



SELKIRK NEWS

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Selkirk News Issue 10

Created to allow the residents of Selkirk a central point of information, Selkirk News is produced by a sub-committee of Selkirk Community Council, and is distributed via Selkirk's High Street shops in a limited quantity.

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and we will send you a copy as a PDF file to read/share.

Please send news and photos to info@selkirkcommunitycouncil.co.uk

Just a reminder that the **Selkirk Farmers' Market** is in the Market Place (weather permitting) on the first Saturday of every month, 9:30am-1:00pm.

Scottish Borders Councillors **Caroline Cochrane and Elaine Thornton-Nicol** will be in attendance to answer queries from 10.00am-12 noon.

Scottish Borders Councillor **Leagh Douglas** conducts surgery sessions at Selkirk's Leisure Centre. See Back Page for more details.



Common Riding Hails Sam Coltherd



The 2026 Royal Burgh Standard Bearer has been announced as Sam Coltherd, whose Attendants are Robbie Reilly, Conall Fairbairn, Elliot Hastie and Aiden McFarlane, who were all also appointed on Appointment Night, Friday 24th April. They have already been busy representing the Royal and Ancient Burgh of Selkirk at many events in Selkirk and around the Borders in the build up to Selkirk Common Riding on Friday June 12th. Other Standard Bearers have been announced as: for the Hammermen, Stuart Gammie; for the Weavers, Mark Cornwall; for the Fleshers, Craig Lowrie; for the Colonial Society Frances Anderson, for the Merchant Company Niall Armstrong, and for the Ex-Soldiers Association, Gary Allison. More details: Page 9. Photo: Grant Kinghorn



SCOTTISH
BORDERS
WALKING
FESTIVAL

Selkirk has been awarded stewardship of the Borders Walking Festival for 2027 and a full programme of walks long and short is being compiled. The 2026 Walking Festival is being staged in Jedburgh in the first week of September, and Selkirk Community Council will officially take over the festival from Jedburgh at the handover ceremony in Jedburgh on Friday September 11. Details of this year's Walking Festival can be found at

https://www.facebook.com/borderswalking/?locale=en_GB

A programme can be downloaded at

<https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/downloads/download/1757/scottish-borders-walking-festival-2026>

Some useful contacts:

Selkirk Health Centre
01750 21674
NHS - 111

Call 105 to report a power cut
and 999 for an emergency.
Police - 101

Report vandalism etc.:
selkirkshireCPT@scotlandpolice.uk
Or "contact us" section on Police
Scotland website.

Scottish Borders Council -
0300 100 1800

Reporting:
www.scotborders.gov.uk/report
Council emergency
out of hours number 01896 752111
SGN - 0800 111 999
Scottish Water - 0800 077 8778
Scottish Power - 0800 092 9290

Borders Buses
[https://www.bordersbuses.co.uk/
services](https://www.bordersbuses.co.uk/services)

SBC Councillors:

Caroline Cochrane
caroline.cochrane@scotborders.gov.uk
Leagh Douglas:
leagh.douglas@scotborders.gov.uk
Elaine Thornton-Nicol:
e.thornton-nicol@scotborders.gov.uk

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Thank you.

Spurs Night



Standard Bearer Sam Coltherd with the Braw Lad and Lass



Callum Squance, one of the youngsters, on his pony



Spurs Night Dinner Dance Top Table

Friday the 15th of May saw the annual Spurs Night Ride take place in Galashiels. Royal Burgh Standard Bearer Sam Coltherd, accompanied by Burleymen Darren Knox and Mathew Stanners, met up at Galafoot with this year's Braw Lad Ruaridh Anderson and Braw Lass Chloe Logan, who were accompanied by their Attendants. They were followed by lots of youngsters on ponies for the ride up into Gala. After the ride, the Gala Souters held their Annual Dinner Dance in the local branch of the British Legion. Chairman George Emond presented Standard Bearer Coltherd with a set of Spurs, Gail Pow presented Braw Lad Anderson with a set of Spurs and Braw Lass Logan a compact. Ex-Hammermen Standard Bearer, Deacon and Bailie Kevin Fairbairn gave the main toast. with Hon. Provost Rodney Pow replying.

Report and photos by Grant Kinghorn



Junior Rideout

Left: Riders make their way through the Market Place; Standard Bearer Coltherd with young Caitlyn Black

Right: Selkirk Silver Band lead the way; Standard Bearer Coltherd with his attendants lead the way into the Haining



On a very warm Wednesday evening at the end of May, Royal Burgh Standard Bearer Sam Coltherd led about 70 ponies round the Selkirk Junior Ride, organised as ever by the Selkirk Royal and Ancient Burgh Ex-Standard Bearers Association. The ride started at Station Road, moving up Mill Street and the Green before entering the Haining, where the ride stopped in a field. The Standard Bearer and Attendants presented the youngsters with ribbons, provided by Rosette makers Sheila Lockie and Moira Squance. First time riders also received a badge provided by the Firth Family in memory of David and Linda Firth, as well as a goodie bag. The ride left the Haining via Castle Street, where the Silver Band took the lead as the ride made its way down Castle Street and the Back Row on to the High Street and through the Market Place, down the Green back to Station Road. Many thanks must go out to everyone who helped make the ride such a success again. Also massive thanks to Sponsors SBHA, Booker Wholesale, The Hammermen, The Firth Family, Sheila Lockie and Moira Squance.

Report and photos by Grant Kinghorn

Sam Enchanted Evening

Photos: Grant Kinghorn



The customary presentation to the Royal and Ancient Burgh Standard Bearer took place in the lesser Victoria Hall on May 14th. A large attending group of Community Council members, Scottish Borders Councillors and Selkirk Common Riding Trust and Executive members welcomed Royal Burgh Standard Bearer Sam Coltherd, who was presented with the customary engraved hip flask by Community Council chair Andy Murray.

In attendance were the Standard Bearer's partner, his attendants and their partners, the Standard Bearers from all the Crafts and Associations, as well as their Deacons, Masters and Chairmen, plus Honorary Provost Rodney Pow, Bailies and Burgh Officers. A splendid time was had by all.

Selkirk Ex-Soldiers Association Bussin'



Chelsie Moffat Busses the Ex-Soldiers Flag for her Standard Bearer Gary Allison as Chairman Martin Young looks on.

Friday 22nd of May saw the Selkirk Ex-Soldiers Association Dinner Bussin o' Colours and Dance take place in Selkirk Rugby Club. Ex-Soldiers Chairman Martin Young welcomed everyone to a packed club room. The introduction of the 2026 Ex-Soldiers Standard Bearer was made by Steve Allison, with Ex-Soldiers Standard Bearer Gary Allison replying. The Toast to the Royal and Ancient Burgh and the introduction of the Royal Burgh Standard Bearer was given by Hon. Provost Rodney Pow. Royal Burgh Standard Bearer Sam Coltherd then replied. The Ex-Soldiers reply was given by Chairman Martin Young. The main business of the evening was the Bussin of the Colours by Chelsie Moffat and the Presentation of Colours by Chairman Young. The vote of thanks was given by 2025 Ex-Soldiers Standard Bearer Darren Gibson. Following the official part of the evening there was music from Good Vibes Disco. Report and photos by Grant Kinghorn

Selkirk Comes To Selkirk



Photo: Grant Kinghorn



Photo: Andy Murray

A little bit of Canada came to Selkirk in May, in the person of Lorie Fiddler, the Deputy Mayor of Selkirk, Manitoba, Canada. She was welcomed by members of the Community Council and SBC Councillor Elaine Thornton-Nicol in an impromptu dinner at The Fleece, where she was presented with a model of the Fletcher statue. Having had a tour of Selkirk and its surrounding district, Lorie said she had loved her experience and was sure to return. Lorie also kindly brought with her some Selkirk Manitoba souvenirs, which were very gratefully received. August will see a further visitor from Selkirk, Manitoba, in the person of its Council's Chief Administrative Officer, Duane Nicol. Many thanks to the Fleece for their superb support.

No SBC Christmas Tree



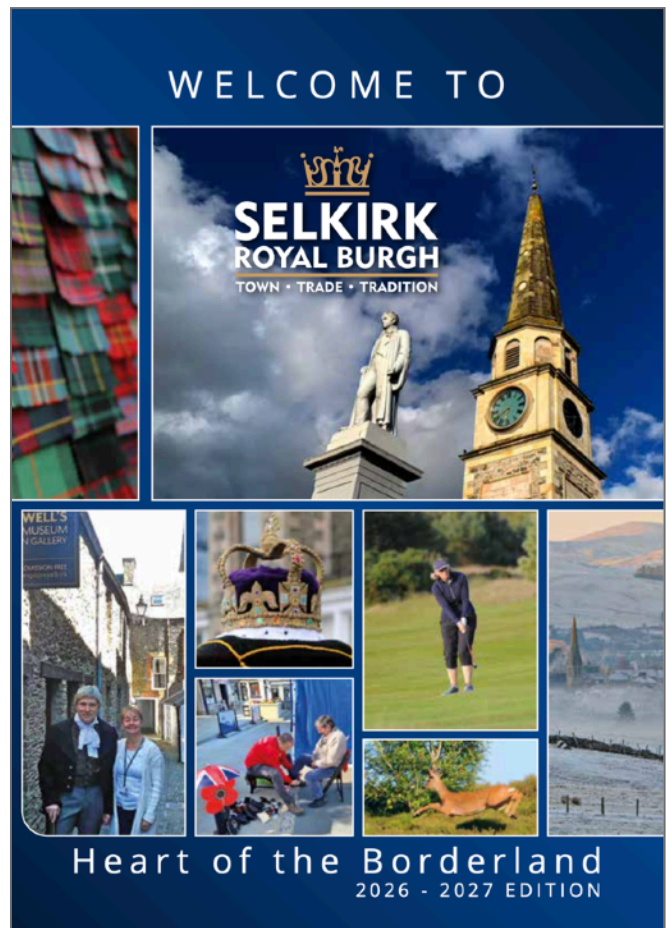
Scottish Borders Council have announced that, due to budget restraints, they will no longer be able to supply a free Christmas tree to Borders towns, although they will still pay for the installation of the tree itself, and its Christmas lights. This has caused a certain amount of unhappiness in the town but it is hoped that the Community Council and elected SBC Councillors will be able to negotiate a preferential deal with some of the local forestry owners. An update will be posted in the next newsletter in the autumn.

R&L Taxi Takeover



R&L Taxis has a new owner, Bilal Jutt of McCudden's newsagents, who has just announced the return of the service for Selkirk and surrounding areas. They can be contacted by phone, email, or by sending a message via their Facebook page. Contact details are: Phone - 07930 004132; Email - randltaxis@outlook.com. Operating Hours will be: Monday - Thursday: 6:00 AM - 10:00 PM; Friday - Saturday: 6:00 AM - 4:00 AM; Sunday: 6:00 AM - 10:00 PM
Everyone will welcome the return of this helpful service.

New Welcome To Selkirk published



The new edition of the 'Welcome To Selkirk' brochure has been published by the Community Council. A bumper 44 pages long, it is free for visitors and residents alike, and is supported by advertisements from local businesses. Community Council Chair Andy Murray said: "Many thanks to all our advertisers for helping to keep going what is regarded as a useful guide to Selkirk's attractions. Gala has even asked why they don't have one! It also includes guides to local organisations, sports clubs and useful services, as well as new sections introducing visitors to the history of Mungo Park and The Haining House. Many thanks to local author John Nichol in particular for these last two sections." Welcome to Selkirk can be found in cafes and hotels across Selkirk and the Ettrick and Yarrow valleys. This edition will last for two years, until Spring 2028.

SELKIRK EVENTS IN JUNE

06	Farmers' Market, Market Place
07	Riverside Fun Day
07	Children's Picnic, Philiphaugh
07	Show Sunday, Victoria Halls
10	Casting Practice, Thornfield
10	Casting Practice, Viewfield
11	Cycle Skools Course, Swimming Pool
11	Cryin' o' The Burley
11	United Crafts Bussin' Concert, Victoria Halls
11	Wreath Laying, Flodden Memorial
12	Common Riding Day
13	Horse & pony Gymkhana, SRFC
13	Open Athletics Meeting, Cricket Field
15	Bank Holiday
15	Community Council AGM and meeting, Victoria Halls
17	Selkirk Hill Management Group meeting, Victoria Halls
18	Cycle Skools Course, Swimming Pool
19	Selkirk by Cycle event, Leisure Centre
21	Argus Family Ceilidh, The Haining
27	Making Selkirk Festival, Parish Church Hall
28	Making Selkirk Festival, Parish Church Hall

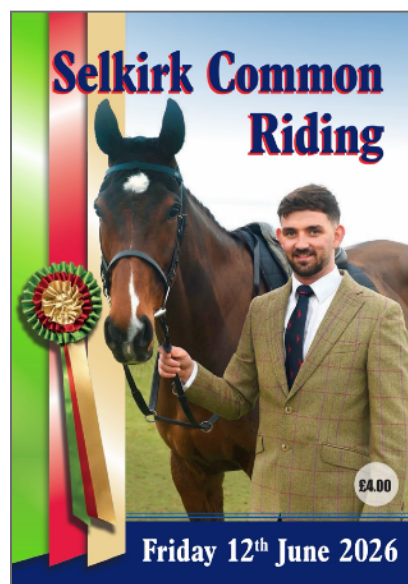
For more details, see www.selkirkcommunitycouncil.co.uk/calendar
 Events across the Borders can be found at the Live Borders events page:
<https://www.liveborders.org.uk/whats-on/>

Scott Statue Works Delayed



Efforts to restore the sad condition of the Sir Walter Scott statue in Selkirk's Market Place have come to a temporary halt. Sterling fundraising efforts by the Community Council and Selkirk Regeneration for restoration established a combination of grants from the Selkirk Common Good fund, the Fallago Wind fund, and the Selkirk BIDS group. However, by the time the funds had been secured, the company bidding for restoration work had received so many orders that it will not be possible for them to start the work until spring 2027. Because of the inevitable rise in costs over the period between commencing work and the first quote, more funding will have to be acquired, but it is hoped to settle that by the autumn of this year.

Common Riding Booklet Out



Edited and
produced by
Grant Kinghorn

Selkirk Common Riding Booklet 2026 is now on sale at The Peony Rose Coffee House, Scott's Selkirk Shop, J.A. Waters & Sons Family Butcher, Down to Earth and Flower Expressions, priced £4.00. All you need to know about this year's Selkirk Common Riding, the bumper A5 Booklet is full of colour photographs, timetables, events and full listings of all 2026 Principals and Officials, as well as features on our wonderful town bands and Anniversary Standard Bearers.

Selkirk Children's Scottish Country Dance Class Presentation Night



Dancers and teachers at their presentation night

Association, from the proceeds of their charities and good causes Rideout last Autumn. We were absolutely delighted and it will be a great help for our fund.

Report by Margaret Pritchard. Thanks to Grant Kinghorn, who kindly took photos of the night.

The Selkirk Children's Scottish Country Dance Class have a presentation night every year, and this year it was on Wednesday the 1st of April at Knowepark. The dancers' parents were invited to come along and watch the children dance, after which each Class was presented with a cup or shield. The shoe World Cup was donated and presented by Dilys Wheelans, the Jenny Corbett shield presented by Avril Jack, while the Colin Turnbull quach, donated by Colin Turnbull, was presented by the chair of the Roxburgh Selkirk & Peebles Branch. The Andrew Hill Shield was presented by Maura Fair, the Cathy Marr cup was presented by Rob Marr and the Maisie Coyne cup presented by Maureen Davidson. Music was provided by Sam Cleland on his accordion.

The group were also presented with a cheque from the Ex-Standard Bearers

Selkirk Silver Band Celebrate Promotion



Selkirk Silver Band with their silverware before their May concert Photo: Grant Kinghorn

A note from the Silver Band's Sarah Jamieson:

The band were delighted to have won the 3rd section at Scottish Championship at Perth Concert Hall back in March, and will be promoted to the 2nd section for next year's Championships. After months of hard work rehearsing at the band hall and hours of practice individually at home in our own time, we saved our best performance for the contest platform; can't wish for any better than that!

A big shout out is due to our Musical Director Stuart Black whose tireless effort and musical interpretation of the test piece was fundamental to the result, reaping a just reward. The coming months will see various fund raising efforts for our trip to the National Finals and we hope you are able to contribute in some measure.

If you are not already a member of our 50/50 club you may want to consider that as a regular financial contribution. At £5/month you get a chance to win up to £250 in the monthly draw. Email selkirksilverband@yahoo.com to find out more. Thank you to all who have already, or continue to support the band financially; we wouldn't be able to continue without your contributions! The band are now preparing for a busy Common Riding season, and then it will be on to preparations for York throughout the summer, where the band will represent Selkirk and Scotland at York Barbican on the 20th September. Thank you all for your continued support.

50th Anniversary of Selkirk Rotary concert



Imogen Hoppe entertains at the Victoria Halls
Photo: Peter Croan

On 15th May Rotary Selkirk celebrated their 50th Charter Anniversary at the Victoria Halls. Rotary President Lina Purves welcomed fellow Rotarians and guests to the event, where Sheena Porteous and Mary Jones cut the celebration cake as a start to the proceedings.

Former President Stuart Wilson provided a thoughtful grace before all enjoyed a buffet meal. The toast to Rotary Selkirk was given by District Governor Brenda Waugh and replied to by former President Les Rutherford. Entertainment was provided by Andy Murray and John Nichol, Imogen Hoppé and Selkirk Musical Theatre Company, while the raffle was held in aid of Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance - SCAA. The Vote of Thanks was given by another former President Graham Easton, while all looked forward to the next happy celebration.



SELKIRK

TOWN OF CULTURE 2028

The UK Government recently launched a competition for towns to compete to be 'UK Town of Culture 2028', with a first prize of £3m. More than 230 towns entered, including Selkirk, Galashiels and Berwick on Tweed.

Selkirk's bid was led by the Community Council, having secured partnership commitments, in the event of being shortlisted, from Scottish Borders Council and Live Borders. A wide-ranging committee, representing the Common Riding, Live Borders, history, the arts, painting, architecture, song,

literature, the Haining, the Farmers Market, weavers, and the Auld Kirkyard, was convened, with several very positive and creative discussions.

The initial application was restricted to 11 sections of no more than 400 words each, so 4,400 words maximum in total. No visuals were allowed, but, should Selkirk be shortlisted, £60,000 and 5 months are allocated to produce the actual presentation.

The team made the point that Selkirk has been at the forefront of so many things and events that it is 'the nation's story in one square mile'. From the castle to the first abbey, Wallace, Flodden, Philiphaugh, Sir Walter Scott, Mungo Park, tweed, painting and even the High School, leading the way in e-sports, Selkirk has been there first. The shortlist will be announced shortly, but, even if Selkirk is not selected, the team propose to keep the flow of ideas going with separate discussions on how to achieve some objectives.

Common Riding Details



Hammermen Standard
Bearer Stuart Gammie



Weavers Standard Bearer
Mark Cornwall



Fleshers Standard Bearer
Craig Lowrie



Colonials Standard Bearer
Frances Anderson



Merchant Company
Standard Bearer Niall Armstrong



Ex-Soldiers Standard
Bearer Gary Allison

All photos except Frances
Anderson:
Grant Kinghorn

Thursday 11 June:

- 6:30pm - Cryin' o' the Burley around the Town. All welcome.
- 7.15pm - United Crafts Bussin' Concert (Hammermen & Weavers) - Victoria Halls.
Open to public with admission charge.
- 8.00pm - Ex-Standard Bearers Association march lay wreath at Fletcher, the Flodden Memorial.

Friday 12 June: Common Riding Day

- 4:00am: Rouse Parade: Selkirk Flute Band rouses the town, waking the Provost and the Royal Burgh Standard Bearer.
- 5.30am - Act of Remembrance: Ex-Servicemen gather at Selkirk War Memorial.
- 6.00am - The First Drum. Selkirk Silver Band play Hail Smiling Morn around the town.
- 6.15am - Exiles' song 'Her Bright Smile' sung at the County Hotel.
- 6.30am - The Foot Procession arrives at the Victoria Halls; Riders assemble in Back Row.
- 6.45am - Installation of Standard Bearer and bussin' of the Royal Burgh Flag on the balcony of the Victoria Halls.
- 6.55am - Procession forms and marches to the Market Place.
- 7.00am- The Second Drum. Procession moves off Doon The Green.
- 7.30am - Riders ford the Ettrick Water
- 7.45am - Riders in Linglie Glen
- 8.45am - Riders at summit of the Three Brethren.
- 9.00am - Procession reforms in the Market Place and leaves for Shawburn Toll
- 9.40am (approx.) - Coming in of the Burley and Riders Return
- 10.15am (approx..) - Procession re-forms and returns to Market Place via Bleachfield Road and the High Street
- 11.00am (approx..) - Market Place - Casting of the Colours.
- 11.10am (approx..) - Two Minutes Silence
- 11.15am (approx..) - The Return of the Burgh Flag "unsullied and untarnished" and conclusion of ceremonies.
- 2.00pm - Race Meeting, Gala Rig
- 8.30pm - Common Riding Ball, Victoria Halls

Saturday 13 June:

- Games and Gymkhana, Philiphaugh
- 1.00pm - Band leaves Mungo Park statue
- 1.30pm - Start of games at Philiphaugh playing fields

Summer Craft Fair at The Haining



The summer Craft Fair will once again be hosted at The Haining House on July 18th and 19th. Set within the surroundings of the historic restored country house, the fair brings together a selection of talented local makers, artisans, and food producers, perfect for discovering unique gifts and seasonal delights. This year's event will include: handmade gifts and summer-inspired decorations; artisan crafts and local artwork; beautiful homeware and thoughtful treasures; fresh bakes and delicious seasonal treats. All are welcome and refreshments will be available.

Photo: Andy Murray

Selkirk by Cycle Event

Sustainable Borders and Selkirk Regeneration are hosting an event entitled 'Selkirk By Cycle' on Friday 19 June at Selkirk Leisure Centre from 12.30pm to 5.00pm.

A free community event for all ages, it features E-bikes, trishaw rides, fun bike obstacle course, clue hunt and an inflatables pool session.

Timings will be: E-bike rides and free rental sign-up, 12.30pm to 4.30pm; Cycle Without Age (scenic rides around the Riverside area) 1pm to 4pm.

For P7 and high school learners there will be: Selkirk High School Bike Club obstacle course from 2.30pm to 3.30pm; a led mountain bike ride starting at 3.30pm; Rowlands clue hunt, 2.30 to 3.30pm.

For ages 8+ there will be: Tickets to a Pool Inflatables Session from 4 pm to 5 pm: this will be free if a family member visits or takes part in an event activity. Spaces are limited, and Terms & Conditions will apply.

For more details, visit the Sustainable Borders Facebook page or email: info@sustainableborders.org.uk

Active Travel Route

Scottish Borders Council have launched a consultation into a proposal to create an 'Active Travel Route', initially from Hawick to the Center Parcs site, but subsequently all the way to Selkirk. Prompted by the opening of Scotland's first Center Parcs near Hawick in Spring 2029, this is a Scottish Government initiative, so costs won't have any impact on Scottish Borders Council's budget. Completion of at least the Center Parcs portion could increase cycling trips from 10 daily (Hawick to Selkirk) to c.200 daily trips to the Center Parcs site.

Although the new proposed cycle/walking path is beside the A7, the current designated path between Hawick and Selkirk, via Lilliesleaf and Clerklands, has been criticised for poor signage, dangerous narrow roads and steep hills.

SELKIRK EVENTS IN JULY

01	Selkirk Hill Management Group meeting, Victoria Halls
04	Farmers' Market, Market Place
08	Life & Poetry of Emily Dickinson, Scott's Courtroom
13	Community Council meeting, Bannerfield Community Centre
18	Craft Fair, The Haining
19	Craft Fair, The Haining

For more details, see www.selkirkcommunitycouncil.co.uk/calendar
 Events across the Borders can be found at the Live Borders events page:
<https://www.liveborders.org.uk/whats-on/>

Former Contact Centre Feasibility



Creative Coathanger, a regeneration project based in Galashiels, have obtained funding for a feasibility study into the possibility of saving the former SBC Contact Centre. The building, used most recently as a place for the public to interact with Scottish Borders Council, was previously the home of Mungo Park's father in law, and is situated opposite the Co-op, beside Mungo Park's statue.

Creative Coathanger's vision is to create a multi-use centre for cultural activities, but other uses might be possible. The central aim is to establish what it would cost to restore the building to usage, after which its exact future purpose can be decided. A Facebook page entitled 'Save Selkirk Municipal Building' has been established at <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61589033795541>

There will also be a 2-day 'Making Selkirk' Festival at Selkirk Parish Church Hall on 27 & 28 June. Please go to the Calendar page on the Selkirk Community Council website for more details.



NISA Looks Nicer

Now that NISA has taken over the function of the Post Office, residents have been awaiting new signage to improve on NISA's previous footage. This has now been done, so residents and visitors alike can discover the new Post Office location.

Planting Time Is Here



Summer's here and the time is right for planting in the street. Blooming Selkirk's volunteers have been toiling to prepare the Market Place and High Street planters for the receipt of their new plants - due in time for the Common Riding. In related news, enough sponsors have been found to support the High Street hanging baskets and the Victoria Halls railings baskets, so look out for their blooms shortly, bringing much needed colour to the streets of the town.

Many thanks to the citizens, shops, businesses and Casting Associations who have contributed to the town's beauty.

Blooming Selkirk volunteers weeding the planters.

Photos: Andy Murray

Baskets at Philiphaugh photo: Al Pattullo

Treasure Trails Map

Selkirk has a successful range of reuse and preloved item stores, and to that end the General Store, in partnership with other shops, has produced a 'Treasure Trails' map.

A guide to some of the places where such treasures can be found, it is for use by residents and visitors alike. Developed by The General Store and sponsored by SoSE (South of Scotland Enterprise), it shows the location of such venues as Scott's Selkirk, The Fabric Hub, Hislop's and The Scrapstore, celebrating all of the reuse shops and encouraging people to visit the town, do the trail and spend money in the other shops and cafes.

KEY
 Path
 Toilets
 Parking
 EV Charge
 Bus Stop

- 1 THE GENERAL STORE - CLAS & CURIOS
Vintage clothes and homeware
36 Market Place TD7 4BL
- 2 THE GENERAL STORE - REPAIRMONGER
Refurbished electrical goods
39 Market Place TD7 4BL
- 3 HISLOPS
Furniture, bric a brac and electricals
23a Market Place TD7 4BL
- 4 THE GENERAL STORE - TRADING POST
Clothes, shoes and bric a brac
6 High St TD7 4DD
- 5 SCOTT'S SELKIRK
Books
18 Market Place TD7 4BT
- 6 THE FABRIC HUB
Vintage textiles
18-20 West Port TD7 4DD
- 7 THE GENERAL STORE - RESTORE
Small furniture, homeware and a pay what you want Rummage Room
Units 1-2 Forest Mill, Weavers Court TD7 5NY
- 8 THE BORDERS SCRAPSTORE
Art, crafts and textiles
Unit 4, Shepherd's Mill, Weavers Court TD7 5NY

Developed by THE GENERAL STORE - Punded by SOUTH OF SCOTLAND ENTERPRISE

generalstore.selkirk.org
The General Store, Selkirk is a registered charity SC055050

Map courtesy of The General Store

Selkirk & The Valleys Radio Launches



Ed Strang-Steel in his Philiphaugh studio

Former US broadcaster Ed Strang-Steel of the Philiphaugh estate finally realised a long-held dream with the launch of his local radio station – Selkirk & The Valleys Radio. Based for the time being at Philiphaugh, the station runs online from 24 hours a day, and is open to requests of all kinds. Ed’s mastery of technology means that he is able to broadcast and programme content on his laptop away from the studio, so he will hopefully be able to mount live shows in future from events like the Selkirk Farmer’s Market and the Yarrow Show.

Selkirk & The Valleys Radio can be found at <https://selkirkandthevalleysradio.com>

SMTC’s Next Production



**SELKIRK
MUSICAL
THEATRE
COMPANY**

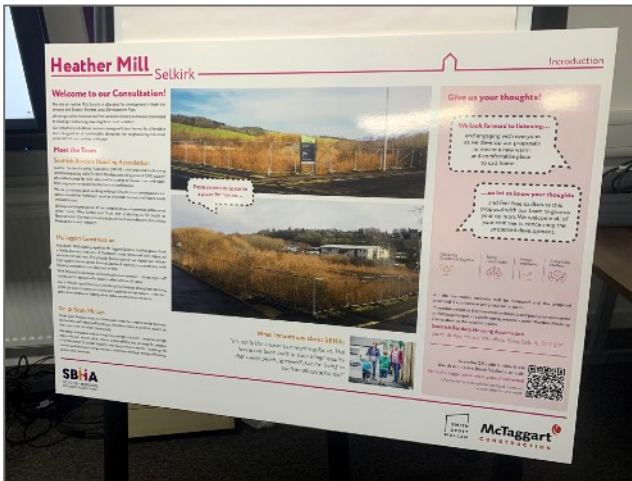
The next production by Selkirk Musical Theatre Company, after the huge success of We Will Rock You, will be Bad Girls, running from 27 to 29 August at the Victoria Halls. Tickets can be booked in advance from [ticketsource.com](https://www.ticketsource.com) at

<https://www.ticketsource.com/selkirkmtc>

SMTC’s Facebook page is at:

https://www.facebook.com/SelkirkMTC/?locale=en_GB

SBHA’s Housing Plan for Heather Mill



The Scottish Borders Housing Association (SBHA) has announced plans for a new housing scheme on Whinfield Road, at the former Heather Mill site, opposite their offices in Selkirk Riverside. Plans have been submitted for planning approval for the scheme, which would deliver 59 affordable homes. More information can be found at <https://mctaggartconst.wixsite.com/heathermill>

Caulks Well Better



Thanks to Thomas Riddell & Sons Builders for their restoration work on the Caulks Well - done free of charge.

Their commitment to maintaining the town’s assets and heritage is very much appreciated.

Cricket Club Raises A Glass



A unique gin has been created by Selkirk Distillers to celebrate the 175th anniversary of the town's cricket club. The gin will be officially launched in Selkirk Cricket Club's Philiphaugh clubrooms on Friday, April 17th.

This will be the second time Selkirk Distillers have been commissioned by the cricket club to produce a batch of their handcrafted gins. "In 2022 we created a gin to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the club's move to its Philiphaugh home," said company co-founder and distiller Allan Walker. [Photo: top left]

"That gin proved very popular, so we're delighted to have been asked to produce a completely new spirit to mark the 175th anniversary of the club's founding in 1851."

Selkirk Cricket Club's 175th Anniversary Gin combines a variety of ingredients, including pineapple, papaya, mango and blueberries. Selkirk Distillers will donate £5 to the cricket club for each bottle purchased in the company's shop. "It does have a really refreshing quality," commented Selkirk Cricket Club president John Smail, "and is definitely something you'd want to drink while watching cricket on a hot summer's day!"

"We're extremely grateful to Selkirk Distillers for so generously agreeing to donate £5 to the club for each bottle sold in their shop. Creating the gin is a great way to celebrate such an important milestone in our club's history."

The new gin's label features a photograph of three Selkirk players who each scored centuries for the club in the 1908 season - brothers Willie and Walter Grieve, and club professional Jack Palmer. [Photo: top right]

The talented young brothers, both of whom were Scotland internationalists, tragically lost their lives in the Great War - two of the 12 Selkirk cricketers and club members to pay the supreme sacrifice.

The gin will be available to buy from Selkirk Distillers' shop in the town's Market Place and from the cricket club itself. Selkirk Distillers is also taking pre-orders on-line via this link - <https://www.selkirkdistillers.com/>

[Centre photo: Allan Walker and John Smail]

Captain Re-appointed



Daniel Heard (left) and Stuart Young

Daniel Heard was officially installed as Selkirk Cricket Club's 1st XI skipper for 2026 at the traditional Captain's Night ceremony, held in the Philiphaugh clubrooms on Saturday evening. He was presented with his club blazer by Stuart Young, proprietor of Cameron's Bakery, Selkirk's main sponsor for the club's 175th anniversary year.

"Captaining the team for the first time last year proved a big challenge for Daniel," Selkirk president John Smail told members and guests, "but it was one he met head-on." Over the course of the season Daniel grew increasingly confident in his leadership ability, culminating in Selkirk lifting the Borders T20 Cup for the very first time."

Meanwhile Selkirk's players will be wearing new kit in the coming season thanks to the generous sponsorship of Cameron's Bakery. "Proprietor Stuart Young is well known to our players," added John, "having grown up in the town alongside many of them. His work ethic is second to none, and the queues which regularly form outside his shop attest to the success he has achieved since taking over the business. Thank you, Stuart, for supporting the club so enthusiastically, your sponsorship is greatly appreciated by everyone at Philiphaugh."

Stuart then helped the new Selkirk captain don his club blazer, wishing Daniel and the Selkirk players every success over the coming season. In reply, Daniel said it was an honour to be leading the team once again, especially in such a special year.

"I know the boys will be giving it their all in the months ahead," said Daniel, "and I will do everything I can to repay the club's faith in me."

by John Smail



Football Notes by Ian Stephen

Selkirk Victoria v. Gala Hotspur.
Oliver McClymont on the attack for Selkirk Vics.
Photo: Grant Kinghorn

This Summer Selkirk Victoria Football Club have been running a Wednesday evening kickabout for all ages and abilities, as we try to connect with more of the community. For the season ahead we are going with a new management team of Craig Lowrie and Ian Stephen, with a nucleus of the town's best footballers as we go into Selkirk Victoria's 50th season in the Border Amateur League.

This year we also celebrate the Selkirk 1975/6 East of Scotland all-conquering team, who won a clean sweep of 4 trophies under the management of Ian Whitehead, with a Sportsmans' Dinner, to be held at Selkirk Rugby Club on Friday 16th October with celebrity guest speakers. We hope this season reconnects many former players and supporters of our local club, which now operates as a charity under Selkirk Community Football Club to ensure a sustainable future for our young footballers in the town.

Rugby News by Grant Kinghorn



The Selkirk A Team that won the Border League Cup and the John Laing Sevens
Photo: Grant Kinghorn

Season 2025-26 saw Selkirk's run in the top flight of Scottish Rugby come to an end when they were relegated. Despite only winning three games the team put in some big performances, including running Ayr, the runaway Scottish Champions, very close in the final game. Selkirk were one of four clubs who shared the Border League following a number of games not being fulfilled at the end of the season. Selkirk will welcome Derek O'Riordan to the club next season as head coach, assisted by Scott Tomlinson.

Selkirk A XV had a great season, winning the Border Reserve league Cup, defeating Melrose Storm 34-21 at Jedburgh at the end of March, after which their Sevens squad won the John Laing Sevens at Kelso at the beginning of April.

Selkirk's Senior Seven had an up and down Kings of the Sevens; their best tournament was when they finished runners up to Edinburgh Accies at Langholm.




Councillor Leagh Douglas

Here to Help Across Selkirkshire

I'm always keen to hear directly from residents about the issues, concerns and ideas that matter most to our communities.

Whether you need support with a local issue, help navigating Council services, or simply want to raise something affecting your area, please don't hesitate to get in touch.




Monthly Drop-In Surgery

-  Selkirk Leisure Centre
-  First Friday of every month
-  11:00am – 12:00pm

No appointment needed, just pop in for a chat.

Arrange an Appointment

Get in touch to arrange an appointment at a time and place convenient to you.

-  leagh.douglas@scotborders.gov.uk
-  07773 619752
-  Cllr Leagh Douglas Selkirkshire



Councillor Caroline Cochrane Councillor Elaine Thornton-Nicol

Meet us at

Selkirk Farmers
Market

-  First Saturday of every month
-  10.00am - 12.00 noon
-  Market Place, Selkirk

Come along for an informal chat about local issues, council services, community concerns or ideas for improving Selkirkshire.

-  caroline.cochrane@scotborders.gov.uk
e.thornton-nicol@scotborders.gov.uk

Here for our community

