

CCCN

Coldstream Community News

Spring 2025



Editor Calling

Our magnificent bridge spanning the Tweed has enabled travellers to safely and conveniently cross the water for well over 250 years. The £6000 cost needed to build it back in the 1760's was raised by a mixture of government grant, bank loans and local subscriptions. A toll was levied to recover the costs over the next 50 years. The engineer put a few noses out of joint by building a two-storey house beneath the toll-house for himself and his family, which trustees considered a misuse of their funds. Delicate negotiations were needed to smooth over the conflict. *The timeless appeal of local politics, eh?*

Sir Isaac Newton, when not pontificating falling Granny Smiths and laws of gravity once said, "We build too many walls and not enough bridges". Now I do love a well-built dry stone wall but when contemplating how to build a strong community it is the bridge analogy that draws the most inspiration. Our town is a resilient population, developed over many generations carving out opportunities to make solid connections between residents from different walks of life. The articles in these pages could be seen as 'bridges' in their own right. Each group pays testimony to a desire to 'connect' meaningfully with others. Bridge building is never easy. Some groups struggle to survive and a lot of hard work, dedication and resourcing is needed to keep most going. Breaking down 'dividing walls' and using the materials to build a bridge instead requires the foundational skills of good listening, an ability to handle conflict constructively, avoiding assumptions and being willing to go beyond our comfort zones. Sometimes it feels risky as we contemplate change. Every now and then (including recently) our Tweed bridge takes a knock by an out of control vehicle, but still stands firm. Groups that have been built on such solid foundations will flourish, despite the odd set-back. The Golf Club is one such group facing an existential challenge. Read on to see what can be done to turn this around.

I do trust you are enjoying the new look CCN and its content. Groups long overdue in sending an article are warmly invited to do so. It is important that we get a better grasp of the many aspects of community life. Even if you would never join a 'Synchronised Swimming Club', I am confident most people would be interested to know what motivates its members! (A note to contributors to keep the content stimulating to foster a wider appeal and not just a plea to join).

Ideas for new features, such as the Editor's Chair, are welcome. Is there someone you would like me to interview? What about sending an interesting photograph of town life that I can either feature on the cover or within a gallery page? Perhaps a regular feature for the children? For those of you that love to strain the brain, I have crafted a crossword that may just be up your street (clue). Answers are BELOW. No peeking! There is also a new scattered feature looking back over 100, 75, 50 & 25 years.

Lastly, within these pages a slip is inserted inviting readers to become a Presenting Coldstream Patron for 'Civic Week'. The Association is not asking you to cough up money by paying a local subscription to repair the damaged bridge, but instead help strengthen our community through this iconic town event.

Lets build a few more bridges this year!

Chris Faldon

- Answers Across**
 2. Duke 3. Church 7. Market 10. Lambton 12. Woodlands 16. Priory 17. Dovecot 18. Gas 19. Luke 20. Nursery 21. Tweed
- Answers Down**
 1. Guards 4. Hatfield 5. Home 6. Bennecourt 8. Abbey 9. Dunglass 11. Victoria 13. Spa 14. Douglas 15. Cheviot 19. Leet

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Summer Edition 2025 of CCN
Deadline Mon 12th May

e-version useful? No problem!
 Get in touch

coldstream.community.news@outlook.com
 Or download from www.coldstreamcommunity.com

Presenting Coldstream Association

After the long dark days of Winter, it is nice to look forward to the brighter days ahead during the Spring and Summer, and the arrival of the Border Common Riding season.

The first event to note is the installation of our 2025 Coldstreamer, Mr. Aaron Lunn. This year the installation will take place on Friday 11th April at 7.00pm in Henderson Park and will be the start of a busy few months for Aaron and his Right and Left Hand men. They will represent our town throughout the summer at all our neighbouring towns, leading up to the highlight of their year at our own Civic Week during the first week in August. We wish them every success for the season ahead.

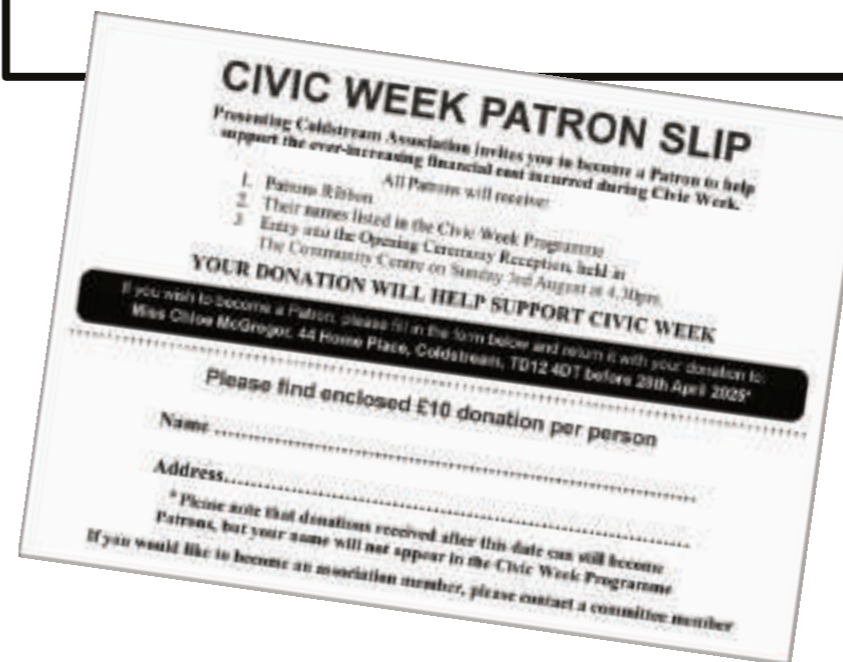
Fundraising for Civic Week goes on all year round, and one of our most successful fundraisers is via our Patrons' scheme. Becoming a Patron of Presenting Coldstream will include an acknowledgement of your name in the Civic Week programme, give you entry into our Opening Ceremony Reception in the Community Centre on the opening Sunday of Civic Week and provide a very much appreciated source of funding for the week.

If you would like to become a Patron, please complete the separate form (see example below) accompanying this edition of the CCN and hand it in, along with your payment of £10 per person, to any of our committee members.

We will be compiling the Civic Week programme very soon and would welcome any articles relating to Coldstream and the surrounding area for inclusion within the publication. Similarly, if any business would like to place an advert in the programme, we would be very pleased to do so. Please contact any member of the committee for details.

On behalf of Presenting Coldstream, I wish you an enjoyable Spring and Summer ahead and look forward to welcoming you all again at our Civic Week in August.

Derek Balmbro



Local Place Plan - Progress Update

The Plan has been lodged with the Local Plan Department at Scottish Borders Council. We now await to have it fully registered and accepted. SBC may seek further clarification on the projects included in the Plan however, we expect notification of acceptance by 1st March 2025. Once we have been informed that it has been adopted, we will let the Community know via the town noticeboards, the Coldstream Facebook page and the Community News.

Coldstream Community Council



Would you like to join us? Could you be a voice for your local community?

Whatever your background or experience, you can help make a difference by offering just a few hours of your time each month. You don't need any particular skills to join us, just a willingness to get involved.

March and April's meetings will be held on the 20th March and 17th April respectively.

From May 2025, meetings will be held on the 3rd Monday of each month in the Community Centre commencing on Monday 19th May. Every meeting is open to the public so you are welcome to come along to a meeting at 7pm to see first hand what goes on. You can stay for part or all of the meeting.

If you would like to have a chat to find out if this is for you please call or email me
 07765 778708 chair.coldstreamcc@gmail.com Thank you.

Joy Thomson

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Come and join us! **Mental Health & Wellbeing**
Any adult welcome **SQA Module – Level 4**
 Influences on Mental Health

The next block begins on **Wednesday 26 February**
weekly in the Rainbow Room, Coldstream
Primary from 1pm – 3pm or earlier for school pick ups

So many things to deal with?
So much information to absorb and remember?
Come and learn about why you feel overwhelmed
sometimes and how to manage the overload..

Full support given Small group Tea/coffee
FREE TO ATTEND

Any questions? Feel free to ask..
e: Amanda.Dempsey@scotborders.gov.uk
m: 07776 116 936



Coldstream Community Trust

Community Centre-Getting fit for the future Great News! You may have seen scaffolding going up at the Community Centre. That means that we've managed to use some Lottery money left over from a previous project to start the urgent work the Centre needs done to keep it weatherproof and prevent deterioration. It is only a start, and there's a very long way to go, but it is progress!

We also managed to get a grant from the Village Halls Retrofit Fund, administered by Borders Community Action for a very comprehensive energy audit, which was completed in December, so we can see exactly what needs to be done to move the Community Centre towards "Net Zero" and ensure its future sustainability.

All this work will be costly, and we're working hard to raise funds, but we need your help. We've set up a "Go Fund Me" page; here is the link; <https://www.gofundme.com/f/74zwsn-renewal-at-the-heart-of-coldstream> Please have a look and help spread the word. Anything you can contribute, will, of course, be gratefully received.

To track progress on all our fundraising efforts, a large 'thermometer' will be on display at the Community Centre soon; come along and see how far we've got! Thank you to all those who have contributed your time and money so far. This work is a key part of the Coldstream Place Plan. And we've got our new noticeboard; courtesy of the Co-op, those who nominated us, and the Men's Shed!

Forthcoming highlights

- "Tea and Tech" **Saturday 8th March**, 1pm-3pm. A free laptop/phone surgery
- **Community Centre History**. Were you familiar with the building before it became the Community Centre? Maybe you got married in St Cuthberts, were baptised or attended Sunday school? We'd love to hear your stories and your memories of the building. If you would like to talk to us about your experiences, give us your contact details and we'll be in touch. It will help us put together an oral history of the building.
- **Village Voices 'Spring Singalong'** Wednesday **26th March**, 6.30 pm. Come along and sing along. It's a joyful experience. Raise your voice and raise funds for the Community Centre at the same time. What could be better!
- **Community Centre Annual General Meeting** Friday **4th April**, 7pm. Notices will be going up nearer the time. Come along and get the latest on progress with making our Community Centre fit for the future!

As always, we want to thank everyone who runs events and classes at the Community Centre, and all who come along to those events and classes. We could not continue without you.

As you know, we organise occasional litter picks throughout the town (weather permitting) so if you like to be added to the e-mail list, get in touch, or watch out for announcements on FaceBook.

The Community Centre is run by a group of volunteers for the benefit of the town, and we are very fortunate to have an excellent team of part-time employees to help us do this. We continue to have a policy in place which ensures that everyone treats each other with respect and dignity and expect that this extends to people communicating with us. You can get in touch with us by-phone 01890 883332, message on FB [@coldstreamcommunitycentre](https://www.facebook.com/coldstreamcommunitycentre) for bookings email bookings@coldstreamcommunity.com, to reserve tickets. Our mobile number is 07587668126.
Thank you for your support. Best wishes from Adrienne, Chris, Dennis, John, Ross, Sam, Susan x2 and Wendy.

John Froggatt

Ella's Quizzes

The quiz for Coldstream Senior Citizens town trip raised £287.50 with the winners being S Gordon, Wisbech and Z Sinclair, Wick.

The current quiz is raising funds for British Divers Marine Life Rescue Lothian and Scottish Borders Group, which is Coldstream SWI charity of the year. The closing date is 31 March, on sale in usual shops or direct from me.

The next quiz is for Breast Cancer Now and will be on sale beginning May. Thanks for supporting my fundraising efforts.

purvesjewk@yahoo.com

Ella Purves

Concerts @ St Cuthberts (Norham Church)

Last Dance Saloon
Norham Church
Friday 4th April 7pm
Tickets £12: U16 free (Over 14s only)
Available on the door or from <https://highlightsnorth.co.uk/>

It takes two to tango.....and it might be you!

Two people of a certain age, with tangled pasts, find each other at a dance retreat in Buenos Aires. A spark is lit, their passion smoulders – this was meant to be. But one has work and family ties in South America; the other in North Devon. They settle into the frustrations of a long-distance relationship fuelled by regular tango sessions in Argentina that include unexpected flights of the imagination.

This show includes some strong language! (Suitable for ages 14+)

Running time: 75 mins plus Q&A and a chance to dance tango!

'A multi story mix of stories ancient and modern, music, song & tango.'

'A tour de force that provokes, entertains & dazzles.'

Refreshments available!

Coldstream Bowling Club



Come and Try Open Day 5th April 12.30pm

All welcome, no previous experience necessary. All ages catered for. Bowls will be supplied - adult and junior. The club has been established for over 150 years and we need new members to ensure the club continues to play a vital role in the community.

Come and try for **FREE** during the month of April. Membership is £100 for the season

If you would like more information: Please contact Kerry Howie Club Secretary cbc1870@gmail.com or Kath Fletcher on 07936 406370

Coldstream and District Local History Society

We are coming to the last 3 talks of our 24-25 programme. These will be as follows:

- **March 3rd** AGM at 6.45 followed at 7.30 with talks by two of our committee members
 - Trevor Swan will speak about Thomas Fair
 - John Elliot will tell us about his International Photographer Forebear
- **April 3rd** David McLean will speak on 'Roads & Travel in Berwickshire 1750 to 1850'
- **May 1st** Bruce Keith will speak on the subject of 'Scotland Beneath the Surface'

Our annual field trip will be on 1st June, destination yet to be decided. We meet at 7.30 in the Leet Room. Guests welcome at £2 per visit. www.coldstreamhistorysociety.co.uk. We also have a Facebook page. Tel: 07766 707330

Social & Literary Society

We began our 2024/25 season on 7th Oct 2024 with John Edwards giving us a fascinating talk about SS Titanic - Myth & Reality. That was followed on 21st Oct by Fiona Kibby telling us about her life as the Dunbar Harbour Master. We heard about Hidden Scotland on 4th Nov & Stargazing on 18th Nov, both extremely interesting & informative talks. Our very enjoyable Christmas lunch was again at the Wheatsheaf Swinton.







Meetings recommenced on 6th Jan when we heard about the most surprising Vineyard at St Boswells. 20th Jan saw Rob Langworth giving us a glimpse of Roman life in Trimontium. By the time this CCN is published, we will have had 3 more meetings + the AGM on 17th March. Our outing on 2nd June is to the John Buchan museum in Peebles.

We start the 2025/26 season on Mon 6th Oct. New members will be made very welcome, come and join us!

Beth Tweddle

John Lamont MP 
 Member of Parliament for Berwickshire,
 Roxburgh and Selkirk

6 ways to contact John

-  01450 375948
-  john.lamont.mp@parliament.uk
-  25 High Street, Hawick, TD9 9BU
-  johnlamontmp
-  John2Win
-  JohnLamontBorders

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The costs of this publication have been met out of parliamentary resources

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Coldstream Premier CRU - Cycling Club

Spring is just around the corner, so now is a good time to prepare yourself and your bikes for some outdoor cycling, in order to enjoy it even more when the weather improves and the nights start to draw out again. January weather has not been kind and has often confined us to barracks, so we are all running to catch up. Weather permitting, we ride every Sunday. Our winter rides tend to be 'maintenance' rides and are shorter and slower than in the warmer weather.

Our rides are purely social. We don't race, we cycle at conversation pace and no-one gets left behind. We always include a coffee stop at some point where we can relax and put the world to rights. The company is excellent as is the craic and we can cater for all sorts of riders.

If you haven't been riding lately it might be a good idea to give your bikes a quick service. Pump up the tyres, oil the chain and make sure everything is running smoothly. The last thing you want is a 'mechanical' in the middle of nowhere. Always make sure you carry spares with you (a spare tube is essential) and are capable of repairing a puncture at the roadside. There is always help around but it is something which you should be able to handle on your own. Practise at home just to make sure!

Our Sunday Rides leave Court House Car Park every week at 9am. We then cycle to Kelso where we pick up more riders. Our rides are usually around the 40/50 mile mark but you don't have to go all the way. You can drop out at any point until you build up to that distance. If you do it regularly it won't take long before you want to go even further! We have no joining fees or annual membership dues. We are all equal and everyone can contribute to the general friendship on which our rides are based. The only rule we do have is that a cycling helmet **MUST** be worn. No helmet means no ride! You can follow us each week on our Facebook page. Make 2025 the year when **YOU** get on your bike and join us every Sunday!

Rob Smith

Coldstream Riders Association

We are looking for civic week sponsors and if anyone wants further information please email our treasurer Hope Leifer at coldstreamridersassociation@outlook.com.

Julie Kerr

Coldstream Scotland Women's Institute

Our interesting season continued in November with Lou Washington guiding us through the process of making corn dollies. Varying degrees of success, but a fun evening enjoyed by all.

December is always party time and this year was no exception with over twenty members enjoying a fabulous dinner at the Hirsell Homestead. It was voted a huge success by all, with delicious food, warm ambience, attentive service and to cap it all Santa arrived! Thanks to Susan V for organising the evening and to Phil for braving such a bevy of women to hand out the Secret Santa gifts.

The New Year began with Margaret Skea, a local author, telling the story of the architecture of Tower Houses. A fascinating talk which left us all wanting to rush out and spot Tower Houses or their remnants.

Sadly our February sausage making has had to be postponed until next year but Lou has stepped in to the breach and we will be making marzipan figures associated with spring.


Plans are well under way for our Visitors' Evening and for our entry for the Federation Show on 25th and 26th April. If you have never been to the Show in Duns Volunteer Hall do try to come as there is a lot to enjoy.

Our next open meetings are on 20th February and 17th April at 7pm in the Leet Room of the Community Centre. Visitors welcome.

Jan Brown

Hirsell Golf Club

Discussions around the future viability and sustainability of the golf club with SBC and Scottish Golf have been held. It is hoped that a golf course architect will visit soon to review a potential move to 9 holes and if that layout might work. Other ventures on the site will undoubtedly be needed to make it financially feasible by making good use of the grounds, clubhouse and other buildings. Ideally some of these would focus on a form of both outdoor and indoor health/fitness and educational interest. The site has long been popular with ramblers and opportunities to improve connectivity to the town will be explored. All ideas are welcome for further discussion. Please do get in touch through office@daestates.co.uk.



Michael Home

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(COLDSTREAM) LTD.**


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St. Mary's



Well, as we enter into 2025, so we have that opportunity to look back and to look forward. Looking back, we've enjoyed the Andante Choir; Christmas Parties and services; Carols in the Market Square; Home Communion; Regular services at Lennel House; Shared services; Sunday Morning Gathering in the Community Centre;



And looking forward alongside the continuation of many of the above we're pondering the starting of an 'Exploring Christianity' group, springing out of our Communion in the Café service.



We're also looking forward to a number of weddings, as well as the possibility of another Bereavement Journey Course. And of course there's Lent and Easter.



What's on during Lent and Easter:
 Tuesday March 4th – 6:30pm - Pancake Day (or Shrove Tuesday) – A shared Pancake Party in the Parish Church Hall.
 Wednesday March 5th – 6:00pm – Ash Wednesday service at St. Mary's

Lent Reflections:
 As we did last year, so we're looking to offer a series of Lent Reflections (shared with the Parish Church) which will run every Tuesday evening during Lent – starting at 7:30pm.
 The dates will be: Tue 11th March; 18th March; 25th March; 1st April; 8th April (and possibly 15th April).

Easter Services:
 Wed 16th April 7:30pm – Iona service (stillness and reflection) Coldstream Parish Church Hall
 Thurs 17th April 6:00pm – Maundy Thursday service at St. Ebba's, Eyemouth
 Good Friday 18th April 10:00am – Walk of Witness through Coldstream; 3:00pm – Reflection – Christ Church, Duns.
 Sun 20th April – 9:30am – Easter Sunday Communion service.

Our Regular Services:

1st Sunday of the Month: Sunday Morning Gathering – 9:30am in the Community Centre.
 2nd & 3rd Sundays of the Month: Communion service – 9:30am at St. Mary's.
 4th Sunday of the Month: Stillness and Reflection – 5:00pm at St. Mary's.

For up-to-date information on all of this and more see our web-site: www.stmaryscoldstream.org.uk
 or: follow us on facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stmaryandallsouls>
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Chris Jones



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**Till Valley Archaeological Society
(TilIVAS)**

Crookham Village Hall, 7:30pm (refreshments from 7:00pm)

- Wed 5 March: Martha Andrews, The Tweed
- Wed 2 April: Linda Bankier, Evidence of Women in the Berwick Archives, 16th-20th centuries
- Wed 7 May: AGM and An Update on the Halterburn Excavations
- Wed 4 June: Sue Shaw, The Northumberland Archives Trust: Supporting Northumberland Archives

There will be no talks in July and August.
 Programme resumes on Wednesday 3 September
Jodie Robson



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Coldstream Parish Church

We have settled in well to our new Sunday service time of 10.30 a.m., with a good number coming as well at 9.30 a.m. on alternate Sundays for 'Sunday Sing' – an informal group enjoying fellowship together while singing a mixture of modern worship songs and old favourites. You will be very welcome to come for as much of the morning as you are able – and to join us for refreshments after the service.

We will once more be sharing a series of Lent reflections with our friends from St Mary's at 7.30 on six or seven Tuesday evenings beginning on 11 March. We will celebrate Shrove Tuesday – Pancake Day – with a joint pancake party at 6.30 p.m. on 4 March in the Parish Church Hall – do come and join in and find out about the Lent series. Lent leads us into Easter. As well as the Sunday morning services at 10.30 a.m. on Palm Sunday 13 April and Easter Sunday 20 April, during the week we will reflect on the events of Holy Week in different ways concluding with the ecumenical walk of witness from Henderson Park along the High Street on Good Friday 18 April starting at 10.00 a.m.

Our other activities all continue over the winter and spring. The Guild is meeting on the second Wednesday of March and April at 7.00 p.m. 'Ladies@10' meets on alternate Wednesdays for coffee, cake, a look at a Bible passage and discussion. Services inspired by the worship of the Iona Community take place at 7.30 p.m. on the third Wednesday each month (refreshments from 7.15 and afterwards), and a service of Stillness and Reflection at St Mary's at 5.00 p.m. on the fourth Sunday of the month (refreshments from 4.30). The Men's Prayer Breakfast gathers every other Saturday morning from 8.00 to 9.00 a.m. with bacon or egg rolls, tea and coffee and a time of fellowship and prayer together. See more on: Website: www.coldstreamdistrictchurches.org.uk Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ColdstreamKirk>.

If you have any questions or comments please message us via the website or the Facebook page, email ColdstreamPC@gmail.com or contact me, the Session Clerk by phone on 883333.

Michael Rowe

Coldstream Parish Church Guild

The Guild is open to everyone – male and female – and takes place on the 2nd Wednesday in the month in the Parish Church Hall at 7.00 p.m. Visitors are most welcome on payment of £2.00.

Members of the Guild were saddened to hear of the recent death of Anna May Watson. Anna May was an active member of the Guild until her move to Melrose to be near her family and will be remembered for her unfailing good humour and kindness to everyone. The members of the Guild extend their deepest sympathy to Anna May's family at this sad time.

Our January meeting brought Dr Martin Hadshar and David Guthrie along to talk to us about the defibrillators placed around Coldstream and how to work them. David gave an excellent demonstration on using them and I, for one, was very relieved that there was no way that I could "over shock" the patient! Members had lots of questions for both Martin and David and several had a go at resuscitating the dummy! All in all, a most interesting and informative meeting. On 12th February we welcome a "weel kent" face, John (Humie) Elliot with his talk on "Memories of a Scottish Photographer Nichol Elliot" which should be very interesting. On 12th March we have "An Evening with Rev Dr Susan Brown". Susan is an excellent speaker and her talks are always something to look forward to. We finish our year on 9th April with our AGM and after that Isobel Johnson will be putting us through our paces with one of her Craft Evenings. All in all a varied selection with something for everyone! Do come along and join us - we are very friendly and make great tea and coffee!

Helen Park

Men's Prayer Breakfast



Ever feel powerless to change things? A bunch of guys egged on by the promise of a bacon roll and a cuppa, meet on alternative Saturday mornings at 8am for an hour in the Parish Church Hall. We take our concerns to God for our lives, town, country and world. It is very relaxed & low key. Not at all stuffy.

We come from different backgrounds, support rival football teams (or can't be bothered with any of that malarkey) and pitch up the next day at a range of churches. Some don't even attend church. It doesn't matter one jot. All that unites us is a genuine belief that Jesus Christ longs to hear our spoken and silent cries. A rough and ready fisherman, well known for putting his foot in it, once said some cracking words. "Cast all your care on him (Jesus) because he cares for you". That's what we try to do. Change will come. Want to know more? It is open to all men wherever they are on their faith journey. Get in touch. 07920 324838

Chris Faldon

75 Years Ago Berwick Advertiser

James Martin, Parkside, Coldstream, an engineer with John Rutherford & Sons, became the second man in Scotland to receive a picture TV signal broadcast from over 300 miles away in Sutton Coldfield on his home made set. A keen radio enthusiast, wireless had been his hobby for years.

"I had vision contact for a few minutes and it was almost perfect"

50 Years Ago Newcastle Journal

Lennel Mount. Two superior traditionally built semi detached bungalows. £11,500 each (Andrew Ford Housing)



'Walk It' Indoor Walking Groups

Walk It has been awarded funding from SESTRans (South East of Scotland Transport Partnership) to pilot an Indoor Walking Project at 4 venues across the Scottish Borders. The groups are running for a 12 week period from January – March 2025 in Coldstream, Kelso, Langlee (Gala) and Selkirk and are free to attend.

To date all 4 groups have been well-supported, with about 25 people attending each week in each location. Indoor Walking was a bit of unknown to all of us – but indoor walking to music has proved very popular, and incorporates a range of aerobic exercises to promote strength and balance whilst also building stamina. It also promotes social contact and general wellbeing. People are encouraged to do as much or as little as they feel comfortable doing – whether that is standing, seated or a mixture of both.

Feedback has been very positive, with requests for the group to continue beyond the end of March. Whether this will happen is dependent on further funding.

The Coldstream class is run by Jan Dow and meets every Monday in the Tweed Hall at the Community Centre at 10 am. If you'd like to come along and join in before the end of March we'd love to see you. There is no need to book – but please bring some water to drink, wear comfortable clothing – and be prepared to have fun and enjoy yourself!

If you have any questions, you can contact Walk It on 07720 659884. Please leave a message if we're out and about, and we'll get back to you as soon as we can.

Don't forget, for those who also enjoy walking outdoors we have our Coldstream Walk It group every Tuesday, meeting at 10 am at the Community Centre. At the end of the walk there is a free cuppa in the Community Centre. Any questions please contact 07718 664282.

All 'Walk It' walks are free!

Paul Woodham

Community Larder



The larder has had another busy few months. We have had solar panels and a solar battery fitted, new efficient lights throughout and a new instant hot water system - Thanks so much to CARES and SOSE for the grant funding and to the local tradesmen for helping us improve our carbon footprint!



We have also started using the Fareshare service run by the Cyrenians, which means that we have regular access to lots of food items which would otherwise have gone to

landfill. This was always our intention but it had proved very tricky to find a slot.

The garden is also progressing. A small grant from SBCAN received in January will allow us to buy some much needed garden tools and equipment and we have an Open Day 2-4pm 27th February for people to see the garden and what we do there. We are supporting the Friends of Coldstream Primary School as they pull together a bid for grant from Destination Tweed to include the building of an outdoor classroom and raised beds for the school kids and the community.



We hope to start cookery lessons and would like to hear from anyone who would be happy and willing to help with that. We have access to some training from Abundant Borders who run lessons like these in Eyemouth and who are willing to coach anyone wanting to help us run the same here. Contact us on coldstreamlarder@outlook.com or on 07977 296891 if you would like to help.

WANTED: Old style manual farm "turnip chopper" or similar in usable/ repairable condition. For use in Community Larder compost making. Please contact Win on 07843829134.



Registered Charity SC052421

Alison Campbell



LEGAL
HASTIN&S

Market Activity on the Rise

The market is gaining momentum! Hastings Legal have had the busiest start to February on record with **fifteen properties going under offer** in Berwickshire in the first two weeks!

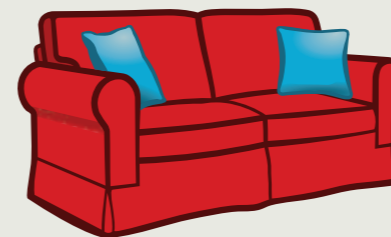
- ✓ Majority exceeding Home Report value
- ✓ Expert local knowledge to maximise your sale
- ✓ Office in Coldstream – visit our branch at 51 High Street for a chat about property and legal

Start planning your next move today!
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On the Editor's Couch



Thank you **Jane Paterson**, Head Teacher at Coldstream Primary School for joining me today. Perhaps I should call you Miss!

Q Which teacher inspired you most as a child and why?

I went to school in Aberdeen, and he was my Geography teacher. His name was Mr Gelly. He was very old and dressed in a suit and tie each day. He was a very traditional-style teacher, but he cared deeply about his subject and his pupils. He pushed me very hard in his classes and taught me some really amazing things about the Earth and the people on it. He made me realise how lucky we are to have this world around us.

Q - Describe your career pathway building up to your arrival here.

My first school was in London where I worked for the first 4 years of my teaching career. It was a big primary school near Heathrow airport. I then moved to East Lothian where I taught in Tranent for a long time. Again, it was a very big school – I think there are 25 classes in that school. I really enjoyed teaching from P1-7 and the children and community taught me a lot about teaching but also about living in a community, caring for one another and accepting things you cannot change. Then I moved down to the Borders to Eyemouth PS as Principal Teacher, Chirside PS as Deputy and then over to Coldstream as Head. I have taught for over 20 years with over 10 years as a Senior Leader. I thoroughly enjoy my work and feel very privileged to have served the communities I have worked in. I think of them very fondly.

Q - Can you give us a few numbers of staff, pupils, classes at the school?

We currently have 123 children on roll. We have 4 classes and our ELC (nursery). We have a super staff team here and every adult in the school knows each child and their needs. We work tirelessly to have an individualised and supportive environment where everyone is able to learn and develop. That includes staff and pupils as we work and grow together.

Q - What is your vision for the school?

In my first 18 months here, I have worked hard to embed the principles of every child and adult having a voice and being able to communicate their needs and wants. We have used 'Zones of Regulation' to underpin our positive relationships, and Mrs Lochhead, the Principal Teacher, has worked tirelessly with the Class Teachers to assess the children and then teach them with the support and challenge that they need. I believe strongly in a Community School where the whole Coldstream Community participates in making the school central to the life of the community. The new Parent Council has been outstanding in its support as we look to embed high quality teaching and learning, outdoor learning and play across the school.

Q - What gets you out of bed in the morning with a spring in your step when going to work?

My dog! Jupiter wakes me every morning far earlier than I need to get up and demands lots of love and attention before I set out. He is a 2-year-old Miniature Cavapoo and likes to rule our house.

Q - What things about school life tempt you to stay in bed?

Ha ha! Being outside in the cold weather! Everyone who knows me knows how much I love outdoor learning, play in our fabulous outdoor space and sports – especially hockey and netball. Unfortunately living in Scotland means I often dream of staying in bed on those bitterly cold days. Not very hardy for an Aberdonian!

Q - What children's book has been top of your reading list and why?

Malorie Blackman is a super writer for older children. I think 'Noughts and Crosses' or 'Pig Heart Boy' would be near the top of my list. Both books are very different, but they force you to think of the world through someone else's eyes. I think that is something we are often challenged to do and is a wonderful skill that we all must try.

Q - If your fairy godmother could grant you one wish for the school, what would it be?

I would like our outdoor development to be quicker. We are fundraising for a Trim Trail, developing a sensory area, waiting patiently for a MUGA sports area, and developing a Community Garden at the front of the school.

Q - Could readers even without current pupils still play a part in school life?

Absolutely! As a Community School we warmly welcome the larger community to work with us – as gardeners, with the Larder, with the Parent Council, on the Coldstream Community Association, in our Reading Group, running Sports Clubs with Live Borders... the list goes on and on. Just call the School Office and ask for me.

Q - Finally, if you weren't a teacher what would you choose to do instead?

My first job was in an ice cream shop in Aberdeen. It was owned by an old Italian lady who used to have ice cream but also fancy chocolates and Italian sweets. It was the perfect job for me and my sweet tooth. Maybe I could open my own one of those – Mrs Canale would be very proud.

Coldstream Charity Fundraisers

Happy New Year to everyone and by the time you read this we'll have had our first event of 2025. I hope everyone who attended enjoyed the 'Soup and Sweet'. It's always a popular event.

We have some great news to share with everyone, (drum roll please), just before Xmas we handed over £4560.00 to the Margaret Kerr unit and the MacMillan Centre at the BGH. Part of this will cover the annual purchase of tea and coffee for their new machines. This will benefit both patients and visitors to the Unit, and the remainder to cover running costs for the scalp cooling machines used for those patients having chemotherapy to hopefully prevent hair loss. There are other things on their list but the committee thought that these two projects were a good start especially as we're known for our tea making!!! 🍵🍪

CONGRATULATIONS. EVERYONE WHO ATTENDS OR DONATES TO OUR EVENTS MAKES A DIFFERENCE!!!

On that note we have a couple of coffee mornings coming up, one on the 12th April and the other on the 19th July both being held in the British Legion. There is the usual 10-30am start, entry by donation, cake stall, raffle etc. Any donations would be gratefully accepted.

Rainbows, Brownies & Guides

Coldstream Guides recently held their Susan Maxwell competition. This takes place every two years and keeps Susan in our thoughts. It is designed to find and show off the 'real you'. It is made up of four sections.

Firstly the girls made up and demonstrated various dances and there was some amazing violin playing. Then they had to tell by poster or a talk or digitally about another hobby they had. This covered gymnastics, horse riding, football, dogs, dance, running and crafting. Most of the girls then used their iPad to tell us their own story including about their family, friends, school, favourite film, TV programme, books, etc. Completing these three activities earned them the Personal Brand interest badge. To finish off the competition the Guides had to choose, chop up and present a salad in an attractive way. It was a very busy but fun night and our judges who were past winners of the shield had a very hard job scoring and finding a winner. This was Ella Pitman with Jessie Morrison and Ava Nichol joint runners up.

Well done everyone!

Elizabeth Reid



25 Years Ago Berwick Advertiser

Coldstream lost to Annan Athletic with two late goals in the East of Scotland final. Annan "could not break down the solid defensive partnership of Dean Wilson, Keith Wilson and Lee Cuthbert, who were letting nothing past them".

Coldstream Twinning Association

Following a hugely successful outward visit to Bennecourt in October 2024 with a party of 33, (including 10 new participants), planning is now underway to welcome our friends from Bennecourt to Coldstream in April 2026.

This visit will coincide with the 36th anniversary of the official inception of the Twinning between Coldstream and Bennecourt, established in 1990. Coldstream and Bennecourt enjoy one of the most successful Twinning partnerships in the Borders due to the hard work, dedication and enthusiasm of the many individuals in both communities who over the years have worked to strengthen the bonds of friendship, cooperation and mutual awareness between our two communities.

The involvement of families and young people is vital to ensuring the continuing success and development of our Twinning partnership. To further that aim, since May 2024, the Twinning Association, with the full support of Coldstream Primary School, has run a French club once a week, led by Jacquie Forrest, former Head of Languages at Kelso High School. The pupils practise speaking French, play games in French, and the older ones have prepared PowerPoints on Coldstream in French to share with their school and to send to the primary school in Bennecourt where they are establishing interschool links. They have also sent postcards and a card at Christmas. This initiative is an exciting development which we hope will lead to more young people and families being involved in the Twinning partnership and secure its continuing success.

Interested in finding out more? We're waiting to hear from you! Contact: frances.mather@leetstreet.co.uk

Marguerite Edwards

Berwickshire Association for Voluntary Service

I can hardly believe we are already into the first quarter of 2025 – and as I had missed the opportunity to wish everyone a merry Christmas and a happy new year in the last edition of the Community News I thought I would take time in this one. The volunteers and myself wish you all the very best for 2025! I would also like to thank you for all your support, your wonderful donations and visits to our shop. Without this our shop would really suffer.

I am sure you are aware of my posts on Facebook regarding donations being left outside the shop during closing hours so once again I would like to respectfully request you not to do so. Despite our signs, donations are being left, sometimes overnight outside the door. If it rains these donations could be ruined and sadly may have to be disposed of. We find it a challenge to get rid of unwanted, unsaleable goods. Our trade waste bags are now costing us over £3.00 per bag and should we have to take things to the Recycling Centre, we would be charged. We try our very best to maximise the space in our little shop to accommodate and sell all your lovely donations. We have, from time to time, had to halt certain items being donated but if you are ever unsure, please do not hesitate to give us a call on 01890 882988.

Thank you once again for your generosity and kindness.
Wendy Acornley



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Coffee Mornings & Town Diary



At the time of going to press, these are the most accurate. Dates are available in the Coldstream Town Diary. Usual start time is 10:30am. Free dates does not mean there will be no coffee morning. It could be just a late booking. Check with the Legion, Town Diary, posters, social media announcements

The Diary is held in Streamers. Please fill in **all events not just coffee mornings** to avoid clashes & check with venues before booking in diary. Fill in details yourself. Please don't ask the shop staff to fill them in.

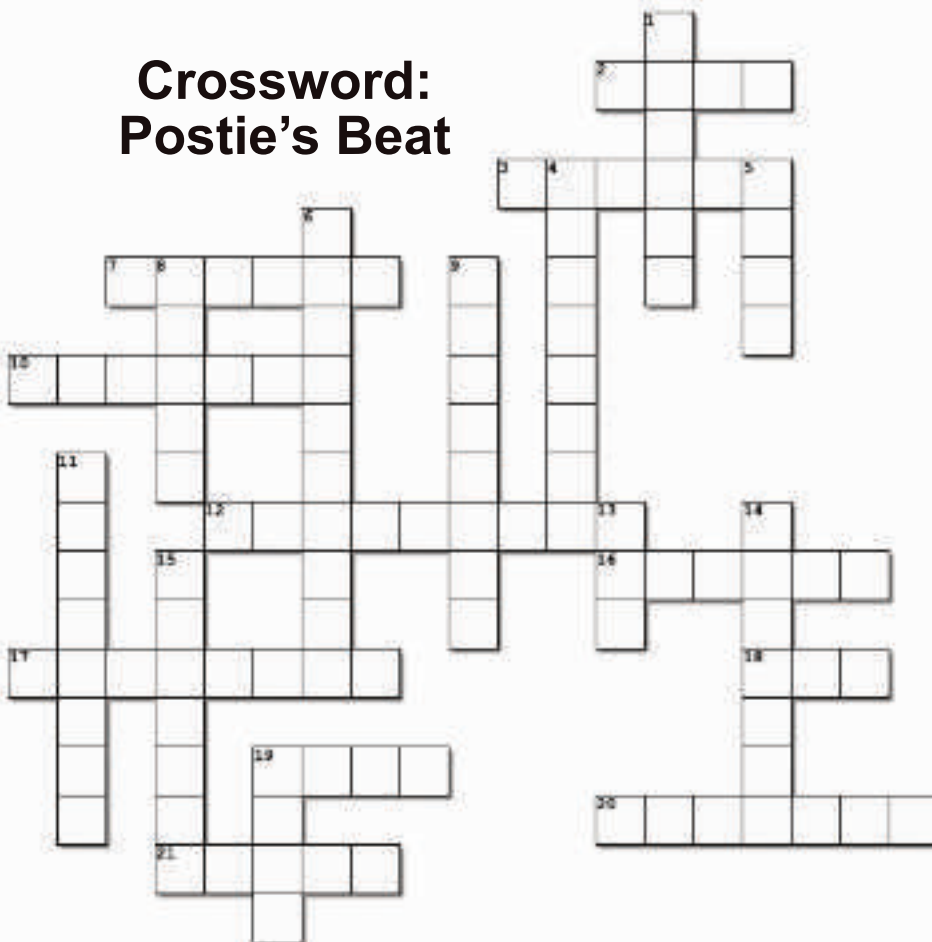
Royal British Legion = RBL
Coldstream Community Centre = CCC

Church Hall = PCH
Eildon = EC

Elsbeth Bell 882211

| | | | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|-----|----------------------------|------------------------|-----|
| 1st Mar | St Marys | RBL | 12th Apr | Charity fundraiser | RBL |
| 8th Mar | Girl Guides & Brownies | RBL | 19th Apr | Victoria Lodge | RBL |
| 15th Mar | Bowling Club | RBL | 26th Apr | Friends Primary School | RBL |
| 22nd Mar | Community Larder | RBL | 3rd May | Coldstream Guards Assc | RBL |
| 29th Mar | Presenting Coldstream | RBL | 10th May | Town trip | RBL |
| 5th Apr | Lodge St John | RBL | 17th May | SWI | CCC |
| 11th Apr | Coldstreamer Installation | | 24th May | Riders Association | RBL |

Crossword: Postie's Beat



Across

2. American jazz pianist
3. Silent rodent type
7. Above value?
10. Wearside serpent
12. Aspiring forests
16. Private addiction clinic
17. Avian decorative shelter
18. Light state of matter
19. Good news physician
20. Young growth centre
21. Iconic fabric

Down

1. Monck's Men
4. Hertfordshire Polytechnic?
5. No place like it
6. 998 km distant
8. Monastic dwelling
9. Lord before P.M.
11. "We are not amused"
13. Medicinal bath
14. Galactic hitchhiker creator
15. High border summit
19. Modified internet spelling

A success story

coldstream.community.news@outlook.com

Over 20 years the CCN has evolved into its current format. There is much more that could be done with your input. Could you help with any of the following?

Ideas; Proof readers; Deliverers; Writers; Photographers; Editors; Advertisers; Puzzle Creators and..... **if so, I'm all ears!**

