

SELKIRK NEWS

All the News Seen Fit to Give Us | Download PDF from www.selkirkcommunitycouncil.co.uk

Welcome to Selkirk News

It has been much commented on that the residents of Selkirk lack a central point of information. Selkirk News, created by a sub-committee of the Selkirk Community Council, aims to keep residents informed, with a quarterly newsletter. Please go to www.selkirkcommunitycouncil.co.uk to read the full PDF, download it free and forward to friends.

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

General Store on Radio!

Selkirk's General Store, Britain's only 'repairmonger', has featured in a special programme on BBC Radio. Listen to the show on BBC Sounds at

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m001r0zs>

Community Cleanup

Meeting on **Sunday 15th October in the Market Place**, the **Community Cleanup** Selkirk volunteers, including members of the Selkirk Response Team, the Community Council and the Rotary Club, pledged to deep clean the streets, picking up rubbish, sweeping gutters and preparing for Autumn.



3 Awards for Brighter Selkirk

Brighter Selkirk are celebrating winning three awards at the 2023 Greener Gateway Awards.

On September 26 the 2023 Greener Gateway Community Awards were held at the Inspire Learning building in Tweedbank, and Brighter Selkirk were honoured for their outstanding efforts as winners of the **Borders Biodiversity Award**, designed to recognise and celebrate the civic pride, volunteering efforts and skills that help the region looking cared for.

They went on to score Silver in two other categories: the **Cultivating Communities Award**, as well as the **Sustainability Award**, the only organisation to be honoured in three separate categories. Congratulations to all involved.

Pictured: Sue Bremner and Maggie Norman of Brighter Selkirk.





Some useful contacts:

Selkirk Health Centre
01750 21674

SBC Councillors:
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caroline.cochrane@scotborders.gov.uk

Elaine Thornton-Nicol:
e.thornton-nicol@scotborders.gov.uk

Leagh Douglas:
leagh.douglas@scotborders.gov.uk

**Royal Burgh of Selkirk
Community Council**
www.selkirkcommunitycouncil.co.uk
info@selkirkcommunitycouncil.co.uk

Services in Selkirk:
<https://exploreselkirk.co.uk/services/>

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

Taxis
R&L Taxis
07930 004132
randltaxis@outlook.com

Hunters Cabs & Minibuses
Freephone 0800 0749613
Selkirk 01750 21968

DJ Taxis
01750 720354



Silver Band 6th in Cheltenham

Selkirk Silver Band beat 92 competitors to come 6th in the Third Section of the National Brass band Championships of Great Britain.

Having come first in their category in the Scottish Brass Band Championships, the Selkirk Silver Band travelled to Cheltenham in Gloucestershire to compete on the national stage.

Their commitment and musicianship was rewarded with a 6th position out of the qualifying 20 at the Championships.

Everyone in Selkirk is proud of the Band's achievement, which doesn't stop there: they are now to host the day-long Scottish Borders Entertainment Contest, which will be held at Selkirk's Victoria Halls on Saturday November 4th. See more details later in this newsletter.

Big Yellow Fashion Show Sells Out!

The 'Gin Launch' Big Yellow Fashion Show at the **Victoria Halls on 10th November** has **sold out**. Billed as including a fashion catwalk, with entertainment, shopping stalls and live music, the event is supported by Selkirk Distillers. Organisers The Big Yellow Force raise funds to create more awareness of endometriosis.

510th Anniversary Flodden Event



Saturday the **9th of September** saw the annual Coldstream 1513 Club Commemoration service take place at Flodden on the 510th anniversary of the battle. Members of the Coldstream 1513 Club were joined by members of the Selkirk Royal and Ancient Burgh Ex-Standard Bearers' Association and members of the Hawick 1514 Club on a warm September evening at the Flodden Memorial.

Chairman Iain Dickson gave the welcome, James Bell gave the Toast to King James IV and ex-Deacon of the Selkirk Incorporation of Fleshers Robert Black gave the Toast to the Border men who fell. Selkirk Ex-Standard Bearers Chairman Scott

Tomlinson gave a toast to the Floo'ers o' the Forest and there was a silent toast. Wreaths were laid by Coldstreamer Harry Shepherd and Selkirk Standard Bearer Thomas Bell. The Standard Bearer for the 1513 Club was Derek Forrest and the Borders Return Flag was carried by Kelso's Tom Weatherston.

Photo: © Grant Kinghorn

101st Yarrow and Ettrick Pastoral Show



Photos: © Grant Kinghorn

Some photos from the 101st Yarrow and Ettrick Pastoral Show held at Philiphaugh on Saturday the 9th of September. A bumper crowd enjoyed the annual show on a fantastic afternoon on the outskirts of Selkirk.

Success for First Country & Food Festival



**SELKIRK
CALENDAR
2024**



**ON SALE IN
SELKIRK POST OFFICE
£10.00**

PROFITS FROM CALENDAR SALES ARE IN AID OF
SELKIRK COMMON RIDING TRUST

The **Selkirk Calendar 2024** is **on sale now** at the Selkirk Post Office. Priced £10, profits from the calendar are in aid of the Selkirk Common Riding Trust and will go towards the ceremonial events of Selkirk Common Riding.



Hard on the heels of the Yarrow Show came a new event at Philiphaugh - the inaugural **Country & Food Festival**, on Saturday the 29th of September. Organisers Antonia and Ed Strang Steel said: "It was fantastic to see such enthusiasm for our first festival, so well supported by the public and our fabulous exhibitors. Many thanks to everyone who made the event such a success, and we look forward to seeing everyone again next year."

SELKIRK EVENTS IN OCTOBER

| | |
|----------|--|
| 13 Fri | Whisky tasting & Cheese, Selkirk Distillers, High Street |
| 14 Sat | Hot Love Glam Rock band, Victoria Halls |
| 14 Sat | Mauldsheugh Brocktober - Mauldsheugh Woods |
| 14 Sat | PopUp Shop - Home Baking for Youth Rugby Club, 1 Tower St. |
| 15 Sun | Community Litter Pick - meet 10am Market Place |
| 17 Tues | Games & puzzles afternoon, Memory Cafe, St John's Church |
| 18 Wed | Consultation, Older People Care & Services, Victoria Halls |
| 18 Wed | ACE (Adult Continuing Education) speaker, Parish Church Hall |
| 18 Wed | Antiquarian Society – Poaching & Game Laws in SE Scotland, Parish Church |
| 19 Thurs | New date - High School S5/6 Achievement Event |
| 19 Thurs | Scottish Borders Energy Event, Parish Church Hall |
| 20 Fri | Animal Farm (Borders Youth Theatre), Victoria Halls |
| 20 Fri | Girlguiding Bingo Night, Parish Church |
| 21 Sat | RFC Past Players Lunch |
| 26 Thurs | PopUp Shop, 1 Tower Street – Daisy Boo |
| 27 Fri | PopUp Shop, 1 Tower Street – Daisy Boo |
| 28 Sat | Cinderella 2023 Coffee morning & tickets, Victoria Halls |

For more details, see www.selkirkcommunitycouncil.co.uk/calendar

Celebrating 25 Years of Friendship



2023 marked 25 years of the friendship between Selkirk and the Bavarian town of Plattling, and it was celebrated by the arrival of three separate groups of visitors: members of the Realschule school in April and a troupe of dancers in August, closely followed by 9 Plattling Town Councillors including the Burgermeister (Mayor), Hans Schmalhofer.

The Plattling Councillors' visit included a civic reception at the Victoria Halls, attended by Lord Steel of Aikwood and Dr. Lindsay Neil, one of the founder members of the Selkirk Plattling Twinning Group. An evening of speeches, as well as entertainment from the Selkirk Young Scottish Country Dancers and the Selkirk Silver Band, ended with the presentation to Plattling colleagues of specially-commissioned quiches to celebrate the 25th anniversary. Also present was the German Consul Holger Theissen, based in Edinburgh, who attended with his wife Martina.

The Plattling Twinning Group is already working on plans to visit Plattling in 2024. Photos: © Grant Kinghorn

Short Cuts

Saturday 02 September saw the annual **Selkirk Royal and Ancient Burgh Ex-Standard Bearers Charity Rideout**. The route saw the riders visit the South Marches to the South of Selkirk, stopping in Midlem and just outside Lilliesleaf.

The return ride was via the Riddell Estate and the Gala Rig, where the riders enjoyed a canter up the home straight before arriving back to Selkirk. Following the ride, riders and supporters enjoyed an evening's entertainment in Selkirk Conservative Club. Charities supported by the 2023 Rideout were the My Name's Dottie Foundation and The Harris Trust. Photos: © Grant Kinghorn



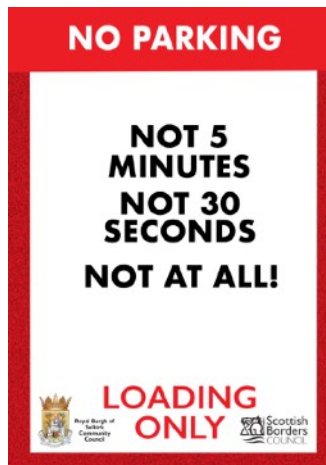
The **Murder Mystery Evening** at the Philipburn Hotel, planned for 14 October, has been **postponed** until further notice.

Posters appealing to residents to park with **more care** have been created jointly by the Selkirk Scottish Borders Councillors and Selkirk Community Council. They are addressing increasing concerns for the safe passage of emergency vehicles in the High Street, visibility of traffic on Bleachfield Road, and the blocking of the Loading Bay area in front of the Post Office.

In addition, motorists parking too close to the Bleachfield Road Crossing Guard can restrict a clear view of pedestrians from oncoming drivers.

The posters, endorsed by our local Police, represent an appeal for more considerate parking in Selkirk, which also must contend with the main A7 route, whose progress through the town creates its own hazards.

NB: **Parking restrictions apply** on the North side of the High Street, **08:30-17:30, Mon-Sat**.



SELKIRK EVENTS IN NOVEMBER



- | | | |
|----|-------|---|
| 02 | Thurs | A7 Action Group Public Engagement Event, Victoria Halls |
| 03 | Fri | Free Toy Exchange, St. John's Episcopal Church |
| 03 | Fri | Selkirk Bowling Club Q&A Night |
| 04 | Sat | Farmers' Market, Market Place |
| 04 | Sat | Silver Band – Borders Entertainment Contest, Victoria Halls |
| 07 | Tues | Haining Open Meeting, Victoria Halls |
| 10 | Fri | Big Yellow Fashion Show, Victoria Halls |
| 11 | Sat | Sponsors lunch, RFC |
| 12 | Sun | Remembrance Sunday |
| 13 | Mon | Magical Mozart by Candlelight, Victoria Halls |
| 14 | Tues | Rowlands AGM, 24-26 West Port. All welcome |
| 15 | Wed | ACE (Adult Continuing Education) speaker, Parish Church Hall |
| 15 | Wed | Antiquarian Society talk – Are We Nearly There Yet? |
| 24 | Fri | Selkirk Community Shed at PopUp Shop, 1 Tower St. |
| 25 | Sat | Indoor Christmas Market, Victoria Halls / Scott's Selkirk & Rotary Club |
| 25 | Sat | Flodden 500 at PopUp Shop, 1 Tower St. |

For more details, see www.selkirkcommunitycouncil.co.uk/calendar



Selkirk Silver Band host this year's **Borders Entertainment Contest** at the Victoria Halls on Saturday 4th November. 15 bands from all over the UK will compete in an all-day contest featuring the music of composer John Williams. **Entry is £5.00**, payable on the door, with school children admitted free.

The event kicks off from 10.30am and will be compered by Selkirk's John Nichol and adjudicated by David Thornton and Jim Chamberlain. Raffle prize donations would be very gratefully received.

From Scoop to Scoosh - algae swept away



Before



After

Sadly, a visitor recently suffered a fall on the slippery pavement outside the former Scoop premises in the Market Place, and had to be taken to the Borders General Hospital. The need to make the pavement safe was passed on to the Selkirk SBC Councillors and within two working days there was a Council team pressure washing the pavement. The team's opinion was that water overflowing from blocked gutters had lain on the pavement and generated slippery algae. The lesson is - gutters will need to be checked as we progress into Autumn. Stay safe out there!

The Haining Update



The Trust, now on a sound financial footing, has so far invested **more than £1.5 million** in renovation and development of the estate. Improvements have included renovating the Coach House to create studios; renovating and furnishing two holiday flats and the Dairy Cottage; creating the Dandie Dinmont Museum and kennels; providing a network of accessible pathways and creating links to Selkirk town centre via the car park. As a result, the Haining attracts 3-500+ people per day, but more work is necessary.

When complete, the cultural and natural environment at the Haining, described as “A Place For Everyone”, will include meeting and function spaces, a high quality cafe, artisan workshops and creative businesses, lochside and woodland walks, dedicated cycleways, and luxury camping and self-catering accommodation.

An ambitious completion target of Spring / Summer 2024 has been set, but it is dependent on the estate raising the final amount to complete the work - estimated at £1.5m. Work includes complete rewiring, plumbing and central heating, rebuilding the internal walls and floors, construction of a new link building and a new all-year insulated marquee, plus provision of suitable toilets, disabled access and a new commercial catering kitchen.

A new fund-raising programme has just been launched, and an **Open Meeting is planned for November 7th in the Victoria Halls**. For more information please go to www.thehaining.org

SELKIRK EVENTS IN DECEMBER



| | | |
|-------|--------|--|
| 01 | Fri | Winter Ball, Victoria Halls |
| 02 | Sat | Farmers' Market, Market Place |
| 02 | Sat | Selkirk RFC fundraiser – An evening with Chappy & Co |
| 08 | Fri | Royal Regiment of Scotland Band 'Heroes of the Screen', Victoria Halls |
| 08 | Fri | 'Selkirk Session 2023' at Selkirk Cricket Club. Over 18s only |
| 09 | Sat | RFC – Ettrick Farmers |
| 09 | Sat | I Love The 80s, Victoria Halls |
| 15 | Fri | PopUp Shop – fundraiser for residents' social fund |
| 16 | Sat | Silver Band Concert, Victoria Halls TBC |
| 28/29 | Th/Fri | Panto 'Cinderella', Victoria Halls |
| 31 | Sun | Charity Ceildih Dance, Victoria Halls |

For more details, see www.selkirkcommunitycouncil.co.uk/calendar



‘The Art of the Illustrator’ at Burnside till 11 Nov

Selkirk CCTV Ahead of SBC

The Hawick Paper has reported that Selkirk, having taken the bull by the horns and set up our own CCTV system, has pre-empted decisions by Scottish Border Council, who are now planning to create a Borders-wide system.

The SBC system, however, has only been approved in principle, whereas Selkirk’s is now operational and Hawick’s is “80 % there in the planning stage.”

Pointing out that SBC “might do it themselves again after ditching CCTV a few years ago”, Hawick Community Councillor Cameron Knox is now asking Hawick representatives to meet SBC Chief Executive David Robertson to discuss plans.



Burnside gallery’s latest exhibition is its second presentation of elements from **The Art of the Illustrator**. It was felt to be appropriate to show them in October and November, since many of the illustrators served in the First World War.

The Art of the Illustrator was printed by the Press Art School, London, in about 1918, to interest and educate students. It shows the gradual development of one illustration for each artist, showing the illustrators’ first sketches, mid point and final illustration.

This whole collection was owned by two artists, Maisie Murray and James Hutcheson, who donated it to the gallery. The collection is not for sale.

Burnside gallery & frames is at 48 Market Place TD7 4BL, and the exhibition runs until 11 November, Wed – Sat, 10-1, and 2-4.30.



Mr. Robertson is reported to want Hawick and six other towns’ CCTV systems to be run and controlled by the local authority’s Canada-based IT service provider CGI.

Cricket Update



Selkirk and MCC teams before match early in August.

Photo: © Grant Kinghorn

For Selkirk Cricket Club the 2023 season kicked off with a trip to Chatsworth House to play a pre-season friendly. This had a positive effect on the team, as they started with **3 consecutive wins** in the league. However this was followed by three straight losses and unfortunately the team just could not get any momentum. However, there were some stand-out performances again this year for club captain Greg Fenton, who scored two match-winning centuries and finished **top run scorer in the league**.

At the end of the season, important games were lost to the rain and losing the final three league games of the season without accumulating valuable bonus points put paid to their place in Division 2: a tough one to take for the captain and for a bowling attack which had three bowlers in the top ten.

The club looks forward to 2024 on the field as a renewed interest of junior players saw the first return of hard ball fixtures against other local teams. The club will also be visited again by the MCC following a very successful event in August, which saw many current and ex-internationalists performing on the historic pitch at Philiphaugh in an invitational match.

The club is grateful to the ongoing support of members and the generosity of sponsors. The club is keen to make 2024 a successful year on and off the field and would welcome new members, players of all ages and sponsors. - Report by Neil Gentleman

Please visit their website <http://www.selkirkcricketclub.co.uk/> or contact them at selkirkcricketclub@gmail.com.

Rugby Update

After six games, as of the 7th of October, in the Scottish Premiership this year Selkirk have won two and lost four, and currently sit in **seventh place** in the league table. The two wins were against Jed-Forest and Kelso.

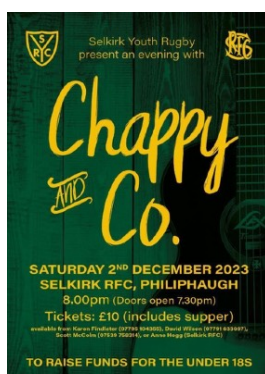
Selkirk A XV are playing in the newly reformed Border Junior League this season after the Border clubs withdrew from the National Reserve Leagues at the end of last season. With this move it is hoped more fixtures will be played mid week or on Friday nights and will mean a lot less travelling. The A XV have lost all three of their games so far this season.

Off the field the club will once again be holding the **Selkirk Past Players Annual Lunch on Saturday 21st of October** before Selkirk take on Edinburgh Accies. - Report by Grant Kinghorn

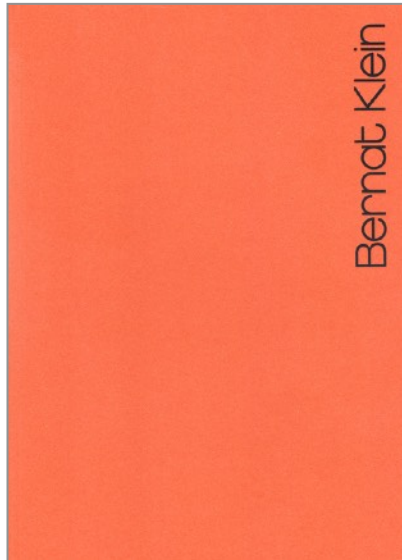
For more details about the Selkirk Past Players Membership and Lunch contact **Scott McColm on 07539 738314**. Please keep an eye on the club's social media pages for details of other lunches and events in the coming months.



Callum Anderson racing away to score Selkirk's winning try at Kelso on Sat 07 Oct
Photo: © Grant Kinghorn



Selkirk Youth Rugby Club have a big fundraising musical night in Selkirk Rugby Club on **Saturday the 2nd of December** when Chappy and Co are performing in Selkirk Rugby Club. Tickets are priced £10 from members of the Youth Club Committee.



Local Books Recently Published

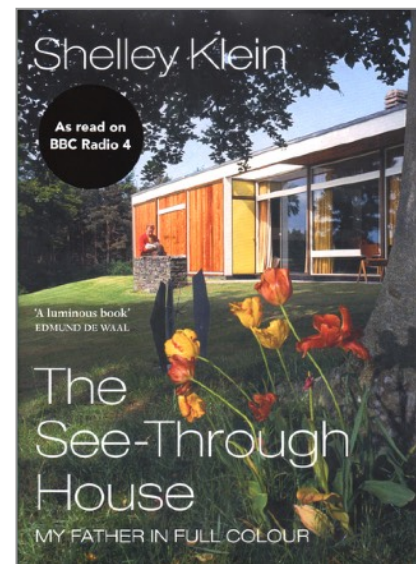
BERNAT KLEIN by Mary Schoeser & Alison Harley

Serbian-born designer **Bernat Klein (1922 – 2014)** immigrated to the UK in the post-war period and based his textile manufacturing business in the Scottish Borders from 1951 to 1992. In a career spanning six decades, Klein found international success in the interrelated spheres of fine art, fashion, textile design, architecture, industrial design, and colour consultancy. He sold couture fabrics to leading couturiers such as Chanel and Dior, gained recognition in Scandinavia and North America, and realised two important modernist buildings with architect **Peter Womersley (1922 - 1993)**.

THE SEE-THROUGH HOUSE by Shelley Klein

Shelley Klein, daughter of Bernat Klein grew up in High Sunderland, close to Selkirk, a house planned by her father and designed by architect Peter Womersley. It was designed on a modernised open-plan grid; with colourful glass panels set against a forest of trees it was like living in a work of art.

When her father was in his 80s, Shelley moved back to High Sunderland to take care of him and she found that the house had not changed and neither had his uncompromising vision. "A book about the search for belonging and the pain of letting go, *The See-Through House* is a moving memoir of one man's distinctive way of looking at the world, told with tenderness, humour and a daughter's love".



PETER WOMERSLEY by Neil Jackson

Part of the series '20th Century Architects', *Peter Womersley* celebrates the life and work of architect **Peter Womersley (1923 – 1993)**, who continuously pushed the frontiers of architectural design. Working from a small office in Gattonside, he claimed a place on the world stage: nowhere was this more apparent than in the California-inspired High Sunderland, the 'see-through house' built for Bernat Klein.

Six of Womersley's buildings in Scotland are listed, three at the top rate of Category A, while three of his four buildings in England are listed Grade 2. With plans and illustrations of all his buildings and projects, this new book is designed to draw attention to the significance of his work, placing it in its national and international context.

Panto returns with Cinderella - Oh, Yes it Does!



Photo: © Grant Kinghorn

Details have been announced of this year's Pantomime, **Cinderella**, to be staged at the **Victoria Halls on 28 & 29 December**. The Association of Selkirk Clubs and Societies' family panto 2023 is the magical story of Cinderella and will be performed within the Victoria Hall on **Thursday 28th December and Friday 29th at 7.15pm, with a 2pm Friday matinee**. An abundance of Selkirk talent will be featured, with forty adults and young people currently rehearsing the production, which is packed with some very memorable and favourite songs.

Tickets will be available to buy on **Saturday 28th October** at the launch Coffee Morning event, again at the Victoria Halls, 10.00 - 12 noon, and thereafter in the Scott's Selkirk Shop. Tickets are priced at £10.00 (concessions £6.00). A splendid time is guaranteed for all!

Above: Graham Coulson as Semolina and John Nichol as Esmarelda, plus Ermintrude, in the 2013 production

Remembrance Sunday



Remembrance Sunday takes place this year on November 12th, with the traditional service at the Parish Church starting at 09:30. The march to the War Memorial forms outside the Parish Church and will set off at 10:30. Various wreaths will be laid, including one on behalf of the Scottish Borders Council, laid this year by Elaine Thornton-Nicol, and one on behalf of the Selkirk Community Council. Photo: © Grant Kinghorn

It Was 10 Years' Time Ago...



Pictured above are members of the Top table at the **Flodden Dinner** held in Selkirk's Victoria Hall by **Selkirk Royal and Ancient Burgh Ex-Standard Bearers Association** in late **September 2013**.

One of the last events to mark the Anniversary, the dinner was chaired by Ex-Standard Bearers Chairman Keith Riddell. Guest Speakers on the night were Ex-Coldstreamer and the Chair of the Coldstream 1513 Club James Bell, Ex-Langholm Cornet Billy Young, Selkirk's Hon. Provost David Anderson, Selkirk's Susan Welsh and the Chairman of Flodden 500 Selkirk Jake Wheelans, who gave the Vote of Thanks.

One of the main events of the evening was when the Ex-Standard Bearers Association Chairman presented Provost David Anderson with a new Burgh Flag from the Association.

Photo © Grant Kinghorn

Selkirk News October 2023

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