



3921 Gabarus Highway  
Marion Bridge, N.S.  
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## Celtic Colours in Marion Bridge

November 2025

Once again, the Marion Bridge Community Hall proudly served as a host venue for a Celtic Colours International Festival matinee. The concert, held on October 17, 2025, featured a stellar lineup of talented artists: Donnie Campbell and Jinx O'Neill, Kinnon, Mary Lou, and Andrea Beaton, and Matthew Byrne from Newfoundland.

Audience members joined us from the USA, Alberta, Ontario, mainland Nova Scotia, and across Cape Breton to enjoy an afternoon of exceptional music and storytelling. The performances were truly outstanding – a celebration of Celtic culture and community spirit. A heartfelt thank you goes out to all the volunteers who helped with setup, decorating, baking, ushering, and cleanup. Your efforts made the day a warm and welcoming success.

As Celtic Colours celebrates its 30th Anniversary in 2026, we look forward to being part of this milestone event. We'll let you know when we have more information – you won't want to miss it! Thank you, **Celtic Colours**, for continuing to include Marion Bridge on your festival schedule.



## Marion Bridge Council AGM

The Marion Bridge Community Council's Annual General Meeting (AGM) is scheduled for **Sunday, February 22, 2026, at 7:00pm**. At our November 9<sup>th</sup> meeting it was decided to proceed with a by-law review to ensure the articles meet the Council's mandate and reflect current operations.

A nominating/recruitment committee is in place to search for interested community members who may wish to play a role in the Council's activities. To put your name forward or for further info, contact Adam-  
[Marionbridgecommunitycouncil@gmail.com](mailto:Marionbridgecommunitycouncil@gmail.com)

**Together we can make a difference!**



*Thank you to Megan Ringer, the Marion Bridge Fire Dept., and others involved with organizing a Halloween treat evening at the Hall. Over 100, princesses, witches and superheroes took part in the fun and stayed dry!*



## CBRM Recreation

### Public Engagement Sessions

Last month CBRM Recreation facilitated a public engagement session to gather information for the future of parks, public spaces, and recreation programs. This initiative was part of developing a new CBRM Recreation Master Plan. Community members were given an opportunity to voice their ideas and concerns. It was a positive and informative session, with over a dozen community members in attendance. We appreciate CBRM Recreation for including Marion Bridge on their itinerary.

## Mira Gala 2026

Planning has already begun for Mira Gala Festival 2026 - June 25 to July 5. A community meeting will be held in the new year to review the calendar. In the meantime, if your group is interested in being part of the Mira Gala 2026 or you have event suggestions, please let us know. Contact Marilyn at 902-727-2461. All ideas are welcome! We are also selling tickets on a Christmas basket as our first 2026 Gala fund raiser.

## History Lesson

The first Marion Bridge Christmas Tree Light-up, “**Lighten Up, It’s Christmas,**” was held in December 1992. The idea for a community Christmas tree originated with Freda Young.

In the early years, Russell Huntington and Stephen Read donated the trees –impressive ones, over 20 feet tall and Morrison’s graciously allowed us to use their property at the corner of the Main Road and Sandfield Road. Kent Walker and Billy Webber received permission from MT&T (now Bell) to use a line truck to erect the tree and decorate it with hundreds of twinkling lights. Kent even made a star for the top since none could be found large enough to be seen from the ground.

The setting that evening was picture-perfect - snow covered the ground, and large flakes drifted through the air as the community gathered around the tree. Santa led the children in a countdown before flipping the switch that lit up the tree. The crowd responded with happy “*ooohs*” and “*aaahs.*” Our first Santa, Keith MacDonald, thrilled the children, greeting each one, handing out treats, and posing for photos.



When the cold winter air began to nip, everyone crossed the road to the warmth of St. Columba Church Hall, where hot chocolate, tea, coffee, and cookies awaited.



Inside, Vivian MacKinnon played the piano and led the group in singing carols and songs to celebrate the season. The evening ended on a high note with a heartfelt rendition of “*We Wish You a Merry Christmas.*”

The event was such a success that the community decided to make it an annual tradition – one that continues to bring light, joy, and togetherness to Marion Bridge each Christmas season. This year’s light up is on December 6<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00p.m. at the MB Community Hall.



## Marion Bridge Community Hall

The Marion Bridge Community Hall continues to be a lively and well-used gathering place. Along with the Marion Bridge School, which uses the hall for physical education classes, concerts, and intramural sports, many other groups make good use of the space throughout the week.

Activities include pickleball, tarabish, Sparks and Embers, and the ever-popular Guitar Circle, along with various private functions and celebrations. The hall is truly a hub of community life and connection. Because the schedule fills up quickly, we encourage anyone wishing to book the hall to plan ahead whenever possible. To make a booking, please contact **Delia at 902-304-1798.**

We’re also excited to share that an online calendar is in the works to help community members stay up to date on hall availability and upcoming events.

## Community Events



### Weekly

- **Tarabish** - Every Tuesday @ 7:00pm - Marion Bridge Community Hall, Thursdays @ 7:30pm - St. Margaret Community Hall, Grand Mira
- **Guitar Circle** -Fridays @ 7:00pm - Marion Bridge Community Hall (19&over) Last one for 2025 is Dec. 19. Back again Jan. 2, 2026.
- **Chase the Ace** - Saturdays @ 7pm - St. Margaret Community Hall, Grand Mira

### Upcoming

- **The Bridge Pop-up Markets** - Saturday, November 22 & December 6 - 2590 Hillside Rd. - last two of the season.
- **MB Home & School Christmas Market** - Sunday, Nov. 23, from 12 noon to 2:00pm - Marion Bridge Community Hall
- **Christmas Traditions Storytelling** - Sunday, Nov. 30, 2:00pm - Mira Centre
- **Annual Tree Light-up** - Saturday, Dec. 6 - 6:00-7:30pm. Marion Bridge Community Hall
- **50s/60s Dance with Final Cut** - Saturday, January 24, 2026, \$10/person 19&over - For tickets, contact council members. E-transfer will also be available—further info will be posted.  
P.S. Would make a great stocking stuffer.