



NORTH RONALDSAY TRUST NEWSLETTER

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New Trust Chairman

Following the AGM the Trust met to appoint a new Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

Mark Holbrook was voted as Chairperson with John Scott as Vice Chairperson

School House

Billy Groundwater has been appointed as surveyor to manage the refurbishment of the School House project. A survey has been undertaken and a contractor will be chosen in the coming weeks in order to begin the necessary work to bring the School House up to modern letting standards.

Sheep Festival

This years Sheep Festival will be between 29th July and 10th August.

A full program of culture and conservation, dyke building, dancing,

For further information check out www.nrsheepfestival.com.

AGM

20th January 2018

Chairman Peter Donnelly welcomed everybody to the sixteenth AGM advising everybody that he would be stepping down as chairman having held the role for the maximum three years.

Peter thanked a variety of people for their work throughout the year and discussed the work that had been undertaken throughout the last year specifically the grant applications for the Community Development Manager (CDM) and the council granting the trust to lease the School house and support the renovation. In addition he mentioned the trusts fund raising through the film event in Kirkwall in June as well as during the sheep Festival latter in the year. Michael Scott sponsorship during the Orkney Marathon, and John Scott fundraising through Bank of Scotland.

Current fund being processed through the Princes Countryside Fund to support the School house and future Island Conference. From the North Isles Landscape Partnership we believe we will be successful if securing funding to support a Dyke worker to manage the repair and management of the dyke together with possible sheep management work as well.

Michael Scott gave a brief summary of the financial reports with the absence of John Scott

There were three director vacancies and three nominees, so Kate Traill Price and Heather Woodbridge were reinstated and Helga Scott became a new director taking up the position vacated by Ian Scott.

Big Raffle

Top Prizes

The Trust will be operating a big raffle to support its activities with the prize draw to be during the sheep Festival.

The prizes are coming in, but if you would like to donate a prize gift or want to sell some tickets please don't hesitate to contact Heather Woodbridge on 01857.633200

Community Development Manager

The Trust has been successful in securing funding from Leader, Highlands & Islands Enterprise (HIE), and OIC Development and Infrastructure. This is also supported from our own funds. As this news letter is being completed we will have started the recruitment process advertising the position locally and nationally. The recruitment process is being supported by Volunteering Action Orkney, VAO, who will also be providing training on 'Employing Staff'.

The Trust looks forward to having the CDM onboard in order to begin the process of researching and undertaking feasibility studies to support delivering the Island Development Plan

Coffee Morning

A coffee morning was held on Sunday 25th February. There was a good turnout of 30 people to listen to updates on the

- * Trusts activities, including CDM, school house, and island conference.
- * Island transport updates
- * Island Conference
- * Sheep Festival
- * Film Club
- * Book Club
- * Exercise Equipment and upcoming induction and training



- * New Island Retained Firefighter George Gay

The information all being well received and the cakes and refreshments appear to have been received even more!

The next coffee morning will be held on Saturday 14th April.

Island Conference

We are planning an Island Conference to be held in late August 2018 in order to promote initially the first house refurbished using the Island Housing Fund in Scotland together with the introduction of our CDM.

The intention is to invite dignitaries such as Scottish Housing Minister, OIC Housing Officers, MSP, MP, and more. Then display what we have achieved so far and the discuss the benefit than can be achieved by supporting our future aims.

Island Celebrity

Following on from Sarah Moore's tabloid appearances having moved to the island and taken up numerous jobs. Sarah is now being filmed for a BBC documentary called 'Our Lives' which is about her moving to the island and becoming part of a small island community. The first part of the filming has taken place with the second part planned for April

Amy Muir

It was with great sadness that we remember the recent passing of Amy Muir. Amy passed away on the 20th February. Following a service in Kirkwall Amy was laid to rest on Wednesday 28th February

North Ronaldsay Sheep

The abattoir in Kirkwall shut in January which has had an impact on the processing of local mutton. Options were being discussed regarding thoughts of shipping to either Aberdeen or Shetland in order to slaughter. The final option was to ship to Shetlands abattoir which is operated by Shetland Livestock Marketing Group which is a Ben Comm—cooperative for the benefit of the community organisation.

The punding was arranged to start on the Wednesday when the weather was very wet and windy, but as the week, and punding, went on the weather improved ending in sunshine!

In total around 150 sheep were shipped off on the boat on Saturday to Kirkwall, then by ferry Saturday night to Shetland for slaughter on Monday morning. Many Scotts and Muirs returned to their family crofts to support the punding together with island residents. Well done to all for their hard work during the punding and well done Billy Muir for coordinating the slaughter and transfer

Pantomime

Pied Piper of Hamelin

April 7th Book Now !

A tale of good versus evil with a very intriguing plot, all ready to set the audience alight with excitement and joy.

Yet another entertaining theatrical extravaganza written by the wonderful playwright Sid Ogilvie.

Its such a shock that Sid hasn't received a Laurence Olivier, or Evening Standard Award, keep voting

Congratulations

Catriona & Daniel Yeats

Catriona and Daniel Yeats are pleased to announce the birth of

by  ba-



Congratulations

Scott & Amy Tulloch

Congratulations to Scott and Amy on the birth of Max Ernest Tulloch on Friday 9th March

Special Film Showing

Mark Jenkins from Stromness Cinema club showed a documentary film 'Village at the Edge of the World' at the Bird Observatory. The film about a Inuit village called Niaqornat in north-west Greenland and how thy changed their economy.

Congratulations

Alice Louise Traill Ford & Timothy Ford

Congratulations to Alice and Timothy on the birth of Isla Georgia Ford born November 2nd in Denver Colorado



Island Film Club

Currently every two weeks there is a film shown at the community centre.

The films are chosen from a large variety of available films. The film club has ben operating now for over a year.

For more information contact Sarah Moore

Car scrappage scheme

The Community council has £2000 funding to cover scrappage of vehicles, In order to qualify the vehicles need to be free of additional rubbish inside.

Contact Sarah Moore Council Clerk for further details

Household waste collection

The community council is trialling a scheme which affords residents the ability to scrap household items without incurring any cost. The date for these goods to be collected are to be notified soon

Contact Sarah Moore Council Clerk for further details

Island Event

Due to the success of last years event in Kirkwall the trust is planning another Island event in Kirkwall this June.

Full details will be announced as soon as venue etc has been finalised

Dark Skies

The work on the dark skies application is steadily progressing, thanks to much excellent work from Jim Paterson, the lighting engineer, and within the island. One of the key aspects that the International Dark-Sky Association look for, in addition to the core data about the darkness of an area's skies, is the strength of community support, and here North Ronaldsay has a strong advantage in that numerous events over the past eight years have had tremendous support in the island - talks, workshops, two night sky photography competitions, and the figures from this which have built up over time are really impressive. Interest and support is being expressed by Islands Council departments and individuals and organisations on the mainland, and we are also getting support from speakers who have visited the island over the years and have much appreciated the level of the turnout and interest for their talks. The letters of support are building up and there is still time for further ones to be added. A letter of support can be quite simple, wishing the application well - information about this can be provided by Alison Woodbridge, Ian Scott or Mark Holbrook.