

#### HAWICK REIVERS FESTIVAL



FRIDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> - SUNDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2018 BORDERS KITH & KIN



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#### WELCOME

#### Welcome to the 2018 Hawick Reivers Festival

We hope you are all ready to enjoy and participate in this year's festival which is jam packed with fun events for all the family

We are delighted to welcome re-enactors from far and wide to the Reivers Encampment - particularly welcoming back our quests from Northern Ireland to swell the local ranks and there will also be the return of some "rough justice" dispensed at our Reivers Trials as part of the 16th Century Market

Full details of all events are contained in the following pages and we hope you will take the time to read through and give your support.

For over 300 years, whilst Scotland and England fought battle after battle, those living on both sides of the border made a living by "reiving" or raiding their neighbours' property. They had their own system of laws and justice, and introduced new words into the English language, such as "bereaved" and "blackmail".

Their first allegiance was to their own family and their surname. Kith and Kin meant everything to them. Their enemies were not the English or the Scots, but any surnames at feud with them, no matter which side of the border they occupied.

Do you have a Border Reiver surname? In 2018 Hawick Reivers Festival welcomes you to explore your family's past with us here in the heart of reiving country. See how they lived and fought. Find their homelands and their strongholds. Perhaps even meet some of your own kith and kin.

#### So lets go Reiving again!

We are indebted to Event Scotland Clan Fund, SBC Community Grant Scheme, Hawick Common Good Fund and all of our local sponsors. Without their help, the festival would not be possible.

Our Scottish Borders
Your heritage
Scottish Clan
Event Fund

**EventScotland** 







www.hawickreivers.com

Please note that this programme is published in advance and may be subject to change at short notice. The organisers cannot be held responsible for any alterations to the programme of events that are deemed necessary.



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## MEET THE GHOSTS OF LIDDESDALE & TEVIOTDALE



#### Ghost Walks Friday 23rd March - 7.30pm & 8.30pm Turnbull Statue, Civic Space

Come and meet the Ghosts of Hawick past and hear the grizzly and gory stories of our ancestors!

The Ghost walks have proved very popular in previous years and tickets are likely to sell out fast.

The tours will last approximately 50 mins and will involve a short walk. Please dress warmly and bring along a small torch!

Tickets: £4 each or £10 for family of 4 (2 adults and 2 primary age children)

Tickets available from borderevents.com, ILF Imaging and Dorwards, Hawick

#### **Ghost Talk with Billy Young**

Friday 23rd March - 8.30pm Auld Baths, Bath Street

Join Billy Young for an epic evening of illustrated ghost stories of the Border Reivers!

(Table seating and bar available)

Tickets: £5 each or why not make a 'ghostly evening' of it

with our combined ticket for the first Ghost Walk, followed by the Ghost Talk for only £8

Tickets available from borderevents.com, ILF Imaging and Dorwards, Hawick

#### KITH & KIN

Friday 23rd March & Saturday 24th March, 10am till 4pm Sunday 25th March, 12 noon till 3pm Exhibition Room, Border Textile Towerhouse

Celebrating the famous, and sometimes infamous, Reiving families.

Artefacts, documents and images tell the story of the family names that still exist today and their reiving ancestry.



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## HINTS ON RESEARCHING YOUR BORDER ANCESTORS

(Kindly supported by Event Scotland Clan Fund)

#### Saturday 24th March, 10.30am till 12 noon, Heritage Hub

Have you started researching your family history and got stuck? Is there a brick wall you cannot seem to get over?

Professional genealogists, Lorna Kinnaird and Wendy Tait Mayfield will be holding short consulting sessions at the Hub from 10.30 am to 12 noon. Each session will last 15 minutes and you are invited to bring your question to them.

Please book session at Heritage Hub in person, or by calling 01450 360699 You will be given a short questionnaire to complete in advance. Please note, we cannot look at whole family trees in advance.

#### 16TH CENTURY MARKET

(Kindly sponsored by Emtelle)

Saturday 24th March, 10.30am till 3pm, Hawick High Street, Town Hall Area

Local traders market stalls, family history stalls, reivers trials, live entertainment and reivers games

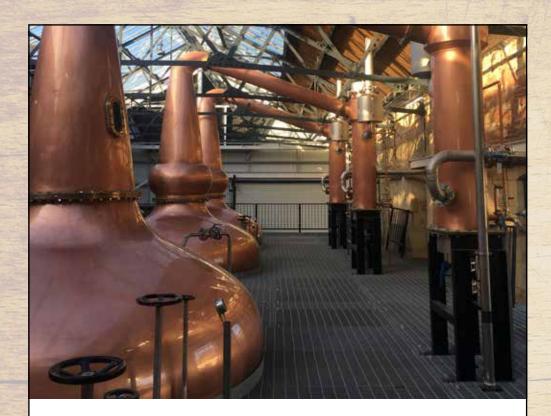
#### REIVERS ENCAMPMENT

(Kindly sponsored by Land of Reivers)

#### Saturday 24th March, 10.30am till 3pm, Wee Haugh

Full programme of re-enactments including displays of Musket Drills and hand to hand skirmishes with static displays of life in the 16th Century Border Lands.





# Borders By the Borders By the By th

**Opening Soon** 

The Borders Distillery, Commercial Road, Hawick, TD9 7AQ

#### REIVERS PROCESSION

Saturday 24th March, 10.45am till 11am, Hawick High Street

#### 16TH CENTURY CRAFT

**Saturday 24th March, 10.30am till 3pm, Borders Textile Towerhouse**A demonstration by Ruth Hicken of spinning and other 16th century crafts.

#### REIVERS LANDSCAPE CANVAS WORK

Saturday 24th March, 10.30am till 3pm, Borders Textile Towerhouse, Tickets: £35 each

Work on an open weave canvas using a variety of stitches in wool and stranded cotton to create a Borders landscape with a traditional Towerhouse. This workshop is suitable for both beginners and those with some previous experience of canvas work. All materials supplied. Book in advance. Call 01450 377615 or email TextileTowerhouse@Liveborders1.org.uk

#### RE-ENACTMENT GROUPS

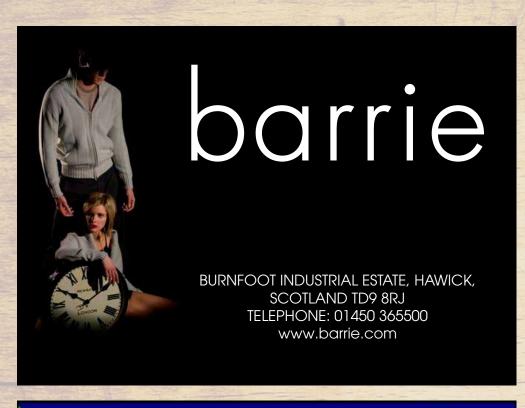
#### TEVIOTDALE STEEL BONNETS (PREVIOUSLY BORDER CLANSMEN)

This local based living history club is going from strength to strength, with last year being its best ever season. The club formed the "Buccleuch Foote" as a project, complete with own flag, and took the regiment to Holland, where they fought at the battle of Grolle. In September the club helped out on several events for the Scottish Borders Heritage Festival.



The Hawick Reivers Festival is always a favourite and special event for the club, which kicks off their 2018 campaign. They will be appearing as reivers from the period of 1570, when the Earl of Sussex came to Hawick, sending the local population to hide in the hills, and block the street with burning thatch from their houses. They will be joined by their good friends from "The Earl of Loudoun's Regiment of Foote" and "The Lothian Levy"

Feel free to come along – ask a question or two and even try on some of our kits.



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#### LIVING HISTORY IRELAND

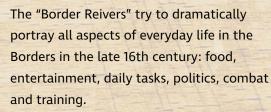


We welcome back one of Northern Ireland's largest reenactment, living history group covering from Viking to WW2 and all in between attending events from March every weekend to November. Taking a keen interest

in all periods of Ulster Scots history, they provide tented village dressed camps for most centuries that show all aspects of life and have a large collection of hand weapons, cannons, musket right up to modern. The camps have all sorts of industry on show to enhance the public's experience such as Black Smith, wool spinners, medics with the primitive tools, wood craft, kitchen display how food was prepared grinding corn and wheat and many more displays.

Such was the success of their visit in 2017, the group are returning in larger numbers this year.

#### BEST OF TIMES WORST OF TIMES





Members of the group use "authentic" clothing, weapons, props, and skills of the times. Combatants must train in the use of the sword, targe and polearm to ensure that a high degree of both safety and correct technique are maintained. The "Border Reivers" take part in a variety of displays throughout the year, from "living history" displays for national organisations such as English Heritage to educational events for schools and fetes to charitable events and even films.



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#### LES AMIS D'ONNO



Les Amis Equine-Canine stunt troupe was founded in France in 1999 by Jacob & Bethany Martin and the Martin family.

In 2008 they moved back to their home in the Scottish Borders and have since grown to become Scotland's only Equine-Canine stunt troupe specialising

in Equestrian Theatre and stunt shows (including jousting) performing dogs and Vintage Cabaret.

Les Amis d'Onno is now a troupe of full time professional performers, each summer touring Scotland and the UK with their main ring arena shows, such as Western and Stunt Jousting Shows, and each winter touring their Vintage Cabaret and Equestrian Theatre shows in and around Edinburgh and Glasgow including a three week run of Halloween western shows at Gleneagles in October 2014.

In between touring Les Amis also appear in photo shoots, TV and film productions such as the Fairy Flag, Outlander Series Two and the upcoming Outlander Series Three.

If you would like to know more about Les Amis please don't hesitate to get in touch

E. lesamisdonno@btinternet.com W: www.lesamisdonno.com

fwww.facebook.com/lesamisdonno

www.youtube.com/user/lesamisdonno

#### THE NORTHERN ALLIANCE

Northern Alliance recreate the wars of late fifteen century in Scotland, England and beyond. We are members of the wars of Roses Federation

Northern Alliance is a historical reenactment group based in Scotland. We

recreate the late fifteenth century. We represent members of the retinue of Lord Lovat. We occasionally portray other noble households of the period if it is appropriate for the event.







#### PRIMARY SCHOOL REIVERS GAMES

(Kindly sponsored by Kj Knitwear Tech) (Medals donated by Hamish Smith)

#### Saturday 24th March, 11.30am, Hawick High Street

This year's primary school games will maintain the Festival theme of "Kith and Kin" with the competing teams representing various reiving families. With the teams taking part selecting from names such as Armstrong, Elliot, Scott, Kerr and Routledge. The games will comprise tests of speed and agility with the ability to think quickly being as important as strength. Attributes which were essential in the survival of our forebears in the lawless and often dangerous days of the Border Reivers. Many of the games still played today are derived from ancient pastimes that have been played since the first children picked up and threw a stick or stone. In the times of the Reivers these games had barely changed, these activities honed the skills that would become vital to survival in times of strife and warfare.

Come along and cheer on the youth of Hawick as they battle as families of old for the Andy Norman trophy.

#### SCHOOL REIVER PLAY

#### 'Reivers Characters' by Drumlanrig St Cuthbert's 12 noon, St Mary's Church

We will bring you a variety of role-plays highlighting the lives lead, not just by big names like Kinmont Will or Robert Carey, but also by the ordinary folk of the Reivers time, focusing on the characters and how their lives were effected by the time they lived in. There's the story of James Graham of Liddesdale. Killed for having his sheep stolen! Barnhill – a ruthless Reiver determined to rid himself of a troublesome warden. Archie Graham – A Reiver intent on marrying his sweetheart – despite the fact that she's English. Robert Carey – famed for standing up to the Reivers. And Kinmont Will – possibly the most famous Reiver of the lot. Escaped from Carlisle Castle with a little help from his friends.

#### 'A Reiver's Romance' by Stirches Primary School 12.45pm, St Mary's Church

Wat o' Harden was one of the most famous of our Border Reivers. His name has been handed down in song and story. He was bold, intrepid, and daring yet with a kindly disposition. He married Mary Scott, the Flower of Yarrow and had several sons who inherited his reiving instincts. It was Will Scott, Wat's son who was caught red handed by Sir Gideon Murray of Elibank after a raid, and to save himself from the hanging tree had to marry Murray's daughter, "Muckle-Moothed Meg", a girl of strong opinions whose sharp tongue had scared off all her suitors. This incident is the basis of the Stirches play written by Alan Jermison.



ScotlandsPeople is available at the Heritage Hub Monday to Friday 9.30 to 16.30

For a fee of £15.00 per day you can use the full range of family history resources found on ScotlandsPeople, plus other valuable genealogical resources, all with the help of experienced registration & archive staff

Booking advised: 01450 360 699

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#### HAWICK ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY TALK

Saturday 24th March, 1pm, Heritage Hub

(silver collection at door)

#### "In the Footsteps of Reivers" by Brian Dingle

Have you ever thought how a book comes to fruition? What brought the first seeds of an idea to the printed page? I'd like to take you through my new book "In the Footsteps of Reivers" where the idea came from. What motivated me to do it and what I left out. What areas I visited and the events that happened. How I went about finding a publisher and what they said about the manuscript. Then a guide through the publishing process of why the book took its final form

#### **About Brian Dingle**

Brought up on the English side of the border, Brian retains a love of the area and its unique history. Combining this love of history with photographic skills, Brian has had success with his images from sports to Natural history and landscape. A published technical author Brian has turned his attention to his homeland and its rich history.



#### PRIMARY SCHOOLS REIVERS PROTECT

(Kindly sponsored by Hawick Callant's Club)

#### Saturday 24th March, Afternoon, High Street

An exciting addition to this year's Festival – a children's film project

The project will deliver a short film from each school made by the children supported by local young film maker, Ronald Yule. The films focus on a family name from Borders and tell the story of this family name. Schools have each selected how they will deliver the information on the film. Some through a re-enactment of a story line, a poem, song, interviews with people, or a combination of these. The films have engaged the children in the study of the local dialect, and the variety of these in our local area, and these films will all be shown on the Saturday of the Festival.



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## TORCHLIGHT PROCESSION AND FIREWORKS

in partnership with Wilton Lodge Park Regeneration Project

#### Saturday 24th March, 6.45pm (Fireworks at 7.30pm), Wilton Lodge Park

The Torchlight Procession will leave the Common Haugh car park at 6.45pm (see map on page 27). Prior to this there will be torches and glow sticks on sale from 6pm. Please note that torches will only be sold to those 16 years and over and parents are advised that lit torches should not be carried by young children.

The procession will be led by the Hawick Scout Pipe Band from the Common Haugh and make its way, via the avenue and past the Museum and Hizzy Memorial, to the viewing area. (See map inside back page.) There will be a brief pre-fireworks show then the main spectacular firework display.

Please note that the main access to the fireworks viewing area is from the museum and that the other entrances to the fireworks display area will be closed off to access for safety reasons.

#### Please obey the stewards at all times they are there to ensure your safety.

There is lighting on the paths near the cafe (which will be open) and at the museum but it would be advisable to bring along a torch to aid in your safe exit from the area.

#### There will be a silver collection after the display finishes. Please give generously!

Wrap up warm and enjoy!

Please note there may be changes to this route depending on the weather.

If changes should occur please listen to the stewards and
any announcements before or after the display.





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#### REIVERS BANQUET

Join the Laird and his Lady for a Reivers Banquet and Entertainment featuring the Liddesdale Play (see page 23) performed by "Two Rivers Theatre Company" and Border songs from local singers.

#### Saturday 24th March, 8.15pm

in the "Banqueting Hall" at The Auld Baths



#### Tickets £15 each

Tickets available from borderevents.com, ILF Imaging and Dorwards, Hawick

All forms of dress welcome but why not take the chance to get into the spirit of the Reivers and dress for the part! Nothing elaborate required! (or just bring along your sword or helmet to defend your lands!)

#### **Costume ideas**

Ladies – long skirts and shawl

Men – Breeches, (or binding round lower leg) simple tabards or loose shirts etc





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#### Clan Armstrong Centre

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The Gilnockie Tower at Canonbie has been, over the last two years undergoing a thorough repair and refurnishing process, and is now open to the public all year round.

Open: 11.00am until 3.00pm daily until Easter 2018.

Open: 10.00am until 4.00pm, Easter to end October 2018. Last tour 30 minutes before advertised closing time.

#### Cafe and shop opening soon.

To find us follow the brown 'Clan Armstrong Centre' signs on the A7 Canonbie By-pass.



Gilnockie Tower Visitor Centre
Hollows, Canonbie, Dumfriesshire, DG14 0XD

Tel: 013873 71373 www.gilnockietower.com

#### TALKS IN THE HERITAGE HUB

(Kindly supported by Event Scotland Clan Fund)

Sunday 25th March, Heritage Hub

10am - The Restoration of Gilnockie Tower (stronghold of the Armstrongs) by Ian Martin Lecture only ticket: £2 Full Trip ticket (inc lecture): £10

This will be followed by an optional trip (by minibus) to visit

Gilnockie. Places will be limited and advanced booking is required)

11.15 - From Reiving to Dukedom: The Scotts of Buccleuch by Dr Malcolm Morrison Ticket: £2

12.30 "Wha daur meddle wi Me": A Talk on the Elliot Riding Families by Derek Stewart Ticket: £2

Tickets available from ILF Imaging and Dorwards, Hawick

#### 'LIDDESDALE'

(Kindly supported by Event Scotland Clan Fund)

Sunday 25th March, 2pm, Heart of Hawick Auditorium Tickets: £5 each

Tickets available from Heart of Hawick Box Office, ILF Imaging and Dorwards, Hawick

A second opportunity to see the Liddesdale Play performed by the "Two Rivers Theatre Company" in the Heart of Hawick Auditorium.

In the year 1565, the Liddesdale valley in the Scottish borders was the scene of a violent feud between the powerful families of Scott and Elliot. Murder and robbery was widespread, often involving the innocent, such as Hob Elliot and his family. One night, while his wife, daughter and sister-in-law are alone, two men force their way into Hob Elliot's house. They are Scotts, intent on taking Hob's life in revenge for the murder of a Scott. As the tension mounts while they await the imminent return of the unsuspecting Hob, his wife makes a determined bid to foil the killers. The play is an unromantic and realistic depiction of the darkest side of 16th-century border life, and was the winner of the 1978 S.C.D.A. Playwriting Competition.





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#### LITERARY HIGH TEA

(Hosted by Rotary Club of Hawick)

Sunday 25th March, 4.30pm,

Mansfield Park, Hawick RFC

Tickets £15 (advanced booking essential)

Tickets available from borderevents.com, ILF Imaging and Dorwards, Hawick

#### 'The Tower House - Not just a home, more a way of life.' by Margaret Skea

A talk considering location, architecture, and domestic features of the Scottish tower house, to illustrate how it not only reflected, but was essential to the reiver's life and lifestyle.

#### **About Margaret Skea**

Margaret Skea grew up in Northern Ireland during the 'Troubles', so is no stranger to conflict. Her passion is for authentic, atmospheric historical fiction.

Her first novel, Turn of the Tide won her the Beryl Bainbridge Award for Best 1st Time Novelist 2014, and the sequel A House Divided was longlisted for the Historical Novel Society New Novel Award 2016.

Both follow the fortunes of a fictional family trapped in the long-running and bloody feud between the Cunninghames and Montgomeries, known as the Ayrshire Vendetta, which had many features in common with the lifestyle of the Border Reivers.





## hub hub

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#### Hawick Reivers Festival





Inter-school Reiver's games

Little Haugh encampment

Heart of Hawick / Towermill

Border Textile Towerhouse

Heritage Hub

St Mary's Church

Old Baths

Wilton Lodge Park

Common Haugh





Torchlight procession and fireworks Wilton Lodge Park

route subject to change depending on weather

please follow steward's instructions

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#### AT A GLANCE

#### FRIDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> MARCH

Ghost Walks	7.30pm & 8.30pm	Turnbull Statue, Civic Space	Pg 5
Ghost Talk with Billy Young	8.30pm	Auld Baths, Bath Street	Pg 5
Kith & Kin	10am - 4pm	Border Textile Towerhouse	Pg 5

#### SATURDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> MARCH

Kith & Kin	10am - 4pm	Border Textile Towerhouse	Pg 5
Hints on Researching your Border Ancestors	10.30am - 12 noon	Heritage Hub	Pg 7
16th Century Market	10.30am - 3pm	Hawick High Street	Pg 7
Reivers Encampment	10.30am - 3pm	Wee Haugh	Pg 7
Reivers Parade & Opening Ceremony	10.45 - 11am	Hawick High Street (Horse to Town Hall)	Pg 9
16th Century Craft	10.30am - 3pm	Border Textile Towerhouse	Pg 9
Reivers Landscape Canvas Work	10.30am - 3pm	Border Textile Towerhouse	Pg 9
Primary School Reivers Games	11.30am	Hawick High Street	Pg 15
School Reiver Play	12 noon & 12.45pm	St Mary's Church	Pg 15
Hawick Archaeological Society Talk	1pm	Heritage Hub	Pg 17
Primary Schools Reivers Project	Afternoon	Alchemy, High Street	Pg 17
Torchlight Procession	6.45pm (Muster 6.30pm)	From the Common Haugh	Pg 19
Fireworks Display	7.30pm	Wilton Lodge Park	Pg 19
Reivers Banquet	8.15pm	Auld Baths, Bath Street	Pg 21

#### **SUNDAY 25TH MARCH**

Talks in the Heritage Hub	10am; 11.15am & 12.30pm	Heritage Hub	Pg 23
Kith & Kin	12 noon - 3pm	Border Textile Towerhouse	Pg 5
'Liddesdale' by Two Rivers Theatre Company	2pm	Heart of Hawick Auditorium	Pg 23
Literary High Tea	4.30pm	Mansfield Park Clubrooms	Pg 25

For last minute details and times of events see www.hawickreivers.com