

FREE!

Rousay, Egilsay & Wyre Community Newsletter

'The Review'

January 2017

Produced by: Rousay Community Association

Subscriber: Electronic



Music in the Pier Bar

On Tuesday 3rd January there will be
Music in Pier Bar
From 2pm till 5pm

With all the young players before they leave to go back to work.
Our resident musicians and also people
coming across from the mainland to join in.

Light refreshments.

All welcome.

A great way to end the festive season.

What's On

Tuesday, 3rd

→ Music, The Pier Bar, 2pm - 5pm

Tuesday, 10th

→ SWI, Rousay School, 8pm

→ Taversoe InnQUIZition, The Taversoe,
8pm

Saturday, 14th

→ Service, Church Centre, 11.30am

Sunday, 29th

→ Service, Church Centre, 11.30am

Every Monday (from 9th January)

→ Coffee Morning, The Crafhthub, 11am - 1pm

Every Tuesday

→ Tai Chi, Rousay School, 3.15pm - 5.15pm

Every Wednesday (from 11th January)

→ Triangle Club, Church Centre, 10am - 2pm

→ Spinning Circle, The Crafhthub, 11am - 1pm

→ Art Club, The Crafhthub, 3.15pm - 4.30pm

Every Thursday (from 12th January)

→ Peedies Club, The Crafhthub, 2pm - 3.15pm

Every Saturday

→ Bridge Sessions, Rousay School,
2pm - 4pm



The next meeting of the SWI will be an Open Meeting at 8pm on Tuesday 10th January at the school, when we look forward to hearing from our own Anne Kovachich on her trip to Japan.

The competitions will be An Item of Origami and An Unusually Shaped Bottle.

We look forward to seeing you there!



Bridge Sessions

will resume

Saturday 7th January 2017

2 - 4pm

Rousay Community School

We welcome all players including absolute beginners as tuition is available from existing players.

We have an option to move to Monday evenings if that would be a more suitable time for most players.

For more information contact
Doreen 821223, Joyce 821377
or Sheena 821222
or just turn up on the day.

To subscribe, or to send in articles for the next edition of the newsletter, please use the following contact details:

Editor: Kayleigh Tipper

E-mail: kayleigh@aroundrousay.co.uk

Telephone: 01856 821360

Write: Howdis Meadow, Rousay, KW17 2PR

Deadline: 27 January 2017 (5pm) - late articles are not guaranteed to be included

Funder logo



From the community
For the community



Rousay Tai Chi Chuan

Every Tuesday at the School.

1st hour Energy Exercises at 3:15

2nd hour Tai Chi Form at 4:15

£2.50 per hour,
FIRST SESSION IS FREE
come for one or both.

All ages and abilities welcome.



Thanks to REW DT for part funding this.



www.facebook.com/orkneytaichi

Rousay Community Association

Community Rooms must be booked, in advance, for use through the booking clerk on 821 383 / 07522647794.

Failure to book may lead to the room you wish to book being unavailable.

Rousay Public Bus

Every Thursday, 7am-7pm

To book, call 821 360.

Christmas Message

Sorry I was late for last month's Review

We have not sent cards this year

Thank you all who have sent us cards and we hope you all had a very merry Christmas and wish you all a prosperous 2017

All the best from
Edwin and Itha



Services

Services at the Church Centre for January

Saturday 14th January Roy Cordukes 11.30

Sunday 29th January Roy Cordukes 11.30

Everyone welcome



Taversoe InnQUIZition

Tuesday January **10th** 2017 @ 8pm

(Second Tuesday in January)

Free Entry

Snowball Jackpot

Light Snack Supper



January Closure

We will be closed from the New Year until Wednesday January 18th when we will resume regular opening noon. However: The Taversoe will be open from 7pm on Sunday the 8th (Poker), Tuesday 10th (InnQUIZition) and Sunday 15th (Poker).

Many thanks, xx

Winter Opening Hours

(commencing Wednesday January 18th 2017)

Monday & Tuesday - CLOSED*

Wednesday to Friday - 12pm to 2pm & 5pm to 11pm**

Saturday - 12pm to 11pm**

Sunday - 12pm to 10.30pm**

Food served Daily from 12pm to 2pm & 5pm till 9pm (Wed-Sat), and 5pm till 7.30pm (Sun)

* The bar will be open on the first Tuesday of the month for the Taversoe InnQUIZition.

** If the bar is empty at 9pm we reserve the right to close early.

Advance Notices for February:

Taversoe InnQUIZition

Tuesday February 7th 2017 @ 8pm

Free Entry

Snowball Jackpot

Light Snack Supper



Oriental Buffet

Sunday February 26th at 12.30

Please give us a call if you would like to book a table.

Taversoe 821 325.



Valentine's Menu

Special Menu to celebrate Valentine's Day.

Available Saturday 11th, Sunday 12th & Tuesday 14th.

Please give us a call if you would like to book a table.

Taversoe 821 325





The Crafthub C.I.C.

JANUARY 2017

Happy New Year to all our Crafters and Customers

CRAFTHUB NEWS

Thank you to all those who came along to our Mince Pies and Mulled Wine event in December. Over 40 folk came along to enjoy the festive atmosphere, purchasing their Christmas gifts locally from **The Crafthub**.

December business was brisk, with the Crafthub calendars and teatowels proving very popular for gifts, as well as other local handmade crafts.

The Christmas Raffle was drawn at the end of this event, many thanks to all the crafters who donated prizes for the raffle.

WORKSHOPS IN JANUARY

Monday Coffee Morning – Every Monday from 11am – 1pm. £2 a session – from Monday 9th January 2017. All welcome.

SPINNING CIRCLE – Drop in Spinning Workshops on Wednesdays from 11am – 1pm - starting Wednesday 11th January - £3 a session. Visitors welcome.

Art Club – Children's Art Club every Wednesday, starting Wednesday 11th January from 3.15pm – 4.30pm at the Crafthub.

PEEDIES CLUB - Peedies Club for Parents, Carers and Under 5's every Thursday. Starting Thursday 12th January from 2pm – 3.15pm - £2 a session. Visiting families welcome. Please phone in advance if possible.

The Crafthub shop will be Closed during January

If you need anything please contact Hilary on 821400 and we will open up for you.
email : crafthub@btconnect.com website : www.crafthuborkney.co.uk

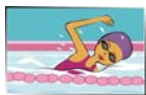


Happy New Year to everyone!

Please note that the office will re-open after the Christmas period on Thursday 5th January 2017.

Ask us for more information on the following things the Trust offers:

Free swim sessions



Free lanterns



Subsidised rate



Grant Schemes

General Grants, Driving Lessons, Educational Bursaries, and Wellbeing (including 80% grant support towards 10-session Gym & Fat Burn tickets).

Car Club

Contact us to join!



Grant Applications and Education Bursaries

For a grant application form, please go to our website or contact the Office.

All applications must be received a minimum of **two weeks** before the planned Board meeting date or training event. This is to allow sufficient time for applications to be processed.

Board meetings planned for 2017:

Wednesday 18th January
Wednesday 10th May
Saturday 12th August
Wednesday 6th December

Saturday 25th March
Wednesday 21st June
Wednesday 8th November

The Annual General Meeting is planned for Saturday 7th October.

Contact Us

Telephone: 01856 821 229

E-mail: info@rewdt.org

Website: www.rewdt.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/rewdt



Office Drop-In Times: 10am to 12 noon (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday) - contact to arrange an appointment outwith these times



Free Wi-Fi access is available to use at the Trust Office (plus access to a laptop and printer)

Directors: Hilary Byland; Diana Compton; Clare Daintith; John Garson; Mark Hull; Carole Maguire; Bryan Milner (Chair); Eric Shortland; Kayleigh Tipper (Treasurer)

Rousay, Egilsay and Wyre Development Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee.

Co. Reg. No: SC318527 Charity Reg. No: SC040407

Registered Office: The Manse, Rousay, Orkney, KW17 2PR



DIVERTING UNUSED RENEWABLE ENERGY INTO AFFORDABLE HEATING

The aim of this exciting new venture is to show that, instead of curtailing community wind turbines when the grid reaches capacity, turbines can continue working, and the electrical energy generated can be diverted to secondary heating systems in our homes, causing our primary heating systems to work and cost less!

63 HOUSEHOLDS ON ROUSAY, EGILSAY & WYRE HAVE EXPRESSED INTEREST IN PARTICIPATING IN THE *HEAT SMART ORKNEY* PROJECT!

We are now visiting households and scheduling **Technical Assessments for properties** interest in participating in the **Heat Smart Orkney** project, so many thanks to everyone who has contacted us and begun the process to save money on their heating bills!

REMEMBER... Heat Smart Orkney is now offering a *Sign Up and Completion of Project Incentive* for the **first 100 households to join the project** - in addition to receiving your rebate on electricity used during your participation in the project, upon signing our agreement **you will receive £50, and if you remain until the end of the project, we will issue you another payment of £100** as a loyalty bonus, saving you even more money on your heating bills!

We will begin recruiting households on the mainland and other islands in January 2017, so please be sure to contact us to take advantage of this incentive and be one of our first 100 households!

To learn more, please contact us by phone, email, Facebook, or in person and we will post you an information pack:

- Phone us on: **01856 821 277**
- You can contact us via email at: **info@heatsmartorkney.co.uk**
- Feel free to drop by the Manse during our **drop-in times of 10am-12pm Monday-Friday**
- Our website is: **www.rewdt.org/HSO**
- Find us on Facebook: **search Heat Smart Orkney to learn about the progress of the project**

The **Heat Smart Orkney** Team: Kira Hoffmann and Julie Morgan, Project Assistants, and Diana Compton, Project Officer

Heat Smart Orkney is a subsidiary of the REW Development Trust and is partnered with



and funded by the Scottish Government through Local Energy Scotland and its Local Energy Challenge Fund



North Isles Landscape Partnership Scheme Update

Hello,

The North Isles Landscape Partnership Scheme (NILPS) is an ongoing programme which is being coordinated by a steering group led by Orkney Islands Council. The LP Scheme is one of the main grant programmes offered by the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). NILPS was originally conceived as an idea back in 2014 after the success of the Landscape Partnership Scheme based around the Scapa Flow area between 2009-2012 (<http://www.scapaflow.co>). Consultation events were held on the North Isles towards the end of the year with their findings used as a basis for submitting the NILPS round 1 application.

The steering group found out that the round 1 application had been successful towards the end of 2015 and were given permission to commence the round 2 (development) stage. This stage started back in April. The main work since then has involved various studies being undertaken by consultants. These have focussed on the North Isles' Historic Environment, Heritage Trails, Landscape and Seascape, Tourism, and Biodiversity. The studies are a requirement of the HLF process and will help identify the unique elements of the North Isles to demonstrate the area's eligibility for receiving a LP Scheme grant.

The studies will also help develop the initial project ideas identified back in 2014 and help inform potential projects to include in the round 2 application. The application will be submitted to the HLF towards the end of August 2017. We anticipate a decision being made around November/December 2017. If approved, NILPS would look to commence in early 2018 and run until 2022.

The studies will involve the identification of provisional walking and cycling trail for each island. Thanks to all of you who provided feedback to our consultant during the process. Further discussion around the proposed trails will be taking place soon as we look to incorporate a key trail for each of the populated North Isles into the scheme.

A Landscape and Seascape Study will involve a survey of the landscape and seascape of each island, outlining recommendations in response to the threats and opportunities posed in Isles distinct characteristics.

A Visitor and Marketing Study is also underway. As well as identifying priority projects for delivery in the North Isles during NILPS, the study will identify priority themes and produce a marketing strategy. The study will involve engagement with local tourism stakeholders and groups on the North Isles as well as collecting information on people's trips to the North Isles. People living on the North Isles are welcome to participate in the survey. Please follow this link to complete it - <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/visitorkneynorthisles>

Finally, a Biodiversity Study is also commencing. The study is being led by Nature Watch Orkney and will identify the wildlife and natural places that give each island its unique identity, and show how these form the character of the North Isles and its marine area. This will involve collating all the existing data about the species and habitats that occur in the North Isles. Also, a questionnaire asking for opinions about the most important wildlife features on your island has been produced. Please follow this link - <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/GNYBKQ2> If anyone would like to put forward suggestions, please contact Tim Dean and Anne Bignall via naturewatchorkney@hotmail.com

Continued on next page...

North Isles Landscape Partnership Scheme Update continued...

I do realise that the various processes involved in the HLF process have led to periods of activity and then inactivity. Unfortunately this is unavoidable as our application goes through the HLF system of review and assessment. I also note that your community has recently been inundated with people from out with your islands carrying out various studies, and that this will continue until the end of the year. I can only thank you for your patience and reiterate that these studies are an essential requirement of our ongoing HLF bid. The studies will also allow us to produce a strong application to the HLF, which will be submitted in August 2017. The studies will, once complete, be made available to the local communities. It is hoped that the various studies will provide information of interest and benefit to local groups.

I am now slowly starting to get around some of the islands (as time allows). A big thank you to those I have visited so far for your time. I do intend to try and arrange more visits in the future but as time moves rapidly on during this phase it is proving more difficult (August 2017 submission is getting closer and a lot of work to do behind the scenes!) However, if anyone has any queries regarding the ongoing development phase or about NILPS in general, please do not hesitate to get in touch. I will be only too happy to assist.

Best regards,

Alister

Alister Brown
Development Officer – North Isles Landscape Partnership Scheme
Development and Marine Planning
Council Offices
School Place
Kirkwall
KW15 1NY
T: 01856 873535 ext. 2814 (Kirkwall) / 01856 873535 ext. 3041 (Stromness)
E: alister.brown@orkney.gov.uk

The NILPS Development Phase is being supported by the following organisations



Rousay, Egilsay, Wyre & Gairsay Community Council

Item 1 - Inter-Island tickets

Rousay, Egilsay, Wyre and Gairsay Community Council - Trial Project Inter-Islands Ferry Passenger Tickets between Egilsay, Wyre & Rousay

REWGCC is continuing the trial scheme offering a book of passenger ferry tickets for inter-island use on the MV Eynhallow between Egilsay, Wyre & Rousay.

The scheme is open to permanent residents on the three islands providing free passenger travel which can be used for visits to the GP, shop, functions etc. all encouraging inter-island activities.

To be considered for an allocation of inter-island tickets please provide the following information:-

- Name and address
- Category i.e. Adult, Junior, OAP/Concession
- Contact phone number

Applications should be forwarded by Monday, 6 February 2017 to:-

Jackie Montgomery
Democratic Services
Orkney Islands Council
Council Offices
School Place
Kirkwall
KW15 1NY
Tel: 01856 873535
email: rewgcc@btinternet.com or jackie.montgomery@orkney.gov.uk

Item 2 - Parking Issues at Piers

Concerns over the lack of parking spaces both at Rousay and Tingwall Piers has been brought to the attention of Rousay, Egilsay, Wyre and Gairsay Community Council and members would be grateful if owners could remove boats, or release parking spaces wherever possible, to alleviate the pressure on parking at the Piers.

Item 3 - Disposal of Scrap Vehicles

Rousay, Egilsay, Wyre and Gairsay Community Council are exploring options which could encourage island residents to dispose of scrapped vehicles and it would assist the Community Council if they had an idea of the potential uptake of any scheme introduced. If you would be interested in assistance to remove scrapped vehicle(s) then please email rewgcc@btinternet.com or telephone Democratic Services, OIC on 87 3535 extension 2237 with details.

Stephen Clackson's Letter from School Place

Happy Christmas to Government Scotland and thank you for the present. I know we shouldn't be looking a gift-horse in the mouth and it's the thought that counts and all that, and at least it's only a drop of 2.25% and not 3.9% like last year, but it still represents a further £1,500,000 cut in our financial allocation on top of the cut we had last year. (NB: Under the *Scotland Act 2016*, income tax powers have now been fully devolved to Holyrood, and it'll be interesting to see how Govt. Scot. chooses to use these powers.) We councillors will soon be getting a series of briefing seminars on what all this actually means in terms of setting our budget for the forthcoming financial year. It has already been announced that we will be permitted to raise council tax by up to 3%. I'd like to hear what the public feels about this as a way of raising funds to support our council services.

The Policy & Resources Committee agenda included our budget principles for 2017/18 and our medium term resource strategy. The report on the latter identified an estimated funding gap of £12 million over the next five years. It was recommended that "the recent public engagement exercise, 'Balance the OIC Budget' [the online budget simulator], will be integrated with existing processes to assist the budget setting process from 2017/18 onwards, as budgets are reconfigured in line with local priorities and reducing funding levels". It was recognised that an additional contribution from the Strategic Reserve Fund "could be required in order to defer baseline budget savings required to bridge the funding gap".

As part of his official visit to Orkney, Chinese Consul General Pan Xinchun (潘新春) made a presentation to councillors. I asked about support for Chinese language education in Orkney (奥克尼), and he spoke about the possibility of setting up a Confucius Institute (孔子学院) hub here. I steered clear of suggesting Orkney be twinned with the Spratly Islands (南沙群岛).

As Vice-Chair of Education, Leisure & Housing, I was on the selection panel for the new post of Head of Education & Improvement. The remit of this position is: service performance and improvement, parental engagement, learning and teaching, professional development, ICT for schools, and employability and youth employment. The successful applicant was James Wylie, a Service Improvement Officer at OIC. I have arranged to meet with James early in the new year to talk about his rôle vis-à-vis the North Isles junior high schools.

Other meetings I have attended included: a Members' Forum meeting (where councillors get together for free discussion away from School Place); a presentation from the Flotta Terminal management team; a seminar on the Kirkwall Townscape Heritage Initiative; a special Development & Infrastructure Committee meeting on the new air services contract; a meeting of the High Cost / Extraordinary Care Arrangements Group; a "catch-up" with the Executive Director of Education, Leisure & Housing; a joint OIC, NHS Orkney and Integrated Joint Board budget seminar; meetings of the Licensing Sub-Committee and Licensing Board, and an open evening at the Warehouse Buildings in Stromness. In the Isles, I have been to meetings of the Sanday Community Council and Stronsay Parent Council. I chose to miss the grand Kirkwall tree-lighting, St. Lucy procession and Convener's reception in order to enjoy mulled wine and mince pies with island folk at the Sanday Christmas tree lighting. (As a consolation, I got to try on one of the Halberdier's uniforms—see below.)

The last General Meeting of 2016 was dominated by the ladies and gents in the chamber discussing the provision of public conveniences in the centre of Kirkwall—how, having a slash in our funding, we could avoid being caught short spending a penny we don't have—and finally passing a motion to reopen the St. Magnus Lane toilets. I didn't bring it up at the meeting, but I have wondered if there might be scope for an alternative on-demand "Uber"-style service, where householders make their facilities available to paying customers via a smartphone app. Perhaps we could pilot such a scheme in the Isles ...?

Transport: I believe it was a Stronsay schoolboy who many years ago defined an island as "a piece of sea with no water in it". The North Isles ward is unique, being the only local authority ward in the country to consist solely of discreet islands. The sea not only defines us, but presents us with transport connectivity challenges both within the ward and without. Planes and ferries currently provide us with bad connectivity between our respective islands and barely adequate connectivity with the Orkney Mainland. The recent Inter-Island Air & Transport Study commissioned by OIC has unequivocally demonstrated that according to Government Scotland's own *Routes & Services Methodology* we are under-provisioned, and it is on this basis that OIC has requested Government Scotland to fund our internal ferry fleet (like they fund ferries in other parts of Scotland). For the moment, I am supporting this approach, provided the outcome corresponds at least to the enhanced level of service suggested by the consultants. However, I must introduce a disclaimer here: Improved transportation links are no guarantee of improved prosperity, sustainability or the survival of our island communities, since small island economics are complex.

Turkeys and other poultry ordered to spend the festive season indoors (under article 6(1) of the *Avian Influenza and Influenza of Avian Origin in Mammals (Scotland) Order 2006*) will be allowed outside again at Epiphany (at 5 pm), provided, of course, they escaped being eaten for Christmas dinner.

2016 has been a year of extraordinary political events. With the council elections coming up in May, let's see what 2017 will bring ...

Cllr Dr Stephen Clackson
West Manse, Sanday
stephen.clackson@orkney.gov.uk

