

Working in Spittal, for Spittal

THE POINT

BERWICK 4 BRIDGE

Berwick Bridge 400: Celebrating the bridge designed to serve Spittal, Tweedmouth and Berwick and link two kingdoms.

A programme of free activities, entertainment and experiences for all the family is planned for the weekend 3rd and 4th August between 10am and 4pm to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the opening of Berwick Bridge.

The programme begins 10am on 3rd August on the riverside green in West End, Tweedmouth with The Lord Lieutenant of Northumberland, Dr

Caroline Pryer. Thursdays Singers will perform "Berwick Bridge's Birthday Song", composed by Alison Coates, and the ceremony will end with the Blessing of the Bridge. A commemorative wreath of flowers representing England and Scotland will then be cast from the bridge into the waters of the Tweed and a Bridge plaque unveiled.

Berwick's historic Quayside will host 17thC re-enactments and The Maltings Youth Theatre will tell the story of the building and opening of the Bridge. Berwick Archivist Linda Bankier will lead family-friendly history and story walks across the Bridge. There will also be music representing both sides of the Border with performances by Berwick Pipe Band and Spittal Northumbrian Pipers.

A Quayside market on Sunday 4th, street food traders and a wide selection of crafts, artisan food and drink stalls.

During the weekend, a marquee on the green in West End will host performances by local musicians and singers, jazz, blues, baroque music and choral singing, and the Shindiggers special needs drumming band.

On both days the Queen's Garden in Tweedmouth will host creative arts workshops with Berwick Bridge 400 artist in residence Annie Lord and artisan papermaking experiences with Lucy Baxandall using locally sourced materials from around Berwick Bridge. Berwick Museum and Art Gallery with artist Claire Beattie will be offering the opportunity to try your hand at Gyutaku, the ancient Japanese fishermen's skill of "fish printing".

Sunday 4th August the "Time bandits" and "The Guild" will welcome visitors to their 17thC encampment on Palace Green, to learn about life in Berwick when our Bridge was built. There will also be replica 17thC weapons on the fortifications, beside Wellington Terrace.



Berwick Civic Society 2024 exhibition in the Main Guard is Berwick's Bridges. Describing how the Bridge was built and the recent restoration by Northumberland County Council, entry free of charge 11.00am to 4.00pm daily (except Wednesdays) until 30th September.

Updates on our Celebration weekend will be on Bridge 400 Facebook pages and Visit Berwick website. The full Berwick Bridge 400 weekend programme was launched back in July, copies are available in Berwick Library, Berwick Visitor Centre, shops and other places throughout the Town.

We look forward to seeing you over the weekend.

Alan Hughes.



Amid turmoil time and sweat
A man whom has worked his ends to meet
Has decided when his shift does end
a holiday would be a treat
If for one moment he thought it would be real
the sun comes out and shines on him to give
him his dream
for change for him and family too
is a beach, a cruise, a laugh or two
in the rush of dreams tempting him to look
to carry out what he and family think is true
for alongside a long for dream are rules and
regulations
of passport controls, and endless queues
for in the rush of preparation and packing
for whom the idyllic dream of family never
comes true
in the turmoil of getting ready
is the missing one who would have enjoyed
The laughs, the jokey cracks, the smiley eyes
Looking down from heaven for a big surprise.
The missed days, the applauding gaps of
cheering,
Of times past when it was a song
A bucket, a spade, a contest to make a huge
castle or two,
Shouting come on you gonna make it if you try
The champion castle builder is nigh,
The sun, the heat you will make it through,
The journey is for the long lost a whisper that will be,

For today and tomorrow the ideal holiday you had is
far gone
And holidays abroad, in a plane, or by the sea,
Are not for you or the likes of me
So rest my friend and be content with what you have
for peace within you
is precious too, no more striving or trying to please,
for the peace and fun
does not come at the cost you bear and destroy your
bank balance
in a rash moment of despair, in trying to find the
answer in prayer to
sun and inside glow for no kind of outside means
will give you the holiday of dreams for remember too
all those fighting
so long ago for what you have now may be gone
tomorrow so guard your
friends and family too and think dear man how
precious life is and make what you have
peace within that does not need cash or sand or
roundabout fun that in the end will only
make your head spun.

Anne Bradley.



Spittal Clock Mechanism Replacement Project

The clock at our Community Centre (formerly St Paul's Church) is a local icon having been part of the village for well over 100 years.

Unfortunately, the clock mechanism is well past it's sell by date with regular issues around keeping the clock going and on time, which means this is in desperate need of replacing and it is hoped this can be done with a new automated mechanism which negates the need to manually wind it several times per week and ensures that the chimes will continue to ring out for many years to come.

We have set up a GoFundMe page to raise funds for this, every little bit helps to ensure its chimes keep ringing. So, if you can, please donate and share the link below.

<https://gofund.me/10c2dd64>

Thanks!



BERWICK ARTS CHOIR

Do you want to brush up on your breathing?
Correct your consonants? Tackle your technique?
AND SING! Then we have the workshop for you!
An All-Day Singing Workshop on Saturday 10th
August, for all local singers who would like to join
us.

The workshop will run from 10.30am until 4pm,
with a 30mins break for lunch at 12.30 pm and a
brief tea break c2.30pm. The day will culminate
with a sing through of the music at 3.45pm which
friends/family are welcome to attend. The music
will be classical!

The cost of the workshop is £20 per person, to be
paid in advance. Music is supplied!

**NB: LAST DATE FOR SIGNING UP IS 4TH
AUGUST**

For more information, please contact
berwickartschoir@gmail.com

or

Victoria Craig 07745130987



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS! WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We are looking for volunteers for our Beach Wheelchair project

The role involves:

- Keyholder responsibility allowing users access to the container
- Obtaining a signature
- Closing and locking the container at the end of the user session

Contact Berwick Community Trust today to learn more about this exciting volunteer opportunity.

01289 303366 or
info@berwicktrust.org.uk



COME VISIT US

LIFEBOAT FETE DAY

BERWICK UPON TWEED

Dock Road, Tweedmouth, TD15 2BE

**Sunday 04 August 2024
12-4pm**

Come along and support our annual Fete Day.

Lifeboat displays, funfair, live music, food and drink, stalls, raffle, vintage vehicles, rib trips and much more.

The RNLI is the charity that saves lives at sea
The Royal National Lifeboat Institution is a charity registered in England and Wales (209603), Scotland (SC037736), the Republic of Ireland (CNY 2678 and 20003326), the Bailiwick of Jersey (14), the Isle of Man (1308 and 006329), the Bailiwick of Guernsey and Jersey, of 99, 101, 103, 105, 107, 109, 111, 113, 115, 117, 119, 121, 123, 125, 127, 129, 131, 133, 135, 137, 139, 141, 143, 145, 147, 149, 151, 153, 155, 157, 159, 161, 163, 165, 167, 169, 171, 173, 175, 177, 179, 181, 183, 185, 187, 189, 191, 193, 195, 197, 199, 201, 203, 205, 207, 209, 211, 213, 215, 217, 219, 221, 223, 225, 227, 229, 231, 233, 235, 237, 239, 241, 243, 245, 247, 249, 251, 253, 255, 257, 259, 261, 263, 265, 267, 269, 271, 273, 275, 277, 279, 281, 283, 285, 287, 289, 291, 293, 295, 297, 299, 301, 303, 305, 307, 309, 311, 313, 315, 317, 319, 321, 323, 325, 327, 329, 331, 333, 335, 337, 339, 341, 343, 345, 347, 349, 351, 353, 355, 357, 359, 361, 363, 365, 367, 369, 371, 373, 375, 377, 379, 381, 383, 385, 387, 389, 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ST JOHNS CHURCH SPITTAL



Sea Sunday this year was held on Sunday 14th July. Sea Sunday is the day which many Christian Churches set aside to remember and pray for seafarers and their families and give thanks for their lives and work. It is officially held on the second Sunday in July. During Sea Sunday, charities such as the Stella Maris, The Mission to Seafarers and the Sailors' Society as well as non-denominational groups such as Sea Cadets conduct fundraisers, hold parades and run awareness campaigns about life at sea. We have been making plans for this day for a while, as can be seen in the photo. A lot of the items have been hand knitted by local people.

A Big Thankyou to everyone who came to Sea Sunday, it was a wonderful day.

And a Big Thank You to everyone who helped.



GARDENING GROUP NEWS

It's good to see the sun over the last few days as we have been "well-watered" throughout July! Despite the dreadful day however, Tea in the Park last month was a great success. After expenses we have banked £1338 for the Gardening Group.

Everyone who joined us enjoyed themselves and several people including the workers were singing and dancing in the rain! Thanks also to Kevin for keeping the jolly atmosphere with his music and to the Lifeboat Boat lads for erecting the marquees and keeping the cakes dry. And of course, all the donations of cakes, tombola and raffle prizes were very welcome. Once again, we were very grateful to Karl for the use of his truck and to the husbands and helpers for transporting all our equipment.

Thank you to everyone who came along and supported us on such a wet day. Thank you from us all.

The gardeners have been very busy, the park and the street are beautiful.

The rose garden and the shrubbery are looking great especially after we were so shocked by the severe pruning some of the shrubs received.

The welcome to Spittal bed is well established now but we plan to add more pebbles there.

Mau Watkins.



**"Summer is a gentle reminder that we should slow down, take a deep breath,
and enjoy the beauty around us"
Enjoy it whilst it lasts!**

SIT Contacts:

Chair: Mau Watkins – 01289 330500
mrswatkins2@hotmail.co.uk

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

Website: www.spittal.org.uk

If you, or someone you know, would like to receive 'THE POINT' monthly by email let us know by emailing mikegreener84@gmail.com.

To avoid disappointment, please note that the deadline for the September 2024 issue is August 18th.

