



Welcome ...to the first edition of The EYE – a monthly news bulletin which aims to keep residents and visitors alike up-to-date with all that is happening in this beautiful area of the Scottish Borders. Don't miss out on a thing! We'll keep an eye on important diary dates and list them in these pages so you can plan your calendar for the month ahead.



Forestry felling operation foils summer visitor plans

Merchant's might – but not right!

We are delighted to bring you the first edition of The EYE. We begin with a very topical issue regarding forestry that threatens to impact the Ettrick Marshes over the critical summer breeding and tourist season..



Vicky Davidson, Project Manager for the Ettrick and Yarrow Community Development Company recently reported that very short notice had been given to a forestry felling operation which directly impacts on the Ettrick Marshes boardwalk facility.

“We found out at the end of last week that FLS (Forestry and Land Scotland) are planning to fell the hillside directly behind the Honey Cottage Caravan Park in Ettrick from the boundary with Annelshope along to the first bird hide – barring a section in the middle. These trees come right down to the side of the boardwalk. They have sold the trees already and we were told that the felling would start before the end of May. We were not notified or consulted even though the public path runs all the way along beneath these trees.

“We met with FLS on site to point out that this was the worst possible time to fell these trees – we will have to close the board walk just as we head into summer. This will directly affect the caravan park and the café as the felling work will go on for 3-4 months. It is also breeding season for birds and red squirrels. I have to say

that our representations fell on deaf ears as the trees are already sold. We have since heard that the felling is due to start in mid June.

“We pointed out that there had been no community consultation or even a courtesy note to EYCDC as the adjacent owners. We are very concerned that the felling work could damage the boardwalk as well as the birdhide. We also pointed out that their most recent felling behind Gamescleuch has removed the connecting path that linked our land to the forest road leading down to Tima. This means that until that bit of path is restored by FLS, there will be no access to the Marshes from either end all summer.

“If anyone would like to register their own opinion of this, please contact the forestry office in Selkirk. The email address is southscotland.cons@forestry.gov.scot You could also copy to complaints@forestryandland.gov.scot

“We realise that they have to harvest the trees but any degree of consultation would have pointed out that doing this particular stand over the summer months was not ideal!”



* Ettrick and Yarrow Events



Hello from EYCDC

The aim of this Newsletter is to provide a link for all valley residents: if you have an event or something you would like to share and publicise, please contact EYCDC at the address below. We can also take small ads if you have a service you can offer to other valley residents.

The next newsletter is due out on the 1st July. All items for this issue should be sent (on a word document if possible) to EYCDC by Tuesday 25th June 2024. info@ettrickandyarrow.org.uk

The editors reserve the right to modify, shorten or otherwise edit material submitted to the Newsletter. We cannot guarantee that late copy will be included.

This online newsletter is produced by Ettrick and Yarrow Community Development Company and is free to all valley households. Please contact us on the email address above if you wish your name and email address to be added to the distribution list.

The Ettrick and Yarrow Community Development Company (EYCDC) has been operating in the valleys for over 10 years. Projects include redeveloping the old farm steading at Kirkhope into five affordable homes to rent and a business unit with seven lettable spaces.

We also own and manage the Ettrick Marshes, one of

Scotland's largest wetland restoration projects and an important conservation area which includes an extensive boardwalk along the fringe of the Marshes and two bird hides.

We are still in the process (after many years) of taking ownership of the old Ettrick Primary School where we run the James Hogg Exhibition, occasional workshops, office space, hire out electric bikes and provide an overnight stopping point for campervans in the playground. We are currently looking at further improvements to the building.

Other projects include completing a circular walking route around St Mary's Loch and reopening the Captain's Road walking route which links both valleys from St Mary's Loch in Yarrow over the hill to Hopehouse in Ettrick. We are currently looking at providing a safe off-road walking route from Kirkhope to Ettrickbridge.

Membership of EYCDC is open to all residents who are 16 or over and live within the valley postcodes. You can be an associate member if you live outside these postcodes. We currently have 296 members and associate members. If you would like to join, please contact EYCDC for a membership application form - cost £1.

PLEASE PRINT THIS PAGE TO USE AS A MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM



Application for Ordinary Membership

The Valleys Community Company aims to promote the regeneration of the valleys for the benefit of all residents through support for schemes or projects that will benefit the community.

Membership of the Ettrick and Yarrow Community Development Company is open to all residents in the Ettrick or Yarrow Valleys, over 16 years of age, registered to vote, and agree with the company's aims and objectives.

Membership fee is £1 - please include this with your application.

Name:

Address:

.....

..... Post code:

Telephone:

Email:

This information will be used to keep you informed regarding the Company.

If you do NOT wish your details to be stored please put a cross here

I confirm that I support the objectives of the Company.

Signature:

Please return your completed application to: Ettrick and Yarrow Community Development Company, c/o Waterwheel Cafe, Philiphaugh, Selkirk TD7 5LU

CALLING ALL PAST MEMBERS AND ASSOCIATES...

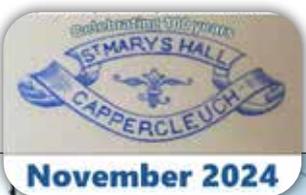


'The Capper' celebrates it's Centenary!

St Mary's Hall at Cappercleuch will be 100 years old this year in November. Events are planned leading up to the anniversary with details still to be announced.

A call has been put out to all past members and associates to come forward and be part of the planning process. Perhaps they have old photographs, posters or tickets of past events or have ideas for an exhibition or social evening to mark the Anniversary year. Or maybe there is someone who could devise questions for a quiz night to test folk on local knowledge, history – or events at the Capper. Is there a fabulous baker out there with a big oven who could bake a celebratory Centenary cake?

Anyone who feels they could help in any way is encouraged to contact: Cappercleuchvillagehall@gmail.com or phone Marion on **07492 862069**



Cairn you do it?

Yes! You can!

Photo © Walter Baxter (cc-by-sa/2.0)

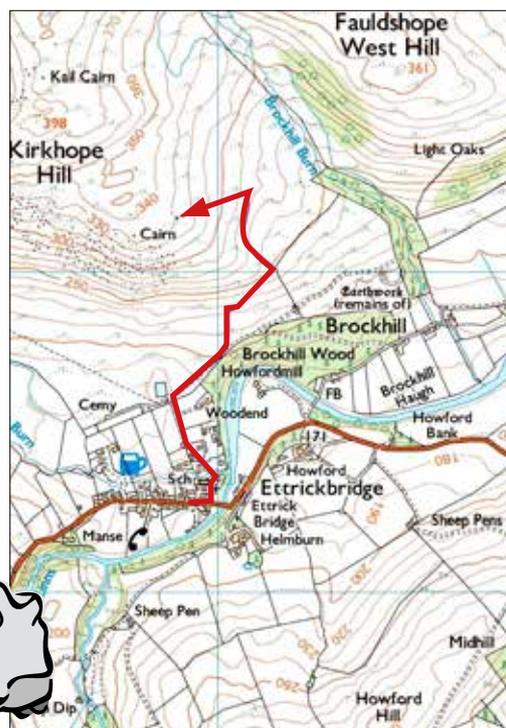
The Friends of Kirkhope Primary School have organised a Sponsored Walk with an aim of raising £500 to support the pupils of Kirkhope Primary School and Kirkhope and Yarrow Early Learning Centre.

The event will take place on **Saturday, 8th June 2024** and all pupils, parents, family members, friends and community members are invited to join in as "we take to the hills!"

Assembling at Ettrickbridge Sports field from **10.30am, and setting off at 11am**, the walk will entail striding up to the cairn at the top of Kirkhope hill and back (by kind permission of Buccleuch Estate). The route (see map on right), which is 1.5 km/ 0.93 miles to the cairn (3 km/1.86 miles to the cairn and back down again) should be easily completed by lunchtime.

Upon return all are welcome to stay for a picnic lunch and get-together on the sports field.

(Further info in the listing on p6)



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If you want to enjoy some summer reading, a reminder that the monthly Mobile Library service, run by Live Borders will be coming to **Yarrow on Monday 3rd June and Monday 17th June** at the following locations and times:

LOCATION	STOP	TIMES
Yarrow	Fues Hall	13.30-13.45
Yarrowford	Yarrowford	13.55-14.10

Mobile Library Service

The library bus will also be visiting the **Ettrick Valley on Thursday 13th June** at the following locations and times:



LOCATION	STOP	TIMES
Ettrick	Roweburn	12.30-12.35
Ettrick	Newhope	12.40-12.55
Ettrick	Boston Hall	13.05-13.30
Ettrick	Honey Cottage	14.10-14.30
Ettrick	Tushielaw	14.35-14.50
Ettrick	East Deloraine	15.00-15.10
Ettrickbridge	Woodend Rd	15.25-15.45

Diary Dates: June 2024

1st

Kirkhope Hall Coffee Morning

VILLAGE HALL, ETRICKBRIDGE

The regular Kirkhope Hall Coffee Morning will be held in Ettrickbridge on **Saturday 1st June from 10am to 12 noon** – a great way to catch up over some home baking on the first Saturday of the month!

2nd

Yarrowford Hall events

YARROWFORD HALL

The next Yarrowford Hall committee meeting is on **Sunday 2nd June at 7pm** in the hall. If you have ideas/suggestions or are willing to help please come along – new committee members are always welcomed!

The well supported **Table Tennis Nights** in the hall continue throughout June **every Wednesday** evening, **6-7pm**.

The hall is holding a **2 course lunch on Sunday 16th** – contact Jim Bradshaw for details. wjbrads1@btinternet.com

from
2nd

The James Hogg Exhibition

THE OLD ETRICK PRIMARY SCHOOL
opposite THE BOSTON HALL,
ETTRICK

The James Hogg Exhibition reopens for the summer on **Sunday 2nd June** in the old Ettrick Primary School opposite the Boston Hall.

The exhibition celebrates the life and work of this world renowned, prolific and influential author who was born in Ettrick and spent most of his life working as a shepherd on local farms. His most famous novel, 'The Private Memoirs and Confessions of a Justified Sinner' was written 200 years ago in 1824 when its tale of the psychotic delusions of a serial killer shocked the literary world.

Opening times are: Wednesday, Friday and Sunday 2-5pm until September.

James Hogg
Exhibition

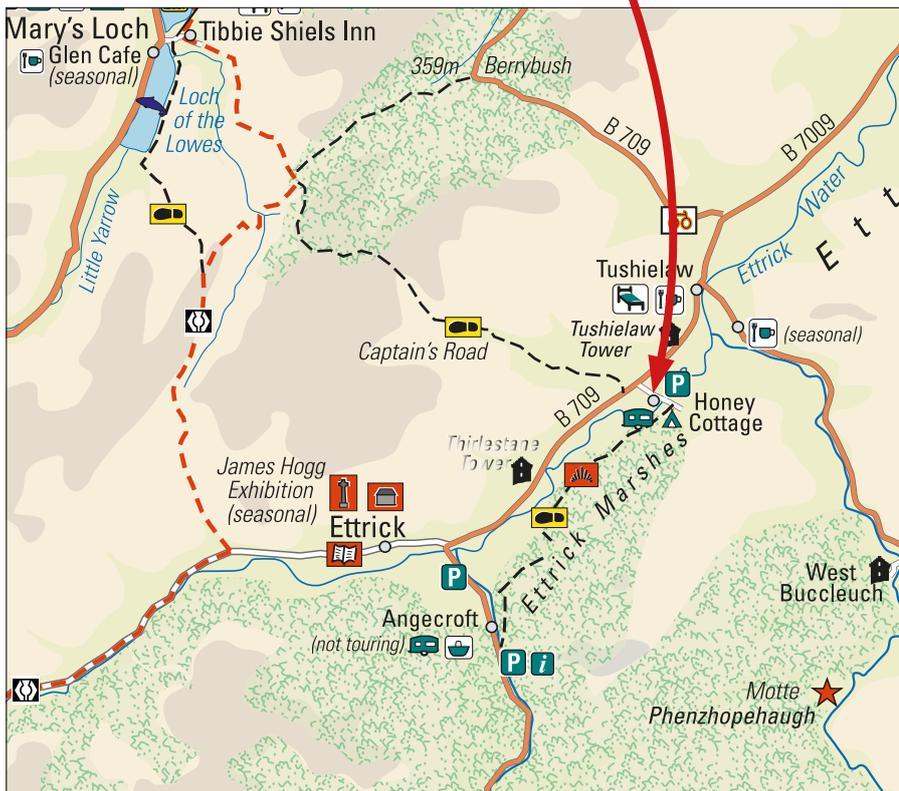
Sweet treats and...



rested feet at the...

Bee Hive Café and Shop

The Bee Hive Café and Shop stocks all your essentials and is **open every day through the summer from 10am to 3pm**. Open for breakfasts, coffee and cakes and light lunches. You'll find it in upper Ettrick at the entrance to the Honey Cottage Caravan Park. Ideal to combine with a walk in the Ettrick Marshes or a visit to the James Hogg Exhibition.





Etrick E-bikes

FOR HIRE HERE

bikes@ettrickandyarrow.org.uk

E Bikes for Hire

The Etrick and Yarrow Community Development Company have a number of sturdy eBikes for hire on a daily basis.

Ideal for exploring our quiet roads or the many forest tracks around our hills, they have front suspension, comfort saddles and puncture proof tyres so ideal for gravel tracks as well as the public roads.

Helmets and HiViz waistcoats are supplied as well as suggested routes. Start and finish at the old Etrick Primary School opposite the Boston Hall (TD7 5JA)

■ Must be 14 or over and ID and deposit required. £20 per bike for up to 4 hours, or £35 for longer.

■ Open every day by appointment only – must be booked in advance. **Call 07483 404663 or email bikes@ettrickandyarrow.org.uk**

■ Also mystery group rides for up to 8 people with an experienced cycle group leader – dates to be advertised or contact if you would like to book for a group.



Etrick Valley, Selkirk TD7 5HT
01750 62356

email: thetushielawinn@yahoo.com
www.tushielawinn.co.uk

- The Tushielaw Inn is an historic coaching inn in the Etrick Valley
- Letting rooms and a snug • Dine-in • Outdoor seating
- Delicious freshly prepared food •

Sunday Roast Menu

- Soup of the day ■ Pate
- Baked cheese & bread dip
- Lamb with mint sauce, roasters and seasonal veg
- Roast beef with Yorkshire pudding, roasters & seasonal veg
- Veggie roast with seasonal veg & roasters cooked in olive oil
- Homemade cheesecake
- Homemade sticky toffee pudding
- Summer fruit meringue



Ploughman's Lunch

Diary Dates: June 2024

Etrick and Yarrow Community Council

3rd

BOSTON HALL, ETRICK

The Community Council **AGM is on Monday 3rd June at 7pm** in the Boston Hall, Etrick. It will be followed by the regular meeting at 7.30pm.

The community council meets every two months and moves around the five village halls in the valleys. It is chaired by Alison Renwick, the Secretary is Kirsty Irving and the Treasurer is Miranda Alcock. Other members are John Wildish, Paul Scott, Jane Telfer, Elizabeth Williamson, Karen O'Brien Barret and John Davidson.

Craft Group

5th

The Etrickbridge Craft Group meets on the 1st Wednesday of the month in the Kirkhope Hall. Next session is on **Wednesday 5th June 10am to 12 noon**. All welcome.

Contact Nora for more details **nora.hunter@btinternet.com**

Pub Quiz

5th

THE CROSS KEYS ETRICKBRIDGE

This competitive pub quiz usually baffles and delights on the first Wednesday every month in the Cross Keys in Etrickbridge (This month it's **Wednesday 5th June**). Teams of up to 5 people (£2 each) with cash prizes. Guest quiz master on 5th June and no quiz in July.

Pilates Class

6th

KIRKHOPE HALL, ETRICKBRIDGE

Katy Lothian is running her popular Pilates classes again in the Kirkhope Hall starting on **Thursday 6th June at 6.30pm**. The first block of 4 is every Thursday in June and costs £40 for the 4 sessions.

Contact Katy for more information and to book prior to coming along katytherapies@yahoo.com



PILATES

Diary Dates: June 2024

from
8th

Artist Exhibition: Alma Dowle

HALLIWELLS HOUSE MUSEUM
GALLERY,
SELKIRK

Ettrick valley
Artist and
potter, Alma
Dowle, is
exhibiting
her works in
the Halliwells
Museum
gallery, Selkirk
from the
**8th of June
until the 18th
August.**

Alma will be in the gallery on
the **15th of June from 11am to 3pm**
for a 'Meet the Maker' session.



8th

Kirkhope Primary School Sponsored Walk

ETTRICKBRIDGE SPORTS FIELD

The Friends of Kirkhope Primary
School (Parent Council) are hosting
a sponsored walk around Kirkhope Hill
(by kind permission of Buccleuch Estate)
in aid of school funds on **Saturday 8th
June** in Ettrickbridge. The start and
finish point is in the Ettrickbridge Sports
Field with registration at **10.30am for
an 11am start.**

The walk is under two miles in total
and the route will be marked with
animal markers. All children must be
accompanied by an adult and sorry
but no dogs allowed on the walk.

Everyone is invited to stay for a play
and picnic lunch on the sports field
afterwards. Some refreshments and
snacks will be on sale but please
bring your own picnic. This event is
weather dependant. Sponsorship forms
available or donate online via the Just
Giving page [www.justgiving.com/
crowdfunding/friendsofkirkhope](http://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/friendsofkirkhope)

For futher info, contact
[friendsofkirkhope@
outlook.com](mailto:friendsofkirkhope@outlook.com)



Lost? Look out for
the animal markers.

Do you need transport?

Look out for the
bright red EYCDC
electric 7 seater
minibus on roads up
and down the valleys.
It is often used by the
two valley schools
when it is not on EYCDC business.



If you have no access to a car or driver, it can be booked
with one of our volunteer drivers to take you to an essential
appointment or for a special group outing. It can also be loaned
to valley residents over 25 with a clean driving licence in return
for a donation and must be returned charged.

The vehicle can be charged at home on a normal plug or
at a public charging point. The range is around 145 miles
depending on the load and conditions. Contact Vicky on [vicky@
ettrickandyarrow.org.uk](mailto:vicky@ettrickandyarrow.org.uk) or **07483 404663** to book.

Selkirk Common Riding

While the Valleys have a wealth
of events taking place during
the month of June, they will most
certainly be eclipsed by the annual
festival of **Selkirk Common Riding**
which takes place on **Friday 14th
June**, with accompanying events
and attractions happening both
before and after this day. A pocket-
sized booklet is produced each
year which gives the reader an
insight into the traditions, rituals
and roles of the various Flags,
Standard Bearers, Lady Bussers,
Incorporations and Associations
involved in this historic spectacle.

Featuring over 90 colour pages and a wealth of
information about the 2024 event, the booklet is priced at only
£2.00 and is on sale at numerous outlets in Selkirk.



Pop-up event!

Boxercise Session
Mon 10th June, 10.30am
Yarrow Feus Hall

Mum's, babies,
children,
grannies, all
ladies
welcome!



Booking essential!

Contact Callie m: 07436773 177

£6.50
gloves & pads
provided



Yarrow Kirk

Kirkhope, Ettrick and Yarrow Church Services

Church services in the valleys move around the three remaining churches. Sadly, a decision will be taken this year regarding which of the churches will be permanently closed.

2nd June:

Yarrow Kirk, 11.30am

9th June:

Kirkhope, 11.30am

16th June:

Ettrick Kirk, 11am

23rd June:

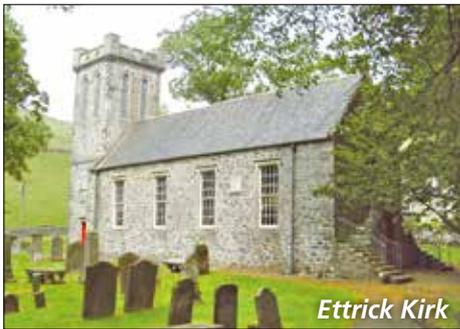
Yarrow Kirk, 11.30am

30th June:

United Service in Selkirk Parish Church at 11am.



Kirkhope Church



Ettrick Kirk

Diary Dates: June 2024

Safety in Numbers Tea Concert

YARROW FEUS HALL

The annual summer concert by community singing group, 'Safety in Numbers' is in Yarrow Feus Hall on **Sunday, June 9th** at 3.00pm. Enjoy an afternoon tea and songs by this talented community choir with special guest, virtuoso fiddler, Lucy Cowan. All proceeds this year are to the Katie McKerracher Trust.

Tickets £10 for adults with children free available from singers or Tel Irene on: **07774 683 064** or Hilary on: **01750 82254**.

Art Group

KIRKHOPE PARISH HALL

The next date for the Ettrick & Yarrow Art Group is **Wednesday, 19th June, 10am to 12noon**, in Kirkhope Parish Hall.



Playgroup fun!

The Ettrick and Yarrow Playgroup for ages 0-5 years runs every Friday morning from 9am to 11am in the Kirkhope Hall, Ettrickbridge.

A small charge is made for tea/coffee and a different fun activity is led every week by the experienced play leader

It's a friendly group for parents or carers while small children learn to play with new friends.

The Friday sessions run throughout the year during term time, until the school holidays with the last day on Friday 28th June.

Additional events may be advertised over the summer.



Come for Afternoon Tea with songs from Safety in Numbers

Special Guest Lucy Cowan in Yarrow Hall Sunday, June 9th at 3.00

£10.00



Children Free

Tickets from singers or tel. Irene on 07774683064 or Hilary on 01750 82254

Proceeds will be donated to The Katie McKerracher Trust

This month we're going to be doing something a bit novel – something we've not done before – we're going to be painting stones! This is to support the Yarrow Show, which this year has a category for painted stones. We can provide materials (including the stones) if you need them. All abilities welcome. And as always, if you don't fancy this month's topic you can always come along and draw or paint whatever you like.

The group meets on the **3rd Wednesday each month**. For more details, phone Iris on **01750 52204**.

Diary Dates: June 2024

22nd

Summer Solstice BBQ

THE BOSTON HALL, ETRICK

Celebrate summer in the lush surrounds of Ettrick with grand company, good food and a party atmosphere. Follow your nose up the Ettrick Valley to find the first sausages sizzling on the barbecue from **1pm on Saturday 22nd June** in the sports field next to the Boston Hall. **Entry fee of £2** includes a burger or hot dog. All ages welcome. Range of alcoholic and soft drinks also available.

28th

Schools Out!

YARROW FEUS HALL

The last day of the school term is **Friday 28th June**. Celebrate at Yarrow Feus Hall with an End of Term BBQ, bouncy castle and Ice Cream from 2pm All Welcome Arranged by Friends of Yarrow Primary School.

The new school term starts on **Wednesday 14th August**.

28th

St Marys Hall, Cappercleuch

St Marys Hall at Cappercleuch (otherwise known as 'the Capper') will be 100 years old this year in November. Events are planned leading up to the anniversary with details still to be announced.

A family friendly **Pub Games Night** will run on the last Friday of every month from 7pm starting on **Friday 28th June** with darts, pool, cashbar, cards, tuckshop and dominoes. (see poster, right)

A **Forestry Consultation drop-in** event will be held from 12 – 6pm on **Wednesday 12th June** with representatives from Eskdalemuir Forestry Ltd. They will be providing information and collecting community views on the planned forestry planting near Craig Douglas.

Also come along to St Mary's Hall at Cappercleuch **every Thursday afternoon from 2-4pm for 'Craft and Social'** – an easy way to catch up over a cup of coffee while doing something with your hands. All welcome.

12th

Here comes summer...



DARTS **CASH BAR** **POOL**

Family friendly
monthly
PUB NIGHT

Enjoy a get-together | Chat over a tasty beverage* | Play a pub game

Friday 28th June 7pm

EVERYONE WELCOME

St Mary's Hall, Cappercleuch TD7 5LG

CARDS **TUCK SHOP** **DOMINOES**

*It is an offence for a person under the age of 18 to buy or attempt to buy alcohol on these premises. It is also an offence for any other person to buy or attempt to buy alcohol on these premises for a person under the age of 18