

FREE!

# Rousay, Egilsay & Wyre Community Newsletter

The Review



March 2017

Produced by: Rousay Community Association

Subscriber: Electronic



**IT'S TIME TO UPDATE THE  
ROUSAY, EGILSAY & WYRE  
TELEPHONE DIRECTORY!**



Master sheets of the information we currently hold for the *REW Telephone Directory* will be available at the Shop, the Church Centre, the School, the Rousay Post Office, the Wyre Post Office, and the Egilsay Post Office.

**Please take a look and add, edit or remove  
your telephone number on one of these sheets.**

**You can also contact Kira at the School with any changes  
on 01856 821 226 or by email at  
admin.rousay@glow.orkneyschools.org.uk**

We will collect the sheets the first week of April and have the updated directories available in mid-April to allow everyone enough time to update their information before we go to print.

– the release date for the updated directories will be announced in the April *Rousay Review Community Newsletter*.



Rousay has been invited to take part again in  
**HOMEMADE IN THE PARISH.**

In 2015 this was done by mostly SWI members,  
but we need help from you ALL.

This is an excellent opportunity to show-case our island.

Everyone is invited to a short meeting on  
Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March at Community School at 7.15pm.

We hope to have more details by then.

Interested, but can't be at the meeting? Phone Muriel 821 284.

## What's On

- Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup>**  
→ Taversoe InnQUIZition, 8pm
- Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup>**  
→ Orkney Mobile Library visit
- Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup>**  
→ World Day of Prayer, Church Centre, 11.30am
- Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup>**  
→ Tai Chi, Rousay School, 3.15pm - 5.15pm  
→ Homemade in the Parish meeting, Rousay School, 7.15pm  
→ SWI, Rousay School, 8pm
- Friday, 17<sup>th</sup>**  
→ Service, St. Mary's Chapel, Westness, 11.30am
- Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup>**  
→ Tai Chi, Rousay School, 3.15pm - 5.15pm
- Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup>**  
→ Tai Chi, Rousay School, 3.15pm - 5.15pm
- Every Monday**  
→ Coffee Morning, The Crafterhub, 11am-1pm  
→ Bridge Sessions, Rousay School, 7.30pm - 9.30pm
- Every Wednesday**  
→ Triangle Club, Church Centre, 10am - 2pm  
→ Spinning Circle, The Crafterhub, 11am - 1pm  
→ Art Club, The Crafterhub, 3.15pm - 4.30pm
- Every Thursday**  
→ Peedies Club, The Crafterhub, 2pm - 3.15pm

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 March 2017 (5pm) - late articles are not guaranteed to be included

Funder logo



From the community  
For the community



### Taversoe InnQUIZition

Tuesday March 7th 2017 @ 8pm  
Free Entry  
Snowball Jackpot  
Light Snack Supper



### Food in March

The Olds have decided they need more sun again. They will be away all month!  
If you would like to come in for a meal I would love to see you.  
It would be very much appreciated if you could give me a quick call to make a booking so I can prepare and arrange for some help if required.

Advance Notices for April:

### Taversoe InnQUIZition

Tuesday April 4th 2017 @ 8pm  
Free Entry  
Snowball Jackpot  
Light Snack Supper



### Disco Night

Fancy Coming Out for some Saturday Night Fever? Saturday April 15th at The Taversoe from 7.30pm  
From Hotpants to Flares to Suits it's DISCO all the way  
There'll be Cocktails, There'll be Music, There'll be Lights, There'll be Dancing!

### Winter Opening Hours

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.



The next meeting of the SWI will be at 8pm on Tuesday 14th March at the School when, in a change to the Programme we look forward to members of each District entertaining the group for 10 minutes.

Again with a change to the Programme, the competitions will be 'A Knitted Hat' and each member to bring a childhood photo so we can 'Guess who the Photo is Of'.

We look forward to seeing you there!



### Service



Service at St Mary's Chapel, Westness, on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March at 11.30 am.

All very welcome.



### Orkney Mobile Library

Next visit:  
Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2017



## The Craffhub C.I.C.

MARCH 2017

### CRAFTHUB NEWS

The shop is now restocking ready for the new season, so if you have been busy crafting during the dark nights we are ready to display your products. Pop along Monday-Thursday between 11am and 3pm.

Anyone who has an hour to spare and would like to volunteer in the shop over the spring/summer season please pop in for a chat. It does not need to be every week, occasional help is always welcomed.

Any suggestions for workshops you would like at The Craffhub this season please get in touch by popping in, phone or email and we will see if we can arrange tutors.

### MARCH DEAL

Our Rousay, Egilsay and Wyre 2017 Calendar is now reduced to £4, limited stock available.

### WORKSHOPS IN MARCH

#### Monday Coffee Morning

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

#### Spinning Circle

Drop in Spinning Workshops on Wednesdays from 11am – 1pm - £3 a session. Visitors welcome.

#### Art Club

Children's Art Club every Wednesday, 3.15pm – 4.30pm at The Craffhub.

#### Peedies Club

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

### The Craffhub March Opening Hours

**Monday - Thursday 11am - 3pm**



email : [crafthub@btconnect.com](mailto:crafthub@btconnect.com)  
website : [www.crafthuborkney.co.uk](http://www.crafthuborkney.co.uk)



**No Classes on  
28 February &  
7 March.  
Sorry.**

## Rousay Tai Chi Chuan

Every Tuesday at the School.

1<sup>st</sup> hour Energy Exercises at 3:15

2<sup>nd</sup> hour Tai Chi Form at 4:15

£2.50 per hour,

Come for one or both.

All ages and abilities welcome.



facebook

[www.facebook.com/orkneytaichi](http://www.facebook.com/orkneytaichi)



Thanks to REW DT for part funding this.

## World Day of Prayer

At the  
Church Centre  
Saturday  
12th March  
11.30am  
Roy Cordukes



This is a service arranged by  
Women of the Philippines  
Everyone Welcome



## Orkney Citizens Advice Bureau

We will be making an outreach visit to Rousay on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2017. 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 Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> August.

## Rousay Healthy Living Centre

### Supervised Hours

Mon 7pm-9pm

Tue 7pm-9pm

Thur 7pm-9pm

Sat 4pm-5pm

Buddy System 0830-1700 week days school term.

### Fatburn Extreme

Wednesdays 7pm sharp.

Sundays 11am

The gym is available for use 15 mins before and during Fatburn classes.

With the launch of the new Active Life membership (see poster) there is a new pricing structure at the gym. Saver cards have been discontinued, all current cards will be honoured until expiry and the concession rate is also no more.

Applications for Active Life can be made at the Rousay Gym or at the Pickaquoy Centre. If you choose not take up an Active Life membership you can pay as you go for £4.55. Fatburn Extreme is free for members or £3 pay as you go for non members.

Any questions please contact a member of staff. If you have any complaints please contact your local Councillor or Head of Leisure Services [garry.burton@orkney.gov.uk](mailto:garry.burton@orkney.gov.uk)



# ActiveLife

More people, more active, more often

## Orkney's NEW Leisure Membership.

### Access a huge range of activities across 12 facilities.

- Individual Membership £19.50 per month
- Family Membership £29.50 per month
- Budget Membership available

[www.pickaquoy.co.uk](http://www.pickaquoy.co.uk)

[www.orkney.gov.uk](http://www.orkney.gov.uk)

Sign up here today!



the pickaquoy centre



## ROUSAY, EGILSAY AND WYRE HERITAGE TRUST [REW HT]

The Heritage Trust is currently working with the North Isles Landscape Partnership Scheme [NILPS] on the second phase of their application for Lottery Heritage funding.

One of several proposals relating to our three islands is the renewal of the [much repaired] roof on the Wyre Heritage Centre. An estimate of the likely cost of this work is required.

Indications of interest in providing an estimate, with a view to undertaking the work should the grant be awarded, should be sent, asap, to:

REW HT Chair, Everybist, Rousay email [everybist@gmail.com](mailto:everybist@gmail.com)

Further opportunities for work in relation to NILPS projects on our islands will be announced as soon as the planning is sufficiently advanced.



## The Rousay School Market Garden is Coming!

The Eco Council and Mrs Charlesworth would like to invite members of the community to help us in our Enterprise Project.

We will create a small market garden this year, and the children will be working on advertising and costing of the project, tending the plants and then preparing and weighing produce to be sold.

Although we have made a good start, we still require help with weeding and general tidying up before planting in the spring. If you are available on a Wednesday afternoon between 2p.m and 3p.m, please contact the School on 821 226.

We would also welcome ideas on what you would like us to grow for sale .



### Rousay Community Association

RCA

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.

### Tattie-in-a-Bucket 2017

RHS

Available from Sheelagh from 19<sup>th</sup> March.

Call 821 283.



### Wanted

Looking for someone to watch my well-behaved and house trained Collie (Claire).

Dates are 10<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> March.

Please contact Trish on 821 487 or 07712 341450.



### Rousay Public Bus

Every Thursday, 7am-7pm

To book, call 821 360.

## Your Island Your Choice



## Voting Results

Firstly a huge 'thank you' to everyone who came to the presentation evening and for those who voted at different gatherings (SWI, Triangle Club & Heritage Trust meetings). We received 59 completed voting forms back.

On Monday 20 February the votes were independently counted by Helen Castle and verified (re-counted) by Sarah Sailor at the REW DT offices.

The funding budget was £2,300 and we had 3 project applications as follows: -

Visit Rousay	Reprinting of the Rousay Walking Guide	£999.00
Visit Rousay	Printing of Rousay Rack cards	£593.98
Rousay Youth Club	Purchase of Archery Equipment	£1,510.00

Voters were invited to choose any of the above or a combination provided it did not exceed the allocated funding budget (i.e. 1 & 2 or 2 & 3 but not 1 & 3). The results were: -

Just 1)	Visit Rousay- Reprinting of the Rousay Walking Guide (£999.00)	2 Votes
1) & 2)	Both Visit Rousay applications (£1,592.98)	33 Votes
Just 3)	Rousay Youth Club - Purchase of Archery Equipment (£1,510.00)	13 Votes
2) & 3)	Rousay Rack Cards & Archery Equipment (£2,103.98)	8 Votes

We also had 3 invalid votes as these were for 1) & 3) which was more than the allocated funding.

The applicants have been informed of the outcome and VAO will be allocating the funding.

### Your Island Your Choice Inter-Island Fund

A unique and exciting funding opportunity for projects across the non-linked islands.

VAO has been awarded funding from the Community Choices Fund, with contributions from community planning partners, to deliver the Your Island Your Choice small grants participatory budgeting programme where island residents decide for themselves which projects should receive funding.

#### Who can apply?

- Any community/voluntary group, even informal groups, can apply for funding from £200 to £6,000
- You don't have to come from an existing group or constituted organisation to apply for funds but all the activities have to happen in more than one non-linked island to benefit their communities
- Your ideas need to meet one of the identified key themes:
  - \*Positive Ageing
  - \*Health and Sustainable Communities
  - \*Vibrant Economic Environment
- Your project must benefit as many people as possible
- Your project must help make the isles a better place for everyone (excludes Orkney mainland and the linked islands)
- Large or small, single or collaborative projects welcome

#### How to Apply?

If your idea fits in with one of the identified themes please complete and submit an application form to Voluntary Action Orkney, who may contact you for additional information. For an applications form please contact either VAO or REW DT.

If your application meets the criteria then island representatives will vote for their favourite projects at an event to be held in **Pickaquooy Centre, Kirkwall on 25th March 2017**. At that event you will be required to do a short 2 to 3 minute presentation about your project/activity and the difference it will make to island communities.



## Your Island Your Choice Inter-Island Fund

On 25<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at the Pickaquoy Centre, Kirkwall, Rousay, Egilsay & Wyre will get the opportunity to vote for how this fund is spent.

Each island can have 4 votes – that means up to 4 people from each of our three islands can attend the event and vote or if less residents wish to attend they can have up to 4 votes between them.

VAO need volunteers our help to ensure our islands benefit from the projects under this funding. Helen at REW DT has agreed to coordinate this, so if you wish to represent Rousay, Egilsay or Wyre, please can you let Helen know by Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March. Lunch will be provided by VAO.

## North Isles Landscape Partnership Scheme - Development Phase Update – No 4

Hello,

As I write this update on the North Isles Landscape Partnership Scheme (NILPS) we are heading towards the end of January and the festive season feels a long time ago!

Since my last update, there has continued to be a lot of activity within the development phase of NILPS. All of the project studies are continuing and in many cases reaching their conclusions. A big “thank you” once again to all of you who provided support and feedback to our consultants during these important processes.

The Heritage Trail and Active Travel study continues to work with communities in the North Isles to identify the most suitable works to incorporate into NILPS. In most cases discussions are nearing their completion and final plans being drawn up. Our main consultant on this study, Jane Dixon, is still speaking with some isles and shall continue to do so until this process is complete.

The Landscape and Seascape Study has concluded its site visits around the island. These visits involved a survey of the landscape and seascape of each island, outlining recommendations in response to the threats and opportunities posed in Isles distinct characteristics. The study also used a questionnaire to gather feedback on local people’s priorities regarding the local landscape and seascape. Thanks to those who completed this questionnaire.

The Visitor and Marketing Study is also progressing and has engaged with local tourism stakeholders and groups, as well as identifying priority projects for delivery in the North Isles during NILPS. The survey, which as collecting information on people’s trips to the North Isles as well as why people did not visit the North Isles is now closed. 117 responses were provided which will provide an excellent base for the survey. Thanks for those who helped promote the survey.

The Biodiversity Study is nearing completion. The study, led by Nature Watch Orkney, has predominately consisted of desk-based research. This has involved the identification of 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. Thanks again for those who completed the questionnaire in relation to this study – 47 responses were obtained throughout the North Isles. This has all helped identify potential projects for inclusion in the delivery phase of NILPS.

The final two studies of the development phase focus on a) monitoring and evaluation of NILPS, and b) branding, graphics and website for NILPS. Both of these studies are required as part of the round 2 NILPS application and will provide outlines and designs for the elements highlighted above. Once these tenders are finalised and available on-line I will send out further details and ask that you please disseminate them to any potential interested parties. This should happen over the next couple of weeks.

With regard to the overall deadlines for the development phase of NILPS, I met with members of the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) in Edinburgh in January. They outlined to me that in order to meet the next HLF deadline the final version of the Landscape Conservation Action Plan (LCAP) for NILPS needs to be submitted by the end of July 2017. This is slightly earlier than we anticipated but the HLF are content that overall the development phase of NILPS is on schedule and as such we can submit our LCAP for this deadline. The regional board for the HLF will meet at the end of November 2017 to consider the NILPS application. As such, we hope to hear the outcome in December 2017. Subject to a positive outcome NILPS should commence in early 2018.

Because of this, my priority from now until the end of July will be producing the LCAP as well as developing the projects we intend to deliver under NILPS. The studies have helped identify projects for delivery and I have been in touch with various groups regarding these projects. This will continue as collectively we work up suitable projects for delivery during the 2018-2022 scheme. Your continued participation during this process is much appreciated.

Once again, a big thank to all of you who have, and continue to support the development of NILPS. Your collective efforts and participation has kept us on track for our preferred submission to the HLF at the end of July. I will continue to keep in touch as this important stage of the NILPS development phase progresses. Further information is available at the following link - <http://www.orkney.gov.uk/Service-Directory/D/north-isles-landscape-partnership-scheme.htm>

Best regards,

Alister Brown (Development Office - 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](mailto:alister.brown@orkney.gov.uk)

The NILPS Development Phase is being supported by the following organisations



## Brinian Play Park

At this time of the year the play park ground gets very wet. Please take care and if possible avoid playing in the muddy areas. If we can keep off of any damaged grounds as much as possible it will recover quicker and the grass will grow better in the Spring. Thank you.

## What the new OIC Active Life membership scheme means for REW residents

Sadly, the OIC Active Life membership scheme means that the DT's Swim Card, offering free swim sessions for all residents at the Pickaquoy Pool in Kirkwall, must be discontinued. The Pickaquoy Centre has said that they will honour our Free Swim tickets until the 31<sup>st</sup> March, after which residents will either have to pay full price or join the OIC's Active Life fitness membership scheme.

The introduction by OIC of their Active Life fitness membership scheme also means that the gym is no longer issuing Saver Books for the Rousay Healthy Living Centre Gym and Fat Burn sessions. REW DT will, therefore, no longer be able to offer the 80% discount.

The OIC Active Life Scheme offers a good bargain, and so will encourage more active lives, for families living on the Orkney Mainland. It is, however, not a good bargain for residents of our three islands. Furthermore, as explained above, it means that the DT's own schemes for encouraging more active lives at an affordable cost must be discontinued.

Together with other Orkney islands, we are doing all we can to persuade OIC to review their policy on this matter.

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

**Free swim sessions**  
Until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017



**Subsidised rate**

**AGE** Orkney  
*Concern*  
Here2Help

**Free lanterns**



**Grant Schemes**

General Grants, Driving Lessons,  
Educational Bursaries, and Wellbeing

**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:

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March  
Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> August

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May  
Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> June  
Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December

The Annual General Meeting is planned for Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October.



#### Contact Us

**Telephone:** 01856 821 229

**E-mail:** [info@rewdt.org](mailto:info@rewdt.org)

**Website:** [www.rewdt.org](http://www.rewdt.org)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/rewdt](http://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:** Bryan Milner (Chair); John Garson (Vice-Chair); Kayleigh Tipper (Treasurer); Hilary Byland; Chris Cox; Diana Compton; Clare Daintith; Mark Hull; Carole Maguire; Brian Noakes; Eric Shortland; Stuart Sailor

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



**ORKNEY**  
ISLANDS COUNCIL

### ORKNEY HEALTH AND CARE Care at Home

#### Relief Islands Home Carer – Rousay

Orkney Health and Care's Home Care Section is an essential front line service providing care and support for vulnerable individuals enabling them to live as independently in their own home for as long as is possible. We do this by using a Re-ablement approach where we do things *with* people rather than doing things *for* people. The type of support we provide is individualised and tasks we undertake include meal preparation, medication assistance, and personal care such as showering or bathing.

As a relief carer you will hopefully have previous experience of working in Social Care; however we will provide on-going training to develop and maintain your skills. You will enjoy responsible, challenging, varied and rewarding work as part of our team and will receive excellent support from our teams of Social Care Co-ordinators and Home Care Organisers. You will need the sort of personality that enjoys interacting with people and making a difference to their lives. If you are motivated, caring, honest, have a true desire to 'work with' people then this could be the job for you.

You must be willing to work anywhere within the island on which you live so your own transport is essential. A mileage allowance is payable for work-related journeys.

These posts are subject to PVG Scheme Protected Adults.

Please apply online at [myjobscotland.gov.uk](http://myjobscotland.gov.uk) quoting ref: number ORK01319 or alternatively contact Customer Services on 01856 873535 to request an application form quoting the same number.

**For an informal chat please call Billy Gunn – Registered Manager. Tel: 01856 888390.**

## Rousay, Egilsay, Wyre & Gairsay Community Council

### Bag the Bruck

Saturday 22<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2017

Bag the Bruck is scheduled to take place over a nine day period this year, extending from Saturday 22<sup>th</sup> until Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April.

The Community Council can sponsor local groups and charities who participate in the event.

If you require further information or wish to apply for funding please contact the Clerk, **prior to your event**, for an application form, at the address below.

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### 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 Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> April 2017 to the address below.



REWGCC would like the community to be aware of the upcoming event Magnus 900 event.

To find out details please visit **[www.magnus900.co.uk](http://www.magnus900.co.uk)**

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#### Contact Details:

Jackie Montgomery, Democratic Services, Orkney Islands Council, Council Offices, School Place, Kirkwall, KW15 1NY

Tel: 01856 873535 ext 2237

E-mail: [rewgclerk@gmail.com](mailto:rewgclerk@gmail.com) or [jackie.montgomery@orkney.gov.uk](mailto:jackie.montgomery@orkney.gov.uk)

## Rousay, Egilsay, Wyre & Gairsay Community Council

REWGCC

### MAINTENANCE OF KIRKYARDS AND WAR MEMORIALS ON ROUSAY, EGILSAY & WYRE

Tenders are invited for the maintenance contracts for the nine sites on Rousay, Egilsay and Wyre.  
The contracts are for a one year period.

Brinian Kirkyard, Rousay  
Glebe Kirkyard, Rousay  
Scockness Kirkyard, Rousay  
St Magnus Kirkyard, Egilsay  
St Mary's Kirkyard, Wyre  
Wasbister Kirkyard, Rousay  
Westside Kirkyard, Rousay  
War Memorial, Egilsay  
War Memorial, Rousay

The necessary forms are available from the Community Council Clerk:-

Mrs Jackie Montgomery  
CCLO, Orkney Islands Council , School Place, Kirkwall

Phone: 0185687 3535 ext 2237      E-mail: [jackie.montgomery@orkney.gov.uk](mailto:jackie.montgomery@orkney.gov.uk)

Tenders should be forwarded to the Clerk, at the above address, in a sealed envelope marked  
"Rousay, Egilsay & Wyre Grasscutting Tender" before **Wednesday 22<sup>th</sup> March 2017.**



### Thank You from the RNLI

The Rousay & Wyre Guild would like to say a big thank you to everyone who has supported them this year.

£467.00 has been raised to date by:

Donations  
Curry Night  
Scones on Sunday

Thank you to the Pier and Church Centre for allowing us to use your venue and to everybody who has given up their time, provided food, prizes and participated in the events.

## Surgery Opening Times (Tel.: 821265)

GP present on Monday and Friday until 11AM, and all day Wednesdays.  
The Female GP is here on Fridays.

<b>Monday</b>	<b>9:00-13:00</b>	
<b>Tuesday</b>		<b>14:00-18:00</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>9:00-11:00</b>	<b>16:00-18:00</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>11:00-15:00</b>	
<b>Friday</b>	<b>9:00-11:00</b>	<b>16:00-18:00</b>

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 Nurse Practitioner.

### Practice Meetings

Starting from April, the surgery staff will be having a meeting on the first Wednesday of every month, between 10 and 11AM. This means the phones will not be answered during this time. You are welcome to leave a message on the answering machine and we will get back to you as soon as we can. If it is an emergency, please follow the instructions above for paging the Nurse Practitioner.

### Collecting Prescriptions

Whenever possible, please try to collect these during scheduled opening hours. Our Nurse Practitioners are often out on home visits, so you may have a wasted trip if you come along at other times.

If you use our advance ordering system, please note that we would prefer that you phone ahead so that we can have your prescriptions ready, as we may be busy when you arrive.

### Annual Reviews

We are moving to a system of reviewing people annually in the month of their birth. We are working our way through reviews of people who are overdue, but if you have a long-term medical condition (for example Asthma, Diabetes, High Blood Pressure, etc.), and think it may have been more than a year since you were reviewed, please contact the surgery. This applies even if your birthday is months away.

### Hospital stays

Please remember to contact the surgery when you are released from hospital. We are not usually told by the hospitals, so we rely on patients letting us know themselves. If you have been given a letter, please bring it along, or ask someone to do it for you. This is especially important if any changes have been made to your medication during your stay. Thank you.

## Emergency Scenario Practices

The first responders and clinicians at Rousay surgery are carrying out training exercises to help keep us prepared for emergency situations. The aim is to enhance teamwork and to help prepare us for difficult and challenging situations. It is helpful for us to make these as realistic as possible. Therefore you might see us out and about with the ambulance. Please do not be alarmed and feel free to come over or offer help, just as you would in a real situation. Thank you for your support.



Jonathan Kirk

## Stephen Clackson's Letter from School Place

The special Policy & Resources Committee meeting to set the OIC budget and council tax has now taken place. The bad news is that we've had to increase council tax by the full, permitted 3%. (I did invite comments about this possibility in the December 2016 issue of my "Letter", but received none.) The good news is that, as a result of a deal struck by the Green Party (although surely they could have struck harder!) to enable the minority SNP Government to get its budget through, we are better off by £914,000 than originally expected. This gave a group of us, acting collectively, the scope to push through amendments to ameliorate some of the austerity of the recommended OIC budget, for example Russ Madge's 1% uplift in our funding for the voluntary sector, and you may have heard the *Radio Orkney* clip of me defending free musical instrument hire, which will now remain in place for this financial year. (I called for a recorded vote, and you can hear who voted how at: <https://soundcloud.com/orkney-islands-council/policy-and-resources-committee-9-february-2017-part-3> ) I hope this sort of collaborative alliance will be a standard feature of the next council. (Please note that our budget is still not finally set until ratified by the full council at the special general meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> February.)

More bad news: Following James Stockan's impassioned speech in the chamber on fair ferry funding, we have been informed we will not be getting any additional help from Government Scotland this year. Given the money they pump into ferry transport networks elsewhere in Scotland, this is blatant discrimination against the Northern Isles. Orkney and Shetland are the only councils that are expected to shoulder the financial burden of running their own ferry services. We have done the research (you will remember the transport study engagement events in the Isles last summer), we have made the case, and now we have been kicked in the teeth—despite Govt. Scotland's alleged commitment to supporting island economies. As a consequence, in my opinion, we have no choice but to harden our resolve. All of us who travel on Orkney Ferries know how dire the situation is becoming. Government Scotland refuses to treat us fairly in line with the rest of Scotland, so maybe it's time we weren't Scotland anymore. Can we raise 58,000 florins (Rhenish) out of next year's OIC budget? (Discuss)

In spite of all this, a piece of good news for Isles folk is that we have agreed not to raise Orkney Ferries' fares this year.

We have now held the last meeting of the Education, Leisure & Housing Committee (with me as vice-chair) before the local government elections. Unfortunately, it coincided with a meeting of the Highlands & Islands Skills Academy Leadership Board, which would have been good for me to have been at. Clashing of meetings is not uncommon, and often it is difficult to decide which one should take priority. (Maybe future development of quantum mechanics will enable us to be in two places at once, but for the time being that privilege is reserved for atomic particles and photons.)

At its last meeting, the Development & Infrastructure Committee (of which I am not a member) approved 20 mph zones around Isles' schools. This is something, with the support of parent councils and community councils (particularly Sanday's and Stronsay's), I'd been working to get onto the agenda. This is a very pleasing result, which will improve safety for our children.

Other meetings I have attended this month include those of: the Empowering Communities Member/Officer Working Group, Licensing Sub-Committee, Orkney College Management Council, House Build Programme Board, and the Monitoring & Audit Committee meeting which made the front page of *The Orcadian* (16<sup>th</sup> February).

This month I have also been to Stronsay for a community council meeting and to North Ronaldsay (as vice-chair of Education, Leisure & Housing) for a meeting about the future of its school and (as ward councillor) to hold a surgery. (A follow-up meeting in North Ronaldsay is planned.) In March I shall be attending community council meetings in Sanday, Shapinsay and Westray, and in April in Eday, Papay and Rousay. I shall also be going along to various parent council meetings.

Now OIC's "ActiveLife" card has been launched, it is becoming apparent that the associated repricing can dis-benefit certain residents of the Isles. I have arranged to have a meeting with the relevant officers about this. In the meantime, if you are one of those being dis-benefitted, or you know people who are, please get in touch with me with details.

### Miscellaneous thoughts (on which I welcome comments):

- Given the "ActiveLife" card experience, I think that with every new council initiative we need to build in a "probationary period" during which any unintended consequences can come to light and be ironed out. (Sorry about the mixed metaphors.)
- In the reports presented to committees, a standard section is "Policy Aspects" detailing the ways the recommendations support a selection of the values and priorities of our council plan. In the next council I would like that to be replaced with a full evaluation of their impact on all of our values and priorities, so that potential policy infringements cannot "slip through the net".
- In the *Our Islands Our Future* campaign, we have been calling for a commitment to "island proofing" to be incorporated into Scottish Government legislation. In a council where 71% of the councillors represent only people who can travel to Kirkwall by road, "island proofing" desperately needs to be an integral part of OIC's own policy-making process, too.
- I also feel it is time to impose some restraint on the relentless centralisation of Orkney and the continuing expansion of its capital by placing a "green-belt" around Kirkwall. In the next council plan I want a commitment by OIC to strengthen and invest in Orkney's periphery. What use is a wheel with a hub but no rim? Extending this metaphor, we also need strong spokes—these being our communications and transport links (which brings us back to the 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph of this "Letter").

As announced in *The Orcadian* (16<sup>th</sup> February), I am now uploading "Letter from School Place" (including some back issues) onto [clackson4northisles.pbworks.com](http://clackson4northisles.pbworks.com) to make it available to ward constituents without easy access to a printed copy. I shall also be using this site as an online platform for my re-election campaign.

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**DIVERTING UNUSED RENEWABLE ENERGY INTO AFFORDABLE HEATING**

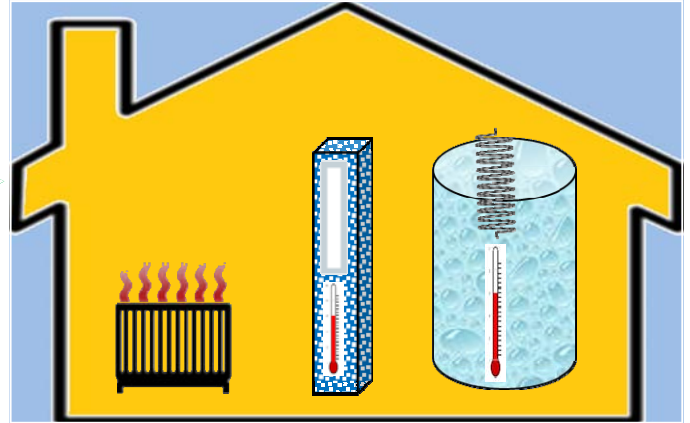


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provides you **free**  
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immersion heaters  
if you participate in  
our project!



**HAVE WE MISSED YOU?**

We are now completing Technical Assessments for properties interested in participating in the **Heat Smart Orkney** project on Rousay, Egilsay and Wyre, and have begun recruiting households on the mainland and other islands.

**If you haven't been contacted by the **Heat Smart Orkney** team and would like more information, please get in touch – we can take new clients anytime!**

**AND REMEMBER...**

**Heat Smart Orkney** is offering a **Sign Up and Completion of Project Incentive** for the first 100 households to join the project- in addition to receiving a 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!

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** to book an appointment to visit us
- You can contact us via email at: [info@heatsmartorkney.co.uk](mailto:info@heatsmartorkney.co.uk)
- Our website is: [www.rewdt.org/HSO](http://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*



**Catalyst**

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