

# THE POINT

A Newsletter produced by  
Issue 87

Spittal Improvement Trust  
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## EDITORIAL

Deadline for the next issue, which covers October/November, is Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> Sept.

## NEWS FROM THE TRUST

As I am writing this piece the **Seaside Festival** is now less than two weeks away, where has all the time gone! As mentioned in the last issue of The Point, it has been difficult putting this year's Seaside Festival together, due mainly to our inability in securing the extent of funding that we have enjoyed in the past. Once again, we are indebted however to Berwick Town Council, Berwick Civic Society and, through the auspices of the Community Foundation Northumberland, The Northern Angel Fund for Berwick. Without these funders we could not have put on this year's Festival.

So, the Spittal Seaside Festival will be taking place again and this year it will be over the weekend of 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> August. It will have many of the old favourites, such as Punch & Judy, Slater's Showtime Funfair, the children's entertainer Chris Wish, car boot on both days, plenty of bouncy castles and food outlets. This year we are trying to bring a different element into the Seaside Festival by having a separate area dedicated to 'Arts & Crafts'. In this area we will hopefully have people who are not only selling their own work but especially for anyone who is willing to let visitors to the Festival have a go at their art for themselves. If this interests you, then please get in touch. All we need now is some good weather for the weekend, and there is nothing we can do about that! For further enquiries about participating in the Festival, please contact us by emailing us at: [info@spitalisgreat.co.uk](mailto:info@spitalisgreat.co.uk).

As a way to help with funding the Festival, we are looking for reputable groups/charities to help run our bar in the marquee on both days of the Festival. We would be able to give a small donation for helping with this and you can fundraise for your cause during your stint on the bar. The plus point is that you get free entry to the marquee to listen to the bands!! If this interests you, then please use the above email address to get in touch.

*Mike Greener*

## GARDENING GROUP NEWS

Discussions are already underway about next year's 'Afternoon Tea in the Park'. This year was a huge success, especially as the weather was so kind to us. Everyone enjoyed the afternoon and we raised over £2000. We could not have done this without the help from you all and a huge thank you goes to everyone who came along, everyone who made donations and to everyone who helped on the day. A special thank you to the Guides who came along to clear tables. We couldn't have coped without their help with their leader Pauline.

The Northumbria in Bloom judging took place on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July. The judges enjoyed their trip around Spittal so hopefully we will retain our GOLD award. We will find out in September at the award ceremony in the Lancaster suite in Gateshead.

For the Spittal floral competition this year, we invited Kate Dixon, Northumberland County Council's Berwick Parks Officer, as our official judge. The judging was recently carried out on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July and the results are as follows. There is first, second and third for commercial properties and first, second and third for residential properties.

### Commercial Properties:

1<sup>st</sup> - The Albion

2<sup>nd</sup> - Linda Scott -Caroline House

3<sup>rd</sup> - Martins the Printers

### Residential properties:

1<sup>st</sup> – Maureen & Gordon Paterson-West Street

2<sup>nd</sup> - Raine Bryant - Main Street

3<sup>rd</sup> – Vera & Ronnie Hogarth - St. Helens  
Terrace

Each of the above receives a certificate and a garden token - £50 for first prize, £25 for second and £10 for third. Well done to the winners and well done to everyone who had lovely baskets and troughs on their doorsteps. Your efforts make the village look lovely.

Although the seats in Seafield Park have been renovated twice on our behalf, firstly by our friend Len Shepherd and this year by the great boys from Torness power Station, they (the

seats) still remain the property of Berwick Town Council. At a recent monthly meeting, Spittal Improvement Trust decided to dedicate a seat each to the memory of Edith Schlesinger, Len Shepherd and Maureen Raper for all of their support over many years. Otherwise, if you want to dedicate a seat to a loved one you must contact Berwick Town Council. The cost is £300 which will include the plaque of your choice. We have suggested the plaques should all be the same size and are in stainless steel which seems to be more sustainable in the sea air than brass.

The Gardening Group will be out in full force on Mondays and Wednesday evenings keeping the village looking at its best. We enjoy a chat with passers by and any suggestions for planting etc are very welcome.

Happy Gardening

*Mau Watkins*

{For any queries contact Mau (07748 076527), Sheila (01289 331994) or any of the Group.}

## NEW BUSINESSES

Not so much new businesses but we have two businesses that have just relocated to Spittal, it must be something to do with the sunshine and beach! Here is a little bit about them in their own words.



The first of these is Dry Solutions.

Dry Solutions carpet and upholstery cleaning is focused on providing high quality service and customer satisfaction and they say that they will do everything they can to meet your expectations. They are a professional and fully insured family run residential and commercial carpet and upholstery cleaners.

Their state-of-the-art machine has minimal noise levels and emissions and its natural, organic micro sponges have just the right amount of natural detergent to dissolve and absorb oil or water-based dirt, leaving your carpet dry, deep-cleaned and smelling fresh. Their woosafe approved machine will prolong the life of any carpet and their high-quality products can clean a wide range of carpets from sisal to wool. They also do lino, waxing, car seats and carpets.

They do a loyal scheme and their contact details are 01289 302662, 07783 49586/07821 357788, email [drysolutions@hotmail.com](mailto:drysolutions@hotmail.com), web site [www.dry-solutions.co.uk](http://www.dry-solutions.co.uk).



The second business is Northern Soul Kitchen who already have a successful café in Berwick.

Northern Soul Kitchen is a Berwick based food waste initiative that kicked started back in 2016 with two friends Millie Stanford and Harriet Grecian coming together to battle the environmental issue of food waste said to be even worse for the planet than plastic.

The idea of the cafe on West St in Berwick is that everyone can afford to eat there (it is Pay As You Feel meaning pay whatever you can afford and you donate anonymously using envelope) and the menu is created using donated, unsold food that would have otherwise been wasted by supermarkets and local shops.

Their small space just wasn't cutting it for all their big plans, so they have taken unit 5 at the Meantime Workshops in Spittal to start creating more upcycled goodies with the food that they stop heading to a landfill. They hope to use this space to make things like jams, pickles, preserves etc.

They also do outside catering for events so may also use this workshop space for this in the future too! Watch this space! We are joining our pals Bear Claw Brewery, Condottieri Glass and Karmic Cakery - we are super excited to take on this next part of our journey - whoop!

*Ed: We wish both of these businesses well and hope that they will be with us for the foreseeable future.*



## A VIEW FROM THE PROM

The summer holidays are in full swing, we know that because the rain is warmer! Judging by the swings in the temperature and conditions of late, the weather seems to be having a problem deciding on what season we are in. All it needs to do is look around and take a hint from what it is going on around us. There are lots of people here on the beach and Prom wearing a variety of clothing from tropical to sub-arctic, they are leaving lots of rubbish in the bins for the seagulls to pull out and the traffic wardens are having a field day booking cars for parking offences. It must be summer!

*Beachcomber*

Heritage Open Days is England's biggest festival of history and culture. Every year over four days in September, thousands of events across the country invite you in to explore local treasures of every age, style and function.

As part of this the **Fishing Shiel** will be open on 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> September from 10am to 3pm. There will be an opportunity to take look around the Shiel as it is and to view our plans for the project we are hoping to do .

## SCREMERSTON FIRST SCHOOL



### ...About Beach Pollution

*Ed: One of the classes at the school recently came to Spittal the week before the schools broke up to display the results of a project that they had undertaken. They thought that you might like to know about their efforts.*

In Oak Class at Scremerton First School we have been learning about beach pollution and how it affects animals by entangling them, choking them or smothering them. We visited Spittal Beach and unfortunately, we found bottles, party poppers, tinfoil, crisp packets and alcohol bottles! We also found that lots of sea creatures were living in amongst this such as crabs, starfish, sea anemones, prawns and sea snails.

Would you like to live in a junk yard?

We all need to work together to reduce the pollution on beaches in the UK. You can help by...

**Reduce-** We can reduce plastic pollution by picking it up and using less.

**Reuse-** You can reuse rubbish by making cool things.

**Recycle-** You can recycle your rubbish and help stop killing animals.

**Redesign-** You can use metal water bottles, paper or metal straws or reusable bags.

Our work on beach pollution was displayed in St Paul's Church on Thursday 18th July. We showed the people at their weekly coffee morning and then members of the public came in and we rounded off the event by having a picnic with our parents in the Church.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Every Thursday at 10am** - St Paul's Church weekly coffee morning and all are welcome.

**3<sup>rd</sup> August** - Berwick Swan & Wildlife Trust will be having an Open Day from 10:30am to 2pm at their wildlife rescue facility, the David Rollo Centre, which is located on the Ramparts Business Park. Come and enjoy their stalls and refreshments, plus of course you will be able to see the wildlife that they are currently helping back to full health. You are also welcome to stay for their AGM, which starts at 2:30pm.

**10<sup>th</sup> August** - St John's Church will be holding a Family Fun event from 10:30am to 3:00 pm as part of the Seaside Festival.

**13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> August** – St John's Church will be holding their 'Seaside Rock' Holiday Club at Northern View Club Highcliffe from 2pm to 4pm. This will include summer activities and games, sports day events, crafts, bible story & food for children, youth & families. For more information call 07479 283706.

**2<sup>nd</sup> September** – We welcome back to Spittal the Berwick Art Group who meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month (*from September to June*), in St Paul's Church Hall, Middle Street. It is a 2hour session of painting, drawing, learning, mutual encouragement and chat.

Most meetings start at 2pm, but doors open at 1.30pm and, in January & February, we start at 1.30pm because of early sunset times. And very occasionally we have extended sessions (to allow more time for some techniques). Full details about membership and events can be viewed at [www.berwickartgroup.co.uk](http://www.berwickartgroup.co.uk).

### And, as it's summer....

All of us could take a lesson from the weather. It pays no attention to criticism.

### And finally....

If Jimmy cracks corn and no one cares, why is there a song about him?

#### SIT Contacts:

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# SPITTAL SEASIDE, MUSIC, ARTS & CRAFTS FESTIVAL

AUGUST 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>  
2019



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