



# Trust News

keeping you in touch with Balerno Village Trust

No 1

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Trust News is the newsletter of the Balerno Village Trust and aims to provide up to date information on all the Trust's activities, and also the activities of the Trust's sister organisation Harlaw Hydro.



Merry Christmas!



## The Best Market Yet!

*Cllr Ricky Henderson presents the Farmers' Market Christmas Hamper to lucky winner Andrew Hamlett.*

**The verdict on the December Balerno Farmers' Market, held on 8th December?  
It really was the best yet!**

photo by Ian Gidney

The Market was part of the highly successful 'Balerno Christmas'. It attracted record crowds and included some 20 stalls: 13 regular traders like Falko Bakery, Simon's Pies, Gordon's Arran Cheese and Monarch Venison, alongside 9 local community stalls, including Youth Vision and Balerno High School Young Enterprise. This mixture of commercial traders and local community involvement is one of the features of Balerno Farmers' Market which appeals both to customers and to the commercial traders.

The stallholders dressed up their stalls for Christmas and Gordon Macdonald MSP and Cllr Bill Henderson undertook the difficult task of selecting the winner of the Best Presented Stall competition: Falko Bakery, with Gordon's Arran Cheeses the runner-up and Youth Vision getting third place. Congratulations to them all!

A Christmas Hamper Prize Draw, made up of produce kindly donated by the stallholders, raised over £230 for Syria Aid and the Cyrenians; the Trust is immensely grateful to all who contributed. The Market also featured a number of special events, including virtually non-stop music between 10.00am and 1.00pm, provided by the Dean Park Primary Choir followed by the Choir of Balerno Parish Church, the Balerno High School Wind Group and buskers from the Explorer Scout Group.

The 'Balerno Christmas' weekend also included the 3rd Christmas Tree Festival and the Concert for Christmas with the Broxburn and Livingston Brass Band, with the Mill cafe keeping us warmly refreshed. BVT are now looking at ways in which the success of that weekend can be repeated throughout the year.

Across the country Farmers' Markets are struggling, but BVT hope that the Balerno Market can buck this trend, becoming even stronger than it is at present. Ideas being considered include theming markets to include, for example, an Easter Market or a Harvest Market; perhaps even a Honey Market, once the Sustain Balerno bee-hives have been brought into action, hopefully in the later spring of this year. If you have ideas then please let BVT know.

BVT does however need more help with the Farmers' Market and if you would like to get involved then please contact Mike Martin on 0131 449 4545.

The Balerno Farmers' Market wishes all its customers, stall holders and friends a very Happy Christmas and New Year, and looks forward to seeing everyone at our next Market on Saturday 9 February.

**Balerno Farmers' Market - every month except January on the second Saturday, 9.00am to 1.00pm; Balerno Main Street**