

Working in Spittal, for Spittal

THE POINT

NEWS FROM THE TRUST

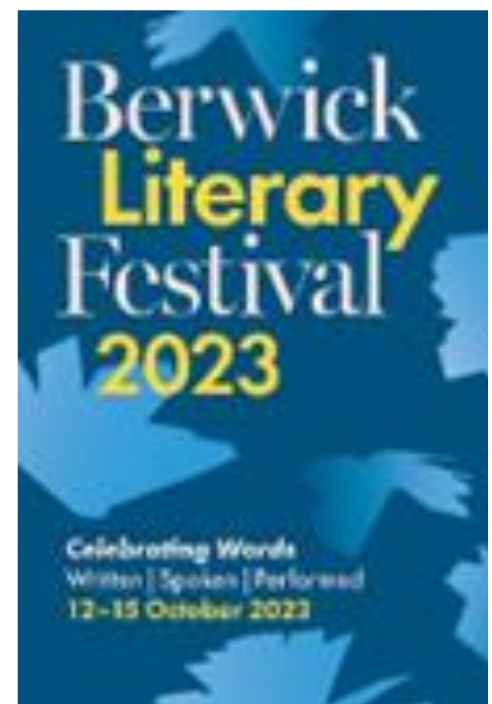
We have had a problem at the Community Centre, the gas supply system into and through the building has been closed by the Gas Board as it was deemed unsafe after we reported a potential gas leak. There is only one gas meter serving the entire building, it is in the Middle Sheet Hall kitchen and was installed in 1985. The Inspector deemed that it is too small to cope with the demand for the whole building. Not only that, the pipework from that meter to the Main Street side of the building is also too small! Luckily this has come to light whilst the temperature is relatively mild. The Church Synod, who we lease from, have been quick to respond to this and we are hoping to get the Hall back to normal in the week or so, but not the rest of the building. The only viable solution is to have another gas meter at the front of the building, but this might take some time, but hopefully before winter sets in!

On a brighter note, in September we had the Community Centre open for part of the annual Berwick Heritage Open Doors (HODS) week. We were open for one full day and two half days, and we had about 120 people visiting during that time and many more during the week looking at the posters in the windows etc. Thanks to those of you who took part in the event by showing the posters on your gate or on your windows. The flow of people during those three days was just right as it gave us time to show them around the building and chat about our village.

Mike Greener. Secretary SIT. 07752 403409.

Tai Chi

The Tai Chi class has come from the outdoor sessions in the ark to indoors and is now taking place in the Community Centre Hall. The instructor is also looking to start 'Seated Tai Chi' classes in the Hall. If you would like to try this, please contact the instructor, Pete. His contact details are 07796 655561 and berwicktaichi@gmail.com.



The 10th Berwick Literary Festival kicks off on 12th October with tours of Spittal's very own Martins the Printers on both Thursday and Friday. That's followed by a whole weekend of events. Whether you are a new or returning visitor you will find their programme exciting, challenging, and entertaining. Where else must one choose between an archbishop and the Beatles' hairdresser? There is also the author of the 'Harold Fry' books, to the history of Roman Scotland, poetry and crime writing. Go to www.berwickliteraryfestival.com for the full programme and to book tickets.

WHAT'S ON

NODA AWARD WINNING SOCIETY
SPITTAL VARIETY GROUP
PRESENT


**2024
Production**

SLEEPING BEAUTY

at THE SHOWBAR
Berwick Holiday Centre
Wednesday 24th to
Sun 28th January 2024
(Wed-Sat 7.15pm • Sat & Sun 2.15pm matinee)

Wednesday & Thursday: Adults £14.50 / Concessions £12.50
Family Ticket (2 Adults & 2 Children) £45.00
Friday & Saturday Evening:
All tickets £14.50 (NO Concessions or Family Tickets)
Saturday & Sunday Matinees:
Adults £14.50 / Concessions £12.50
Family Ticket (2 Adults & 2 Children) £45.00

TICKET BOOKING: Ticketsource.co.uk
Sleeping Beauty Berwick-upon-Tweed
or email: svg1961@hotmail.com



Come and join the
Knit and Natter Group



In Spittal Community Centre
On Wednesdays 2-4pm
£3 (includes tea and biscuits)
ALL WELCOME

WHATS ON IN THE SPITTAL COMMUNITY CENTRE

THRIVE FITNESS - HALL: Contact: Fitnesswithhelen@hotmail.com

Zumba Gold - Monday - 10.30 - 11.30 & Thursday - 9.30 - 10.30.

Toning - Tuesday - 9.30 - 10.30 & Friday - 9.30 - 10.30.

Yoga - Tuesday - 10.30 - 11.30.

Zumba - Wednesday - 9.30 - 10.30.

SPITTAL VARIETY GROUP - AIDAN ROOM & AUDITORIUM:

Contact: svg1961@hotmail.com

Monday/Tuesday/Sunday - 7pm - 9.45pm

BEAVERS - Hall: Tuesday - 5pm - 6.15pm. Contact: biggins601@btinternet.com

CUBS - Hall: Tuesday - 6.30pm - 8pm. Contact: brenda.rollo@hotmail.co.uk

KNIT & NATTER - Aidan Room: Wednesday - 2pm - 4pm.

Contact: irenethomson59@hotmail.co.uk

GIRL GUIDES - Hall: Wednesday - 7pm - 8:30pm. Contact: gs.ridley@yahoo.co.uk

BERWICK ARTS CHOIR - Auditorium: Thursday - 7pm - 9pm.

Contact: chris.robinson@ymail.com

TAI CHI - Hall: Friday - 11am - 12pm. Contact: berwicktaichi@gmail.com

WAYPOINT CHURCH: Sunday - 9am - 1pm. Contact: admin@waypointchurch.uk

SVG Takes Home Top Honors at NODA Awards for Pantomime Excellence

On the night of Saturday, October 7th, the spotlight shone brightly on the talented members of SVG (Spittal Variety Group) as they attended the NODA (National Operatic and Dramatic Association) awards ceremony held at Gosforth Park. This gathering of theatrical enthusiasts and performers turned out to be a triumphant evening for SVG, as they walked away with several prestigious awards and nominations for SVG's production of Cinderella, and recognition for their outstanding contributions to the world of pantomime. The awards were:

WINNER Overall Best Pantomime 2023 in NODA North

WINNER Councillors Adult Pantomime

Nomination for Councillors Individual Youth Award - Matthew McIver-Scott as Gertrude.

These remarkable achievements are a testament to the collaborative spirit of the entire SVG community. From the hardworking committee to the talented cast and the dedicated crew, everyone played a crucial role in bringing Cinderella to life. Their collective passion and commitment to their craft shone brightly on stage, leaving an indelible mark on the audience and the judges.

As SVG celebrates these well-deserved accolades, their success serves as an inspiration to aspiring performers and a reminder of the magic that can be created when passion, talent, and dedication come together on stage. The future looks bright for SVG, and their achievements at the NODA awards are a testament to the enduring power of the performing arts. For their 2024 Sleeping Beauty event dates and ticket prices, please click on the link below;

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/whats-on?q=sleeping%20beauty%20berwick>

Berwick Town Council now publishes a monthly newsletter of items of interest as an email. They also distribute a printed version that is distributed around the town, or it can be picked up from their office on Marygate. If you want to be added to the mailing list, just send your name and email address to them at info@berwick-tc.gov.uk.

In their October issue, which can be seen at <https://shorturl.at/dlpyT>, they have articles for example on plans for Marygate and an electric bike scheme. There is also an item entitled '**Fix My Street Update**'. Many of you have been using the Fix My Street website to report local problems (like fly-tipping, blocked drains, broken paving slabs, graffiti, etc.) directly to Northumberland County Council. The website address is www.fixmystreet.com and it's an easy and quick way of reporting problems and receiving updates from NCC as they fix the issue. NCC have published a report on how the service is working. You can read their report at <https://shorturl.at/eERS2>.

The **Wednesday Knit & Natter Group** recently sent off 40 baby vests knitted by the members to this year's Woman's Weekly Get Together project who will pass them on to those living in fuel poverty. Well done ladies!

The group meets 2pm every Wednesday at Spittal Community Centre (formerly St Paul's). If anyone has wool they'd like to donate to the group, please get in touch at irenethomson59@hotmail.co.uk





St. John's Church:

Nature Garden: St John's would be very grateful for any help tending this Nature area for children at the back of the church. Please contact: Mary Higginson 07574676525.

Youth, Children and Families' News from Audrey MacLaren: *'Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to join or change their role within the teams led by Lena until this summer. It is wonderful to see things continue and develop. Perhaps you are less aware that our Youth Group is growing (doubled in size recently!) and in need of support. The Youth Group meets on Monday evenings in term time, from 5.45pm – 7.15pm. It is for 10 to 14 year olds and it involves games, exploring faith and friendship. Over the past year the group has grown from about four to eight regular attendees. Last term we had an outing to Holy Island, followed by a sleepover at St John's and breakfast on the beach. Some members are coming to other church events. During the summer holidays, six of the children went to ReNEW camp led by Lena and John. This is a high energy and sometimes challenging group. To continue leading the group safely, with the variety, and engagement of individual children they deserve, Audrey & Phil need additional help that would include one person able to commit to regular attendance and others as occasional helpers.'*

You can read the Benefice's full October Newsheet at <https://shorturl.at/kuKW2>.

NEED A VENUE?

You can book any room within the Spittal Community Centre through our website. Click on 'Spittal Community Centre' on the top bar and it will take to our booking online page.

To avoid disappointment, please note that the deadline for the November issue is October 20th.

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Berwick Guides returned to the Hall at the Spittal Community Centre for their Wednesday meetings last month and are looking forward to an exciting term of activities and events. We are very grateful to St John's Church who have let the Guides meet in the Church and its grounds for the last two and a half years. A big thank you to them.

On Wednesday 20th September they had a wonderful night with girls from North Northumberland and Scottish Borders Guiding, at the newly reopened Union Chain Bridge over the River Tweed. They met Coldstream and Duns Guides and leaders, together with Rangers. Young Leaders and invited guests met on the 'Border Line', in the middle of the bridge. They exchanged scrolls of friendship and re-enacted an event held in 1950. The scrolls, made by the Guides, included pictures and scenes from our towns. The evening also included the launch of a new Girlguiding Badge, created in collaboration with the Union Chain Bridge Project. The UCB project has been working with local Guiding groups for several years.

We look forward to more events with Scottish Borders Guiding soon.

For more information about Girlguiding go to:

www.girlguiding.org.uk

Gillian Ridley - Volunteer Leader
4th Berwick Guides 07745 609744

SIT Contacts:

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mrswatkins2@hotmail.co.uk

Secretary: Mike Greener – 07752 403409
mikegreener84@gmail.com

Website: www.spittal.org.uk

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