months on posters and other publicity material.



Alnmouth Camera Group Gets Support



As part of its aims in fostering interest and local participation in arts and crafts among members of the community, the Arts Festival Committee has purchased a hanging system to be used by the Alnmouth Camera Group. The system has been installed in the Group's meeting room in the Hope & Anchor and is being used to display its latest exhibition which opened on the day of the Christmas lights switch-on. The exhibition will run into the New Year.

What generous people you are.....

That was the headline we carried in the Dec 2010 issue when we reported that during the year you had raised **£11, 847** and that was just from the events that had been covered in the Newsletter. Well, in 2011 you've been at it again. The details are given below:

Church Coffee Morning - **£825**
Christmas Lights Coffee Morning - **£283.66**
Dog Walkers' Dinner - **£333**
AVGC Coffee Morning - **£900**
Schooner Music Hall - **£376.55**
Christmas Lights Quiz - **£190**
Question Time - **£350**
Alexa's Dog Rescue - **£614**
Alnmouth Hall of Fame - **£2,000**
Murder Mystery Evening - **£261.84**

Hindmarsh Hall at the Friary - **£700**
WI Tea Party - **£400**
Brennan Shell's Cycle Ride - **£1,100**
AVGC Volcano Night - **£400**
Church Fete - **£3,000**
Macmillan Coffee Morning - **£1,530**
Red Lion Beer Festival - **£2,750**
Raft Race - **£1,200**
Bonfire Night - **£236**

That's a staggering **£17,450.05**

One Murder Solved

(but could there have been another one?)



The recent "Murder Mystery" evening was yet another great success. In keeping with the theme of the story, many of the audience dressed in school uniform either as pupils or teachers.

After much robust questioning of the participants, the guilty person was eventually identified (but not by everybody!)

The evening raised £261.84 which is to be split between the WI and the Christmas Lights Fund.

Prospect Improved

Part of Prospect Place has been restored to its former glory thanks to Sheila and Gordon Inkster. Their son, Graeme, ably supported by Gordon and Sheila, has re-laid the cobbles at the end of Prospect Place to make it look how it might have appeared 100 years ago.

There was even a ceremony, performed by Prospect Place's youngest resident, Marina Swift, (pictured right with Sheila, Gordon and Graeme) who cut a ribbon to declare Prospect Place "officially open."



The Newsletter Goes Worldwide

The Newsletter gets to its readers in a variety of ways. Nearly 400 are delivered through letterboxes in the Civil Parish of Alnmouth, with some hotels and guest houses receiving more than one copy. Twenty five are emailed to people throughout the UK and overseas; usually regular visitors and ex-pats who want to keep up to date with village events and news.

But for the past year the Newsletter has had its own website and it can be read on-line. Each week we receive details of how many people are reading it and in many cases where they live. The results are quite fascinating.

During October, the Newsletter was read on-line by 1080 people (that's 35 every day), who between them opened 1512 issues.

Even more interesting is where those people live. The top five countries were USA (376), China (202), UK (170), Russia (106) and Germany (23). Less than 1 in 5 of our on-line readers are from the UK.

We would love to hear from our on-line readers. Please contact us at alnmouthnews@fsmail.net and tell us what interests you about a small coastal village in rural Northumberland.

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)

Lest We Forget



Service of Remembrance, Sunday, 13 November

Bonfire Night



The village Bonfire raised £236 which has been donated to Hipsburn First School to go towards their new log cabin.

A big thank you to everyone involved, from the soup makers and hot-dog sellers to Aln Valley Railway for the lights and the Village Golf Club for their barbeque.

Beware the Milk Snatcher

One of our readers contacted the Newsletter saying that milk was being stolen from their doorstep. Initially single bottles had been taken, then two bottles and eventually the thief took the milk bottle carrier as well. The household no longer has milk delivered to the door, so the milkman has lost a customer and the thief has lost his or her supply of milk.

STOP PRESS.... Jane McHugh from the Red Lion and a number of other young ladies are planning to climb Mt Kilimanjaro in February. They are looking for sponsorship and donations to their respective charities. Further details will be appearing in the village and in the next Newsletter.

What's On

(In HH unless otherwise stated)

Local History Group Meeting

Thurs, 1 Dec at 2pm.

St John's Church Christmas Coffee Morning

Sat, 3 Dec, 10am until noon.

Alnmouth Village Golf Club

Saturdays, 3 Dec, Junior Bingo Night
10 Dec, Quiz Night
17 Dec, Christmas Party & Panto.

Alnmouth WI

Mon, 5 Dec, Christmas Party.

River Aln Boat Club Coffee Morning

Sat, 10 Dec from 10am until noon.
In aid of Amble Lifeboat

Barn Dances

Tuesday, 13 Dec and New Year's Eve at 7.30pm.

Autumn Club

Tues, 13 Dec, Christmas Dinner at Nether Grange.

Alnmouth Camera Group

Tues, 13 Dec at 7pm in the Hope & Anchor.

Alnmouth Methodist Church

Candlelit Carol Service
Wed 14 Dec at 7.00pm in Old Chapel.
Light refreshments.

Aln Valley Railway Soc

Thurs, 15 Dec at 7pm for 7.30pm in Alnwick Station.
"The Members Entertain"

Western Front Association

No formal meeting in December.

Promote your event It's free!

Simply email:
www.alnmouthnews@fsmail.net