

ROUSAY, EGILSAY, WYRE & GAIRSAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Recycling bin - outside Trumland Gates

Currently the recycling bin is full, this is to be added to a schedule of work by Orkney Islands Council so it can be emptied in due time. Please can consideration be given to not leaving bags of recycling at the side of the bin, and to ensure that correct slots are used if there is space. Apologies to those that make the trip to find it full, this will be rectified as soon as possible, in the meantime please store recyclables until the bin is emptied.

Scrap car scheme

This scheme is still open, once the haulier has indicated that collections are to resume cars can then be collected. Please e-mail rewgclerk@gmail.com with cars that need to be uplifted. You will need someone to pick the car up and put on to the wagon, this may have a separate charge. The cost of removal and disposal is being met by the Community Council.

Used Furniture For Sale

Most items at Viera View

Two 5ft divan beds
Two single divan beds
One small single bed
Corner Cupboard
Large light wood wardrobe
Pine wardrobe
Computer Desk
Arm chair
Three piece leather suite
(Incl. two seater sofa)
Two flat 32in screen TVs
(With Digi boxes and aerials)
Microwave oven
Light wood kitchen table and 6 chairs
Two tall book shelves

The Beds are in good clean condition

Donations, £10 minimum for each item,
All to go to RNLI. Buyers must uplift.

Please phone Jean on 821 202 or e-mail
jeangibbon@hotmail.com for further
details or photos.

POST OFFICE

Rousay Post Office

Revised the opening hours for the PO:

(telephone 821352 for queries/information)

New opening hours for July

The Post Office will be open daily

MONDAY to SATURDAY 9.00 to 10.30 am

Hand sanitiser is available at the door for
use both before and after your visit - stay safe

Orkney Native Wildlife Project - Stoat Update

The COVID-19 crisis has been a huge challenge to us all. At the beginning of lockdown, the Orkney Native Wildlife Project paused all field operations across the isles, and many of our staff went into furlough. With the easing of lockdown restrictions enabling outdoor working from early June, the team have been back at work across Mainland and the linked isles, deploying traps to remove stoats completely from Orkney and protect the future of our vulnerable native wildlife. Protecting the outer isles from stoat incursion is still core to our efforts so we hope to be back among the islands again soon once island communities feel it's safe to do so. In the meantime, you can be a huge help by remaining vigilant and reporting any stoat sighting to stoatsightings@rspb.org.uk



Covid-19 Update

Support for residents

Even with the Government lockdown restrictions easing, REW DT continues to work to improve the quality of life for the islands' inhabitants of all ages, in ways that are both sustainable and environmentally sound. The REW DT is working specifically to supplement and enhance the activities of the statutory bodies and the Community Council and support the considerable voluntary effort being undertaken by individual community members.

FREE PPE for all who need it

With funding from the Supporting Communities Fund, via HIE, REW DT has purchased PPE for all. The DT has placed PPE in the phone box by Rousay Pier for all residents to access. If you cannot get to the phone box, please contact the Office to arrange collection/delivery of PPE.

FREE two-course lunchtime meal for all self-isolating residents

The Supporting Communities Fund is also covering the funding for the Triangle Club to provide 1 two-course lunchtime meal per week for any self-isolating resident (including those not on the NHS shielded list), until the end of September. Please contact Julie Morgan (01856 821 269) to book your meal.

Food Deliveries

REW DT has been working with Marion's Shop and Rousay Deliveries to ensure that our residents are not disadvantaged due to the current situation and travel restrictions. REW DT is funding the additional hours at the shop to assist with the increased numbers of orders from residents, the boxing and delivery of these food orders from the shop to all residents.

We are funding essential deliveries of goods brought in from the JBT depot in Kirkwall which will be delivered by Rousay Deliveries to all 3 island residents. This includes the NHS resilience weekly food boxes to some of our community.

We are funding deliveries of takeaway meals from The Taversoe so that all residents can get access to 1 hot meal a week.

REW DT would like to thank Marion's Shop, Rousay Deliveries and The Taversoe for their extra support for residents during this pandemic.

3D Printers & PPE

REWDT has funded (using external funding) the purchase of two 3D printers, to allow volunteers on Rousay to make face masks for the NHS and our local key workers. REWDT has funded the raw materials for this PPE. The PPE is free, and can be found in the red phone box near Rousay Pier.

We would like to thank Denis and the many volunteers from the Rousay Sewing Ladies for producing the beautiful face masks for residents to use.

Archaeology - Update

We are working with the University of the Highlands and Islands' Archaeology department who, as they will not be here as part of the annual Skail Farm digs, will be providing interactive online talks and activities very soon. Watch our Facebook page for updates on when this will be available to download.



Covid-19 Update

How to contact us

The staff are still working, but are not always in the office. The office e-mails, post, and phone messages are being picked up most days and the staff will respond as soon as they are able to.

REWDT & REWIRED

For REWDT & REWIRED, please either e-mail info@rewdt.org or leave a message on 821 229.

Heat Smart Orkney

For Heat Smart Orkney, please e-mail info@heatsmartorkney.co.uk or leave a message on 821 277.

Thank you for your patience in such difficult times. Stay safe.

Brinian Play Park - Update

At the time of going to press, the Covid-19 Government changes regarding Phase 2 relating to the opening of play parks is good news! As of 29th June, Brinian Play Park will re-open. Thank you for your patience and stay safe when playing, have fun!

Peedie Lap 5K & Rousay Lap Half-Marathon - Update

Due to Covid-19, these events have been cancelled, however, one local resident (Jo Inkster) ran the 5K distance on the original date, and completed the 'virtual race'. Her winning time was 30 mins 12 secs. Well done, Jo! We are looking forward to next year when everyone can get together again, to run, cycle, or walk in this family event.

Electric Car Hire

In line with current Government advice, REW DT is continuing to offer the electric car hire, so that Car Club members can make essential journeys. REWDT would like to assure all members that we have an enhanced cleaning regime after every hire, which is also in line with Government advice. All journeys should only be made when absolutely essential, and in line with social distancing advice. Please use the wipes and hand sanitiser in the car after you have returned the car to The Manse. Please see our website for detailed car hire rules due to Covid-19. Thank you.



Project Updates

The Pier Project

The Pier building is closed to public access, however, crafters are now getting in touch to remove their craft items. If anyone with craft or other items currently stored in The Pier building would like to remove them for safe-keeping, please get in touch with the Office and arrangements can be made. Under the current circumstances, only 1 person will be able to enter the premises, along with 1 member of staff. Your understanding is appreciated.

Meet & Greet - a virtual option

I am currently in the office on a Wednesday and Friday, and quite a few residents ring in with queries or concerns in the current climate. If anyone would like to meet up 'face to face', either via Zoom or Messenger, this can be arranged. Just leave me a message at the office or e-mail me (gill@rewdt.org) and we can organise a get together.

I am still receiving ideas for projects, which I am putting to our Board members.

Keep safe and well.

Gill

Trumland Land Project

We are still working with our solicitors and the owners regarding the purchase of the land. The purchase is progressing, albeit slowly, due to complex historical plans. The Big Lottery Fund (BLF), who are providing 100% of the purchase price and purchase fees, are being kept informed to ensure the funding is still available.

Broadband Installation Grant

Residents can apply for funding to either obtain Broadband or improve their current level of connectivity. Having recently received feedback from a member of the community, it was decided at the last Board meeting to raise the maximum speed condition of the grant from 2mbps to 5mbps. Therefore, the grant is now aimed at residents who have internet speeds of 5mbps or less, or those who are unable to have a phone line and/or internet provided by BT. The funding is for the installation of equipment only, under a specific scheme, and will not cover any monthly fees. This scheme is open to households who have not had any previous financial assistance with Broadband connectivity. The limit on this grant is £250 per household. As with all grant applications, the grant must be approved prior to any works being done or expenditure made.

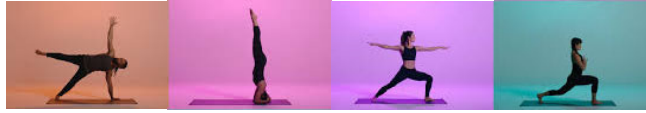
Crossroads & Here2Help

We are pleased to inform residents that we are now working with Crossroads Carers alongside Age Scotland in providing the services offered under the Here2Help scheme. If any resident would like to use Crossroads Carers or would like further information, please feel free to contact Gill at the office in the first instance.

For Here2Help, please contact Gillian at Age Scotland Orkney (01856 872438 or Gillian@ageconcernorkney.org.uk).

REWDT

hello



bonjour

HOLA

BOM DIA

For REW residents who are getting bored at home and are thinking about trying something new, like learning a language online or taking part in online fitness classes, our Education or Well Being grants could help you with the cost of these. A Broadband grant could also help you with installation costs to get you online or upgrade your internet speed. For further information about these or other grants, please contact grants@rewdt.org or call the office on 01856 821229.

Ready to apply to one of our grant funds?

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, The Manse is closed, and staff are working predominantly from home. We are currently encouraging electronic grant applications. Application forms for grants are available on our website (www.rewdt.org) and can be filled in, signed, and returned to us electronically (grants@rewdt.org), however, if you would prefer an application form to be posted out to you instead, we will happily do so. Please call and leave a message on 01856 821 229 or email grants@rewdt.org

All applications to the above Grant Schemes must be received a minimum of **two weeks** before the training or first well being activity takes places, and a minimum of **two weeks** before payment is due, to allow sufficient time for applications to be processed.

The next two Board Meetings are planned for **Thursday 16th July 2020 & Tuesday 11th August 2020.**

Telephone: 01856 821 229

Website: www.rewdt.org

General E-mails: info@rewdt.org

Grants E-mails: grants@rewdt.org



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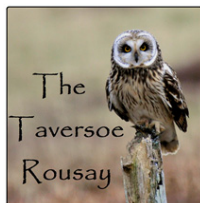
Directors:

John Garson (Chair), Kayleigh Tipper (Vice-Chair), Carolyne Tunbridge (Treasurer), Carole Maguire, Alison Mainland, Mark Hull (co-opted) & Peter Roebuck (co-opted).

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



**Calling all Self-Isolators
Or
Anyone Isolating/Working from Home**



Anyone self-isolating, or indeed isolating due to circumstances i.e. working from home, is entitled to a free 2 course meal once a week provided by Carey at The Taversoe. We have this funding up until the end of September so please contact me to arrange.

We have been able to offer this due to funding received by REWDT, The Supporting Communities Fund, (administered by Highlands & Islands Enterprise) & SCVO Well-Being Fund (Hunters Foundation). So many thanks go out to those Funders for providing this.

Please contact Julie either by e-mail or telephone:

Triangle.club60@aol.com or 01856 821269



#WellbeingFund



Stephen Clackson's Letter from School Place

Issue 89 | June 2020

Informing you of what your councillor is doing during this pandemic period

See the OIC website at <https://www.orkney.gov.uk/> for the latest Council news and up-to-date information on the Covid-19 situation as it pertains to Orkney, as well as referring to *The Orcadian* and listening to *BBC Radio Orkney*. See also the Scottish Government's guidance at <https://www.gov.scot/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance/> or call 0800-1114000. NHS Orkney has information at <https://www.ohb.scot.nhs.uk/coronavirus-covid-19-latest-information>. For Covid-19 testing telephone 01856-888221. For OIC's Homelessness Service ring 01856-873535 or 07921-582962.



Maybe this missive should really be renamed "Stephen Clackson's Letter from the West Manse", as this is where during the "lockdown" I am "attending" all Council meetings, and I am only "virtually" at School Place. We councillors are continuing to receive regular briefings at which we can discuss matters with council officers. We also had 2 "virtual" seminars ("webinars", I suppose) on OIC's business and economy response to the crisis, and on the "Islands Growth Deal". Because the Monitoring & Audit Committee provides a distinctive governance function dealing with essential matters best addressed separately from a Special General Meeting of the Council, the scheduled meeting went ahead as planned, but, of course, via the Internet.

The by-election to elect a successor to the late Cllr Kevin Woodbridge will be held on the 1st October (postal voting only).

At a Special General Meeting, the vacancy his death has left on the Orkney Health & Care Committee was filled by Cllr Sandy Cowie, and the vacancy on the Orkney Ferries Board by Cllr David Dawson (the choice of chairman will be decided at the next Board meeting). We received an update on the progress of our Children's Services inspection improvement plan. The very unsatisfactory Care Inspectorate report (published in February) which necessitated this improvement plan came to me and other councillors as a great shock, because we had been led to believe that everything was just fine. As I brought up at the meeting, this leaves me very wary about the veracity of *any* information I am fed as a councillor.

I attended my first on-line community council meeting, Eday's, by "Zoom". The chair gave a verbal coronavirus report with a very impressive list of all that is being done to help Eday residents during "lockdown". Notably, thanks to the Eday Partnership topping up the funding it receives from external bodies, the island has been able to adopt an inclusive approach and distribute the aid available universally, so that nobody in need is left out by being put off by an application process or embarrassment.

OIC is extending its £5-per-head voucher scheme for Isles' residents for a further 4 weeks (making it 12 weeks so far).

The Scottish Government is tentatively exiting "lockdown" through its phased "Route Map". In Phase 1 we were allowed to go fishing and play golf (although I can currently do neither because, once again, the Clacksons have had to self-isolate, this time on account of an emergency dental trip to Stromness). Phase 2 is now being phased in. Travel restrictions for us islanders are likely to remain in place, with the addition that it is now mandatory for face coverings to be worn on all public transport. As if on cue, Sanday Community Council has provided each resident of Sanday with a facemask. I'm trying to get the limited time window that the Outer Isles Covid-19 ferry timetable allows in the town extended, principally to assist those with hospital and dental appointments. To fully understand the complexities of Phase 2, see <http://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-framework-decision-making-scotlands-route-map-through-out-crisis-phase-2-update/>.

Whilst he was recovering from Covid-19 in hospital, the Prime Minister was purportedly reading "Tintin" books by the Belgian cartoonist Hergé. If you are lacking "lockdown" literature, there are 24 of these books (although for several decades, British publishers refused to publish an English translation of "Tintin au Congo", owing to our more enlightened attitudes towards race relations and animal cruelty). "Destination Moon" ("Objectif Lune") contains a very accurate, elementary description of how a nuclear reactor works. Since boyhood, I've been reading my way through Richmal Crompton's "William" books (all 38!). The authoress and I studied at the same University of London college, although 70 years separate our respective graduations—she in classics, me in physics. Regarding physics, it has long been my intention to read Richard Feynman's 115 legendary "Lectures on Physics" in 3 volumes. (Now freely available on-line at <https://www.feynmanlectures.caltech.edu/>.) If "lockdown" life has descended into domestic disputes, John Shuttleworth's book "Two Margarines and Other Domestic Dilemmas!" (a copy of which my younger daughter kindly gave me for my birthday) could help resolve them. Back in April 2012, when I was on the council election campaign trail, I met John Shuttleworth in Rousay. He gave me a cup of coffee and exchanged a signed copy of his DVD "Southern Softies" for a jar of my Sanday honey, the label of which he insisted I signed for him!

I am continuing to engage with NHS Orkney on the issues of Covid-19 testing and personal protection equipment (PPE), as I know how many members of our communities are worried about these (as, indeed, are health workers). As always, if you have concerns about these or any other matters please get in touch with me (in confidence).

World War 2 "Forces' Sweetheart", Dame Vera Lynn has passed away. In an interview on her 103rd birthday, she said the key to getting through any crisis is "to come together to help one another", and to be kind and foster a strong community spirit during the coronavirus outbreak. She urged Britons to remain positive, use the time isolated at home to reconnect with their families and rediscover the joy of writing letters to loved ones far away.

Keep calm and carry on!

Cllr Dr Stephen Clackson
West Manse, Sanday

stephen.clackson@orkney.gov.uk

You can download "Letter from School Place" from lfsp.pbworks.com

