

BERWICK

STYLE & CULTURE

ISSUE 3 - AUTUMN / WINTER 2026

**For me, there is just music.
Kit Hobkirk's vision for Berwick Parish Church**

**Words, music and a happy accident
with John Reed**

An Autumn of ceramics at 27 Art House

**Where creativity & wellbeing take shape
inside Ravn Clay Studio**

**Berwick gets ready for
its biggest ever Lit Fest**

A new chapter for the Old Brewery

Plus three months of things to see & do

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Berwick Style & Culture

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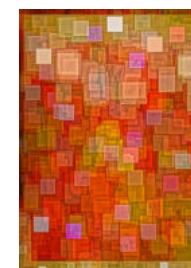
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Liquid Flames
Maggie Jary



Down Came The Leaves
Chris Jary

 **abstract**

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Please Note - Every effort has been made to ensure the information in this issue is accurate at the time of print. However, details may occasionally change, so we recommend checking directly with venues or organisers before attending. Berwick Style & Culture cannot accept responsibility for any amendments or omissions.

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For me, there is just music

Music has echoed through Berwick Parish Church for centuries, but under the direction of Kit Hobkirk, Musical Director, the building is beginning an exciting new chapter, one that aims to welcome musicians of every generation and inspire new audiences through an ambitious and inclusive programme of live performance.

What first inspired your love of music, and where has your musical journey taken you before arriving in Berwick?

My musical journey started, in common with many musicians, with piano lessons. I was lucky enough to have had a very lovely teacher, who gently, but rigorously introduced me to the discipline needed to progress in music; playing duets with her at the end of a lesson as a treat was the highlight of my week. I became a chorister in the Parish Church choir in Wallingford, Oxfordshire where the very ancient Agatha Christie was one of the few parishioners.

The course of my life changed one evening when my parents were watching a programme about the Yehudi Menuhin Music School and my mind was made up, so on my eleventh birthday, I began the most wonderful musical adventure at St Mary's Music School in Edinburgh. It was in the very early days of the school in the mid 70s, so there was a pioneering spirit about the place, with pupils practising in walk-in cupboards and toilets in an early 17th century manor house, quite unfit for purpose, but we were too busy enjoying making music with super-talented young musicians to care; it was more like a large family, with just forty two pupils, than a school.

I joined the cathedral choir (the music school had previously been the choir school) and I was now singing a wide range of different music every day, (which is a great musical training), in a massive church six days a week, staying until Christmas Day and Easter Day and coming back early for the Edinburgh Festival.

We sang the Messiah and Bach Passions with an orchestra every year to a packed out cathedral and for me, it was heaven on earth. I started learning the organ on one of the country's greatest organs... now, it's difficult to put into words what it's like for a teenager to be in control of an instrument that can make more noise than an entire symphony orchestra, alone in an empty cathedral in complete darkness, but I would challenge anyone not to be inspired by that. Given that I wasn't one of the "super-talented" kids at St. Mary's, I've had some amazing, awe-inspiring and downright bizarre experiences in my musical career, not as a pianist or organist, but as a singer.

I owe my performing career largely to two composers, Johann Sebastian Bach and Benjamin Britten. I was lucky enough to sing the role of the *Evangelist* (the narrator) in Bach's *Passions* all over Europe, but two performances are particularly memorable. Quite early on, I was invited to return to St. Mary's in Edinburgh to sing the *St John Passion*. To put this in context, for a chorister, the hero of Bach's *Passions* is not, as one might imagine, Jesus, but the Evangelist, so to be ascending the steps of the central pulpit in my childhood cathedral, knowing the awe that the Evangelist inspired in the minds of the choristers was quite a thrill.

Much later on, with many performances under my belt, as far afield as Norway and Germany, I had the honour of singing the *St. Matthew Passion* at Snape Maltings, the concert hall that was developed by Britten.



One of the most well known works by Britten is the *Serenade for Tenor, Horn and Strings*, which has given me both one of the most awe inspiring experiences and most bizarre. I had to pinch myself as I was standing on the stage of the City Hall in Oslo, where the Nobel Peace Prize is awarded, with the Norwegian Chamber Orchestra behind me, aware that I was standing where giants had previously stood, whose names will last in the history books for centuries.

It's quite common for professional soloists, even famous ones, to feel imposter syndrome in high-profile situations and I certainly felt it that night. On the same tour, we also performed in a chocolate factory canteen, but that's not the bizarre experience (unless you count singing surrounded by twelve large original Edvard Munch friezes). I feel confident in saying that there probably isn't another tenor who has sung the Britten *Serenade* in a run of eighteen performances and certainly not for a lesbian theatre company at the Drill Hall in Tottenham Court Road, dressed in a tailcoat and black tights with a feather duster... Now, that was bizarre! But there isn't time to explain and you wouldn't believe it anyway. I haven't talked about the players and conductors that I have been privileged to work with, some of whom were geniuses; observing them make music was an awe-inspiring honour.

What brought you to Berwick, and what made you feel this was the right place to begin a new chapter?

When our daughter was born in the late 90s, the time of travelling the world, footloose and fancy free had come to an end and we ended up in Salisbury, where I focused on teaching and became a permanent professional singer in the cathedral choir, (returning to my musical roots).

After twenty years of working seven days a week during term time and dealing with the increasing admin from four different schools, I decided that the time had come to call time on my crazy lifestyle. We headed back north to quiet retirement/ extended sabbatical in the sleepy foothills of the Lammermuirs. The thing about music is that it's not a career, it's a life and quite soon I was organising come and sing weekends in Duns.

Now that I was retired, I was able to extend the work that I had been doing for the National Youth Choir of Scotland since it began thirty years ago, adding work with the National Boys Choir and travelling to remote parts of Scotland to audition youngsters. Then, the Director of Music at Berwick Parish Church resigned and I was persuaded by friends, (whose advice I have valued for decades), to put my hat in the ring, so, of course, music brought me to Berwick. Here was an opportunity to revisit my love for the organ after decades away and bring a lifetime of experience in singing to help the choir members develop their skills, which is my greatest passion.



Since becoming Director of Music at Berwick Parish Church, what has your vision been for music here?

Very quickly, I realised that I didn't just want to share my passion for choral music with the choir and congregation. With encouragement from Canon Christopher Smith, we resurrected, post Covid, the summer organ recital series that he had founded. We realised that a female organist had never performed in Berwick (that had to be remedied!) and I'm delighted that we have had some fabulous recitals from great female organists. This season, our final recital on Wednesday, 30 September, will be given by the Australian organist, Alana Brook, who is Assistant Director of Music at Wakefield Cathedral. Many fine musicians have made Berwick their home and we have benefited from their expertise to enhance some of our services, producing some truly memorable celebrations.

I'm not a great fan of Oliver Cromwell, but I have to admit that his influence on the building of the Parish Church has created a performing space with a fabulous acoustic, that is crystal clear without being dry. I realised that an opportunity was developing to give both local performers and talented professionals looking for somewhere to make music a performing space and the audience the opportunity to hear high quality music live on an open access basis, where only those who can afford to donate are asked to do so; for me, charity is not just about giving money, so my vision is that anyone can come and for an hour or two, forget any problems they might be having and find some joy in music, whether or not they can afford to pay for live music. One of the things that I really hate is the accusation that music is elitist. It's true that it can cost a lot of money to go and hear big stars and large-scale operas and musicals, (actually the cheapest ticket to Royal Opera is £13,

which coincidentally is the price for an adult to see Berwick Rangers!), but no more than big sporting events.

You're keen to encourage younger musicians and welcome a wide range of musical styles. Why is that so important to you, and how do you hope to make it happen?

It's particularly difficult for young musicians to get their careers off the ground; it takes thousands of hours to become good and maintain a high standard, so without earning from performing, most musicians are forced into taking on other jobs to pay the bills and they then run out of time and energy to keep up the practice. The programmes at our concert halls are mostly filled with performers who are already established and self promotion is expensive and risky.

The model that we have established is without risk on both sides. The church is not in a position to be able to hire a performer, promising a particular fee and the performer is usually not in a position to be able to hire the church and do all the publicity needed to get an audience. By sharing any donations that the audience makes, it ensures that neither performer nor church make a loss. Thankfully, we have had some very generous audiences over the last few years.

We are gradually widening the styles of music that are being performed, because, for me, there is just music. My ambition is to introduce folk, jazz and pop to people who think that music finished at the end of the 19th century and Bach and Beethoven to youngsters who have a tribal view of music as though it was like football, where you should only support your club and wouldn't dream of going to see someone else's.

"If someone happens to read this that's never been to a live concert, decides to give it a go and come along to one of our concerts or some youngsters who have a group and get together to practise regularly but can't find somewhere to gig because they can't afford to hire a space get in touch with the church to ask if they can do a gig, then that would make me very happy."

Looking ahead, what would you love people to say about Berwick Parish Church as a musical venue in five years' time?

I'd love it if some of those people were the performers who did some of their first

public performances at the Parish Church and as a result, gained the confidence to get their careers going. I'd love it if some of those people were in the audience, struggling to deal with the cost of living, loneliness or depression, but went away feeling even just a little bit more hopeful and a little bit brighter. I'd love it if everyone was saying that they came to every concert, regardless of the instrument or the style of music because they knew they would have a good time. I'd love it if musicians were saying that they would keep coming back to Berwick Parish Church because the acoustic is great, the welcome is warm and supportive and they always go away with something in their back pocket; it might not be a fortune, but they'll never be out of pocket.

To find out more about upcoming concerts at Berwick Parish Church visit
<https://berwickparishchurch.co.uk/musical-events/>



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Words, music and a happy accident



In this feature, we meet with songwriter John Reed to discover how a happy accident brought him to Berwick, how more than 30 years of travelling the world shaped his outlook and his music, and why words, independence and telling the stories that matter remain at the heart of everything he writes.

What brought you to Berwick, and what made it feel like the right place to settle?

There were a few reasons: our children were both moving their families north, to Hawick and to Dunfermline; good rail links were a factor, and so too was the sea. Then one day we were looking unsuccessfully in the Borders and saw a sign to Berwick. A happy accident!

After a life spent working internationally, how has the global experience shaped the way you see the world and your music?

I travelled across North America, Europe and Asia for over 30 years before retiring in 2023. I always walked the areas around the hotels. It showed me that it's the people with little or nothing who are the true givers of this world. I've always written: tales from my travels, and envelopes of poems for the kids whenever I was away. I've also witnessed countless other musicians singing and playing in their own inspiring styles.

Did songwriting run alongside your career in international trade, or did it become more central later on?

Apart from singing and playing to the kids, it wasn't until I bought a cittern in 2014 that music began to dovetail seriously with work.

You describe yourself as a 'lyrics first' songwriter. What is it about words that drives your creative process?

We have a beautiful language. Languages evolve, but the beauty of English is being eroded by the language of TV and movies. The right words always tell the right stories.

Many of your songs respond to what's happening in the world. What tends to spark a song for you?

I process social, political and environmental injustices through my songs, but I'm also a lover of family, history, and the natural world, and Berwick is perfect for all three.



You made the decision to step away from major streaming platforms. What does independence mean to you as an artist today?

The initial reason was that I had two albums 'stream-ripped' (cloned for the profit of others from two different major platforms) in 2018. Music is not there for corporate profit. It's far more important than that. Independence has been at the core of my life. I set up my business in 2003 because I had no taste for corporate cap-doffing. Similarly, independence in music means I can be true to myself and whatever I create.

At the heart of it all, what keeps you writing and what do you hope people take away from your music?

As a solo artist, I keep writing because I have to! I hope my music helps to inspire others, encourage thought, and give enjoyment.

I have several collaborative projects on the go, including one very special one with my son. Then, there's The Untangled Knot which is due to debut here in Berwick in November. Music through history has always told stories of real lives.

Heritage

John's latest album, Heritage, is a very special collaboration with his son, Duncan. The album was released on 12 September. Heritage is available to buy through John and Duncan's Bandcamp page.

www.johnduncanreed.bandcamp.com

www.youtube.com/@johnreed-music/videos

www.johnreedmusic.com

 [john_reed_music](https://www.instagram.com/john_reed_music)



The Untangled Knot

John Reed joins Shirley Barr, Beth Porter and Rachel Taylor-Beales for The Untangled Knot, a special evening of folk music at Berwick Parish Church this November. The concert will feature new material and form the basis of a forthcoming album. The concert takes place on 21 November at 19:30 £10 entry fee and the simultaneous live stream will ask for donations via our PayPal - name your price.

The ticket link for the show at Holy Trinity is <https://wegottickets.com/f/21816>

For more information scan the QR Code below.



An Autumn of ceramics at 27 Art House

This October, 27 Art House in Berwick-upon-Tweed presents two exhibitions celebrating contemporary ceramics and their relationship with landscape, water and geology.

The programme begins with a joint exhibition by Judith Davies and local artist Paddy Hartley, opening with a preview on Friday 2nd October from 6pm and continuing until 23 October.

Both artists draw inspiration from the coastlines of northern England and southern Scotland. Davies creates tactile, hand-built porcelain forms inspired by the tideline, ranging from small Touchstones designed to be held to larger sculptural Standing Sea-Stones. Natural pigments, including indigo and ochre, enhance their delicately rippled surfaces.

Hartley's Glazed Landscape series is shaped by sustained observation of the meeting point between the River Tweed and the North Sea. Through throwing, turning, layered glazing and repeated firings, he transforms tidal rhythms, coastal strata and geological processes into richly textured sculptural forms.

Together, their work invites viewers to consider the quiet connections between earth, water, process and memory.

This will be followed by the final solo exhibition of internationally acclaimed ceramic artist David Roberts, opening on Monday 26 October and continuing until 16 November.

Now in his 80th year, Roberts is one of the world's foremost practitioners of contemporary Raku ceramics. Marking the culmination of a career spanning more than five decades, the exhibition will feature a new collection of large-scale, hand-built and Raku-fired vessels inspired by geological formations, landscape contours and water erosion.



The opening evening will begin with a ticketed artist talk and Q&A at The Straw Yard, followed by an exhibition preview at 27 Art House.

27 Art House, Bridge Street, Berwick-upon-Tweed, TD15 1ES

www.amyizat.com/27-art-house www.thestrawyard.co.uk




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In aid of Soul Kitchen and Great North Air Ambulance

Jack and the Beanstalk: Christmas with a Twist

Following the success of *The Elves and the Shoemaker* and *The Three Musketeers... Sort Of!*, Yardlight Theatre returns to The Straw Yard this Christmas with a brand-new festive extravaganza - and this time, there's a Giant on the loose.

5TH-31ST
DECEMBER
2026
VARIOUS TIMES

The Trott family are down on their luck. Their farm is in trouble, Christmas is at stake, and Jack has just one chance to save the day. Unfortunately, Daisy the cow has disappeared, the farm's baubles stubbornly refuse to grow, and the terrifying Giant who is terrorising the good people of Berwick has never actually been seen by anyone...

Starring Berwick favourites Ross Graham and Jennifer Barron, alongside the irrepressibly silly Hannah Webb, Jack and the Beanstalk gives the traditional fairy tale a distinctly local makeover. Expect plenty of panto silliness, audience participation, ridiculous puppets, festive fun and a generous sprinkling of old baubles.

Whether you're bringing the family for a Christmas treat, gathering friends for a festive outing, or looking for something a little different this December, we have you covered!

This year, due to popular demand we're holding an **Adults-Only performance** for those who prefer their panto with a little more 'Anything goes' and a little less "He's behind you!", and a **Pay What You Can performance** to help make live theatre accessible to everyone.

Not only are we offering a limited number of Early Bird tickets (make sure you book before the end of October), **Klarna is available at checkout**, allowing you to spread the cost of your tickets for a little extra Christmas flexibility.

Produced by Yardlight Theatre at The Straw Yard in association with The Maltings.

The Straw Yard, The Barracks, Parade, Berwick-upon-Tweed TD15 1DF,

Come and find out what's really growing up that beanstalk...

<https://tinyurl.com/2u32j6x7>



www.thestrawyard.co.uk





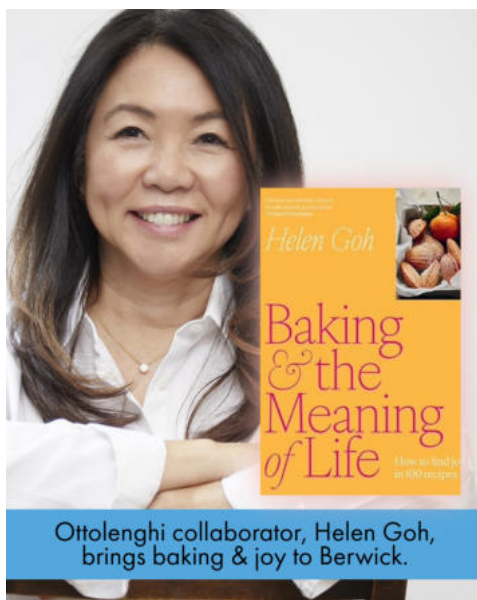
Berwick gets ready for its biggest ever Lit Fest

From 5–11 October, Berwick Literary Festival returns with its biggest programme yet, bringing more than 55 events to venues across the town. And there are some formidable names heading north.

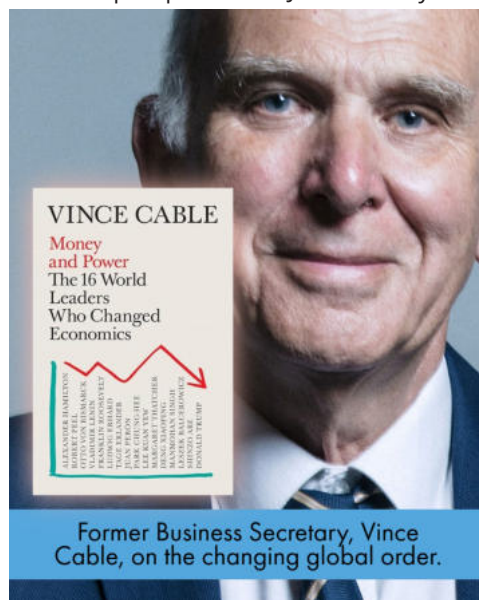
Chocolat author Joanne Harris brings her haunting new novel *Sleepers in the Snow*, while Captain *Corelli's Mandolin* author Louis de Bernières will close the Festival with an event spanning fiction, poetry, memoir and music. T.S. Eliot Prize-winning poet George Szirtes explores poetry, migration and translation, and poet and novelist Seán Hewitt discusses his acclaimed first novel, *Open, Heaven*. Elsewhere, John Lloyd, the television producer behind *Blackadder*, *Spitting Image* and *QI*, reflects on an extraordinary creative career. Former Business Secretary Vince Cable, writer and broadcaster Matthew Parris,

historian Diarmaid MacCulloch and music journalist David Hepworth are also among this year's guests. But one of the joys of this year's Festival is just how many different ways there are to find your way into it.

Baking. Rock music. Art. Film. They might not be the first things that spring to mind when you hear "literary festival", but they're all here. Ottolenghi recipe developer and practising psychologist Helen Goh considers baking as a source of joy and connection. David Hepworth asks what happens when the heroes of rock 'n' roll grow old. Christina Jansen offers an intimate perspective on Joan Eardley.



Ottolenghi collaborator, Helen Goh, brings baking & joy to Berwick.



Former Business Secretary, Vince Cable, on the changing global order.

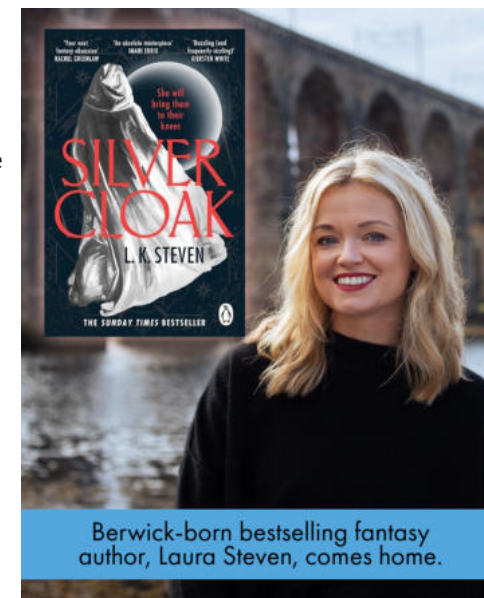
And Berwick itself is woven throughout the week. Bestselling Northumbrian fantasy writers, Hannah Kaner and Laura Steven, explore the inspiration they draw from the North and what it means to come home to the borderlands. Local archivist Linda Bankier brings voices from the town's past to life, and Amanda Roberts takes audiences into the turbulent Tudor Berwick behind her historical mystery *Lady of the Quay*.

There's poetry and politics, psychology and history, food and film, writing workshops, live performance and free events for children and families. And, as audiences move between some of Berwick's most distinctive venues, Festival week brings its own particular buzz to the town.

So whether it's already a fixture in your calendar, or you've always thought you needed to be a bookworm to enjoy a Literary Festival, there's never been a better year to see what Berwick Literary Festival has to offer.



Author of *Chocolat*, Joanne Harris, presents her haunting new novel.

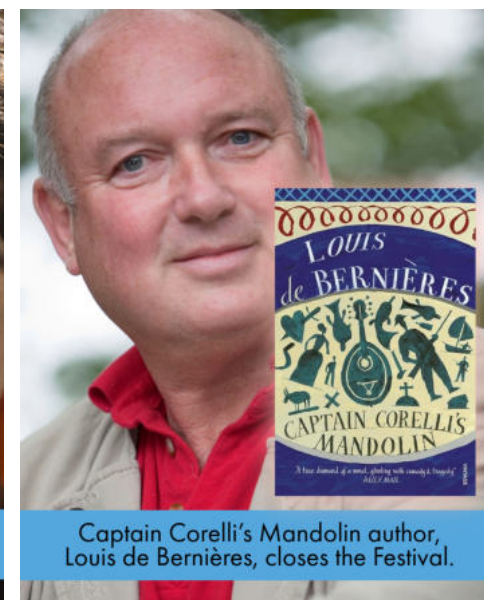


Berwick-born bestselling fantasy author, Laura Steven, comes home.

Pick up the programme. Follow your curiosity. See where it takes you.

Berwick Literary Festival runs from 5–11 October 2026. Browse the full programme and book tickets at

www.Berwickliteraryfestival.com

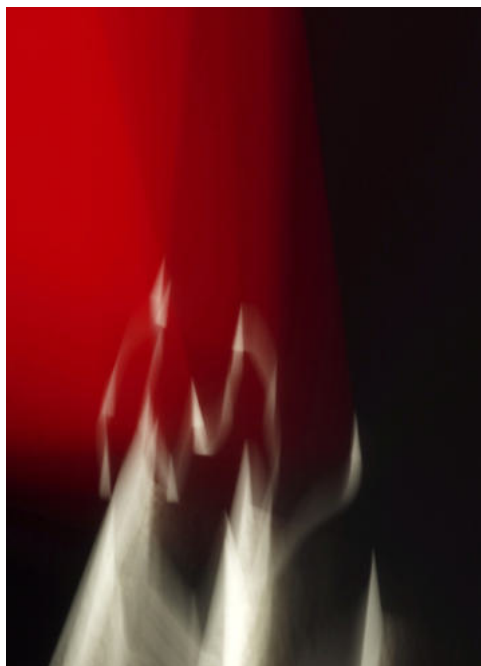


Captain *Corelli's Mandolin* author, Louis de Bernières, closes the Festival.

The right place at the right time, camera in hand

Since making Berwick their home in 2009, Chris and Maggie Jary have found endless inspiration in the town, its coastline and community. Here, they share how photography became a shared interest they could enjoy together and why the pleasure lies as much in the process as in the finished image. Thanks to Chris and Maggie for sharing the story of their creative journey.

After spending two years working in Uganda, moving to Berwick was a fresh start for us and a chance to put down new roots. It was the beauty of the town and surrounding coastline, as well as the friendliness of the people, that attracted us. The East Coast mainline meant we had easy access to family and friends around the country. We soon discovered the lively arts scene and the willingness of people to share their skills and ideas as well as supporting one another.



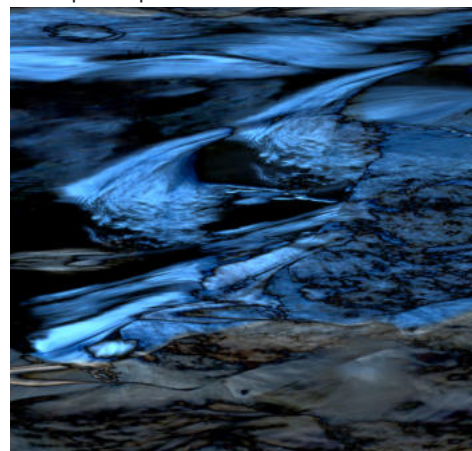
Maggie had had a successful career as a food stylist working in commercial photography studios so it was natural for her to want to start taking her own photographs and Berwick was the perfect place to start. After seeing how she enjoyed photography Chris decided to have a go.

Joining the Berwick Camera Club meant meeting people with a shared passion for photography. Learning new skills and seeing how other photographers work continues to stimulate us to try new things.

Producing an interesting image is much more than point and shoot. For us the key is to make it fun, taking our time and enjoying the experience. A slow, mindful approach can be essential for mental well-being and used to express personal feelings and emotions.

We both enjoy different genres of photography such as landscape, street, environmental portraiture as well as more creative work but we are always looking for something different and unique. One of the key elements is being in the right place at the right time, with an open mind and camera at the ready.

As with any genre of photography, using a camera with imagination enhances the art of observation. For our creative and abstract work we look beyond the obvious, taking shapes, textures, colours, patterns, etc. from the surroundings. The camera can also become a creative tool by using intentional camera movement and multiple exposures.



This is where we can experiment and break the rules. The final image does not always end up as it was previsualised and it often develops in new and interesting ways. The final step is the printing which we like to do ourselves, choosing the correct paper to complement the image. It is only then that the photograph is complete.

Whilst we enjoy the process of image making it is just as important to us to get out with our cameras, exploring the surroundings, taking exercise, meeting interesting people and sharing our passion for photography.



Chris and Maggie's work is on display at Abstract Gallery on West Street, Berwick www.abstractberwick.com

For details of the Berwick Camera Club www.berwickcameraclub.co.uk



On The Phone

in support of Action Against Hunger

Category Winner: Maggie Jary

Image: The Chip 'n' Ladies Day Out

Jackal Print Exchange and Exhibition

During the European Renaissance in the 15th century, artists began forming printmaking networks to share and exchange their work.

At Jackal, we wanted to bring that sense of connection and collaboration to Berwick with the first Jackal Print Exchange.

Artists were invited to create an original edition of five prints. Four were exchanged anonymously with other participating artists, while one was kept for an exhibition at Jackal, creating a collection that brings together the work of everyone involved.

The response has been fantastic. Twenty seven artists from Orkney to Somerset took part, bringing together a varied range of approaches and techniques from collagraph to linocut.

What began as an invitation to make prints has become a way for artists to share their work, discover other practices and build connections.

For us, that is what makes printmaking so special. It has a democratic quality: you don't need an expensive studio or specialist equipment to make an original print.

Words by Mills



The Jackal Print Exchange exhibition will bring the prints together at Jackal, 30 Hide Hill, Berwick-upon-Tweed, from 11 October to 4 November. Entry is free and prints will be available to buy.

Visit Jackal's website or sign up to the mailing list for details of talks, workshops and events:

www.jackalonthide.co.uk



Artists featured in image (clockwise from top left): Morag Eaton, Jennifer Garthwright, Helen Forrest, Lucy Henzell-Thomas, Jane Porter.



The sound of a creative town

A new podcast is getting behind the people, places and ideas shaping Berwick's cultural life, while its creators have bigger ambitions for the town's creative future.

Why Berwick?

It's a question sound engineers and musicians Bodhi Turnbull and James Sanderson have been putting to some of the people helping to shape the town's increasingly lively creative scene.

Their new LAB/OR8 podcast goes behind the scenes of creative life in and around Berwick, exploring not only what people make, but the journeys, influences and decisions behind it. Guests so far include Ben Humphrey and Oli Brooks of The Straw Yard, Darren Holleywell of Amped and Berwick Fringe Festival, and Clare English of Berwick Literary Festival. (Pictured below and right).

"Berwick has this vibrant creative community, but so much of it can go under the radar," says Bodhi. "We want LAB/OR8 to shine a light on the people making things happen here, connect people who might not otherwise meet, and create more opportunities for young creatives to see what's possible."

But the podcast is also a calling card for something bigger.

With degrees in sound and audio production and professional experience



spanning live events, festivals, music and recording, Bodhi and James want to put their expertise to work for other creatives, businesses and organisations.

That might mean producing a podcast, recording conversations with artists or customers, capturing stories behind a business, or turning one great conversation into audio, video, social clips and written content.

Alongside production services, LAB/OR8 has already taken its expertise into Berwick Academy, delivering mixing and mastering workshops with Year 10 and 11 students. Longer term, the pair hope to create more opportunities for young people to experience creative careers while building LAB/OR8 into a lasting part of Berwick's cultural infrastructure.

Because perhaps the most exciting thing about Berwick's creative scene is not what needs to be invented, but what is already here, waiting to be heard.

Listen, collaborate or bring LAB/OR8 an idea at www.labor8.co.uk

Ravn Clay Studio: Where creativity and wellbeing take shape

At Ravn Clay in Ford, Keith Webster has created far more than a pottery studio. Five years after pursuing his long-held ambition to work with clay, the former archaeologist and teacher reflects on creativity and the quiet sense of wellbeing that comes from slowing down and making something by hand.



The studio sits on the Ford & Etal Estate, housed on the ground floor of the old Reading Rooms in Ford. It was established in 2021, the result of a long-held ambition to make pottery. Prior to ceramics, I worked as an archaeologist and primary school teacher, and setting up this studio - without any formal pottery or art qualifications - was challenging in many ways. In the five years since Ravn Clay has been running,

I've come to realise there is a deep, pressing need for creativity in our daily lives. As well as creating my own unique stoneware to sell in the studio and at select venues across the North East and Scottish Borders, the studio has always offered an extensive program of workshops and courses where visitors can step into the studio and have a go at making handbuilt pottery themselves.

I'm currently working with the University of Ulster and a PhD student who's looking at the connections between community, ceramics, and wellbeing. Ravn Clay was built to offer slow, hands-on experiences - an antidote to the busy lives, schedules, and increasing screen time that plague us all.

Media such as The Great British Pottery Throwdown has supported a growing interest in handmade ceramics. But more than that, as the world speeds towards an uncertain future and finally seems to be falling out of love with plastic and mass-produced, disposable aesthetics, an activity that connects you intimately with natural clay and your own creative impulses is a deeply satisfying, mindful way to spend an afternoon. Because the focus at Ravn Clay is on handbuilding without the pressure of a potter's wheel, the workshops allow people to work at their own comfortable pace and really connect with the materials they're using.



People usually arrive at a workshop with a fair quantity of ceramic baggage. Whether derived from negative school experiences or their own artistic expectations, they often prepare themselves just to 'have a go', rarely expecting to create work they'll feel truly proud of. This always surprises me. As adults, we so often deny ourselves the simple opportunity to play and be creative; our time must always be measured, useful, and quantified. But working with clay in a workshop isn't like that.

Surrounded by tools, inspiration, and examples of past work - and through careful, reflective teaching - it's incredibly satisfying to witness the shift in their attitude and mood. By the end of a session, shoulders have dropped and pulse rates have slowed. A few, who arrived with a concrete plan, do manage to achieve their desired result. All have transformed clay into functional or frivolous pottery - work that will endure, is tactile, unique, and that they will treasure for years to come.



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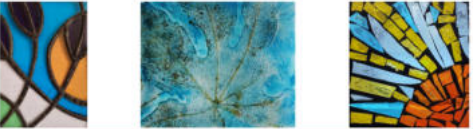
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The studio itself has only been possible thanks to generous community support. Kickstarter campaigns helped fund the kiln and our relocation to Ford Village in 2023. Regular pottery students also laboured long and hard in the renovation, redecoration, and furnishing of our current space. While tourist traffic on the estate is important for the studio's economics, it's also vital for me to work with the local community - whether that's Community Action Northumberland, local schools, or community groups. Handbuilding requires minimal bulky equipment, allowing me to take pottery to venues across the North East; in fact, there are very few village halls I haven't visited.

This summer I launched a new pottery festival, *Carpe Lutum*, to help showcase and support fellow potters from the region, and I've worked with Create Berwick to give four young people practical experience of what a creative studio job might look like.

Five years have gone by in the blink of an eye. However, my ambition remains to ensure Ravn Clay is a vital addition to the region's creative landscape - a studio where people can create, be inspired, and make creative endeavour a lasting part of their long-term wellbeing."

Visit Ravn Clay at
www.ravnclay.co.uk
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A New Chapter for the Old Brewery

One of Tweedmouth's historic buildings is beginning an exciting new chapter, as the Old Brewery is transformed into a creative home for artists and becomes the setting to launch a new festival celebrating Berwick and the Lower Tweed.

Dating back to the late 18th century, the Grade II listed Old Brewery has long been part of Tweedmouth's heritage. From 1925 until 1975, the building operated as a maltings supplying the Border Brewery, but in the years that followed it gradually fell into disrepair, with only occasional minor use.

Recognising its importance, Berwick Community Trust purchased the building with the aim of saving it and preserving the historic features that remained. The idea of giving the building a new creative purpose began to take shape following Creative and Cultural Zone pilot consultations in Berwick in 2021. These revealed a significant community of artists and creative people in the town, many of whom lacked suitable space in which to develop their work and businesses. The findings provided Berwick Community Trust with the evidence it needed to develop plans for the Old Brewery Artist Studios.

With support from a range of funders, the Trust has now created a high-specification facility offering artist studios, gallery and teaching space. The redevelopment has also been a very local affair, involving builders, painters, joiners and fabricators from the area, even the new windows travelled only the short distance from Crawfords Joinery next door.

Artists have now been selected for residency and the building is preparing to welcome the public for its first exhibitions and events.

Benchmark Festival of Arts

Among those events will be the inaugural Benchmark Festival of Arts, bringing together the work of local artists, photographers and sculptors in a celebration of Berwick-upon-Tweed and the Lower Tweed.

The festival grew from the wider Benchmark at Grinham's Wood initiative, a local community charity project covering riverside paths between the Union Chain Bridge, Horncliffe and St Thomas' Island. Its work encompasses woodland and wildlife, history and commemoration, art and photography, and health and wellbeing.

An earlier photographic exhibition at Paxton House in November 2025 helped establish the idea of widening the project to include artists and sculptors and developing it into an annual event.



Fishermen at Gardo, Peter Knox

Fifty exceptional works by local artists, photographers and sculptors were unveiled on 10 September at the inaugural Benchmark Festival of Arts exhibition at the new Old Brewery arts complex in Tweedmouth. The exhibition, which the organisers hope will become an annual event, seeks to recognise the work of local artists who have been inspired by the scenery and wildlife of Berwick and the lower reaches of the Tweed.

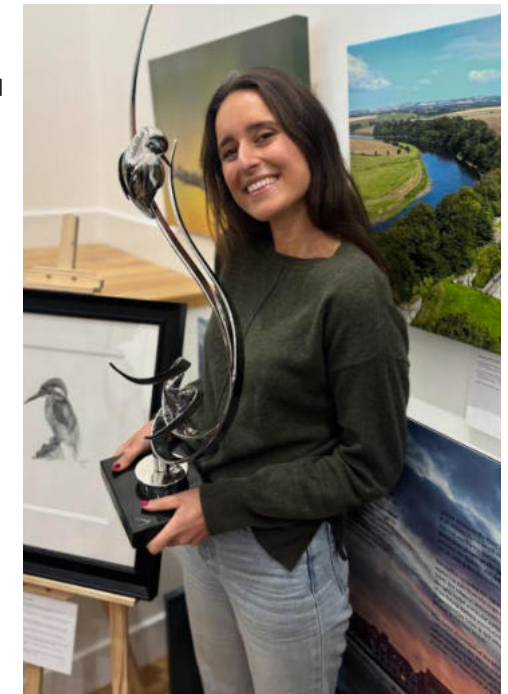
Part of the Benchmark at Grinham's Wood community charity project, the festival is being staged by the Berwick Community Trust, which is responsible for the Old Brewery's £1 million restoration, Berwick Heritage Open Days and Church House Investment Management, with support from other local arts organisations.

James Herriot, a trustee of Benchmark at Grinham's Wood, said: *"The festival aims to highlight local and regional talent and, via this medium, demonstrate all that is available to our community, as well as those deciding to come from further afield to visit Berwick and enjoy the delights of the River Tweed. We are so grateful to be able to stage the inaugural exhibition in this amazing new facility for our town and the surrounding area".*

Becci Murray, CEO of Berwick Community Trust, added *"The talent on show is exceptional and to see this celebration of the Tweed being displayed at the Old Brewery couldn't be more fitting".*

The recipient of the festival's first Kingfisher Award, was the artist and author Amy Izat, who runs Studio 27 in Berwick. The award, presented by the Lord Lieutenant of Northumberland, Dr Caroline Preyer, seeks to recognise an individual who stands out in the local art community and inspires others (of all ages) to pursue art, photography or sculpture.

Also nominated for the award were the wildlife photographer Ronnie Heck, whose photographs of kingfishers inspired the award, and the sculptor Jason Sweeney, who was commissioned to create the stunning trophy.



Amy Izat, artist and author, 27 Art House



Lobster Carving, [Josephine Crossland](#)

At its heart, the ambition is simple: to inspire others while supporting creative activity and helping visitors discover more about Berwick and the Lower Tweed.

It seems particularly fitting that the first festival should find its home within the Old Brewery. A building once at the heart of Tweedmouth's working life has been given a new purpose and this time as a place where artists can work, ideas can develop and creativity can be shared with the wider community.



Benchmark Festival of Arts
www.bagw.co.uk

Old Brewery Artist Studios
 info.oldbrewerystudios@gmail.com



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Umbellifer: Flowers at the Heart

Before he moved to Berwick, artist Stephen Lennon lived in the Yorkshire Dales, where he ran a small plant nursery. In the quiet times between customers he drew the plants, made those drawings into a few greetings cards and in no time at all the cards became his business and Umbellifer (named for a type of plant structure - think cow parsley) was born.

Now he sells his botanical greetings cards and prints to shops, galleries and gardens throughout the UK.

Stephen moved to Berwick in 2024 because he laughs *"the Dales were full"*. He and his partner were looking for a busy small town with space to breathe and Berwick was perfect.

"But still," Stephen says, "at the heart of my work, are the plants I used to grow for a living and now cram into my small back garden. I draw what I grow which is mainly hardy perennials. My garden is not planned and is a mix of colours, whereas my artwork is the opposite, drawn in my own stylised way and all about perfect colour matches."



Stephen and Umbellifer are now a regular fixture at craft fairs in North Northumberland and the Scottish Borders and, as well as maintaining his own online shop, Stephen is a founder member of Create, a shop in Kelso opened by a cooperative of artists and makers in 2025.

Stephen would love to have his own little shop in Berwick one day but, while that is in the planning, he will continue to grow Umbellifer until it is as colourful and vibrant as a picture perfect English country garden.

Find out more about Umbellifer here:

www.umbellifer.co.uk

 [umbellifercards](https://www.instagram.com/umbellifercards)



umbellifer

A season of culture, heritage and celebration

As autumn arrives and the year draws towards its close, Berwick continues to offer plenty of reasons to come together, discover something new and celebrate the stories that make this town so special.

This season sees heritage, creativity and community come together through the Living Barracks partnership, with The Maltings playing a leading role alongside local organisations, artists, funders and community groups to explore Berwick's past while helping shape its cultural future.

A Gift to the Town

From 31 October, Berwick's Own Burrell Collection – A Gift to the Town invites visitors to discover more about the remarkable connection between Sir William Burrell, Lady Constance Burrell and Berwick-upon-Tweed. The exhibition celebrates the Burrells' generosity towards the town, bringing together works and stories that explore this fascinating part of Berwick's history. It has also been co-curated by Living Barracks volunteers supported by The Maltings, bringing local knowledge and perspectives to the way the Burrell story is told. The exhibition offers an opportunity to celebrate this remarkable legacy while looking ahead to the future of Berwick Barracks as a new museum opening in autumn 2027.

200 Years of Light

This autumn also marks 200 years of Berwick Lighthouse, an enduring part of the town's maritime story since it was first lit in 1826. The Lighthouse 200 celebrations bring together The Maltings, Living Barracks, funders, local organisations and community groups to mark this special anniversary through creativity and community. Ford's Bakers will create a special celebration cake, while Soul 2 Sand will bring the lighthouse story to life

through sand art. Berwick Youth Orchestra will also join the celebrations, bringing local young musicians into the programme. Together, these contributions celebrate 200 years of the lighthouse through food, art, music and community, while shining a light on the people who continue to make Berwick what it is today.

Winter music, by candlelight

The Maltings' programme continues into winter with Royal Northern Sinfonia, who come to Berwick Parish Church on 1 December as part of their Winter Tour 2026. With the church bathed in candlelight, audiences can enjoy an atmospheric evening of classical music in one of Berwick's most historic spaces - a chance to pause before the rush of the festive season.



A shared story

From the community co-curation of the Burrell exhibition to the collaborative Lighthouse 200 celebrations, this season demonstrates what can happen when heritage, culture and community come together.

For more information visit:

www.maltingsberwick.co.uk

Come and sing this Christmas with Vivace Vocal Collective

This Christmas, Vivace Vocal Collective returns to Berwick Guildhall with *Somewhere in My Memory – The Soundtrack to Christmas*, an uplifting new show celebrating the music that has become part of Christmas itself.

From festive favourites and film classics to some unexpected surprises, the programme brings together songs that return to us every December—the music of cinema, celebration and home. Audiences can expect the energy, storytelling and polished performance that have become Vivace hallmarks, in a show that will be atmospheric, entertaining and unmistakably Christmas.

Before the performance can take shape, however, Vivace is opening its doors to new singers. The collective welcomes adults aged 16 and over. There are no auditions, previous choir experience is not necessary, and singers do not need to read music. Sheet music is provided, together with professionally recorded rehearsal tracks that make it easy to learn and practise at home.

Anyone interested in joining can come along to one of the first three rehearsals: Monday 28 September, Monday 5 October or Monday 12 October, from 7.30–9.30pm at Spittal Community Hall.



It is an opportunity to meet the group, take part in a real Vivace rehearsal and find out whether the Christmas project is for you.

Rehearsals are friendly, energetic and supportive, while always working towards an ambitious, polished performance. Whether you have sung for years, are returning after time away or have only ever sung at home, you will receive a warm welcome.

Somewhere in My Memory will be performed at Berwick Guildhall on Sunday 20 December. The 4pm relaxed family performance will particularly welcome children and people with additional or sensory needs. Audience members will be free to move, make noise or step outside whenever necessary. An evening performance will follow at 7pm.

Find out more at www.vivacevocalcollective.com

Come and make this Christmas part of your own musical memory.

Berwick School of Music: A new generation of music makers



Nic Prentice, Founder and Executive Director and May Thompson, Founder and Creative Director have recently joined forces to create Berwick School of Music, a new education project created to give children and young people in Berwick and beyond the opportunity to *Create, Inspire, Believe and Belong* through music.

Weekly sessions include ensemble playing, solo performance practice, conducting, composing, improvising and activities to strengthen music theory and musicianship techniques for children and young people in Years 3–13.

Young musicians will develop confidence, discover the joy of creating music with others whilst working on their musical skills, make new friends and enjoy a sense

of belonging whilst spending time with an enthusiastic and devoted musical group.

Nic told us: “We are delighted to be starting this new chapter in Berwick and look forward to promoting a vibrant musical community where young people can flourish, grow and inspire one another.”

To find out more email Nic:

✉ berwickschoolofmusic@gmail.com



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Somewhere in My Memory
The Soundtrack to Christmas
Uplifting. Atmospheric
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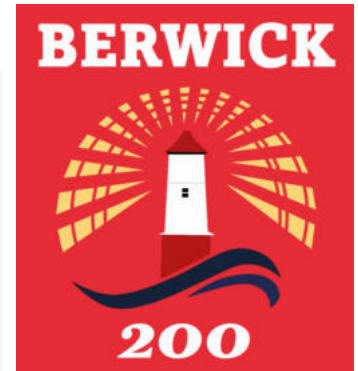
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Lighting up 200 Years

'Lighthouse 200' is a community project funded by Create Berwick to celebrate the bicentenary birthday of Berwick Lighthouse. The project is the brainchild of May Thompson, a Berwick-based trumpeter and music teacher who moved to Tweedmouth two years ago, and whose first experience performing here, was as part of the Bridge 400 celebrations.



It features a brand-new composition by Adam Taylor, award-winning composer and arranger, whose music has been performed internationally, by brass bands such as Foden's, Black Dyke and Brisbane Excelsior. Adam currently conducts The Rainford Band who play in the Northwest Championship Section, and under his musical direction, they have secured two podium finishes and earned promotion to the Grand Shield during his first year in post.



Adam Taylor, composer of 'Berwick Lighthouse 200'

and will be sung by children from local schools, as well as members of The Golden Square Singers.

This World Premiere will take place at 4pm, on Saturday 17 October, at The Lowry Shelter, where there will also be available, courtesy of Darren Chapman, special editions of his lighthouse calendar and jigsaws, with all proceeds going towards Berwick's RNLI station. Hope to see you there.



May Thompson - Project Director

'Lighthouse 200' is part of the Berwick CommunityFest founded by May, last Autumn, which features quarterly concerts where local amateur and professional groups, play their instruments alongside children's groups from Berwick and the wider area.

The new piece is comprised of separate movements, with music written for Berwick's own Brass Quintet, Concert Band, Schools Band and School of Music. The final movement incorporates folk songs from Northumberland and The Scottish Borders



Darren Chapman - Photographer

The men who wouldn't stop singing

From a lively night at the King's Arms to 63 years of Berwick Male Voice Choir

Berwick Male Voice Choir (BMVC) was formed in 1963 and so celebrates its 63rd birthday this year! Fable has it that it was formed when three notable Berwick Upon Tweed personalities were 'invited' to stop singing and disturbing the residents in the King's Arms Hotel. Undaunted, and with some stubbornness, Messrs Bill, Neil and Hamish then decided to form a choir. Thus, BMVC was born!

The present day choir is fortunate to be guided by the exceptionally talented musical team of Dr. Mike Hardy, Musical Director and Ms. Hannah Humphreys, accompanist and co-Director. It's an honour to have them guiding the choir. Everyone enjoys witnessing their talents, musical skills and humour each week. They make every practice session a pure joy to attend. We practice primarily to perform public-facing concerts, as requested.



The Choir are always looking to welcome new members, and encourage younger singers (18+) to come and experience the benefits of communal singing. You don't need to sing like Andrea Bocelli or Pavarotti, or be able to sight-read music. You won't be asked to audition, simply bring your enthusiasm. The main priority and aim is enjoyment.

Words from Andy Whiteley, BMVC

If you are interested in giving it a try, please email the choir Secretary (Andy) on bmvc@hotmail.co.uk for an email chat and more details.



What are you doing on Thursday? Just bring your voice and your enthusiasm!

The Thursday Singers are a friendly community choir led by Alison Coates, and the group are always happy to welcome new members.

The group practises (as the name suggests!) every Thursday morning, from 10:30 - 12:30 (if you want to stop for coffee and chinwag afterwards), previously at the Maltings, but now at the Spittal Community Centre, with the aim of presenting at least two concerts a year, singing a wide range encompassing most genres.

The choir was originally set up by 20,000 Voices, a Northumbrian organisation whose aim was to facilitate community choirs in towns and villages across Northumberland by means of a county-wide project in 1996-7 called "Find Your Voice".

An all-day song workshop was subsequently held at the Maltings, led by co-director of 20,000 Voices, Sandra Kerr (of Bagpuss fame!) and in due course Alison was approached to lead the choir. She is at pains to point out that there are no auditions, or requirement to sight-read.



The social aspect is a bonus; although the choir takes a break for a few weeks in the summer most members carry on meeting regularly anyway, exchanging coffee shops for choir!

If you are free on a Thursday morning, why not go along and give it a try? And, whilst both sexes are welcome, where are all the men?!

For further information contact Alison on mdnvil@icloud.com



Berwick: What comes next?

Autumn is often a good time to take stock. After a busy summer of events, visitors, festivals and activity across the town, Berwick-upon-Tweed Town Council has been looking ahead and considering what its priorities should be over the next few years.

Earlier this summer, councillors held a Strategy Day to review the Council's existing plans and, importantly, to ask a fairly simple question: what can we realistically deliver with the resources, staff and funding available to us? The intention was not to create another long list of ambitions. Instead, the aim was to identify a smaller number of priorities which are achievable, affordable and which will make a genuine difference to the town and the people who live here.

Looking after what we already have

Much of the Council's work is not necessarily glamorous, but it is important. Play areas, markets, public seating, planting, bus shelters, open spaces and other community facilities all require ongoing maintenance and investment. One of the larger issues now being considered is the future of Spittal Splash Park. The existing facility is ageing, increasingly expensive to maintain and inefficient in the way it operates. Rather than waiting for it to fail,

the Council has agreed that options, costs and risks should now be looked at so that a properly considered decision can be made about its future replacement.

We are also continuing discussions with Northumberland County Council about the future responsibility for Berwick's war memorials and the potential transfer of Berwick and Tweedmouth Cemeteries. These are significant responsibilities and any transfer has to be carefully considered, but there is a strong argument for important local assets being managed as locally as possible.

Making Berwick greener

The Council is also developing a much broader approach to biodiversity and sustainability. Our own operations already use peat-free compost and avoid herbicide use, but there is much more that can be done. Future ideas include increasing perennial and native planting, improving habitats for wild pollinators, introducing bird and bat features, developing biodiversity projects in play areas and public spaces, and exploring opportunities for wildflower and meadow planting. The aim is not simply to make Berwick look attractive, but to think more carefully about how public spaces can support wildlife, reduce waste and become more sustainable over the long term.



Planning for the future

Alongside these practical projects sits the much bigger question of what Berwick should look and feel like in ten or twenty years.

Work on the Neighbourhood Plan continues and will give local people an important opportunity to influence future development. The Council is also looking at town-centre improvements, markets, public spaces and how it can work more effectively with community, cultural and voluntary organisations. The recent UK Town of Culture bid demonstrated just how many organisations, groups and individuals are working to make Berwick a vibrant place. Although Berwick was not shortlisted, the relationships and ideas developed through that process remain valuable and should not simply disappear. Berwick's strength has always been that a great deal happens here because people care enough to make it happen. The Berwick Literary Festival is another excellent example of that spirit.

The Town Council cannot — and should not — try to do everything itself. Our role is increasingly about looking after the things for which we are responsible, planning sensibly for the future, supporting good ideas and helping to create the conditions in which local organisations and committed people can flourish.

There is plenty still to do, but the direction is becoming clearer: look after what we have, plan properly for what comes next, and work together to make Berwick an even better place to live, work and visit.

With thanks to Berwick Town Council



Berwick-upon-Tweed
Town Council

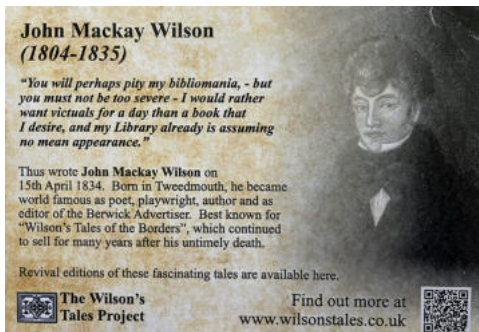


The Wilson's Tales Project has been collaborating with Tweed Stories.

Tweed Stories is a growing online archive of community-generated stories inspired by the River Tweed, and is a key element of the Destination Tweed river restoration project. The participative project is encouraging anyone with memories and favourite tales of special places, people, nature, history and heritage around the river to share them, both to create a rich project legacy and to provide inspiration for interpretation along the new source-to-sea River Tweed Trail, which opens in 2028.

The Wilson's Tales Project (The Project) were invited early on to help with this. Tweed Stories looks for submissions of up to 250 words for their archive (as well as images, audio and video). The Project submitted an edited version of Wilson's *The Monks of Dryburgh*, cutting this rather amusing tale down from its original 2000 odd words. *"This is typical of the sort of challenge our volunteer writers have to do when we publish our revival edition tales,"* said Project Director, Andrew Ayre. *"The original tales can often run to over 7000 words in rather verbose and old fashioned style. We like to re present them in more readable and usually shorter format for modern readers."*

The Project also submitted Wilson's poem about the Tweed, which was never in fact published during his lifetime, but found in a book more than a century after he died.



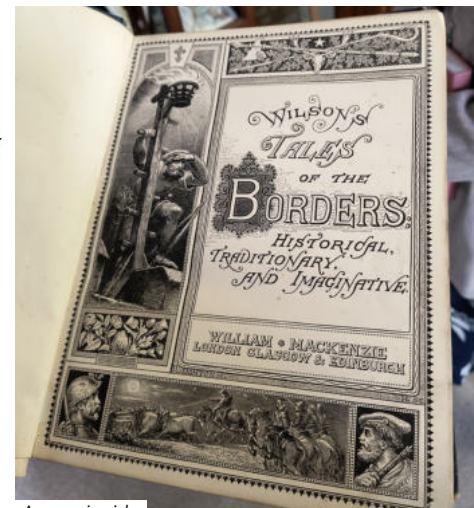
Wilson was initially a poet and his first publications, *A glance at Hinduism* and *The Enthusiast* were both poems and he travelled the country delivering lectures on poetry at one time in his career. Destination Tweed have also helped fund and provided a link to the Project's recently launched self-guided walk around Berwick & Tweedmouth, *Walking with Wilson*, which covers aspects of his life and local tales. You may well have noticed that plaques for this have recently appeared around the town and provide QR codes to the online guide, with oral and written presentations available for the various stopping points. The Project also recently helped present an online writing workshop, led by Jo Scott of Tweed Stories, which invited creative writers to add to this bank of tales. Jo and Andrew used examples of prose and poetry from the new archive and some of Wilson's tales based around the Tweed to prompt new writing.



The giant map of the Tweed has been a popular talking point at Tweed Stories events © Airborne Lens

Jo commented afterwards, *"It was a pleasure to work with Andrew, and exciting to see how enthusiastically our participants responded to the stories and shaped their own. And their contributions have helped us pass the 100-stories landmark!"*

There was another opportunity to hear the tales in September, when Tales of the Tweed took place at the J M Wilson Studio at The Straw Yard on 17 September. Held as part of Berwick's Heritage Open Days programme, the event featured shortened versions of Wilson's stories, bringing his words back to life beside the river that inspired so much of his work.



A peep inside an original copy of Wilson's Tales of the Borders



Jo Scott sharing tales from the Tweed Stories archive

One of the aims of The Project is to provide a platform for artists of all types to respond to and retell Wilson's Tales. They have an active group of volunteer writers who like to rewrite the tales and researchers who like to look into their historic context. They were subtitled *"Historical, traditional and imaginative"* and some are more at one end of this scale than the other, and often have interesting historic context if not necessarily based on verifiable facts, though often they are. The Project have just launched an illustrators' group, following the success of Ali Edwards' workshops with The Project and enthusiasm to continue illustrating further tales. Anyone wanting to learn more about or join any of these groups, should contact The Project.

To find out more about Tweed Stories and Destination Tweed, and to read the stories and share your own, visit www.destinationtweed.org.uk or scan this QR code. Revival editions of the fascinating Wilson's Tales of the Borders are available in Berwick at Slightly Foxed, Bridge Street; The Book Loft, Marygate; and Berwick Visitor Centre, Walkergate, or from the online shop: <https://wilsonstales.co.uk>



Community Foundation North East: Helping Berwick Thrive.

From community groups and arts organisations to youth projects and vital local services, Community Foundation North East has been supporting Berwick for decades. We talk to Ross Wilson about the difference local funding makes and how investing in our communities can help Berwick thrive.

For readers who may not know the Community Foundation, can you explain what it does and why it's important for communities like Berwick?

Community Foundation North East was established in 1988 and is one of 47 Community Foundations in the UK. Based in Gosforth, we primarily serve Tyne & Wear and Northumberland and have made more than £190m in grants since our inception.

The community foundation model is based on 'place', meaning that grants are distributed according to the particular needs of a region in which the foundation is based, rather than a funder assuming to understand local issues from a national position. We are therefore well positioned to support the community and voluntary sector working in areas like Berwick, making life better for local residents across an array of issues, including health, culture, education, living standards, and the environment.



The Northern Angel Fund for Berwick at The Community Foundation has been supporting the area for over 20 years. What kinds of local projects have benefited, and what impact have you seen?

The Fund was established in 2005 with a donation of £5,000. Thanks to regular giving over the last 20 years and, supported by a generous legacy gift in 2018, the Fund's endowment has grown to more than £550,000, which enables it to make approximately £24,000 in grants every year, in perpetuity.

The Fund supports charitable activity that improves the skills of local people, enhances community cohesion, and contributes to the unique and diverse culture of Berwick and its surrounds.

The Fund makes regular grants to familiar north Northumberland charities, including The Great North Air Ambulance Service and The North Northumberland Hospice, but also frequently supports less well-known organisations to people outside the area, such as Berwick Community Development Trust, Berwick Youth Project, Headway Berwick, and Berwick Stroke Club. Berwick's rich cultural and artistic heritage is also well reflected by the Fund, with grants made to the likes of Berwick Barracks, The Maltings, NTC Touring Theatre Company, The Wilson's Tales, and Berwick Film & Media Arts Festival. In all, the Fund has made 276 grants totalling almost £444,000.

Is there a particular Berwick project or person whose story has really stayed with you?

A grant that the Fund made in 2024 to Tyneside and Northumberland Mind really stands out. In partnership with another of our Berwick-focused Funds – the FB and PFB Lough Fund (which was also set up with a legacy from former Berwick residents) – £5,000 was provided to support families where one member has a mental health issue.

In just 12 months, 61 adults and 34 children were supported to develop the knowledge, skills, and confidence to build personal resilience and deploy healthy coping strategies when experiencing poor mental health. The charity was also able to support these individuals to enhance their understanding of mental health and the isolating power of internalised negative stereotypes and prejudices, as well as make referrals to local organisations offering complementary services.

One beneficiary was recorded as saying, *"Having someone to share my ideas as to how to cope with my trauma has made me believe in myself and feel at ease", whilst another said that the organisation gave them "space to talk and ideas to help with my panic attacks; I can now leave the house and manage my emotions better when they are overwhelming."*



What are the biggest challenges facing community groups and charities in the Berwick area at the moment?

It will come as no surprise that geography remains a significant challenge in north Northumberland. We are privileged to have access to vast expanses of open countryside, but this brings its own difficulties, whether that be limited transport, unreliable broadband, or a paucity of services.

Voluntary and community organisations must navigate and mitigate these issues for themselves and their beneficiaries, whilst faced with rising costs and there being less funding available.

We recognise the uncertainty that this brings and are constantly working with our donors to make grants towards organisations' running costs where possible, as well as providing no-strings-attached funding that can be used for a particular piece of work, cover operating costs, or stored in reserves that might only be needed in an emergency.



If someone reading this represents a local business or has been fortunate enough to do well in life, what would you say to encourage them to invest back into Berwick?

I would tell them to come and talk to Community Foundation North East! We manage approximately 300 different Funds established by individual, family, and corporate donors, each with their own thematic and geographical priority areas. We are led by our donors' interests and passions and do our utmost to match them with organisations delivering high-quality work in the region's communities.

A donor can be as involved as much as they like with their Fund, and we believe that we offer a broad range of options to help people achieve their philanthropic goals. For instance, donors can set up an invested Fund where a gift is held as capital with the income earned funding the grant-making, or they can make gifts held as cash that support causes in the year ahead.

How can people contact you to learn more about Community Foundation North East?

They can of course visit our website www.communityfoundation.org.uk

or contact Ross Wilson, who manages our Berwick-based Funds, on

✉ rpw@communityfoundation.org.uk

Looking ahead, what would success look like for Berwick over the next five or ten years, and how can local people help make that vision a reality?

Our mission is to build a thriving, generous, and inclusive North East by inspiring philanthropy, investing in communities, and influencing change, and Berwick is a big part of this ambition. Ultimately, if we can connect with more generous donors, we can support more excellent work that will help more local people live healthier, happier, and longer lives.

However, philanthropy does not begin and end with the giving of money; the donation of time, skills, and expertise is just as valid. For instance, North Northumberland Voluntary Forum brokers relationships between local voluntary groups and potential volunteers. This year, we will be continuing our sponsorship of their annual voluntary and community awards to recognise the exceptional dedication and commitment of voluntary groups and individuals who make such a difference to the lives of local people.

Spotted the new 'Wonderful West Street' signs yet?

West Street is home to a brilliant bunch of independent shops, cafés, bars and businesses, each with something a little different to discover.

The new signage was a real West Street collaboration, created with local traders and designer Emily Kewin, @kewinscorner, produced by Fantasy Prints on West Street, funded by Berwick Chamber of Trade and installed by Berwick Town Council.

What a collaboration!

A few of the traders even braved the rain for an impromptu photoshoot!



Follow
@wonderfulweststreet



WHAT'S ON

OCTOBER

Regular workshops

Ravn Clay Pottery Workshops

Thu 1 & Fri 9: Hand-building Pottery
Sat 17 & 31: Festive Stoneware Trees
 New Ford Studio, Ford
ravnclay.co.uk

Maggie Read Jewellery Workshops

Sat 3: Gemstone Stacking Rings, 10:30–14:30
Tue 6: Silver Stacking Rings, 10:30–14:30
Thu 8: Gemstone Cabochon Ring, 10:30–14:00
Thu 15: Gemstone Stacking Rings, 10:30–14:30
Sat 17: Silver Stacking Rings, 10:30–14:30
Tue 20: Silver Beaded Spinner Ring, 10:30–15:30
Sat 24: Silver Metal Clay Jewellery, 10:30–15:30
 The Cornhill on Tweed Centre
maggiereadjewellery.co.uk

Patchouli Yoga

Mon 5, 12 & 19 Oct 18:00–19:00
 Deepen • Yin Yoga
 27 Art House, Berwick
Tue 6, 13, 20 & 27 Oct 18:00–19:00
 Energise • Ashtanga Inspired Yoga
 Babyama, Castlegate, Berwick
Thu 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 Oct 18:00–19:00
 Align • Hatha Yoga
 Babyama, Castlegate, Berwick
 Booking: omflow.wixsite.com/patchouli-yoga/book-now

Gin Distilling Workshops

Sat 10, 17, 24 & 31 Oct 14:00–16:30
 Border Spirits & Botanicals,
 The Cornhill on Tweed Centre
borderspiritsandbotanicals.co.uk

Borderland Walking Food Tours

Sat 10, Wed 14 & Sat 17 Oct 12:00–15:00
 Walking tour around Berwick
borderlandfoodtours.com

An Introduction to Drawing with Pen and Wash

Tue 6, 13 & 20 Oct 10:00–12:00
 YHA, The Granary, Dewar's Lane, Berwick
berwickea.org

Thu 1 Oct

Berwick Comedy Club 19:00–21:00
 Doors and bar open 18:30.
 The Straw Yard, Parade, Berwick
strawyard.co.uk

Fri 2 Oct

Block Printing Workshop 19:00–21:00
 Becky Underwood, Fenham Farm
 ✉ blockprintnorthumberland@gmail.com
fenhamfarm.co.uk

Sat 3 Oct

Confessions of an Artist: 19:00–21:00
In Conversation with Paddy Hartley
 The Straw Yard, Parade, Berwick
strawyard.co.uk

OCTOBER

Sat 3 Oct

Berwick Music Society: Zvarder Trio
 14:00–16:00
 Berwick Parish Church, Parade, Berwick
berwickmusic.org

Norham Village Band

15:00
 Victoria Craig: ☎07745 130987
 ✉ stcuthbertsnorham@gmail.com
 St Cuthbert's Church, Norham

Sat 3 & Sun 4 Oct

Berwick Open Studios
 Featuring 25 venues open to the public
 and over 60 artists and makers.
createberwick.co.uk

Sun 4 Oct

Norham Industrial Show
 Norham Village Hall
norhamlife.co.uk

Etal Sun Makers' Markets 11:00–16:00
 Etal Village Hall
thetinshed.co.uk

Mon 5–Sun 11 Oct

Berwick Literary Festival
 Various venues around town, for full
 programme visit:
berwickliteraryfestival.com

Mon 5 Oct

Come and Sing with Vivace Vocal Collective 19:30–21:30
 Spittal Community Hall
vivacevocalcollective.com

Bowsden History Group—Traditional Music & Stories from a Master of the Northumbrian Pipes 19:00 for 19:30
 Bowsden Village Hall, Bowsden
 ✉ nicolasbjones@gmail.com

Tue 6 Oct

Afternoon Tea and Titanic Talk with Christopher Ward
 Afternoon tea 15:00; talk 17:00
 Ad Gefrin, South Road, Wooler
adgefirin.co.uk

Wed 7 Oct

Berwick Barley Workshop 12:00–14:00
 The Old Brewery, 53 Main Street, Tweedmouth
<https://bit.ly/3URIGT7>

Thu 8 Oct

Cabaret of Words 19:00–21:30
 The Straw Yard, Parade, Berwick
thestrawayard.co.uk

Sat 10 Oct

Lowick Soup Sat 12:00–13:30
 Lowick Village Hall

Stone in the Water – Book Launch with Timothy Pitt 16:30–18:00
 Ad Gefrin, South Road, Wooler
adgefirin.co.uk

Sun 11 Oct

The Northern Fungi Festival 10:00–16:00
 Ruberslaw Wild Woods Camping &
 Glamping, Spital Tower, Denholm, TD9 8TB
 ✉ nfungifestival@gmail.com

Open Mic. from 16:00

Fishers Arms Pub
 Horncliffe
fishersarmscommunitypub.co.uk

'A Choral Tapestry' with Andante Chamber Choir 15:00
 Victoria Craig: ☎07745 130987
 ✉ stcuthbertsnorham@gmail.com
 St Cuthbert's Church, Norham

BUTTERMARKET Saturday 9am - 3pm Underneath Berwick Guildhall	MARYGATE CHARTER MARKET Wednesday & Saturday 9am - 4pm	QUAYSIDE HUTS Sunday* 9am - 3pm *Bookable 7 days a week	 markets@berwick-tc.gov.uk
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OCTOBER

Mon 12 Oct

Come and Sing with Vivace Vocal Collective open rehearsal 19:30–21:30
Spittal Community Hall
vivacevocalcollective.com

Tue 13 Oct

An Introduction to Black Kurinuki Ceramics with Paddy Hartley 18:00–20:30
The Straw Yard, Parade, Berwick
thestrawayard.co.uk

Traditional Tunes Sessions 20:30–22:30
Fishers Arms Pub, Horncliffe
horncliffeevents.co.uk

Tue 13–Sat 17 October

Body of Memory: A Retrospective Exhibition by Paddy Hartley
The Straw Yard, Parade, Berwick
strawyard.co.uk

Wed 14 Oct

Art at Etal 10:30–16:00
Etal Village Hall
thetinshed.co.uk

Thu 15 Oct

Acoustic Night 20:30–22:30
Memorial Hall, Horncliffe
www.horncliffeevents.co.uk

Sat 17 Oct

Lowick Art Group Free Exhibition 10:00–16:00
Berwick Parish Centre, Parade, Berwick

Craft a Sketchbook or Journal – Coptic Binding 13:00 – 15:00
The Old Brewery Artist Studios, Tweedmouth
<https://bit.ly/3UYxtQC>

Sun 18 Oct

Northern Artisans' Market 10:00–16:00
Lesbury Village Hall NE66 3PP
✉ janecharlesglass@gmail.com

Berwick Ukulele Jam 19:00–20:30
Kings Arms Hotel, Berwick
www.facebook.com/groups/tuaom

Mon 19 Oct

Power to the Borders with Nick Edgar 10:00–12:00
A joint event with Greener Berwick.
William Elder Building, Berwick
<https://berwickea.org>

Wed 21 Oct

Berwick Barley Workshop 12:00–14:00
The Old Brewery, 53 Main Street, Tweedmouth
<https://bit.ly/3URIGT7>

Invasion of 1015–16 – The Viking Perspective with Tim Bolton 19:30–21:00
Guildhall, Berwick
<https://berwickea.org>

Thu 22 Oct

'Exploring The Bayeux Tapestry' Artist's Book Workshop with Mo Healy 10:00–12:00
Norham Village Hall, Norham
Sue Churchill
✉ norhamartsgroup@gmail.com

Mountain Song Bluegrass with Will Greenway and James Hickman 19:30–22:30
The Straw Yard, Parade, Berwick
thestrawayard.co.uk

Amy Leach & Alasdair Paul 20:00–22:30
Horncliffe Folk Club
Memorial Hall, Horncliffe
horncliffeevents.co.uk

Fri 23 Oct

Coostie Illustration 10:30–12:30
Green Sketch Club–Autumn Colours
Paxton House, Paxton
coostie.co.uk

Sat 24 Oct

'Autumnal Arts, Leaves and Wreaths' Copper foiled glass workshop 10:00–17:00
Rachel O'Dell Glass Workshops
The Cornhill on Tweed Centre
☎ 07568 345061
✉ odellglass26@gmail.com

Eric Thomas – Lutenist 11:30–12:30
Berwick Parish Church, Parade, Berwick
berwickparishchurch.co.uk

Sun 25 Oct

Guided Fungi Foray – Near Wooler
Approx. 3 hours
Booking: Rachel: ☎ 07392 740028 |
✉ amongthewoodsandwaters@gmail.com

Tidekettle Card Making Workshop with Lucy 13:00–16:00
Contact Eileen: ☎ 07742 941347.
Horncliffe Memorial Hall, Horncliffe

'Pints & Praise' with Rev Rob Kelsey 18:00–20:00
Fishers Arms Pub, Horncliffe
fishersarmscommunitypub.co.uk

Mon 26 Oct

David Roberts: A Life in Clay 17:30–18:30
Followed by a Private Exhibition
Preview 19:00 27 Art House, Bridge Street
The Straw Yard, Parade, Berwick
thestrawayard.co.uk

Mon 26 Oct–1 Nov

The famous SCARYCROW TRAIL at Ford and Etal
[Ford & Etal Estates](http://Ford&EtalEstates)

Tue 27 & Wed 28 Oct

Anglo-Saxon Tales and Ancient Legends storytelling tales 11:00, 12:30 and 14:30
Ad Gefrin, South Road, Wooler
adgefrin.co.uk

Tue 27 Oct

Art at Paxton 10:00–16:00
Paxton House, Paxton
thetinshed.co.uk

Block Printing Workshop for kids 10:00–12:00
Becky Underwood, Fenham Farm
✉ blockprintnorthumberland@gmail.com
fenhamfarm.co.uk/create

Berwick Bookworms Reading Group 14:00–15:30
Berwick Library, Walkergate
✉ janiebrownanlan@gmail.com

Berwick Craft Café: Origami Paper Pumpkins 18:30–20:30
Tweed Gallery, Church Street, Berwick
Book: [Coostie Illustration](http://CoostieIllustration)

Wed 28 Oct

Veterans Warm Hub 10:00–12:00
Berwick Voluntary Centre, 5 Tweed Street, Berwick
[North Northumberland Voluntary Forum](http://NorthNorthumberlandVoluntaryForum)

Thu 29 Oct

'Exploring The Bayeux Tapestry' Artist's Book Workshop with Mo Healy 10:00–12:00
Norham Village Hall, Norham
Contact Sue Churchill
(only 8 spaces per workshop)
✉ norhamartsgroup@gmail.com

Fri 30–Sat 31 Oct

Railtons Antiques and Interiors Auctioneers Sale 10:00–16:00
The Northern Auction Centre, 5 South Road, Wooler
railtons.co.uk

OCTOBER

Sat 31 Oct

Story Telling with Chris Adriaanse–The Northumbrian Tales 11:00, 12:30, 14:00 & 15:00
Ad Gefrin, South Road, Wooler
adgefrin.co.uk

Berwick Whisky Festival 2026 13:00–17:00
Guildhall, Berwick
<https://bit.ly/4xsBdra>

Samhain / Halloween Celebration
Memorial Hall, Horncliffe
horncliffeevents.co.uk

NOVEMBER

Regular workshops

Ravn Clay Pottery Workshops
Fri 6 & Sun 22: Winter Grottos 13:30–16:30
Sat 7, Sun 15, Sat 21 & Fri 27: Festive Stoneware Trees
Fri 20: Hand-building Pottery
New Ford Studio, Ford
ravnclay.co.uk

Maggie Read Jewellery Workshops
Thu 5: Silver Charm Bangle, 10:30–13:30
Sat 7: Silver Stacking Rings, 10:30–14:30
Tue 10: Gemstone Stacking Rings, 10:30–14:30
Sat 14: Gemstone Cabochon Ring, 10:30–14:00
Thu 26: Textured Gemstone Ring, 10:30–14:30
The Cornhill on Tweed Centre
maggiereadjewellery.co.uk

Gin Distilling Workshops
Sat 7, 14, 21 & 28 Nov 14:00–16:30
Border Spirits & Botanicals, The Cornhill on Tweed Centre
borderspiritsandbotanicals.co.uk

Sun 1 Nov

Guided Fungi Foray – Near Kelso (half day)
Rachel: ☎07392 740028
✉amongthewoodsandwaters@gmail.com

Mon 2 Nov

Biodiversity & Shorebird Protection with Amy Hopley 10:00–12:00
William Elder Building, Berwick
berwickea.org

Bowsden History Group–Ad Gefrin
19:00 for 19:30
The Royal Court of 7th Century Northumbria: The Queens and Women Who Made the Golden Age.
Bowsden Village Hall, TD15 2TW
✉nicolasbjones@gmail.com

Thu 5 Nov

Burrell Art Workshop 10:00–15:00
With Rachel Sutherland.
YHA, The Granary, Dewar's Lane, Berwick
berwickea.org

Fri 6 Nov

Inn Echo Celtic band 19:00
Victoria Craig: ☎07745 130987
✉stcuthbertsnorham@gmail.com
St Cuthbert's Church, Norham

Sat 7 Nov

Introduction to Autumn Astronomy with Dr Adrian Jannetta 11:00–12:00 (Zoom)
7 Nov–5 Dec
berwickea.org

Let's Talk Plants Gardening Club 11:00–11:30
Berwick Garden Centre, East Ord
crabbiesgardencentres.co.uk

Berwick Barley Workshop 12:00–14:00
The Old Brewery, 53 Main Street, Tweedmouth
<https://bit.ly/3URIGT7>

Sun 8 Nov

Northern Artisans' Market 10:00–16:00
Lowick Village Hall TD15 2UE
✉janecharlesglass@gmail.com

NOVEMBER

Sun 8 Nov

Open Mic. from 16:00
Fishers Arms Pub, Horncliffe
fishersarmscommunitypub.co.uk

Tue 10 Nov

Traditional Tunes Sessions 20:30–22:30
Fishers Arms Pub, Horncliffe
horncliffeevents.co.uk

Thu 12 Nov - Wed 6 Jan

Yule at Ad Gefrin, Wooler
adgefrin.co.uk

Fri 13 Nov

Monster Mash Boogie Bingo Doors open 19:00
Berwick Rugby Club ☎07968 085260
berwickrugbyclub.co.uk/shop

Sat 14 Nov

Berwick Music Society: Ethan Loch (Piano)
14:00–16:00
Berwick Parish Church, Parade, Berwick
berwickmusic.org

Sun 15 Nov

Berwick Ukulele Jam 19:00–20:30
Kings Arms Hotel, Berwick
www.facebook.com/groups/tuaom

Tue 17 Nov

Acoustic Night 20:30–22:30
Memorial Hall, Horncliffe
horncliffeevents.co.uk

Wed 18 Nov

Tenor, Matthew McKinney and pianist, Roelof Temmingh 19:00
Berwick Parish Church, Parade, Berwick
berwickparishchurch.co.uk

Fri 20 Nov

Borderlinks Christmas Market 11:00–15:00
17L Windmill Way, Ramparts, Berwick
Border Links

A Little Norham Christmas Fair 2026

18:00–20:30
Lovely gifts, crafts, festive produce and lots more!
Victoria Craig: ☎07745 130987
✉torylintoncraig@aol.com
Norham Village Hall, Norham

Sat 21 & Sun 22 Nov

Noel Novelties Glass Workshop 10:00–17:00
Rachel O'Dell Glass Workshops
Cornhill on Tweed
✉odellglass26@gmail.com ☎07568 345061

Sat 21 Nov

Craft a Sketchbook or Journal – Coptic Binding 13:00–15:00
The Old Brewery Artist Studios, Tweedmouth
<https://bit.ly/3UYxtQC>

The Untangled Knot Pilot Performance 19:00
(Folk/blues/world music)
Berwick Parish Church, Parade, Berwick
berwickparishchurch.co.uk
<https://wegottickets.com/f/21816#tickets>

Sun 22 Nov

'Pints & Praise' with Rev Rob Kelsey
18:00–20:00
Fishers Arms Pub, Horncliffe
fishersarmscommunitypub.co.uk

Mon 23 Nov

The Bayeux Tapestry with Dr June Neilson.
10:00–12:00
William Elder Building, Berwick
berwickea.org

NOVEMBER

Tue 24 Nov

Berwick Bookworms Reading Group

14:00–15:30

Berwick Library, Walkergate

✉ janiebrownan@gmail.com

Berwick Craft Café: Advent Houses

Papercraft workshop 18:30–20:30

Tweed Gallery, Church Street, Berwick

Book here: [Coostie Illustration](https://www.coostieillustration.co.uk)

Wed 25 Nov

Veterans Warm Hub 10:00–12:00

Berwick Voluntary Centre,

5 Tweed Street, TD15 1NG

[North Northumberland Voluntary Forum](https://www.northnorthumberlandvoluntaryforum.co.uk)

Thu 26 Nov

Horncliffe Folk Club 20:00–22:30

Memorial Hall, Horncliffe

[horncliffeevents.co.uk](https://www.horncliffeevents.co.uk)

Fri 27 & Sat 28 Nov

Yule Gaderung Community Procession and events.

Ad Gefrin, South Road, Wooler

<https://adgefirin.co.uk>

Sat 28 Nov

Christmas Shopping Event

Berwick Garden Centre, East Ord

[crabbiesgardencentres.co.uk](https://www.crabbiesgardencentres.co.uk)

Sat 28 & Sun 29 Nov

Ford & Etal Christmas Market 10:00–16:00

Ford & Etal Estates

[ford-and-etale.co.uk](https://www.ford-and-etale.co.uk)

Sat 28 & Sun 29 Nov

Christmas Wreath Making Workshop

10:00–12:00

Berwick Garden Centre, East Ord

[crabbiesgardencentres.co.uk](https://www.crabbiesgardencentres.co.uk)

Sat 28 & Sun 29 Nov

Christmas Glass Workshops

Sat 28: Session 1, 10:00–16:00

Sun 29: Session 2, 10:00–14:00

Rachel O'Dell Glass Workshops,

The Cornhill on Tweed Centre

✉ odellglass26@gmail.com

Sat 28 & Sun 29 Nov

Anglo-Saxon Tales & Ancient Legends

Storytelling Sessions 11:00, 12:30 & 14:30

Ad Gefrin, South Road, Wooler

adgefirin.co.uk

Sat 28 Nov

Berwick Music Society: Scott Slapin (Solo

Viola) 14:00–15:00

Berwick Parish Church, Parade, Berwick

[berwickmusic.org](https://www.berwickmusic.org)

Mon 30 Nov

Burrell in Berwick: The Missing Pictures with

Ray Clarke. 10:00–12:00

William Elder Building, Berwick

[berwickea.org](https://www.berwickea.org)

DECEMBER

From Sat 5 Dec–Thu 31 Dec

Jack and the Beanstalk.

A brand-new Christmas panto from the team

behind *The Elves and the Shoemaker*

The Straw Yard, Parade, Berwick

[thestrawyard.co.uk](https://www.thestrawyard.co.uk)

Regular workshops

Ravn Clay Pottery Workshops

Fri 4: Winter Grottos 13:30–16:30

Fri 11 & Sun 20: Hand-building Pottery

New Ford Studio, Ford

[ravnclay.co.uk](https://www.ravnclay.co.uk)

DECEMBER

Maggie Read Jewellery Workshops

Thu 3: Silver Beaded Spinner Ring, 10:30–15:30

Sat 5: Gemstone Stacking Rings, 10:30–14:30

Tue 8: Silver Metal Clay Jewellery, 10:30–15:30

Sat 12: Silver Charm Bangle, 10:30–13:30

Tue 15: Gemstone Cabochon Ring, 10:30–14:00

The Cornhill on Tweed Centre

[maggiereadjewellery.co.uk](https://www.maggiereadjewellery.co.uk)

Santa's Workshops

5–6, 12–13, 19–23 & 26–27 Dec

Berwick Garden Centre, East Ord

[crabbiesgardencentres.co.uk](https://www.crabbiesgardencentres.co.uk)

Gin Distilling Workshops

Sat 5, 12 & 19 Dec 14:00–16:30

Border Spirits & Botanicals,

The Cornhill on Tweed Centre

[borderspiritsandbotanicals.co.uk](https://www.borderspiritsandbotanicals.co.uk)

Fri 4 Dec

Christmas Party Night with Dinner and Dancing

Berwick Rugby Club, Scremerston

✉ xmasbrfc@gmail.com

[berwickrugbyclub.co.uk](https://www.berwickrugbyclub.co.uk)

Fri 4 & Sat 5 Dec

Railtons Antiques and Interiors

Auctioneers Sale 10:00–16:00

The Northern Auction Centre, 5 South Road,

Wooler

[railtons.co.uk](https://www.railtons.co.uk)

Thu 10 Dec

BEA Singfest 14:00–18:00

Present a Christmas Celebration with local Schools, Graeme Danby, Cameron Robertson and Friends.

St Andrew's Church, Wallace Green, Berwick

MALTINGS CINEMA
AT BERWICK BARRACKS

Films every week
Ultimate Comfort
Great value
Accessible for all

DISCOVER WHAT'S ON
RIGHT NOW AT
MALTINGSBERWICK.CO.UK

Ravensdowne, Berwick-upon-Tweed TD15 1DF

Northumberland County Council
Arts Council England
Registered Charity No 720184

DECEMBER

Sat 12 Dec

Enchanted Christmas Fundraiser

11:30–14:30

Christmas gifts and a special appearance from Santa.

Nicola: ☎07368 551394.

Glendale Hall, Wooler

Sun 13 Dec

Berwick Christmas Market organised by Berwick Rotary Club

Marygate, Berwick

Open Mic. From 16:00

Fishers Arms Pub, Horncliffe

fishersarmscommunitypub.co.uk

Sat 19 Dec

Craft a Sketchbook or Journal –

Coptic Binding 13:00 – 15:00

The Old Brewery Artist Studios, Tweedmouth

<https://bit.ly/3UYxtQC>

Sat 19 Dec

Berwick Male Voice Choir Concert 14:00–16:00

St Andrew's Church, Wallace Green, Berwick

Sun 20 Dec

Somewhere in My Memory – The Soundtrack to Christmas

16:00 (Relaxed Family Performance)

19:00 evening performance

Vivace Vocal Collective presents an uplifting Christmas show filled with festive favourites, film classics and unexpected surprises.

Berwick Guildhall, Berwick

vivacevocalcollective.com

Community Carol Service 18:00

Paxton House, Paxton

Mon 21 & Tue 22 Dec

Breakfast with Santa

Berwick Garden Centre, East Ord

crabbiesgardencentres.co.uk

We do our very best to keep everything up to date, but plans can change, so it's always worth checking with the organiser before you head out.



STOP PRESS - NEW COURSE DATE JUST IN

The Artist's Way - change your creative thinking in 13 weeks with Louise Tucker.

Starts 4 January at Jackal, Hide Hill, Berwick

Free taster at Jackal, 6pm Monday 2 November.

Visit www.louisehtucker.com for details.





WWW.VISITBERWICK.COM

Visit Berwick-Upon-Tweed.

Visit England's Northernmost Town.

Visit Britain's Happiest Place To Live.

Visit The Town That Changed Hands Between England and Scotland, 13 Times.

Would you like your business to be listed on www.visitberwick.com? In 2025, we reached 7.9 million accounts across our social media and had 800k visits to our website.

Contact us: visitberwickuptweed@gmail.com
Listing fee: £52 per year



@VISITBERWICKUPONTWEED

Yule at Ad Gefrin

An Anglo-Saxon Christmas | 12th November - 6th January



Yule Gaderung • Goat Parade • Festive Workshops
Festive Dining • Old Years Night

To book or find out more information
adgefirin.co.uk/whats-on/events



Ad Gefrin



"FEE FI FO FUM...
WATCH OUT BERWICK...
HERE I COME!"

JACK AND THE BEANSTALK



STARRING

ROSS GRAHAM

JENNIFER BARRON

&

HANNAH WEBB

5TH-31ST DECEMBER 2026
VARIOUS TIMES

