



HAWICK
REIVERS
FESTIVAL

FEUD & ALLIANCE

2024

FRIDAY 22ND - SUNDAY 24TH MARCH 2024



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WELCOME

Hawick Reivers Festival reaches 21!

So here we are about to embark on yet another Reivers Festival as we "come of age" at twenty one!

We have a full program lined up again for everyone to enjoy and get involved in with something to suit all ages!

Our school children are already gearing up to play their part and Drumlanrig school are looking forward to welcoming their friends from Lisbellow PS in Fermanagh NI back for a second year running. And why are they making the trip you may well ask? You may be surprised to hear that many will share surnames and common ancestors with our local families!

As you'll see from the programme all our popular features are back too including the Torchlight Procession, Fireworks and Banquet - so truly something for everyone!

We are especially pleased in 2024 to welcome local band Western End to headline our opening concert on Friday evening.

As always however none of this would be possible without funding and we are indebted to Scottish Border Council Event Funding and to Hawick Common Good Fund for their ongoing support and belief in our festival!

Also to local businesses for their assistance both financial and practical in putting the weekend together - including KJ Knitwear Tech, The Hawick Paper, Richardson & Son, EJW media, ILF Imaging and Dorwards and of course all our programme advertisers! Your support is invaluable and without you the many events over the weekend could not take place!

Also worth stating is that Hawick Reivers Festival is a true example of a community working together to deliver an excellent end result. We hope you are all proud of your achievements!



wilton lodge park
the outdoor heart of hawick



Our theme for 2024 is "Feud and Alliance" a key component of our Reiving history and a code by which our ancestors lived and died (as is depicted so well in "A Reivers Moon" by Ian Landles and Alan Brydon) so we hope you will "get mounted and ride" with us again this year!

Hawick Reivers Committee 2024

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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A REIVERS MOON

A MUSICAL BY ALAN G BRYDON & IAN W LANGLES

Wednesday 20th March | 7pm | Heart of Hawick

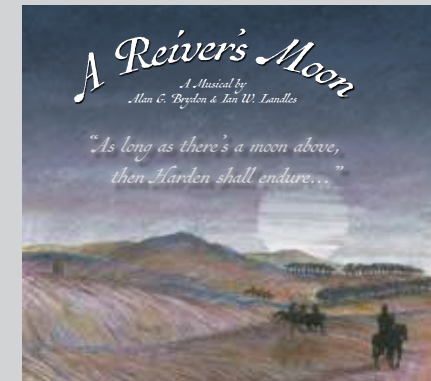
Tickets: £5 - Available from the Heart of Hawick Box office

The Borderland is now a haven of peace in a frenetic world but it was once a cauldron of strife - the home of the notorious Border reivers who gave the English language words like bereaved, blackmail and red-handed.

When the cry "The reivers are here!" was heard in a remote Border glen in the 16th Century no time was lost in lighting the beacon fire to warn of danger, in bringing the cattle into the protection of the vaulted lower storey of the peel tower and in locking wives and daughters safely out of harm's way for the reivers were wild men and "ill tae keep in order".

Teviotdale and the Borthwick valley lie in what was the Scottish Middle March, and it is here that history has recorded some of the most notorious reivers. One such was Auld Wat o' Harden who married the beautiful Mary Scott, the "Floo'er o' Yarrow" and they and their family held the tower of Harden between Hawick and Roberton.

History and folklore has made the reivers infamous. Yet as local people with families, lives and loves, there was nevertheless a warm blooded normality, which is perhaps lacking from our conventional memories of them. Without denying the well known violent side of our ancestors Ian Langles and Alan Brydon hope that the audience will enjoy their production which brings to life a real reiving family in their own homeland where they, like us, were raised as proud Borderers!



THE GHOSTS OF LIDDESDALE & TEVIOTDALE IN THE COMPANY OF TEVIOTDALE STEEL BONNETS

Friday 22nd March | 6.45pm & 8pm | Textile Tower House

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 50min and will involve a short walk. Please dress warmly and bring along a small torch!

**Tickets: £5 each or £12 for family of 4
(2 adults and 2 primary school age children)**

**Tickets available from ILF Imaging, Dorwards, Hawick,
and online at thelittleboxoffice.com/hawickreivers**



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WESTERN END IN CONCERT

Friday 22nd March | 8pm start | Hawick Auld Baths

Licensed Bar by Hawick Callants Club

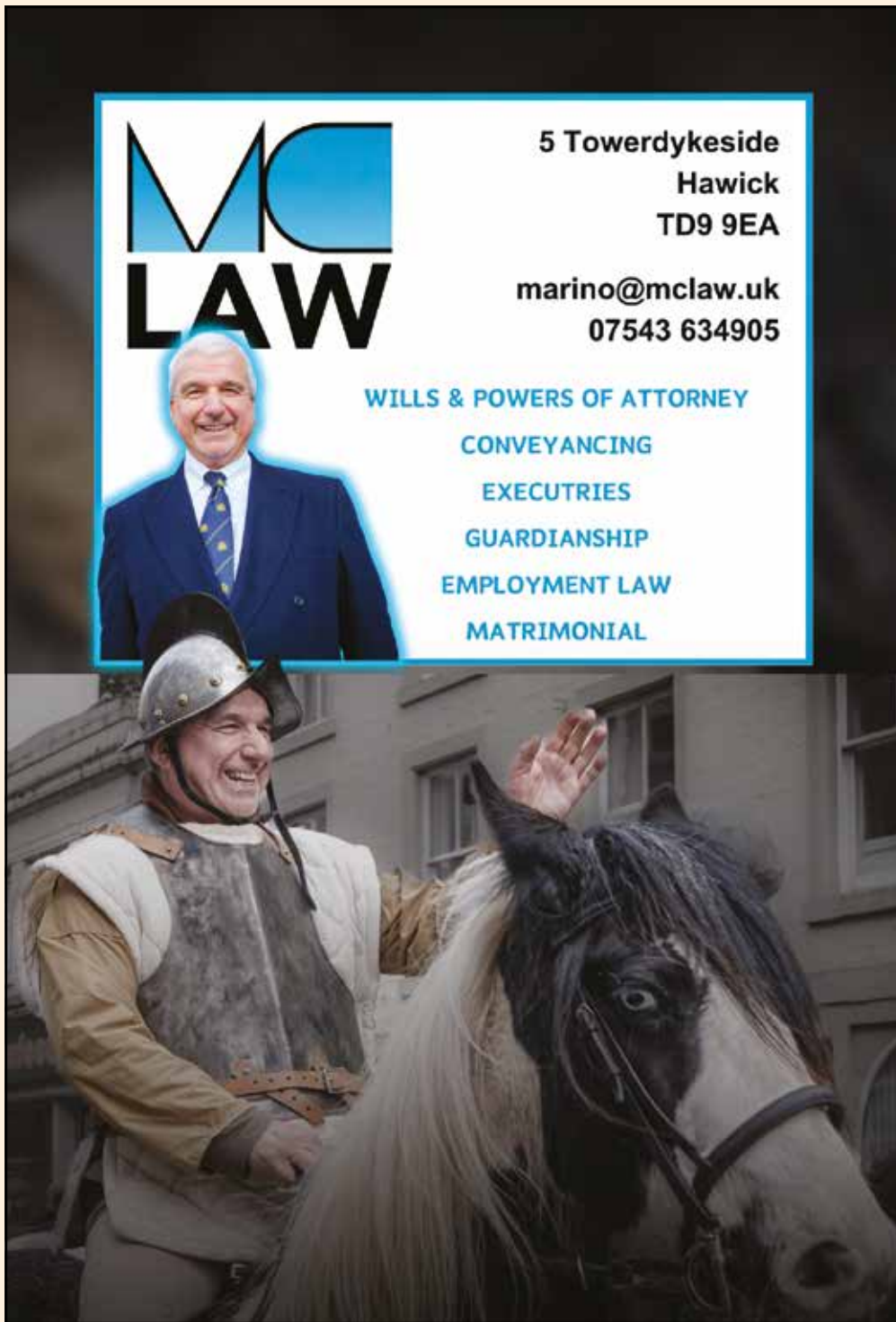
Standing gig with limited seating available - Doors open 7.30pm

Tickets £12 - available from ILF Imaging, Dorwards, Hawick, and online at thelittleboxoffice.com/hawickreivers

Under 18's must be accompanied by an adult



FRIDAY 22ND MARCH 2024



REIVERS MARKET

**Saturday 23rd March | 10am-3pm | Full range of stalls
Drumlanrig Square & Kirk Wynd**

Meet a wide variety of local and visiting traders with around forty stalls available. Also enjoy a programme of entertainment on the main stage throughout the day

Stage performances:

(please note, times might be subject to slight variation)

1 1.30: Burnfoot Buskers - Youth Fiddle Group

1pm: Act1 Youth Theatre

2pm: LMDA dance students

OPENING PROCESSION

Saturday 23rd March | 10.30am | Starting at the Horse

Route: Horse to Mote Park via High Street, Towerknowe, Slitrig Crescent, Slitrig Brig, Drumlanrig Square and Loan



REIVERS ENCAMPMENT

Saturday 23rd March | 10am-3pm | Mote Park

Immerse yourself in the life of the Border families in the 16th century in the company of re-enactors in their living history camps and watch crafts folk, and archers demonstrate their range of skills. A full programme of events including pike drills, demonstrations and hand to hand combat.

Visit the encampment and meet the re-enactors

Display times:

12noon: Birds of Prey in Flight by Falconry Days

1pm: Equestrian display by Les Amis d'Onno

2pm: Musket drill and battle lines by Loudoun Regiment of Foote

SATURDAY 23RD MARCH 2024

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A PLAY IN 4 PARTS

PERFORMED BY THE P7 PUPILS OF
DRUMLANRIG/ST CUTHBERT'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Saturday 23rd March | 11.15am | Drumlanrig School

The Borders! The Reivers! The name evokes emotions and thoughts as soon as you hear it. Cross Border raids. Family versus family. The Scots and the English. Divided loyalties. Thieving. Treachery. Death. Lawlessness. Just like today there were 'celebrities' – the big names with great stories to tell – though not everyone lived that way. 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.

INTER SCHOOLS REIVERS GAMES

Saturday 23rd March | 11.30am

Mote Park (Drumlanrig School if wet)

Support our local primary schools and our visitors from Lisbellaw Primary School, Fermanagh, NI as they compete for the Andy Norman trophy.

HAWICK ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY LECTURES

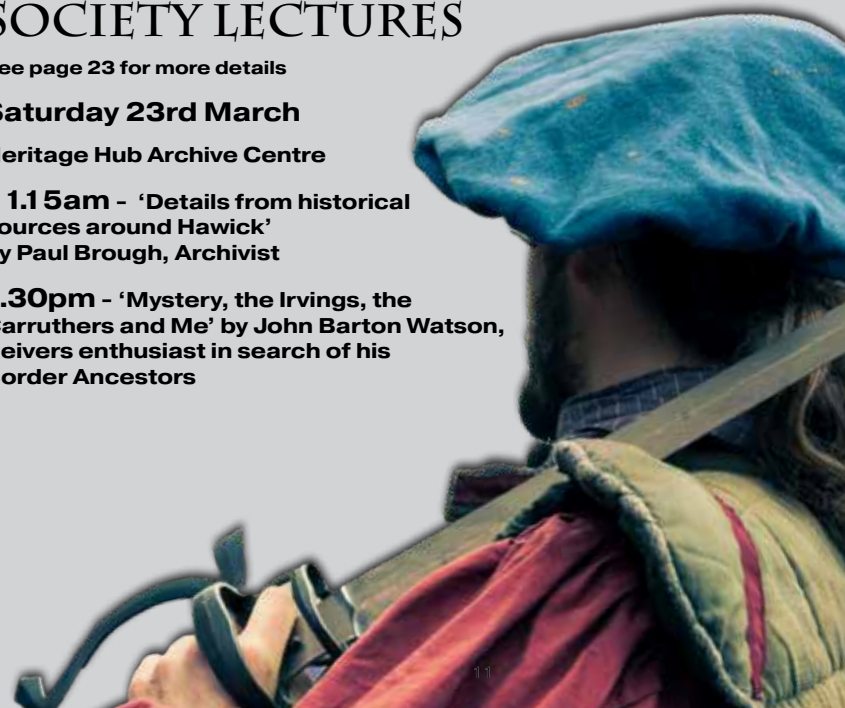
See page 23 for more details

Saturday 23rd March

Heritage Hub Archive Centre

**11.15am - 'Details from historical
sources around Hawick'**
by Paul Brough, Archivist

**1.30pm - 'Mystery, the Irvings, the
Carruthers and Me' by John Barton Watson,
Reivers enthusiast in search of his
Border Ancestors**



SATURDAY 23RD MARCH 2024



Pavilion Cafe

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TORCHLIGHT PROCESSION AND FIREWORKS

Saturday 23rd March | 6.45pm (Fireworks at 7.30 pm)

Common Haugh

6.45pm: Assemble in Common Haugh for Procession

7.00pm: Torchlight Procession

7.30pm: Bonfire and Fireworks display

The Torchlight Procession will muster at 6.45pm and leave the Common Haugh car park at 7pm (see map on page 31). 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)

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 and enjoy! **Warm clothes and appropriate footwear advised.**

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.

REIVERS BANQUET

Saturday 23rd March | 8.15pm (doors open 7.45pm)

Hawick Auld Baths

Why not come to our Reivers Banquet? A night filled with good food and entertainment.

Food provided by Campbell Butchers

Bar by Hawick Callants Club

Starter: Soup

Main: Hog Roast (or vegetarian alternative)

Dessert: Fruit Crumble

Tickets: £20 - available from ILF Imaging, Dorwards, Hawick, and online at thelittleboxoffice.com/hawickreivers





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REIVERS TOWN WALK

"A DAY IN HAWICK IS NEVER WASTED!"

Sunday 24th March
10am Departure
Assemble in Civic Space

A guided walk around the town's historic sites lead by Ian Lowes.

Approximate length:
1½ - 2 Hours



HIGH TEA

WITH GUEST SPEAKER JOHN NICHOL

Sunday 24th March | 4pm
Hawick Rugby Club

Tickets: £20 including High Tea
(2 courses)

Advanced
booking essential



HAWICK REIVERS FESTIVAL BOX OFFICE

thelittleboxoffice.com/hawickreivers

Tickets also available from
ILF Imaging and Dorwards, Hawick



**HAWICK
REIVERS
FESTIVAL**



Please Note:
Some events during the festival are run by third parties and therefore must be booked direct. Booking information for these events are found with their listing in this programme.

SUNDAY 24TH MARCH 2024

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TEVIOTDALE STEEL BONNETS

This local based living history club, formed in 2009, covers the period Flodden to Culloden - specializing in the Border reivers. The Hawick Reivers Festival is always a big favourite for the club, which kicks off their 2024 campaign. The group is always eager to share our passion; to bring alive the 16th century with our well researched kit (often hand-made) and tented displays. Come along and ask a question or two, even try on a steel bonnet. And if feeling under the weather - enquire for a diagnosis and possible leech as a cure, with the club's ever popular barber surgeon, Dr Mort.



THE GUILDE - 'THE BEST OF TIMES, THE WORST OF TIMES'

Come and meet the re-enactment group The Guild / 'The Best of Times, The Worst of Times'.

These troubled times on the borders for Lord Selby has prompted him to ask the Queen if he could have some support for the up and coming day of truce, she has agreed to furnish him with a trained band of musketeers from Middle England, in the event of any unrest.

Come and hear about how the Elizabethans cope throughout the year. What they eat, how they dress, see how a trained band of musketeers act.

Let them tell you of how they will weather these times as only they know how they are and can be.



LOTHIAN LEVY

The Lothian Levy is a re-enactment society portraying soldiers in the war-torn decades of the mid-1500s, when Scotland and England were locked in conflict. Our events are usually set during the last years of the reign of King James V or the earliest years of Queen Mary's. We are normally found marching beneath the banner of James Hamilton, 2nd Earl of Arran and Regent of Scotland.



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COMMON HAUGH HAWICK

OPEN

Thursday 21st to Sunday 24th March

&

Thurs 28th to Sunday 31st March

Weekdays from 6.30pm

Sat from 1pm

Sun 2 to 4.30pm

ALL THE FUN OF THE FAIR



TIME BANDITS

Time Bandits is a multi-period living history group, with a bias towards the Border wars and Anglo-Scottish reivers of the sixteenth century, John Sadler, leader of the group has quite extensively published works on the subject, as well as teaching, lecturing and re-enacting for the last twenty-five years. Their presentation includes an extensive handling collection, sword-play, storytelling, period food and music and they aim to bring history to life in an immersive and entertaining way for all ages.



EARL OF LOUDOUN'S REGIMENT OF FOOTE

Earl of Loudoun's Regiment of Foote (As part of the English Civil War Society) have members mainly based from in and around Scotland but there are some from further afield. Loudoun's was formed from Leslie's Dragoons in 1980 and have been operating around the UK ever since. As part of the English Civil War Society the Earl of Loudoun's Regiment of Foote, participates in the accurate re-enactment of 17th century life and warfare, we meet at "musters" which can vary in size from small "living histories" and small drill displays up to full blown "majors" or battles. All arms of military life are employed in the society; regiments of infantry armed with pike and musket, squadrons of horse (cavalry) and batteries of ordnance (cannon).



We as a regiment have approximately 72 members (as of the end of 2018), but we can pull support from our parent society which numbers around a 1000 participants.

We concentrate on 17th Century re-enactment in general, 1640's in particular – our primary aim is to educate and inform on a little known but fascinating as well as important part of Scottish History, a time when Scotland was a military force to be reckoned with and a key player in the inappropriately named English Civil War.

Our mottoes are I Byde My Tyme (Historical) Love History? Live history (21st Century)

DOUGLAS RETINUE

The Douglas Retinue aims to bring to the public a vibrant, interactive and exciting interpretation of medieval military and civilian life during the latter half of the fifteenth century. We are able to put on a wide range of Living History events in Scottish history, through to the French one Hundred years War and subsequently the English Wars of the Roses. We portray members of the Douglas family Retinue who fight as a spear block this includes common foot soldiers, men at arm and low status Knights.



Our aim is to give our audiences a historically correct but entertaining event.



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We do not sell Birds of Prey. They all become part of the family and stay with us at Falconry Days for their entire lifetime.

Come and see the birds in flight at 12 noon Saturday, mote park



LES AMIS D'ONNO

Les Amis d'Onno are an equestrian stunt team based just outside of Jedburgh. Les Amis originated in France performing equestrian theatre shows on beautiful Friesian & Andalusian horses, but in 2008 journeyed back to the family farm in the Scottish Borders. Since then the team have expanded to now having 22 fantastic horses who are key to providing entertaining stunt shows all over the UK & Ireland!

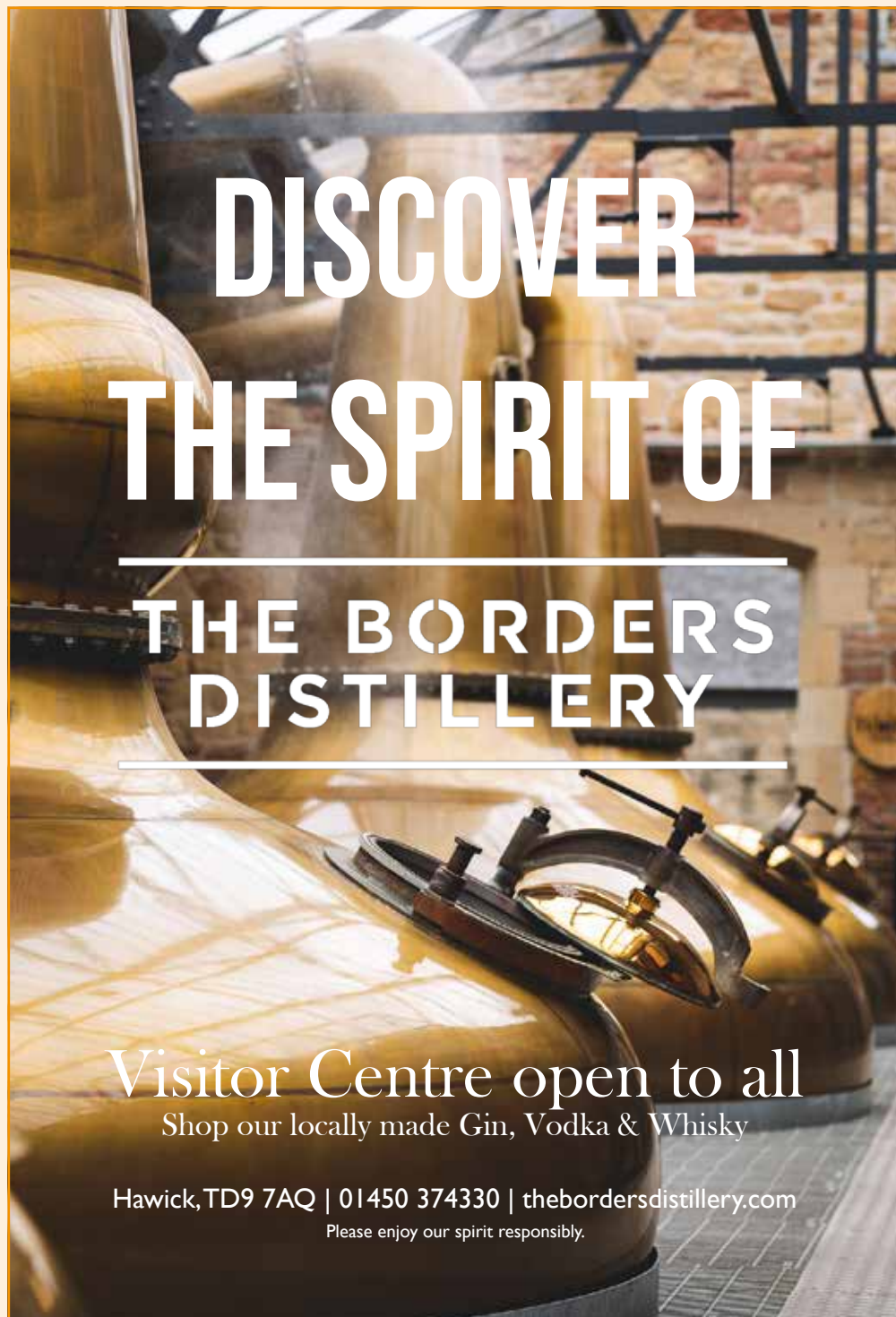
Les Amis Stunt shows consist of Jousting, Cossack Trick Riding, Wild Westerns and Highlander, where the horse and rider perform many different stunts such as vaulting off and back on, being dragged behind a horse and saddle falls.

But really the animals are the true stars of the shows. The dogs, horses and Billy the goat, perform many tricks and have skills such as balancing on pedestals, liberty work and rearing.

For the past 13 years the team have enjoyed performing at the Hawick Reivers Festival and can't wait to be back this March!

Come and see the group display their skills at 1 pm Saturday at mote park





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PAUL BROUGH

Details from historical sources around Hawick' by Paul Brough, archivist | Saturday From 1 1.15 am

Paul has been an archivist for 41 years but will be stepping aside from his management role at the Heritage Hub in 2025. His current major project is the documentation of archive, museum and printed sources in the 'Borders Collections Online' database and he hopes to stay on past 2025 to drive this forward!



JOHN BARTON WATSON

'Mystery, the Irvings, the Carruthers and Me' Saturday from 1.30pm

Making a very welcome return as a guest speaker for Hawick Archaeological Society. John first became interested in the Border Reivers in the late 60s/70s motorcycling into the Borders with friends on summer weekends.

It was only when George McDonald Fraser published his book 'The Steel Bonnets' that John realised he was in the heart of a fascinating area, rich in medieval history, including what he later found out to be the 'debatable land'.

Recently a family history mystery lead him to adventures in the borders of England and Scotland and particularly the South West of Scotland known in reiver times as the Scottish West March. His talk will include some of his personal history and that of the rebellious clans of the Irvings and Carruthers



IAN LOWES

Leading the Sunday Walk | 10am Departure

Past President of the Hawick Archaeological Society and current Field and Syllabus Secretary. Long time interest in the history of Hawick and the surrounding area. Ian has been a volunteer with Archaeology Scotland on their Stobs Camp Project since 2016 and is currently involved with Archaeology Scotland's 12 Towers of Rule project which is looking at the events of 1545 when an English army devastated the Rule Valley during the Rough Wooing.

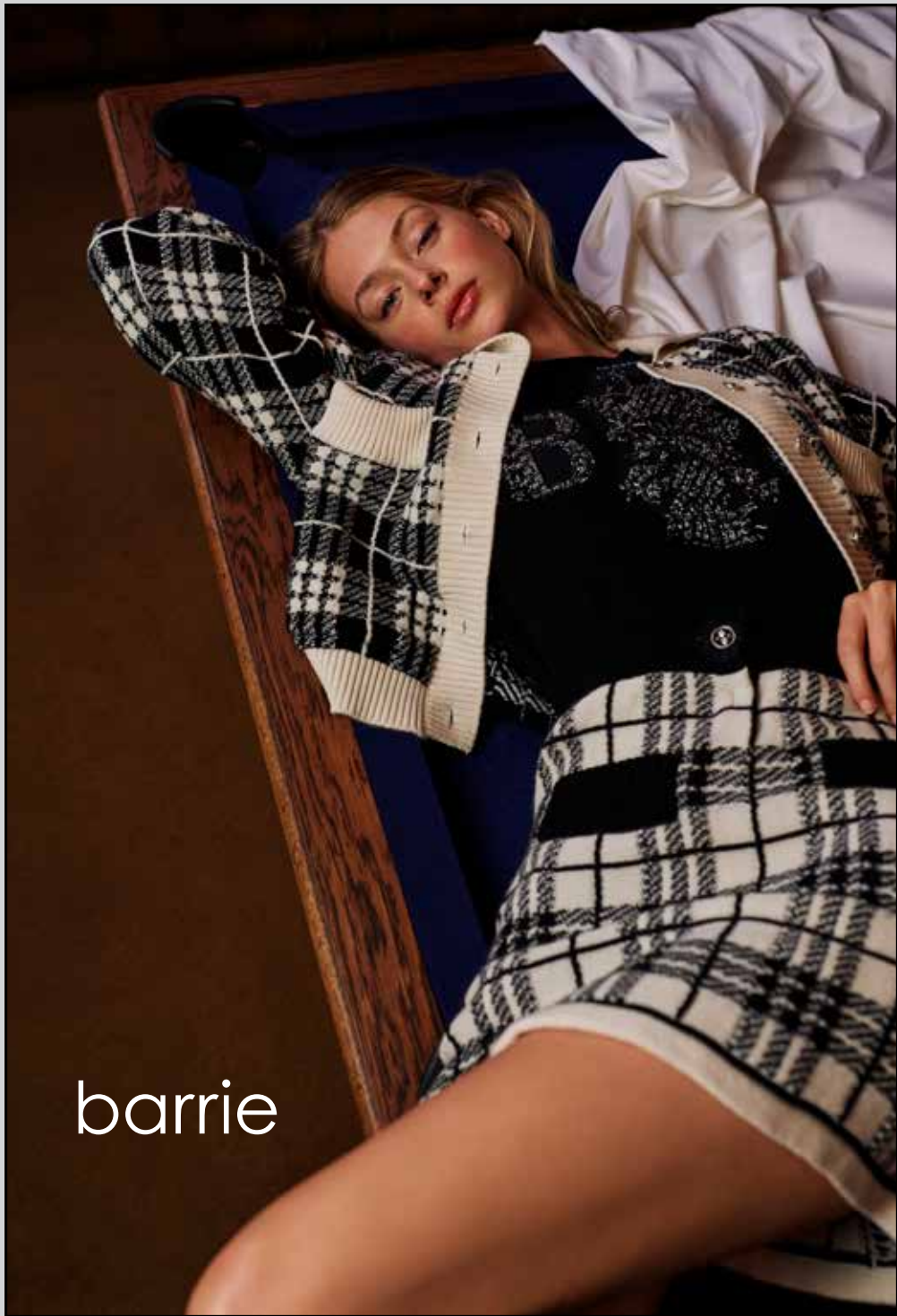


JOHN NICHOL

Guest speaker at the Sunday High Tea | 4pm

has lived in Selkirk all his life. Over the years, he has performed in countless plays, musicals, living history dramas, and as a storyteller, audio artist and folk singer. Professionally, he has worked as an actor, composer, writer and director for touring companies: Rowan Tree Company, IDEOMS and HotTrod. He has featured on several music recordings, including The Complete Songs of Robert Burns; in film, and on TV and radio, as a singer, actor and narrator. John is also the go-to Sir Walter Scott for living history events.








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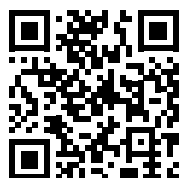
Check out our social media for upcoming performances and shows!

f Act 1 Youth
@act1youth

To keep up to date with all the latest festival news and information, visit our website

www.hawickreivers.com

- Festival Information
- About the Border Reivers
- History of the Festival
- Places to Stay • Places to Eat
- Photographs • Videos

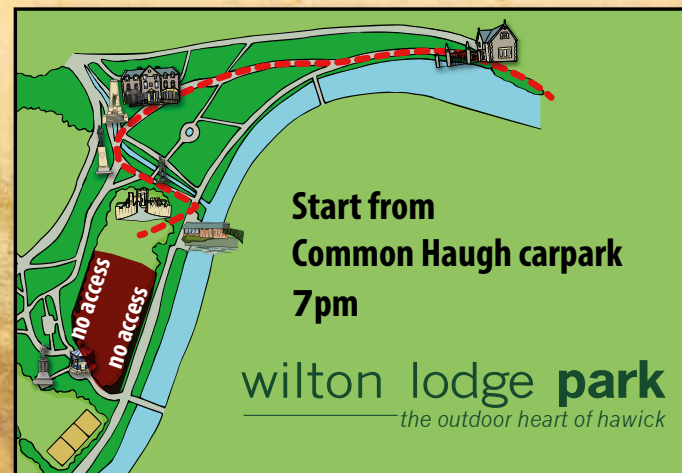


We are also on
Social Media



Hawick Reivers Festival

- 1 Town Hall
- 2 Reivers Market
- 3 The Mote
- 4 Encampment Mote Park
- 5 Heart of Hawick / Towermill
- 6 Border Textile Towerhouse
- 7 Heritage Hub
- 8 St Mary's Church
- 9 Old Baths
- 10 Wilton Lodge Park
- 11 Common Haugh
- 12 Drumlanrig School



**Torchlight
procession
and fireworks
Wilton Lodge Park**

route subject to change
depending on weather

please follow steward's
instructions

WEBSITE

AT A GLANCE

FRIDAY 22ND - SUNDAY 24TH MARCH 2024

WEDNESDAY

Screening of A Reivers Moon (2017 version)

Wednesday 20th March | From 7pm | Heart of Hawick

FRIDAY

The Ghosts of Liddesdale & Teviotdale

Friday 22nd March | 6.45pm & 8pm | Textile Tower House

Western End in Concert

Friday 22nd March | 8pm | Hawick Auld Baths

SATURDAY

Reivers Market

Saturday 23rd March | 10am-3pm | Drumlanrig Square & Kirk Wynd

Reivers Encampment

Saturday 23rd March | 10am-3pm | Mote Park

Opening Procession

Saturday 23rd March | 10.30am | Starting at the Horse

A Play in 4 Parts by Drumlanrig Primary School

Saturday 23rd March | 11.15am | Drumlanrig School Hall

Inter Schools Reivers Games

Saturday 23rd March | 11.30am | Mote Park (Drumlanrig School playground)

Hawick Archaeological Society Lectures

Saturday 23rd March | 11.15am & 1.30pm | Heritage Hub Archive Centre

Torchlight Procession & Reivers Fireworks

Saturday 23rd March | From 6.45pm | Assemble in Common Haugh

Reivers Banquet with Entertainment

Saturday 23rd March | 8.15pm | Hawick Auld Baths

SUNDAY

Reivers Town Walk "A day in Hawick is never wasted!"

Sunday 24th March | 10am | Assemble in Civic Space

High Tea - with guest speaker John Nichol

Sunday 24th March | 4pm | Hawick Rugby Club

For more information, check out our website

www.hawickreivers.com or email info@hawickreivers.com



**HAWICK
REIVERS
FESTIVAL**