

FREE!

Rousay, Egilsay & Wyre Community Newsletter

'The Review'

June 2016

Produced by: Rousay Community Association

Subscriber: Electronic



Primary 7 pupils, Catherine and James completed their sponsored walk around Rousay recently, to raise funds for their trip to Lagganlia Outdoor Centre.

Along the way, they met television presenter, Lorraine Kelly, who took the opportunity to sponsor them!

What's On at a Glance

- Thursday, 2nd**
→ Singlingin' Ladies, The Crafhthub, 8pm
- Sunday, 5th**
→ Service, Church Centre, 11.30am
- Monday, 6th**
→ RCA Garden Party Meeting, School, 8pm
- Tuesday, 7th**
→ Taversoe InnQUIZition, 8pm
- Thursday, 9th**
→ Circle Dance, Church Centre, 11.15am-2pm
- Saturday, 11th**
→ Service, Church Centre, 11.30am
- Tuesday, 14th**
→ REWGCC Meeting, Church Centre, 7.30pm
- Thursday, 16th**
→ Mobile Library
- Singlingin' Ladies, The Crafhthub, 8pm
- Sunday, 19th**
→ Service, Church Centre, 11.30am
- Friday, 24th**
→ Sirocco Winds, The Space, 8pm
- Saturday, 25th**
→ Cocktail Party, The Taversoe, 7.30pm
- Sunday, 26th**
→ Service, Church Centre, 11.30am
- Birthday Party, The Crafhthub, 2pm - 7pm
- Thursday, 30th**
→ Singlingin' Ladies, The Crafhthub, 8pm
- Every Monday**
→ Coffee Morning, The Crafhthub, 11am - 1pm
- Every Tuesday**
→ Tai Chi, Rousay School, 3.15pm - 5.15pm
- Every Wednesday**
→ Spinning Circle, The Crafhthub, 11am - 1pm
- Art Club (**except 1st & 8th**), The Crafhthub, 3.15pm
- Every Sunday (except 5th)**
→ YCREW, The Crafhthub, 11am - 12.30pm



Cycling Proficiency

Pupils will be taking part in cycle training, under the leadership of Joseph Hewes, on the roads around the school on the following dates:

- Tuesday 31 May**
- Wednesday 15 June**
- Thursday 16 June**
- Friday 17 June**

Motorists are requested to drive with caution within the vicinity of the school.

Thank you!



FREE Adults Emergency First Aid

**2 June, 9am-3.30pm
Church Centre**

**Spaces available!
To book your place,
contact the Trust
(821 229)**

One-day Emergency First Aid course enables a first aider to address a wide range of emergency illness and injury situations with confidence in a prompt, safe and effective way.



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 June 2016 (5pm) - late articles are not guaranteed to be included

Funder logo





Mobile Library
Visits Rousay & Egilsay
Thursday 16 June



**Orkney Citizens
Advice Bureau**

We will be making an outreach visit to Rousay on 24th August. We will be in the Church Centre from 11:30am to 2:30pm.

We are there to advise on any issue. To make an appointment or arrange a home visit, please contact 01856 875266 no later than Friday 19th August.

Services
at the Church Centre

At 11.30am

Sunday 5th June
Local

Saturday 11th June
Roy Cordukes

Sunday 19th June
Local

Sunday 26th June
Roy Cordukes
Communion Service

All welcome



**Sort of Singlin' more like
Laughin' Ladies**

Thursday
2nd, 16th and 30th June

20:00, Craithub

Phone Frances
for more information

821 340



**Get ready for Summer
with Tai Chi**

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,

come for one or both.

All ages and abilities welcome.



www.facebook.com/orkneytaichi



Thanks to REW DT for part funding this.

Rousay Circle Dance

Thursday, 9 June

11.15am - 2pm

Church Centre



Shared lunch

Christian Aid donation £5

Everyone welcome.

"Never give a sword to a man who cannot dance."
Confucius

Events at The Taversoe

Taversoe InnQUIZition

Tuesday June 7th @ 8pm

Free Entry

Snowball Jackpot

Light Snack Supper



Armed Forces Day

Cocktail Party

Saturday June 25th from 7.30pm

Forces Fancy Dress

Munitions Inspired Drinks & Nibbles

Raffle - Proceeds to "Help the Heroes"



Advance Notices for July:

Taversoe InnQUIZition

Tuesday June 5th @ 8pm

Free Entry

Snowball Jackpot

Light Snack Supper



For Sale

Antique pine corner unit



Thick lined curtains

80 x 72 approx.



Wicker chair

07712341450 / 821 487



30 inch Toshiba flat screen TV

Comes with remote control and free view box

75.00

Contact 07712341450 or 821487

Dimplex Storage Heater (with convector)

Free to collect

Braehead Tel. 821 222



St MAGNUS
INTERNATIONAL
FESTIVAL

and **the space**, Rousay
are proud to present

SIROCCO WINDS



Friday 24 June 8pm at **the space**

A fascinating exploration of the unique soundworld of wind instruments

Baines Divertimento
O'Carolan Three Celtic Tunes
D'Rivera Habanera
Kikuchi Air Mail Edition
Milhaud Pastorale
Beethoven Variations on a theme from Mozart
Pierné Bucolique Varié
Canteloube Rustiques

Tickets available on the door: £1 for children, £6 for adults
Performance lasts approximately one hour

**Supported by the Rousay Chapter of the Scottish Women's Institute
and the Rousay Community Association**



The Crafhub c.i.c.

JUNE 2016

CRAFTHUB NEWS

SPRING RAFFLE - The Spring Raffle was drawn at Coffee Morning last month, the Sheila Scott painting was won by Clare Daintith. Well Done Clare!!

Sketch Book Project - Last month Joseph Hewes came to Art Club to introduce a Sketch Book Project to encourage our children to develop their drawing skills. Later this month Joseph will attend YCREW to introduce the project to the older children. It is planned that there will be an exhibition of all the sketch books later in the summer. Thanks again to Rousay, Egilsay Wyre and Gairsay Community Council, who have funded this project.

YCREW NEWS - Last month Ingrid Grieve came to YCREW to demonstrate how she uses water based oil paints in her work. They really enjoyed exploring the techniques on canvas. She was very impressed with our talented youngsters.

Later in the summer we hope that Ingrid will come back to The Crafhub to run another workshop.

CRAFTHUB PEEDIES - The Crafhub are looking for a sessional worker to run the NEW Crafhub Peedies Club for Under 5's. For more details please contact Hilary at The Crafhub - 821455



WATCH THIS SPACE - NEW Crafhub Peedies Activity Bags - Available Soon - Bags of Books, Games and Soft Toys for families on Rousay, Egilsay and Wyre. Funded by The Big Lottery.

LOTTERY FUNDED

THANKS!! We reached 200 likes in May!!

Go on Facebook today to keep in touch with Crafhub news and updates



WORKSHOPS IN JUNE

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

ART CLUB – Children's Art Club on Wednesdays from 3.15pm – 4.30pm, Age 5 plus **(NO ART CLUB on Wed 1st or Wed 8th JUNE)**

THE YCREW – 12+ Young Crafters on Sundays from 11am - 12.30pm - £2.00 a session, bring along your own art and craft. **(NO YCREW on Sun 5th JUNE)**

SPINNING CIRCLE – Drop in Spinning Workshops on Wednesdays from 11am - 1pm £3 a session

*** COMING UP ***

DRAWING WEEKEND – Join Joseph Hewes for a weekend of Landscape Drawing on Sat/Sun 16th/17th July 10am-5pm both days. The cost will be £55, grant funding will be available. For more information contact Hilary at The Crafhub, BOOK YOUR PLACE TODAY.

HAND-MADE PAPER WORKSHOP – Diana Merrick will be back in August with more techniques in paper-making.

INGRID GRIEVE OIL PAINTING WORKSHOP – Learn techniques of using water based oil painting with Ingrid Grieve later this summer.

Crafthub

Directors of The Crafthub
Invite you to join us
at
THE CRAFTHUB'S 3rd BIRTHDAY PARTY
ON
Sunday 26th June
2pm - 7pm
Come along to Celebrate with Us
Drinks and Nibbles

JUNE OPENING TIMES

During June **The Crafthub** will be open 7 days a week 11am - 5.30pm

PLEASE NOTE: We are now able to take most debit and credit card payments for over £15 at The Crafthub

e-mail : crafthub@btconnect.com website : www.crafthuborkney.co.uk

BIRDS ON ROAD

ROAD USERS PLEASE TAKE CARE.

PLEASE, would drivers be extra careful during the coming weeks (late May to early July) when passing between approximately **Cubbie Roo** and the **Rousay School**, especially the straight stretch of road from **Bellona** down to as far as **Quoys**.

There has been a marked increase in traffic along this stretch of road in recent years. It is not uncommon during the daytime between the hours of 8 am and 7 pm for there to be as many as **one** vehicle every **two minutes**: on occasions we have recorded some 100 vehicles in 4 hours!

A large colony of Common Gull nest behind **Bellona** every year and the young birds are frequently to be found using the road to practice their lift-off skills! Other birds frequently to be found on or near the road include Oyster Catcher and larger gulls.

In 2013 there were 23 birds squashed into the tarmac.

Thank you.

John Vetterlein
(Springfield)
For the RSPB, SNH and others.



Surgery Office Opening Times

(Tel.: 821265)

(Note: the Doctor will not always be present or available during these hours)

Monday	9:00-12:30	16:30-18:30
Tuesday	9:00-11:30	
Wednesday	9:00-11:30	17:30-19:30
Thursday	9:00-11:30	
Friday	9:00-11:30	16:30-18:30

If you require medical assistance in an emergency, please phone **999**. If you require urgent medical advice, and cannot wait until the surgery is open, please contact the Balfour switchboard on **888000** and ask them to page the Rousay GP.

If you need to order medication when the surgery is closed, you can leave a message on the answering machine, or e-mail us on: ork-hb.gp38084-rousay@nhs.net

Please be as specific as possible about which medications you require, to prevent delays in ordering.

The Nurse is usually on Rousay on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. She can be contacted directly on 821406. If you would like to talk to a Nurse outwith those days, please phone the Dounby Nurses on 771540.

If you have any over-the-counter or prescription medication that is out of date or that you no longer need, please hand it in to the surgery so that we can dispose of it safely for you.

The Taversoe

Summer Opening Hours

Monday 11am to 5pm*
Tuesday to Saturday - 11am to 11pm
Sunday - 11am to 10.30pm

Food served Daily from 12pm
Kitchen last orders Tues to Sat 9pm &
Sun 7.30pm

* If you would like to eat on a Monday evening please give us a call and we'll do our best to accommodate you.

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 being unavailable.

Looking for work

Contact Kristian

821 466

Rousay Public Bus

Every Thursday, 7am-7pm

To book, call 821 360.

July 2016 Events

Royal Navy Visit

On July 2nd Rousay are to get a visit from one of the Royal Navy boats that are up here for the Jutland celebrations. There are 12 crew on board estimated time for arrival is 10.30am staying overnight.

The lifeboat Ladies are to arrange a "Meet and Greet" at Pier Restaurant with a coffee and some Orkney nibbles then a drive around to show them the sites the pub, turbine, Trumland House Gardens, etc. They want to meet the local people and join in with any activity that might be on. They will also show people round the boat. We would like as many of you as possible to come to the "Meet and Greet" for a cuppa and a chat. If any of you would like to drive some of them we would be most grateful.

Any other ideas of what we can do, speak to Shelagh, Liz or Itha.



ROUSAY GARDEN PARTY

Rousay Community Association & RNLI
12.30pm July 2nd at Trumland House



Competitions

Fanciest Hat - Design a Rousay Flag

Games

Tug-of-War - Chicken Wanging - Egg & Spoon

BBQ



VOLUNTEERS WELCOME
MEETING MONDAY JUNE 6th 8pm - ROUSAY SCHOOL

Orkney Heritage Society Summer Evening trip to Eynhallow



Monday 18th July 2016

(subject to weather conditions)

With Historic Scotland Rangers, Orkney College UHI Archaeologists, and RSPB

Depart Tingwall 7.15pm Depart Eynhallow 10.15pm

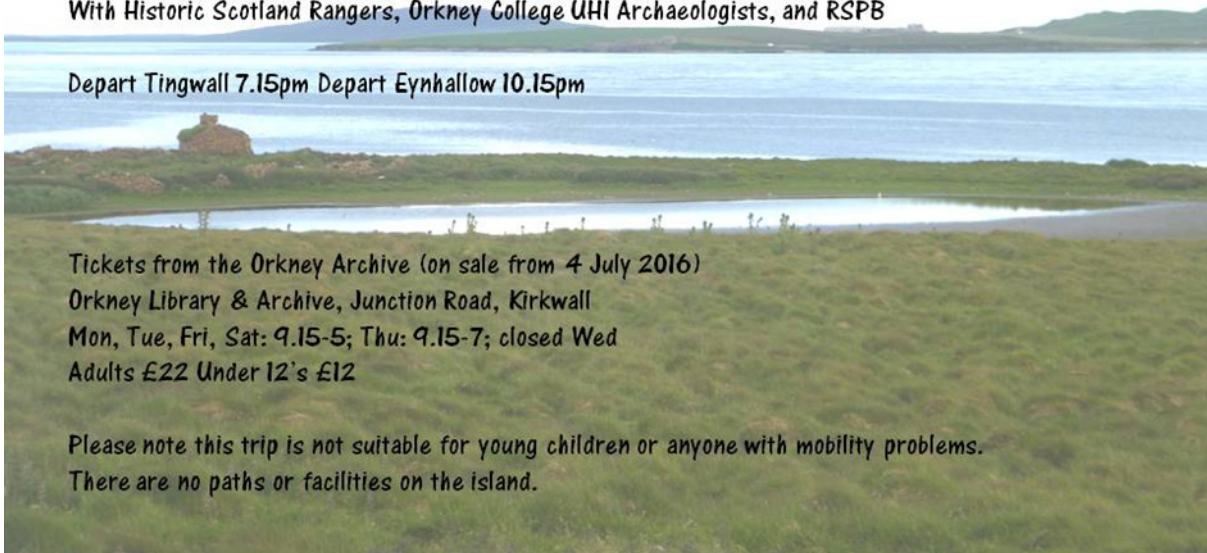
Tickets from the Orkney Archive (on sale from 4 July 2016)

Orkney Library & Archive, Junction Road, Kirkwall

Mon, Tue, Fri, Sat: 9.15-5; Thu: 9.15-7; closed Wed

Adults £22 Under 12's £12

Please note this trip is not suitable for young children or anyone with mobility problems.
There are no paths or facilities on the island.



REWDT Year of Learning

Free Adults Emergency First Aid day course (2 June 2016)

There are still a couple of spaces left - see separate advert on the front page.

Free World Host course

See separate advert for more details. This is an excellent Customer Care style full day course, usually retailing at £95 but free (via this REW DT project) to REW residents. The DT can access a subsidy for those attending this course that are in tourism-related work providing we submit an application in advance of the course dates. The course books have to be ordered 10 days in advance, so if you are interested, please book early to ensure your place for **27 June 2016**. Any hospitality businesses who have 50% of their frontline staff certificated can apply for business recognition as a 'World Host', which may help their business and will work towards Orkney achieving Regional Destination Status as a 'World Host'.

Young Persons' First Aid Course

We are in the process of arranging a young persons' first aid course to run during the summer holidays around the **18th to 20th July**. This is for children aged 10 and over (if your child is under 10 but you feel they are mature enough the tutor is happy to accommodate them).

More courses...

More courses to come over the next few months - watch this space for details.

Heat Smart Orkney - Funding Success

At the time of going to press, the DT is still engaged in the due diligence process to secure the £1.2 million award made to us by Local Energy Challenge Fund. As soon as we have further information we will let you know.

Brinian Play Park

The fencing is now complete and we are pressing on with installing the last of the equipment and ground lawn matting. As the construction of the play park continues, the Trust requests that everyone keep away from the site during this construction phase and remain away until the Trust is sure it is safe to enter. We will let you all know when the playpark will be opening. Thank you.



REW DT's

Year of Learning Programme



FREE World Host Course (usual fee £95)

Date: 27 June 2016

Time: 09:00 to 16:30

Venue: Church Centre

Aims: The World Host Principles of Customer Service programme was used to train volunteers and staff prior to the 2012 Olympics. It aims to give staff the skills and knowledge to deliver excellent customer service and provide a great reputation for the business. In this increasingly competitive market, businesses often need to work even harder to retain customers and win new ones. Through this interactive programme, we think about experiences of good and bad service, understand why service roles have such an impact on customers' experience, and learn the vital communication and listening skills that set businesses up for success.

Course Assessment: Multiple choice quiz + assessment of candidate participation

Target audience: People involved in any aspect of the Hospitality & Service Delivery

Course content: Your staff will learn:

- Importance of excellent customer service skills
- Communication process and skills required to make communication effective
- To listen to customers in a way that shows you care about them and their needs
- The value of tourism in our country and your community
- The five key principle commitments which assist you to 'go the extra mile'

Please allow 8 weeks for certification

Lunch can be provided for £5



In partnership with

 University of the
Highlands and Islands
Orkney College

For further information and to book a place, please contact the REW DT Office on 821 229 or e-mail info@rewdt.org

Wi-Fi

Free wi-fi internet access is available in the Trust Office, during office opening hours. If you need to use the internet and/or laptop and printer outwith these times, please call to make an appointment with staff, who will try to be as accommodating as possible.

Free Adult and Child Swim Sessions

The Trust is offering free swim sessions to all residents at the Pickaquoy Centre Pool in Kirkwall. To apply for your free swim card, please contact the Office.

Office 'Drop-In' Times

Our 'Drop-In' times are 10am to 12 noon on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Outside of these times, the inner door of the Manse will be locked. Should you need to speak to our staff outwith these hours, please call to make an appointment.

REWDT Car Club

Our electric car is available for booking through our Car Club. For rates and information, and to book the car, please go to our website or contact the Office.

Free Rechargeable/Solar-powered Lanterns

The Trust has purchased rechargeable/solar-powered lanterns for Islands View Surgery to distribute to vulnerable members of the community. If you feel that you qualify, please contact the Nurse (821 406) or Anne (821 265) at the Surgery.

Here2Help

The Trust provides a subsidy towards the cost of Age Concern Orkney's **Here2Help** service. If you would like more information on this service, please contact Gillian Skuse at Age Concern Orkney. Telephone: 01856 872438
E-mail: gillian@ageconcernorkney.org.uk

Grant Applications and Education Bursaries

The funding this year is split into the following categories:

- General grants
- Bursaries (for nationally-recognised qualifications only)
- Driving Lessons (via a recognised driving school - this funding will be available for 2016/17 only)
- Wellbeing (this will cover all sporting, craft, art, and other non-certified learnings and general wellbeing courses/workshops/events, and is for individuals and groups)

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.

The following meetings are planned (any changes to these will be published on our website):
Wednesday 22 June; Monday 15 August; Wednesday 5 October; Saturday 12 November (AGM);
Wednesday 7 December.

Contact Us

Telephone: 01856 821229

E-mail: info@rewdt.org

Website: www.rewdt.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/rewdt



Directors: Richard Tipper (Chair); Danny Daintith (Vice-Chair); Clare Daintith (Treasurer); Hilary Byland; Diana Compton; John Garson; Mark Hull; Carole Maguire; Alison Mainland; Bryan Milner; Alan Odling; Sarah Odling; Kayleigh Tipper

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

Rousay, Egilsay, Wyre & Gairsay Community Council

The representatives of the REWGCC are: Mr Angus Firth, Mr John Garson, Ms Chris Cox, Ms Rachael Harris, Mrs Carole Maguire, Mr Eric Shortland and Mr Richard Tipper.

REWGCC Meeting – 14 June 2016 @ 7.30 p.m.

The REWGCC meets on Tuesday, 14 June 2016 @ 7.30 p.m. in the Hall at the Rousay Church Centre. Members of the public are welcome to attend and view the proceedings.

Publication of the Proposed Plan 2016, Action Programme 2016, Draft Supplementary Guidance on the Settlement Statements and the Associated Environmental Report - Cut-off date 16 June 2016

Orkney Islands Council has published the above documents:-

The Proposed Plan 2016

The Action Programme 2016

The draft Supplementary Guidance on the Settlement Statements

The Environmental Report

These documents, plus access to the interactive online Proposed Plan and Supplementary Guidance are available online using the following link:-

<http://www.orkney.gov.uk/Council/C/proposedplan-consultation.htm>

Paper reference copies are available at OIC Customer Services, School Place, Stromness Warehouse Building, Kirkwall Library and Mobile Library during normal opening times. Cut-off date 16.6.16. If you have any comments please pass to one of the members listed above.

Trial Project: Inter-Isles Ferry Passenger Tickets between Egilsay, Wyre & Rousay & Return

Just a reminder that permanent residents who wish to express an interest in this scheme and have not already notified the Clerk need to pass the following details for her attention: - Name of person requiring a book of tickets, Status i.e. adult, junior, OAP/Concession and Contact number no later than 6 June 2016. The Clerk will notify residents of the members' decision following the meeting.

Any requests for financial assistance or points to be brought to the attention of the CC need to reach the Clerk no later than 12 June 2016.

Clerk's contact details: e: rewgcc@btinternet.com and addressed to the REWGCC c/o Mrs Compton or send to Midgard, Rousay, KW17 2PT

News from Dounby Surgery

Dear Residents,

As you will now know we have recently agreed to assume responsibility for provision of visiting General Practitioner services on the islands of Rousay, Egilsay, Wyre and Gairsay. This will commence on Dr Brunt's departure for his new role. NHS Orkney have also successfully recruited and appointed two nurse practitioners who will stay on Rousay and provide round the clock care on a two weeks on, two weeks off basis. They both have extensive experience and have received specific additional training in emergency care and acute illness assessment. They will have advice available to them from the mainland should they require any decision support. This model is the same as has already been successfully tested on Shapinsay, Eday, Flotta and North Ronaldsay.

We appreciate that this represents a change for you and expect that the change will have raised some concerns and anxieties. We firmly believe that his model can work for you and that it will provide you with a safe, stable and sustainable solution, providing the continuity you seek. If we didn't believe that, quite simply we wouldn't have agreed to do it. We are delighted to have been given this opportunity and are very much looking forward to working with you to further develop a service that we can all be proud of.

Your emergency or urgent care will be provided by 2 nurse practitioners who have received specific training in assessment and management of emergencies and acute illness. For all four islands that service will be available to you and accessed in exactly the same way as is currently the case with Dr Brunt.

Planned GP surgeries and visits will be delivered by myself and my two partners Dr Huw Thomas and his wife, Dr Mimi Thomas. This will be done on a visiting basis from the mainland, where we also run Dounby and Evie surgeries. This will replace the GP surgeries done by Dr Brunt. Initially our plan is to offer you a choice of different GPs to see (myself Dr Jonathan Kirk, Dr Huw Thomas, Dr Mimi Thomas).

Arrangements for prescription ordering and for contacting Islands View Surgery to arrange care are unchanged with the Practice Administrator, Anne Grieve continuing in her current role.

You will also have the option, should you wish, to use the full range of GP and Practice Nurse services available in Evie and Dounby. There will be absolutely no expectation or obligation for you to do so but the option is there if it suits.

Our intention is to continue the monthly surgery on Egilsay subject to ferry times.

In event of short term absence or illness of one of the nurse practitioners, one of us would cover, ensuring that a GP or nurse practitioner with training in emergency care will be on island at all times as is the case now and has been since Dr Brunt started his post.

We are in the process of finalising our initial timetable and will update you in advance of Dr Brunt's departure.

I am sure that there will be many more questions which we will be glad to address with you in due course. I am also sure that there will be some teething problems. All I can do is offer my assurance that we will want to work them through with you to get to the point that we have a service you are happy with. Your patience, experience and support in that regard will be invaluable and very much appreciated.

In the meantime we look forward to joining you in the near future.

Yours sincerely

Dr Jonathan Kirk

Letter from School Place

Of course, the Scottish Parliamentary Election has been the hot topic of interest over the last few weeks. Congratulations to Liam McArthur on being returned with such an overwhelming majority, even though his party (Liberal-Democrats) did not fare so well, coming only 5th in terms of MSP numbers. (The election-night photographs in *The Orcadian* clearly show that Liam has excellent taste in neckwear!) As a council, we are going to need Liam to be strong in fighting our corner in the Scottish Parliament for funding for Orkney's internal ferry service and the procurement of new vessels, and we'll be relying on him to work with other opposition MSPs to coerce the Scottish Government into making its financial contribution to local government more reasonable—much more reasonable!

And commiserations to fellow councillor James Stockan, who stood as a list candidate but failed to be elected. The "Additional Member System", with its party lists, is (just like the "Single Transferable Vote" system now used for council elections) inherently unfair and undemocratic. It discriminates against independent members, for if a party additional-member resigns or dies, the next party candidate on that party's list automatically takes their place, while if an independent additional-member resigns or dies, their seat remains vacant until the next election. It is undemocratic because it provides a way for parties to get favoured candidates into parliament even if their own electorate reject them. For example, at this election, Kezia Dugdale (Leader of Scottish Labour) was defeated in the Edinburgh Eastern constituency by Ash Denham (SNP), nevertheless she still got into the Scottish Parliament on the Labour Party list for the Lothian Region. It was the late Tony Benn (Labour) who warned us that the people must always have the power to vote someone out. When it comes to our own devolved parliament, this democratic power has been denied the people of Scotland.

This month I have been to Stronsay to attend the AGM and regular business meeting of the Stronsay School Parent Council. I am most impressed by what Headmaster Andrew King is achieving at the School, backed by the unstinting support of the Parent Council and generous funding from the Stronsay Development Trust. At Stronsay Junior High, Secondary 4 pupils are able to study for eight or nine National 4s or 5s in a timetable tailored to meet all their individual subject choices. Furthermore, adult education classes are being developed at the School, which will give islanders a second chance to gain qualifications they might have missed out on when younger.

I have also attended a General Meeting of the full council, a meeting of the Innovation Fund Member/Officer Working Group; I've had a "catch-up" with the Director of Education, Leisure & Housing, and an Education, Leisure & Housing Committee pre-agenda meeting. I've been to a UHI Foundation meeting in Inverness at which we were told that approval (subject to formal endorsement by the Privy Council) has now been granted for the University to award its own research degrees, such as the MPhil and PhD. I asked about higher doctorates (such as the DSc and DLitt), and the Principal assured me they will be working on a scheme for awarding those too.

For many years, Isles' parents have expressed the desire for a 20 mph speed limit on the roads adjacent to their children's schools. As studies show, a child hit by a vehicle travelling at 20 mph has a 90% chance of surviving the impact. Yet the best most island schools have been able to obtain is a limit of 40 mph, at which a child has a 90% chance of being killed! In the past, they have been fobbed off with the claim that a 20 mph limit must lie within a 30 mph zone, and that the 20 mph limit can only be applied part-time, necessitating expensive signs with flashing lights. Well, when driving past Firth Primary School recently, to catch the ferry to Rousay, I drove through a 20 mph limit which lies within a zone of 40 mph, and then I discovered the same scenario outside St Andrews Primary in Toab! (Furthermore, as I observed in my September 2015 *Letter*, permanent 20 mph zones are commonplace south, and this month I came across one as far north as Helmsdale!) I am not content that Isles' schoolchildren are seen as more expendable than Mainland bairns, so I would like Isles' parent councils and community councils to consider taking up the cause of 20 mph zones outside their schools once again. You will get my full support with this at OIC.

I shall be out in Westray on the 24th May for their parent council meeting and again on the 6th June for the meeting of the Westray Community Council. On the 2nd June I shall be flying to Papay for the day for the official opening of the Kelp Store Heritage & Craft Centre, and on the 14th June I shall be in Rousay for the meeting of the Rousay, Egilsay, Wyre & Gairsay Community Council. And we have Sanday's own Battle of Jutland events on the 4th June, and the North Isles Sports in Westray on the 18th

Catch up with me on my travels around the ward.



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