

The Bulletin

Welcome!



Welcome to the first edition of our new community newsletter, The Bulletin. We're producing this newsletter

in partnership with other groups in the town because Berwick works best when we work together. There is a huge amount happening across our whole community - Berwick, Tweedmouth and Spittal - and too often that information is scattered across different places. The Bulletin is a simple way to bring it together and make sure residents have clear, reliable information delivered to their door.

Our aim is straightforward: to help promote the town, support local organisations and

volunteers, and keep everyone informed about what's happening now, what's coming up, and the projects being developed for the benefit of the community. We want this to be useful whether you've lived here all your life or you're new to the area and to help make Berwick, Tweedmouth and Spittal an even better place to live, work and visit.

We plan to publish The Bulletin every two months. This is a new approach and we hope it will work well, but we'll keep it under review and improve it as we go, based on feedback from residents and our partner organisations.

*Councillor John Robertson,
Mayor of Berwick-upon-Tweed*

If you'd like to contribute an article or advertise in a future edition, please contact info@berwick-tc.gov.uk.



Coldstream Guards in Berwick for their 375th anniversary on 10 June 2025. ©Jim Gibson

Moving Forward into the New Year

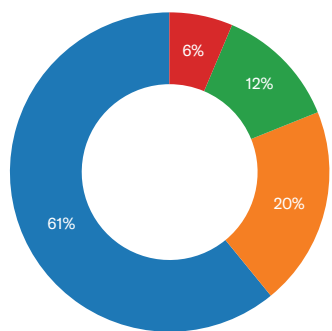
Council tax – what it’s made up of, and the Town Council element.

Berwick-upon-Tweed Town Council has agreed its 2026/27 budget, focused on looking after the town day-to-day, improving shared spaces, and keeping Berwick welcoming for residents, businesses, and visitors.

While we do not manage all parks and open spaces, we will improve those we are responsible for and work with partners to raise standards across the town. Next year’s priorities include targeted cleaning, enhanced floral displays, well-maintained bins, benches, and bus shelters, plus other practical improvements that make everyday life better.

Councillors have set aside £70,000 for projects and improvement works, including support for the Salmon Queen’s 80th year, town centre and Butter Market

What we do for the community (2026/27)



Services

- Public Spaces & Environment
- Civic Life & Events
- Play & Families
- Grants & Community Projects

upgrades, play area repairs, the Berwick Youth Project (including the pump track), and a rolling playground equipment programme. Existing projects will continue, working closely with community groups and volunteers to create a cleaner, greener, more welcoming town.

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Schedule III income, provided annually via the Freeman of Berwick Trustees, is used for one-off community benefits such as grants, projects, and improvement works rather than day-to-day costs.

Council tax is the main way local services are funded. Your bill, issued by Northumberland County Council, includes separate “precepts” for services including policing, fire and rescue, and the Town Council. Discounts and reductions, such as Council Tax Reduction or single-person discount, may apply.

The Town Council element for 2026/27 is £139.95 for Band D properties (around £2.69 per week), with lower amounts for most homes in Bands A and B. This is only the Town Council portion; the total bill will be confirmed by NCC.

If you are struggling to pay council tax, contact Northumberland County Council on 0345 600 6400 or counciltax@northumberland.gov.uk. Free, confidential debt advice is also available through Citizens Advice Northumberland.

Berwick Market Revitalisation

Berwick-upon-Tweed Town Council has taken over the management of the historic Berwick Charter Market from Northumberland County Council. The Town Council wishes to invest some time into revitalising the market and making it an attractive destination for residents and visitors alike.

The aim is to attract local traders with quality products that will complement the

already fantastic independent retailers there are throughout the town and create a vibrant town centre shopping offering.

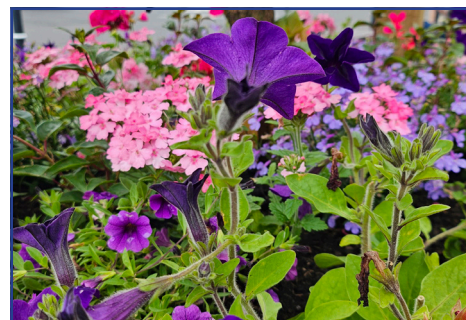
This will be combined with regular specialist markets and events launching at Easter and the already successful Quayside Artisan Huts to try to encourage footfall throughout Berwick town centre.

Mayor, Councillor John Robertson has said: “The Town Council is excited to try to reinvigorate the Berwick market. We are aware that this will not be an easy task, but it is a challenge we are happy to take on to hopefully bring about some positive change for Berwick residents and visitors.”

2026 Floral Display Sponsorship

Berwick-upon-Tweed Town Council is seeking sponsors for the 2026 Floral Displays, helping to expand and improve displays across the town. Businesses and individuals can sponsor a display or dedicate one as a memorial to a loved one. All sponsors will be acknowledged on a sponsor/memorial board as a minimum. Prices are set out opposite, and all planters and baskets will be watered and maintained by the Town Council.

For more information or to sponsor an area, call 01289 302391 or email info@berwick-tc.gov.uk.



Principal Sponsor

On all Plaques and Sponsor / Memorial Board and Town Council Window / Website
£5000

Plaque & Sponsor/Memorial Board

- Three Tier Planter £200
- Tree Planter £150
- Two Tier Planter £175
- Single Tier Planter £150
- Small/Low Planter/Barrel £100
- Wheelbarrow £75
- Welcome to Berwick Signs £100
- Railing Planter £75
- Hanging basket (sponsor / memorial board only) £40

LITANY FOR THE BORDER

LIGHT UP BERWICK

A beautiful and poignant collection of light and sound sculptures, shaped by the Tweed estuary over time.

Choreographed beams of light rise into the winter sky from three iconic sites: Berwick Barracks, Berwick Sports & Leisure Centre, and Berwick Infirmary.

Watch from a distance and listen online, or visit the sites to experience *Litany for the Border* in person. For full details, see maltingsberwick.co.uk or scan the QR code.

SATURDAY 7 – SUNDAY 22
FEBRUARY 2026



A work by **Gareth Hudson** and **Toby Thirling** with a new choral composition by Eleanor Cully Boehringer



The Living Barracks' Berwick Shines programme is produced by The Maltings (Berwick) Trust.



Project Update

Berwick Barracks

English Heritage and partners of the Living Barracks project have announced that building work will commence on the East Block of Berwick Barracks at the end of January.

Thanks to additional funding from The National Lottery Heritage Fund and the North East Combined Authority's RAMP programme, proposed plans for transforming the Barracks can now be delivered, including the bespoke atrium, which will link the East Block and its galleries and museums with the Gymnasium Gallery and provide a vibrant new community workspace along with the artists' studios.

While building work is under way, the Maltings cinema at the Barracks will remain open as usual, and The Storehouse - the on-site conservation hub - will continue to welcome visitors, offering a behind-the-scenes look at live conservation work supported by local volunteers.

Following the success of **Berwick Parade** and **Her Extraordinary Colours**, the next installation is Gareth Hudson and Tony Thirling's **Litany for the Border**, a sound and light spectacular taking place across Berwick from 7-22 February. Choreographed beams of light will rise into the winter sky from three iconic sites - Berwick Barracks, Berwick Sports & Leisure Centre and Berwick Infirmary - accompanied by a new choral composition by Eleanor Cully Boehringer. The result will be a bespoke, one-of-a-kind musical and visual experience.



Lowry in Berwick

Free Admission, 11-4pm, Wed-Sun
21 Feb - 22 March, The Storehouse

A rarely seen work by L.S. Lowry (1887-1976), *Spittal, Berwick* (1960), will go on display at The Storehouse to mark the 50th anniversary of the artist's death. Acquired earlier this year by the Maltings (Berwick) Trust, it joins two other Lowry works - *Old Berwick* (1936) and *Beach Scene* (1954) pictured here - on loan from North East Museums. To coincide with the exhibition, Northumberland sand artist Claire Eason will create an 80ft by 20ft sand artwork on Spittal Beach, depicting Lowry at his easel.

Maltings at Hide Hill

The Maltings (Berwick) Trust has opened a new Cultural Resource Hub at 14 Hide Hill, home to our Maltings Youth Theatre (see the Maltings website to book) and drop-in creative sessions. Keep an eye on our socials for updates. Hide Hill was made possible with funding from Create Berwick, part of the Culture and Creative Zone (CCZ) supported by North East Cultural Authority and Northumberland County Council to grow Berwick's cultural and creative industries.

SCAN HERE
FOR MORE INFO, SCREENING
DATES AND TIMES



BERWICK BARRACKS: THE NEW HOME OF FILM

500+ screenings a year.
Films shown every week.



New releases
Ultimate Comfort
Great value
Accessible for all

MALTINGS CINEMA
AT BERWICK BARRACKS

Parade, Berwick-upon-Tweed TD15 1DF

Open 45 minutes before the start of an event.
Access via Barracks main gate. Car parking on Parade.

(Ravensdowne entrance for accessible parking/drop-off only)



DISCOVER WHAT'S ON
RIGHT NOW AT
MALTINGSBERWICK.CO.UK

Northumberland
County Council



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

Registered Charity No. 701954

Berwick Community Trust

For information about England's most northerly town. @visitberwickpontweed www.visitberwick.com

Berwick Food Bank

A huge thank you to the residents of Berwick for your continued generosity. Thanks to your donations, we are always able to meet demand for our clients. Our dedicated volunteers work tirelessly to collect, sort and pack food, with vital support from supermarkets donating surplus stock.

Last year we supported 478 adults and 254 children, alongside providing additional Christmas parcels through referrals from Social Services, Bernicia and other partners. Many clients also receive help with benefit claims, budgeting and finding work.

Our Sharing Corner, launched last year, continues to grow in popularity. It helps prevent perfectly edible food from going to waste while saving money and reducing landfill. With a changing mix of items each day, the challenge is simple — what can you create from today's selection?

Berwick Community Trust is honoured!

We were delighted to be awarded the King's Award for Voluntary Service. This is the equivalent of an MBE for our charity. It was so exciting to have the efforts of our volunteers in the Food Bank, Beach Wheelchairs and our Trustees recognised in this way. Caroline Pryer, the Lord Lieutenant, presented the award to the Trust and also presented our Young Volunteer Award to Elliot Baxter who fundraises for the Food Bank.

Old Brewery Workshops

Work is progressing at pace at the Tweedmouth Old Brewery, with Mattwood Developments leading the refurbishment. Keeping it local, Crawfords Joinery have completed the bespoke new windows, each made to fit unique openings — no small task, and the results look fantastic. The delivery carbon footprint may be the smallest on record!

Inside, work continues to prepare for installation of the upper floor (there isn't one just yet!). Before long, changes will be visible from the outside as the refurbishment takes shape. Interest is already growing from the creative community, and a call for applications for the eight workshop and studio spaces will be launching soon. Early signs point to strong demand from a diverse and exciting mix of artists.

As we move towards a summer opening, funding is still being sought for the final phase. There is also a chance to have your name - or that of a friend or relative - permanently featured in a gallery artwork. Full details are available on the Berwick Community Trust website.



2026

What's On

Until 22 February

Light of Days Past exhibition,
Granary Gallery

7-22 February

Litany for the Border

Wednesday 19 February

Cabaret of Words

21 or 22 February

Lowry sand artwork, Spittal Beach

21 February – 22 March

Lowry in Berwick,
The Storehouse at the Barracks

Saturday 14 March

Sashing of Principals

20-22 March

Berwick Film & Media Arts Festival

24 April – 9 May

Lost Ornament exhibition

Wednesday 29 April

Berwick Bounds Midweek Ride

Thursday 30 April

Hobby Horse Night

Saturday 2 May

Riding of the Bounds

Sunday 3 May

Berwick Bounds Ball

23-24 May

We Come from the Sea procession

28 May

Annual Town Meeting of Electors

6 June – 11 October

Joan Eardley exhibition, Granary Gallery

Sunday 21 June

Spittal Open Gardens

Sunday 28 June

Friends of Castle Parks, Open Gardens

17-19 July

80th anniversary Salmon Queen Festival

Saturday 1 August

Minden Day

14-16 August

Berwick Food and Beer Festival

11-20 September

Heritage Open Days

5-11 October

Berwick Literary Festival

Sunday 8 November

Remembrance Sunday

Nov TBC

Blessing of the Lights

Thursday 10 December

BEA SingFest!

Sunday 13 December

Rotary Club Christmas Market

Date to be confirmed

Sci-Fi Scriptorium publication, Peace Hall

Stay in Touch

Web - berwick-tc.gov.uk,

Facebook - facebook.com/BerwickTC

Instagram - [@bariberwick](https://instagram.com/bariberwick)

email - info@berwick-tc.gov.uk