

The Alnmouth Village Newsletter

No 197
April 2026

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Victorian Carriage Rides Begin

The Aln Valley Railway, which is working to restore the old line towards Alnmouth, will begin carrying passengers in its restored North Eastern Railway Directors' Carriage from April 2026. Built in York in 1896, the coach will run on selected dates, with a £5 supplement on top of the normal ticket price.

This is no ordinary carriage. Built for railway directors and senior officers, it still retains much of its original interior, including a kitchen and toilet. It arrived at the Aln Valley Railway in poor condition in 2012 and has since undergone a long restoration.

The result is a rare chance for local people and visitors to travel in a 130-year-old coach from the North Eastern Railway era. The project is also a reminder of the railway's strong volunteer base.



Anyone interested in helping with carriage restoration or other practical roles can find out more at alnvalleyrailway.co.uk or by emailing volunteer@alnvalleyrailway.co.uk.

New planters for Bridge Viewpoint

With spring now brightening Alnmouth after a very wet winter, new planters have been installed on the Bridge Viewing Platform to replace the old rotten ones. Like so much else in the village, they will only thrive with local help, and thanks are due to nearby neighbours who have offered to water and look after them.

The flowers on the War Memorial and the planters on the Wynd are also a community effort. They are organised by the Parish Council. The Wynd planters were bought through the Parish Council Community Fund, with the original planting supported by the Arts Festival. The Burgage Holders now generously fund the twice-yearly displays.

Keeping them looking their best also depends on practical support. The use of water from the Friary makes the planting on the Wynd and at the War Memorial possible. Many thanks to everyone who helps keep these displays going.



Secret Gardens in Alnmouth

Hindmarsh Hall's Secret Gardens event will take place on Sunday 31st May. Many thanks to those who have already volunteered to open their gardens.

You do not need a full garden to join in. Pots, hanging baskets and small flower beds can all help add to the occasion, so if you would like to take part, why not plant them up? It would be lovely to see the village looking at its best.

Alnmouth Mobile Library Consultation

The mobile library is a valued part of village life in Alnmouth, helping bring library services into the village. The service also benefited from a new vehicle introduced last year.

Northumberland County Council has now opened a consultation on the future of library services, including mobile library provision. Residents do not need to be library members to take part, and the survey is open until Monday 13th April.

Visit nland.uk/library or scan the QR code to complete the survey.



Boat Park Clear-Up: Volunteers Welcome

Alnmouth Boat Club is looking for volunteers to help with a Boat Park clear-up on Saturday 4th April, from 10am to 12 noon. Jobs will include tidying the Boat Park, cutting the grass, trimming hedges and laying a heavy chain for a dinghy tie-down trial, so that all dinghies can be made moveable.

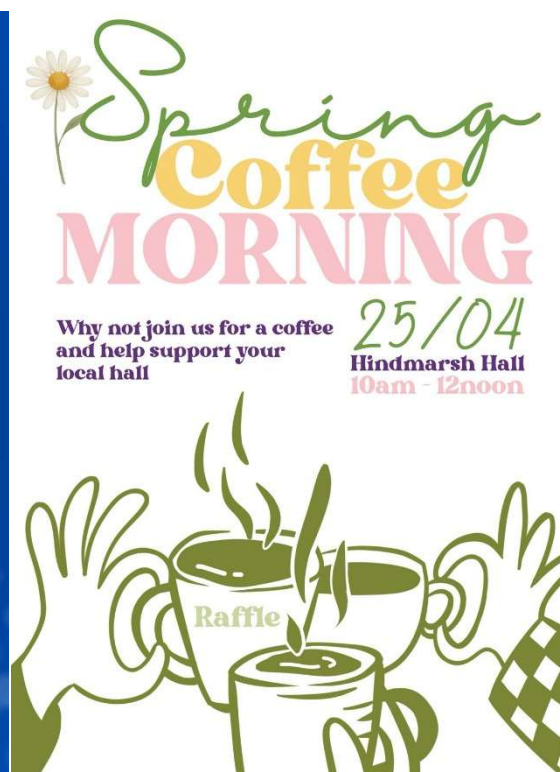
It should be a useful morning's work for the club and the village, and hot drinks and food will be provided for volunteers. Anyone able to lend a hand would be very welcome.

St John the Baptist Easter Services

St John the Baptist, Alnmouth will hold its Easter Day Holy Communion service on Sunday 5th April at 10am. Other April services at the church are The Gathering on Sunday 12th April at 4pm and Holy Communion on Sunday 19th April at 9.15am. All are welcome.

Save the Date: Hullabaloo on the Hill

Please save the date for this year's Hullabaloo on the Hill, which will take place on Saturday 5th September 2026. The event is now a well-established part of village life, bringing the community together on the hill for food, music and good company. More details will follow.



An Alnmouth Parish Council publication.

Parish Clerk: clerk@alnmouthparishcouncil.org.uk APC Chair Shaun Whyte: 07717 448354
Parish Council meetings occur on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at Hindmarsh Hall at 7PM.
Send items for inclusion in May newsletter: alnmouthnews@hotmail.com by 21 April.