



NORTH RONALDSAY TRUST NEWSLETTER

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NRT Fundraising Event Film & Fun in Kirkwall

Saturday 10th June the Masonic Lodge in Kirkwall was the venue for a splendid evening with approx. 100 attending. The evening started with a film produced by David and Wendelin Scott using mainly film taken between 1995 and 1996. The film captivated the audience throughout with much reminiscing as well as enlightening for those too young, or new, to remember. Following the film the hall was cleared for the dance, with music performed by 'Aff the Cuff'. This was followed by a monstrous buffet which included North Ronaldsay mutton chipolatas, sandwiches, pizza, cakes of all shapes and flavours as well as some North Ronaldsay hand made chocolates. In addition to the raffle which included some wonderful gifts donated by various Orkney shops there was an auction of an Ian Scott painting, the highest bidder being Kevin Woodbridge. During the evening Ian & Sheila Deyell, Vincoin celebrated their Ruby wedding anniversary. By the end of the night there was a total of £2,297 raised for the NRT which was to assist in the future project of the gateway house.

Dark Skies

After many individuals, both on and off the island, have submitted letters confirming the benefit and enjoyment this accreditation will bring to the island. With light surveys and many visits, its near. Howie Firth is hoping that this application will be achieved in the not too distant future.

During the recent Science Festival we welcomed Matjaz Vidmar from the Royal Observatory of Edinburgh. Matjaz works at the Observatory whilst working for his PhD at Edinburgh University. Matjaz delivered a very interesting presentation regarding our solar system including the diverse , space industry currently developing in Scotland. There was an attempt to star gaze with our telescope, however the low cloud put a stop to that!

SHEEP FESTIVAL

2017's Sheep Festival has come to an end, with a staggering 330 metres (or 330 'pace') built in a fortnight, bringing the past two years' total to over half a mile of fallen sheepdyke re-built by hand, from scratch, by the band of incredible volunteers! The volunteers enjoyed a packed schedule both at and away from the sheepdyke. Away was a varied combination of events that had something for just about everybody. Cont.....



Start of a new wall



Getting another wall higher



A picture of activity



A breach in the wall being attended to.

It started with Howie Firth giving a talk on the 5000 years at the Standing Stone. Brian Saunders , from Vancouver, gave a talk on honeybees. The first of two dances was preceded by a repeat performance of the David Scott film first shown at the Fund raising event in Kirkwall. All participants danced the night away to music from Kitty Halcrow and Fionn MacArthur together with a raffle that raised another £275 for NRT. The second dance was preceded by a quiz, with music provided by 'Aff the Cuff and lots of dancing, the bar takings were quite good as well!

As if that wasn't enough there was 'Bag the Bruck', a Treasure Hunt, Bake-off competition, as well as the numerous music sessions in the Bird obs bar. Great time had by all. Well done to all and roll on 2018.



Well earned happy smiles



Even after all that lifting they can still raise their arms high!



The finished product



Arms still able to produce the evenings entertainment



Heather Woodbridge BSc(Hons)

Congratulations to Heather for obtaining a first class honours degree in Ecology from Stirling University.

An asset to the both the board of the Trust as well as the island.

New OIC Councillor

Congratulations to Kevin Woodbridge who successfully fought for a Northern Isles council seat in the May Elections.

Kevin is now working tirelessly for his constituents which fortunately includes North Ronaldsay.



A New Swanney

We would all like to congratulate Liam and Zoe upon the birth of their son Rohan Swanney born 30th July

Marathon Man

Michael Scott Trust Director competed in the Orkney Marathon finishing 9th and raising a massive £1,022.20 for the Trust.

Big thanks to everyone that sponsored him so generously.

Gateway House

As from earlier this year Orkney Islands Council have approved a lease for the school house to transfer to the Trust, becoming a gateway house to attract people considering a move to the island. It is hoped that the gateway house will be available from spring having been insulated against heat loss, solar panels installed, and decorated throughout. This will be funded through various grants that have been applied for together with a lot of work by the Trust and a lot of support from the Orkney Islands Council.

North Ronaldsay Gifts

North Ronaldsay Lighthouse visitor Centre Facebook page now has an online shop

Check it out for your Christmas presents

Community Development Officer

We are currently preparing to obtain funding in order to have a community development officer. It is envisaged that this position will assist in enabling a more effective development of all the trusts current and potential projects. The other benefit is that we would be looking to attract another family to the island to fulfil this position.

In addition to this in the future our plan is to have a ranger that could deliver tours on wildlife, Island life, and other tasks

New Residents

Breckan now has new occupants in John Straw, and Alexandra Wright. The Trust welcomes them both to the island

European Small Islands Federation

The ESIN recently held their 17th AGM in Orkney between 11-13th September as well as contributing to the Orkney International Science festival. On the 12th September a small delegation visited the island touring the Lighthouse Visitor Centre, and Wool Mill. The delegation then split with Denis Bredin giving a fascinating insight to the power generation on islands off Brittany, with the remaining continuing their tour of the island

Annie Tulloch O'Milldam

It was with great sadness that we remember the recent passing of Annie O'Milldam. Annie as well as a great number of her family have been great supporters of the Trust from its inception. Annie passed away on the 26th August and will always be fondly remembered for her joyous personality with much laughter from the many friends on the island.

Annie rests in Peace on the Island