



Berwick Heritage Open Days

**FREE TO
EXPLORE**

13-15 September 2019
www.heritageopendays.org.uk

25 YEARS

heritage open days



Berwick Heritage Open Days 13th – 15th September 2019

Booking

Most of the events don't need to be booked - just turn up and enjoy. However, the walks and the bell ringing require booking via Berwick Tourist Information.

Here's how:

Book by phone: 01670 622155

Book by e-mail: berwick.tic@northumberland.gov.uk

Write to: Berwick Tourist Information, Berwick Library, Walkergate, Berwick-upon-Tweed TD15 1DB.

Although booking for Sunday walks will close on Saturday at the Tourist Information, bookings will be taken at the Town Hall on Sunday if there are still spaces.

Find us on Social Media

On Facebook we're hodsberwick and find us at @hodsberwick on Twitter and Instagram. Don't forget to use #hodsberwick when posting.



Acknowledgements

The Berwick HODs Team would like to thank the following for their support in running this year's event. We don't receive any central funding and so, without their help and generosity, this weekend wouldn't happen:

All owners and custodians of buildings taking part and those leading walks

Berwick Autumn Festivals

Berwick Civic Society

Berwick-upon-Tweed Corporation (Freemen) Trustees

Berwick Museum & Art Gallery (Museums Northumberland)

Berwick Record Office (Northumberland Archives)

Berwick Time Lines

Berwick Tourist Information

Berwick Town Council

English Heritage

Photographers - Barbara Bogacka, Mhairi Derby-Pitt and Annie Watt

Volunteers who have given their time to steward the venues and events



Welcome to Berwick Heritage Open Days (HODs) 2019 which takes place between 13th and 15th September. This is the second year the event is being co-ordinated by a number of local organisations (Berwick Civic Society, Berwick Museum and Art Gallery, Berwick Record Office, Berwick Town Council and Berwick Time Lines) who all have an interest in the area's built heritage and history.

There are over 35 events taking place in Berwick, Tweedmouth and Spittal - a lot for one small place. It includes a selection of buildings open, including some new additions as well as historical walks, talks, a photographic exhibition and other activities in the Guildhall. There is something for local residents and visitors of all ages.

Berwick HODs is part of a national event taking place between 13th and 22nd September to celebrate England's history and culture. Most of our events take place over the first weekend but we have organised a couple of guided walks to compliment Berwick's Film and Media Arts Festival on 21st and 22nd September. This year the national event celebrates its 25th anniversary and Berwick has taken part most of those years.

All the events are free to attend are listed on www.heritageopendays.org.uk. The local events can also be found on the Berwick Town Council website – www.berwick-tc.com. As well as the Berwick events, we have also listed events at Longridge, Union Chain Bridge and Norham over the first weekend.

Our event also forms part of Berwick Autumn Festivals running in September and October – Food Festival (6th - 8th September), Film and Media Arts Festival (19th - 22nd September) and the Literary Festival (17th - 20th October).

We hope you will enjoy all the activities which have been organised. Please do visit as many as you can and experience the richness of our wonderful heritage.

Linda Bankier on behalf of the Berwick HODs Team

Bankhill Ice House

venue 1

This icehouse was one of several built in Berwick in the late 18th and 19th centuries. The ice was used for packing fish, particularly salmon, in crates to be transported to London. It was sourced locally if the winter had been severe enough, but usually was imported from Norway. The blocks were carefully stored in layers with sawdust laid between the blocks to prevent them from freezing into a solid mass. Ice houses were still being used in the 1930s. In the Second World War it was used as an air raid shelter, and later as a garage. It is a Grade II listed building, restored by Berwick Preservation Trust.

Friday 13:00-16:00 & Saturday 11:00-16:00 (no booking required)

Walk up the hill from Love Lane - entrance on the right hand side.



Bell Ringing in Berwick Town Hall venue 2

Find out about bell ringing in Berwick, come along and see change ringing in action. Learn about how it developed, how bells are hung in a manner that enables even very small people to ring very large bells and perhaps, try it yourself! Change ringing is a uniquely English pursuit which was developed in the 16th century and has not changed much since. The Town Hall has a bell tower with a ring of eight bells and the curfew bell. Most of the bells were originally cast at the Whitechapel Bell Foundry. As part of the Ringing in the Millennium Project, the bells were restored and a new cast iron frame fitted tied into the structure of the tower.

The work was completed on time and the bells rang in the millennium. The bells are rung on specific occasions, including the nightly curfew bell at 8pm, originally rung to notify the inhabitants that the gates into the town were to be closed.

Saturday 14:00, 14:45, 15:30 & Sunday 17:00 (45 mins)

(booking required) Meet at the side entrance of the Town Hall (steep steps to venue).

Berwick Amateur Rowing Club Boathouse by the River Tweed

venue **3**

Come and see the boathouse of the most northerly Rowing Club in England which this year celebrates its 150th birthday. A meeting was called in the town in early 1869 to form a rowing club and to promote the sport of rowing in a friendly and gentlemanly manner. The present site was given to the club and a boathouse, constructed almost entirely of timber was completed in that same year. The first regatta was held at Berwick in September 1869 and the course was from the Plantation to the Boathouse downstream. The club is still thriving today and uses its boathouse on the New Road for training and hosting rowing events.

On Saturday 14th, there will be a race from Union Chain Bridge to the Boathouse between the Rowing Club and the local Cycling and Running clubs. They leave Union Chain Bridge at 16:00 - who will make it back to the Boathouse first? Gather about 16.30 to find out.

Saturday 12:00-18:00 and Sunday 12:00-16:00 *(no booking required)*

New Road on the path along the River Tweed heading towards the Royal Border Bridge. Enjoy a walk along the New Road on Sunday to see this property and Chateau Pedro.



Berwick Barracks

venue 4

Berwick Barracks, the first in Britain to be purpose-built, were begun in 1717 to the design of the distinguished architect, Sir Nicholas Hawksmoor. They were first occupied by soldiers in 1721 and remained in active use until 1963 when they ceased to be the depot for the Kings Own Scottish Borderers. Home to history and the arts, Berwick Barracks has something to offer all ages. It houses three museums:

Regimental Museum of the King's Own Scottish Borderers:

The Museum tells the story of the Regiment from its formation in 1689 to its merger in 2006 with the Royal Scots to form the Royal Regiment of Scotland. The Regiment has had an active association with the Barracks since 1881.

Berwick Museum and Art Gallery:

This Museum tells the history of the town through numerous displays and is also home to Berwick's Burrell Collection - Sir William Burrell lived at Hutton Castle outside Berwick and donated paintings and other items to the town. Over the weekend, pop in and enjoy some children's activities and join the Common Room team and their travelling Graft and Glory exhibition about how engineers and innovators from the North East changed the world.

By Beat of Drum: This exhibition, within some of the historic rooms, gives an insight into the life of a British Infantryman from the Civil War to the First World War.

Saturday 10:00-18:00 and Sunday 10:00-18:00 (no booking required)

Parade

Please note each museum has different opening times, check local publicity for further information.



Berwick Parish Church of Holy Trinity and St Mary

venue 5

This church is a building of exceptional historic importance, a very rare example of an Anglican church built in the Commonwealth period. When George Fenwick was Governor of Berwick in the 17th century, funds were raised to build the church, using stone and timber from the disused Castle. It was completed in 1652. It was designed and built as a Puritan place of worship consisting of a regular nave with two side aisles and no chancel. It has no tower or steeple, reputedly at the express orders of Oliver Cromwell. On Saturday and Sunday, there will be short talks at the following times: **12:00:** Stained Glass windows in the church; **14:00:** An introduction to the history of Holy Trinity and St Mary's; **15:00:** An introduction to the church-yard and church memorials.

Friday 10:00-17:00,
Saturday 10:00-17:00,
& Sunday 12:00-17:00

(no booking required) Beside the Parade Car Park.



Berwick Castle Tour (Walk)

venue 30

Berwick Castle was one of the most important fortresses during the Anglo-Scottish Wars. Probably built by the Scottish King David about 1124, it held his royal mint and was the scene of a decision made by Edward I that would make legends. Discover a forgotten Jacobean palace and find out if the railway really demolished the castle. Jim Herbert takes you on a tour pointing out the many tantalising clues that can be found and pieces its story together.

Friday 10:00 and 14:00 (about one hour) *(booking required)*

Meet on Railway Street at the top of Berwick Railway Station approach road. (long flight of steps/fairly steep slopes.)

Castle Vale & Coronation Parks (Walk)

venue **6**

This walk, led by Kate Dixon and Enid McDonald will guide you round the parks, highlighting their historic and horticultural interest, the new wildlife sculpture trail and the wonderful views that can be enjoyed from both parks. Castle Vale Park was opened in 1931. Designed as a promenading park with a Lily Pond for quiet reflection, the land was donated to the town by Mr. John Cairns, a baker who lived next to what is now the park. Originally, the vale, north of the Railway Station was the site of a stream that powered a corn mill. Now known as Coronation Park, it was planted out in 1937 to celebrate what should have been the coronation of Edward VIII. After his abdication, the Coronation was that of his brother George VI, our current Queen's father. This park was also the site of a corn mill hence it's local name - "Tommy the Miller's". The parks were restored in 2013 and are now managed by Northumberland County Council and Berwick Town Council and supported by an active "Friends" group.

Saturday 13:00 (one hour) *(booking required)*

Meet at the Lily Pond in Castle Vale Park. The Park can be accessed via the path near the Railway Station.



Chateau Pedro

venue **7**

Chateau Pedro is at the end of the New Road, a riverside walk along the River Tweed. Come and bring a picnic or enjoy a rest in the garden and help us gather memories on this property - who lived there in the past and how did it get its name? According to the Ordnance Survey Name Book (1856-58), this property was called Grove House, 'a very neat small built cottage - attached are outhouses also small garden situated on the Banks of the Tweed. It obtains its name from being at the entrance of a Plantation or grove. Property belonging to the Corporation of Berwick. Tenanted by John Nurse'.

Latterly it was part of the Askew Estate and was purchased by the present owner in 2009.

Sunday 11:00-16:00

(no booking required)

Please note there is only access to the garden. Enjoy a walk along the New Road on Sunday to see this property and the Boathouse.



Cinematon - an Introductory Talk and Tour

venue **2**

Cinematon is an ongoing film project, begun in 1978 and made up of more than 3000 silent vignettes. Peter Taylor, Berwick's Film Media and Arts Festival Director, will give an introductory talk on the work, which will be shown continuously in various premises in the town throughout September. An intriguing series of portraits by director Gerard Courant will illuminate empty shop fronts in Berwick as part of Berwick Heritage Open Days and Berwick Film and Media Arts Festival. The work, over 200 hours in length, was filmed across Paris, Cannes, Berlin, New York, Brussels, London and many more places. Come and find out what it is all about.

Saturday 15:00 (about 40 minutes) *(no booking required)*

Meet at the Guildhall steps before walking to the venue.

Cumberland Bastion

venue 8

Originally known as Middle Mount, the bastion was re-named in 1746 to commemorate the Duke of Cumberland who passed through Berwick on his way to confront the Jacobites at the Battle of Culloden. Berwick's fortifications were built between 1558 and 1569 when there was a real threat of invasion from the Scots. Berwick was the first northern European town to be defended by this system of rampart and bastion, the most advanced technology of its time. These defences were never tested as the Union of the Crowns in 1603 ended the threat of Scottish invasion. Cumberland Bastion was one of the five strong points set around the walls. This flanker contained short-range artillery that could scour the ditch with grapeshot, dealing with any enemy attempting to scale the walls.

Saturday 10:00-16:00 and Sunday 11:00-16:00 (no booking required)

Entry at the top of Coxon's Lane near the car park. Entrance to the bastion is via a short tunnel.

Elizabethan Berwick (Walk)

venue 9

Led by Catherine Kent, this walk uses some of the streets shown in the Elizabethan map "The true description of her Maiestes town of Barwick". It follows on from a talk in the Town Hall at 14:00 but can also be enjoyed on its own. We will compare the map with today's streets, linking sites with their Elizabethan owners and tenants and finding out more about life in the town in Elizabethan times.

Sunday 16:00 (about one hour) (booking required)

Meet at the corner of the Parade Car Park, opposite Walkergate.

Elizabethan Ramparts (Walk)

venue 10

Berwick's imposing Elizabethan Walls are an icon feature of the town. Why and how were they built and by whom? This walk will help answer some of these questions and many more. "I must admit the new wall is marvellous beautiful", was an opinion voiced to Queen Elizabeth in 1568, but what did the writer go on to say? Built at a time of uncertainty, this was the most expensive project of Elizabeth's reign. Today, a tour of these walls is the best way to see Berwick and get an overview of its past and along the way encounter conflicting consultants and medieval map making. Led by local historian Jim Herbert, this walk gives an insight into the history of these unusual walls that encircle the town.

Saturday 15:30 and Sunday 15:30 (about one hour) (booking required)

Meet at the Loovre, the coffee and ice cream parlour at the top of Bankhill and off Marygate. Some steps involved. Note this walk will be repeated the following weekend.



Free Trade Inn

venue 11

Access the public rooms of a traditional 19th century small urban pub. It is a Grade II listed building and is one of CAMRA's "Historic pub interiors of national importance". It retains a good Edwardian pub frontage. The pub was refitted around 1910 and has a very unusual layout. The pub bar at the front is wood panelled and has its original bar counter. The front window is stained glass. The rear room was originally a smoke room, but is now used for pool. The room has bell pushes and an attractive brick and tile fireplace, probably installed around the time of the Second World War. Over the weekend there will be a small exhibition in the back room about the history of the pub including photographs and newspaper cuttings.

Saturday 12:00-17:00 & Sunday 12:00-17:00

(no booking required)

Near the top end of Castlegate on the left hand side.

From Bell Tower to Bastion (Walk) venue 12

"I must admit the new wall is marvellous beautiful", was an opinion voiced to Queen Elizabeth about the bastioned fortifications in 1568... Before condemning them as badly designed and a waste of money! In the most northerly Heritage Open Days event, Jim Herbert takes you on a journey amongst the northern mediaeval defences of Berwick that actually saw some action in the Anglo-Scottish wars, and bear witness to the changes in technology from the earliest ditch defence to the 16th century bastions. The tour takes in Spades Mire, Bell Tower and Lord's Mount.

Friday 12:00 and 16:00 (60-90 mins)

(booking required)

Meet at entrance to Berwick Holiday Camp, at the end of Northumberland Avenue.



Gaol in the Town Hall

venue 2

Visit one of Berwick's hidden gems and find out how prisoners were accommodated from the mid-1700s to 1849. See the condemned cell, which housed prisoners the night before they were executed. There has been a Town Hall on this site for many centuries. The present building was constructed in the 1750s and 1760s by the Guild of Freemen to act as the seat of local government in Berwick and to administer law and order. The gaol was constructed at this time to house both criminals, drunks and debtors. It remained in use until 1849 when the prisoners were transferred to the new Prison in Wallace Green. By this time, the Town Hall Gaol was considered unsuitable because prisoners did not have individual cells.

Saturday 13:00-15:00 and Sunday 13:00-15:00 (no booking required)

Please note there are steep stairs up to the Gaol from the Guildhall.

Georgian Berwick (Walk)

venue 13

What was once called Rotten Row was transformed into Ravensdowne in the 18th century. Many of the houses here were populated by Berwick's wealthier citizens. This walk will take you down this quiet back street. Discover family histories and architectural gems with Berwick Archivist, Linda Bankier.

Sunday 11:00 (about one hour)

(booking required)

Meet at the seats on the green area near the Parade Car Park.



Goldwing Light Parade

venue 9

In aid of Berwick RNLI, this event compliments Berwick Heritage Open Days. Come and see the static display of bikes in the Parade Car Park during the day. Enjoy the main event in the evening – a spectacular parade of illuminated Goldwing bikes around the town followed by a firework display supported by Berwick Town Council.

Saturday: Static display: 10:30-16:00, Parade: 20.30, Firework display: 21:30 (no booking required)

Parade car park (Venue 9 on map which is also the start of Elizabethan Berwick Walk.)

Greenses Arabs and Fish Tales (Walk)

venue 14

Join local Archivist, Linda Bankier, as she leads you on a short walk to discover the stories of the families that lived and worked in the cottages and smokehouses of the Greenses. The Greenses is so called because until the 19th century, although located within the town's medieval walls, much of the land was still open field. From the 18th century, herring fishing was the main occupation for the men of the Greenses during the summer months. In the winter, the fishermen turned to catching cod and haddock with long lines. Every day, each line with up to 720 hooks were baited with mussels and limpets collected and put on the hooks by the womenfolk. Crabs and lobsters were also caught, using pots known locally as "creeves". The locals were called Greenses Arabs, on account of the men's beards and swarthy complexions acquired from putting to sea in all weathers.

Saturday 16:30 (about one hour) (booking required)

Meet at the corner of High Greens and Bell Tower Place, opposite Holy Trinity School.

Gunpowder Magazine

venue 15

A purpose built ammunition store constructed in 1749 to provide safe storage of explosives required by the military garrison at the Barracks. It is built of local sandstone and is surrounded by a high wall. The walls of the vaulted, windowless structure are reinforced by eight heavy buttresses, intended to direct explosion safely upwards. There are ventilators above the entrance steps that allow air to circulate, protecting the powder from damp. The building has a double skinned roof and the main internal safety feature is the total absence of iron to avoid any possibility of a spark igniting the gunpowder. Among the interesting internal features are the original wooden racks.

Friday 13:00-16:00 and Saturday 10:00-16:00 (no booking required)

Near the Lions House on the Walls.



Main Guard

venue 16

In 1682 a Main Guard building for the soldiers stood in front of the Town Hall. By 1725, it had moved up Marygate to a site opposite Eastern Lane. However, complaints about its location led to a new Main Guard being built in 1743 in the area in front of the former Berwick Advertiser offices. It was dismantled in 1815 and then rebuilt on its present site in Palace Green. It contains two main rooms and a prison cell or "black hole" in between where drunks and vagrants could be locked up. There are two new exhibitions this year - a display of items from the film "Outlaw King" about Robert the Bruce, which was partly filmed in Berwick, and a special child friendly display created by illustrator Tania Willis in the Soldiers Room. Let the children enjoy their own activities and dress up whilst the adults enjoy the displays.

Friday 13:00-17:00, Saturday 10:00-16:00 and Sunday 11:00-17:00
(no booking required) Palace Street.



Berwick Masonic Hall

venue 17

Have a look around a working Masonic Hall. View the working tools and regalia of a Masonic Lodge. See the history of the building and find out about the order's history. Freemasonry is long established in Berwick and in his history of Berwick published in 1799, Dr John Fuller mentions that at the time there were two lodges in Berwick and one in Tweedmouth. Originally they met in public houses, but in 1872 this site was purchased and the present building erected on it.

Saturday 10:00-16:00 (no booking required)
Opposite the Parade Carpark.

New Tower - Berwick

venue 18

A newer addition to Heritage Open Days in Berwick, this is the lower portion of a 14th century tower embedded in a 17th century wall. An opportunity to see an unknown part of Berwick's medieval and 16th century fortifications. The New Tower also features in Jim Herbert's Tower Tour.

Friday 13:00-16:00 and Saturday 10:00-16:00 (no booking required)

On the Quay Walls, off Wellington Terrace to the rear of the Main Guard.

Old Coastguard Station

venue 19

Commanding superlative views of the beautiful North Northumberland coast, the Old Coastguard Tower was built in 1964, but four years later was closed and became derelict. The tower is now run and looked after by Berwick Coastwatch, an independent organisation run entirely by volunteers to keep visual watch over all coastal areas around the bays and beaches of Berwick-upon-Tweed. They also keep a listening watch on the VHF marine distress channel 16 and liaise directly with the Humber Coastguard Operations Centre. Members of the public are invited into this small building to talk to the volunteers about the work they do and see the local wildlife.

Saturday 10:00-16:00 and Sunday 10:00-16:00 (no booking required)

Located on the cliffs near Magdalene Fields Golf Course clubhouse (TD15 1NE). Access to the tower is along a short clifftop path. Access to the upper floor of the tower is by a steep ladder.





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Venues outside Berwick 31

Longridge School

Norham Church

Union Chain Bridge

(See pages 26 and 27)



Palace Green Pavilion

venue 20

The hall is a Grade II listed building and it is surrounded by a green-gated "square", the only one between Newcastle and Edinburgh. It was originally built around 1830 and is now used by the Scouts. The grassed area has a square at its centre on which "Jimmy Strength's Statue" used to sit. The hall was originally a Reading Room and the garden was a Bowling Green. A Billiard Hall was added in the late 1840s, a rare example of a purpose-built one. By 1914 its use had declined and the building was leased by Berwick Boy Scouts, who purchased it in 1947. Now run as a Trust, the building is used by the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts and is let out to community groups including Brownies, Guides, Table Tennis, Dog Training and MIND.

Saturday 11:00-14:00 and Sunday 11:00-14:00 (no booking required)

On Palace Green, very close to the Main Guard.

St Andrew's Wallace Green Church

venue 21



St Andrew's Wallace Green Church is one of only eight Church of Scotland Churches in England. Now 160 years old, it is a lovely light and airy building with beautiful stained glass windows. This beautiful church was formally opened on 19 June 1859. It has a striking sunburst stained glass rose window. Formed from the amalgamation of St Andrew's Church and Wallace Green Church, the building has memorial tablets from both churches, commemorating those lost in both World Wars. During the weekend, visitors can look at the booklets created on the men remembered on the First World War memorials. Also on **Friday at 15:00**, Linda Bankier, Archivist, will give a short talk "*More than just names*", highlighting the stories behind some of the names - who were they; what did they do and where did they perish in the First World War?

Friday 14:00-16:00 & Saturday 10:00-16:00 (no booking required)

Wallace Green

Tower Tour (Walk)

venue **22**

Originally part of the defences commenced by Edward I after he stormed Berwick in 1296, this section of wall was probably not built until the early 14th century and has seen many modifications since. During this short tour, local historian Jim Herbert will unravel the story and will take visitors into one of the more prominent features, Coxon's Tower, which underwent two major modifications since it was originally built. A much less obvious tower that visitors will be led into is the New Tower, which many people do not know even exists!

Saturday 10:30 and 12:00
(about one hour) (booking required)

Meet at the Ness Gate beside Cleet Court.



Berwick Town Hall

venue **2**

Over the weekend, the Town Hall will act as the Information Point for the Berwick Heritage Open Days events. There's also a pop-up local history bookstall and a cafe so you can grab a cup of tea and take a break between visits.

It's the place to come if you want to find out what is going on in the town – directions to sites or simply experience what we have to offer in the building, we're open from **10:00 to 16:00 on Saturday** and **11:00 to 16:00 on Sunday**.

Facades of the Fifties photographic exhibition of shop front photographs taken 60 years ago as well as other photos taken in the 1950s.

Historic Information about other buildings, including the history of the Town Hall.

Films of Berwick from 1911 to the 1970s – step back in time.

Talks on various aspects of the history of Berwick.

Berwick Photocentre find out about this local business and the history of photography (Sunday only).

Berwick May Fair can you put a name to the face in the photograph taken outside the building in 1951?

Wanted Posters vote for your favourite “wanted” poster sent to Berwick Police Force from the 1880s to 1900.

Especially for young people
Experience being an archaeologist with the mini dig led by Berwick Museum & Art Gallery.
Try the Berwick Then and Now quiz.
Decorate your own castle.
Draw your own “Wanted Poster” inspired by archive posters.



Take the Herring Girl challenge!

The “herrin lassies” packed these fish into barrels. They could fill one barrel with 1200 fish every 10 minutes. That's two fish every 10 seconds, and 20 fish every 10 seconds. Can you beat them? Have a go and find out!

Events in the Town Hall

This year, as well as all the activities in The Guildhall, the building hosts the following events:

Bell Ringing

Find out about bell ringing in Berwick, come along and see change ringing in action. Learn about how it developed, how bells are hung in a manner that enables even very small people to ring very large bells and perhaps, try it yourself! See page 4.

Cinematon - an Introductory Talk and Tour

Cinematon is an ongoing film project, begun in 1978 and made up of more than 3000 silent vignettes. Peter Taylor, Berwick's Film Media and Arts Festival Director, will give an introductory talk on the work, which will be shown continuously in various premises in the town throughout September. See page 9.

Gaol in the Town Hall

Visit one of Berwick's hidden gems and find out how prisoners were accommodated from the mid-1700s to 1849. See the condemned cell, which housed prisoners the night before they were executed. See page 12.



Visitor Centre (former Methodist Church)

venue 23

Find out about the town of Berwick in its newest Visitor Centre sited in a former Methodist Church. See the Tweed 900 Tapestry, exhibitions and a film about Berwick's history. Originally, there were two Methodist Chapels in Berwick - Primitive and Wesleyan. This building was the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, which was opened in 1797 with alterations made in 1878. In the early 1920s both congregations amalgamated and worshipped together in this building until 2017, when it was sold. The building reopened as a Visitor Centre in 2019.

Friday 10:00-16:00, Saturday 10:00-16:00 and Sunday 10:00-16:00
(no booking required) Walkergate

Wilmott's Fortress Air Raid Shelter

venue 24

Look inside a rare Second World War Wilmott's Fortress Air Raid Shelter, which played a part in the Secret Army's defence of Britain. In 2015, postgraduate students of Newcastle University excavated an air raid shelter in the garden of a house on Castle Terrace, prior to the garden's redesign. It proved to be not an Anderson Shelter, as previously thought, but a Wilmott's Fortress shelter, made by a company in Bristol. The excavation also brought to light the unexpected role the shelter played in the defence of Britain, having been used to listen to U-boat activity in the Channel via a radio installed in the shelter. The excavations were published in Current Archaeology Issue 332 (November 2015).

Saturday 14:00-16:00 and Sunday 14:00-16:00 (no booking required)
11 Castle Terrace (left hand side near the bottom).



Tweedmouth and Spittal

This year there are a number of events taking place across the river in Tweedmouth and Spittal:

A Hint of History - Spittal Point (Walk)

venue 25

What was Spittal and Spittal Point like in the past? Enjoy a walk with local historian Raine Bryant pointing out its history in bygone times. The walk covers Sandstell Dunes, Spittal Point, North Greenwich Road and East Street. History is hinted at by the remains left behind, giving clues of a very different past. You will learn about fishing, lifeboats, the rocket house, the ferry, industry, tourism, abattoirs and a school, by means of anecdotal evidence and photos from village residents.

Friday 10:00, Saturday 10:00 and Sunday 10:00 (about one hour)
(booking required) Meet at Sandstell Road Car Park.



Medieval Tweedmouth (Walk)

venue 26

Join local historian, Dr Catherine Kent in a walk through Tweedmouth's historic core, discovering how local and national events from pre-Roman to Elizabethan times have defined and shaped the streets we see today.

Saturday 12:00 and Sunday 12:00 (about one hour) (booking required)

Meet at the junction of Tower Road and Mount Road. The walk includes steps and an unmade path but this section can be omitted by anyone who wishes.

Sandstell Fishing Shiel

venue 27

The word “shiel” refers to the seasonal accommodation used by fishermen and in North Northumberland by salmon fishermen. The salmon fishing season lasts from 1st February until 30th November. The shiels were equipped with bunks and fireplaces, and were also used as storage for the fishing gear. Sandstell Shiel in Spittal is a Grade II listed building. Records of its existence go back to 1735 and it is the only surviving unmodernised example of this type of building on the River Tweed.

Saturday 10:00-16:00 and Sunday 10:00-16:00 (no booking required)

Sandstell Fishing Shiel, Sandstell Road, Spittal.



Tweedmouth Parish Church of St Bartholomew and St Boisil venue 28

The Church of St Bartholomew and St Boisil in Tweedmouth is a Grade II listed building and a rare example of a pre-Victorian Church with later additions. It stands on the site of earlier churches going back to at least the 12th century. There is a Georgian gallery with its original four pews and many other interesting features, including a reredos, First World War memorial to John Kincaid, Coldstream Guards. In the Churchyard, you can find the graves of John Mackay Wilson, author of *Wilson's Tales of the Borders*, William Stephenson, a train driver killed in one of the earliest railway accidents, the local philanthropist Rev John Leech and Ralph Dixon, whose pension, granted by Nelson, is noted on the rear of the battle plans for Trafalgar. Have a look at parish register transcripts; and a display on *Wilson's Tales of the Borders*. There will be guided tours at 11:00 and in the afternoon.

Saturday 11:00-17:00 (no booking required)

Church Road is between Dock Road and Prince Edward Road in Tweedmouth.

Why not visit the church after one of the Saturday Tweedmouth walks?

Tweedmouth's West End - venue 29 A show (Walk)

For too long, the history of Tweedmouth has been neglected. This tour, led by Jim Herbert, sheds light on many aspects of old Tweedmouth, from medieval parliaments, to social life and its forgotten industries. The West End of Tweedmouth is now a quiet residential area overshadowed by the Royal Tweed Bridge. However, in the past, it was very different - full of people and business.

Saturday 13:45 and Sunday 13:45 (about one hour) (booking required)

Meet at the War Memorial, at the Tweedmouth end of the Old Bridge.



As well as events in the town, there are also other events close by, accessible by car:

Longridge Towers School - Guided tours

Longridge Towers was built between 1875 and 1879 for Sir Hubert Jerningham and his wife Lady Annie Jerningham. Designed by JC Bucker, the main house incorporated many features seen by Sir Hubert on his travels abroad and cost £145,000 to build, which was an enormous sum in those days. Following the death of Sir Hubert in April 1914, the house was mothballed and sold at auction in 1920 for the grand sum of £6,000 and since then has been used as a school except for a short time in the 1940s when it was a hotel.

Saturday 10.00, 11.30 and 13.00 (about one hour) *(booking preferred)*

Telephone to book: (01289) 307584

Just outside Berwick on the A698 to Coldstream (TD15 2XQ).



Salmon Netting on the Tweed – Exhibition in Norham Church

A pop-up exhibition about the tradition of Salmon netting on the River Tweed. The story of the net fishing, a centuries old tradition, which has all but disappeared from the Tweed, is narrated through old photographs and a short film shown in the beautiful old parish church dedicated to St. Cuthbert.

**Saturday 11:00-16:00 &
Sunday 12:00-16:00**

(no booking required)

*St. Cuthberts Church, Church Lane,
Norham, TD15 2LF.
Norham and Ladykirk
History Society*



Union Chain Bridge

Visit the Union Chain Bridge, which was built in 1820, the oldest suspension bridge of its type still to carry vehicles. Cycle, walk or drive across it, stop to admire the view and wonder at the amazing structure. There will be members of the Friends of the Union Chain Bridge on hand to tell visitors about the bridge and its designer, Captain Samuel Brown RN. Refreshments available all day at the Chain Bridge Honey Farm nearby.

**Saturday 11:00-15:00 &
Sunday 11:00-15:00** *(no booking required)*
*Union Chain Bridge, Horncliffe, TD15 2XT.
Friends of the Union Chain Bridge*

To compliment the Berwick Film and Media Arts Festival, we are offering historic guided walks around the Walls on 21st and 22nd September. A great way to get to some of the venues:

Berwick Walls - Looking in and out.

Part 1 (Walk)

venue 8

What can you see as you walk around Berwick's historic walls? Local Archivist Linda Bankier will lead this walk highlighting the history of the buildings you can see from Berwick's Elizabethan Ramparts. This walk covers the section from Wallace Green down to the Main Guard. Using the town's archives as the source of information, find out about the buildings and visible features you can see within the walls and beyond them.

Saturday 21 September 14:00 (about one hour) *(booking required)*

The walk starts at the steps at the top of Wallace Green, where you can access the Walls. (Venue 8 on the map). It covers half of the circular route round the Walls. Wallace Green is near the Parade Car Park.



Berwick Walls - Looking in and out.

Part 2 (Walk)

venue 16

What can you see as you walk around Berwick's Walls? Local Archivist Linda Bankier will lead this walk highlighting the history of buildings and features on the route. This walk covers the section from the Main Guard, past the Quayside up Bankhill to the Scotsgate and back to Wallace Green. Find out what the town's archives tell you about the buildings and features we pass.

Saturday 12 September 16:00 (about one hour) *(booking required)*

This is Part 2 of a circular walk, but can be done without completing Part 1. The walk starts at the steps at the Main Guard (Venue 16 on the map) and continues clockwise round to Wallace Green.

Elizabethan Ramparts (Walk)

venue 10

Berwick's imposing Elizabethan Walls are an icon feature of the town. Why and how were they built and by whom? This walk will help answer some of these questions and many more. "I must admit the new wall is marvellous beautiful", was an opinion voiced to Queen Elizabeth in 1568, but what did the writer go on to say? Built at a time of uncertainty, this was the most expensive project of Elizabeth's reign. Today, a tour of these walls is the best way to see Berwick and get an overview of its past and along the way encounter conflicting consultants and medieval map making. Led by local historian Jim Herbert, this walk gives an insight into the history of these unusual walls that encircle the town.

Saturday 21 September 10:30, Sunday 22 September 10:00 and 13:00 (about one hour) (booking required)

Meet at the Loovre, the coffee and ice cream parlour (Venue 10 on the map). Some steps involved. Note this walk also takes place the first weekend.

Tower Tour (Walk)

venue 22

Originally part of the defences commenced by Edward I after he stormed Berwick in 1296, this section of wall was probably not built until the early 14th century and has seen many modifications since. During this short tour, local historian Jim Herbert will unravel the story and will take visitors into one of the more prominent features, Coxon's Tower, which underwent two major modifications since it was originally built. A much less obvious tower that visitors will be led into is the New Tower, which many people do not know even exists!

Saturday 21 September 12:00 noon, Sunday 22 September 11:30 and 14:30 (about one hour)

(booking required)

Meet at the Ness Gate beside Cleet Court.

(Venue 22 on the map.)

Note this walk also takes place the first weekend.



Daily Listing

Friday 13 September

A Hint of History - Spittal Point (Walk)	10:00
Bankhill Ice House	13:00-16:00
Berwick Castle Tour (Walk)	10:00 and 14:00
From Bell Tower to Bastion (Walk)	12:00 and 16:00
Gunpowder Magazine	13:00-16:00
Main Guard	13:00-17:00
New Tower - Berwick	13:00-16:00
Parish Church of Holy Trinity and St Mary	10:00-17:00
St Andrew's Wallace Green Church	14:00-16:00
Visitor Centre	10:00-16:00

Saturday 14 September

A Hint of History - Spittal Point (Walk)	10:00
Bankhill Ice House	11:00-16:00
Bell Ringing in Berwick Town Hall	14:00, 14:45 and 15:30
Berwick Amateur Rowing Club	12:00-18:00
Berwick Barracks	10:00-18:00
Berwick Gaol in the Town Hall	13:00-15:00
Berwick Masonic Hall	10:00-16:00
Castle Vale and Coronation Parks (Walk)	13:00
Cinematon - a Talk and Tour	15:00
Cumberland Bastion	10:00-16:00
Elizabethan Ramparts (Walk)	15:30
Free Trade Inn	12:00-17:00
Goldwing Light Parade	10:30-16:00, Parade 20:30, Firework display 21:30
Greenses Arabs and Fish Tales (Walk)	16:30
Gunpowder Magazine	10:00-16:00
Longridge Towers School - Guided tours	10:00, 11:30 and 13:00
Main Guard	10:00-16:00
Medieval Tweedmouth (Walk)	12:00
New Tower - Berwick	10:00-16:00
Old Coastguard Station	10:00-16:00
Palace Green Pavilion	11:00-14:00
Parish Church of Holy Trinity and St Mary	10:00-17:00
Salmon Netting on the Tweed (Norham)	11:00-16:00
Sandstell Fishing Shiel	10:00-16:00

Daily Listing

St Andrew's Wallace Green Church	10:00-16:00
The Tower Tour (Walk)	10:30 and 12:00
Town Hall: exhibitions	10:00-16:00
Tweedmouth Church	11:00-17:00
Tweedmouth's West End - a show (Walk)	13:45
Union Chain Bridge	11:00-15:00
Visitor Centre	10:00-16:00
Wilmott's Fortress Air Raid Shelter	14:00-16:00

Sunday 15 September

A Hint of History - Spittal Point (Walk)	10:00
Bell Ringing in Berwick Town Hall	17:00-18:00
Berwick Amateur Rowing Club	12:00-16:00
Berwick Barracks	10:00-18:00
Berwick Gaol in the Town Hall	13:00-15:00
Castle Hills House Garden	14:00-16:00
Chateau Pedro	11:00-16:00
Cumberland Bastion	11:00-16:00
Elizabethan Berwick (Walk)	16:00
Elizabethan Ramparts (Walk)	15:30
Free Trade Inn	12:00-17:00
Georgian Berwick (Walk)	11:00
Main Guard	11:00-17:00
Medieval Tweedmouth (Walk)	12:00
Old Coastguard Station	10:00-16:00
Palace Green Pavilion	11:00-14:00
Parish Church of Holy Trinity and St Mary	12:00-17:00
Salmon Netting on the Tweed (Norham)	12:00-16:00
Sandstell Fishing Shiel	10:00-16:00
Town Hall: exhibitions	11:00-16:00
Tweedmouth's West End (Walk)	13:45
Union Chain Bridge	11:00-15:00
Visitor Centre	10:00-16:00
Wilmott's Fortress Air Raid Shelter	14:00-16:00

For the BFMAF Weekend listings (21 & 22 September) see page 28.



heritage open days



**Berwick
Civic
Society**



**Berwick-upon-Tweed
Town Council**



ENGLISH HERITAGE

**NORTHUMBERLAND
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**MUSEUMS
NORTHUMBERLAND**

We hope to grow on the success of 2019 in 2020. If you have a building which could be opened, can offer us some financial or voluntary support or want to help in any way, please contact the Berwick HODs team at:
berwickarchives@northumberland.gov.uk