



KPT DEVELOPMENT TRUST

13 AUGUST 2026

AMAZING SUMMER GET INTO SUMMER BULLETIN



WELCOME TO THE LATEST NEWS AND UPDATES FROM THE TRUST

TRUST OFFICE HOURS:

Monday: 10:00 - 4:00
Tuesday: 10:00 - 4:00
Wednesday: 3:30 - 5:00
Thursday: Bulletin Day
Friday: 10:00 - 4:00

Wellbeing Wednesdays

11:00 am - Stroll in the Park
12:00 - Special £5 Lunch
1:00 pm - KPT Craft Circle

Thursday

2-4pm Gentle Garden Group
4-6pm Thursday Night Tea
Time - Meals starting at £2.50

KPT COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND

**(COMMUNITY HYDRO
DIVIDEND)**

APPLY NOW!

**For more information and how
to apply,
please contact using the
details below.**

BOOTS, BEATS & BBQ

Dumfries & Galloway
AMAZING SUMMER
 GET INTO SUMMER

Friday, 14th August
 6 - 8pm
 Wild West Disco
 and Buffet!
 The Gladstone Hall,
 Penpont

FREE
ALL WELCOME!

Dust off your boots and get your cowboy hats ready! We are preparing ourselves to head into the Wild West frontier once again for our spectacular Grand Finale event. It is time to round up the family, grab a plate at the BBQ buffet, and hit the disco dance floor to close out our Amazing Summer Programme in true outlaw style! (Continued on p.2)



Telephone: 01848 331435



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Website: www.kptdevelopmenttrust.org

Companies House Reg. SC592235

OSCR Reg No. SC05098

We can barely believe that we have reached our final session. This summer has been an absolute whirlwind of discovery, and we hope our children and families have had an unforgettable experience exploring, learning, and growing together. Here is a look back at how just some of our Wild West adventures connected directly to Scotland's Curriculum for Excellence (CfE).

Settlement, Structures, and Community Ownership.

Our overarching Wild West theme was deeply rooted in real-world local context: our community ownership of the Glebe Field and our affordable housing project. What we did: We explored the ideas of community, settlement, structures, and raw materials. Children became eco-architects, designing sustainable homes by reusing and recycling household items. We also enjoyed thrilling pony rides and Western-style riding displays. CfE Link (Social Studies / Technologies): By examining how settlements are formed and building eco-homes, participants developed an understanding of human environments and sustainability. Designing structures using recycled materials fostered creativity and problem-solving in engineering.

Shelter Building and Wilderness Crafts:

We tapped into our inner frontiersmen and pioneers by building our very own outdoor camps right on our frontier. What we did: We worked together to build impressive Tee-pee structures using natural hazel poles, large sheets, and camouflage netting. CfE Link (Technologies / Expressive Arts): Constructing these Tee-pee shelters allowed children to explore structural stability, practice problem-solving, and use raw materials to create functional outdoor shelters. Dressing the structures with netting and sheets also tapped into their spatial design skills and creative expression.

From Seed to Supper:

Living Off the Land. True pioneers need to know how to survive and thrive using natural resources. What we did: We explored where our food comes from and how to grow it. We mastered seed-sowing techniques, including the historic art of broadcasting seed. Families harvested, prepared, cooked, and ate food they had either grown themselves or foraged from the wild. CfE Link (Health and Wellbeing / Sciences): Discovering the journey of food from patch to plate allowed children to apply culinary skills and understand the value of a healthy diet. Learning about plant growth and seed dispersal directly aligned with biodiversity and planet earth concepts. Food, Fellowship, and Foraging. Our frontier community grew closest around the campfire and the dining table, sharing meals and kindness. What we did: We embraced true community spirit through shared BBQs, picnics, packed lunches, and community food sharing events. We looked out for one another by making each other drinks, and we connected with nature by harvesting fresh mint to brew our own natural herbal infusions. CfE Link (Health and Wellbeing): Preparing food and crafting natural mint infusions allowed children to practice safe, hygienic food preparation skills. Sharing meals and making drinks for peers directly put the Permaculture Ethics of "People Care" and "Fair Share" into action, strengthening social bonds, hospitality, and emotional well-being.

Nature, Ecology, and Permaculture Ethics:

We immersed ourselves fully in the beautiful natural world around us, discovering how everything is interconnected. What we did: We embraced Permaculture Ethics (Earth Care, People Care, and Fair Share). Our young explorers dove into freshwater ecology through river dipping, by cuddling chickens, and gathered fresh eggs.

(Continued from p.2)

We also became citizen scientists by bird watching, butterfly counting, and minibeast hunting. CfE Link (Sciences): Through river dipping and insect counts, children sampled local ecosystems, identifying living things and discussing how to protect their habitats and biodiversity.

Mindful Trails and Active Living:

Moving our bodies and caring for our mental health went hand-in-hand this summer. What we did: We sculpted clay snails as part of an ongoing project to create a mindful snail trail along the Active Travel Path. This pathway promotes being active, healthy, and moving more. CfE Link (Health and Wellbeing / Expressive Arts): Clay sculpting developed fine motor skills and creative expression through art and design. The active travel trail encourages daily physical activity and helps children understand the positive impact of movement on their bodies and minds.

Uncovering Our Social History:

We took a step back in time to discover the rugged history of our own local frontiers. What we did: We explored the social history of Wanlockhead, learning about the tough lives and work of historical families and children. We panned for gold, visited the historic Closeburn Castle, and learned about Robert Burns and Robert the Bruce. We even listened to spooky tales from Mostly Ghostly and uncovered the history of the Kirkpatrick family. CfE Link (Social Studies): By comparing their lives to children of the past and exploring local heritage sites, participants enhanced their understanding of people, past events, and societies.

Connection, Expression, and Play:

At the heart of everything was simple, joyful connection. What we did: We played classic outdoor games like rounders, giant snakes and ladders, and connect four, where we practiced taking turns. We also created safe spaces to explore and express our feelings using a talking stick and tapped into our endless imaginations. We laughed, we ran, and we grew closer. CfE Link (Health and Wellbeing / Literacy and English): Using the talking stick allowed children to develop vital skills in communication, turn-taking, listening, and expressing emotions safely. Collaborative outdoor play built resilience, teamwork, and social physical well-being.

Thank you to every single child, young person, to our families volunteers, staff member and to our funders who made Summer 2026 so magical.

See you at the Grand Finale BBQ—let's close this chapter with a bang!

Our Amazing Summer was brought to you by
funding awarded by:

Dumfries and Galloway Council Summer of Play Fund
Keir Community Council
Penpont Community Council
KPTDT Community Benefit Fund

Supported by



Dumfries & Galloway
AMAZING SUMMER
GET INTO SUMMER

FRIDAY, 7th AUGUST

🐌 **SNAIL PAINTING, SUPERHERO SHELLS, AND SUMMER FUN!**

Our Amazing Summer morning session on Friday 7th August was a total blast of pure creativity as the children brought our giant clay snails to life! We were blown away by their incredible imaginations, featuring everything from a vibrant Yellow Submarine and Papa Smurf to a spooky ghost snail and a web-slinging Spider-Man. After refueling with some delicious packed lunches, we headed out to the park to burn off some energy with a magical bubble-blowing session and a brilliant, highly competitive game of rounders!

TUESDAY, 11th AUGUST

🔥 **HARVESTING, FORAGING, IMMersed IN NATURE, AND CAMPFIRE COOKERY:
A MAGICAL GARDEN DELIGHT DAY!**

Tuesday 11th August turned into an unforgettable "Garden Delight Day" when our young pioneers took the lead, choosing to slow down and fully immerse themselves in the magic of nature. The day kicked off with a spectacular, unplanned treat as three magnificent Red Kites put on a thrilling aerodynamic flight display right above us! To add to the pure joy, a passing tractor driver cutting the grass played right along, beeping his horn to the absolute delight of our shouting, waving crowd.

Our young gardeners took great care of our growing spaces by weeding the pathways between the vegetable beds and learning exactly how to tend, prune, and care for our flourishing tomato plants to ensure a great harvest. Our young explorers became true stewards of the land as they weeded the beds, cuddled our friendly chickens, gathered fresh eggs, harvested potatoes, brambles, blue berries and examined the hidden world inside our compost heap.

Turning our attention to freshwater ecology, we headed down for some river dipping and uncovered a bustling underwater world filled with tiny fish fry and freshwater shrimps. We then enjoyed a beautiful, peaceful riverside walk along the Penpont-to-Keir path, where imagination took over. The children crafted miniature boats out of leaves to launch in the current and finished the journey with a lively, competitive game of Pooh sticks from the bridge, all while spotting earthworms, fluttering butterflies, and a fascinating mix of summer insects. To top off a perfect day of exploration, we identified our food, harvested and prepared it, and used our freshly found garden treasures to cook up an absolute outdoor fire feast!



RURAL HEALTH & WELLBEING

Companies House Reg. SC92235

OSCR Reg No. SC050980



Rural Health & Wellbeing

Keir, Penpont and Tynron Development Trust (KPTDT) have a number of activities and groups that are designed to help keep local residents healthy and active, reduce loneliness and generally improve our sense of wellbeing. Each of our activities and groups are open to all and most are offered free of charge or at a reduced cost.

If anyone living locally is interested in any of the groups or activities shown on this poster, but is faced with barriers to their participation, please do get in touch with us for an informal chat about how we can support you to join in. Please also note that our activities and groups may be subject to change and places on certain activities may be subject to availability. So it is advisable to get in touch prior to attending.

There are also other opportunities available that are not shown here, such as volunteering in Bridgend Community Garden or with our community food sharing activities, so please do check our Facebook Page (KPT Development Trust) and our website: www.kptdevelopmenttrust.org

For further information, or if you have any questions, please get in touch with Michelle Johnston (Development Officer) on 01848 331 435 or email: info@kptdevelopmenttrust.org



Stroll in the Park

JOIN US!

Penpont Starting 26 June
Wednesdays at 11am
Meet at KPT Office Penpont

Active Communities Dumfries & Galloway



Three Villages Community Café

Wednesday £5 Special

£5

From 12 noon

CRAFT, SKILLS, SHARE
COMPANY & CARE

Craft Circle

Looking for help & skills to both teach & learn creative crafts.

**Rural Health & Wellbeing
COMMUNITY & CONNECTION
PROJECT**

JOIN NOW!

WEDNESDAY
AFTERNOON
1:00 - 3:00 PM

KPT OFFICE
MAIN STREET
PENPONT

BE ACTIVE!

Walking and Cycling Opportunities in Keir, Penpont, and Tynron

FREE E-bikes Hire

(Available to residents within the KPT Community Council area, aged 14 and over until June 30, 2026).

TO BOOK: Contact Maureen on 07765073913 or Michelle on 01848 331435. Book using JotForm @<https://kptdevelopmenttrust.org/> or via email: info@kptdevelopmenttrust.org or ask in the Three Villages Community Café

SHIATSU

ADDITIONAL SESSIONS NOW AVAILABLE

Davie Hall is a qualified acupressure therapist with the Glasgow school of Shiatsu.

Shiatsu is a physical therapy/massage which uses a combination of pressure points, gentle manipulation and stretching.

Shiatsu can help with relaxation, improve mood, aid sleep and relieve tension.

Shiatsu is given fully clothed and can be practised on the floor or a chair. Each session is tailored to the client's needs.

There are 15 more fully funded sessions available.

- 1h sessions
- Home visits
- Priority given to carers, isolated and elderly people and those with mobility issues.
- Treatments also available in Penpont

For any questions or booking contact Davie Hall on: M: 07761 713 685 E: davie_hall@fastmail.fm

GENTLE GARDEN GROUP THURSDAY 2 - 4

Refresh the Environment: Gardening helps improve air quality by producing oxygen and absorbing pollution.

Produce Healthy Food: Growing your own vegetables and fruits is an easy way to get fresh and organic food.

Reduce Stress: Gardening has been shown to help relieve stress and improve health and wellbeing.

Bridgend Community Garden

THREE VILLAGES COMMUNITY CAFE

Thursday Tea Time Take Away Pizza Night!

Sit In or Take Away

Please come along and enjoy our £2.50 homecooked Thursday Night Tea Time Meal. at The Three Villages Café Served from 4pm onwards. To book: please call in to the cafe, email - threevillagescafe@gmail.com or phone 01848 331073



OST hosts



The Joseph Thomson Heritage Centre, Marrburn Road, Penpont

Open every Saturday in August

10am – 3pm

1 • 8 • 15 • 22 • 29 AUGUST 2026

Discover the life and African journeys of the explorer Joseph Thomson, and the lives and past times of the villages of Penpont, Keir and Tynron

Free entry • All welcome

The Joseph Thomson Group is a registered Scottish Charity, number SC029176



Do you enjoy singing or would you like to start?

Why not join

Nithsdale Singers

Come along to
the Community Centre, Thornhill
(Lower Hall)

Each Wednesday, 1.15pm to 2.30pm

Singalong / taster sessions on

19th and 26th August

Then from 21st October onwards

Weekly rate is only £5



Thornhill & District Horticultural Society ANNUAL FLOWER SHOW

Saturday 22nd of August 2026

Thornhill Community Centre

Photography

Home arts

Baking

Pot plants

Vegetables

Flowers



Admission

Adults - £1 / O.A.P - 50P

Doors open 2pm

**Tea, Coffee and Home Baking
Raffle**



UPDATES FROM BRIDGEND COMMUNITY GARDEN



FROM PLOT TO PLATE: FREE SURPLUS PRODUCE & OUR YOUNG HARVESTERS

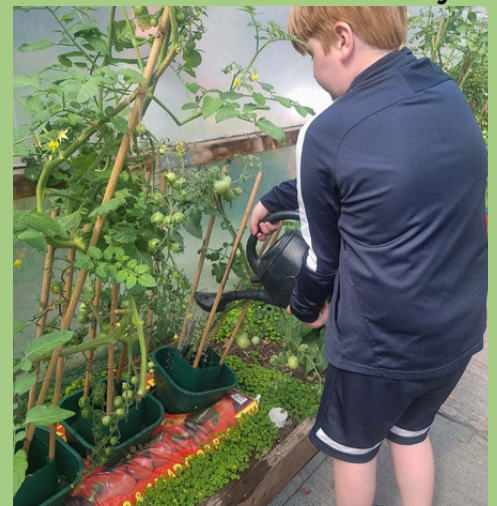


Head down to the KPTDT office on Main Street this week to pick up some incredible, fresh surplus produce to share! Our community growers have been busy, and we currently have a gorgeous bounty available, including delicious potatoes, beetroot, cabbages, and our very first polytunnel-ripened baby tomatoes.

This fresh food ties perfectly into our Amazing Summer activities! On Tuesday 7th August, our brilliant young people turned into expert harvesters. They learned exactly how to check if fruits and vegetables are ripe and ready to pick. The children rolled up their sleeves to harvest potatoes, blueberries, brambles, and tomatoes, while learning how to clean and prepare them for the kitchen.

We had fantastic group discussions about all the different ways we can use these fresh ingredients to make tasty food to share at home. The absolute highlight of the day was the cooking session! The children thoroughly enjoyed scrubbing the freshly dug potatoes, wrapping them carefully in foil, and baking them directly on our outdoor fire. They tasted absolutely incredible eaten hot with butter, cheese, black pepper, or ham.

Pop by the office to grab your share of the harvest and taste the hard work of our community!





UPDATES FROM THE CAFE

MORE THAN A BUILDING: MEET THE HEART, FUTURE AND FACES OF THE THREE VILLAGES CAFE!



As the Toll House goes on the open market, Keir, Penpont and Tynron Development Trust (KPTDT) are actively exploring funding opportunities to purchase the building. This critical step aims to safeguard the Toll House, which proudly houses our Three Villages Cafe. In a rural community such as Penpont, local opportunities for young people can be incredibly limited, making this vital community hub a rare and essential resource. It serves as the central interface for our health and wellbeing and community food sharing activities.

Crucially, the Toll House is far more than just brick and mortar. It acts as a vibrant training hub, offering essential employment opportunities and life skills for our local youth—many of whom are proudly stepping into their very first jobs here. By building confidence, teamwork, and a strong work ethic right on their doorstep, the cafe prepares our young people for the future as they gain experience and consider moving on to positive destinations like higher education, training, or new career paths.



Meet Isla McKie (Age 20)

Isla is one of our more experienced and longstanding young people, having joined the cafe crew back in 2022 just after Covid. Her dedication to our community extends far beyond the cafe kitchen; Isla also volunteered on our Community Art Installation, where she helped sew our Climate Change "Ocean Commotion" and Arctic-themed bus stop decor for our KM Rally 2025. Showing just how powerful the cafe is as a stepping stone to incredible positive destinations, Isla is now progressing into her third year studying BA Fashion and Business at Glasgow Caledonian University! We wish Isla the very best with her studies.



Meet Yasmin Bain (Age 14)

Yasmin is our most recently recruited young person, who used her summer school holiday to begin her exciting journey into the tourism and hospitality industry. Heading into S4 at Wallace Hall Academy, Yasmin has been mainly working on Thursdays and Fridays over the summer. As she returns to school, she will become one of our regular weekenders, taking on our Saturday and Sunday shifts. We are particularly proud of Yasmin for her incredible community spirit; last Friday night, she stepped in to rescue the team by volunteering to help Maureen when the cafe was short-staffed.

A huge thank you to Natasha Tollett and Michelle J., who jumped into action last Friday to volunteer alongside Yasmin! They stepped up to help Maureen keep the Friday Night Tea Time Club running smoothly when we faced an unexpected staff shortage. Unplanned shortages happen from time to time, but thanks to the incredible community spirit, adaptability, and resilience of our village, our cafe crew is always solution-focused.

Michelle J. would also like to send a warm, friendly apology regarding last week's menu. She accidentally included a pasta dish that wasn't meant to be on the board—thank you all for your understanding and for rolling with it!



FRIDAY NIGHT TEA
TIME CLUB
DATES

Fri 21st August

Fri 28th August

SIT-IN & TAKE-AWAY
BOOKING PREFERRED

To book, please call 01848 331073; find us on facebook, e-mail
threevillagescafe@gmail.com or
BEST OF ALL, POP IN AND SEE US!



THREE VILLAGES COMMUNITY CAFE
FRIDAY NIGHT TEA TIME
MENU

Breaded Haddock, chips & peas £10

Homemade Steak Pie, chips & peas £10

Sausages, Mash & Onion Gravy - £10

Special Fried Rice £8

Creamy Pesto Prawns & Noodles £9

Sweet & Sour Chicken/Tofu, Rice £9

Chicken Tikka Masala (Homemade) Rice £9

Macaroni Cheese, Chips, Peas £7

Sit in/take away
5.30 PM TO LAST ORDERS 7.00PM
To book: please call in to the cafe,
email - threevillagescafe@gmail.com
or phone 01848 331073

