

Stowed Out 2015 is almost here with an increase in the arts side of the festival while continuing the tradition of presenting a fabulously eclectic mix of musicians. For the music line-up see the poster on the right and as this side of the festival was covered in the last newsletter, we thought we'd expand on the exciting innovation for 2015 - the Roar Spoken Word Stage.

Curated by Borders-based Bridget Khursheed, 2014 recipient of a Scottish Book Trust New Writer Award for poetry, this event will feature local performance artists Sara Clark, Dorothy Alexander, Anita John, Jules Horne, Thomas Clark and special guests. Bridget said "Spoken word has been making media headlines



but it is an art that has always been alive and well here in the Borders. Local talent and some headline names from around the UK will be strutting their stuff on the Roxxap Roar stage in high energy,

performance shots on subjects as diverse as punk love, consumer habits and knitting with dog hair. Sara Clark will be on hand to show festival-goers how to write your own spoken word. And a cash slam prize is also available for the best set on the day."

And don't miss the free Art Exhibition in the Cloudhouse Cafe from 26 August to 25 September showcasing up and coming Borders Artists. Wonderful Cloudhouse food will be available at their food stand on the festival site and of course there's kids' entertainment, crafts and beer stalls, all within a great festival atmosphere.

Remember local residents can purchase Saturday Festival tickets free or at a reduced rate, only in advance, from Stow Post Office. You can find out more about the Festival on the new 'Stowed Out Festival' facebook page, but let's leave the last word to the Border Telegraph "Now in its fourth year the Stowed Out Festival has a deserved reputation for bringing to Stow exciting acts that you won't see at other events in the Borders." See you there!

FRIDAY 28th Aug 7pm
DICK GAUGHAN & OLD BLIND DOGS
 Scottish Borders Pipe Band

TICKETS
 FRIDAY £12 / £6
 SATURDAY £10 / £5 u12 Free
 ON-LINE OR ON THE DOOR

SATURDAY 29th Aug 2pm
MODEL AEROPLANES
 SNIDE RHYTHMS
 THE STARK PALACE
 RHYTHM BEATS WORKIN
 SMALL TOWN SPLITTERS
 LORNA BROOKS & ALLAN BERTRAM
 STRAY DAYS
 Emma MacNeill Band
 Maggie Wilson & Rebecca Rodgers

ROAR SPOKEN WORD STAGE
 BEER TENT/CAFE/CRAFT STALLS
 KIDS ENTERTAINMENT

STOW QUOITING GREEN
www.soundout.org.uk

THIS EVENT WAS FUNDED BY FOUNDATION SCOTLAND FROM THE EDF-LOXAPARTNER TRUST

EDF Foundation Scotland ROXXAP ecofitter SSE STOW & FOUNTAINHALL COMMUNITY COUNCIL

STOW RAILWAY OPENING CELEBRATIONS

3 - 6 PM THE QUOITING GREEN STOW

SATURDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

INVITATION



We are delighted to announce that Stow will be celebrating in style on 5 September to celebrate the launch of the new Borders Railway.

News of a successful bid for funding came through just as the newsletter went to press. This followed public meetings and discussions, leading to volunteer organiser Jemma Reid working with the Community Council to apply for a SBC grant. The event will be for all to attend with free entry and will be packed with family fun and more: food and drink; market stalls showcasing the best of the local produce; arts and crafts ...

It'll all happen 100 metres from Stow Station on the Quoiting Green in Stow on Saturday 5 September 3pm – 6pm.

This is a community event so please get in touch to be involved and help would be very much welcomed. If you are interested in taking part, have any ideas or contacts, would like to have a market stand or can help volunteer on the day then Jemma would be thrilled to hear from you. Please contact Jemma Reid, JR Events, jemma@jemmareid.co.uk 07980 283407.

Please check out the facebook page - search for 'Stow Railway Celebrations' - and like, share and let us know if you can make it. Please keep your eyes open for more information. The plans for the day, posters and flyers will be circulating soon.



photo: Alan Wilson via Wikimedia Commons

FROM THE PAST INTO THE PRESENT

No 60009 Union of South Africa steam locomotive (left) will be hauling classic carriages through the Gala Water valley for the first six weeks of the new schedule on three days of the week. It is likely to be steam going south from Waverley and diesel on the return from Tweedbank. This should be a magnificent sight so here is the schedule if you want to look out for them.

JOURNEY	Wed / Thurs	Sun
Dep Waverley	10.52	10.44
Arr Galashiels	12.03	12.03
Arr Tweebank	12.14	12.15
Dep Tweedbank	14.38	14.56
Arr Galashiels	14.45	15.05
Arr Waverley	16.02	16.47

DAYS	September	October
Wednesday	*16; 23; 30	7; 14
Thursday	10; 17; 24	1; 8; 15
Sunday	13; 20; 27	4; 11; 18

Bookings are through *Steam Dreams* on 01483 209888 with more information on www.steamdreams.co.uk and Scotrail www.scotrail.co.uk *private hire

SPA POPPY PROJECT

Inspired by the 2014 art installation 'Blood Swept Lands and Seas of Red' at the Tower of London, the Archive Group initiated Stow and Fountainhall's own commemorative Poppy Project.

During July and August local people have been making ceramic poppies under the guidance of local ceramicist Marianne Finlayson. An individual poppy has been created for each locally linked person who died in WWI with names gathered from the War Memorial, the Churchyard and specific memories of those who are buried elsewhere. And to remember the many who went to war and came home again there are ceramic forget-me-nots.

Marianne says "In all 20 people from Stow came to the pottery to make the poppies. And also a few people from the regular classes made a poppy because they like the idea of the project! Some only came once to make a poppy and a forget-me-not, others came back to paint them, and again to write a name, and enjoyed the whole process - and a few came to make more! We have now 59 poppies made, and quite a few forget-me-nots."



careful work at Mariannes's Pottery

A structure to display the poppies and forget-me-nots by the War Memorial is being designed and made locally. Dedication of the whole site-specific artwork will form part of the service at the War Memorial in Stow on Remembrance Sunday 8 November 2015.

NOTES ON THE WIND

Stow Pipe Band were awarded £9,046 for tuition and refurbishment of bagpipes and drums for the Stow Pipes and Drums School

Other grants are mentioned elsewhere in the newsletter
Final Application Date for 2015: 12th October
(panel meets: 1st December)

Borders train and artwork image by kind permission of Scotrail

FIRST AND LAST TRAINS TO AND FROM STOW

	M-F	Sat	Sun
First train North			
Dep Stow to Waverley	05.33	05.43	08.58
Last train South			
Dep Waverley to Stow	23.54	23.55	23.11
First train South			
Dep Stow to Tweedbank	07.08	07.09	09.55
Last train North			
Dep Tweedbank to Stow	23.28	23.31	22.45



The refurbishment on the hall started back in April. This was very exciting for the village that after such a long time and much effort, physical progress was going ahead.

The hall was totally stripped out and had to be underpinned and a steel frame has been put in to strengthen it. Two extensions have been erected at each end of the hall: one for an entrance hall and gents toilet; the other for a storage area. Insulation has been put in so we should be a bit warmer.

The inside is taking shape; windows and new cladding should

FOUNTAINHALL VILLAGE HALL *more than halfway*

arrive soon, making the outside look more complete.

The sub team have applications in for kitchen equipment, tables and chairs.

All going well it should be open by the end of October beginning of November. Our facebook page

facebook.com/pages/Fountainhall-Village-Hall is updated regularly so have a look to see the progress.

There is going to be an official opening bash. We don't know at the moment exactly when it will be. Once we have more details we will be shouting about it from the rooftops.

Thank you to everyone who completed our surveys during May and June and voted for their most wanted piece of new equipment for Stow Park. The results are: children - 1st Big Wooden Climbing Frame; 2nd Basket Swing; 3rd Rota Glider (hanging roundabout); adults - 1st Big Wooden Climbing Frame; 2nd Basket Swing; 3rd Rota Glider. So clearly adults are still kids at heart! Adult votes for outdoor gym equipment are: 1st Treadmill; 2nd Spinning Bike; 3rd Shoulder Press. We will use these results to prioritise the new equipment.



STOW COMMUNITY PARK

Longpark and SSE Toddleburn Community Funds have each awarded us a £25,000 grant.

We are now a significant step forward in turning into reality the dream of having multigenerational facilities in Stow Park however we still need to secure funding for at least the same again so we have decent facilities for everyone. We are currently working with SBC preparing the legal documents we require and waiting to hear if OSCR will accept our application for charity status.

We will have a stall at Stowed Out on Sat 29th Aug where we will display designs from the park equipment suppliers we have been working with. Please come along and let us know your opinions.

Please like /comment/ follow us on Facebook as this will help for future funding. If you would like to help the development team or have any questions email us:

stowcommunitypark@gmail.com or leave a note at the shop.



voting for play equipment

By the smallest of margins we won the ASDA green token penny drop for June and we will receive £200 from their community fund. A big thanks to everyone who put their green token in our slot. We are delighted to say EDF

FOUNTAINHALL PRIMARY SCHOOL

We are delighted to announce that following a recent visit from the Care Inspectorate, Fountainhall Early Learning and Childcare Centre (Nursery!) has expanded to two rooms and can now take up to 20 children. This has been essential due to our ever growing numbers!

Our children are enjoying the new addition to our playground – The Mud Pie Kitchen! It is proving very popular with all ages. If you have any old pans or utensils, donations would be gratefully received. Our youngest children are loving our newly donated knitted cakes and crocheted blankets, and we are seeing a constant stream of afternoon teas and picnics being acted out, alongside the annual fun of our lambing shed.

Our P1- 6 children organised a very successful Easter Fiesta to raise money for some new playground equipment. They were so pleased with their takings that they decided to donate some to charity. We are very proud of this decision!

Gala Water Singers

Community Choir Restarts
Tuesday 1 September 2015
Fountainhall School 7-9 pm

ALL WELCOME

for information
call John
01578 730289
or just turn up

try free for
2 weeks
to see if this
is for you

spotlight on

Bill Jamieson



Twenty-one years traditionally marks reaching adulthood from infancy.

Twenty-one years is how long Bill Jamieson has been active to bring the Borders back to rail connectivity with the rest of the world. In 1994 Bill offered his engineering skills to Borders Transport Futures, an independent group researching the viability of bringing back the Waverley Line and in 1998 he became a founder member of Campaign for Borders Rail. There have been many actions taken, surveys carried out, thousands of words written and roles held since those early years and the imminent re-opening of the railway, but no matter how many highs and lows, Bill's life has had the return of rail to the Borders running through it for two decades. But to backtrack a little...

Bill's love for railways was born in his native Borders. At the age of seven he was invited by friends of his sister's to join them at his local Duns Station just to watch what was going on. Fascinated by the activity, variety and complexity, an interest was sparked which has taken him to many countries to explore their railways and a commitment to effective public transport. After qualifying as a civil engineer, Bill worked in Yorkshire for 17 years but in 1988 he was ready for a change when the then Borders Regional Council advertised for a bridges engineer. Bill got the job and came to Stow asking for directions to a house for sale. While he and his wife Ingrid decided against the advertised house, the chap who had given directions chased after them, told them his house was for sale and they promptly did a deal! This would turn out to also be a very good move for the village.

Bill was a member of the Community Council for eight years from 1995; active in the Waste Reduction Strategy initiative for four years from 1998; is currently a Director of Stow Community Trust and was a founder and activist with Stow Station Supporters group when the Scott Wilson Report into the re-opening of the railway inexplicably recommended its reinstatement, but without a station at Stow. Cue much action by many in the village and December 2002 saw the case (PE570) for a station at Stow presented to the Scottish Parliament's

Petitions Committee by Bill, supported by Alan Buchan and Jean Stock. But not until May 2006 came the moment Bill identifies as the highlight of all the years of work for the railway's return. Tricia Marwick, Chair of the Committee reviewing the Waverley Railway (Scotland) Bill, stated "We will amend the bill to ensure that all the Border stations, including Stow, must be constructed. Put simply, if they aren't there will be no railway."

Traditionally a twenty-first birthday is marked with a present. As ever, Bill gets on with what he believes to be important and his gift to mark the occasion is to arrange for the Steam Worked Special on 16 September to be reserved for CBR members and their guests. But Bill's not quite ready to say goodbye. After 21 years he thinks it's about time he hung up his campaigning hat - for the past two years he would describe himself as a semi-detached member of the CBR committee - but there is still unfinished business in the shape of Stow's old station building. It's no surprise then, that he'll still be active via Stow Community Trust to help shape its long-term future, right next door to our station in Stow.



STOW PARISH ARCHIVE

Stow Parish Archive is going from strength to strength. After working with the school on their wonderful railway exhibition we have received a lot more material that has been kindly donated by people in the community. Over the summer we received the news that we had secured funding of £24,426 from the wind farm for two more years which allows us to continue to employ a part-time archivist until September 2017. Building on that foundation we are currently working to develop the archive further both in the collection of material and future work in the community.

We are aiming to support individuals and groups within the community that undertake any heritage activities. In addition we hope to offer training on the organisation and management of their own family photographs and information. The archive is a resource for everyone to use and welcomes any comments or input, so please do get in touch - email: stowparisharchive@gmail.com

EDITORIAL AND CALL FOR HELPERS

Wendy Ball is taking a break from editing the newsletter for this and the next edition due to pressures of work. Heather Johnston is Acting Editor in the interim. To share the workload for the future, we're interested in putting together a small team who would source, edit and DTP the newsletter so that it does not all fall to one person. The team of deliverers who get the newsletter to most homes in the Parish works well, but help to collect the printed newsletter and sort it into packs for distribution would be welcome. If you would like to explore the possibilities of joining a newsletter team for any (or more!) of the jobs outlined, please get in touch with Heather on heather@southcottage.co.uk or 01578 730507. Jobs could rotate, be done on an alternating basis, or...? All's open to discussion so please get in touch.

NEXT COPY DATE : Sunday 1 November 2015

for distribution from 14 November

SEND TO : Acting Editor Heather Johnston

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