

Scottish Borders Event Forum



Our Scottish Borders
Your inspiration

Welcome to a brand new initiative for all Event Forum members - your bi-monthly e-news - keeping you in touch with news and views from forum members across the area.

There are literally hundreds of you, providing your precious time to stage a wide variety of events that bring communities together, attract visitors and celebrating all that the stunning Borders has to offer. This is your chance to share experiences and ideas.



This newsletter is currently put together by the Event Team at Scottish Borders Council so we will also take the opportunity to include details of new legislation and opportunities as they arise. Each addition will also profile a recent event in our event focus.

In this edition you will find details of the next Event Forum meeting plus a FREE IT Training opportunity and news of a joint marketing project. Our Event Focus looks at the Four Abbeys Cycle Challenge held in September.

The next edition will be produced early in January. Please send articles for inclusion to kpearson@scotborders.gov.uk. We look forward to hearing from you.

This newsletter is also available to download online on the www.scotborders.gov.uk/eventforum



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Event Forum / Thursday 8th November 2007

5.30pm at Netherdale Rugby Club,
Galashiels. The discussions for the
evening will include:

'Future' of the forum - Forum Chair
Catherine Maxwell Stewart

Event Focus - Tony Lockey, 4 Abbeys
Cycle Challenge

As ever, there will be a chance for
individual event organisers to chat
with each other and with the SBC
Event Team.

Tea and Coffee will be served from
5.30pm with refreshments also
available.

It has been a while since we have all
met, and we thought you would like
to hear of new developments and
opportunities with the forum and to
tell us how you think we can help!
Everyone is welcome and we look
forward to hearing from you.

Please RSVP: Kate Pearson on
kpearson@scotborders.gov.uk or
01835 825066



FREE IT Training

An opportunity to brush up on
your IT skills with a professional IT
teacher, all event forum members
are welcome and the sessions are
tailored for event organisers both
new and experienced!

Kelso High School, IT room

Thursday 29th November
6.00-8.30pm
leaflet and poster design
MS publisher
Using images.

Selkirk High School

Thursday 13 December,
6.00-8.30pm
Mail merge
Database
Labels
Data Protection

The courses are two and a half
hours long and free of charge to
Event Forum members.

Places are limited so please
register with Kate Pearson (Event
Fieldworker) on 01835 825066 or
email kpearson@scotborders.gov.uk

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Event Focus

Four Abbeys Bike Challenge /
Saturday 15 September 2007

Now in its fourth year, the Four Abbeys Bike Challenge leapt on to a new level this year. Organised in association with Children 1st and supported by Event Fieldworker Alison MacPhee, this event enjoyed communities coming together to support a good cause, utilized the natural assets of the stunning Borders countryside and encouraged all ages and abilities to involve in physical outdoor activity.

International hockey player and local Ancrum resident, Janet Jack got the event started with a warm up session assisted by a life size Tigger at the Hundred Aker Wood Garden Centre in Melrose.

An 11 mile family meander taking in Scott's View proved to be very satisfying for all involved and particularly several young children, many of whom had never achieved such a feat before.

There was also the 55 mile bike ride around the Four Abbey towns for the more experienced cyclists. Young and old, experienced and inexperienced, enjoyed a wonderful and exhilarating day in the early Autumn sunshine.

Back at the Hundred Aker Wood, Tigger invited competitors of all ages to participate in activities such as face painting, bouncy castle, hook a duck, chocolate fountains and traditional hog roast.

The event grew this year from a small group of friends enjoying a day out to over 140 participants this year. Full marks to Tony Lockety of Denholm for dedication and belief in the success of the event.



Remember Eventful

Don't forget, many of your questions may be answered in eventful - event organisers' guide for the Scottish Borders

A wide variety of expertise and advice has been pulled together in producing this guide. It covers Health & Safety, practicalities of working with public & crowds, legalities & licensing, marketing, ticketing, funding, press & PR and much more.

To receive your copy of the guide, contact the SBC Events Strategy Officer on 01835 825066 or email your details to ped@scotborders.gov.uk. Alternatively, you can download the full pack from www.scotborders.gov.uk/eventful



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What's On

Christmas at Traquair

24 - 25 November

Free entrance to house and grounds with festive activities, fun and food for all the family.

www.traquair.co.uk or call 01896 830323

Paxton House Christmas Cracker 24 - 25 November

A two day celebration featuring craft stalls mulled wine, mince pies and a festive raffle in the picture gallery, children's activities in the Hayloft Gallery and a Santa's Grotto too!

Contact: 01289 386291
www.paxtonhouse.co.uk

Scottish Borders Hill Rally

24 - 25 November. Kershope Forest, Newcastleton.

The Scottish Borders Hill Rally is a premier cross country 4x4 hill rally in the UK. Bringing you over 100 miles of fast and skillful driving. Although not for the faint hearted this event proves to be an unforgettable experience for both competitors and spectators. Further information: www.scottishhillrally.co.uk

Scotts Selkirk

30 November - 2 December

Experience real magic as the town takes on an early 19th century atmosphere, recalling the days of Sir Walter Scott. See www.scottsselkirk.co.uk

Floors Castle Winter Wonderland

8 - 9 December.

Come and join Father Christmas and buy the finest local crafts and gifts from our various stall holders.

Contact: 01573 224530 or www.floorscastle.com

The Land The Light The Locals

29 December - 2 January

Tenth annual celebration of home-grown musicians and storytellers in an informal and friendly atmosphere. Various venues.

Further information:

www.thelandthelightthelocals.com

Further event listings can be found at

www.scotborders.gov.uk

www.visitscottishborders.com

www.borderevents.com

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Joint Marketing Initiative

Announcing an exciting new opportunity for events that have similar themes to join together to market their events.

Supported by Event Fieldworker, Kate Pearson, and funded by EU Objective 2, Historical events such as Scotts Selkirk, Hawick Reivers Festival and St James' Fair are already in discussions about marketing their events through a joint initiative to give them more clout and a wider opportunity.

Could you do the same?

If you are interested in linking up your events please contact: Kate Pearson (Event Fieldworker) on 01835 825066 or email kpearson@scotborders.gov.uk

You can get this document on tape, in large print, and various other formats by contacting us at the address below. In addition, contact the address below for information on language translations, additional copies, or to arrange for an officer to meet with you to explain any areas of the publication that you would like clarified.

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