




CCCN

Coldstream Community News

Autumn 2025



Editor Calling

We shall proudly say, “*This is Coldstream’s day*”. Our ‘First True Border Toun’ song has been belted out on many occasions over these wonderful summer weeks that we have all been enjoying. At the Primary School Guards’ Day, I accompanied on the keyboard the Coldstreamer Aaron Lunn, along with his Right Hand Man, Josh Kerr and Left Hand Man, Jake Kerr. They ‘sang’ the song with gusto but I’m not sure they would have won ‘Britain’s Got Talent’ for their tuneful rendition. They have however done the ‘Toun’ proud representing us far and wide during the Border Festival weeks. Well done lads!

The sight and sound of our pipe band marching up and down the High Street is always a delight to behold and hear. I have invited two key members of the band to join me on the Editor’s Couch to share something of their passion for making this musical spectacle possible. The visual feast of seeing several Coldstream Guards marching behind them at Civic Week, followed by over 200 horses and riders brings an added dimension to the whole event. We can do ‘Pomp & Circumstance’ very nicely here locally. Chatting to some of the guards at their 375th Birthday Party was for me a delight. One young man from Doncaster told me how so many of the guards longed to be picked to come up here and join us. It is a ‘top gig’ for them, and one not to be missed. Wherever they go around the country, people always are keen for a photographic opportunity but in Coldstream they feel the genuine respect of the townsfolk. This means the world to them. There is mutual admiration.

I am mindful however that although the sun has been shining, not everyone is basking in its warmth or in a holiday mood. Some have faced great sorrows and difficulties. There is no cry of “Hip, Hip”. The farming community in particular is not immune to stress and strain and it is to this end that we continue to focus on a specific aspect of mental health.

Once again we have plenty to fill the pages of this newsletter. Four more pages than usual have been added to this edition to fit it all in. Thanks to everyone who has contributed material. Gateway Association is grateful to the advertisers for their financial support which allows CCN to be published free of charge to you, dear reader. Our Treasurer especially would be delighted if more came forward!

Special thanks to those who responded to my last appeal for volunteers to deliver these around the doors. The extra pairs of hands helps enormously to shoulder the burden that some have literally carried for years. What stars you all are. A reminder that I would dearly love to hear from as many readers as possible with any suggestions, help and assistance you could provide to pull these pages together.

Read on.

Chris Faldon

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Deadline Mon 10th November
e-version available on request
coldstream.community.news@outlook.com

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Coldstream Community News

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Civic Week in Focus– Photo Highlights from 2025



Call 01890 230999 or visit our office and gallery at 51 High Street

Coldstream Men’s Shed (CMS)

Gerry McCann - We are one of 138 sheds open across Scotland with another 65 under development. All are members of Scottish Men’s Shed Association, the coordinating organisation, whose sole focus is to support, promote and represent Men's Sheds and its members. Also, it assists Scotland's ‘Shedders’ and their supporters to create Men's Sheds in their community to benefit health and wellbeing across Scotland. If you need help, inspiration or just a chat, you have come to the right place. If you have time to spare and want to contribute to community-based projects, you will enjoy the company and a sense of achievement.



Recent examples of projects completed in the Coldstream area are renovation of Community Notice Boards; repairs to garden furniture; building bird feeders, nesting & planter boxes (standard and bespoke designs); wood lathe projects, dolls’ houses, mud kitchens, model making and lately, various projects related to Civic Week.

CMS want to extend an invitation to community members that currently do not have a ‘shed’ to work from. The typical member is a retired male, but the offer really is open to anyone interested in taking part, regardless of age or gender. The current shed is situated in Victoria Street, Coldstream and is well equipped with all the tools required for wood-working projects. It also has a shop in the main street which sells products and items donated by the public.

By the very nature of its core membership, the average age trends upwards, and membership will reduce over time, unless an influx of new members can be attracted. The membership has not fully bounced back after the covid pandemic. Training and supervision will be provided. If you are interested, would like to know more, or see the facilities available, please contact Dennis Armstrong, the current chairperson; or Steve Acornley, its secretary, on 07881 520 345 or coldstreammenshed@gmail.com

The Shedders also want to hear any ideas for projects that people in the community believe to be worth consideration. Such community work would be undertaken on a no profit no loss basis and funding will be applied for, as necessary.

Coldstream & District Local History Society

Lynne Burgess - As we start a new year in October, we are very much looking forward to hearing new talks from speakers new to us and from those who have given interesting talks to the Society in the past. We start on October 2nd with a talk from Lesley Abernethy entitled “The Life of Lady Grisell Baillie (Mellerstain)”. This is followed on November 6th by a talk entitled “Death on the Sloop Juno – the story of Robert Bruce and Joseph Ockton” by Margaret Fox. Our last talk this year will be on December 4th when David Jones will speak on “The medieval settlement of Linbrig in the Cheviots – the search for a lost chapel”

We hope many will come to hear these talks. Our membership fee remains at £10 per annum. Visitors can join us for £2 per meeting. We meet in the Leet Room in the Community Centre at 7.30pm, always on the first Thursday of the month.

For further information see our website and Face Book page or contact the Secretary on 07766707330



Social & Literary Society

Sue Thouless - After the conclusion of our talks for the year, members enjoyed a summer outing to Peebles. After lunching, members were given an interesting, private tour of the John Buchan Museum, still leaving a little time for some shopping or just a stroll through the town. Our time in Peebles was cut a bit shorter than we would have liked due to problems with the accompanying coach.

The Autumn/Winter programme begins on Monday October 6th at 2 p.m. in the Community Centre when Liz Finch will be speaking about Seaton Delaval Hall. In the run up to Christmas we have talks about the Admiral Ramsay Museum, The Intrusion of the cockpit on Flight BA 2069, Nova Scotia and the King’s Own Scottish Borderers. We finish the programme for this year with our Christmas lunch in December.

Annual membership remains at £15 and visitors are always welcome at a cost of £3 per meeting. Tea or coffee and biscuits are served at the end of each meeting and there is time to socialise with other members and of course whichever speaker is there on the day. More information from: 07383 287587 sue.thouless@outlook.com
We look forward to seeing you all in October – old friends and new.

Coldstream Community Trust

John Froggatt, Trustee - Community Centre-Getting fit for the future - We are delighted to say that we were awarded a grant of £69,985 for insulation in the Community Centre from the Community Spaces Decarbonisation Fund administered by Borders Community Action. The funds are provided by the UK Government via Scottish Borders Council. Installation of the insulation will be starting soon, and while we will make every effort to minimise disruption, there will inevitably be some, and we will work with everyone who uses the Centre to keep you informed of scheduling. Once the insulation is installed, the Centre will be more comfortable for everyone and its sustainability will be enhanced. Other grant applications are in the pipeline, and we will let you know how we get on with them. Significant further funds are still needed to complete all of the work that needs to be done. All of this is, of course, part of the Coldstream Place Plan

We are very pleased to welcome Ruth Dickinson as a new Trustee. Ruth brings enthusiasm for, and expertise in, all things to do with sustainable energy and will strengthen our team.

Please remember our “Go Fund Me” page; <https://www.gofundme.com/f/74zwsn-renewal-at-the-heart-of-coldstream>. Our sincere thanks to those who have donated.

Forthcoming highlights:

- Sunday 26 October annual indoor market
- Saturday 15 November we will be marking National Book Week with a visit from author Lesley Littleston talking about her book “The Rewilders” and we hope to show a film on the same subject. There will be a book sale that week.
- 30 November Christmas lights “Light up”
- 14 December Festive teas

Keep an eye on Facebook and our “week ahead” notices for more

Thanks to everyone who runs events and classes at the Community Centre and all who come along to those events and classes, as well as the many who volunteer. We could not continue without you. We organise occasional litter picks throughout the town (weather permitting) so if you would like to be added to the e-mail list, get in touch, or watch out for announcements on FB.

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 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, Ruth, Sam, Susan x2 and Wendy.



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Local Place Plan - Progress Update

Anne Brydon, Chair - The Nursery group has progressed to discussions with architects and choosing one to design the building for the future Nursery.

The Community Centre is currently waiting to improve their insulation in the Centre. This is ongoing work whilst it seeks to heat the building in the most sustainable way.

Two of the group are in discussions with SBC to see how Home Park could offer more to the youngsters of Coldstream. The young people have lots of ideas!

Signage was highlighted in the Place Plan as in need of upgrading and to be clearer where information about the town could be found. On 31st July two SBC Officers had a walkabout with some of us to clarify where extra signs and upgrades could be sited. This wish list now awaits answers from the departments at Scottish Borders Council. This is a start and we will keep you posted as we travel the path on how we hope to achieve projects in the Plan.

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Coldstream/Bennecourt Twinning Associations

Children's Art Project

Involving young people of Coldstream in Twinning is a key goal of Coldstream Twinning Association! To that end, we were delighted that pupils in P6/7 in Coldstream Primary School and their counterparts in Bennecourt, recently participated in a collaborative art project on the respective themes of: **"What Coldstream/Bennecourt means to me"** The children's artworks were extremely insightful and reflected the personal attachment which each child holds of their respective town.

The Twinning Association was delighted to attend the annual 'Guards' Day' ceremony at the primary school when each participant received a certificate acknowledging their efforts. Similarly, in Bennecourt, children received a certificate of participation.

From all the entries received, 12 illustrations were selected, 6 from each school, to go forward for public display. "The Framers Bothy" generously sponsored the mounting and framing of each of the 12 artworks which created a highly professional finished product. Coldstream Art Club very kindly provided exhibition space during their recent annual exhibition to display the successful 12 entries. Attendees to the Art Club's exhibition were very enthusiastic over the quality and variety of the images on display.

As a lasting legacy of this highly successful collaboration between the children of our twinned towns, a calendar of the children's artworks will shortly be on sale at £10. If you would like to place an order for this limited-edition calendar, please contact: Secretary: Frances Mather e-mail: CTAsecretary@outlook.com

Mental Health Focus - Farming

Farming is a tough life and has naturally bred a toughness in all those who pursue this often under-rated, and at times, seemingly thankless existence. Consequently, farmers themselves have developed a resilience to the frequent changes and challenges they face without too much complaint. Despite increased demands, difficulties and workload, they still attempt to cope, much as their forefathers did, but these days virtually working alone.

Any outward signs of uncertainty or worry is often viewed by them as a weakness and therefore early symptoms of anxiety are ignored. Certain subjects become "not open for discussion" in the mistaken belief that problems disappear on their own, given time.

The idea that no one else truly understands their situation and by keeping worries to themselves, can easily start a pathway leading to isolation, loneliness or depression. They can become withdrawn, morose, snappy or even aggressive. Disturbed sleep patterns or changes to eating habits can also be signs of developing mental health issues. Feeling alone can lead some to seek solitary relief through less desirable pursuits such as excessive alcohol intake, drug taking, pornography or gambling, to name but a few, leading to increasing damage to not only their mental health but also to those close to them.

Family members and friends become nervous of raising concerns, increasing an already pressurised existence. Children particularly sense when things are not right but unfortunately blame themselves as being the cause, setting up further mental and emotional problems within their own lives. Left unchecked, over stressed families can erupt into arguments, violence, domestic abuse, self harm, divorce or even suicide. In fact, the suicide rate in farming and associated businesses is unacceptably high and yet nearly always preventable.

Farming life need not be so psychologically damaging for those involved if only it could be accepted that we are all human beings with both our strengths and frailties, that no man is an island, and seeking professional help with early intervention can prevent a further decline for farmers and their families alike. If you have concerns about yourself, a family member or even someone you know, then please contact Berwick & Borders Therapies for immediate confidential and professional free advice.

Berwick Borders Therapies, 07908 921 561

JEAN GILLESPIE

WATERWAYS
mapping
wetlands

Friday 3 September - 31 October 2025

The Courtyard Gallery, Coldstream Museum, 12 Market Square, TD12 4BD

April - Sept: Mon to Sat 10:00 - 15:00 Sun 12:00 - 15:00 Closed Tues
October: Mon to Sat 11:00 - 15:00 Closed Tues and Sun

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**John
Lamont MP**



Member of Parliament for Berwickshire,
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*Working hard for the
Borders, all year round*

Connect Berwickshire Youth Project

Joan Stewart, Office Manager - Connect was delighted to receive two nominations for the Youth Borders Lead Awards. We won the Youth Climate Action Award (Sponsored by Scottish Borders Climate Action Network).- Sustainable and environmentally focused renovation of their Eyemouth Youth Space, funded by the Local Action Group and developed with the young people they support as part of the core values of Connect. We were also 1st runner up for Organisation of the Year Award.



David Shields (Project Manager) and Alison Sim (Stepping Stones Worker) attended, David said "To be nominated was amazing and that the hard work Connect has been doing over the past few years has been recognised by members of the community and our young people".

More information can be found <https://www.facebook.com/bypconnect> and <https://www.facebook.com/bypconnect> or come along to our Coldstream Drop-In on a Monday evening at the Community Larder 5-6:30pm P7 to S1 then 6:30-8pm S2 only.

Rainbows, Brownies and Guides

Claire Livingstone - We had a very sunny summer term. The Brownies managed to be outside almost every week between Easter and the school year ending in June. We had an old school games night, explored Coldstream with a penny hike and had an 'al fresco' baby shower for one of our leaders. The girls completed their 'Grow Your Own Badge' this term. They planted sunflowers before munching some home-made chocolate brownies, designed their dream gardens with so many fabulous ideas from ponds, play areas, places to keep ponies and lots of flowers. They finished the badge with a brilliant trip to the community garden in Kelso where they learned about edible plants, tested their senses and had a scavenger hunt.



This term Amber Emery, Jessie Jeffcock and Murron McClusky all completed their Brownie Gold Awards. The Brownie Gold Award is the highest award possible in Brownies. They have all worked hard to achieve this. Well done girls!

We are for all girls and women who want to have adventures, learn, laugh and make friends for life! We'd love you to join us
👉 <https://www.girlguidingscotland.org.uk/get-involved>

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Coldstream Childcare Centre

Chelsea Scobbie - Join Us in Building a Brighter Future for Coldstream's Children!

We are soon to open a facility dedicated to supporting families with high-quality, flexible childcare options, including full-time and part-time care, wraparound support, before and after school care, and exciting holiday programmes. As Coldstream grows with new housing and young families moving in, so does the urgent need for accessible and reliable childcare. Right now, there are no dedicated childcare facilities in the area - leaving a gap we are determined to fill. **But we can't do it alone.** We're calling on passionate, caring individuals in the community to help us bring this vital service to life. Whether you're an early years professional, educator, support worker, or someone who simply cares deeply about children and community, we need your help. This is your chance to be part of something meaningful from the ground up to shape a nurturing, safe, and inspiring environment for local children and families

Together, we can create a place where children grow, families thrive, and our community comes together. 🙌 If you're interested in helping—whether through time, skills, resources, or support, please reach out. Let's build Coldstream's future, one child at a time.

Come along to

1. A fantastic evening with 5 Shades of Grey, a brilliant live group from Wooler playing the best of the 60s, 70s, and 80s!

🎵 Live Music & Dancing 🕺🕴

📅 Friday 6th September

🕒 From 8:00 PM

📍 Royal British Legion, Coldstream

🎟 Entry: £5 at the door

🎁 Great raffle prizes to be won

A night not to be missed – bring your dancing shoes!

2. ☺ Coldstream Childcare Centre Coffee Morning ☺

📅 Saturday 27th September

🕒 Starts at 10:30 AM

📍 Royal British Legion, Coldstream

Join us for a friendly and relaxed coffee morning with all the usual favourites:

🍰 Homemade cakes 🍵 Tea & coffee 🎟 Raffle ☺ Great company

All proceeds go towards supporting Coldstream Childcare Centre. Everyone welcome – come along and enjoy the morning

Art Group

Gordon Thompson - We held a very successful Civic Week Exhibition in the Town Hall with over 450 visitors during the week. The winner of the raffle, for the watercolour by Brian Turnbull, was Mrs Ann Lauder (top right). The winner of the Jim Page Memorial Prize, for the favourite painting, was Mrs Anne Mills (bottom right).

The Art Group is on holiday during August, and classes will resume on Monday 1st September from 1.30 - 4.30pm in the Parish Church Hall. We have a few spaces available at the moment, and if you would like to get your creative ideas working, please come along and you will be made very welcome. Should you wish to discuss anything about our group, please contact me on 07951 446 129.

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Coldstream Primary Guards Day School Leaver Awards

Jane Paterson - Head Teacher Guards' Day is always a wonderful occasion here at Coldstream Primary. It is a day that means so much to so many and we come together in friendship and community to say thank you and goodbye. We celebrate achievements and encourage others to show courage, resilience and determination. This year we celebrated the 375th anniversary, and remembered our wider Coldstream Community, sending our best wishes to Coldstreamers, Coldstream Guards – past and present – and their families near and far. We looked forward to celebrating Civic Week together and enjoying our summer break.

Awards	Winners		
<p>The Morag Evans Memorial Art Prize</p> <p>In memory of a past classroom assistant and friend of the school who was an outstanding artist.</p>	Duncan MacDonald		
<p>The Coldstream Guards' Prize</p> <p>Newly established in 2022, this award is given to those who put in the most effort at the P7 residential. They show resilience, perseverance and determination to succeed.</p>	Patrick Turcitu		
<p>Hans D Langmark Award</p> <p>A former provost of Coldstream, this award is in memory of someone who showed service to the community. Our winner must show a willingness to put the needs of others before themselves and who is always willing to help.</p>	Dani Paterson		
<p>Malcolm Atkinson Award</p> <p>A warrant officer and a member of the SAS, this award winner should show the same leadership and willingness to help the community. They should be someone who always works to their full potential.</p>	Hope Young		
<p>The FW Dobson Award</p> <p>FW Dobson was a Lance Corporal in the Guards and was awarded the Victoria Cross. This top prize is awarded to the pupil who shows the best academic attitude and all-round support for the school and community. The winner should be a leader in work and school life in general, who is willing to co-operate, but also show initiative and enterprise.</p>	Georgia Fairley		

Coldstream & District Community Council



Community Council Awards. Joy Thomson, Chair CDCC

At the Presenting Coldstream Coffee morning at the Community Centre on Saturday 2nd August, the winners of this year's awards were announced.

The Coronation Youth Award - A brand new Cup this year for someone of primary school age was presented to brother and sister, Bernardo and Celestina Rato. They took part in the school's Trim Trail "Grow a £ challenge" and by buying bin bags with their £1, they litter picked their way around the town raising a final total over £900!

The Coronation Star Award - for someone under 18 but over Primary School age, was presented to Esme Leifer, nominated for achieving the highest award in the Guides, carrying the Standard for the girl guides, and overcoming many health issues, whilst supporting lots of local events always wearing a huge smile!

The Jim Patterson Rose Bowl - presented to individuals or groups from the town in consideration of performing an outstanding achievement, was presented to Coldstream Community Action Team under the leadership of David Berry, the driving force behind this group of volunteers working under the auspices of CDCC, making a huge difference to the look of the town!


The Brown Scott Quaich - presented to an individual of any age 18+ in the town in consideration of performing an outstanding achievement or making a significant contribution to the community.

This year's worthy recipient was John "Humie" Elliot, a man who puts his heart & soul into everything he does. Involved in many organisations and events in town, he is a singer songwriter (The Dub Dash springs to mind), a historian, an author, auditor for many organisations and all in all a much-loved member of the community!

The Awards were presented by the 2025 Coldstreamer Aaron Lunn along with his Right- and Left-hand men Josh and Jake Kerr.

Pictures courtesy of last year's Brown Scott Quaich Winner, David Guthrie!






Coldstream & District Community Council & the 375 Group

Joy Thomson, Chair

Royal letters, a Party and Bike Exercise



BUCKINGHAM PALACE

Lieutenant Colonel Sir Michael Vernon
East Colonel
Buckingham Palace
Dun
Buckingham
24th July 2025


Dear Sir Michael,

I have been asked to thank you for your kind letter regarding a message of Royal greetings to The King.

It has been a pleasure to be able to send him a message of welcome to the town.

Yours sincerely,
Joy Thomson
Chairman
Private Secretary to the Chair

Lieutenant Colonel Sir Michael Vernon K.C.M.G.



BUCKINGHAM PALACE

Lieutenant Colonel Sir Michael Vernon K.C.M.G.
The Coldstream Guards Association
Coldstream Branch

Please convey my warmest thanks to the Officers and Members of the Coldstream Branch of the The Coldstream Guards Association for their kind greetings sent on the occasion of their Annual Luncheon which is being held this month.

As your Colonel in Chief, I must appreciate your thoughtful message and, in return, I send my warmest good wishes to all those who are present for a successful year.

CHARLES R



Guards old and new



Oldest & Youngest Guard at the party cutting the birthday cake

Local guests enjoying a chat with Lieutenant Max Martin

Guards on parade in Coldstream!

375th “Birthday Party”

As many of you will know, on Friday 8th August Coldstream Community Council hosted a celebration “Birthday Party” in Coldstream Community Centre to mark the 375th Anniversary of the inauguration of the regiment which in 1670 became The Coldstream Guards. In attendance were 140 guests including senior Coldstream Guards representatives Sir Michael Vernon, Colonel Hugh Toler and Canon Alan Hughes, as well as the Earl of Home, Lord Lieutenant Jeanna Swan, Watson McAteer SBC Convener and representatives from the majority of Coldstream’s 40+ organisations and the town’s folk. The guests of honour though, were of course the 16 Coldstream Guards from Number 7 Company under the command of Lieutenant Max Martin, who were piped in by Martin Arthur of Coldstream Pipe Band.

As Chair of CDCC I was charged with presenting a rousing “Welcome Home” speech and so drew particular attention to the similarities between the town’s “namesake Regiment” and us, the people of the town. “Guards, we are like you in many ways”, I said, “being a community which, when confronted with challenges, we close ranks, uniting in support of one another and forge tirelessly ahead, until we find solutions to those challenges.”

The town’s latest challenge is that following the publication in April of the Integratis report commissioned by SBC, the historic Headquarters of the Coldstream Guards, Coldstream Museum, was highlighted for possible closure along with our Library. I asked for the support of the Guards “to find a workable solution that will not just avoid this happening but will open new doors to enhance and develop our wonderful Border Town into a “destination” one, putting it firmly on the map as it should rightly be.”

Sir Michael Vernon and Lieutenant Max Martin provided an update on the regiment’s recent activities after which, formalities over, the Guards were able to join in and create a real birthday party atmosphere mingling with the assembled company, sharing an excellent finger buffet provided by Michelle Stuart.

No birthday party is complete without a birthday cake and according to the Guards the one we had was the “most amazing cake we have ever seen.” Not only was it magnificent in its design but it was also delicious! Carol Cockburn, you are our very own “Star Baker”!! There was even a party game, the fastest person to complete a 12-piece jigsaw of a Guardsman, which became extremely competitive amongst the Guards, the town’s 3 Principals, and the other guests. The winner was our Coldstreamer!! Hip-hip-hooray!

With thanks to SBC for their support for the event, it was all in all, a lovely afternoon of celebration and a wonderful relationship building experience between Coldstream folk and our namesake regiment – both “Nulli Secundus”!!

Thank you to everyone who came along and supported this event and to the organisations in the town who contributed financially and in any other way. I only wish we could have had the whole town there but that would have been impossible!

Exercise Capstar Velo - The day after the party the Coldstream Guards cycling team participating in Exercise Capstar Velo arrived safely home in Coldstream completing their fundraising event. Organised by the Coldstream Guards Battalion Cycling Club, they began their journey in Mousehole, Cornwall on Sunday 27th July riding a challenging 1200km (800-miles) from there to Coldstream. The event aims to raise money and awareness, with the team traveling through the regiment’s recruiting heartlands. Coldstream Pipe Band led them along the High Street to the Community Centre where Sir Michael Vernon, Colonel Hugh Toler, Canon Alan Hughes and Colonel Jeremy Bagshaw, Regimental Adjutant were waiting to congratulate them. Their second and in some cases 3rd visit to Coldstream in a week!

The team of cyclists must have wondered what they had come to as the street was lined with Smurfs, a dinosaur family, very strange “riders” on inflatable horses, and a group of Pirates, their arrival having immediately followed the Fancy Dress Parade. The cyclists were a day late for the Birthday Party but I had managed to save them some Birthday Cake and a few beers to welcome them home!



Hirsel Golf Club

Michael Home - Following the closure of the Hirsel Golf Club we are now looking at how the area and the buildings might be used in the future. As a start it was wonderful to see the Civic Week Ball on site, which is something we hope might become a regular occurrence.

We are excited about the launch of "Golf at Hirsel" - the former 5th, 6th and 7th holes will be run for practice, learning and enjoyment. The green of the short hole across the river requires reseeding, but will hopefully be ready in the autumn. You will be able to book time slots to exclusively enjoy this facility, whether you wish to practice your long irons, pitch and putt, or maybe play for the very first time. More details will be available soon.

New grass paths will be created from the Spa Well Bridge to connect with the existing footpath network and we hope that the scenery and wildlife will be enjoyed by all. Some of the original fields are being reinstated and the non-native leylandii, and some other trees, removed; however for every tree removed three new mixed broadleaves will be planted, which will provide a very significant improvement in both the appearance and biodiversity over time. We are hoping the former clubhouse will become the new headquarters of a local community organisation which will be an asset for the town. The green-keepers' shed is hopefully to become the site of a Coldstream nursery and we will give Sarah and the team every support in this exciting venture. There are various options being considered for the starter's building, but all suggestions are welcome.

Thank you to all those who have contributed to, or are now involved in, the different projects that are beginning to take shape. We hope these developments and plans will be enjoyed and bring a positive benefit to the community. If you have any questions please do get in touch via office@daestates.co.uk.

Coldstream Premier CRU - Cycling Club

Rob Smith - What a successful season we are having! Firstly, congratulations to one of our members Oscar Onley, who finished 4th overall in this years Tour De France. At only 22 years old this is a remarkable achievement and the equal best result of any Scottish cyclist for over 40 years. It's only some five or six years ago that he was riding with us on Sundays! He will go far as he has a lot more still to give. Watch out for him.....he is a definite podium finisher in the coming years!

From the young to the old(er). Another of our members, Jon Fairclough last month became the British National Champion on a 24 hour Time Trial in the veteran class for over 71 years old. In a 24 hour race he cycled an incredible 364.11 miles in 22 hours & 46minutes. Wow! Congratulations to Jon.

On a slightly more mundane note three riders, namely Paul Edwards, Jean de Battista and Rob Smith successfully completed the Kirkpatrick Coast to Coast route, unsupported from Portpatrick to Eyemouth over three days. The route celebrates the Scottish inventor of the bicycle, Kirkpatrick Macmillan and covers approx 250+ miles.

Our club caters for all cyclists whether competitive or otherwise. We meet EVERY Sunday (weather permitting) in the Court House car park at 9am, cycle to Kelso to pick up more riders and then ride for approx 50+ miles. We always stop somewhere for coffee and cheese scones (the food of champions) and the pace is always `conversational'! There is no joining fee for the Club. There is no committee. There are few rules. All that is required is a reasonable level of fitness and a roadworthy bike. Under 16s MUST be accompanied by a responsible adult and a cycling helmet MUST be worn. No helmet means no ride! The company is great and the craic is excellent.

Why don't YOU join us one of these Sundays ? You would be made very welcome. If you can't come for whatever reason you can follow us on our Facebook page and keep up with all the latest cycling trends. Hope to see you soon.



Tillvas

Jodie Robson, Secretary - tillvas.archaeology@gmail.com

Wednesday 3 September. Crookham Village Hall, 7:30pm (refreshments from 7:00pm). Peter McCutcheon, KOSB Memories

Saturdays 6 & 13 September. Excavation at Flodden Hill. Details: contact Pauline at tillvas.engagement@gmail.com

Saturdays 14 & 21 September. Ford Forge Museum Heritage Open Days. Architecture of Ford Forge. 1:00 - 3.30pm

Sunday 5 October. Heather Pentland Lecture. Etal Village Hall, 2pm. Sarah Semple, Durham University, People, Place and Power: Revisiting the Early Medieval Site of Yeavering, Northumberland



Community Larder

Alison Campbell - The larder has now reached its aim of only stocking donated food items or those that would otherwise have gone to waste. Thanks to incredible support and dedicated volunteers we are now saving approximately 200kg of produce every week from going to waste – that adds up to a staggering 10 TONNES a year! We also have a small selection of basic non-food items available funded from specific grant funding e.g. toilet roll, washing powder, soap, toothpaste etc. which is available only at Tuesday and Friday sessions.



What Matters Hubs and BHA information sessions are being held regularly in our other room – watch Facebook for updates but these are on the first and last Tuesdays of the month when the larder is open.

The larder is hosting FREE adult cooking classes during August and early September on Wednesday mornings 10:30am and everyone is welcome! Look out for posts on Facebook and posters at the larder and on the town noticeboard for more details and let us know you are coming! We'll cover everything from peeling basics (potatoes, carrots and onions!) to merging items together to make a whole meal. Plus, learn handy tips like freezing fresh produce, batch cooking, and understanding 'Best Before' and 'Use By' dates to help you make the most of your goods and reduce food waste! Don't miss this fantastic opportunity to gain confidence in the kitchen and maybe even make some new friends.

The larder garden looks great and we also are helping with one of the new raised beds at the school. If you haven't seen the new outdoor classroom and raised beds at the front of the school that the Friends of Coldstream Primary School have managed to get grant funding for then please come and have a look. They are just finished but already look fantastic. If you wanted to help the larder with its marvellous community garden please contact us at the larder in person when we are open or on 07977 296891 or coldstreamlarder@outlook.com. Remember the raised bed beside the larder is always available for you to grab a handful of herbs – take whatever you need.

Scottish Women's Institute

Jan Brown - Our AGM was held in May presided over by Susan Burnett who gave a report on the last year's activities. The minutes of the last AGM were read and Lou gave the Treasurer's report. Both were accepted by the members. Meg and Maggie A were the worthy winners of our competition trophies. Well done to them. As this was Susan's last meeting as President she was given some flowers, some wine and a theatre voucher as a thank you from members for all her hard work over the last nine years. Three members, Frances, Meg and Ania, stepped up to join the committee so we are in great shape for the new season. The evening ended with Bingo where June H, Susan B, Sue B, and Ania were all lucky winners.

Our Federation Show entry of Alice in Wonderland had a successful showing in The Mad Hatter Tearoom. Our thanks to Sharon and Steve for letting us use their window space for the display. They were somewhat reluctant to hand it back!

On a warm Saturday in June many members were involved with the BVAC Show at Thirlstane Castle. A good day was had by all and a successful way of raising money for our year's charity, British Divers Marine Life Rescue, and our funds.

Our Coffee Morning in May also raised more money for our charity as did Ella's quiz and our Smartie tube 20p collection. This gave us a total of £1,850 to present to them. A great effort for a very good cause. Thanks to everyone who helped raise such a magnificent sum.

Our Summer Afternoon Tea was a great success at Marshall Meadows on a very hot day in July. Thanks to Susan V, our Catering Manager, for organising such a happy get together. At a Committee Meeting held in June a new President, Jan Brown and a new Secretary, Georgina Jahre were voted in as office bearers. Lou remains as Treasurer.

Our first meeting of the new season is on Thursday 18th September at 7pm in the Leet Room of the Community Centre. Come and join us and have an enjoyable and social year with friendly people. We look forward to welcoming you.

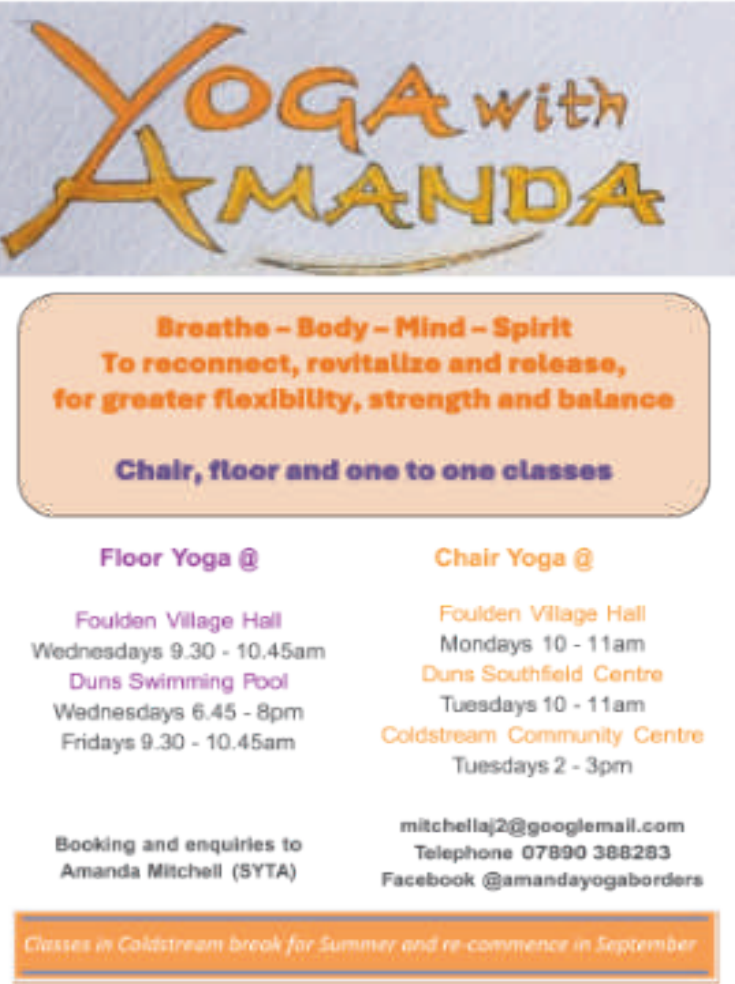
Coldstream Charity Fundraisers


Susan Vassallo -As we come to the end of a beautiful summer and enter the autumn season we look forward to our ever popular Soup and Sweet on Saturday 8th November. The event will be held in the Community Centre from 12pm till 1-30pm and the cost for a delicious hot bowl of homemade soup followed by an indulgent pudding will be £6. Come along and have a blether with old and new friends. Bring a friend who hasn't been before. We can guarantee a great time.


Unfortunately due to logistic reasons we have had to cancel the Apple Day on Sunday 5th October. We had a fantastic coffee morning in July and raised £477. Thank you to everyone who attended or donated in some way. The bingo game we did seemed to go down very well and everyone enjoyed it. Near the end it was very tense with a few people 'sweating' waiting for one card to win 🙏🙏🙏.

After having a meeting with Karen from the BGH, one of the things that was mentioned to fund next, was helping to buy a scalp cooling machine, which helps people going through chemotherapy keep their hair. This not only helps people physically but also helps people with their self esteem which is very important when dealing with cancer.

Please come along to our events & support this worthwhile charity, not only will you enjoy yourselves but you'll be helping. Once again thank you to everyone who supports us it's much appreciated.




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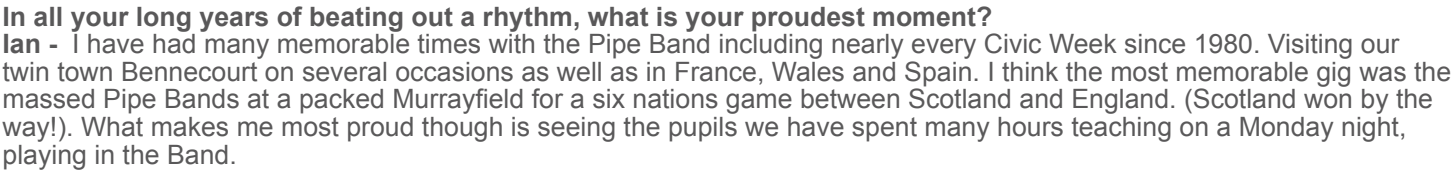
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St. Mary’s

Chris Jones - At St. Mary’s we’ve just recently finished our ‘Exploring Basic Christian Spirituality’ course, which ran over 6 weeks during June and July. Here’s what some of those who attended had to say:

- “We really enjoyed the Exploring Spirituality group, finding it an open, relaxed and friendly way of thinking and discussing about Christianity and what God meant to us.”
- “I found the interactive activities the most enjoyable, playing Jenga, having to choose different pictures and eating chocolate, as they opened up avenues of conversation with the others in the group. Questions were encouraged and nothing was off the table. It was all very open, with no hidden agenda. I would welcome more opportunities to meet in small groups to continue the conversation.”



As a church we’re exploring the possibility of running this Exploring Basic Christian Spirituality course again in Oct / Nov (provisional dates are booked) – just watch this space and follow on Facebook to find out more.

We’re also looking forward to our Coffee Morning on the 4th October, where, as always there’ll be cakes, tombola and a raffle for us all to enjoy.

A little further ahead we’re looking forward to a wedding in September, where we’ll enjoy celebrating with the Bride and Groom on their special day.



Our Harvest Service will be on Sunday 12th October at 11:15am. And then, in November, we’re hosting the Cornhill Community Choir as they come and share with us.

And of course, there’s Christmas with Carols in the Market Square, Mary and Joseph making their way to the church, along with our other services – don’t forget to follow this on Facebook.

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 see our web-site: www.stmaryscoldstream.org.uk, follow us on facebook <https://www.facebook.com/stmaryandallsouls> or phone Chris: 07745 410487

Parish Church

Michael Rowe - Over the summer we have been running a series looking at the story of the early church with the title of “Christ in the Community: Sharing Jesus from the Book of Acts”. We have been helped with the series by Rev Jeliase Mutimbairi, originally from Zimbabwe, who has been serving as Assistant Minister in Eyemouth and has been leading a service for us once a month since May. We will end the summer with a praise service and picnic in the garden of the Community Centre on Sunday 31 August at 10.30 a.m. – in the Leet Room if wet.

It has been good to welcome summer visitors to Coldstream at our services, as well as at our summer teas on Thursday afternoons, which have as ever been well attended. Thank you to everyone in the Church who has organised the teas and to all of you in the community who have supported them. It’s been lovely to see the hall full of folk enjoying the afternoon, and we look forward to seeing you again at the teas next summer.

Behind the scenes, we have been busy preparing to advertise for our new minister. We hope that the invitation to apply will go live on the Church of Scotland website early in September, with our parish profile available on our own website. We are looking forward to discovering who God is calling to serve as minister in our two linked congregations in Coldstream and Leitholm and more widely in the communities of our two parishes. Meanwhile, our worship team and guest preachers and ministers will continue to lead our services every Sunday at 10.30 a.m. – all are welcome to join us for worship and tea and coffee and chat afterwards. The next big occasion in our church year is Harvest on Sunday 5 October, when we will have a special Harvest service followed by a Harvest lunch in the hall.

Our regular activities will resume in the autumn – check our website: www.coldstreamdistrictchurches.org.uk and Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/ColdstreamKirk>. If you have any questions or comments please message us via the website or the Facebook page, or email us at ColdstreamPC@gmail.com or contact the Session Clerk, Michael Rowe, by phone on 883333.

Parish Church Guild

Helen Park - 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. starting on Wednesday 8th October. Yearly subs are £10.00 with a donation of £1.00 per meeting for tea and biscuits. There is a £2.00 charge for visitors who will be made most welcome. Our syllabus for 2025/26 has now been arranged. At our opening meeting on Wednesday 8th October we welcome Roger Manning who is going to give us a talk on Holy Island illustrated with his lovely slides. On Wednesday 12th November we are having a visit by “Serenity by Suzanne”. Suzanne will give a short demonstration and discuss various holistic treatments. As it is getting near Christmas, there will be an opportunity for members to purchase some Neal’s Yard products at this meeting. Wednesday 10th December is our Christmas Party when, if we have all been good, we might get a visit from Santa! That concludes the first part of the session.

The Guild resumes on Wednesday 14th January with a visit from Eric Grounds with his talk, “Reminiscences of a Royal Wedding” which sounds like a very intriguing start to the New Year. On Wednesday 11th February we welcome John Edwards who will give his illustrated talk on “Titanic – Myth and Reality” which should be most interesting. Wednesday 11th March brings the welcome return of the Rev. Susan Brown with “A Night in India” which sounds very mysterious but is bound to be a most enjoyable evening. Our session ends on Wednesday 8th April with our A.G.M. after which our own Isobel Johnson will put us through our paces with one of her Craft Evenings. All in all, a most interesting syllabus with something for everyone. We do hope you will come along and join us – we are a very friendly bunch and you will be made very welcome – and we make excellent tea and coffee!!

Members were saddened to learn of the recent death of Committee Member Janice Lovell and send their sincere condolences to her family.

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Coffee Mornings & Town Diary

Elsbeth Bell - At the time of going to press, these entries are the most accurate. Dates are available in the Coldstream Town Diary. **Coffee Morning** usual start time is 10:30am. **Other events** have stated time. 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 Sanderson's Butchers. Please fill in all events, not just coffee mornings, to avoid clashes & check with venues before booking in diary. Again please fill in the details yourself and not ask the shop staff.

Royal British Legion = RBL Parish Church Hall = PCH
Coldstream Community Centre = CCC

6 th Sep	Lodge St John	RBL
6 th Sep 2-4	Flower Show (teas)	CCC
13 th Sep	Gateway	RBL
20 th Sep	Community Larder	CCC
27 th Sep	Baby Group	RBL
4 th Oct	St Mary's	RBL
11 th Oct	Town trip	RBL
18 th Oct	Bowling club	RBL
25 th Oct	Presenting Coldstream	RBL
1 st Nov	Poppy Scotland	RBL
8 th Nov 11-2	Charity Fundraisers Soup/Sweet	CCC
15 th Nov	Parish Church Fayre	PCH
22 nd Nov	Riders Association	RBL
29 th Nov	Gateway	RBL

Save the date: 19th December, Carols in the Square



COLDSTREAM TWINNING ASSOCIATION

FRIDAY 12th SEPTEMBER 7PM
COMMUNITY CENTRE

Teams of 4 maximum - £10
Wine/Beer & Soft drinks bar
GET YOUR BRAINS IN GEAR
ENJOY THE CHALLENGE!

Final Words

Chris Faldon - Let's leave the Pipe Band to march us off the pages of this CCN. I trust you all had a great summer and your batteries are well and truly charged. To our younger readers despairing that the holidays are over, don't fret. Great things are still ahead. For our more senior readers rueful that another one has come and gone at lightning speed, I offer some laughter medicine to ease your aching bones.

You know you're getting old when:

You and your teeth don't sleep together.

You try to straighten out the wrinkles in your socks and discover you aren't wearing any.

Your back goes out but you stay home.

It takes two tries to get up from the couch.

When your idea of a night out is sitting on the patio.

When happy hour is a nap.

When you say something to your kids that your mother said to you, and you always hated it.

Your idea of weight lifting is standing up.

It takes longer to rest than it did to get tired.

You sit in a rocking chair and can't get it going.

The pharmacist has become your new best friend.

Getting "lucky" means you found your car in the car park.

The twinkle in your eye is merely a reflection from the sun on your bifocals.

It takes twice as long - to look half as good.

Everything hurts, and what doesn't hurt - doesn't work.

