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WEDNESDAY 22ND OCTOBER

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Autumn might be in the air but as we head into the final few weeks of the season, there's still plenty going on at Peebles Golf Club for members and non-members alike, with the opportunity to enjoy golf and experience our clubhouse.

It's been a very busy season on the course and we've seen lots of new members - young and old - enjoying their first experience of membership at Peebles Golf Club.

We're delighted to introduce another special offer for those who might want to join the growing number of people taking up the game, through our '18 Months for the Price of 12 Months' promotion.

If you join this October, you'll get 6 months of free golf throughout the autumn and winter, as you'll pay the equivalent of a 12 month membership. That's £680 for a full adult (aged 30 and over) or £430 for a young adult (aged 22 to 29), taking you all the way through to the end of March 2027.

(New member terms & conditions apply).

Which means you're getting the opportunity to practice and play over the next 6 months before hitting the ground running for the start of next season!

We still have the final few weeks of the main season to come, culminating in our annual Presentation Night on Saturday 25th October, where all our winners will come together to celebrate their successes with fellow members on what is always a highlight of our social calendar.

And if live music is your thing, we're excited to be hosting The Taylor Brothers in the Clubhouse on Saturday 15th November, as Evan Balfour and co entertain us for our annual Scotsdale Supper Dance. Tickets are still available for this night, priced at £30 per person, including a delicious 2-course dinner. Contact the bar or restaurant to book your tickets - open to members and non-members.

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OCTOBER NOTICES

PEEBLES SINGERS - We are now back into the routine of our weekly rehearsals after the summer break. We meet from 7.15 pm to 9.15 pm every **Tuesday** in the Eastgate Studio.

If you think that you would enjoy singing with us, please come along and see – no obligation!

If you want any further information, you should contact either Jim Murdoch (01721 724444) or Anne Lumsdaine (07941551663). We do not hold any auditions – anyone who enjoys singing will be made very welcome. We look forward to seeing a few new faces.

DOVECOT SINGERS - Every **Tuesday** at 2.45pm at Dovecot Court. Free health & wellbeing singing group for those life limiting conditions, feeling lonely or isolated. Songs and old new, followed by a cup of tea and a chat dovecotsingers@gmail.com (07483 176225)

INCHORUS CHOIR - We rehearse **every Monday evening** at the Macfarlane Hall. If you are interested in joining this friendly, performing choir please email us at manager@inchoruschoir.co.uk or website www.inchoruschoir.co.uk

THE PEBBLES STROKE GROUP - The Peebles Stroke Group meet in Firholm Day Centre, Innerleithen Road every **two weeks on Wednesdays**. We meet from 2-4 pm. We enjoy gentle exercise, visitors to give interesting talks, music, games, tea/coffee and biscuits with lots of discussions, and outings. For more information phone - Jane (01721 720264 / 07764 528069) or Mags (07812 113506).

BORDERS IN RECOVERY meet **weekly on Mondays** at the Parish Church on the High Street, Peebles 2-4pm. This is a safe, friendly and free space for people who are 16+ and in recovery (substances/poor mental health) and family/friends to gather for peer support and a free meal.

Helen - 07930 618615 or helen@bordersinrecovery.org / www.bordersinrecovery.org

QUAKER MEETING - The local Quaker (Society of Friends) meeting welcomes anyone who would like to come and share our hour of quiet worship. Whether you are a Quaker or simply interested to come and explore, please join us. We meet on the second Tuesday of the month (**14th October**) at 7.30 at 42, Rosetta Rd, Peebles EH45 8HJ, and on the fourth Sunday of the month (**26th October**) at 10.30 venue to be confirmed. If you would like to find out more, please contact Lesley - 07792 932406

PEEBLES OLD PARISH CHURCH - Community Cuppa, **Saturday 18th October, 10am to 12noon** in the MacFarlane Hall. A Chance to Chat. All welcome.

BORDER PHILATELIC SOCIETY - We meet in Old Parish & St Paul's Church Hall, Scott Crescent, Galashiels, TD1 3JU. Anyone who is interested in Stamps, Postcards, and Postal History, will be made very welcome. Our meetings on **Monday evenings**, from 7.30pm, cover all aspects of the Hobby, and will be of interest to all levels of collecting. Phone 01721 723759 or email tweedavenue@gmail.com

TWEEDDALE U3A - The next meeting of Tweeddale u3a takes place on **Tuesday 14 October** at 2 pm at St Joseph's Centre, Peebles when the talk will be on The Commonwealth War Graves Commission. Tea and coffee will be served after the talk.

YES TWEEDDALE - We're a local group with members coming from various political parties or from none at all. We are committed to helping deliver an independent Scotland. The group is also affiliated to Believe in Scotland, the national grassroots campaign for Scottish independence. We meet every month in the St Joseph's Neighbourhood Centre in Rosetta Road. Our next meeting is on **Thursday 30 October** from 7pm to 9pm. All are welcome.

PEEBLESSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY - **Thurs 9th October at 7.30pm** - Talk by Dr Sam Leggett of University of Edinburgh: "The Salmon of Knowledge? Identity, mobility and food in medieval Scotland". Meeting in St Joseph's Neighbourhood Centre, Rosetta Road, Peebles.

Thursday 16th October at 7.30pm - Talk by Dr Matthew Knight of National Museums Scotland, Edinburgh: "Unearthing and Conserving the Peebles Hoard" Meeting in the Eastgate Theatre, Peebles. Tickets £15

OCTOBER NOTICES

KIRKLANDS BADMINTON CLUB - Every Wednesday to the end of March from **7.30-9.30pm** at **Peebles Drill Hall on Walkershaugh, Peebles**. We are a social badminton club for 16 years & upwards and generally play mixed doubles at a competitive but friendly level! Just bring your own racquet and energy! We gladly welcome new members and can offer some general coaching/advice to help newer players. Each 2 hour session currently costs £5. Contact Kev or Chris at facebook.com/kirklandsbadmintonclub

Table Tennis Club Our friendly playing club resumes from **7.30 - 9.30 pm** on **Friday 12th September** at **St Joseph's Neighbourhood Centre** and most Fridays until the end of March. New players are welcome, whether experienced, beginners, young or old. We have three full-sized tables and can provide bats if required. Adults £2.60, schoolchildren £1.30 per evening. For further details contact Dave (01721 721680) or email dbrown680@btinternet.com.

TWEED VALLEY PÉTANQUE CLUB - Tweed Valley Petanque Club meets **every Wednesday and Sunday** within **Peebles Hydro Gardens** at **1.30 pm**. Members of the public are welcome to come along, have a try and a chat about the game. For more info please check out - www.tweedvalleypetanque.org

GREENER PEEBLES COMMUNITY GARDEN - Volunteer gardening sessions every **Tuesday & Friday** morning, 10-12.

12th December 10.30-12: Yule Wreaths Skill Share.

23rd January 2026 10-4.30: 'Work That Reconnects' workshop led by Chris Booth.

Email info@greenerpeebles.org for more info.

PEEBLES COMMUNITY GARDEN : THE SECRET GARDEN - Just behind the British Heart Foundation shop, off Dean's Wynd, is the lovely little community garden, the Secret Garden. It's there for everybody to enjoy. There's sturdy seating, a sandpit and space for picnics. Some come there to draw, some to play, others just to sit & relax. All welcome.

Gardeners are usually there on **Tuesday afternoons** between 1pm & 3pm.



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THE TWEEDDALE SOCIETY

The first of the 6 monthly talks in the Tweeddale Society's 2025-26 programme will be given by Linda Haldane on Tuesday 14 th October. She will speak about the history of Manor Kirk. After volunteering to produce an exhibition to celebrate Manor Kirk's 150th anniversary in 2024, Linda spent many months researching the Kirk's history and the people who have been central to its story.

The resulting exhibition was a triumph, but Linda could not showcase all the interesting facts, photographs and anecdotes she had discovered. Linda will share these with us in her talk., which will take us through the ups and downs in Manor Kirk's history, from the laying of the foundation stone and the celebrations of the church's opening in 1874, through the war years and financial difficulties of the 1970s, to the refurbishment of the Kirk in the 1980s and the present day concerns for the building and its future.

Linda was brought up in Coldstream and studied accountancy and computer science at Heriot Watt University before going on to qualify as a Chartered Accountant. Now semi-retired Linda enjoys beekeeping and hill walking, and with her husband manages a small herd of Cheviot Mule sheep on their small holding in the Manor Valley.

The talk will be given in the Eastgate Theare auditorium at 7.30 pm. Membership of the Tweeddale Society (annual subscription £30) includes admission to all 6 talks. Tickets for individual talks cost £12. The Eastgate Theatre box office can process membership applications. Programme brochures with details of all the season's talks and a membership application form are available there.



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St James's Church, High Street, Innerleithen at 11am and St Joseph's Church Car Park, Rosetta Road, Peebles at 12noon

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Peebles & District Community Council

Live Borders (LB) continues to concern many people in Peebles and across the Borders and your community council still engage with Scottish Borders Council (SBC) over it. A recent exchange highlighted to us the difficult and complex tasks they, SBC have to face and the lack of resource that they have to manage with. I would not disagree with any of this and indeed some of what SBC do, they do very well indeed. However, in my view and that of many of my contacts, LB is more a self-inflicted injury than an accident of circumstance, and SBC appear to be doing all they can to avoid acknowledgement of this. SBC say that the situation is urgent. It is, it was urgent in 2023 when **“the serious position that the trust faces with the current setup being critically unsustainable”** was noted. It was urgent when the March 2024 accounts were filed and identified that **the base management fee provided by SBC was inadequate** – Little if anything was done. It should have been clear to anyone who cared to look, that LB could not survive the level of cuts that they had had forced upon them, circa double those initiated by other local authorities with similar problems. If SBC were a commercial entity, shareholders would be holding directors to account. Public money should be managed just as efficiently, and should we, the rate payer, expect anything less?

Government, whether central or local is required to provide the services, that we as individuals are unable to provide for ourselves and that cannot be provided as commercial services. The law requires that a local authority ensures that there is adequate provision of facilities for recreational, sporting, cultural and social activities.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Euan Jardine appears to agree with this requirement, at least where sport is concerned. To quote him from his recent article in the Herald: “Sport and physical activity are not luxuries”, “We need to invest more directly in sports clubs”, “we should be removing barriers, not creating more of them”, and “If many Scots value sport, why are we making it more difficult to access”? Why indeed! Perhaps the Leader of the Council should study our research and take this up internally.

Peebles and District Community Council has shared our Peebles Life and Peeblesshire News articles with SBC; the reaction shows a level of discomfort and a repetition of the same tired arguments; we’re not to blame, it was Live Borders, it was Covid, it’s urgent [why now, why not earlier?]. However, to repeat, SBC’s own commissioned report includes a serious indictment! “a lack of strong leadership and governance, the absence of a senior leadership team, unclear strategic direction, limited accountability, weak oversight of financial and operational performance, poor data utilisation, lack of performance driven culture, Inefficient resource allocation and suboptimal service planning. Surely, it did not take a consultant to identify this. Where was the SBC oversight? Perhaps no one was responsible, that is the modern way isn’t it! However, to end, last week I met the new Chief Executive of Live Borders. Time will tell how well she succeeds in her task. It will not be easy. However, without adequate support from SBC, her task will be impossible.

Peter Maudsley,
Chair,
Peebles & District Community Council

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The homes were all built from timber that was kindly donated from local joiners instead of it going to a skip.

J R Group the contractors for the New Caledonian Court are the latest to donate to Floral Peebles. We have also made and sold 13 benches and 4 plant boxes all from up cycled timber. Over £1,000 will be raised.

Our summer flowers did well but sadly they are all over. Thousands of bulbs are in storage ready to plant for Spring.

It was discovered that the 34 plant boxes on the streets were rotted.

Our urgent task now is to manufacture new ones before it is time that the bulbs need to be planted.

Two new visitors are in our Safari Park. A pride of lions and NIA a young zebra who was named after our friend IAN who sadly passed away.

We are very pleased to have enlisted the help of Peeblesshire Youth Trust who are helping us assemble the Remembrance Tribute Garden at the end of October.

Please contact myself John 07707 658 529 if you think you can assist us in any way.

John Falla

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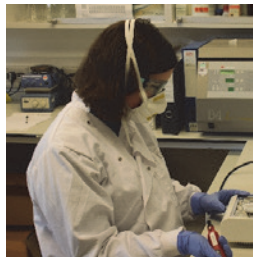
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Peeblesshire Archaeological Society

This month's speaker is **Dr Sam Leggett**, an Edinburgh University lecturer specialising in biomolecular archaeology and the Middle Ages. Before moving to Edinburgh in 2022 she was an Oxford University researcher undertaking biomolecular work for Time Team and commercial units including on the Anglo-Saxon bed burial at Trumpington in Cambridgeshire.



Dr Sam Leggett

With the intriguing title '**The Salmon of Knowledge? Identity, mobility and food in medieval Scotland**', she will be telling us about *ArchaeoFINS*, a Leverhulme Trust funded project looking at the medieval archaeology of fishing in the Irish and North Seas. *ArchaeoFINS* is centred around an old and still unresolved archaeological question of when,

why and where people began to eat fish again after the introduction of farming to Europe, which brought about a decline in fish consumption c. 5-10,000 years ago in favour of cereal crops and dairying.

Sam is investigating the "Fish Event Horizon", using Scotland, a watershed region for the re-introduction of fish consumption in western Europe in the Middle Ages, as the core study area. So far 500 samples have been analysed from five Scottish sites: **Upper Scalloway** in Shetland, **Iona**, **Finlaggan** on Islay, **Gairloch** Wester Ross, and **Castle Park, Dunbar**. Isotopic data from humans, plants and animals reveal what they were eating and where they may have migrated from/to; as well as organic residues from pottery that show what was being cooked/processed/stored in a variety of vessels at these sites.



Finlaggan, Islay ©Sam Leggett



Iona, Mull ©Sam Leggett

Sam has uncovered possible dietary taboos and the "missing" dead, human mobility and imported dietary practices, surprising culinary practices in the pots, and complex ecological relationships in coastal and island environments. The re-adoption of marine fish into medieval diets is not a straightforward process – even for islanders and coastal dwellers.

Does this all seem a bit 'fishy' to you?! Please come and join us at **St Joseph's Neighbourhood Centre** at **7.30pm**. on **Thursday 9th October** and find out more!



Highs & Lows of Club Rugby

A tough start so far...

With the rugby season now well and truly underway, it's been a mixed start for the club with our first XV still waiting for the first league win with initial losses to GHK, Howe of Fife and Falkirk. However, it's a squad that's also suffered a number of injuries so things will improve. In tough times it's important to keep the faith.

On a positive note, it's a young squad with guys like Robbie Hardie, Sam Ferry, Kell Maciver, William Hamilton and Cameron Grant stepping up from Under 18's and performing well. We also have Peebles Reds who have had a solid to the season, just losing out to Earlston in a high scoring 38-50 loss but then bouncing back with a win against Jed 2nd's at Riverside Park. These games are a great opportunity for guys on the fringes of the 1st's to get some rugby under their belt. This includes Neil Wolfenden who showed that age is no barrier.... over 50 and still good for a 30 minute stint!

Our Colts have had a mixed start with a strong win in the National Youth Cup against Selkirk and then getting their league campaign off to a strong start against Kelso before falling just short in a tight game against Hawick at home. Our Under 16s have started their league campaign strongly with a brilliant win away to Hawick and beating Gala/Selkirk at home.

The girls 'Riots' have been in action at Lasswade for the first Evolution Tournament of the season with several girls stepping up to U14s from U12s and doing well. The latest tournament was at Dalkeith with Peebles representation at U14, U12 and U10.

Peebles High School have played Hawick and Selkirk so far with our S3's currently unbeaten. Keep it going!

Finally, but arguably most importantly, our Piranhas hosted their home tournament on the 31st August and it was one of the best yet with around 500 children enjoying rugby in the sun at Whitestone Park and the Gytes. Well done to Kris Barnett, Kate McMillan and their Piranhas team for organising such a brilliant event. Thanks also to Kenny Clyde for all his support behind the scenes as the outgoing Piranhas Convenor. It's greatly appreciated.

#monthepees

Get in Touch

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Well, that's another month slipped away, I swear they are getting faster as time goes on.

The high light of September was our Autumn Concert which was held in the Eastgate Theatre on 5th, it is good to use the Eastgate Theatre, a change from our usual Burgh Hall and make use our local venue which needs to be supported by all of us, but back to the Burgh Hall for our Christmas Concert to be held on 12th December, details to follow.

Anyway, our concert attracted a full and enthusiastic audience which was great to see and made all the hard work worthwhile.

The following Monday saw us back to normal rehearsals, Monday and Thursday evenings, concentrating on a past Test Piece which David, our MD, wants to use as a means of elevating our musical abilities, early days but I think it is working, phew.

As I write this article in mid-September, we are busy preparing for the Borders Entertainment Contest which will be held in Jedburgh this year on Saturday 1st November, more later, but before that we are delighted to have been asked to play at the wedding of one of our cornet section, namely Davy Cornwall, an engagement we are very much looking forward to, by the time you read this it will all be over and Davy will have settled into marital bliss, congratulations to you both.

The Borders Entertainment Contest, or B.E.C. as it is referred to is held yearly on the first Saturday of November at one of our border towns, this year the honour lies with Jedburgh. The contest is open to all brass/silver bands from Sections 2-4, each band is required to play a 15mins programme, the theme for this year is that "each band must play at least one piece of music that has been composed or arranged by a person born after 1990", our selection has yet to be confirmed, chosen jointly by our MD & committee, but sure it will be "entertaining".

Can't finish without congratulating our sister band St Ronans on their success at the National Finals in Cheltenham, well done for being judged 5th in a section consisting of 15 bands, a wonderful and well deserved achievement, they were assisted by two of our very talented players, namely James Grassick on euphonium and Kev Smith on tenor horn.

That's all folks, would be nice to see some of you at the B.E.C. on 1st November, if you can't make it remember to put the 12th December in your diary, until then, have a happy Autumn.

Keith Orr

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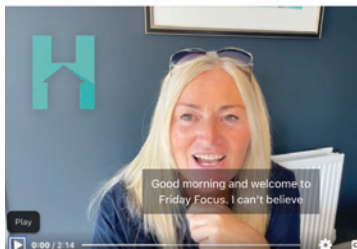
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PEEBLES BOWLING CLUB



A busy September for the club saw the conclusion of the remaining finals and leagues, leaving only the Invitation Triples to complete the season.

Starting with the Ladies, they held their annual Solheim Cup Day with the theme this year being pyjamas and thirty-six ladies braved the wet & windy conditions in fully pyjamas and dressing gowns or did they just retire to the clubhouse?

Turning to the club tournaments in the club's open Triples sponsored by Smith and McMath was played at the start of the month. Twenty-four triples entered and as we reached the final, we saw two Peebles teams complete against each other. Rab Reid's triple of Roy Bradley, Hilary Sangster and Rab faced Maxine Orr, Debbie Gillies, and Lesley Crawford. An exciting final went to the last bowl and an excellent bowl from Rab saw his triple clinch the victory by one shot.



In our remaining two final singles competitions of the season Alan Gordon was victorious in both defeating John Sterricks in the two bowl singles and the following day defeating Matty Salton in the handicap.

Further success came for the club in the Peeblesshire County Triples held at Broughton which saw two Peebles teams in the final with Liz Connor, Keith Brown, and Roy Welsh victorious against Alan Gordon, Steven Maclean, and Andy Borthwick. Not to be outdone Andy Borthwick returned to Broughton to win the Gents County Singles title, defeating Gavin Parker in a keenly contested final.

In the Borders Championships our Senior rink of Dougie Swan, Tam Cleland, Lloyd Chambers and Keith Brown reached the final for the second year in succession, however

it was not to be this year as they lost by one shot to a strong Tweedmouth rink.

Our Gents Rink of Ally Pow, Gordon Linsday, Rab Linto and Stuart Macdonald went one better and despite being ten shots down midway through the tie the Peebles rink did not buckle, winning a quick four, then continued to win the majority of the remaining ends taking the title by four shots. A fantastic comeback and a very well-deserved victory by twenty shots to sixteen.

Lastly, the Peeblesshire League could not have been closed this season with Broughton 1 and Peebles 2 level on points with one game to go. Broughton 1 faced third placed Peebles 3 while Peebles 2 travelled to West Linton.

The destination of the title went down to the very last bowl where Peebles 3 had the chance to take a final point to close the match 6-2 which would have handed the title to their Peebles colleagues who had defeated West Linton, however it was not to be and Broughton 1 retained the trophy. A dramatic end to the league season and we congratulate Broughton on their win.

As the season ends the club AGM has been confirmed for Monday 27th of October at the Drill Hall, all members are encouraged to attend.

For further information contact Peebles Bowling Club via Facebook: Peebles Bowling Club Official.



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Tickets for individual concerts cost £22, but £100 season tickets save £54—that's two and a half concerts free.

Details of all the concerts are on the Music in Peebles website musicinpeebles.org.uk. Season tickets from Music in Peebles. Individual tickets from the Eastgate Theatre (01721 725777).

PEEBLES PENSIONERS ASSOCIATION

For the first meeting of the autumn session in mid-September, we were delighted to welcome back Fiona Boyd, who last came to talk to us in 2019 about her first children's book. It was very interesting to hear about Fiona's writing and publishing career since then and the members were enthralled to learn all about it. We were all in awe of Fiona and the way that she meets challenges head on, with her red lipstick and her very positive attitude to life. She is an absolute inspiration and we took a lot away from her presentation. On behalf of the members, I would like to thank Fiona for coming back to talk to us, it was a wonderful afternoon, which was enjoyed by all present.

For the October meeting there will be a quiz for members and in addition over tea and coffee, there will be a one off return of micro-fundraising with home baking, Christmas tree decorations and houseplants.

For members wishing to attend the Christmas lunch, please remember to bring your payments envelope and menu choices sheet back to the October meeting.

Laura Scott (Secretary) 07484 663518 / peeblespensioners@btinternet.com



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COMING SOON -

Free bike maintenance and road side repairs workshops for women, also open to non members in October.

Details to follow on our facebook page.

WHAT'S ON OFFER AT PCC

SOCIAL RIDES -

Group setting off on Saturday morning club runs from the Kingsmeadows Car park, Peebles of 12mph, and 15mph. Times and location can vary, please contact us on our website if you would like to come along and try.

PCC TRAIL COLLECTIVE -

Formerly known as Kids Club is our active youth section. Groups are organised into levels of ability on Saturday mornings for a 2 hour skills ride around the Glentress trails. Details available on our website and information about contacting us to find out more.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED -

To keep our junior sessions running safely and effectively, we're looking for parent volunteers to assist our Leaders who have ****basic mountain biking experience**** and feel comfortable riding on trails. Your support on the trails makes a big difference in helping us maintain a fun and safe environment for the kids. If you can lend a hand, even occasionally, we'd love to hear from you - thank you!

WOMEN'S ONLY RIDES -

It was great to see and meet lots of women attending our Summer PCC social women's rides that were open to non members. We hope those who attended enjoyed these sessions which have now come to a close until next year.

GIRLS ONLY MTB COACHED SESSIONS -

It has been great to see how popular the sign ups have been for our PCC Girls MTB sessions along with Dirt School and Alpine bike. This was a special limited offer supported by a Scottish Cycling initiative with 5 limited sessions hosted in September and October. We hope to see more girls joining our club!

COME ALONG AND JOIN US!

All Non members are more than welcome to come along and try out our organised cycling rides, please contact us on the website before attending to find out the relevant information about our club ride meet ups.

Details about all club events and activities are available on our website and Facebook page, follow us at [peeblescyclingclub](https://www.peeblescyclingclub.com).

We are looking forward to meeting more folks who like to ride bikes!

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Probus Club of Innerleithen

Any retired person living in Peeblesshire is cordially invited to join the local Probus Club which offers a wide range of stimulating talks on the first and third Tuesdays of each month from October to April. Formed in 1987, the constitution states that the aim of the club is to provide regular meetings for people who, in their retirement, would appreciate the opportunity for social contact with others in similar circumstances.

Meetings are held in the Vale Club, 2 Innerleithen Crescent, Innerleithen. The doors are open at 9.45am for a 10.30 start, giving members the chance to enjoy each other's company- with a cup of coffee and a biscuit- before the talk. The club attracts a high standard of speaker. In our new season starting in October, 2025, we will learn about the Dog Trust (7 October), the Women's Auxiliary Airforce in World War Two (21 October) and Current and Future Climate Energy Transition (4 November). Talks last about 45 minutes with an opportunity for questions at the end.

The club has a walking group and offers a number of social events such as a Christmas lunch and a trip in May. We are always happy to welcome new members and anyone who would like further information about joining the Probus Club of Innerleithen, Walkerburn and Traquair can visit our website at www.probusborders.org or contact the Club Secretary at probus.sec@gmail.com or by phone on 01896 830 166. The first talk of the season will be given on Tuesday, 7 October.

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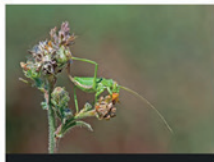
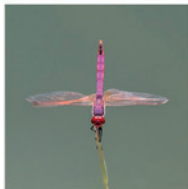
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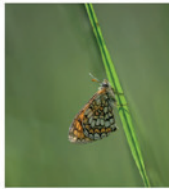
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At 7.30 PM Wednesday October 15th

Workflow Workshop

Club members explain their Photographic workflow, from planning a shoot up to image processing and image sizing for Social Media / Competitions / Printing / Projection.

We usually meet every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month between September and May. Most meetings are in Peebles Community Centre, Walkershaugh, Peebles. However we do have some Zoom meetings.

Check out our Website and Facebook page for more information.

www.peeblescameraclub.co.uk We are also on **Facebook**

Gardening Tips from Woodside

Autumn is now upon us and the bright colours of the summer garden are fading, and it's time to turn our attention to winter and all year round interest plants.

Conifers often suffer from bad press, but they really are fantastic plants which allow you to enjoy colour and structure in the garden 365 days of the year, and the best part of all is that they are so easy to grow it hardly takes any effort!

The foliage of conifers is surprisingly varied in colour with shades of blue/grey, green, orange, yellow and variegated foliage all adding character to your garden. They also come in different shapes for different garden situations – prostrate for groundcover, columns and cones for accent points, bushy for screening and gap filling, and ball shapes for feature planting. And of course there are hedging varieties too. A bit of pruning is sometimes required to keep the shape you need, but always try and work with the natural shape to get the best results.

Columnar conifers benefit from being bound with twine over the winter to prevent the wind and snow distorting the shape, but done well this is hardly visible.

People often worry about the height of conifers, so it's important to choose the growth rate that fits your needs. Take time to read the label and it will give you an indication of the annual growth rate. They vary from very slow (1-3cm per year) which are conifers suitable for alpine troughs, rockeries and container, to very fast (25-30cm per year) which make excellent screening plants, and all the growth rates in between. Don't forget that conifers keep growing, so don't be caught out by the labels stating the height after 10 years.

Conifers, when planted in a garden and mixed with other plants, provide a haven for wildlife. Birds appreciate the shelter for roosting all year round, and many will also nest in conifers, insects will pupate in the bark, and spiders find them the perfect habitat for their webs. Conifers also help the planet by absorbing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and storing it as carbon for many years. With conifers in many gardens the in the UK the benefit soon accumulates, so even by planting one conifer you are helping to make a difference.

My favourites include *Picea glauca* Sanders Blue – a slow growing dwarf Spruce in a neat cone shape with blue tinged needles, *Thuja plicata* Whipcord – a bizarre mound forming conifer with dreadlock like foliage, *Tsuga* Coles Prostrate – a beautiful ground covering plant with dense carpets of foliage, and *Cupressus* Wilma – a cheerful yellow foliage upright conifer, great for planting in containers and surrounding with pansies or violas for autumn and winter impact.

As you can tell, I'm a big fan of conifers when planted in the right place, as they are so varied in character and so easy to grow. They associate well with other shrubs such as *Pieris* and *Physocarpus*, and they can be underplanted with heathers for a traditional look, or with a wide range of perennial plants for a softer appearance. They are also very useful in pots as you can use them as the centre-piece all year round and add bedding plants throughout the year for seasonal interest.

Plant with a good compost – I recommend Growmoor Multi-purpose Compost with added John Innes, and plenty of Rootgrow for a head start and top off with composted bark for a tidy finish and to help improve soil structure. Don't forget to feed each growing season with fertiliser to keep them looking fresh and healthy so that you have many years of enjoyment season after season.

Happy Gardening



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A NIGHT AT THE MUSICALS

an unmissable extravaganza comes to Peebles

Peebles Orchestra invites audiences to an unforgettable evening of music and community spirit this November with *A Night at the Musicals*. Taking place on Saturday 15th November 2025 at Peebles Burgh Hall, the concert promises to be one of the town's most ambitious musical events.

The programme features beloved hits from stage and screen, performed by a full symphonic orchestra, live band, and a dazzling line-up of guest artists. Local favourites InChorus and Stardust Performance Arts will join the orchestra, alongside rising vocal talents Erika Franssen and Gregor Scott. Under the baton of conductor Ross Gunning, the evening will showcase Broadway classics, Hollywood favourites, and timeless showstoppers.



From the stirring drama of *Les Misérables* to the irresistible energy of *The Greatest Showman*, the concert celebrates the magic of musical theatre on a scale rarely seen in Peebles. Nearly 100 performers, aged 12 to 80, will share the stage, highlighting both local talent and the community's passion for live performance.

"This concert demonstrates the enthusiasm, skill, and willingness of our community to come together and celebrate music, theatre, and collaboration," say the organisers. "It's set to be a truly spectacular evening."

Two performances are planned: a matinee at 3pm and an evening concert at 7.30pm. Tickets are £15 for adults, £5 for under 26s, and £1 for under 12s. Tickets are already selling fast – book now using the QR code to avoid disappointment.





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|--------------------------|---|
| Art Workshop | ♦ Thu 16 th 14.00-15.30 <i>Fantastical 3D Hats</i> pre-book (kids age 4+) |
| Art Workshop | ♦ Fri 24 th 13.30-14.30 <i>Wire Bats</i> pre-book (age 8+ £4/adults £6) |
| Book Blether | ♦ Thu 2 nd 14.30-16.00 (first Thurs of month) |
| Bookbug | ♦ Wed 1 st , 8 th , 15 th , 22 nd , 29 th 10.15-10.45 (preschoolers) |
| Crafty Club | ♦ Thu 23 rd 14.00-15.00 informal group (adult) pre-book |
| Duplo Club | ♦ Fri 10 th , Thu 30 th 11.00-12.00 (good for <5s, babies too) |
| Exhibition | ♦ Until Sat 18 th <i>Peebles Railways - Take Another Look</i> |
| Lego Club | ♦ Fri 17 th 13.30-14.30 (5-11s) pre-book |
| Reading Group | ♦ Mon 27 th 10.30-11.30 (last Mon of month) |
| Scribblers | ♦ Tue 7 th , 14 th , 21 st , 28 th 10.30-12.00 |
| Step Back in Time | ♦ Thu 16 th 14.00-15.30 Guided Walk <i>Railways of Peebles</i> |
| Storytime | ♦ Fri 31 st 13.30-14.30 <i>Halloween</i> Storytime and fun (all ages) |
| Writing Group | ♦ Mon 6 th 10.30-11.30 (first Mon of month) |

Some events may be subject to change. Please contact us to confirm.

Please mention Peebles Life when responding to adverts

Peebles Gutterbluids Society Update

At our last Committee meeting, members were pleased to learn that three new volunteers, who had contributed to our various outdoor work activities with enthusiasm over a period, had applied to join our Society. Committee members were agreeable, and their membership was approved. It was reported that 'The Old Town Story' information notice board had been received, and is now displayed on the main wall of the Old Town Garden.

Reports were recorded on several of our annual activities, including the refurbishment of a bench seat at Dovecot Court Inner Garden, plus the repainting of the garden statues. A further bench had been refurbished and was sited at the Dovecot Court Outer Garden. Various benches at different locations had weed / grass control done, including picnic bench at Lyne Station Ford; milestones and bench along the B7062 road to Cardrona; plus benches painted at Dovecot Community Garden, and by the Cuddy riverside.

Metal clothes poles were refurbished and repainted at the Communal drying areas at Tweed Green and Greenside. A member plus two other volunteers rebuilt a damaged retaining dry-stane dyke on the Venlaw Right of Way, near South Lodge. Three other volunteers along with a member cut back invasive weed and shrub growth at the South Lodge driveway and the lower Venlaw paths.

These are just a selection of the many and varied tasks, annual and new, undertaken by both Gutterbluids members and other volunteers, to tidy up and enhance many areas in Peebles and surrounding areas. Regular assistance is also given to both Bonnie Peebles and Floral Peebles with the maintenance, and re-planting, etc., at the various flower gardens, which are so well-kept by volunteers. Sincere thanks is accorded to the volunteers who assist the Society.

Douglas Wright

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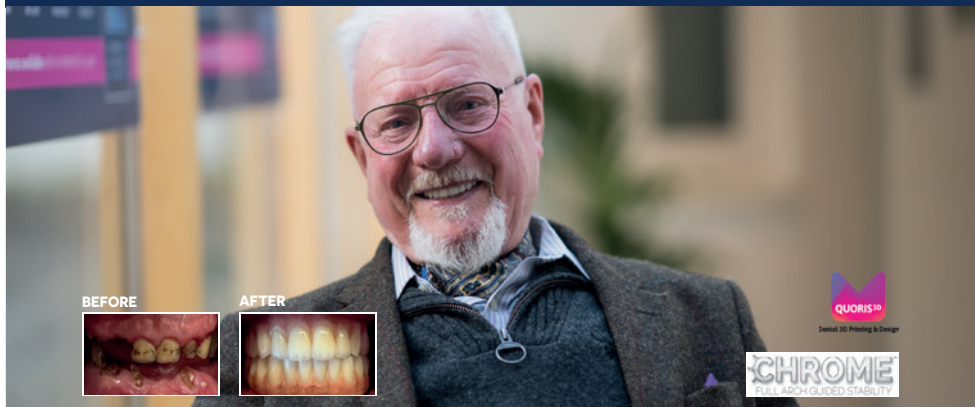
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Bonnie Peebles SCIO

It seems no time since we were planting out for summer! The glorious weather has been enjoyed by all and our Bonnie Peebles displays have been much admired by locals and visitors to the town. The work of weeding and tidying the flower beds is carried out every two weeks by our committee and volunteers and we appreciate all their help.

In July we had the cherry trees pruned and the lime trees cutback in Hay Lodge Park at the area we look after. As our park is part of the Common Good, Bonnie Peebles asked if they would cover the cost of this work. Unfortunately no funding was available. Our committee decided that as a one off we would have this work done to allow more light onto the flower borders and give the ageing cherry trees some attention. The work was carried out by Ballantyne Tree Services of Walkerburn, who are used and recommended by SBC.

We were delighted with the success of our coffee morning on September 6th in the Burgh Hall. It is always nice to see folks catching up as they come to support us and the wonderful total raised was £1339.57. Thank you to everyone as this will be a great help towards our plant and bulb costs.

October 6th will be the delivery day for all our winter bedding and the planting will be carried out over the following two days. Our crocus project will be completed by the planting of 30,000 bulbs along the Edinburgh Road. The dates for this are Wednesday 15th October at 1.30pm and Sunday 19th at 10am. It is hoped members of Peeblesshire JAC can help as they did last year but we would welcome extra hands on either day. A spade to dig holes is all that is needed!

To round off another busy year we look forward to our fun quiz night in Peebles Golf Club on Friday 21st November 7.30pm for 8pm. Tickets £4 per head.

It is incredible to think it is ten years since our local hero Scott Brash won the Rolex Grand Slam in Calgary, Canada and although we have an amazing statue to remind us, Bonnie Peebles follow his achievements and are delighted to see his latest success. At Spruce Meadows, Calgary on 7th Sept riding Hello Jefferson he won the CPKC Grand Prix. Another great victory and many congratulations from Bonnie Peebles.

Please do get in touch if you are able to lend a hand, there is still lots to be done before the gardening year ends. Contact Margaret on 721518, Avril on 720140.

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