

SELKIRK

CONSERVATION AREA REGENERATION SCHEME



EDUCATION & TRAINING REPORT



HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT SCOTLAND

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INTRODUCTION



The information contained within the following document has been written at the conclusion of the Selkirk Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) to capture and summarise all the outcomes and impacts of the Community Heritage Education and Traditional Skills Training activities.

This report is intended to amplify and compliment both the required **Regeneration Outputs Report (Schedule Part 5)** prepared for Historic Environment Scotland as a mandatory condition of the CARS funding, as well as the **Selkirk CARS Final Report & Evaluation** document with more detailed information and relevant images documenting the complimentary initiatives.

The report has been written principally by **Colin Gilmour** (Selkirk CARS Project Officer) with assistance from **Mark Douglas**, Principal Officer (Built Heritage & Design)

Scottish Borders Council

September 2018

INTRODUCTION

Selkirk Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS), a partnership project developed with the local community and funded by Historic Environment Scotland and Scottish Borders Council, aimed to regenerate the medieval core of the Selkirk Conservation Area through the provision of grant funding to eligible properties for external fabric repairs using traditional materials and skills.

Complimentary to the building repair grant funding was an Education and Training fund, targeting engagement with the local community to increase the knowledge and awareness of the towns history, heritage and care of the built environment, as well as providing upskilling opportunities for local contractors and building professionals in traditional building repair techniques.

Of the total CARS budget of £1,080,000 an allocation of £60,000 was ring-fenced for community heritage education projects (£45k) and traditional skills training events (£15k)

Selkirk CARS officially launched in November 2012 and over the next four and a half years organised or funded over 100 community heritage education projects and traditional skills training events to compliment the grant funded physical repair projects. Over 7,500 people participated in these education and training activities.

The Selkirk CARS Steering Group created an outline Education and Training plan at the outset of the project and this was developed as engagement with local groups and organisations took place to ensure the funding was allocated to relevant projects.

The middle three years aimed to engage with formal education such as the local schools and themes were developed to provide a framework for project development.

The SBC Arts Development Team were engaged in the early years of the project and assisted greatly in the development of creative projects within the community. Unfortunately with the re-organization of Arts and Cultural Services at the Council the resource was lost however the Selkirk CARS project officer was able to maintain development of a strong Community Heritage Education Programme of events and activities.

Traditional skills training activities were based around discussions with local contractors and professional agents to ensure that the events were shaped around their needs. A strong programme of regular seminars and workshops was undertaken throughout the CARS project with good attendance at nearly every event.

The community heritage education projects and traditional skills training events added greatly to the overall impact of Selkirk CARS within the town, leaving a lasting legacy of knowledge and enthusiasm for the historic Royal Burgh for years to come.



“The Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) is improving the range and variety of what they offer in Selkirk.

They have well-developed links with local primary and secondary schools delivering programmes based around themes, for example Literary and Creative Selkirk.

These are highly valued by local schools and fit well with their curriculum planning.”

HMiE Report (2015)



COMMUNITY HERITAGE EDUCATION

COMMUNITY HERITAGE EDUCATION

IN NUMBERS

Events Delivered =	67
Attendance =	6,893 People
Delivered Hours =	903
Total CARS Funding =	£ 39,051

PROCESS

The Community Heritage Education component of Selkirk CARS was delivered during a three year period aligned to the school's academic years. The funding was allocated to Formal Education, Informal Education and Legacy Projects.

The Formal Education projects were undertaken by the six local Primary schools and Selkirk High School. The following themes were provided:

Year 1	Origins of Selkirk & the Royal Burgh
Year 2	Literary & Creative Selkirk
Year 3	Industrial Selkirk

All the schools participated and developed interesting and varied projects from animation to drama, and model making to creative writing. The Selkirk CARS funding was used in a variety of ways such as bringing in creative practitioners, hire of transport, admission fees for site visits etc. Over 900 pupils were engaged and the feedback was positive from both the staff and pupils.

The Informal Education projects were open to the local community to develop ideas as well as some events that were developed specifically by Selkirk CARS. External funding of over £25,000 was also secured with Selkirk CARS funding being used as seed funding as required to help larger projects come to fruition.

Selkirk CARS helped fund heritage activities at the local YES Arts Festival supported by Creative Scotland and was a key driver in the Reflections Residency and Exhibition Event which was part of the Year of Innovation, Architecture, and Design; the Festival of Architecture and the Borders Science Festival.

Many smaller activities also took place within the community with Selkirk CARS funding. Highlights included the "Yarn Bombing" of the towns landmarks by the Souter Stormers and "Selkirks Marvellous Monuments" a Poetry Promenade by local writer Julian Colton which was also published as a book.

The community also benefitted from legacy funding to enhance the Market Place Streetscape works with the emblems of the various Common Riding Casting Associations being carved into stone panels incorporated within stone planters and walling.



Wallace Re-enactment



Medieval Construction Show



Animation Project



Bravura Ballads



Jenny Corbett Project

TRADITIONAL SKILLS TRAINING

TRADITIONAL SKILLS TRAINING

IN NUMBERS

Events Delivered =	37
Attendance =	613 People
Delivered Hours =	84
Total CARS Funding =	£ 13,835

PROCESS

Selkirk CARS set out to create a programme of traditional Skills Training activities that would engage with a variety of people, in the construction industry, those looking after historic buildings, and those looking to a potential career in conservation.

A “Technical Launch” event was held to encourage local contractors and professional agents to find out about Selkirk CARS. A questionnaire was developed to identify needs and opportunities for training to try and tailor events for the local community.

The central element of the traditional Skills Training programme was a series of Technical Seminars. These hour long events covered a variety of conservation topics including Archaeology, Bats & Birds, Drone Surveying, Window Glass, Thermal Imaging and many more. In all 19 Technical Seminars were held with an average of 15 people attending each one. The information was concise and gave those attending some useful information which could then be researched in more detail as required.

A number of technical workshops were also held looking at surveying traditional buildings, the use of lime mortar, and finding sustainable uses for traditional buildings. The workshops were delivered by experts in the particular fields and were very well attended.

Selkirk CARS also hosted a number of external visits to the town to showcase the ongoing regeneration works. These included IHBC Summer School members, a Scottish Government Minister, and the HES Board members. Selkirk also hosted the annual CARS Officer Seminar in 2016 with over 30 CARS Officers from around the country visiting the town.

The High School was challenging to access due to limits on flexibility within the curriculum however after a significant change in the schools leadership team a site visit to the SWS Courthouse was facilitated with six S4 pupils being guided around the site by the contractor and project architect. Hands on experience of stone carving was also part of the visit for the pupils studying a construction module at Border College.



Technical Seminars



Quarry Visit



High School Stone Carving



Surveying Workshop

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES SUMMARY

SELKIRK CARS LAUNCH EVENT

Victoria Hall, Selkirk

Attendance: 50

The Selkirk CARS Launch Event was developed to be part of a wider Community Action Plan event in an effort to attract as wide a cross section of the community.

The event hosted a variety of information and advice stalls by groups working within the local community such as the Pop-up Shop Initiative, Business Gateway, Rowlands Youth Group and the Pringle Play Park Group, as well as Selkirk CARS.

A series of short information and update talks were presented by representatives of the local community groups, based on themes linked to the Community Action Plan as well as a presentation to formally launch Selkirk CARS.

The event was a qualified success with the low numbers partly explained by the inclement weather and also demonstrating the challenge of getting the wider community engaged with Selkirk CARS and the Community Action Plan.

SELKIRK CARS TECHNICAL LAUNCH EVENT

Ettrick Riverside Business Centre, Selkirk

Attendance: 21

The Selkirk CARS Technical Launch was an event targeted at local building contractors and professional agents to gain an understanding of the scheme criteria and the potential opportunities for upskilling of the local workforce.

The event was held at the start of the working day (based on preferred time options) and was hosted by the Selkirk CARS Project Officer. It provided an ideal opportunity to network both for the newly installed CARS Officer as well as the representatives from local construction industry.

The event was successful in attracting a cross section of the local construction community, providing further useful contacts, identifying potential future training needs and promoting the scheme to a key group critical to the success of the project.

STANDARDS AND DETAILING IN TRADITIONAL BUILDINGS

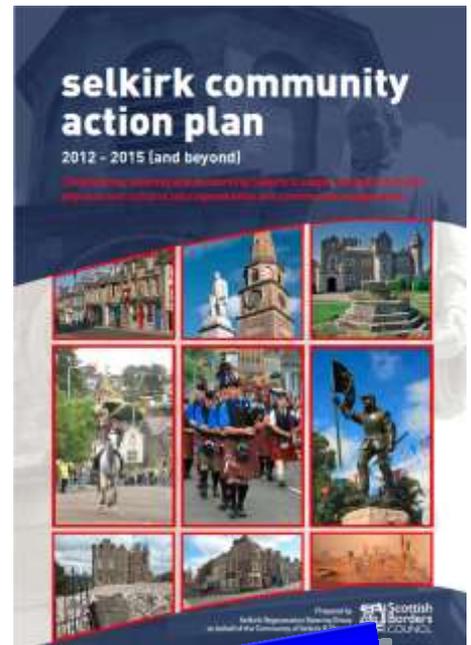
Ettrick Riverside Business Centre, Selkirk

Attendance: 18

For the first Technical Seminar, Selkirk CARS invited Roger Curtis, Historic Environment Scotland's Technical Research Manager, to provide an overview of some of the issues that traditional buildings face and outline the approach that Historic Environment Scotland promote to achieve an appropriate standard of repair.

Roger is always an engaging speaker and the assembled audience benefited from his experience and passion for the subject.

The positive level of attendance for a short 'CPD' style training event demonstrated the appetite within the local community for these type of events and reinforced the decision to set up an initial technical event programme.



HES Technical Seminar

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES SUMMARY

SELKIRK COMMUNITY COUNCIL PRESENTATION

Victoria Hall, Selkirk

Attendance: 15

The Selkirk CARS Officer provided the local Community Council with an outline of the aims and objectives of the project and an update on timescales and progress at this early stage.

Issues were highlighted from Community Councillors and from the floor which helped to ensure that the direction of Selkirk CARS could be discussed at the Steering Group meetings and tailored to meet the demands of the community as it progressed.



SLCT Technical Seminar

REPAIR OF TRADITIONAL STONE AND LIME BUILDINGS

Ettrick Riverside Business Centre, Selkirk

Attendance: 21

The second monthly Technical Seminar, brought Roz Artis, Director of the Scottish Lime Centre Trust, to provide an historic overview of the development of Lime as a building material and why it should be specified for the future repair and maintenance of historic building fabric.

Again the positive level of attendance at the event demonstrated a successful formula had been adopted, particularly as the bulk of the attendees differed from the previous event.



Pop-Up Shop Workshop

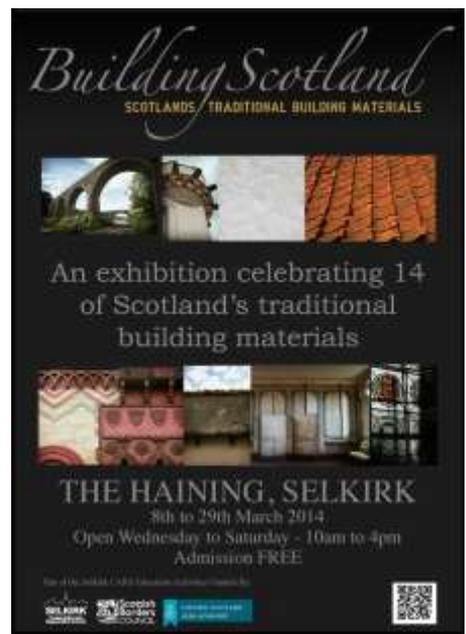
POP UP SHOPS DISCUSSION WORKSHOP

County Hotel, Selkirk

Attendance: 15

Whilst this was an event organised by the Selkirk Chamber of Trade to discuss the future of the Pop Up Shop Initiative in the town, it was an important promotion opportunity for Selkirk CARS to network with a wider group and also discuss opportunities for potential collaborations and/or complimentary initiatives.

The regeneration of the High Street and the use of "pop up shops" was a linked issue with the wider role of Selkirk CARS and one that CARS was keen to show support.



Building Scotland Exhibition

BUILDING SCOTLAND EXHIBITION

The Haining, Selkirk

Attendance: 176

The Building Scotland Exhibition was a major travelling exhibition developed by HES which highlights the role of traditional materials in the built environment

The exhibition helped to promote Selkirk CARS within the community, generating some good local media coverage, and was hosted in the Haining, which displayed both fine examples of traditional material as well as the need for repair and maintenance.

The Selkirk CARS Officer worked with the Haining volunteers to invigilate the exhibition. The event was successful in attracting a good number of visitors however further community engagement proved more difficult to arrange at this early stage of the project.



Building Scotland Exhibition

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES SUMMARY

BUILDING SCOTLAND EXHIBITION - PRIMARY SCHOOL VISIT

The Haining, Selkirk

Attendance: 4

Kirkhope Primary School is a small rural school located up the Ettrick Valley. Through discussion with the P5, 6 & 7 class teacher it was agreed that the P7 pupils would visit the exhibition as part of their class topic on the built environment.

The Selkirk CARS Officer was on hand to act as a guide and answer questions on both the exhibition and the Haining building.

The visit helped the pupils understand how buildings were put together and caught their imagination to look at their own buildings to see if they could identify the materials used.

BUILDING SCOTLAND EXHIBITION - BAG VISIT

The Haining, Selkirk

Attendance: 11

The Border Architects Group (BAG) is a long established membership group open to registered architects living and/or working in the Scottish Borders. They regularly visit buildings of interest and Selkirk CARS invited the group to visit the exhibition and also the Haining House and Stables.

The visit was jointly hosted by the Selkirk CARS Officer and the Haining Trustees and was again used to promote Selkirk CARS and the repair and maintenance of traditional buildings.

SELKIRK ROTARY CLUB PRESENTATION

County Hotel, Selkirk

Attendance: 15

The Selkirk CARS Officer was invited to be the evening speaker at the Selkirk Rotary Club evening meeting to provide background and an update on progress of the Selkirk CARS project.

The meeting was another opportunity to engage with a local group, make further useful contacts, promote the project and develop potential collaborative opportunities.

CONSERVATION TRAINING

Ettrick Riverside Business Centre, Selkirk

Attendance: 10

Development of traditional skills is a key priority for every Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme.

Richard Groom from the CITB outlined various conservation based training initiatives available to contractors and professional agents and identified some of the potential funding streams that can be applied.

This was perhaps a more 'specialist' Technical Seminar which looked at a subject area that had a more limited appeal to the wider construction community, targeting the management rather than general workforce. This resulted in a lower attendance but was still regarded as a worthwhile event to organise.



Building Scotland Exhibition



EVENTS & ACTIVITIES SUMMARY

EXTERNAL PAINT FINISH TO TRADITIONAL BUILDINGS

Ettrick Riverside Business Centre, Selkirk

Attendance: 7

This technical seminar, by Tony Carter of Kiem Mineral Paints, introduced and explained silicate mineral paints and the potential wide range of solutions available to common problems associated with conventional film forming acrylic coatings particularly on traditional buildings.

The content of the presentation was interesting, both technically and visually however, unfortunately, the attendance numbers were very low, in part related to the specialist nature of the seminar.



External Paint Seminar

BUILT & NATURAL HERITAGE AWAY DAY

The Haining, Selkirk

Attendance: 15

The Selkirk CARS Officer was part of the Built & Natural Heritage team at SBC and helped to organise this group 'Away Day' at the Haining House, Selkirk.

The event included presentations to Conservation Managers, Archaeologists, Bio-diversity Officers and Landscape Designers on issues related to their fields highlighted around the Haining Estate.

Selkirk CARS promoted the need to look at built fabric within the environment and assessing the need for appropriate traditional repairs and continued maintenance.

The discussions were positive in terms of the group acknowledging the importance of coordination in the various strands that are accommodated within the team.



B&NH Awway Day

HACE VISIT

Robson Gallery, Halliwells House Museum, Selkirk

Attendance: 8

Selkirk CARS hosted a visit of the Heritage Agencies Chief Executive as part of their group meeting held in Scotland.

The visit highlighted the benefits of Heritage Led Regeneration projects with presentations from HES Investment Team and Selkirk CARS as well as a foot tour of the CARS Area to see live issues.



B&NH Awway Day

GALASHIELS COMMUNITY COUNCIL PRESENTATION

Burgh Chambers, Galashiels

Attendance: 8

Galashiels Community Council requested a presentation on the benefits of a CARS type scheme as well as knowledge on repairs and maintenance of traditional buildings. This was an ideal opportunity to promote CARS projects and what they can achieve to the wider Borders community.

The community council were keen to understand the various strands of a CARS project and what community involvement is needed to develop a successful bid in the future for the town

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES SUMMARY

SELKIRK HIGH SCHOOL - WEE ISSUES

Selkirk High School, Selkirk

Attendance: 80

Wee Issues is an annual project for the S2 year group at the High School, identifying issues within the town to research and create a media report. The issues are identified by the pupils themselves and the research can incorporate site visits, historical investigation and interviews with local people, councillors and representatives of various bodies/groups.

The outputs may be incorporated into print in the local newspaper, or radio / tv reports for broadcast on internet or local radio / tv.

The success is partly dependant on the enthusiasm of the pupils but also the availability of resources to aid the investigation. Selkirk CARS was able to assist with a variety of contacts and information in this regard.

BRITAIN FROM ABOVE

Selkirk Library, Selkirk

Attendance: 8

Britain From Above was a project developed by RCAHMS looking at how to engage with communities to access digital resources. Based around aerial photos of towns the event introduced archive research material and how this could be accessed and used for a variety of uses. Selkirk CARS helped organise the event with the aim of promoting research into the development of the town.

Only a small number turned up to the event however it was a useful informative evening which was appreciated by those who attended with the focus being on Selkirk and the surrounding areas.

IHBC SUMMER SCHOOL VISIT

The Haining, Selkirk

Attendance: 18

The IHBC Summer School offered a tour to the Borders as part of their event. Selkirk was chosen as a lunchtime stop for the delegates and included a short presentation and tour of the CARS area by the Principal Officer for Built Heritage & Design.

The feedback was positive both in terms of the venue of the Haining and also the town tour to see a live regeneration project.

SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT MINISTERIAL VISIT

Selkirk Town Centre

Attendance: 6

The Scottish Government were holding a cabinet meeting in Selkirk as part of their tour of Scottish Towns and the HES Investment Team organised Selkirk CARS to provide a tour of the CARS area to Derek MacKay – Minister for Local Government & Planning.

The short tour highlighted some problems facing many towns across the country as well as showcasing the benefits of Heritage Led Regeneration which was much appreciated by the Minister.

SELKIRK HIGH SCHOOL
"WEE ISSUES"

REGENERATION INTRODUCTION

Colin Gilmour
Selkirk CARS Project Officer



Wee Issues



Britain from Above



· INSTITUTE · OF · HISTORIC ·
BUILDING · CONSERVATION



Ministerial Visit

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES SUMMARY

WORKING WITH LIME WORKSHOP

The Haining, Selkirk

Attendance: 9

As part of the traditional skills training element of Selkirk CARS, the Scottish Lime Centre Trust were invited to run their Contractors Introductory course in Selkirk rather than at their base in Fife.

The workshop took place over two days and included presentations and hands on experience of making lime as well as application to a traditional building.

The presenters from the SLCT were both knowledgeable and enthusiastic about the subject and kept a good balance between theory and practice.

The course was fully booked (12No. Capacity) however despite the small admin fee (£20) there were still 3No. no-shows which was disappointing.

The attendees were from mixed backgrounds with the majority being contractors, a couple of professional agents and a homeowner. The feedback was positive with everyone having increased their knowledge of the use of the material.



Lime Workshop



Lime Workshop

SELKIRK CHAMBER OF TRADE PRESENTATION

County Hotel, Selkirk

Attendance: 8

The Selkirk CARS Officer was invited to provide an update on progress of the Selkirk CARS project to the local Chamber of Trade allowing an opportunity to engage with a local group, make further useful contacts, promote the project and develop potential collaborative opportunities.

The group were keen to understand the potential for restoration of traditional shopfront grants as well as hear more on the development of proposals for the Streetscape in the Market Place.



SELKIRK
Conservation Area
Restoration Project

PROPERTY REPAIR & MAINTENANCE EVENING EVENT HYPOSTYLE ARCHITECTS

Does your property need some TLC? Repair and regular maintenance of properties is becoming ever more critical.....

Hypostyle Architects have worked with building owners across Scotland for many years providing a professional service to help them repair and maintain their properties. In conjunction with Selkirk CARS we have organised an Evening Event to provide building owners from across the Scottish Borders Area with the tools required to ascertain their buildings condition, and demonstrate how to carry out appropriate repairs and ensure correct maintenance of their property.

Vital information will be provided to help you:

- Find out the condition of your property
- Find out the process required to repair and maintain your property
- Learn what funding options are available to you
- Get tips on getting your neighbours together to carry out the works
- Speak with knowledgeable professionals who can steer you off on the right track
- Pick up information leaflets and watch demonstrations

Venue: Victoria Halls, Scott's Place, Selkirk, TD7 4LN
Date: Tuesday, 4th November 2014
Time: 6.30pm - 7.30pm (First Presentation 5.45pm)

The event is FREE however advance booking is essential. To book a FREE place at the event please contact: selkirkCARS@scotborders.gov.uk



PROPERTY REPAIR SEMINAR

Victoria Halls, Selkirk

Attendance: 48

Selkirk CARS worked with Hypostyle Architects to develop an event to promote the repair and maintenance of traditional buildings.

The event brought six speakers together to give brief presentations (Max. 20 minutes) as well as providing a series of information and advice stalls and demonstrations related to traditional repairs.

Presenters included Jo Parry from Hypostyle Architects, John McKinney from the National Federation of Roofing Contractors, Emily Tracey from the British Geological Society, Simon Roberts from the Scottish Government, and Dorothy Hoskins from Historic Environment Scotland.

The feedback from those that attended was very positive and helped towards the development of property care within the town.



Property Repair Seminar

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES SUMMARY

WORKING WITH HISTORIC BUILDINGS

Ettrick Riverside Business Centre, Selkirk

Attendance: 19

Mark Douglas, Principal Officer for Built Heritage & Design at SBC, was invited to provide a planning perspective on working with Historic Buildings both in terms of repair, alterations and generational change.

The talk identified some examples of successful development as well as potential problems and was well received by those in attendance working in the industry



Working with Historic Buildings

BUILDING RECORDING & ARCHAEOLOGY

Ettrick Riverside Business Centre, Selkirk

Attendance: 14

Dr Chris Bowles is the in-house archaeologist working for SBC. The talk outlined why recording historical information is vital to our understanding of our past and how, when carried out at the appropriate time, it can mitigate risk and need not cause delays to a project.

The technical seminar provided those who attended the event with additional information to assist in the preparation of project planning and gain a better understanding of why the information is requested other than just to "tick a box" in the planning process.



Building Recording

SCOTT'S SELKIRK

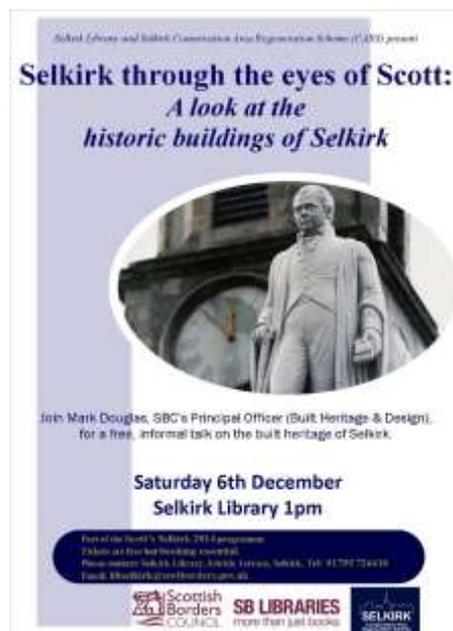
Cross Keys, Market Place, Selkirk

Attendance: 132

Selkirk CARS acted as an anchor tenant for the local regeneration company hub building in the former Cross Keys to provide a drop in advice centre and promotional location for CARS activities.

This event was the launch of the CARS hub and was also timed to coincide with the annual Scott's Selkirk heritage festival.

The event attracted a large number into the building mainly to see what was on offer and also aimed to develop contacts within the community to allow direct promotion of future events.



Selkirk Buildings Poster

SELKIRK BUILDINGS

Selkirk Library

Attendance: 23

Another event developed by Selkirk CARS to support Scott's Selkirk saw Mark Douglas, Principal Officer for Built Heritage & Design at SBC, give an informative talk on the buildings of the town, its history and development.

The event was organised in conjunction with Selkirk library and saw a good turnout from the community to learn more about the Royal Burgh.



Selkirk Buildings Talk

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES SUMMARY

SAFEGUARDING OUR BUILDING STONE HERITAGE

Ettrick Riverside Business Centre, Selkirk

Attendance: 15

Following the success of the technical seminar series it was decided to continue the events throughout the Selkirk CARS duration.

The first seminar in 2015 brought Emily Tracey from the British Geological Society back to the town to give a more complete presentation on Building Stone and the services of the BGS.

The talk was both informative and well received ensuring that the BGS and stone matching in general were more clearly understood.



Stone Heritage

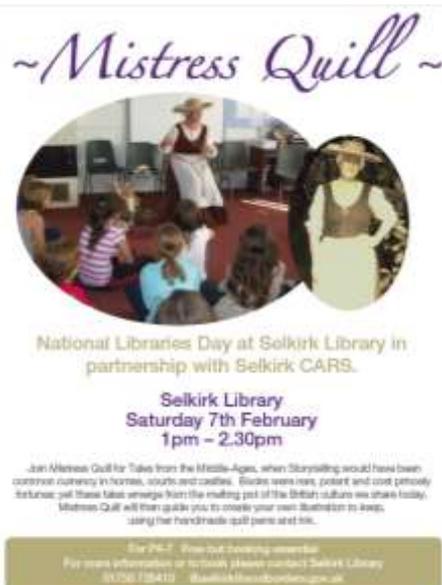
CROSS KEYS OPEN DAY

Cross Keys, Market Place, Selkirk

Attendance: 35

Whilst not strictly a CARS event, as it was organised by the Selkirk Regeneration Company to encourage the community to make use of the “regeneration hub”, Selkirk CARS, being the anchor tenant, was on hand to promote the CARS scheme and wider repair and maintenance of traditional buildings.

The event attracted local politicians as well as members of the community and was deemed a qualified success.



Mistress Quill

MISTRESS QUILL

Selkirk Library

Attendance: 11

This workshop event for children between 7 – 11 years old was organised in association with Selkirk Library to celebrate National Libraries Day. The workshop included medieval storytelling and creative writing using quill and parchment.

The event was fully booked and the feedback from the children was very positive in learning traditional stories and a hands on writing technique.



Mistress Quill

WINDOW REFURBISHMENT & SPACIA GLAZING

Ettrick Riverside Business Centre, Selkirk

Attendance: 19

With one of the most regular questions asked in Selkirk CARS being “Can I get a grant to replace my windows” it was decided to organise a talk by a local contractor who specialises in the refurbishment of traditional windows.

The talk also brought the technical representative from Pilkington Glass to discuss options for enhancing the energy efficiency of traditional windows.

The talk was lively and informative and led to a discussion about the merits of alternative replacement windows and the use of double glazing in traditional buildings.



Window Refurbishment

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES SUMMARY

SELKIRK COMMUNITY “POP UP” MUSEUM

Cross Keys, Market Place, Selkirk

Attendance: 260

Selkirk CARS worked with visual artist Kerry Jones of Ruffled Feathers to create a museum of everyday artefacts donated by members of the community. A week long donation period allowed the public to stop in and deposit the artefacts giving some information to the team as to the background.

Kerry and her team then set out to curate an exhibition in the Cross Keys hub that brought this varied and interesting archive alive.

The artefacts ranged from a mundane jelly strainer to a clockwork train set. The star attraction however became a small pamphlet of short stories from 1903 created to raise funds for a new foot bridge. One of the stories was a Sherlock Holmes tale by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. Unearthing this story created massive media interest with the story going global, including television interviews.

The event showed the great range of interesting history that people in the community have and that they are willing to share given the right opportunity. The event was a great success and drew in visitors from both the local community and further afield.



SELKIRK MILLS

Philliphaugh Community Centre, Selkirk

Attendance: 5

This small community project gave a focus to a group of retired members of the community who were engaged with a digital research group.

The group identified a potential project, each taking responsibility for a specific topic, with the aim of creating an online digital resource. It is hoped to incorporate this information into a future Mill Trail.



Pop-up Museum

MEDIEVAL SELKIRK

Various Locations

Attendance: 90

Medieval Selkirk was the headline theme for the Schools projects in Year 1 of the Learning & Participation Plan and the activities were planned with SBC Art Development Officer, Kelsey Jubin. Access to complimentary funding also allowed the development of music projects to enhance the experience in certain schools.

A total of 6 primary schools participated, working with a selection of creative practitioners, carrying out research and then creating a wonderful variety of outputs from models to animations.

The experience included Medieval Storytelling; HES Object Handling boxes, creation of a medieval snacks, creative writing, general art activities, creation of medieval shoebox scenes in model form, and short film animations on the history of the town.

The experience was rewarding for the pupils and staff and resulted in some fantastic creative outputs for the enjoyment and enhancement of knowledge within the town.



Medieval Selkirk School Projects

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES SUMMARY

BATS IN THE BELFRY

Ettrick Riverside Business Centre, Selkirk

Attendance: 11

The need to look after bats that we find in our building is a common problem for property owners, contractors and agents involved with traditional buildings.

Dr Andy Tharme, the SBC Ecology Officer, provided an interesting outline of the legislation that protects endangered species and discussed the practical reality of what this means in terms of a building development.

The event was supported by a variety of useful and informative leaflets from the Bat Conservation Trust.



Bats In The Belfry

EMPTY PROPERTY SEMINAR

Victoria Halls, Selkirk

Attendance: 27

Selkirk CARS organised an event to offer property owners the opportunity to gain more information on potential ways to bring existing properties back into use.

The event contained a series of short presentations by local experts including Assessing Building Repair, Empty Homes Funding, Marketing techniques, as well as case studies on successful projects.

The local dimension allowed good networking opportunities after the presentations and a series of advice stalls provided further information.

Again the feedback was positive attracting people from out with the CARS area but who had problem buildings to contend with.



Empty Property



FIVER FEST HERITAGE BUS

Town Centre and Riverside Area

Attendance: 83

This promotional event was organised by Selkirk CARS to support a pilot "Fiver Fest" initiative developed by the Selkirk Chamber of Trade to look at ways to increase footfall in the town centre.

The aim was to recreate the bus loop of the past when the industrial area at the riverside was in full flow, bringing workers up to the town centre for lunch and shopping.

The heritage bus was a great attraction and a variety of special offers were created by local retailers to attract possible new clientele. The businesses in the Riverside area were very supportive, encouraging staff to participate.

The reaction was fantastic with many local people reminiscing about buses of a similar type either in Selkirk or elsewhere.

The event also stimulated debate about the potential reinstatement of a limited service to create better links between the town centre and Riverside areas in support of the towns Business Improvement District Scotland (BIDS) development.



EVENTS & ACTIVITIES SUMMARY

QUARRY & STONE PRODUCTION YARD VISIT

Hutton Stone, West Fishwick

Attendance: 7

A departure from the usual technical talks, Selkirk CARS organised a site visit to Hutton Stone yard and quarry. Marcus Payne, managing director of Hutton Stone, took the group on a guided tour and imparted his passion for the material to everyone, explaining in detail the various processes of extraction, cutting and shaping the stone.

The attendance was small however this was mainly due to the need for the visit to take place during the working day and also the limited accessibility of the site.

The feedback was very positive with everyone agreed that the site visit was a great way to understand the subject in much greater detail. A report on the event was circulated by Selkirk CARS.



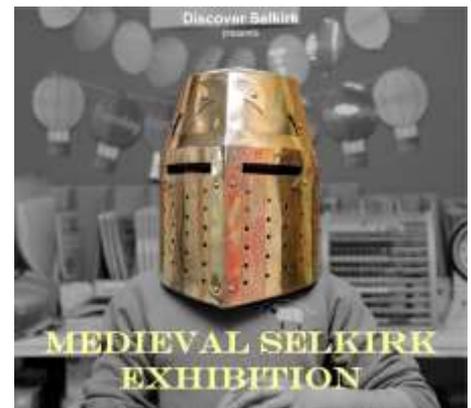
Quarry Visit

WEE ISSUES

Cross Keys, Market Place, Selkirk

Attendance: 6

Selkirk CARS was asked by a group of High School pupils to provide a presentation and Q&A session on the regeneration of the town centre to assist with the preparation of a media report as part of the Wee Issues project. The pupils prepared and published a report online as the output for the project.



Medieval Selkirk Exhibition

An Exhibition of Creative Work by Pupils from Kirkcaldy, Knowpark, Liffelshaf, Philiphaugh, St. Josephs and Yarrow Primary Schools and Selkirk High School Investigating medieval life and the development of the Royal Burgh.

Cross Keys, Market Place, Selkirk
Wednesday 3rd to Saturday 6th June 2015
Daily from 10am until 4pm
Admission - FREE



MEDIEVAL SELKIRK EXHIBITION

Cross Keys, Market Place, Selkirk

Attendance: 191

Following the completion of the primary schools Medieval Selkirk theme, Selkirk CARS with assistance from SBC Arts Development Team, and artist Kerry Jones curated an exhibition of the various outputs to allow the community to share the information. The result was a fantastic opportunity to showcase the projects in a single location, allowing some of the school pupils to visit and see the work of their peers.

The community were very positive in their praise for the works which were colourful as well as informative.

SELKIRK COMMON RIDING FILMS

Cross Keys, Market Place, Selkirk

Attendance: 90

One of the donations to the "pop up" museum was a selection of old films showing the Selkirk Common Riding from as early as 1901. These were shown as part of the event on a small monitor however in the week leading up to the common riding celebration Selkirk CARS organised these films to be shown on a big screen.

The feedback was fantastic with many from the local community coming in to watch all of the films (a total of 2 and a half hours) Even the Standard Bearer and his entourage stopped in from their busy schedule to watch some of the films.



SELKIRK COMMON RIDING FILMS

Screening Of Archive Film Footage From
Selkirk Common Riding Of Years Past

Tues 9th June Morning - Years 1920, 1921, 1924, 1926, 1928, 1929, & 1930
Afternoon - Years 1968, 1971 & 1977
Wed 10th June Morning - Years 1901, 1933, 1937, 1939, 1942 & 1943
Afternoon - Years 1920, 1921, 1924, 1926, 1928, 1929 & 1930
Thurs 11th June Morning - Years 1968, 1971 & 1977
Afternoon - Years 1901, 1933, 1937, 1939, 1942 & 1943

Cross Keys, Market Place, Selkirk
Tuesday 9th to Thursday 11th June 2015
Daily from 10am until 4pm
Admission by Donation to Selkirk Common Riding Trust



EVENTS & ACTIVITIES SUMMARY

HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA WOKSHOP

Selkirk High School, Selkirk

Attendance: 75

Working with the SBC Arts Development team, Selkirk CARS brought in theatre group Tortoise in a Nutshell to deliver drama workshops for S2 pupils at Selkirk High School. The aim was to look at issues for young people in todays society and encourage the pupils to both engage and express themselves amongst their peers. The drama workshops were successful with a good experience for all those involved.



Drama Workshop & Performance

“FERAL” DRAMA PERFORMANCE

Selkirk High School, Selkirk

Attendance: 75

As a follow on to the morning drama workshops, theatre company Tortoise in a Nutshell performed their award winning production of “Feral”. The production looks at social issues for young people in a Scottish town through projection of live animated clay models.

The performance was well received by both pupils and staff and allowed for further discussion during the term on some of the issues raised.



SELKIRK LIBRARY ARTWORK

Selkirk Library, Selkirk

Attendance: 25

Selkirk CARS was approached as part of the Literary and Creative Selkirk theme to help Selkirk Library develop a community art project to enhance the main stairwell within the library.

An open call for submissions was whittled down until Lara Greene emerged as the successful artist with her proposal taking inspiration from local legend Tam Lin to create cast pewter leaves.

Community workshops for both children and adults were held to create plaster molds and cast the pewter leaves.

The finished artwork achieves the aim of enhancing the stairwell and all those that were involved in the process provided positive feedback on the project.



Library Artwork

SURVEYING TRADITIONAL BUILDINGS WORKSHOP

The Haining, Selkirk

Attendance: 14

The Scottish Traditional Skills Training Centre agreed to deliver this two-day workshop in Selkirk as part of Selkirk CARS. The course covered a variety of issues related to assessing the repair of traditional buildings presented by experienced conservation architect Andrew Wright..

The venue was an ideal fit for such an event with many issues visible “on the doorstep”

The attendees were mainly from a professional background with all enhancing current skills and providing very positive feedback.



Surveying Workshop

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES SUMMARY

HES BOARD VISIT

Clapperton Studios, Scott's Place, Selkirk

Attendance: 25

As part of the HES Board visit to the Scottish Borders, Selkirk CARS hosted a visit to the Clapperton Studio, a Victorian Daylight Photography Studio.

The Trustees had recently agreed that they could no longer continue to operate the building and the collection was to be moved to the Heritage Hub archive in Hawick.

Selkirk CARS had contributed to having a 3D laser scan of the existing building and artefacts as well as a full building recording by the former RCAHMS.

The visit gave the HES Board an opportunity to discuss the issues and challenges faced by a small group of trustees as well as the coordinated approach taken to ensure the asset is not lost.

YES ART FESTIVAL READ-A-THON

County Hotel, High Street, Selkirk

Attendance: 35

As part of the local YES Arts Festival, Selkirk CARS contributed to the development of a poetry competition "New Border Ballads"

The competition attracted over 30 entries which were read at the "Read-a-thon" by local actors John Nichol and Janet Coulson before allowing the public to cast their votes for the winning poem.

YES ART FESTIVAL BRAVURA BALLADS

Bowhill House, Bowhill, Selkirk

Attendance: 26

The Duke of Buccleuch kindly allowed the YES Festival access to Bowhill House for a performance of the award winning poetry and presentation of the awards. The main competition judges - Rab Wilson, Gerda Stevenson and Luke Wright were also in attendance to recite their own poetry.

After the awards a public performance of all of the poetry was held in the Theatre at Bowhill House which was sold out.

TIMBER DECAY IN TRADITIONAL BUILDINGS

Ettrick Riverside Business Centre, Selkirk

Attendance: 21

Roger Curtis, HES Technical Research Manager, returned to Selkirk CARS to present a technical seminar on Timber Decay in Traditional Buildings.

The presentation looked at a variety of issues that affect timber building fabric including how to treat the cause and not just the symptoms of decay, insect infestation and the ethos behind remedial works promoted by HES.

The technical seminar was again well attended by a cross section of the local construction community.



Poetry Challenge 2015 New Border Ballads



Listen to the whole shortlist at
The Read-a-thon
And cast your vote for
The People's Prize

County Hotel, Selkirk
Tue 15 September
2.30 & 7.30pm
FREE



Bravura Ballads Award Winners



Timber Decay

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES SUMMARY

AGRICULTURAL SCOTT

Selkirk Library, Selkirk

Attendance: 12

As part of the local Scott's Selkirk festival, Selkirk Library were keen to host a talk by Alasdair Hutton - the voice of the Castle at the Edinburgh Military Tattoo and Chair of the Edinburgh Sir Walter Scott Club.

The talk looked at Sir Walter Scott's fondness for the Borders Countryside and how it influenced his writing.

GOREBRIDGE CARS VISIT

Gorebridge

Attendance: 7

With the opening of the new Borders Railway, Selkirk CARS Steering Group took the opportunity to visit Gorebridge CARS.

Rod Lugg the Project Officer in Gorebridge gave the group a tour around the CARS area with a lively discussion on a variety of issues affecting both towns.

Selkirk CARS returned the favour and hosted a delegation from Gorebridge to the Royal Burgh, exchanging knowledge and strengthening links between the groups.

PROPERTY OWNER REPAIR & MAINTENANCE SEMINAR

Lilliesleaf Village Hall, Lilliesleaf

Attendance: 9

Selkirk CARS delivered a seminar on the importance of maintaining a traditional building in the village of Lilliesleaf, a few miles from Selkirk to broaden the reach of Selkirk CARS.

The presentation included both general and specific information and advice to help and encourage property owners to develop regular maintenance of their buildings.

The event was successful with many of the owners raising interesting issues particularly in relation to a lack of grant funding in rural locations.

SPOOKY STORYTELLING & CREATIVE WRITING

The Bookworm, Market Place, Selkirk

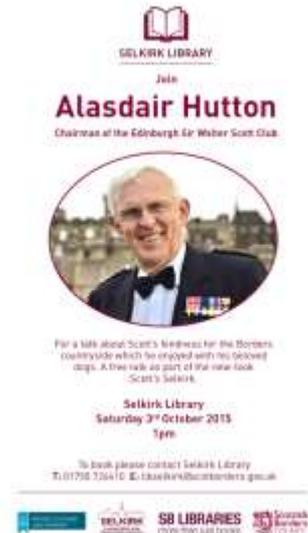
Attendance: 34

Selkirk CARS and the Bookworm (Selkirk) developed an event with local writer and poet Julian Colton aimed at encouraging children in the town to read books and write poetry.

Julian created a visual performance of his story Rhymers Stone - A Contemporary Ballad. The Bookworm was transformed into an eerie labyrinth and two performances were delivered with fantastic feedback from those that attended.

A separate Spooky Ghost Writing workshop was held on Halloween with children creating amazing stories with help from Julian.

A booklet was published of the finished stories and a copy given to all of the participants. It is pretty gruesome reading!



Gorebridge CARS Visit

An advertisement for a talk. The top text reads 'IS YOUR BUILDING READY FOR WINTER?'. Below is a photo of a traditional stone building. The main text says 'Traditional Building Repair & Maintenance Evening Talk'. The date and time are '8.00pm - Wednesday 21st October' at 'Currie Memorial Public Hall, Lilliesleaf'. A red banner on the right says 'FREE'. The bottom text explains that many traditional buildings suffer from defects due to lack of maintenance and that the talk will identify common problems and discuss ways to address them. It also mentions that the event is free with tea and coffee provided. Contact information for Colin Glenou is given: 'Colin Glenou - Selkirk CARS Project Officer 01835 825563 or selkircars@scotborders.gov.uk'. Logos for Selkirk Council, Scottish Borders Council, and Scottish Government are at the bottom.An advertisement for a writing workshop. The top text reads 'Spooky Selkirk Creative Ghost Story Writing with Julian Colton'. The date and time are 'SATURDAY 31st OCTOBER, 13.00 - 15.00 (Tea included)'. It says 'Celebrate Spooky Halloween with the experience of a published author who will inspire creative writing for the most inexperienced writers and budding authors.' The logo for 'The Bookworm at Selkirk' is prominent. At the bottom, it says 'EXCLUSIVE TO THE BOOKWORM' and 'SELKIRK Council's Creative Arts Regeneration Scheme'.

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES SUMMARY

DRONE SURVEYS

Ettrick Riverside Business Centre, Selkirk

Attendance: 13

Drone surveys are relatively new in terms of their accessibility for many property owners. They can be useful in the identification of issues in hard to reach locations however they also have their limitations.

Craig Jump from Sky View Video providing a fascinating insight into drone technology, the legislation surrounding the use of drones, and the various applications that can be utilised.

The feedback from the attendees was positive with this new technology something that we may see more of in the future.



Drone Surveys

DESIGN & SPECIFICATION OF ROLLED LEAD SHEET

Ettrick Riverside Business Centre, Selkirk

Attendance: 14

Accurate specification of building materials is an important aspect of ensuring traditional buildings are repaired and maintained.

Gareth Price from the Lead Sheet Association provided a range of information on the use of lead on buildings including highlighting some of the failures that can occur if the material is not specified correctly.

The talk was lively and engaging with a positive response for those that attended.



Rolled Lead Sheet

SELKIRK PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE

Cross Keys Hub, Market Place, Selkirk

Attendance: 62

Selkirk CARS organised a photography competition in association with the Selkirk Chamber of Trade to look at the past, present and future Heritage of the town.

Over 27 entries were received in 3 categories and award winners presented with vouchers for local shops.

The subsequent exhibition was popular with the local public and held over two weekends to coincide with the Chamber of Trade Christmas shopping initiative.

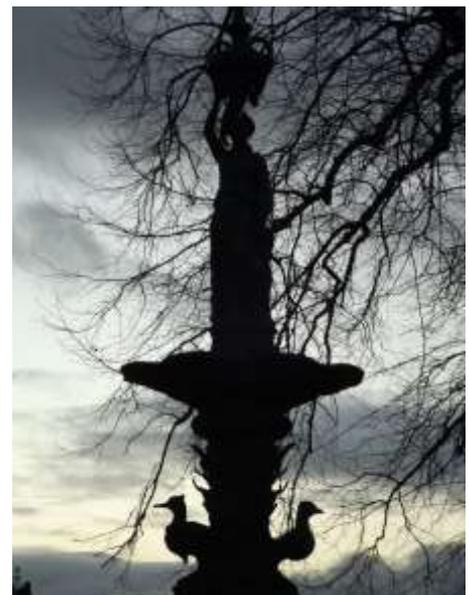


Photo Competition

THERMAL IMAGING OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS

Ettrick Riverside Business Centre, Selkirk

Attendance: 14

The use of modern technology in the assessment of traditional building defects was again explored with Dr Maureen Young, Conservation Scientist at HES looking at the benefits of Thermal Imaging.

The seminar explored where thermography can be usefully applied, the conditions under which it is appropriate and some of the pitfalls that may be encountered.

The feedback from the event was positive.



Thermal Imaging

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES SUMMARY

JENNY CORBET PROJECT

Knowepark Primary School, Selkirk

Attendance: 41

Knowepark Primary School identified a possible project as part of the "Literary & Creative Selkirk" theme. They researched a local character from a history book, Jenny Corbet, who worked in the mills in the town over 100 years ago. As part of the research one of the pupils found that he was related to Jenny and brought her daughter, his grandmother into the school to see the class work.

The pupils worked with Artists Kerry Jones to create "pop-up" books, a fantastic record of their research.

The class went the extra mile even dressing up in Victorian clothes for a day in school.



Jenny Corbet Project

A SWIFT ONE IN SELKIRK - NESTING BIRDS

Ettrick Riverside Business Centre, Selkirk

Attendance: 15

Dr Andy Tharme, SBC Ecology Officer, returned this time with Mike Fraser from the RSPB to deliver a presentation on Nesting Birds.

They worked well together providing information on current legislation, the reality in practice and how birds can be protected.

The event was well attended and helped increase the knowledge and awareness of this important issue.



Nesting Birds

REFLECTIONS RESIDENCY & EXHIBITION

The Haining, Selkirk

Attendance: 565

The Reflections project was a significant event developed as part of the Year of Innovation, Architecture & Design as well as the Festival of Architecture.

The residency programme was developed with the University of Sunderland and Edinburgh University to explore the relationship between a traditional material, glass, and the environment.

Students from both Universities as well as Border College and local creative practitioners came together over 3 days to develop ideas and artworks often collaborating outwith their organisations.

The completed works were then displayed in a week long exhibition, open to the public using the backdrop of the dramatic Haining House.

The visitor response was very positive attracting people both locally and from further afield partly due to the promotion from YIAD.

A series of complimentary events were also organised to be delivered during the exhibition (listed separately) and the project team also developed an academic publication of the work created during the residency.

Selkirk CARS provided initial seed funding and helped bring the various parties together ensuring that the project was truly collaborative.

Funding was also secured from other external sources.



Reflections Publication



Reflections Programme

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES SUMMARY

PECHA KUCHA EVENT

The Haining, Selkirk

Attendance: 28

Part of the Reflections Programme

Pecha Kucha is a series of presentations consisting of 20 images shown for 20 seconds. The event was held as part of the opening of the Reflections Exhibition with the exhibiting artists presenting their work to the public.



Wild Engraving

MEET YOUR MAKER - WILD ENGRAVING

The Haining, Selkirk

Attendance: 12

Part of the Reflections Programme and Borders Science Festival

Glass artist Heather Gillespie invited the public to join her in the outdoor surroundings of the Haining Loch to demonstrate glass engraving techniques. The results taking inspiration from the natural environment were fantastic.



Medieval Construction Show

MEDIEVAL CONSTRUCTION SCIENCE SHOW

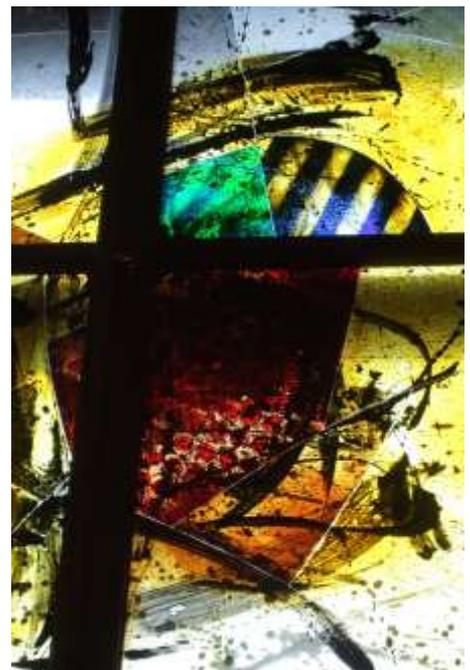
The Haining, Selkirk

Attendance: 53

Part of the Reflections Programme and Borders Science Festival

The Medieval Construction Science Show is an HES initiative with the children encouraged to participate in roles to understand traditional construction techniques such as arch building or pulley mechanisms.

The presenter, Mark Kydd, was fantastic as a medieval mason and the participants got to take part in the hands on activities.



Contemporary Stained Glass

CONTEMPORARY STAINED GLASS

The Haining, Selkirk

Attendance: 11

Part of the Reflections Programme

Local stained glass artists and former lecturer at Edinburgh College of Art, Douglas Hogg, presented a fantastic overview of contemporary stained glass interspersed with examples of the development of his own work.

REFLECTIONS ON: GLASS

The Haining, Selkirk

Attendance: 21

Part of the Reflections Programme

Inge Panneels, Glass Artist and Sam Cornwall, Photographer, joined forces to offer some thoughts on the use of glass both artistically and scientifically through the ages.

The talk generated some lively discussion at the conclusion.



Reflections On: Glass

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES SUMMARY

REFLECTIONS ON: WATER

The Haining, Selkirk

Attendance: 15

Part of the Reflections Programme

Dorian Wizniewski, Senior Lecturer at ESALA, Edinburgh University provided an insight into his current area of research, the use of water in architecture, its reflective qualities both physical and ephemeral.

A heated question and answer session followed.

SCOTTISH WINDOW GLASS

The Haining, Selkirk

Attendance: 12

Part of the Reflections Programme

Robin Murdoch provided an overview of the history of Scottish Window Glass, its first use, and how it was made.

Robins passion for the material shone through and provided a rare insight into what we see as a “standard” building material.

REFLECTIONS: SHORT FILMS

The Haining, Selkirk

Attendance: 17

Part of the Reflections Programme

The artists brought together a number of short films, either of their own work or others that have influenced them.

The films retained the theme of “reflections” and were very interesting, beautiful, and in some cases thought provoking.

STAINED GLASS WORKSHOP

Abbotsford House, Melrose

Attendance: 8

Part of the Reflections Programme

Abbotsford House were keen to host a stained glass workshop to tie in with the Reflections Programme.

Experience practitioner led a tour of the stained glass at the house before helping the participants create their own stained glass panel.

GLASS BLOWING EXPERIENCE

Lindean Glass, Lindean, Selkirk

Attendance: 10

Part of the Reflections Programme and Borders Science Festival

Lindean Glass offered the opportunity for the public to have a taster session on glass blowing at their workshop.

The session included a discussion on the process as well as hands on experience of glass blowing.



Reflections On: Water



Scottish Window Glass



Glass Blowing Experience

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES SUMMARY

MEET YOUR MAKER - LAMPWORKING

The Haining, Selkirk

Attendance: 20

Part of the Reflections Programme and Borders Science Festival

Experienced artist Zoe Garner provided a demonstration of the creativity possible from the scientific glass lampworking process.

The finesse of the objects was remarkable.



Lampworking

CABINET OF CURIOSITY

Abbotsford House, Melrose & SWS Courtroom, Selkirk

Attendance: 59

Poet Ken Cockburn worked with Abbotsford House to develop a poetry writing activity for S1 pupils from Selkirk High School.

The pupils visited both Abbotsford House and the SWS Courtroom to learn background to Sir Walter Scott as well as see objects in the collections of both properties.

Using these as a starting point the pupils create modern poetry. The project was too condensed due to timetable restrictions to get a finished piece of work however the experience gained by the pupils was well received.



Cabinet of Curiosity

CARE & REPAIR OF TRADITIONAL IRONWORK

Ettrick Riverside Business Centre, Selkirk

Attendance: 16

Ali Davey from HES presented a technical seminar looking at the history of iron works as well as how to repair and look after existing examples.

The seminar also looked at how modern ironworking techniques differ from the past and how to search for missing ironwork details.

Attendees ranged from contractors and design professionals through to interested property owners.



SELKIRK CARS TECHNICAL SEMINARS

CARE & REPAIR OF TRADITIONAL IRONWORK

Ali Davey (Traditional Skills & Materials - HES)

Selkirk has great examples of traditional ironwork as well as many poorly maintained or indeed, missing items. This seminar will explore the development of the architectural iron-working industry in Scotland during the 19th Century, before moving onto more technical advice on the care, repair and possible restoration of traditional ironwork features.

Date: 26th May 2016
Time: 4.30pm prompt start (tea & coffee provided)

The event will be held in the Toward Rooms at Ettrick Riverside Business Centre, Darncliffe Road, Selkirk and is intended to last approximately 1 hour.

To book a FREE place or for further information please contact:

Cath Gilmore - Selkirk CARS Project Officer
E: selkirkCARS@scotborders.gov.uk T: 01836 425563

Historic Environment Scotland
Scottish Government

SELKIRK

SCOTLAND

Traditional Ironwork

A CENTURY OF CREATIVE LIVING

The Haining, Selkirk

Attendance: 63

Selkirk CARS was keen to support this project developed by the Haining Volunteers who give up free time to help look after the A listed property.

The group dressed the rooms of the house in a variety of vintage styles to reflect different periods of the building and included character performances by the volunteers of property owners and servants of the time.

A limited number attended mainly due to the inclement weather on the day of the event. Those that did brave the weather were rewarded with a fantastic creative event.

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES SUMMARY

ANREW LAND FAIRYTALE FESTIVAL

The Haining, Selkirk

Attendance: 440

The Haining developed a fantastic weekend of events based around the author Andrew Lang who was born in the town in 1844.

Selkirk CARS made a contribution to the event funding and worked with the event organisers and the Borders Youth Theatre.

The event engaged a wide cross section of the community from the very young dressed up as fairy's, to youth drama performances, through to academic lectures.

The event was a success and it is hoped to develop the event further in the future.



Fairytale Festival

DOORS OPEN DAY

Various, Selkirk

Attendance: 1342

Selkirk CARS took on the organisation of Doors Open Day in the Scottish Borders with a focus on Selkirk and surroundings.

A total of 17 buildings were open and 5 complimentary events held. The buildings included key buildings in the town, such as the SWS Courtroom and Masonic Hall as well as some outlying gems, such as the Bernat Klien Studio.

Selkirk CARS also coordinated a bus link from Tweedbank rail station on the newly opened Borders Railway with funding from SBC Economic Development.



Doors Open Day

SELKIRK MILLS WALKING TOUR

Forest Mill, Selkirk

Attendance: 37

Part of Doors Open Days

Selkirk CARS worked with SBC Path Rangers to develop a Mill tour as part of the Doors Open Day event.

The mill area is still rich in quality buildings of the industrial revolution although very few are still used for their original purpose.

The walking tour may also be a pilot for a future Mill Trail.



Selkirk Mills Walking Tour

SWS COURTCASE RE-ENACTMENT

SWS Courtroom, Market Place, Selkirk

Attendance: 40

Part of Doors Open Days

Recreation of actual courtcases heard by Sir Walter Scott as Sherriff in the very room where he dispensed justice.

Local actors play various parts in the performances with the public watching from the courtroom public benches. The events are always well regarded by both the community and visitors alike.

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES SUMMARY

SELKIRK MILLS ARCHIVE DISPLAY

Forest Mill, Selkirk

Attendance: 54

Part of Doors Open Days

A display of archive material on Selkirk Mills held by LIVE Borders, the museum trust for the Scottish Borders, in one of the last remaining working mills in Selkirk.

The display proved popular with many of the mill visitors some of which had worked in the local mills previously.



Mill Archive Display

SELKIRK MARVELLOUS MONUMENTS PROMENADE

Various, Selkirk

Attendance: 25

Part of Doors Open Days

Local author, Julian Colton, created new poetry based on a variety of locations and buildings within the town and hosted a Poetry Promenade.

The event was well attended and enjoyable as Julian provided various anecdotes on the route. An interesting side step from a standard historic tour of the town.

Selkirk CARS worked with the author to publish the poetry with copies sent to local and national institutions.



Selkirk's Marvellous Monuments

SELKIRK STREETScape PROPOSALS

Victoria Halls, Scott's Place, Selkirk

Attendance: 285

Held to coincide with the Doors Open Day event the Selkirk Streetscape Stakeholder Group hosted an information event showcasing the designs for the streetscape works in Market Place.

There was a lot of interest from the community and they were encouraged to leave comments on the proposals which could be incorporated into the design if appropriate.



Selkirk Streetscape Proposals

WALLACE RE-ENACTMENT

The Auld Kirk, Selkirk

Attendance: 45

Selkirk CARS contributed to a ground penetrating radar survey of the Auld Kirk graveyard which identified the potential remains of a medieval chapel. Legend has it that William Wallace was made Guardian of Scotland in Selkirk at the Kirk o the Forest.

Selkirk CARS organised a local re-enactment group to come and enact the ceremony at the Auld Kirk as well as some traditional skills demo. The event was well attended by both locals and visitors

Links were made with the Society of William Wallace and the potential for development of future events or interpretation will hopefully be explored with the local community.



Wallace Re-enactment



Woodturners

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES SUMMARY

AULD KIRK ARCHAEOLOGY TALK

The Haining, Selkirk

Attendance: 70

Dr Chris Bowles presented a talk on the results of the ground penetrating radar survey of the Auld Kirk graveyard and the impact that the interpretation of the findings could have.

There were a number of questions from an engaged audience and the event was a success.



Wallace Talk

WALLACE & THE WARS OF INDEPENDENCE TALK

The Haining, Selkirk

Attendance: 72

Selkirk CARS and SBC Archaeology invited Dr Fiona Watson to give a presentation on William Wallace and the Wars of Independence.

A known expert in the subject the talk was engaging and interesting and captivated the audience. The feedback was very positive.



FORMER COOP COMMUNITY ARTWORK

Former Coop, High Street, Selkirk

Attendance: 10

Selkirk CARS had met with S3 pupils from Selkirk High School who were looking to develop ideas for physical projects to enhance the town centre.

The idea of working with local artists to improve the derelict eyesore of the former Coop was taken forward by the group who worked on the project at the local WASPS artists studios.

Individual artists also created works to add to the building. The results were very positive and gained much praise from the local community.

The art boards were removed prior to the buildings demolition and can be re-used elsewhere in the town.



Former Coop Artwork

ANNUAL CARS OFFICER SEMINAR

The Haining, Selkirk

Attendance: 39

Selkirk CARS hosted the annual HES CARS Officer seminar with officers from around the country coming to the town.

Use of the newly opened Borders Railway was encouraged and a "guest" appearance on the train by Sir Walter Scott was well received.

A number of short presentations took place on relevant conservation topics and then tours of both the ongoing Selkirk CARS area and the completed Kelso THI & CARS area, looking at common issues and finished projects.

Discussion throughout the day was useful and the feedback was positive from everyone who attended, rounded off with a social meal in the town.



CARS Officer Seminar

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES SUMMARY

FRIENDS OF THE AULD KIRK

County Hotel, High Street, Selkirk

Attendance: 29

Selkirk CARS organised a public meeting looking at the potential to develop a Friends of the Auld Kirk group. The meeting was hosted by the CARS officer and included a short presentation by the Adams Napier Partnership who had successfully helped a community group with on site works elsewhere.

The response was encouraging and a community group the "Kirk o' the Forest Heritage Group" was established.

PROPERTY OWNER REPAIR & MAINTENANCE SEMINAR

County Hotel, High Street, Selkirk

Attendance: 24

Selkirk CARS delivered a seminar on the importance of maintaining a traditional building, inviting members of the public and grant recipients to the event.

The presentation included both general and specific information and advice to help and encourage property owners to develop regular maintenance of their buildings.

The event was successful with many of the owners raising interesting issues.

DR MUIR PERFORMANCES

County Hotel, High Street, Selkirk

Attendance: 110

Selkirk CARS worked with LIVE Borders to commission local actor John Nichol to interpret diary entries of local GP Dr Muir from 1917 as part of the commemoration of the First World War.

The performances were both well written and well acted bringing much praise from the audience. All but one of the 3 performances were "Sold Out"

CLAPPERTON COLLECTION DROP IN

St Josephs Church Hall, High Street, Selkirk

Attendance: 257

Another collaboration between Selkirk CARS and LIVE Borders. With the closure of the Clapperton Daylight Studio Museum, the collection of photographic images was relocated to the Heritage Hub in Hawick.

Unfortunately many of the images had very little, if any, information to record what or who the images related to.

LIVE Borders created the event to encourage local people to come along and view the images and hopefully identify some information to enhance the record.

The event was very successful and is being looked at by LIVE Borders to repeat in other locations.



Kirk o' the Forest Heritage Group



Traditional Building Repair & Maintenance Evening Talk

7.00pm - Wednesday 8th February
County Hotel, Selkirk

Many traditional buildings suffer from defects as a result of a lack of maintenance which left unchecked develop from minor maintenance issues into costly major repair or rebuilding works. It is not uncommon to only address building defects once they have a detrimental effect on our quality of life.

Colin Gilmour, the Selkirk CARS Project Officer will identify common problems in traditional buildings and discuss ways of addressing these as well as providing advice on how to assess your property and set up some regular forms of maintenance to get your building

READY FOR WINTER!

The event is **FREE** to attend with Tea & Coffee provided. For more information or to book a place please contact:

Colin Gilmour - Selkirk CARS Project Officer
01833 825563 or selkirkcars@scotborders.gov.uk



Property Repair Event



Dr Muir Performances



Clapperton Drop In Event

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES SUMMARY

SELKIRK TIMELINE

St Joseph's Primary School, Selkirk

Attendance: 11

St Josephs Primary School approached Selkirk CARS with an idea for a timeline to enhance an area of waste ground in the town centre. The ownership of the ground became an issue therefore it was agreed to develop the timeline for installation at the school.

Dr Chris Bowles, SBC Archaeologist visited the school and gave an overview of the history of the Royal Burgh. The children then researched the information further and created artistic interpretations of various events.

The finished time line has been installed in front of the school and has already proved a valuable resource for class teachers.



Selkirk Timeline

NATIONAL HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD

Ettrick Riverside Business Centre, Selkirk

Attendance: 12

Lesley Ferguson, HES Head of Archives & Engagement presented a useful seminar on the type of information held within the archives and how this can be utilised for many different aspects.

Lesley encouraged people to use the archive and explained the future digital strategy going forward.



NHER

MAC & BOB PERFORMANCE

Knowepark Primary School, Selkirk

Attendance: 156

Local children's author Alan Windram brought his characters to life with an interactive performance with local P1 & P2 school children.

Mac & Bob travelled to Selkirk carrying their healthy eating message whilst looking around the Royal Burgh.

The performance was enjoyable and engaged all of the children to look around them.



Mac & Bob

ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN TRADITIONAL BUILDINGS

Ettrick Riverside Business Centre, Selkirk

Attendance: 15

Roger Curtis, HES Technical Research Manager, visited Selkirk for the final Technical Seminar, this time looking at how to improve energy efficiency in traditional buildings.

The content was a condensed version of the full day event organised by HES and highlighted particular areas to look at when dealing with traditional buildings.

The event was useful to flag some of the common issues and encourage a sensitive intervention / upgrading of existing building fabric.

A number of local agents and contractors attended the event and demonstrated that there is a strong interest in gaining a greater understanding of how to address this issue.



Energy Efficiency

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES SUMMARY

SUSTAINABLE FUTURES FOR TRADITIONAL BUILDINGS

The Haining, Selkirk

Attendance: 36

Working with the Scottish Traditional Skills Training Centre, Selkirk CARS hosted a one day conference looking at the potential future for traditional buildings. Hosted in a building, the Haining, where the issue is very real the conference had presentations from leading experts who have rescued many important (and not so important) buildings, giving them a new lease of life.

The event attracted attendees from many backgrounds and from across Scotland indicating the importance of the subject to many.

The feedback was very positive although perhaps the focus was only large scale traditional buildings rather than town center issues.



Sustainable Futures

NEW LANARK VISIT

New Lanark Heritage Centre, New Lanark

Attendance: 21

Philiphaugh Primary School were looking to visit a working mill in Selkirk as part of their class topic however there were issues that could not be resolved with the working mills.

It was therefore agreed to visit New Lanark to see the various heritage mill workings.

The visit was a success with all of the children engaged with the attraction and taking back information to add to their class output.



Industrial Yarn Storming

INDUSTRIAL YARN STORMING

Various, Town Centre, Selkirk

Attendance: 1,015

Following the success of the original Souter Stormers Yarn Bombing of the town, Selkirk CARs worked with the community group on a new proposal in the town.

Various buildings and monuments were “attacked” by the group and gave a new interpretation to some of other background elements within the town.

The reaction was again very positive and the voluntary group raised a substantial sum for local charitable causes.



SELKIRK IN DETAIL

Robson Gallery, Selkirk

Attendance: 100

Selkirk Camera Club worked with Selkirk CARS to develop a members photography competition based on the heritage of the Royal Burgh with the idea being to reinforce the town's links with early photography (Clapperton and Edwards Studios)

The results were displayed in a fine exhibition at the town's Robson Gallery with over 50 images on display.



Selkirk In Detail

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES SUMMARY

OUR KIND OF PLACE

Market Place, Selkirk

Attendance: 150

The board of the YES Arts Festival were keen to develop a film of the town with local people doing their day-to-day jobs.

Selkirk CARS was able to provide some seed funding to get this off the ground and the result was an atmospheric film which was projected onto a building in the town centre on each of the nights of the main festival weekend.

The numbers engaged with the project are likely higher as it is impossible to determine how many people may have viewed the projected film.

The reaction from the community was very positive and the sales of DVD's of the film were very high with all proceeds being ploughed into running the next festival.



Our Kind of Place

SWS COURTHOUSE LEGO MODEL

Courthouse Café, Market Place, Selkirk

Attendance: NA

To mitigate the impact of the ongoing CARS funded repair works to the SWS Courthouse, Selkirk CARS agreed to display information on the works in the Courthouse Café.

During the process a lego model of the courthouse was constructed and brought o the café for display for the duration of the works.

The model was a great attraction and encouraged locals and visitors to find out more about the ongoing works, why they were needed, and how long they might take.



SWS Courthouse Lego Model

WRAP UP EXHIBITION

1 Tower Street, Selkirk

Attendance: 53

Selkirk CARS took over the community pop-up shop for a few days at the end of the project to display some of the fantastic range of outputs from the 5 year project as well as offer advice on maintenance of traditional buildings.

The exhibition was hosted in a completed CARS funded building at 1-5 Tower Street.

A wrap up event was also held in the County Hotel with local dignitaries and grant recipients in attendance.



Wrap Up Exhibition



EDUCATION & TRAINING ANALYSIS

Selkirk CARS carried out a total of 104 Community Heritage Education and Traditional Skills Training events over the duration of the project.

The series of Community Heritage Education activities were held during the period to complement grant funded repair work and increase awareness of the towns rich history and heritage.

56 Community Heritage Education activities were organised delivering over 850 hours of direct education. Over 6,200 people participated in the events with the largest single event being Doors Open Day which attracted 1,342 people. The largest Community Heritage Education activity organised and run by Selkirk CARS alone was the Community Pop Up Museum which attracted 260 visitors.

A variety of Traditional Skills Training events were held across the five years. In total 29 skills events were held, delivering 66 hours of potential participation and engagement and were attended by 480 people. The largest Traditional Skills Training event was a Property Repair Seminar which attracted 48 participants. The average attendance at the Technical Seminars was 14 people.

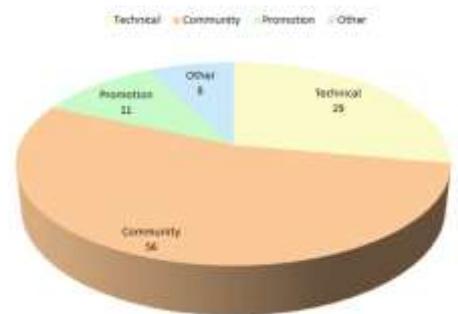
A total of 19 Promotional & Other events were also recorded during Selkirk CARS. These include visits and talks to groups outwith Selkirk. These events delivered 69 hours of participation and attracted over 750 additional people.

Well over 50% of the Selkirk CARS events and activities took place during years 3 and 4 of the five year project with only 10% each occurring in the first and last years. This is due to the ramping up and down at the start and end of the project and also targeting the middle years to deliver the bulk of the complimentary activities.

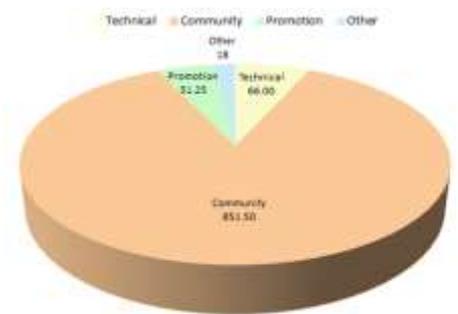
Selkirk CARS funding successfully assisted local groups and organisations to access a further £25,367 of external funding from other sources to allow the delivery of Community Heritage Education and Traditional Skills Training activities. Further financial and “in-kind” support was also secured however this has not been quantified in this report.

Overall the Education and Training initiatives budget of £60,000 was underspent by £7,114. The final underspend was due to the delivery of a greater range of activities than was originally anticipated and an acknowledgement that rather than continuing to deliver more activities (“Education Fatigue” in year 5), the funding would be better reallocated to the repairs grant fund which was oversubscribed.

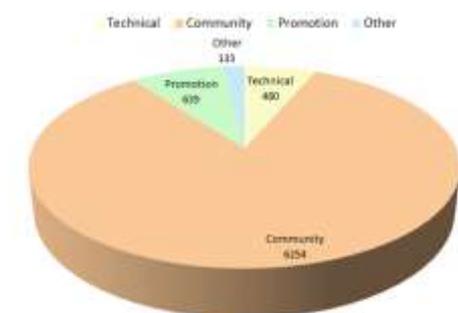
A separate community project, led by the Selkirk Community Council, to carve the emblems of the Selkirk Common Riding Casting Associations was also funded by Selkirk CARS as a legacy project and coordinated to be installed during the Selkirk Streetscape Improvements works.



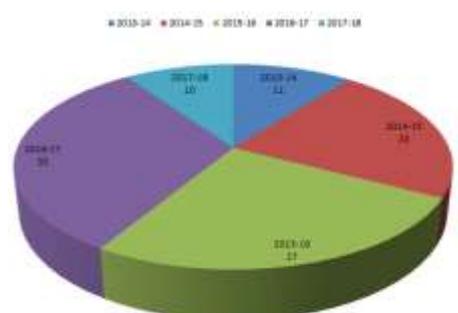
Number of Events / Activities



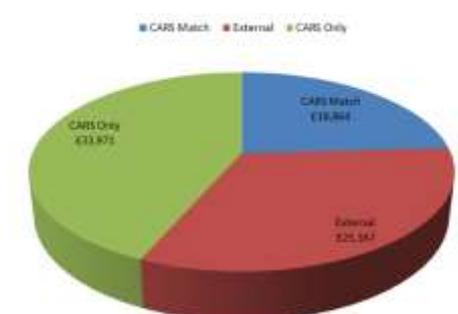
Number of Hours Delivered



Number of Attendees



Events / Activities Per Year



Additional External Funding

EDUCATION & TRAINING PARTNERS

Selkirk CARS has supported projects with the following groups:

Selkirk Chamber of Trade	YES Arts Festival
The Haining Charitable Trust	The Bookworm (Selkirk)
The Haining Volunteers	Abbotsford
Border Architects Group	Andrew Lang Fairytale Festival
Selkirk High School	Rowlands
Selkirk Library	Knowepark Primary School
Institute of Historic Buildings	Lilliesleaf Primary School
Scott's Selkirk	Philliphaugh Primary School
Souter Stormers	St Josephs Primary School
Selkirk Regeneration Company	Kirkhope Primary School
Philliphaugh Community IT Group	Yarrow Primary School
LIVE Borders	

Selkirk CARS has worked with the following delivery partners:

Historic Environment Scotland (Historic Scotland & RCAHMS)	
Scottish Borders Council (Built Heritage & Design, Archaeology & Ecology)	
University of Sunderland - Department of Glass & Ceramics	
Edinburgh University - School of Architecture & Landscape Architecture	
Scottish Lime Centre Trust	Heather Gillespie - Artist
Scottish Traditional Skills Training Centre	National Federation of Roofing Contractors
Construction Industry Training Board	Zoe Garner - Artist
Keim Paint	Mark Kydd - Actor
Hypostyle Architects	Douglas Hogg - Artist
National Federation of Roofing Contractors	Harlaw Heritage
British Geological Survey	Scottish Civic Trust
Mary Kenny (Mistress Quill)	Scott's Selkirk
Ruffled Feathers	Heritage Hub
Wm Mallen Joinery	Dr Fiona Watson
Pilkington Glass	Strathleven Artisans
Stuart Davidson Architecture	Green Wood Turners
Bright Light Marketing	Haydn Easy Blacksmith
Dunsdale Properties	Ettrick Forest Archers
Hutton Stone	John Nicol - Actor
Tortoise In A Nutshell	Joy Parker – Artist
Lara Greene - Artist	Rob Hain – Artist
Alisdair Hutton	Alex Hain – Artist
Julian Colton - Poet	Liz Douglas – Artist
Sky View Video	SBC Ranger Service
Lead Sheet Association	Abbotsford House
Inge Panneels - Artist	Ken Cockburn - Poet

“The Selkirk CARS funding allowed the children’s research work on the History of Selkirk to be translated into a permanent piece of interpretive art through which future school projects will be based.

Primary 4 to 7 children illustrated the development of the town from the early Hunter Gatherers right up to the current restoration of the Clock Tower, scaffolding and all!

The installed timeline has been visited and admired by parents, locals and tourists from as far away as Brazil.”

Mo Brown

Teacher, St Josephs RC Primary

“There were successful site visits reaching out to a wider audience including local architects, councillors and school children.”

Comment from Questionnaire

“An impressive element of the CARS project has been the rollout of education programmes advising and informing interested members of the public, as well as those already involved in the building trades, of the skills and training required for conservation and restoration.

The importance of the inclusion of younger members of the community cannot be underestimated, and work with the schools on the origins of the town, its creative links and industrial heritage has been exemplary.”

Alistair Pattullo

Chair, Selkirk Community Council

Young and old alike have been engaged in many high quality skills training sessions, in learning, and participating in workshops and in creating delightful exhibitions.

Lawrence Robertson

Chair, Selkirk CARS Steering Group



Alternative Format / Language Paragraph

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