

Working in Spittal, for Spittal

# THE POINT



## SPITTAL BOWLING CLUB

The Bowling Club have submitted a planning application to the County Council for a proposed extension, which will provide accessible WC facilities and a small office room. The works will allow for improved facilities within the club and be suitable for players with disabilities, which is one of their key aims.

You can view the application and make comments at this link: <https://shorturl.at/egoty>.

## HERITAGE

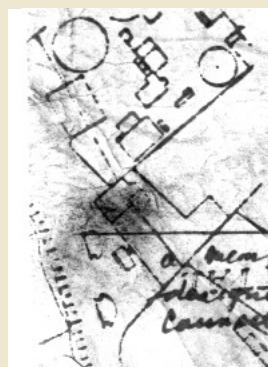
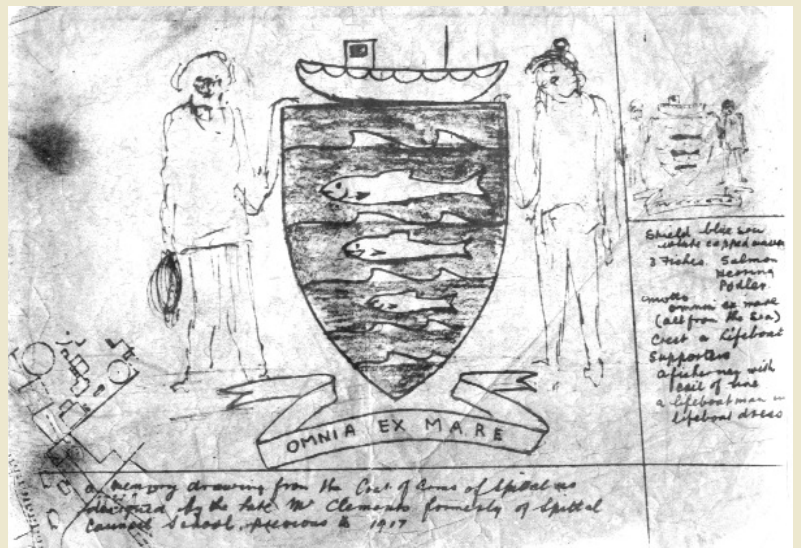
There is still room for Spittal related items to go in the Mini Museum. The official opening will be at around 10.30am at the Coffee Morning on August 3rd, (from 10am - 12 noon) all are welcome.

This sketch has recently been found in SIT's old paper work. It looks like an old fashioned version of photocopy. The little circles on the left side are overlapped from another sheet and appear to be a map for the old gas works in North Greenwich Road, showing the sea embankment bottom left.

The hand written text at the bottom says; "A memory drawing from the Coat of Arms of Spittal was designed by the late Mr. Clements formerly of Spittal Council School, previous to 1917".

We don't know where it came from, or where Mr. Clements saw the original. He was an assistant teacher at the school and was killed fighting in WWI. Have you seen the crest before? or maybe you have seen a finished version somewhere.

The coloured crest is my interpretation, taking instructions from the the right of Mr. Clements' design. It states white capped waves, a salmon, herring and podler.



The motto translates to "All from the sea" with supporters of a lifeboatman on the right and a fisherman with a coil of line on the left.



Are you a local artist who would like to draw up the figures and crest to use in the village?

Raine Bryant,  
Heritage Group

Tel: 01289 298369



# WHAT'S ON

## COFFEE MORNING

Official unveiling of the Spittal Mini Museum

All welcome  
10 until 12

Aug.  
3rd

COMMUNITY CENTRE  
MAIN STREET, SPITTAL

## Saturday 26th August Coffee & Cake Morning

at Spittal Community Centre Hall,  
Middle Street, Spittal.

10am - 12pm



Raffle - Tombola - Cake Stall -  
Guess the Teddy's Birthday

Julie & Tara invite you to a morning of tasty treats whilst

Raising money for  
**HospiceCare**  
NORTH NORTHUMBERLAND  
Caring for Life  
Charity No. 1103635

Entry  
£2.00  
Children free

2024 Calendar

Spittal  
Views



Sold in aid of  
Spittal Improvement Trust

Reg. Charity no. 1102988

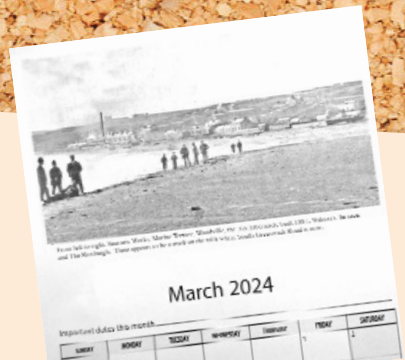
Printed in Spittal

Photos: Robin Brown     Peter Shaw and Morrison Pitters

## 2024 SPITTAL CALENDARS NOW OUT

For sale in the Spittal Food Store,  
Main Street, Spittal, opposite  
St. John's Church and Grieve's  
at the bottom of  
Church Street, Berwick.

Prices may vary.



## Calendar 2024 OLD SPITTAL



Sold in aid of  
Spittal Improvement Trust

Reg. Charity No 1148398  
Printed in Spittal by Shiel & Morrison Print



December 2024



## BEACH SAFETY

St. John's Church held 'Sea Sunday' with proceeds to the RNLI who had stalls and crew to talk to visitors. The Coastguard were also there. Points they were making for our safety included:

- Keep your dog on a lead near the cliff edge and river side, the river can flow very fast and dogs may be swept out to sea. (Last year RNLI lifeboats launched 89 times to dogs)
- Only cross the causeway to Holy Island at the listed safe crossing times - you cannot outrun the North Sea, and many call outs are made a year to visitors who try to



- Don't drink or eat before swimming it can give you cramps
- Keep children in reach at all times.

If you see a person or animal in trouble in the sea, call 999.

If you are interested in being a volunteer with the Coastguard 'To search. To rescue. To save'. and are over 18 with have a full driving licence, contact the Local Manager on email: [area5@mcga.gov.uk](mailto:area5@mcga.gov.uk).

## A PREVIOUS HOLIDAY RESORT

From the 1830s summer visitors came to Spittal in increasing numbers attracted by the Spa, beach and sea bathing. In 1836 there were complaints about ladies and gentlemen bathing together. So, the following year, notices were put up informing the public that the central part of the beach was now reserved for ladies, with gentlemen allowed to bathe at either end. In 1839 the beach was divided in two with stakes and a screen, gentlemen at the south end and ladies to the north.

Excursions from Berwick to Spittal became popular when the steam-ferry service began across the river in 1838. The opening of the railway line from Newcastle to Tweedmouth in 1847 and the branch line to Kelso in 1851 brought an influx of summer visitors from Tyneside and the Borders.

The "History of Berwick-upon-Tweed", published in 1849, gives this account of Spittal at the height of the summer season: "Stout farmers and comfortable looking housewives come down from the hills of the Lammermuirs or the plains of the Cheviots; and cautious Scots from Kelso and Teviotdale, having weighed well in their own minds the expenditure of every penny, journey to Spittal for a week or so, to be fleeced in their lodgings, etc. According to the most approved fashion at bathing places, a few Border noblemen and "gents" occasionally come there. There is but one bathing machine, and the ladies either undress on the sand, or proceed in their bathing dresses, at early dawn, to the sea, and thence to their houses".

In 1863 six new bathing machines were provided on the beach and the number of bathers increased substantially.

*The bathing machines may have been similar to these ones from a different resort.*



**NEED A VENUE?**  
3 different sized rooms available

Book the  
**SPITTAL COMMUNITY CENTRE**  
Contact SIT

## GARDENING NEWS

Last week in the park we had a very good turnout of volunteers helping to get the park ready for Sunday. Thank you everyone.

It was looking very dubious weather wise if "Afternoon Tea in the Park" would take place but despite the wind the team got the park ready and although we couldn't have the big RNLI marquees because of the gusting winds the park looked great. Thank you everyone for a great job, yet again.

It was such a pleasure to see so many people in the Park, listening to the music and enjoying the refreshments, having a go on the raffle and tombolas. Some of the children must have spent all their pocket money on the Teddy stall and the youngster's tombola.

The queue at the face painter never stopped all afternoon and there were some beautiful faces coming from her gazebo. Thank you Pat for keeping the children amused when they weren't off spending their money.

The other stalls - Judith's plant stall, Tracey's card stall, knit and natter, the Spittal books and the RNLI did well. Everyone seemed pleased with the day.

There are many people to thank from the

Gardening Group. Thank you Karl for the use of your lorry. We couldn't do it without your wheels. Thank you Ailsa for the lovely face painting, Kevin for the music, and Ruth for the scones, thank you to the lovely people who put donations in the pot and to our very generous friends for all the cakes, tombola and raffle prizes that appear each year. A huge thank you must go to our team for turning out each year to make the event such a success. I hope I haven't forgotten anyone but we are so grateful to everyone for making our day so enjoyable.

It was such a success that we made over £1400 after expenses which considering the windy day encourages us to look forward to 2024 "Afternoon Tea in the Park" Hope to see you all there.

We will be spending some of the money on new gazebos as some of our old ones have come to the end of their days and some of the tables need replacing. They have done well as they were bought for our first Seaside festival. That seems a long time ago.

The gardeners will be back on duty next week after a well deserved week off.

*Mau Watkins*

*Chair Spittal Gardening Group 07748076527*

## Knit and Natter Group



The Spittal Knit and Natter Group had a great boost recently when the Berwick Rangers Supporters Club gave them a £200 donation. The reason they won the donation was that they had produced a number of knitted items for the good of the wider community of Berwick. This included twiddle muffs for dementia sufferers at

local care homes, blankets for homeless people and wheelchair users, and poppies for annual displays at the Spittal Community Centre and at the Spa Well War Memorial in Spittal. The group is currently knitting teddies for trauma counsellors to hand out to children, as well as hearts presented to patients at the end of their cancer treatment. So, well done to all concerned.

The money will be used to help support the cost of the room rental each week and to buy wool when required.

The Group meets 2pm to 4pm every Wednesday in the Spittal Community Centre, and it is a social meet-up for anyone who wants to come along.

*And finally.....*

*Whilst we are mentioning knitting, we thought you should be aware that someone locally keeps going around and stealing people's knitting. The police think he/she is following a pattern.*

### **SIT Contacts:**

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*[mikegreener84@gmail.com](mailto:mikegreener84@gmail.com)*

*[www.spittal.org.uk](http://www.spittal.org.uk)*

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**To avoid disappointment, please note:  
that if you have something you would like to  
include in the September 1st edition that the  
deadline is August 18th.**