



A VIEW FROM THE PROM

Only one thing to comment on at the present time. There were notices in the Advertiser recently that the County Council are passing over to Berwick Town

Council the management of both Spittal and Highcliffe's play areas. We know that the County had a number of 'challenges' in looking after these, which could not have been helped by the swingeing budget cuts that have been going on over recent years in County Hall. The local NCC team in the Tweedmouth Depot did what they could with one hand tied behind their backs, fair play to them. Let's wish the Town Council good luck in continuing with them.

Ok, there is one other thing - does anyone else think that the glare from the new street lamps by the play area and down Dock Road is a little harsh on the eyes!

Beachcomber.

Family or friends visiting and not enough space?

We have comfortable cottages available. For details telephone **Brenda** on **01289 304175** or see our **website**
www.berwickcottageholidays.co.uk

SPITTAL GARDENING CLUB

We were delighted when we went to Ponteland in October, to come back with the top award for Spittal Village in the Neighbourhood Awards. This certificate is awarded for community involvement and projects involving the whole village. Also included was Spittal Bowling club, the school, the church all the ongoing projects such as Spa Well and Seaford Park.

The certificate and the judges' comments will be on display in the village shop.

We have placed some collecting tins around the village, any loose change would be much appreciated towards the gardening funds, as less and less is being provided by the Council in these stressful financial times and we are going for Gold again next year!

A Happy Christmas and a blooming Good New Year from

Mau and Sheila - the gardening group

STAY SAFE AT CHRISTMAS

Christmas is a special time for celebration and should not end in tragedy because of the extra hazards that are present at this time of year.

Fairy Lights

- Check the fuses are the right type (see

the box for the maximum size of fuse you should use).

- If bulbs blow, replace them.
- Don't leave fairy lights on when you go out or when you go to sleep.
- Don't let the bulbs touch anything that can burn easily, like paper.
- Don't overload sockets.

Decorations

- Decorations made of light tissue paper or cardboard burn easily.
- Don't attach them to lights or heaters.
- Don't put them immediately above or around the fireplace.
- Keep them away from candles.

Christmas Trees

Special fire safety precautions need to be taken when keeping a live tree in the house. A burning tree can rapidly fill a room with fire and deadly gases.

Selecting a Tree for Christmas

Needles on fresh trees should be green and hard to pull back from the branches, and the needle should not break if the tree has been freshly cut. The trunk should be sticky to the touch. Old trees can be identified by bouncing the tree trunk on the ground. If many needles fall off, the tree has been cut too long, has probably dried out, and is a fire hazard.

Caring for Your Tree

Do not place your tree close to a heat source, including a fireplace or heat vent. The heat will dry out the tree, causing it to be more easily ignited by heat, flame or sparks. Be careful not to drop or flick cigarette ashes near a tree. Do not put your live tree up too early or leave it up for longer than two weeks. Keep the tree stand filled with water at all times.

BEACH CLEAN

The final one of the year will be on

Saturday 7th December.

Meet outside the Amusement Arcade at 10am, weather permitting.

All are welcome but come prepared for the bracing, and probably cold/wet, weather.

NEWS FROM ST JOHN'S

Despite the cold and wet and dark days of this December, we are looking forward to celebrating Christmas once more. At St John's there will be the normal service of Holy Communion at 9am on Sunday 22nd and on the same day the Carol Service at 6pm, when we will sing the traditional carols and retell the Christmas story. On Christmas Eve, Tuesday 24th at 3pm, we will have our Instant Nativity when the youngsters are invited to come

dressed as one of the characters in the story and take part. There will be no acting or rehearsing and the story will be narrated by members of our Church youth group. Refreshments will be served afterwards. Holy Communion will be celebrated at 9am on Christmas Day and there will be further Saints Day services at 10am during the rest of the week. We would be delighted to welcome you at any of these services and full details may be found on our website www.potss.co.uk.

Morning Prayer is said in St. John's every Tuesday and Friday at 8.15am - all are welcome to join us. Just a reminder that the Church is open for visitors and private prayer every Friday during daylight hours.

A very happy Christmas to you all from everyone at St. John's.

A festive evening with

The Berwick Concert Band

'Winter Tuba-land'

Saturday 21st December

7:30pm

BURC (St Pauls) Church

Tickets Adult £5.50/ u17's £3.50
(includes festive refreshments)
on sale in Spittal Food Store or call
07752403409 online at
www.borderevents.com/boxoffice

FAREWELL FROM US.....

After four years of editing The Point, Sue and I are taking a break! The next edition will be our last and we would like to take this opportunity to say some "thank you's"!

Firstly, it has been a joy to work with Mike Greener and the committee, then to say that we are forever indebted to the contributors who gave up their time to furnish us with articles - often at short notice. Also, the advertisers who gave money to ensure that the newsletter could continue financially a big thank you to you all!

And finally in the true spirit of Gladys here is the joke.... What does Santa bring naughty children at Christmas? A pack of batteries which on the bottom says Toys not Included!!

Spittal PHOTO Competition

In aid of the Spittal Improvement Trust

Competition themes

"Spittal is Great"
or **"My Favourite Place"**

The winning entry will receive an A3 canvas print of their photo, certificates for runners up

canvas kindly donated by **Fantasy Prints**
14 West Street, Berwick-Upon-Tweed
Tel: 01289 303242

- **Under 16 years - entry fee £1**
- **Over 16 years - entry fee £2**

Open to amateur photographers only.
Enter as many photos as you like.

Entries to be received by midnight 30th April 2014
EITHER

Send photos A4 or 10 x 8
Write your name, age category, address & phone number on the reverse.

Enclose the fee per photo paid by Postal Order.

Post to: The Judges, Spittal Photo Competition,
181, Main Street, Spittal,
Berwick upon Tweed, TD15 1RP
OR

Enter on line by following the link on this site to attach high resolution photos and Pay via PAYPAL

See terms and conditions at www.spittalisgreat.co.uk

SPITTAL IMPROVEMENT TRUST



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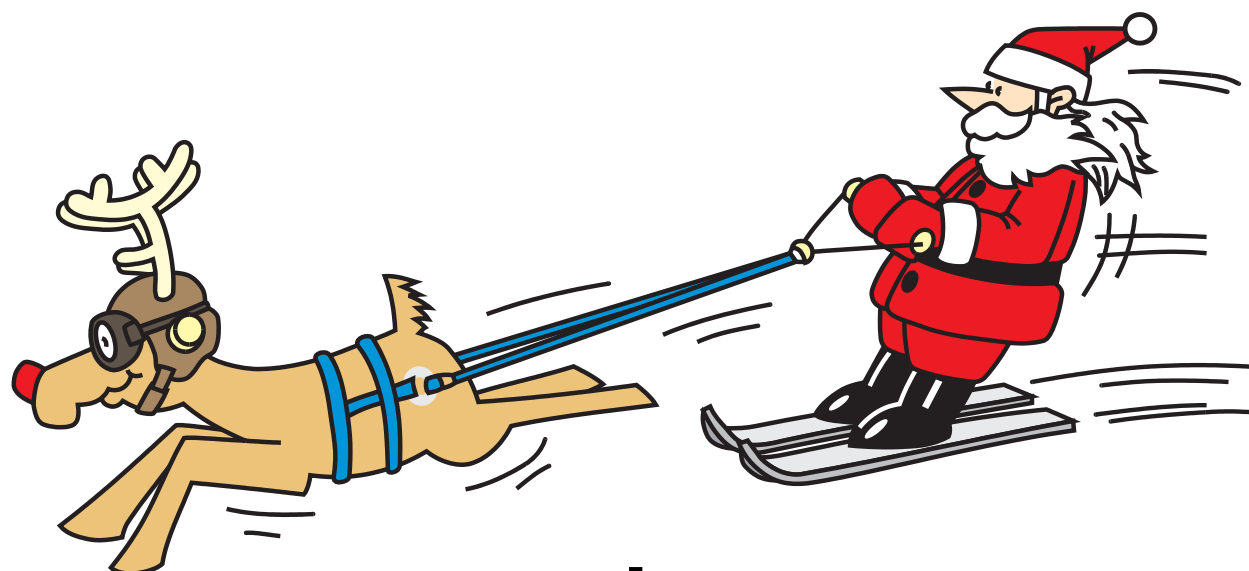
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SANTA IN SPITTAL!



FRIDAY 13th DECEMBER

5.30pm - XMAS FAIR STARTS

6.30pm - SANTA & REINDEER PARADE
DOWN MAIN STREET (from South End)

7:00pm: LIGHTING OF THE TREE & CAROLS

Brass Band - Street Entertainment

Hog Roast - Hot Chestnuts

Refreshments

DONATIONS BY COLLECTION BUCKET



Come along to the
Tweedmouth Community Middle School

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING NIGHT

Wednesday 4th December @ 6.30pm

Jewellery - Cakes - Jams & Preserves - Clothes - Arts & Crafts

Adults £2 - Children £1 inc. refreshments - Under 5s Free



THE POINT



A Newsletter produced by Spittal Improvement Trust
Issue 58
December 2013

EDITORIAL

Deadline for next issue 26 January 2014

Our sincere apologies to Mr J Cromarty whose article on Spittal at War has been so well received, we have inadvertently attributed it to a J Crombie. We can only blame the passing years for our error!

On behalf of ourselves we would like to wish our readers, advertisers and contributors a very Merry Christmas and a great 2014.

NEWS FROM THE TRUST

Christmas is almost upon us and we need your help and support in a variety of ways. **Santa and his Reindeer Parade** and the **Christmas Fair** is on Friday 13th December this year (see the advert for details), yes, that's right, Friday 13th! Well it can't be worse than last year, can it? As ever, we need items for the tombola and for raffle prizes. We also need help on the night with marshalling the crowds, rattling collecting buckets, helping out on our stalls in the Church and for the teas and coffees. If you can give some of your time then please get in touch with any committee member. Even if it is only for a short time, it would still be very much appreciated.

The latest phase of the **Spa Well** and **War Memorial** area has been completed and underwent a final inspection from the County Council, who did this on behalf of the major funder. All went well with this and now our team, Dorothy Slater and Mau Watkins, are looking at the possibilities of having a final phase, that will make further enhancements of the area. Only this time they will be looking for a funder that does not require you to spend money before you can claim it back off of them! Over this year we have brought in some really good musical performers of differing types, but these have not been well supported. However, we are rounding up this year with another offering from **The Berwick Concert Band** on Saturday 21st December. They have given the performance the title of **'Winter Tuba-land'**, which is a play on words on one of the pieces they are performing. Catherine Fish will lead the audience in Tony Kime's special arrangement of Christmas Carols, with a rehearsal in the first half and a performance in the second. Included

in the programme will be selections from Irvin Berlin, Oliver, Disney, as well as 'Tuba Tiger Rag'. This should be a really good night and I hope you will come and enjoy it with us.

We will keep on going with the musical evenings and plays in the hope that audience numbers will pick up. To this end we have already invited two acts to play for us in the Spring. We have also been awarded another Highlights Touring Craft Exhibition in June, following the success of the one we hosted this year. The 2014 exhibition is based on textiles and they also put us in for 2015 as well! So plenty to look forward to.

Don't forget to buy your **Spittal Views Calendar** at the shop, thanks to Raine Bryant for the work on these, and remember to put your pictures into the **Photo Competition**.

And finally, it remains only to wish you and yours all the very best for Christmas and the New Year from all of us at the Trust.

Mike Greener - Secretary SIT

2014 Calendar

In aid of the Spittal Improvement Trust

Spittal Views

£4

- choice of 4 cover designs
- 1 month per page
- superb quality paper
- wire hanger
- handy blank strip for notes
- week starts on Monday

