



NORTH BERWICK NEWS

Many congratulations to North Berwick in Bloom who won an 8th Gold Medal for their pallet garden at Gardening Scotland in late May. The topical entry features all 17 events in the Commonwealth Games.

The award winning garden is on display outside the Abbey Church in the High Street, alongside fellow gold medallist Law Primary School whose entry "Wish you were Here" depicted summer holidays at the seaside.

North Berwick in Bloom Committee would like to thank all volunteers, sponsors and supporters as, without their help, such results would not be possible.

In Bloom - and the whole town - will be judged in the Beautiful Scotland competition on the morning of Monday 28th July. Want to be involved? Ring NBIB Chairman and chief waterer Rosie Oberlander on 01620 895046.



Photograph by Ian Goodall N B Photographic Society



Photograph by Ian Goodall NB Photographic Society

The Queen's Baton Relay

Sue Northrop, a founder member of Dementia Friendly East Lothian, which started in North Berwick is pictured here with Vi Jones (who is also a volunteer In Bloom) and Eric Smith showing their support for the North Berwick Day Centre. Sue, proudly clutching the Queen's Baton, said "I was delighted to carry the Queen's Baton on part of the journey through East Lothian. Raising awareness of the good work done by the Day Centre and the care provided by the Abbey Home who do so much on behalf of the more vulnerable members of our community is very important to me and my family". North Berwick is a caring community and we in Dementia Friendly East Lothian want to build on that.

MUSEUM MATTERS

Having seen their dream realised with the opening of the new Coastal Communities Museum last year, the Friends of North Berwick Museum have now been absorbed into the membership of the new Coastal Communities Museum Trust.



As a final project the outgoing Committee of Friends of the Museum is looking at the possibility of using computer aided design to demonstrate how the ruin of St Andrew's Kirk on Anchor Green would have looked when it was in use. Additionally, the Committee intend to commission a full scale model which will be on permanent display in the museum.

Since the museum reopened in July 2013 visitor numbers have been very encouraging and the volunteers (without whom the museum could not function) have received favourable comments in respect of the different exhibitions which have been mounted.

The current exhibition on World War One is scheduled to run 5 days a week Wednesday - Sunday 11.00am - 4.00pm from 27th June. Cafe facilities, courtesy of The Mad March Hare, will be available.

Volunteers are always welcome so if you have an interest in meeting visitors and /or local history please contact Head of Visitor Services and Volunteer Recruitment, Richard Rogers, 01875 871232 who will be delighted to find a job for you.



THE FRINGE LIKE NO OTHER!

The 4th- 10th August sees the 7th Fringe by the Sea in North Berwick with a brilliant mix of returners from past years, plus some new and surprising 'big' names from both sides of the Atlantic! Julie Fowles, now one of Scotland's folk icons opens on Monday 4th. Eric Bibb – the blues mega-star from America performs on Tuesday 5th. Wednesday 6th sees Zoe Lyons as compere for a night of comedy from The Umbilical Brothers and Stephen K Amos.

Thursday 7th is tribute band night, with Dirty Harry returning and being joined this time by Hotel California – the sensational Eagles tribute band who work all over Europe.

Soul music gets its first outing on Friday 8th, with a visit from Geno Washington and The Ram Jam Band. Thrilling audiences all over the world since the late 1960's he has lost none of his star quality or energy! Saturday night is another full comedy billing, with Jo Caulfield our host and introducing Phil Jupitus and Grant Stott. This will be adult humour - you have been warned.....

The final night sees a triumphant return of The Manfreds. There just isn't enough room for all the people who intend to go to the gig – get your tickets early!

St Andrews Blackadder is the key venue for traditional and contemporary folk. Over Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings The Wrigley Sisters, Rachel Sermanni and Phil Cunningham & Aly Bain will be holding court – and some other 'surprise' guests are in the planning as well.

The smaller spiegel tent will be tested to destruction with Bombskare on Friday and Session Americana on Sunday – just two of the highlights of its programme.

The hugely popular Valuation Day returns on the Wednesday, and a flower arranging masterclass is in the diary – as well as Beach Day with all manner of fun and games!

Authors and The Spoken Word feature again – and it is rumoured that John Muir himself will be making a guest appearance! On a related theme, there will be a visit from the 2020VISION team of top international wildlife photographers - Wednesday 6th at The Marine Hotel

It is a packed programme of seven days and nights calculated to thrill and entertain.

NORTH BERWICK ROTARY CLUB

Last month the Rotary Club of North Berwick installed David Portway as President for the year 2014/2015. David is a member of the management committee of the Highland Games and is married to Wendy, the well known artist.



In his address David paid tribute to outgoing President Andy Izat and his wife Anna adding that he felt very privileged and honoured to be elected as President and was looking forward to an exciting and challenging term in office.

Emphasising the Rotary Club theme "Rotary is for Communities", David stressed that members of the club are involved in many aspects of the town's life. He acknowledged the support received from the local community who consistently and generously support the club's fundraising efforts and hoped that it would continue in the years to come. From the money raised through events such as the Annual Rotary Shop which raised over £5000, the Christmas Collection and the Charity



Golf Day, the club provides support to local, national and international charities and worthy local individuals. In previous President Andy's Izat's year the club distributed nearly £19,000 in aid to a balanced selection of causes locally and worldwide.

Rotarians gave support at the Highland Games and the Christmas lights switch-on and organised choral evenings, a coffee morning, bridge afternoon and a quiz night.

The Club recently presented a Wii to the North Berwick Day Centre where members have already enjoyed games including bowls, archery and skiing, as well as quizzes and other mind games.

Dave Portway

NORTH BERWICK ART CLUB EXHIBITION

North Berwick Art Group will be holding their annual exhibition at the Hope Rooms for two weeks commencing 20th July. Opening hours are 11.00 - 5.00 on Sundays, 10.00 - 5.00 Monday to Thursday and Saturday with a later closure at 7.00 on Fridays.

ST ANDREW'S AULD KIRK

Members of the group dedicated to restoring the iconic bell shaped roof of the Auld Kirk and turning the interior into an information display area are working hard to obtain the funding necessary to bring their plans to fruition. No firm decisions have been taken yet but as the history of this site is clearly linked to that of the ruin on Anchor Green the possibility of using similar technology to showcase the Auld Kirk is being explored.

CAR POOL

Interest has been expressed in forming a car pool in North Berwick and various ways are being explored as to how this could be done. If you would like to become involved in helping to organise such a facility please e-mail Jurgitama @yahoo.com

FLYING THE FLAG

NB Community Council has decided to fund two flagpoles to decorate the newly refurbished fire station. Watch this space.

whynot?

The last 9 months have been a great journey for Adam Elder and Jenny Potter, the business partners who have brought whynot? to North Berwick High Street. whynot? provides a financially viable route for small retail businesses to trade on the High Street but without the prohibitive start-up and longer term obstacles associated with a traditional shop. whynot?'s home had lain largely empty for almost six years, being too big for a single business to take on. It's now home to almost 20 independent retailers, some permanent, but with a proportion of spaces available to rent for a day at a time. It's also the venue for a whynot? owned cafe and greengrocer employing six local people, two of whom are still at school, and two who are retired from successful careers but who still wish to work. whynot? has allowed Ross Baxter, one of the UK's most admired bakers to establish his own business, bringing award-winning artisan bread and patisserie to the High Street. Edward Collin, fish-merchant has brought a full-time fish monger to North Berwick, something missing for almost 20 years. Steven Lindsay of Pie Not? has been able to pursue his ambition of having his own business producing and selling hand-made pies. To date over 50 makers and producers have found that whynot? can help them to take their business to the next level. Although whynot? was privately start-up funded and is privately owned, it operates with the ethos of a social enterprise: everyone helps everyone else to achieve a common goal. Fraser Scott and Lucy Patrick, North Berwick High School pupils who have been key to establishing and running the cafe have just launched their own range of cold summer drinks, having carried out a full business and marketing plan, with help from Jenny and Adam, to ensure profitability. Adam and Jenny have been overwhelmed by the huge support from the entire North Berwick community and extend their grateful thanks to all. Contact www.whynotnorthberwick.com
<http://www.facebook.com/whynotnorthberwick>

NORTH BERWICK DAY CENTRE

Fundraising for a new bus for the Day Centre is going very well and so far we have raised £33,000 which is over half way to our target of £60,000. It's not practical to thank everyone personally, so grateful thanks to everyone who has made a donation or helped with a fundraising event. Our fundraising campaign continues, and you can make a donation at the Day Centre in St Andrew Street, at the Skipton Building Society in the High Street, or on-line via the Day Centre web site.

We are currently looking for new volunteers to help the permanent staff. There are many things you can do to help such as chatting to and befriending our members or serving cups of tea and coffee, and clearing up afterwards. Or you may prefer to help in the kitchen, or perhaps be a passenger assistant on the Day Centre bus. We also need people to help with our woodwork class, and to assist with short walks in the area when the weather is good.

If you are interested in helping please contact Carol Wicker, Day Centre Co-ordinator, or her deputy Christine Charles by Email info@nbdaycentre.org.uk or phone 01620 890906.

Our web site at www.nbdaycentre.org.uk has lots of information, and includes interviews and pictures of some of our volunteers.

Derek Braid

Member of Management Committee

Not all the sporting events planned for this summer are scheduled to take place in Glasgow. See below for details of some of the activities in North Berwick:-

TENNIS

This week (20th July - 28th July) sees the 85th year of the East Lothian Tennis Tournament which takes place in North Berwick, Dunbar and Gullane. Comprising 38 events with over 400 competitors and 800 matches played over 7 days this is one of the largest open tennis tournaments in Scotland.

PUTTING

Qualifying rounds for the annual competitions for the Calder and Crawford Cups will take place at the East Links Putting Course on Tuesday 22nd July between 10.00am and 7pm. The finals for the Crawford Cup will be at 11.00am on Thursday 24th July and the finals for the Calder Cup will be at 6pm.

LAW RACE

The 2014 Law Race is scheduled to take place at 7.30 on Wednesday August 6th.

This gruelling race starts at the harbour and follows a circular route through the Lodge Grounds up to the summit of the Law and back to the harbour. For details of entry telephone 01620 861765

NORTH BERWICK HIGHLAND GAMES

Saturday August 9th will be the 19th anniversary of the staging of this international event. The establishment of the new 3 g pitch has necessitated some changes but there will still be plenty of entertainment throughout the day which will end with the traditional march down to the town.

YACHT CLUB

Our next major event is the 29er UK National Championships running from 10 - 15 August. The 29er is a 2 person high performance racing dinghy primarily sailed by teenagers/early 20s. The likelihood is that we will have around 80 boats competing and along with parents, families, coaches and friends we estimate that NB will be accommodating some 350 people over the week. Given the nature of the boat, it promises to be an exciting week. Details at www.elyc.org.uk.

ROWING CLUB

This year's regatta will be held on Saturday August 23rd. Clubs will come from around Scotland to take part in our 5th North Berwick Rowing Regatta. The race is around Craigleith island which can take anything from 18mins – 25mins, depending on the conditions. There will be races in many categories spanning all ages, with a combination of Mens, Ladies and mixed races. Racing starts at 10:00am, last race will start at 16:45. More details at www.nbrowingclub.com

RAFT RACE

The theme for this year's raft race which will be held on 30th August is the Commonwealth. The sandcastle building competition will start at one o'clock. The raft race starts at 4.30pm and everyone is requested to arrive by 3 pm. in order to register and hand over the money they have raised for the RNLI To enter contact Pippa Machtetto at pippamachtetto@gmail.com

Armchair sports enthusiasts can test their knowledge of the Commonwealth Games by completing the NBIB Quiz which is on sale at all the usual outlets throughout the Summer.

North Berwick Pipe Band is again turning out in the Lodge Grounds at the end of Quality Street in North Berwick every Wednesday evening in July and August, to entertain locals and visitors alike. The free performances begin at 7.30pm and include highland dancing by girls from Dunedin Dance Academy. Band members have already been playing at various galas and parades in East Lothian and Midlothian, along with a short tour in Germany at the Folklorelawine international musical festival. Their new pipe major, Keith Milligan, has introduced an exciting repertoire that mixes



familiar numbers such as 'Scotland the Brave', 'Highland Cathedral' and 'Green Hills of Tyrol' with less well-known tunes. The band, which is sponsored this year by Anderson's Quality Butcher, practise at St Andrew Blackadder church hall and is

always ready to welcome new pipers and drummers of all abilities, from learners to both the senior and juvenile sections. Anyone wanting to find out more about playing with the band, or helping to fundraise with the band's support group, should email nbbp@btconnect.com, phone the President John Starr on 01620 893500, or log onto the band's new website: www.northberwickpipeband.co.uk

Eddie Clark Secretary, North Berwick Pipe Band www.northberwickpipeband.co.uk

DIARY DATES

Sporting events see page 5

Cafe in the Lodge will be open during the school summer holidays 10.00 - 3.00 except Mondays

Teas on Sunday afternoons in August in the Abbey Church in aid of St Baldred's Church 2.30 - 4.00

Artisan Fairs Abbey Church 16th August, 13th September, 18th October 10.00 - 4.00

2nd August Day Centre Coffee Morning 10.00 -12.00

16th August RNLI Fete RNLI Fire Walk 7pm Harbour

23rd August Bible Society Coffee Morning Abbey Church 10.00 - 12.00

6th September Friends of the Coastal Museum Coffee morning Hope Rooms 10.00 - 12.00

4th October Unicef Coffee Morning Hope Rooms 10.00 - 12.00

11th October Volunteer Car scheme Coffee Morning 10.00 - 12.00 Hope Rooms

For other events please check Town Diary in the Library School Road

COMMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

Please send any comments and suggestions for items which you would like to see included in North Berwick News to Sheila.sinclair@btinternet.com 01620 894666. Items for inclusion in the next edition of NB NEWS should be submitted by 17th October.
