



## LESBURY PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER (Issue 23 - May 2011)

**Stop Press - Her Majesty. The Queen will arrive at Alnmouth Station during the morning of June 22<sup>nd</sup> to attend the Lord Lieutenant's Garden party at Alnwick Castle and will drive through our Parish to the town.**



**Are these your children?** It has come to the attention of Northumbria Police that, since the opening of the new car park, there has been an increase in vandalism, crime and general youth disorder at Alnmouth railway station. The British transport police have been advised of the situation and, with us, are monitoring the area with extra patrols. **Parents take note** - A car park is not an appropriate area for small children to play in with bikes, skateboards

or just general running around. The new car park has taken years of planning and a considerable amount of money to construct resulting in the improved facilities for commuters at Alnmouth railway station. It also has provided the community with a solution to the massive parking problems on South View, the road at Bilton and Curly Lane. Don't spoil it! **Also** please be advised to lock all valuables in the boot - out of sight out of mind. (P.C. 8151 Roxy Bird).

**Village Hall Crisis** - In our last Newsletter we highlighted that the Village Hall Committee needs new members. At their recent AGM the long-serving Chairman and Treasurer stood down and have not been replaced due to lack of volunteers coming forward to fill their roles. The Village Plan highlighted the value of this facility to the community; it is now at risk of closing if a full organising committee cannot be found to run it. It would be a pity to lose the Village Hall which is well used but without a committee it will close. **If you can help please contact Clive Gibson (VH Secretary - 01665 833144).**



**More Volunteer help wanted!** - Do you have some spare time you would give to help maintain the Parish? Do you have any particular skill, knowledge, interest or hobby that you think may be of use? Walter, Rick & Tom have already committed to looking after the Car Park and other volunteers have agreed to look after an area in Lealands. With a few willing helpers any jobs can be finished in no time - and think of the satisfaction! An excellent example to us all is the outstanding effort of

The Friends of The Pond Field in funding and maintaining that play area. You really can make a difference to your Parish, so please get in touch with the Parish Council and volunteer in whatever way you can.

**Village shop re-opens** - the Village Shop has re-opened for sale of newspapers and general goods. The Post Office function should resume on June 20<sup>th</sup>. If you have been in and around the shop you will notice a transformation; it is lighter and brighter and could not have opened so quickly without the help of volunteers. See the articles above - volunteers are needed for all sorts of activities in the Parish. Meanwhile good luck to ARCH 19!





**Steppey Lane Bridge** - As many of you will know the task has been completed by the County Council to replace the old railings on the north side of the bridge. The work was sponsored partly by the County Council and partly by the Parish Council and is an upgrade to meet modern specifications as well as a match for the railings replaced on the south side following the flooding. This was a major outlay from the Parish precept but means that we have a maintenance-free set of railings to enhance safety on the bridge.

**[www.Lesbury-pc.org.uk](http://www.Lesbury-pc.org.uk)** - this is the Lesbury Parish Council web site address. Have you visited the site yet? There you can find news and updates on events around the parish, find out who your Councillors are, read the minutes of the Parish Council, Newsletters and the Parish Plan. You can also view local travel and weather information. During this year we are looking for further improvements and hope to add guides for local walks and a history of the village to the site. (Bob Dutton 01665 830801)



**Wayward heron** - Northumberland is popular for short stays but imagine setting off for a holiday in Spain and finding yourself in Lesbury. This is what happened to a recent visitor. On the river Aln in April a Night Heron, with distinctive red eye and white plumes, was discovered by two local residents near the 18 Arches. Returning from Africa to its breeding ground in Southern Europe the southerly winds must have given it an extra push, landing it a long way from home. A first for Northumberland! Only a

few lucky bird-watchers managed to see this spectacular bird, which is mainly active at night, enjoying the riches of the river Aln during its three day stay. (Photo © Tim Dean)

**Pupil report from Hipsburn School - The Falkland Islands** - class 3 from Hipsburn First School have been learning about the Falkland Islands because their supply teacher has worked there. They are going to put up a display and have a class assembly all about the Falklands. Class 3 have learnt that there are 600,000 sheep and about 2,800 people on the Islands. They know that there is only one town, called Stanley and the countryside is called the camp. There are no roads in the Falklands. They also learnt that there are 778 islands in the Falkland Islands-*did you know that?* (T.R, Year 4)

**Lesbury Women's Institute** - meets in the Village Hall at 7pm on the second Tuesday of every month, except August. We have excellent speakers on a wide variety of subjects and demonstrations by experts ranging from making stained glass to cookery and flower-arranging. We enjoy days out, occasional theatre visits, fun quizzes and meals for special events during the year. We are a friendly and informal group, and any woman, of any age, is very welcome to join us. Just turn up and give us a try! **Contact Val Brooks - 01665 830224 e-mail [fvalb@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:fvalb@tiscali.co.uk)**

**Parish Clerk**

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**Parish Council meetings** are held in Lesbury Village Hall on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month. All residents are welcome to attend. A full list of Parish Councillors can be found on [www.lesbury-pc.org.uk](http://www.lesbury-pc.org.uk)