



"Farming isn't for everyone, but hay, it's in my jeans." - Anonymous

End of an era...

The end of an era in Yarrow as the Mitchells depart Henderland

Six generations of Mitchells farming Henderland at the top of St Mary's Loch came to an end on the 28th November with the retirement of Jim and Ena Mitchell from the tenancy. After 200 years, Jim looks back over their family history in the valleys...

"In 1815 James Mitchell and Isabella Blake had a baby at Cowburn farm near Lockerbie. Two years later in 1817 a second child was born at Glengaber, Henderland. So, between those two years our family first arrived in Yarrow."

"The young couple then moved to Catslacknowe, farming all of Yarrow feus. By the 1850s their children were farming Kirkhope and Brockhope in Ettrick, and Craig Douglas, Kirkstead, Crosscleuch. In addition to this, a daughter was married to the farmer in Bourhope – all Yarrow."

"James in Crosscleuch married Tibbie Shiel's daughter. Unfortunately, he died young, leaving a wife and two daughters. Meanwhile, his brother William came out of Craig Douglas and took the tenancy of Henderland in 1863. His son James married his cousin, the daughter at Crosscleuch."

"This was the start of our long stint at Henderland. As now, the Landlords were Wemyss estates. Henderland is nearly 3000 acres with 1320 yowes (half Cheviot, half Blackface) on three

(continued on page 2)

Welcome ...to the December edition of The EYE. We aim 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! We'll keep an eye on diary dates and list them in these pages so you can plan your month ahead.

Award season for the Valleys

Recognition for the truly inspirational work put in over the past year by some very special people in the valleys was revealed last month in the presentation of some prestigious national awards. Success delivered to the deserving.



Rory and Vicki Steel of the Cross Keys Inn, Ettrickbridge were "over the moon" last month to have brought home a Scottish Thistle Award for the third year in a row — a true hat-trick for the Cross Keys Inn!

The couple couldn't contain their surprise and pride: "Being recognised at a national level is a real honour... but three years running is something really special. It's a testament to our amazing team, who pour their all into everything we do — from great food and welcoming smiles, to the community spirit that keeps our pub at the heart of the village."

"A massive thank you to our incredible staff, our loyal guests, and our wonderful local community. Your support means the world to us, and we truly couldn't do this without you."

The Phoenix Forest at Glenlude

Congratulations are also due to Ettrick resident Karen Purvis and Ellie Oakley of the John Muir Trust who rent office space at Kirkhope Mill and look after the Glenlude Forest between Yarrow and Traquair. They have just won a prestigious Nature of Scotland Award for Health and Wellbeing in recognition of the fantastic work they have been doing with volunteers, gradually replacing the old Glenlude conifer plantation with native broadleaf trees.

Karen, the main driving force behind the project for many years explained:

"We've been working in partnership with Phoenix Futures (a UK wide charity that has been helping people overcome alcohol and drug problems for over 50 years) since 2012 and working alongside their staff and people in recovery have created Phoenix Forest at Glenlude – planting a tree for every person who successfully completes their recovery programme – now numbering well over 2,500 trees."

Glenlude was bequeathed to the Trust in 2004 by Shiela Bell who continued to live there until her death in 2010.



Ellie Oakley



Karen Purvis with the Phoenix Futures team picking up the award

Photo: © Mike Wilkinson, www.mike-wilkinson.com





Diary Dates: December 2025

**Mon
1**

Monthly Whist

Boston Hall, Ettrick, 7pm

Monthly whist on 1st Monday each month through to March. New players welcome. Usual guidelines, £1 per person each night, bring your own mug, tea and coffee provided. If you have ever enjoyed playing 'knock out whist' you will get the hang of this very quickly!

**Mon
1**

Community Council Meeting

Yarrowford Hall, 7pm

Community Council meeting - all welcome.

**Mon
1**

Carpet Bowling

St Mary's Hall, Cappercleuch, 7.30pm

Each Monday evening - all welcome, no experience necessary. Contact organiser is Tommy Hepburn 07933 306225 for new members.

**Tues
2**

The Stitchers

Boston Hall, Ettrick.

Ettrick's sociable sewing bee - is back for the winter months. Every 1st and 3rd Tuesday from 2-4pm. Bring whatever project you are working on or would like to start - help will be provided. If you don't have a project, come and try making a Christmas bag, material supplied.

**Tues
2**

Yarrow Book Club

Yarrow Feus Hall, 7pm

The Yarrow Valley Book Club meets in the Yarrow Hall at Yarrow Feus from 7-9pm A welcoming space for book lovers to share thoughts, sip a glass of wine and enjoy some book related discussions. £5 per session.

**Tues
2**

New Age Kurling

Yarrowford Hall, 2-4pm

New Age Kurling starts again in Yarrowford Hall 2pm to 4pm. Every 1st and 3rd Tuesday through the winter. £3 per person, all welcome.

**Wed
3**

Kirkhope Craft Group

Kirkhope Hall, Ettrickbridge, 10-12

The Ettrickbridge based Craft group meet at 10am on the first Wednesday of every month in Kirkhope Hall and if you prefer just to chat, the regular...

**Wed
3**

Coffee Morning

...is in the comfortable and convivial Cross Keys Inn, Ettrickbridge every Wednesday, 10.30am-12 noon.



View from Henderland, St Mary's Loch

End of an era for the Mitchells of Henderland

(continued from front page)

"...hirsels as the main enterprise. We entered Henderland at the height of the American civil war when cotton was unavailable and mills had to buy wool. This unexpected windfall resulted in a great boost to the future of sheep farming.

"Always a labour intensive process, there were three hired herds, a horse/ploughman and the farmer, plus young lads and maids from the area.

"Farms would go together for big handlings like the clipping which would be a huge event.

"I was the 6th generation to be a Henderland tenant. Over the years since the 1800s, five sons and daughters have gone to New Zealand, including my own son James.

"With my two daughters gainfully employed and my sister Doreen and me both in our 70s, it seems a good time to close this happy chapter."

Jim Mitchell

Scenes from happy times at Henderland:

Top - bringing in hay old style

Right - family, workers and neighbours take a break from the clippings

Below - a recent family wedding at Henderland



Warm and welcoming – the Cross Keys Inn has restored its status as an all-round sociable hub in the Ettrick Valley after a number of years in the doldrums

Cross Keys for Sale



Both pubs in Ettrick are currently on the market, with the Tushielaw Inn advertised several months ago (and currently closed) and now the very popular Cross Keys also on the market.

Studio Space

One of the smaller upstairs studios at Kirkhope Mill will be available to let from the end of December.

Unit 7 is 275 sq ft (25.5sq m) with a vinyl floor and small sink. Suitable as office or workshop space. Rent £2200 per annum + VAT.

Also hot-desking space always available with access to communal kitchen, superfast WiFi and facilities. (£100 per month + VAT)

Rory and Vicki Steel have transformed the Cross Keys over the last three years, creating a vibrant business with good food, seven lettable bedrooms and a welcoming bar and restaurant, always buzzing with local events and get-togethers.

As Rory says, when they bought the pub, their mission "was to bring the pub back to its former glory and once again make it a key pillar of Ettrick Valley life". We think they have certainly achieved that! It is on the market for offers over £500,000 through Christie & Co.



The monthly Mobile Library service, run by Live Borders will be coming to **Yarrow on Monday 1st & Monday 15th December** at the following locations and times:

LOCATION	STOP	TIMES
Broadmeadows	Bridge	13.40-13.55
Yarrowford	Yarrowford	14.00-14.10

The library bus will also be visiting the **Ettrick Valley on Thursday 11th December** at the following locations /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	Crosslee Steading	15.00-15.10
Ettrickbridge	Woodend Rd	15.20-15.50



Mobile Library Service

Diary Dates: December 2025



Pub Quiz

Cross Keys Inn, Ettrickbridge, 7.30pm

Then Wednesday evening sees the ever popular pub quiz at Ettrickbridge. Maximum 5 in a team, £2 per person. 7.30 for 8pm start. Booking essential with Linda on lindajack57@btinternet.com

Carpet Bowling

Boston Hall, Ettrick, 7.30pm

Carpet Bowling in the Boston Hall every Wednesday throughout the winter. All welcome, no experience necessary as plenty of experienced bowlers will get you started.

1st Wednesday Club

Yarrow Feus Hall, 2.30pm

The 'First Wednesday Club' meets in the Yarrow Feus Hall at 2.30pm. A friendly monthly meet up for valley residents- everyone welcome for a cuppa and a natter.

Yarrow Yoga

Yarrowfeus Hall, 6.30-7.30pm

Eildon Yoga in Yarrow Hall from 6.30-7.30pm bringing warmth, movement and mindful rest as the darker nights close in. £9 per session. Email andreabeavon@hotmail.com to book.

Table Tennis

Yarrowford Hall, 5.30-6.30pm

Table tennis sessions every Wednesday.

Ettrick School Drop-in Day

Old Ettrick School, 2.30-4pm

Drop in for a cosy afternoon in front of the log burner in the old Ettrick School. Activities will be shaped by who turns up or we'll just chat and catch up. Lots of old history books about the valleys for browsing if you'd rather just read. Lifts home if required. Tea/coffee and traybake. No booking required. All welcome.

Yeekhaw! Line Dancing

Yarrow Feus Hall, 10-11am

Mosey on down to these Thursday morning sessions led by Yarrow resident, Fiona Henderson. These fun classes are suitable for all levels of fitness

Safety in Numbers Choir

Yarrowford Hall, 7pm-8.30pm

Safety in Numbers community choir rehearse in Yarrowford Hall this week as the Yarrow School Christmas show is in the hall at Yarrow Feus. Sessions cost £3.

Wed
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Thur
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Diary Dates: December 2025

**Thur
4**

Yarrow Men's Club

Yarrowford Hall, 2-4pm

Club for men of all ages to drop in for a chat, game of cards, dominoes, darts or just a cuppa. £3.00 (includes refreshments). An informal get together every Thursday.

**Fri
5**

Playgroup fun

Kirkhope Hall, Ettrickbridge, 9.30am

The Playgroup for both valleys in Kirkhope Hall, 9.30-11.30am. Babies, Toddlers 0-5 years. Always a craft activity and lots of toys. All welcome (adult carer stays for the session so a good chance to get to know others over a friendly cuppa)

**Sun
7**

Morning Service

Kirkhope Church, 11.30am

Church Services in the valleys move around the three churches but miss out Ettrick in the winter months. This Sunday, which is the 2nd in Advent, the service will be in Kirkhope at 11.30am led by Rev. Kwame Ahaligah. It will be an especially lovely service as there is going to be a double baptism.

**Mon
8**

Carol Concert

Kirkhope Hall,
Ettrickbridge, 7.15pm

Carol concert with Selkirk Silver Band. Adults £5, Children £2, available on the door. Includes festive refreshments.



**Mon
8**

Carpet Bowling

Cappercleuch Hall, Yarrow, 7.30pm.

All abilities welcomed. New membership enquiries to organiser Tommy Hepburn, tel 07933 306225 .

**Tues
9**

Ettrick WRI Xmas Lunch

Beehive Cafe, Ettrick, 2.00pm

Members Christmas lunch for the Ettrick Women's Institute (the Rural) in the Beehive Café at 2pm.

**Tues
9**

Yarrowford SWI

Yarrowford Hall, 2pm

Yarrowford SWI members meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 2pm

**Wed
10**

Ettrickbridge WRI

Kirkhope Hall, 7.30pm

Ettrickbridge Women's Rural meets at 7.30pm on the second Wednesday of each month in the Kirkhope Hall (September to May). All welcome.



The 'May' image from the 2026 Yarrow Calendar: Jason Bain captured the moment while gathering ewes for clipping at Winterhopeburn, with his loyal sheepdog Izzy by his side.

Worldwide demand for 2026 Yarrow Calendar!

The 2026 calendar, created from images submitted by valley residents and produced by the Hall Committee, Yarrow Feus, has been a resounding success, with sales stretching far and wide.

A recent Facebook post stated, "We are overwhelmed to have enquiries world wide for next year's Yarrow Calendar! If you live abroad and want one posted - please get in touch and we will see what we can do".

An ideal seasonal gift to send to loved ones through the post - or for

those friends and family who always leave you head scratching over what present to give, this calendar ticks all the boxes! Get yours while stocks last...

Available in the Beehive Cafe, the Waterwheel and other local outlets, You can also buy the 2026 Yarrow Calendar online and it will be posted to you - www.yarrowhall.com/category/all-products

Every calendar sold raises funds for the upkeep and running of Yarrow Hall.



Isla - that's a mighty fine reindeer Christmas Card you've made! ...and you're only 1½ years old! Amazing! And there's another 'Messy Play' pal getting stuck in... with his FEET! Ahhhhh, that's how you created Rudolph! You clever little people!

Christmas / winter was the theme at Ettrick and Yarrow Playgroup's November Messy Play session. Lots of fun and great ideas.

Tip for anyone wanting to try this out: you need teeny tiny feet! Or BIG envelopes.



We think Zara's is a haggis!





Kirkhope Parish Hall

Get ready for a wonderful evening with.....

Selkirk Silver Band

Monday 8th December 2025 at 7.15pm

Tickets available on the door
Adults £5.00 / Children £2.00
to include festive refreshments





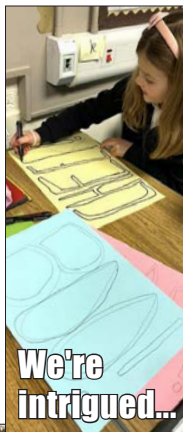
Words at work

The AGM of the Ettrick and Yarrow Community Development Company was held in the Cross Keys in

Ettrickbridge on Wednesday 26 November with 24 members turning out in support.

Chairman, Trevor Timms, reported on the group's work over the last year and asked for suggestions. Lynn Molleson from the Development Trust Association for Scotland (DTAS) gave a short talk about inspiring work led by community trusts around Scotland and the difficult route to becoming financially self-sustaining. Susan Manson from Newburgh in Ettrick was elected as a new director, replacing Ingrid Earp who retired.

Pupils at Yarrow Primary last week received certificates for "having can-do attitudes". "Learning and performing concert lines with confidence" and choreographing a dance for the school's upcoming concert.



We're intrigued...



Audience prompt cards with 'Boo' and 'Cheer'? We're intrigued!



Christmas Raffle! The Beehive Cafe is holding a special Christmas raffle, in aid of MacMillan cancer support. Arlene Lockhart has very kindly donated this beautiful piece of art (left) as the prize. Raffle tickets can be purchased in the cafe, £1 a strip, and the raffle will be drawn at our Christmas lunch on Friday 12th of December!

Beautiful homemade Christmas cakes by Fiona Anderson now for sale in our shop! We also have a selection of lovely Christmas gifts on display: cushions, pom pom wreaths and candles made by BellaElla



Crafts. Festive chutneys homemade in Cumbria, plus handmade bags by Mrs C's Totes! Come and enjoy a coffee and have a browse!



OPENING TIMES:

We are now operating on our winter hours, closing every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. On Thursdays and Fridays we are open 10am-2pm, weekends, 10am-2.30pm.

The BeeHive Café



Waters Butchers

Christmas Orders – The Beehive Shop and Café now has the Waters Butchers Christmas order forms in the café to collect. Last orders for turkey was 1st December. Any other orders by 13th December.

Ettrick and Yarrow Playgroup



Diary Dates: December 2025



Carpet Bowling

Boston Hall, Ettrick, 7.30pm

All welcome, no experience necessary so come and give it a try.

Table Tennis session

Yarrowford Hall, 5.30-6.30pm

We ♥ Line Dancing

Yarrow Feus Hall, 10-11am

Channel the cowboy in you! Thursday morning sessions led by Fiona Henderson.

Service of Remembering

Kirkhope Church, Ettrickbridge, 2pm

The annual service of Remembering for the Bereaved is a quiet, reflective service for anyone missing a loved one especially at this time of year. Followed by refreshments and companionship.



Ettrick School Coorie-in day

Old Ettrick School, 2.30-4pm

Drop in for a cosy afternoon in front of the log burner in the old Ettrick School 2.30 – 4pm Every Thursday afternoon in December. Activities will be shaped by who turns up or we'll just chat and catch up. Lifts home if required. Tea/coffee and traybake. No booking required. All welcome.

Safety in Numbers Choir

Yarrow Feus Hall, 7pm-8.30pm

The excellent Safety in Numbers community choir meet in Yarrow Hall and are in full rehearsal mode for their annual Christmas concert on Saturday 13th. Sessions cost £3.

Retired Gentlemen's Christmas Lunch ...!

Cross Keys Inn, Ettrickbridge, 12.30pm

Join fellow folk who have called time on their careers, but miss the fun of work-place festivities at our special Christmas gathering for retired gents. **Pre-booking essential – just call (01750 52224)** or pop in to let us know your menu choices. Novelty Christmas jumpers optional....

Playgroup Xmas Party

Kirkhope Hall, Ettrickbridge, 9.30am

The Playgroup for both valleys in Kirkhope Hall, 9.30-11.30am. Festive fun – All pre school age children Welcome. There will be hopefully a special visitor joining us (so please ensure you bring a small, wrapped, NAMED gift for your child along too.)



Wed 10

Wed 10

Thur 11

Thur 11

Thur 11

Thur 11

Thur 11

Fri 12



Diary Dates: December 2025

**Fri
12**

&

**Sat
13**

Beehive Café Christmas Dinner

Beehive Café, Honey Cottage
Caravan Park, Ettrick

Still a few tickets left for the Beehive Café Christmas dinner today and tomorrow at 4pm. Book immediately with Kay if you don't want to lose out! 07881 957809. The raffle in aid of Macmillans will take place at the meal today – first prize the fabulous painting of kingfishers by local artist, Arlene Lockhart. Raffle tickets on sale in the café.

**Sat
13**

Carol Concert

Yarrow Feus Hall, 3pm

Come for carols, mince pies and mulled wine! The Safety in Numbers Choir round off 2025 with their ever-popular Carol Concert. Feel-good, joyous music and traditional festive fayre. Tickets £10 (children free) Pre-booking essential - contact Irene 07774 683064 or Hilary 01750 82254. Proceeds to Borders Youth Theatre

**Sun
14**

Morning Service

Yarrow Church, 11.30am

Church service today is in Yarrow Kirk and led by the Selkirk and valleys minister, Rev. Kwame Ahaligah.

**Mon
15**

Carpet Bowling

St Mary's Hall, Cappercleuch, 7.30pm

Each Monday evening – all welcome, no experience necessary. Call 07933 306225 for new members.

**Tues
16**

The Stitchers

Boston Hall, Ettrick, 2-4pm

Ettrick's sociable sewing bee – is back for the winter months. Every 1st and 3rd Tuesday from 2-4pm. Haven't made anything since High School? No worries, beginners welcome and help will be provided.

**Tues
16**

New Age Kurling

Yarrowford Hall, 2-4pm

New Age Kurling in Yarrowford Hall 2pm to 4pm. Every 1st and 3rd Tuesday through the winter. £3 per person, Wed 17

**Wed
17**

Kirkhope Art Group

Kirkhope Hall, Ettrickbridge

No Art Group in Kirkhope Hall this month. The Art Group will be back again in January.

At a time of the year when we often think of loved ones not with us any more – and sometimes lay a bunch of flowers or a wreath at their graveside as a token of the friendship and affection we shared in times past – many of us are saddened further by the cemetery environment we step into.

Now is your chance to speak out about it! Borders Council is asking for your views on how best to manage their cemeteries in future. It's a fairly easy questionnaire and a chance to feed in suggestions or even complaints!

Perhaps they could be persuaded not to lay so many headstones flat in future but give families a chance



Bones – and headstones – laid to rest

Ettrick Kirkyard

to fix them first? Just a thought.... The survey is open until December 15th. Just go to: www.scotborders.citizenspace.com/customer-communities/cemetery-strategy-engagement/

(If you need a paper copy, this needs to be requested from placemeteries@scotborders.gov.uk)

Maybe Christmas means a little bit more*



* "Maybe Christmas (he thought) doesn't come from a store. Maybe Christmas perhaps means a little bit more."

– THE GRINCH

For a perfect pre-Christmas feelgood family outing, why not join Kirkhope Primary for a festive screening of **The Grinch** at Bowhill Theatre on Monday 22nd December at 11am. Tickets are £12 and must be booked in advance by emailing Friends@Kirkhope@outlook.com


COME FOR CAROLS
MINCE PIES & MULLED WINE
with

Safety in Numbers

in
Yarrow Hall

Saturday, December 13th at 3.00

Ticket: £10.00 (Children free)

Tel. Irene on 07774 683064 or Hilary on 01750 82254
PRE-BOOKING ESSENTIAL

borders
YOUTH
theatre

All proceeds to Borders Youth Theatre

Kirkhope Parish Hall

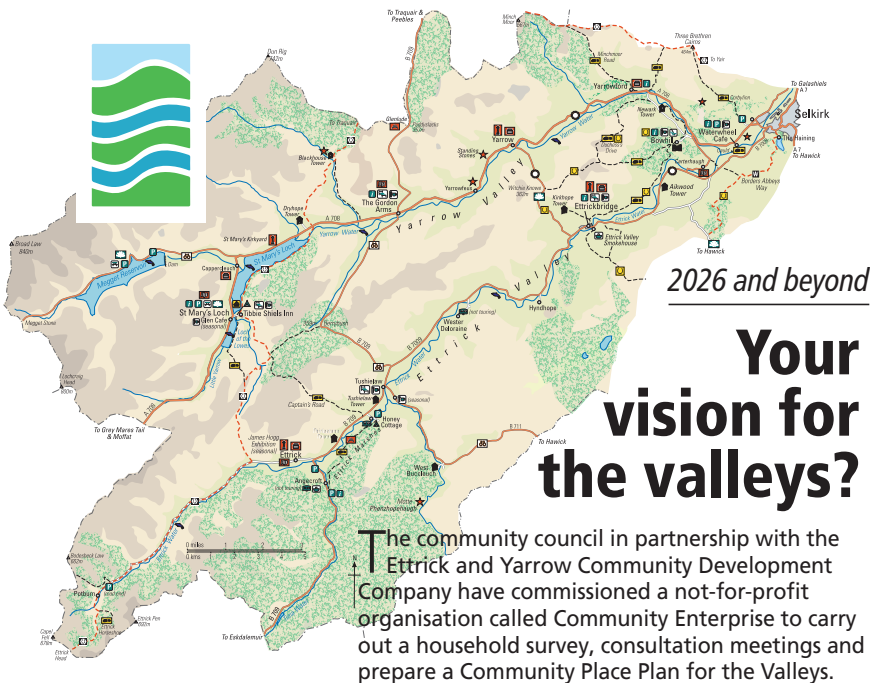
Christmas Coffee Morning

Join us for a fun, festive morning with delicious home-made scones, freshly brewed coffee & tea, lots of lovely festive stalls & goodies and a visit from Santa!

Saturday 13th December 2025
10.00am-12.00pm

If you would like to book a stall, please contact us via messenger on our facebook page or email kirkhopeparishhall@outlook.com





2026 and beyond

Your vision for the valleys?

The community council in partnership with the Ettrick and Yarrow Community Development Company have commissioned a not-for-profit organisation called Community Enterprise to carry out a household survey, consultation meetings and prepare a Community Place Plan for the Valleys.

The survey will be launched soon and Community Enterprise will be at the Christmas coffee morning in Ettrickbridge on the 13th December as a start.

The consultation will result in both a 'Place Plan' which is lodged with Borders Council as well as a 'Community Action Plan' with projects to improve life for residents in the valleys.

This could be anything from better public transport to more affordable housing, improved walking paths, a new playpark, or issues to be addressed like road flooding, energy costs or the dreaded pylons!

Look out for the survey online (paper copies will also be available) and start imagining a future vision for the valleys.

Community Enterprise
motto

Helping People Make Good Things
Happen

CROSS KEYS INN
ETTRICKBRIDGE

A classic 17th Century Coaching Inn offering traditional pub food, real ales and B&B accommodation.

Main Street, Ettrickbridge • 01750 52224
hello@crosskeysinnnettrickbridge.com
www.crosskeysinnnettrickbridge.com

What's On December

8 Quiz
NIGHT

11 Retired
Gentlemen's
Christmas Lunch
PRE-BOOKING REQUIRED

23 CAROL
SINGALONG

25 OPEN FOR
DRINKS
12 - 2PM

26 OPEN FOR
DRINKS
1 - 5PM

29 Graham Scott Cup
Dominoes
Competition

3RD - 23RD DEC
Christmas
Menu
PRE-BOOKING REQUIRED

31 HOGMANAY
HOOLIE

Our legendary Christmas menu is back, and we're looking forward to another season of cosy fires, long lunches and celebratory dinners! Whether it's a night out with colleagues or a get-together with friends, our three-courses for £36 will be sure to start your festive shenanigans with a bang. Give us a call on **01750 52224** to book your party

Diary Dates:
December 2025



Yarrow Yoga

Yarrowfeus Hall, 6.30-7.30pm

Eildon Yoga in Yarrow Hall Warmth, movement and mindful rest as the darker nights close in. £9 per session. Every second Wednesday. Must be booked in advance. Email andreabeavon@hotmail.com

Carpet Bowling

Boston Hall, Ettrick, 7.30pm

Ettrick carpet bowling every Wednesday from 7.30pm. All welcome, no experience necessary as plenty of experienced bowlers will help to get you started.

Table Tennis session

Yarrowford Hall, 5.30-6.30pm

Ettrick Come & Coorie-in

Old Ettrick School, 2.30-4pm

Drop in for a cosy afternoon in front of the log burner in the old Ettrick School. Every Thursday afternoon. Activities will be shaped by who turns up or we'll just chat and catch up. Lifts home if required. Tea/coffee and traybake. All welcome.

Guys' Get-Together

Yarrowford Hall, 2-4pm

Yarrowford Hall 'men's club' for men of all ages. The cost is £3.00 per session and includes refreshments. Every Thursday.

Playgroup Fun

Kirkhope Hall, Ettrickbridge, 9.30am

Last Playgroup of the year in Kirkhope Hall, Ettrickbridge, 9.30-11.30am. Babies, Toddlers 0-5 years. Always a craft activity and lots of toys. All welcome.

Morning Service

Yarrow Kirk, 11.30am

The church service today is again in Yarrow Kirk Tea and coffee beforehand.

Carpet Bowling

Cappercleuch Hall, Yarrow, 7.30pm.

All abilities welcomed. New membership enquiries to organiser Tommy Hepburn, tel 07933 306225.

Carol Singing

Ettrickbridge village, 6pm onwards

Ding Dong Merrily on High! Join the carol singing around Ettrickbridge meeting outside the church at 6pm. Bring the Christmas cheer with Christmas hats and lights if possible, jingle bells optional..!

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Sun
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Tues
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Diary Dates: November 2025

**Wed
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Church Carol Service

Kirkhope Church, Ettrickbridge, 6pm

Christmas Eve Family Service of Christmas Lessons, Carols, the Christmas story, candles and 'pretend' mulled wine and mince pies afterwards. All ages welcome,

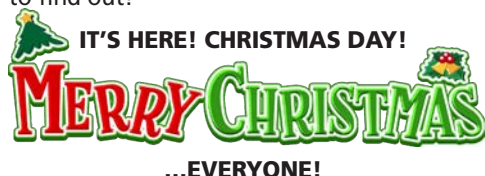
**Wed
24**

Carpet Bowling ... maybe?

Boston Hall, Ettrick, 7.30pm

Will the Ettrick bowlers be donning their festive hats in the Boston Hall? We are yet to find out!

**Thur
25**



**Thur
25**

Christmas Day Service

Selkirk Parish Church, 10.30am

The Christmas Day service for Selkirk, Ettrick and Yarrow will be held in Selkirk Parish Church at 10.30am

**Thur
25**

Christmas Day escape!

Cross Keys Inn, Ettrickbridge, 12-2pm

Room at the Inn! Enjoy some festive cheer with award-winning proprietors Rory and Vicki Steel who are opening their doors for drinks today. Forgo Facebook in favour of face-to-face with friends this Christmas!

**Fri
26**

Boxing Day Unwind

Cross Keys Inn, Ettrickbridge, 1-5pm

Pressure off! While away a mellow afternoon at the Cross Keys with friends and family. Drinks being served 1-5pm

**Sun
28**

Morning Service

Kirkhope Church, 11.30am

The Church service today is in Kirkhope at 11.30am. The worship will be led by Selkirk and the Valleys minister, Rev. Kwame Ahaligah.

**Mon
29**

Dominoes Competition

Cross Keys Inn, Ettrickbridge, 7pm

Domino doyens will compete tonight for the honour of winning the Graham Scott Cup.

**Wed
31**

Hogmanay Ceilidh

Boston Hall, Ettrick, 7.30pm

See in the New Year at the Hogmanay party in the Boston Hall. Doors open 7.30pm Popular music plus ceilidh dancing followed by the usual mass bursting of balloons! BYOB and dancing shoes!

Please Note:

The EYE is taking a break over the festive period, so the next newsletter will be issued in **February 2026**. News items /photographs /adverts for the this newsletter should be sent in by **25th January, 2026**. email: vicky@ettrickandyarrow.org.uk or phone/text **07846 505630**.



To all
our readers

*We hope you
have a very
Merry Christmas*

and
a...



2026



VACANCY

CLASSROOM ASSISTANT

Yarrow Primary School

Grade: 4B

Hourly Rate: £13.40 - £14.10

Salary: £3321.45 - £3494.86 per annum

Hours: 5.5

Contract Duration: Permanent

Applicants are also encouraged to apply for the Playground Supervisor post at Yarrow Primary School.

Role Purpose

To support teaching and learning within the school in accordance with the current strategies and policies of Scottish Borders and in line with programmes being developed.

No formal qualifications required.

Informal enquiries may be made to

David Cornwall by telephone on

01750 82235 or by email at

David.Cornwall@scotborders.gov.uk

Please note the closing date has been extended until 10th December 2025

SCHOOLS CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

■ Friday 19 December 2025 - last day of term

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

■ Monday 22 December 2025 - Friday 2 January 2026

WINTER/SPRING TERM

■ Monday 5 January 2026 - Term starts, all resume

New Year Bowling Pairs Tournament

in Kirkhope Hall
on

Thursday 1st
January 2026

Entries to:

Jack Elliot on

07468 464217

*Open to all ages,
beginners, male,
female or old hands.*

