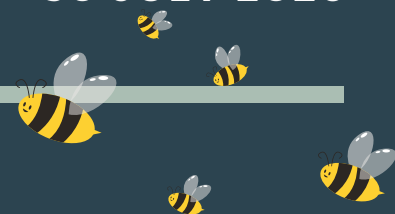




KPT DEVELOPMENT TRUST

30 JULY 2026

AMAZING SUMMER GET INTO SUMMER BULLETIN



WELCOME TO THE LATEST NEWS AND UPDATES FROM THE TRUST



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

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

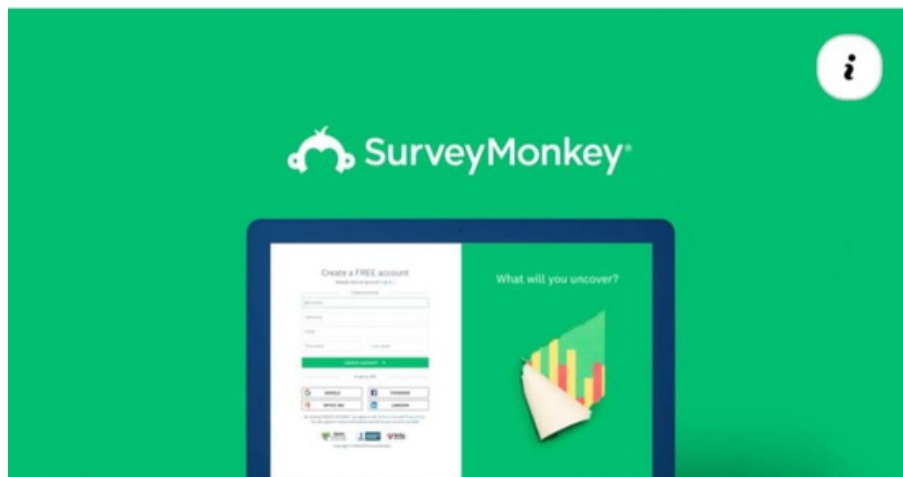
2-4pm Gentle Garden Group
4-6pm Thursday Night Tea Time - Meals starting at £2.50

KPT COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND

**(COMMUNITY HYDRO
DIVIDEND)**

APPLY NOW!

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



surveymonkey.com

Toll House Community HubKPTDT is revisiting the
idea of securing a community owned building for so...

A huge thank you goes out to everyone who has taken the time to complete our short survey on the Toll House. Your valuable feedback is vital in helping us shape the future of this community landmark.

How to Share Your Thoughts

If you have not had a chance to participate yet, your voice matters, and it is not too late to get involved.

Digital: Complete the short online survey. **Paper copies:** Pick up a physical form at the **Three Villages Cafe**. **Alternative location:** Collect a hard copy from the **KPTDT office**.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to our community!



Telephone: 01848 331435



Email: info.kptdt@gmail.com



Website: www.kptdevelopmenttrust.org

Companies House Reg. SC592235

OSCR Reg No. SC05098

COMMUNITY COLLABORATION: THE VITAL IMPACT OF THE KPT CRAFT CIRCLE

The Keir, Penpont, and Tynron (KPT) Development Trust is pleased to highlight the continued success and community impact of its weekly Craft Circle. Bringing together residents from across our distinct rural localities, the initiative has established a vital framework for social connection, mutual care, and collaborative creativity. By uniting individuals with a shared purpose, the project actively addresses the unique challenges of rural isolation, demonstrating the profound impact of community-led wellbeing initiatives. The Craft Circle serves as a benchmark for what can be achieved through dedicated grassroots leadership and targeted support. Driven by a commitment to rural health and social equity, Development Officer Michelle Johnston initially launched the project with personal funds of just £12, alongside essential material donations of wool and needles from the Canine Rescue Charity Shop in Thornhill.



Supported by grant funding from the Scottish Government's Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund, the initiative has achieved remarkable scale. In a significant operational milestone, the Trust recently secured a lease for new, expanded premises. This acquisition ensures the long-term sustainability of the project and provides the infrastructure required to meet growing community demand. Documenting Personal Journeys: "Your Community, Their Story" The broader regional significance of the project was recently recognised by Third Sector Dumfries and Galloway, who featured the group in their professional video documentary series, "Your Community, Their Story". The short film provides an analytical yet heartwarming look at the personal journeys of our participants, illustrating how the circle fosters regional cohesion: Combating Rural Isolation: For both long-term residents and individuals new to Penpont, the weekly sessions offer a structured environment to expand social networks into Thornhill and the wider glens. The group forms a core component of a broader "Wellbeing Wednesday" itinerary. Participants frequently engage in the morning walking group and utilise local cafe services before attending the afternoon session. A Confidential, Supportive Environment: The circle provides a secure, non-judgmental space that is highly effective for individuals recovering from illness or undergoing difficult transitions. Creative Outputs and Environmental Stewardship: The collective output of the Craft Circle—encompassing both regular in-person attendees and those participating from home—has been exemplary. The group operates on a model of peer-led skill sharing with a strict focus on environmental sustainability, prioritising the principles of reducing, reusing, and recycling materials. To date, this dedicated approach has resulted in high-quality personal projects, impactful local art installations, and collaborative contributions to a prominent, regionwide poppy project supported by Mark Jardine and The People's Project.

AN UNFORGETTABLE SUMMER SAFFARI: COMMUNITY COLLABORATION AT ITS BEST!!

Our intrepid Garden Safarists had a wonderful afternoon exploring local terrain on Sunday 26th July! This "Amazing Summer" adventure was made possible thanks to our incredible expedition funders: Dumfries and Galloway Council, Keir Community Council, Penpont Community Council, and the KPTDT Community Benefit Fund.

First Stop: Base Camp Bridgend

The journey kicked off at Bridgend Community Garden, where trackers fueled up on superb savoury dishes. Visitors from the Old School Thornhill territory arrived just in time to join our very first "watering hole" activity—foraging for creativity by making brilliant safari animal masks with Hayjavu Crafts.

Transporting the Herd

When it was time to migrate, huge thanks went to Thornhill and District Community Transport, who safely whisked our herd across the plains to Old School Thornhill. A few of our most active, adventurous adult explorers even chose to cycle their way across the entire safari trail aka the Active Travel Path!

Final Destination: Old School Thornhill

At our final outpost, Old School Thornhill's dedicated youth worker Lia, guided everyone through fantastic nature-based crafts. Explorers were treated to divine sweet delicacies while tracking the progress of other community gardens and the Thornhill Food Initiative.

It was a brilliant afternoon of discovering new habitats, learning together, and forging new friendships—community collaboration at its absolute wildest!



Dumfries & Galloway
AMAZING SUMMER
GET INTO SUMMER

OUR Friday SESSION
24 JULY 2026

A Huge Thank You to Hayjavu Crafts!

We want to send a massive thank you to the wonderful Linda Hay from Hayjavu Crafts for leading our brilliant Tuesday morning workshop as part of our Amazing Summer Programme of activities!

Linda guided our eager participants through various creative tie-dyeing techniques. By using simple tools like stones and rubber bands, everyone learned how to manipulate fabric to create beautifully unique, colourful patterned bags.

The session was an absolute blast, with everyone having great fun getting hands-on and unleashing their inner artists. The results were spectacular, and we were all really proud of our vibrant, multi-coloured finished masterpieces! Thank you, Linda, for sharing your fantastic crafting skills with us and making our summer programme so memorable.



A BIG THANK YOU TO DRIFTWOOD CINEMA!



The KPT Development Trust would also like to say a very big thank you to Matt at Driftwood Cinema for bringing our afternoon matinee experience right to our doorstep here in Penpont! The Gladstone Hall drew their blinds closed and switched off the lights to create that authentic cinematic experience. We all settled down to watch Rango, which proved to be a massive hit! The audience laughed and gasped with each plot twist. The film choice, of course, matched this year's Amazing Summer Wild West theme perfectly.

OUR DAY DOWN IN THE GARDEN WITH PROPAGATE TUESDAY 28 JULY

Permaculture and Fun at Bridgend Community Garden!

We had a fabulous day down at Bridgend Community Garden with Lusi Alderslowe from Propagate, author of the Engaging Children in Permaculture course!

Our session started by learning the core Permaculture ethics: Earth Care, People Care, and Fair Share. Our children and young people really expressed themselves, openly sharing their own brilliant ideas on what these values look like in everyday practice.

The day was packed with a diverse range of hands-on activities, including:

Green Woodworking: Crafting unique name badges and plant labels from "wood cookies." (Even Linda Hay learned how to saw wood—we think her husband Ian will be very impressed!).

Plant Studies: Investigating a variety of plants, drawing them, identifying species, and uncovering fun botanical facts.

Nature Exploration: Learning a poem, embarking on an exciting bug hunt, playing group games, and brewing fresh mint tea straight from the garden.

It was truly the best day ever, filled with learning, laughter, and community spirit!



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



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

CREATIVE WRITING WITH OPEN BOOK

Join the Three Villages Creative Writing Group!

Join local author Hugh McMillan, for a gentle, guided
Creative Writing Session. We'll be reading stories and
poems, and using them to spark our own creativity.

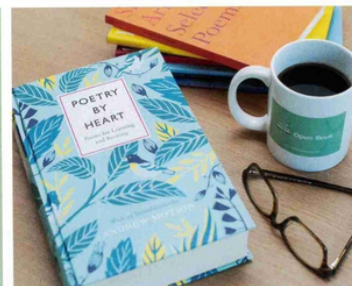
**Three Villages Cafe, Main Street, Penpont
DG3 4BP**

Learn more at openbookreading.com and sign up
for the *Unbound* newsletter.

**6:30-8:30pm, monthly
on a Wednesday**

- 8 April
- 6 May
- 3 June
- 1 July
- 5 August

All welcome, ages 18+



Open Book



ALBA | CHRUTHACHAIL

AMAZING SUMMER 2026 GRAND FINALE

Dumfries & Galloway
AMAZING SUMMER
GET INTO SUMMER

Friday, 14th August
6 - 8pm

**Wild West Disco
and Buffet!**

**The Gladstone Hall,
Penpont**

FREE

ALL WELCOME!

AULD ALLIANCE PROGRAMME AUGUST 2026

Thursday 13th August

Arrival, 3.40pm Edinburgh. Collection community bus & 1 car. Eta Thornhill 6pm, 6.20pm Dunscore.
Dinner with host families

Friday 14th August

Visit Stirling Castle, Bannockburn for picnic lunch and battlefield wander, and Dunblane Cathedral/town centre. The bus will pick up at Wickes car park at 8.00am, then Thornhill at approx. 8.20am. Estimated return time 5.45 Thornhill, 6pm Dumfries. Picnic lunch to be provided by host families. Dinner with host families.

Saturday 15th August

Day with host families, suggested attendance at Nith Raid.

Evening ceilidh, soiree at 6.30 pm Tynron Village Hall soiree. Pot luck cold buffet & music. Linda is coordinating the food. Her email is lindaandranald@gmail.com

Sunday 16th August

Visit Sanquhar Tolbooth museum, meeting at 11.am. There will also be time to visit the graves of the Napoleonic officers in Sanquhar churchyard. Drive to Wanlockhead, for Cheese Ploughman's lunch in the village hall, and 2.30pm visit to the museum of lead mining (the group is not going in the mine; if anyone would like to, please let me know), including miner's library and cottages. Return to Thornhill for visit to Nate's Forge – suggest meeting at 4pm, 4.15 in the School (Wallacehall Academy) car park. Dinner with host families.

Monday 17th August

Day with host families

Tuesday 18th August

Departure. Flight at 7.20pm, but the French have asked if they can spend the day in Edinburgh. The community bus plus one car will take them to Edinburgh; more information to follow. Meet Thornhill at 9.30am.

We will set up a WhatsApp group to keep in touch with updates etc.

If you have any questions contact me on 07592802548 or c.carson@hotmail.co.uk



UPDATES FROM BRIDGEND COMMUNITY GARDEN



Community Kindness: Thank You Bridgend Community Garden!



A huge thank you goes out to the Bridgend Community Garden Group for generously sharing their surplus homegrown produce with the KPT Development Trust Office.

This partnership has created a truly meaningful way to boost community food sharing across our area. By using the Trust Office as a hub, it has become much quicker and easier for local folks to drop by, access fresh food, and connect with neighbors. We are incredibly grateful for your hard work and generosity in keeping our community nourished!



What's Available This Week?

Recently, we have had fantastic fresh items available at the office, including: Homegrown potatoes; fresh carrots; earthy beetroot and a giant show-stopping marrow. Stock changes constantly depending on the harvest. Please keep an eye out on our social media channels, or feel free to contact Michelle J. directly to find out what fresh produce is currently available for collection.



CULINARY CELEBRATION: GARDEN SAFARI- SHOWCASING OUR LOCAL GOOD FOOD STORIES!

We are thrilled to share how our community's homegrown harvests were transformed for our recent Garden Safari event on Sunday 26th July. A huge amount of the surplus garden produce and locally grown, in-season fruit and veggies were used to create superb culinary delights, perfectly showcasing our positive local food-growing stories. Savoury Feasts at Bridgend Community Garden. The talented Maureen from The Three Villages Cafe conjured up an incredible savoury menu served right at the garden, including:

Chilled Courgette Soup – Light, refreshing, and full of summer flavor.

Carrot and Cheese Slice – A delicious way to enjoy fresh carrots.

Loaded Vegetable Frittata – Packed with onion, chard, and tomatoes, and bursting with herby goodness from fresh parsley, chives, and rosemary.

Divine Sweet Treats at Old School Thornhill

The feast continued at Old School Thornhill, where Maureen and Zoe teamed up to bake a selection of truly divine desserts and refreshing drinks:

Almond and Raspberry Cake – Highlighting fresh, tart local berries.

Beetroot Brownies – Rich, fudgy, and naturally sweetened by the garden harvest.

Scones with Homemade Jams – A classic teatime favorite.

Blackcurrant Cordial & Raspberry Vinegar – A wonderfully versatile accompaniment perfect for drizzling over salads, topping ice cream, or simply diluting with water.

Thank you to everyone who grew, harvested, cooked, and baked to make our Garden Safari such a delicious success!



UPDATES FROM THE CAFE



Important Notice: Friday Night Tea Time Club Cancelled Tomorrow

We are very sorry to announce that tomorrow's Friday Night Tea Time Club is cancelled. Our hardworking cafe crew had to make this difficult decision due to two main reasons:

High catering volume: Managing extra meals for our wonderful Amazing Summer participants.

Staff shortages: Facing sudden team availability issues this week.

We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this changes to your plans. We hope our regular Friday night guests understand this temporary pause.

Thank you so much for your cooperation and ongoing support. We truly look forward to welcoming you all back for our next Friday Night Tea Time Club!

FRIDAY NIGHT TEA TIME CLUB DATES

CANCELLED

Fri 7th July
Fri 7th 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!

Plan Your Next Visit!

Meanwhile, we have kept the Friday Night Tea Time menu available here in the KPT Bulletin for you to peruse. Take a look and decide what you might like to order when we welcome you back next Friday night, 7th August!

How to Book Your Table

Spaces fill up quickly, so we highly recommend securing your spot in advance for our return on the 7th. You can book your table at The Three Villages Cafe on Main Street, Penpont through the following methods:

In Person: Speak to our crew at the counter during regular daytime hours.

By Phone: Call 01848 337073 to reserve your table instantly.

Via email: threevillagescafe@gmail.com

Online: Message our team via our official social media pages.

**THREE VILLAGES COMMUNITY CAFE
FRIDAY NIGHT TEA TIME
MENU**

Home made Steak Pie, chips & peas £10
Breaded Haddock, chips & peas £10
Chicken & Prawn Special Fried Rice - £9
Sausages, Mash & Onion Gravy - £10
Sweet n Sour Chicken & Noodles £10
Pasta Primavera (V) £8
Chicken Fillet BLT, Chips & Coleslaw £10
Ham Salad & Chips - £10
Tuna Nicoise Salad Bowl - £10

**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 337073.