



# ALIX TELEGRAPH

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## APRIL FOOLS DAY - TRADITIONS AROUND THE WORLD...

Although not recognized as an official public holiday, April Fools Day is celebrated around the world by playing harmless practical jokes on out friends, family and neighbours. Let's take a look at some of the fun traditions of other countries on this hilarious day.

### Scotland

The traditional prank here was known as "Huntigowk", meaning Hunt The Gowk, where "gowk" means "fool". A prankster would entrust a "gowk" with a letter to deliver to someone. That person would then ask the "gowk" to deliver it to someone else, who would send the "gowk" on to another, and another, and so on. When the "gowk" had

enough and finally opened the letter, it would read: "Dinne laugh, dinne smile. Send the gowk another mile."

### Scandinavia

The Danes, Swedes, Finns, Icelanders and Norwegians enjoy a much larger type of prank, typically publishing fake, unbelievable stories on the front pages of their newspapers. An explanation is usually given the following day for those who were duped.

### Italy/France/Belgium

In these countries and some French speaking parts of Scandinavia and Canada, the tradition is known as "April Fish" and the goal is to tape a paper fish to someone's

back without them knowing. Don't get caught, though, or you will have to wear the fish yourself and be the fool.

### Germany

In Germany it is tradition to send fake letters such as important invitations, disinheritance letters, fake letters of promotion or college acceptance, even admissions of crimes not committed. Prank phone calls are also popular on this day.

### Greece

Here, people tell innocent lies in order to trick their victims. The person who manages to trick another is said to have a fortunate year.

Have a great April Fools Day and remember to keep it fun

## APRIL FOOLS DAY - A HISTORY....

The origins of April Fools Day are somewhat unknown. Some people believe it is a celebration of the changing of the season, from winter to spring. Another belief is that it comes from the adoption of a new calendar.

Some ancient cultures, like the Romans, celebrated New Years around April 1st. During medieval times, most of Europe cele-

brated the Feast Of Annunciation on March 25th, as the beginning of a new year.

In 1582, Pope Gregory XIII, ordered a new calendar, the Gregorian calendar, to replace the Julian calendar. This put New Years Day on January 1st. France adopted the calendar that year.

Many people did not accept the new date, or didn't know about it, and continued to celebrate New Years on April 1st. Those who celebrated in January often made fun of those who didn't, sending them on "fools errands" or trying to trick them with a lie. Eventually the practice spread across Europe and April Fools Day was born!



## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



- Apr. 2 - Raye Meyn
- Apr. 3 - Kevin Doran
- Apr. 4 - George Switner
- Apr. 7 - Clarence Verveda
- Apr. 10 - Marie Koch
- Apr. 15 - Chris Schultz
- Apr. 16 - Jonathan Verveda
- Apr. 17 - Chelsey Stanyer
- Apr. 22 - Shona Holman, Sid Morris
- Apr. 23 - Michael Verveda
- Apr. 24 - Scott Sutley, Martin

- Brayford
  - Apr. 25 - Brent Priegnitz
  - Apr. 28 - Curtis Stauffer
- If you have a birthday or anniversary and would like to see it here, drop in or call the library.

*"I HAVE REACHED AN AGE WHERE IF SOMEONE TELLS ME TO WEAR SOCKS, I DON'T HAVE TO!"*

*- ALBERT EINSTEIN*

### INDIGENOUS PUZZLE BAG/BEADING WORKSHOP

Learn basic techniques while creating a small, traditional puzzle bag!

This event is free but feel free to bring a food bank donation!

Saturday's @ 10:30 am @ Alix Drop In Center

For more info, call Samantha @ 403-307-2789.

### ARENA NEWS

Congratulations to the Alix Avalanche's for binging home the gold after their 3-1 provincial win! You guys make Alix proud!

We would like to thank Bill Russell for sponsoring March's Community Skate program.

### FCSS NEWS

You know how you feel when you miss a meal? Imagine how you would feel if you missed them all. FCSS is always accepting your non-perishable food items.

FCSS is pleased to provide free tax returns for low income individuals.

Hours Of Operation:

Tues & Thurs - 9 AM - 3 PM

### CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!

Volunteers are the roots of a strong community, the foundation that everything else is built upon. They are the hearts and hands behind our most cherished traditions and events.

The Chamber Of Commerce would like to invite the volunteers of Alix to come out and celebrate your awesomeness with cake and coffee!

April 12th

2- 4 PM

@ Alix Drop In Centre

Everyone is welcome to come out and thank the many volunteers that keep our wonderful village running!

As much as we would love to be able to thank each and every one of you individually, we can't and we hope you will come out so you can feel how much you are appreciated!

### SCHOOL NEWS

The Hot Lunch Program needs volunteers! Contact Darlene Tucker @ 403-747-3129.

- Apr 4 - First Day Back
- Apr 7 - Hot Lunch
- Apr 8 - No School
- Apr 11 - Gr 7-12 Progress Rpts
- Apr 14 - Hot Lunch
- Apr 21 - Hot Lunch
- Apr 22 - No School
- Apr 28 - Hot Lunch

Kindergarten Registrations now being accepted.

### Play Group

Tuesday's from 9:30-11:30 at the Alix United church (by the school)

Any questions, please contact Windy Toews @ 788-2612



## LIBRARY NEWS NEW &amp; NOTABLE

April 7: Book Club @ 8pm, the library.

April 12: Board Meeting @ 6:30, the library

The Lion's Foundation Of Canada has placed a drop box at the Library to collect your used eye glasses for charity. Please donate, no cases. Thank you.

The Book Sale is on all year long. Please come in and grab a book, a bag or a box for any donation. Thank you.

Golden Lion - Wilbur Smith  
 Obsession - Nora Roberts  
 Fire Bound - Christine Feehan  
 If I Run - Terri Blackstock  
 Imposter - Suzanne W. Fisher  
 Kingdom - Bryan M. Litfin  
 Restoration - Wanda Brunstetter  
 Spy's Devotion - Melanie Dickerson  
 Truth Stained Lies - Terri Blackstock  
 Overload - Joyce Meyer

## FOR THE KIDS

Paw Patrol Phonics Box -  
 Pig The Pug - Aaron Blabey  
 Power of the Fire Dragon - Tracy West  
 Rise of the Earth Dragon - Tracy West

If you have suggestions for items the library should consider purchasing, please let us know.

*"NO ONE EVER GRADUATED FROM A LIBRARY, BUT NO ONE EVER GRADUATED WITHOUT ONE, EITHER."*

## BOOK REVIEW - FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD - THOMAS HARDY

This is one of my favourite novels. The reason being that Thomas Hardy was a poet and he wrote with a poet's heart. His style of writing does take some time to get used to as he is very descriptive. Personally, I love his wordiness, but to enjoy this, one has to read it in small chunks. It has to be savoured and read thoughtfully, with a dictionary by one's side if need be.

Having grown up in England and travelled through much of what

man. Her stubbornness and insecurity cause her to make the wrong choice, which comes at a heavy price to others.

Even though a person may get frustrated initially because of the heavy first chapters, full of descriptions, I would strongly encourage them to keep going. The ending is so beautiful I believe a person will be glad that they did.

By Tracey Billson

Reviews are the opinion of the writer and are not necessarily shared by the Alix Public Library.

is called 'Hardy Country', actually Dorset and parts of Cornwall, the book reconnects me to the green and pleasant land that was England in days gone by. It speaks to me of pastoral occupations and lifestyles when life was lived at a slower pace. Life was physically harder back then and Hardy portrays this as well. There was very little government support for those who were down on their luck and the beauty of Hardy is that he starkly

Do you have a love of reading?  
 Interested in making some new friends that share your passions?

JOIN US

## ALIX BOOK CLUB

1st Thursday of the Month

@ Alix Public Library

8 PM

Everyone is welcome. Book club is free. Food and drinks provided.

April's Theme: Comedic Play

describes both the good and the bad of life in nineteenth century England. His characters are carefully drawn and speak of real people, warts and all.

This story is about an unconventional woman called Bathsheba who wants to be independent in an age before women's rights or women's lib. In her day, women were expected to marry. Bathsheba is both beautiful and intelligent. However she is very willful even to the point of making

decisions that hurt her and others around her. She doesn't mean to hurt others, at heart she is very caring, but pride and willfulness are at the root of the decisions she makes, decisions that ripple outwards into the lives of many.

Gabriel Oak is the hero of this book and one of my favourite heroes in literature. He is kind and wise and faithful. Bathsheba rejects his offer of marriage and marries totally the wrong

This month's book:

"Room"

By Emma Donoghue

Written from the point of view of five year old Jack, Room is a powerful story about the unconditional bond between a parent and a child, the dormant strength that lies in each of us, and our incredible ability to adapt to strange, new realities.

*"A man who does not read has no advantage over the man who cannot read."*

- Mark Twain



**Alix Public Library**

## ALIX PUBLIC LIBRARY

4928-50 Street  
Box 69  
Alix, Alberta T0C 0B0

Phone: 403.747.3233  
Email: [alixpublic@prl.ab.ca](mailto:alixpublic@prl.ab.ca)  
Website: [alixpublic.prl.ab.ca](http://alixpublic.prl.ab.ca)

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**WE'RE ON THE WEB!**  
**[alixpublic.prl.ab.ca](http://alixpublic.prl.ab.ca)**

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LEARNING,  
ENTERTAINING,  
CREATING,  
DO IT ALL AT THE LIBRARY.

The Alix Library continues to thank the Village Office for graciously printing the Alix Telegraph.

The Alix Public Library has served the community for 100+ years. We are constantly looking for ways to improve our ability to help our patrons. If you have any ideas, programs or courses you would like to see here at the library please let us know.

You can follow us on Facebook as well at [www.facebook.com/alixlibrary](http://www.facebook.com/alixlibrary).

Hours: Tuesday 10:00 - 4:00

Thursday 2:00 - 8:00

Saturday 10:00 - 4:00

The Telegraph is available at the Alix Public Library, the Alix Village Office, Post Office, The Pantry, Home Hardware, Alix Foods, the Village Shoppe, Lori's Little Luxuries, Potluck Café, Alix Hotel Restaurant and Moonwalkers.

### FRIENDS OF THE ALIX

The Friends Of The Alix Public Library Society are proponents and supporters of library services in Alix, AB.

Our purpose is to bring community awareness to the library and it's services, increase programming for kids, teens and adults, as well as improve fundraising through new and exciting enterprises.

Our application to become a non-profit society is moving along.

For anyone who is interested in joining this group - membership fee is \$10 annually.

For more information, email us at [foapls@outlook.com](mailto:foapls@outlook.com)

### ALIX MAC

The Recorder, Beginner, Junior and Senior Concert Bands are feverishly rehearsing for the upcoming annual **Fine Arts Gala on Wednesday May 11 @ 7:30 p.m.** in the senior gym. Our guest performers are **Flat Iron Jazz**, who will also perform with the Junior & Senior Bands. Mrs. Shapka will be showcasing her fabulous **student art work** in the hallways for all to enjoy. **Tickets are \$5.00/each** and a light refreshment will be served at the end of the evening.

### THANKS ALIX!

The Alix MAC Grade 6 class would like to extend their deep gratitude and appreciation for the support we have received from the community in our efforts to raise money for Grade 6 Camp. Due to the generosity of the community during our bottle drive in the fall and the raffle table at the recent Alix Angels Ladies Hockey Tournament, we have raised enough money to ensure that EVERY Grade 6 student will attend camp this year.

### LIONS NEWS

Lion's Club International will be celebrating 100 years of Service in 2017. The Alix Lions Club is planning to recognize this achievement with its own Centennial Legacy Project with a visible, lasting project to enjoyed for years to come. Please, we need your ideas/suggestions. Contact: Curt (357-9933, [cpete@platinum.ca](mailto:cpete@platinum.ca)), June (747-2455, [majoru2@gmail.com](mailto:majoru2@gmail.com)), Mark (784-3055 [mckenny.ab@gmail.com](mailto:mckenny.ab@gmail.com)), Mary (747-3167 [maryflex@platinum.ca](mailto:maryflex@platinum.ca)) or Joyce (747-2418)

