



Manderston

Nr Duns Berwickshire

HOME OF MR. & MRS. ADRIAN PALMER

"The swansong of the great classical house"

56 acres of immaculate gardens with a lake by which visitors can walk.

A house on which no expense was spared. Here you can see superb, sumptuous staterooms decorated in the Adam manner, and the only silver staircase in Great Britain. The amazingly sophisticated "below stairs" domestic quarters give an intriguing insight into life in a large house at the turn of the century.

Outside there are not only the extensive formal and woodland gardens, but princely stables and an extravagant marble dairy.

Cream teas are served for visitors. There is also a shop selling souvenirs and home-made goods.

Open: May 15th to September 28th. Thursdays and Sundays. Also Tuesdays during August and Bank Holiday Mondays May 26th and August 25th, 2.00 - 5.30 pm. Parties at any time of year by appointment.

Telephone: Duns (0361) 83450

The Berwickshire Civic Society

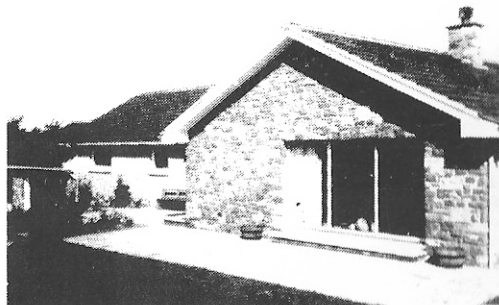
Newsletter No. 8

Spring 1987



The West Clock Lodge
Spottiswoode, Westruther.

MAKING THE MOST



Make a Fleming House your Home with:

- * Freedom of design – making your house unique
- * A wide range of standard house designs
- * Complete design service with planning and building warrant/regulation applications
- * The highest Scandinavian standards of insulation
- * External cladding of brick, stone or timber

NOBODY HAS A FLEMING HOME LIKE YOURS



T. Fleming Homes Ltd.
Station Road,
Duns, Berwickshire TD11 3BR,
Scotland.
Telephone Duns (0361) 83785.
Telex 72528 HAFLEM G.
Fax 83504.

OF YOUR DREAM

PRESIDENT:
Lieutenant Colonel W.B. Swan,
Lord Lieutenant of Berwickshire.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Chairman:
Major General Sir John Swinton,
Kimmerghame, Duns.

Vice-Chairman:
Lieutenant Colonel S. Furness,
Netherbyres, Eyemouth.

Hon. Secretary:
Mrs. D. Hugonin,
53 Newtown Street, Duns.

Hon. Treasurer:
Mr. Douglas Maxwell,
Ryslaw House, Duns.

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

Mr. H. Aitchison
Mr. J. Elliot
Mr. A. Forsyth
Mr. W. Gillie
Mr. D. Hugonin
Mr. J. Ingoldsby
Mr. N. Lawrence
Mr. P. Leggate
Mr. A. Lester
Mrs. L.F. Machin
Mr. D. Marquis
Mr. D. McCreadie
Lady McEwen
Dr. D. Mylne
Capt. R. Sinclair
Mr. A. Swan
Major N. Thomson
Mr. T.D. Thomson
Mr. A.B. Totty

Chairman's Report

The 1986 Annual General Meeting was held by kind permission of the Hon. Caroline Douglas-Home at The Hirsel Homestead, when a good turn-out of members was able to inspect the most impressive Museum and Craft Centre prior to the meeting. These exhibits, which are most enterprisingly housed in the old farmstead by the Lake, are highly recommended to any members who have not seen them recently.

Since the Annual General Meeting, your Committee has met in Duns on four occasions, and the main subjects discussed are given below in no particular order:-

The Spottiswoode Clock Lodges

The history of these distinctive Lodges on the A697 has been covered in recent Newsletters. The Society arranged for the "Clocks" to be repainted during the Autumn and we are extremely grateful for contributions to the cost from the Association for the Protection of Rural Scotland, from their Director - Mr. Robert Smith - personally, and from the Countryside Commission for Scotland. The work was enthusiastically carried out by Mr. Ewan Frater, (Walter R. Frater & Sons, Ayton) - see the cover illustration.

Mouth Bridge

Although through the efforts of this Society this ancient bridge on the old road from Duns to Berwick has been saved from demolition, Borders Region continue to adopt a very difficult attitude regarding its use. Much needed maintenance work was carried out in the Autumn and the area of the bridge, which had been allowed to fall into a deplorable state, is now fairly presentable. However, Borders Region still maintain the fiction that the bridge is dangerous and continue to deny the ancient Right of Way to both pedestrians and riders.

In theory a decision on this point is still awaited from the Secretary of State but seems to have become lost in the bureaucratic machine.

Cockburnspath By-pass

In view of the obvious local public concern over the most recent proposals for the re-alignment of the A1 around Cockburnspath, this Society has considered it its duty to add its voice once again to those who have asked the Secretary of State to hold a Local Public Inquiry into the proposed route.

Lamberton Toll

This Society has badgered Borders Region and the Department of Transport for the last few years to do something positive about the Border at Lamberton Toll. It is thus with pleasure, mixed with some wry amusement, that we find the subject taken up so vociferously by the Tweeddale Press and made the reason for a major cross-Border gathering in Tweedmouth in February which was attended by your President, Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

This Society supports any appropriate and tasteful scheme for Lamberton Toll which will mark the Border in a dignified way, allow tourists facilities to stop and take photographs and provide them with the necessary information to encourage them to visit the local area to the West of the A1.

(see "Lamberton Kirk" on p.5-6)

Polwarth Thorn

Once the road works in the area of Polwarth are complete, the opportunity will be taken to replace the direction signs to The Thorn and to position the plaque which gives its history.

Hume Castle

Negotiations continue with the Scottish Development Department to arrange a lease of Hume Castle and its immediate area. Once this is completed the way will be open for the Society, in kin co-operation with Messrs. C.H. Dexter Ltd. of Chirnside Paper Mill, to sponsor the recently agreed Manpower Services Commission involvement in the restoration of the Castle walls with finance provided by the S.D.D.

Mr. David Mylne has been appointed architect to the scheme. A note of the recent history of the Hume Castle story was included in the 1986 Newsletter.

An archaeological survey of the area outside the Castle walls has recently been completed by an M.S.C. team sponsored by the Borders Architects Group as a preliminary to the restoration work, which it is hoped can begin in the Autumn, leading to the eventual reopening of this historic site with its magnificent view point to the public.

Trees

This Society has always felt concern for the broad-leaved tree cover of the County, not least in The Merse where Dutch Elm Disease has removed, and is still removing, so many hedgerow and woodland trees. We are grateful fo the keen eye of Professor Russell Lumsden of Swinton for alerting us to the recent felling of sub-mature roadside oak trees and for his energy in writing to the local Press and to Borders Region on the subject. It is hoped that all members of the Society will use their best endeavours to

discourage the unnecessary felling of broad-leaved trees, and to encourage the removal of the many dead trees that are presently disfiguring the landscape and the planting of replacements.

Keep Berwickshire Tidy

The 1986 K.B.T. Trophy was won by Eyemouth and the Trophy was presented to our Vice-Chairman, representing Eyemouth Community Council, by the Countess of Haddington at a ceremony in Eyemouth Town Hall in November. Cockburnspath was adjudged Runners-up with Reston and Auchencrow, Abbey St. Bathans, Bonkyl and Preston joint third. All prize winners received attractive certificates prepared by the Reverence Hugh McKay of Duns, for which the Society is most grateful. The judging for K.B.T. 1987 will take place in the week beginning 8th June.

Duns Show 1987

The Society intends to mount a small exhibit as in previous years at the Duns Show on Saturday 1st August. By kind arrangement with the N.F.U., it will be sited as last year, in their marquee.

Other Societies

Your Society has maintained closed touch during the year with the following like-minded Societies:-

The Association for the Protection of Rural Scotland:
A generous contributor to the cost of the repainting of the Clock Lodges. A.P.R.S. has suggested that we might hold a joint field meeting, and this proposal will be discussed at the A.G.M.

Countryside Commission for Scotland: another generous contributor to the Clock Lodges.

Scottish Civic Trust: The Society enjoys good relations with the S.C.T., mainly through the reports of their Mr. John Gerrard who inspects most of the listed-building planning applications, (see the list on p.10-12)

Berwick-upon-Tweed Civic Society: which very kindly invited our members to a very successful evening party and lecture on the Battle of Flodden at Wedderburn Castle in September.

Annual General Meeting 1987

By kind permission of Mr. John Dobie, the A.G.M. will be held this year in the Tea Room at Abbey St. Bathans at 7 p.m. on Tuesday 16th June. Mr. Dobie has kindly agreed to address the meeting on his several enterprises at the Abbey.



Lamberton Kirk

If one could imagine a scenario in which most of the Royal Family, half the members of the House of Lords, all the chief Cabinet Ministers, Bishops, Generals and Admirals of England were to meet "en fete" at a quiet country spot in Berwickshire, one might be forgiven if one thought that such a location would, thereafter, enjoy a significance and a strong claim to be recognised for posterity. The village of Lamberton was indeed the setting for such a scenario on 1st August, 1502. For it was here that Margaret Tudor, daughter of Henry VII arrived at the "Old Kirk" on her triumphal procession northwards to marry King James IV of Scotland to be met and received by the Scottish Commissioners on behalf of the King. Even in those days it was known as the "Old Kirk" since by that time it was over 300 years old.

It is recorded that she was accompanied from Berwick to Lamberton by over 2,000 nobles and Gentlemen and there she was handed over to an equally gay company from Scotland.



Lamberton Kirk.

Photo by Douglas Hugonin

John Young, the Somerset Herald, describing the scene in minute detail wrote "there were Ladies as well as Cavaliers on horseback in this fair company with their jangling bells and persons arrayed in cloth of gold and horses frisking in trappings of the same. The Princess, herself, in attire laced with gold and precious stones, carried on a litter surrounded by attendants mounted on palfreys." Pavilions were pitched, horse racing, jousting and other sports were indulged in. (Incidentally, it is not widely known that Lamberton Moor was the first race track in Scotland). It is recorded that much "wassail" was drunk and merry travellers made "great chere". When the celebrations ended here, no less than 600 of the English Nobles went on with the Princess and the Scottish contingent to Fast Castle.

Again in 1633, Charles I on his way to Edinburgh was met at Lamberton Kirk by a numerous and brilliant company of Scotsmen. It is recorded that 600 mounted Gentlemen from the Merse alone were there, relations or dependents of the Earl of Home, dressed in green silk doublets with white scarves. But these formed but a small portion of the loyal array which included most of the nobility and gentry of Teviotdale and the three Lothians.

From these two historic vignettes it could be inferred that the Old Kirk at Lamberton has a claim for historic preservation - or at least a signpost directing the footsteps of tourists thither together with a notice board giving a thumbnail sketch of its historic past. You would be wrong! Even in 1913 the author of the "Berwick and Lothian Coast", published in that year, writes "A lane leads up a hillside, passing from the road (now the A1) between two great bones of a whale. It leads to a farm steading, and nearby, shaded by ash and elm, a gravestone peeping out from a luxuriant growth of nettles, is the site of an ancient church. The scant ruins of its walls are paved and cemented to form two of those essential Scottish enclosed places for the burial of the aristocracy that are unbeautiful even when garnished with roses and pansies and smooth-cut turf and which in their far more common condition of being abandoned to nettles and long grass are among the most lugubrious sepulchers on earth".

The author of this passage would find little altered if he visited the site today, other than the depredations of another three-quarters of a century of neglect.

There may be a very faint ray of hope for Lamberton Kirk, however, since a new alignment of the A1 is to take place, putting two lay-bys and even a tourist centre within just a stone's throw of this historic site. Dare one hope that someone, somehow could erect a signboard and cut the nettles. The "Old Kirk", at least, deserves that much.

BERWICKSHIRE'S OLD KIRKYARDS

The condition of the old burial grounds in Berwickshire is something to which the Executive Committee is inclined to have its attention drawn from time to time. As a result of its investigations this is a brief report on the situation.

Firstly, let it be said, it is not readily recognised how lucky we are in Scotland that the care and maintenance of our cemeteries is the responsibility of the local authority and that the not inconsiderable cost of this service is borne by the rates. One only has to visit the average English village burial ground to be reminded of the vastly improved system that appertains north of the Border.

There are in the Berwickshire District a total of 47 burial grounds. The responsibility for the maintenance of these hallowed places is with Mr. Rhind, the Director of the Environmental Health Department, Berwickshire District Council. It is generally acknowledged that the standard of upkeep demonstrated by Mr. Rhind's staff in all the burial grounds that are in current use cannot be faulted. But Mr. Rhind's hands are tied both by limitations in the number of his staff and increased areas of public open spaces that require attention. In these circumstances it seems quite reasonable that the disused burial grounds should generally not be maintained. However, those that are at Kirks which are still in use are given as much maintenance as staffing allows, (marked * on the list below). All the others on this list are not now being maintained at all unless either for some particular reason or if an odd day's labour becomes available. The Society concurs with this policy and publicly expresses its appreciation of the way Mr. Rhind organises these matters in difficult circumstances.

	Abbey St. Bathans		Horndean
*	Bonkyl		Houndwood
*	Cockburnspath	*	Hutton
*	Coldingham		Lamberton
	Cranshaws		Langton *
*	Duns		Lennel, (old part)
	Eccles	*	Longformacus
	Eyemouth		Mordington
	Fishwick	*	Preston
*	Foulden		Simprim
	Gavinton		Swinton
*	Gordon		Westruther
	Hilton	*	Whitsome

Membership

The membership of the Society has grown considerably over the last few years but support and help from new members is always sought.

A membership application form is enclosed with this newsletter in the hope that each member of the Society will use it to obtain one new member.

The annual subscription is only £3 for an ordinary member and £5 for a corporate member.

Completed application forms should be sent to the Treasurer, Mr. J.F.D. Maxwell, Riselaw House, Duns, Berwickshire.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS; Listed Buildings, etc.

The Berwickshire Civic Society is lucky to have an excellent relationship with the Borders Regional Council's Planning Department. The following list details all the planning applications on which the Director of Planning and Development sought the comments of the Society during 1986 and up to the end of March, 1987.

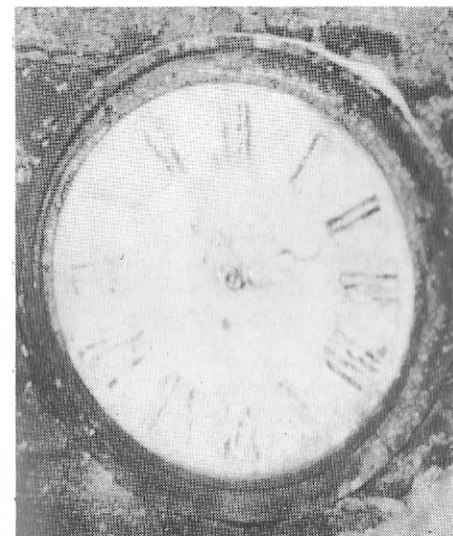
This arrangement is automatically adopted for all planning applications that concern either listed buildings or properties within a Conservation Area (sometimes both) which are within Berwickshire, i.e. the area covered by the Berwickshire Civic Society. By this altogether civilised attitude the local Civic Society is able to contribute usefully to the democratic planning process. For the examination of the various cases, which inevitably involves visiting sites, the Society is indebted to the Architect members.

<u>Application, Type & Address</u>	<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Date</u>
1. Development at Meek & Dickson's Yard, Eyemouth	Borders Regional Council	Jan 86
2. Prelim-plan, Lennel House Coldstream.	Eugene Taylor & Associates	Jan 86
3. Alterations to 69 High Street, Coldstream.	D. Lauder & Co.	Jan 86
4. Alterations to Castle Inn, Greenlaw.	J.H. Heawood	Feb 86
5. Alterations to Gunsgreen House, Eyemouth.	Eyemouth Golf Club	Feb 86
6. Alterations to Boundary Wall, Paxton House, Paxton	Borders Regional Council	Feb 86

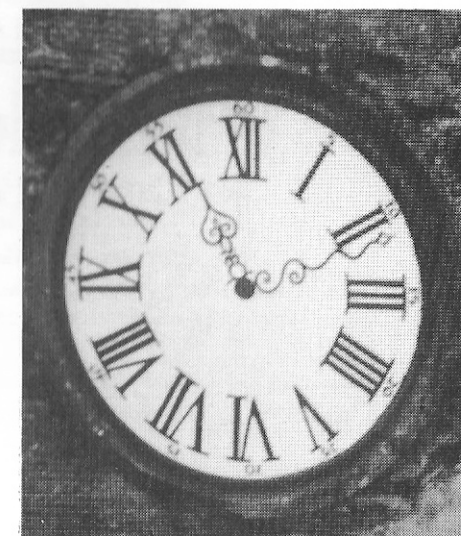
7. Demolition of Public Toilets, Eyemouth.	Berwickshire District Council	Mar 86
8. Erection of 2 new houses at Foulden	Thos. Turner & Sons.	Apr 86
9. Alterations to Trafalgar House, Coldstream.	Borders Regional Council	May 86
10. Alterations to Lennel House, Coldstream	E. Taylor & Associates	May 86
11. Alterations to Lees Lodge, Coldstream.	Anne Pritchard	May 86
12. Development, Walled Garden, Nisbet House, Duns	Exec. Late R. MacDonald	Jun 86
13. Erection Single-person flats, 17 Chapel St. Eyemouth.	Berwicks. District Council	Jun 86
14. Alterations to windows 3 Dovecot, Coldstream	Mr. & Mrs. Campbell	Jun 86
15. Erection of Garden Pergola	Unknown	Jun 86
16. Alteration to Blyth Bank, Duns.	J. Campbell Esq.	Jun 86
17. Alterations to 28 Harbour Road, Eyemouth.	Bain & Swan Architects	Jun 86
18. Erection 2 houses with garages, Sinclairs Hill, Duns.	Priory Estates (Glasgow) Ltd.	Oct 86
19. Erection of New Home for Elderly, Eyemouth.	Borders Regional Council	Nov 86

20.	Erection of Seamen's Mission, Hippodrome Building, Eyemouth.	Royal National Mission of Deep Sea Fishermen	Dec 86
21.	Alterations to Lennel House, Coldstream	E. Taylor & Associates	Dec 86
22.	Alterations to 8 Armitage Street, Eyemouth	Mr. J.M. Young	Jan 87
23.	Erection of 12 Amenity Flats, Nursery Lane, Coldstream.	Eilder Housing Association.	Jan 87
24.	Development of new Carpark, Eyemouth.	Borders Regional Council	Jan 87
25.	Alterations to Hope Park Lodge, Coldstream.	J. Carmichael	Feb 87
26.	Erection of Sheltered Housing, Boston Court, Duns.	Berwickshire District Council	Jan 87
27.	Modernisation of 2nd Flat Armitage St., Eyemouth.	Mrs. P. Wright	Feb 87
28.	Demolition of Byrescleugh Lodge, Longformacus.	2nd Roxburghe District Trust	Feb 87
29.	Extension, 10 Market Sq. Duns.	Bank of Scotland.	Mar 87
30.	Alterations to windows, 53 High Street, Coldstream	Mr. & Mrs. Aitken	Mar 87
31.	Alterations to windows, Leet View, Coldstream.	Mr. & Mrs. Jacobs	Mar 87
32.	Alterations to White Swan High Street, Coldstream.	Mr. & Mrs. Baxter	Mar 87

Clock Lodge's Clock



Before



After

Support your local shops

Wightmans

**Market Square, Duns.
Telephone: Duns 83726**

***For Hardware, Gifts
and Gardening Goods, etc., etc.***