

The Alnmouth Village Newsletter

No 198
May 2026

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Arts Festival Grants Back Village Creativity

Alnmouth Arts Festival has awarded a new round of grants to projects that will add to village life and give residents and visitors more to enjoy over the coming year.

One highlight is support for the Twelve Days of Christmas project at St John the Baptist Church. Five large-scale decorations were displayed last Christmas as part of the village celebrations, and this grant will now allow the full set to be completed for display in Christmas 2026. The grants also include support for a Santa grotto for the 2026 Christmas lights switch-on and for the re-installation of the lantern above the church's pavement arch.

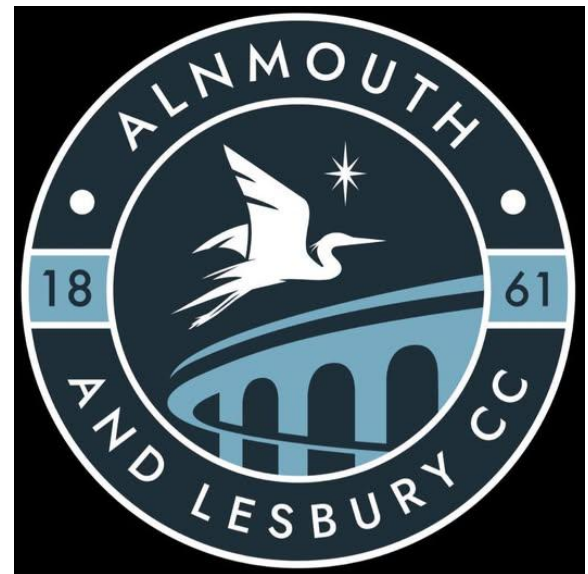
Other awards will help fund a 2026 Dovecote Street Arts exhibition, music stand banners for the Duchess Community High School ceilidh band, a booklet on the experiences of children and young people growing up in Alnmouth, a centenary mural at Shilbottle Primary School, and a 3D coastal bird sculpture by Hipsburn Primary School for display at the 2026 Arts Festival. Taken together, the awards are a welcome sign of the Festival's wider contribution to village life.

Cricket Club Season Under Way

With the 2026 season now under way, Alnmouth & Lesbury Cricket Club is looking to build on a successful year of cup victories and a strong league campaign. That gives the village plenty to enjoy at the club over the summer.

For many in Alnmouth, the club is about more than cricket. With its coastal setting, patio and bar, it is an appealing place to spend time in warmer weather, whether watching a match, meeting friends or supporting the team.

Junior cricket is also back for 2026, with All Stars for ages 5–8 and Dynamos for ages 8–11, open to boys and girls. Both begin on 14th May and run for eight weeks, with registration open. Sign up at: <https://ecb.clubspark.uk/AllStars/Search>. The club has also received a High Sheriff of Northumberland Award, with grant funding helping support junior training.



New fencing installed on beach frontage

Regular walkers on the north end of Alnmouth beach will have noticed a new line of sand fencing below the Village Golf Club, close to the badly eroded frontage by the fifth hole.

The fencing is the latest step in the effort to protect this vulnerable stretch of shoreline. It follows the restoration of the groynes in autumn 2024, which aimed to help hold sand on the beach and reduce the force of wave action at the dune edge. The new fencing now aims to protect the exposed bank further and encourage sand to build up around it, helping to stabilise the frontage.

Together, these measures are intended to win more time for the Golf Club as it works towards re-siting the fifth green away from the most threatened area.

This remains part of a wider coastal-management response rather than a permanent solution. The Village Golf Club, the Burgage Holders, Northumberland Estates and Natural England are continuing to work on further initiatives for this stretch of coast.

Buston Links Ready for Nesting Season

The shorebird nesting season is now under way, and Buston Links is expected to receive ringed plover nests soon. Fencing has been put in place around likely nesting areas, following the habitat work reported in the March newsletter to make the site more resilient to spring tides and erosion.

It is an encouraging update for a site so close to Alnmouth, and the project is also looking for volunteers for the season. No experience is needed. For details, contact spaceforshorebirds@northumberland.gov.uk and <https://www.facebook.com/SpaceforShorebirds>.



ALNMOUTH ARTS FESTIVAL

VILLAGE PARTY
FRIDAY 19th JUNE
6-8pm on the church green

Arts Festival Friday Night Welcome Drinks for villagers, venue hosts and artists

Alnmouth Arts Festival returns on Saturday 20 and Sunday 21 June, bringing another wonderful weekend of creativity to the village. As always, the Festival will showcase a vibrant mix of visual art, music and events, with plenty to enjoy for both residents and visitors.

This year we are introducing a new event to launch the Festival. Instead of the artist Friday preview night we will be hosting a relaxed Village Party on Friday 19 June, from 6-8pm, in the marquee on the church green. Come along for a drink, a chat, and a chance to welcome friends, neighbours and visitors to the weekend ahead. A free drink per household can be claimed using the voucher printed in the June newsletter. If you would like to volunteer to help on the Friday evening, please get in touch – we'd love to hear from you.

Bring your newsletter voucher printed in June's edition to claim your free drink (one per household)
BAR OPENS 6PM FESTIVAL VISITORS ALSO WELCOME



Date & Time	Event & Venue	Details
Tuesdays & Fridays: 11:00 am	Alnmouth Croquet Club - At Alnmouth Cricket Club	Regular club sessions on the cricket club outfield. Visitors and new members warmly welcomed; mallets available. Just turn up or contact Mick Lock on 07549 938172. Casual clothes and comfortable footwear advised.
Week commencing 18 May	Strictly Starters dance classes - Hindmarsh Hall	Beginner ballroom, Latin American and sequence dance classes. Places strictly limited; register early. Contact Malcolm on 07768 596380. Facebook @strictlystarters.
Sat 30 May: 7:30 pm Doors open 7:00 pm	Lucca Mae - Hindmarsh Hall	Live music with special guests Remy CB and Zac Cols. £22/head; accompanied under-16s £11. Limited to 70 places. Bring your own drinks, glasses and nibbles. Pre-booking only from Aln Gift Shop or John on 07905 696555. Tickets/info: jrmusicana.wixsite.com/jrmusicana .
Sun 31 May: 10:00 am - 4:30 pm	Alnmouth Secret Gardens	Tickets at Hindmarsh Hall on the day. Tickets £8.50 including map; children under 12 free. No dogs. Refreshments served. All proceeds to Hindmarsh Hall. Enquiries: 01665 830326.
Sat 6 June: 10:00 am - 12 noon	Alnmouth Playground Refurbishment Fundraiser - Hindmarsh Hall	Kids' and adults' tombola prizes, coffee, cake and sweet treats, and kids' activities.
Sat 13 June: 7:00 pm Doors open 6:30 pm	Bingo Night - Hindmarsh Hall	Refreshments and cash prizes.
Sat 20 June: 7:30 pm Bar opens 6:30 pm	The Bathers - St. John the Baptist Church	Tickets £24 from Alnmouth Post Office or via www.ticketsource.com/alnmouth-arts-festival

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 June newsletter: alnmouthnews@hotmail.com by 21 May.