

### Rousay Horticultural Society

Due to Covid-19 and current Government guidelines, regrettably, the Rousay Show has been cancelled this year.

We look forward to seeing you all at the next Show in 2021!

### Rousay, Egilsay & Wyre Development Trust

#### Covid-19 Support

- Free PPE for all who need it;
- Free weekly two-course lunch for self-isolators from The Taversoe;
- Funding the delivery of groceries from Marion's Shop and with Rousay Deliveries;
- Funding additional wages costs at Marion's Shop incurred as a result of Covid-19;
- Funding delivery costs for weekly takeaway meals from The Taversoe;
- Funding 2 x 3D printers and raw materials for local volunteers to make PPE for the NHS and local key workers;
- Maintaining a list of volunteers available for Covid-19 support;
- Continuing our full range of grant schemes, and electric car hire for essential journeys;
- ...And we are continuing to source additional funding and support for Covid-19 projects!

See inside for  
more details!



*From the community  
For the community*



*From the community  
For the community*

### Triangle Club

Helen, from the Rousay, Egilsay and Wyre Development Trust has been busy, in collaboration with Julie from the Triangle Club, to secure funding for all **self-isolators** in our Community in regard to ensuring you have a healthy 2-course meal provided by Carey at The Taversoe, once a week.

Funding has been secured for food up to the 30th September and should you wish to take up this offer, please could contact Julie on:

[triangle.club60@aol.com](mailto:triangle.club60@aol.com)

or

01856 821269 where you will be able to leave a message.

### Community Garden

It has been brought to our attention that residents have accessed the school community garden and planted seeds without informing either the school or REW DT. Due to the current Covid-19 situation, and the school staff (through social distancing) are wishing to get the gardens ready for the return of the children to school; we ask that any volunteer gardeners contact the school first, to discuss helping in the garden. The gardening is appreciated, and the school staff would like to encourage more volunteer gardeners, but this has to be in line with the school plans for the garden, and the current Covid-19 Government guidelines.



*From the community  
For the community*

## Covid-19 Update

### Support for residents

In these difficult times the 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 delivery drivers, and for the day-time meal provided by The Taversoe (via the Triangle Club). REW DT would also like to offer PPE to anyone who is supporting vulnerable people or who need it for themselves. Please contact the office to arrange collection.

#### 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, up 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 is also 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 for producing the various PPE for residents to use.

#### Well Being

REW DT has put in for a Well Being grant award for further Covid-19 support. If successful, we will let you all know via our Facebook and website pages.



## 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](mailto:info@rewdt.org) or leave a message on 821 229.

### Heat Smart Orkney

For Heat Smart Orkney, please e-mail [info@heatsmartorkney.co.uk](mailto:info@heatsmartorkney.co.uk) or leave a message on 821 277.

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

### 2020 Peedie Lap 5K & Rousay Lap Half-Marathon

Due to Covid-19, the Peedie Lap 5K was cancelled. Along with many running events, the decision has also been made to cancel the Rousay Lap Half-Marathon for 2020. We look forward to welcoming you all back for these activities in 2021.

### Brinian Play Park

At the time of going to press, the Covid-19 Government changes regarding Phase 1 relating to the opening of playparks has not been published, therefore, for now, we are sorry to say that the Brinian Play Park continues to be closed. As soon as any Government instructions are received, we will put a notification on our website and Facebook pages.

### 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.

### 2019/20 Grants Schemes

Due to the current Covid-19 situation, it has been agreed that applicants who have outstanding grant applications that have already been approved but who have not yet accessed the funds, will have the grants extended until 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020. If it is unlikely you will be able to use the grant by this date, please contact the Office as soon as possible.



## Project Updates

### The Pier Project

The Pier building is closed for public access. If, however, anyone with 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.

### 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, and 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. Ellie has been looking into creating viewpoints/pathways and the possibility of creating a Ranger Service Provision. She has been researching cost implications, responsibilities and pros and cons of these sub-projects, so that she can discuss these ideas with the community once the land purchase has been finalised.

### Community Well-being

We are delighted to advertise the following vacancy for Community Well-being Co-ordinator:



### Community Well-being Co-ordinator



### 'Enhancing Wellbeing within our Island Communities'

EUROPE & SCOTLAND  
European Social Fund  
Investing in a Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Future

This post is funded through the Aspiring Communities Fund,  
with support from European Structural Funds.

**Fixed Term Post until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022**

**14 hours per week**

**Salary** - £9,433.88 for the 14 hours, plus pension contribution at 8%

**Responsibilities** - To work collaboratively with the project team to build capacity in the island's community to reinforce and enhance existing community led well-being services. To develop and implement new services to meet identified need.

The employer will be the REW DT but the postholder is expected to work collaboratively with other Coordinators and with the Project Manager and Evaluator.

**For an Application Form and Job Description**  
please contact Gill in the office 821229 or [gill@rewdt.org](mailto:gill@rewdt.org)  
**Closing date for applications : 30th June 2020.**

Interviews will be held in July. Due to the current COVID19 restrictions, we are planning to hold the interviews either by video conferencing or via the telephone. This will be confirmed at the time, and for any queries regarding this or the post, **please contact the REWDT office 821229 or [gill@rewdt.org](mailto:gill@rewdt.org)**

REWDT

HOLA

hello



bonjour



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](mailto:grants@rewdt.org) or call the office on 01856 821229.



KAMUSTA



BOM DIA

### 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](http://www.rewdt.org)) and can be filled in, signed, and returned to us electronically ([grants@rewdt.org](mailto: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](mailto: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.

### Does Your Organisation or Community Group Need Financial Support?

Why not let REW DT support you in finding external funding opportunities and then help you with your grant application. If you would like to speak to staff about this offer, please contact the office. Alternatively, VAO in Kirkwall also offers to support community groups with finding funding opportunities. Tel. 01856 872897.

The next two Board Meetings are planned for **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2020 & Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2020.**



Regular help with a range of household tasks,  
at a rate subsidised by the Trust.

Contact Gillian at

Age Scotland Orkney direct:

01856 872438      [gillian@ageconcernorkney.org.uk](mailto:gillian@ageconcernorkney.org.uk)

### Car Club

Due to the Covid-19 virus, please use the antibacterial wipes in the car after you have returned the car to The Manse. Thank you.



**Book the car online or via the Office.**

Car Club FAQs and T&Cs are available online.

Telephone: 01856 821 229  
General E-mails: [info@rewdt.org](mailto:info@rewdt.org)  
Grants E-mails: [grants@rewdt.org](mailto:grants@rewdt.org)

Visit our website:  
[www.rewdt.org](http://www.rewdt.org)



[facebook.com/rewdt](https://facebook.com/rewdt)

### 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.

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Registered Office: The Manse, Rousay, Orkney, KW17 2PR

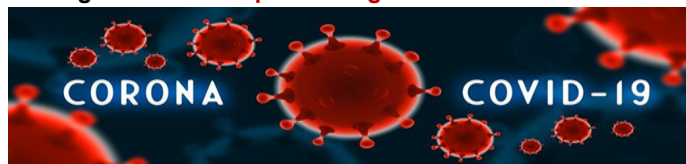


# Stephen Clackson's Letter from School Place

Issue 88 | May 2020

## Informing you of what your councillor is doing during the 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/>



We councillors are continuing to work from home and “virtually” attend regular briefing meetings via “Microsoft Teams” (see photograph below), which works remarkably well considering the Internet connectivity issues we have in the Isles. Matters, which in normal times are presented to the various service committees (e.g. Development & Infrastructure, a.k.a. D&I), are now being dealt with by means of Special General meetings via “Microsoft Teams”. At the Special General meeting convened on the 16<sup>th</sup> April, I supported the amendment calling for the “Orkney Harbours Masterplan Phase 1” to be referred back for proper scrutiny by all councillors rather than going through on the approval of merely the 6 members of the Harbour Authority Sub-Committee. Regrettably, the Chairman of D&I refused to take it back and our amendment failed by 14 votes to 5.

The (virtual) Special General Meeting of the 6th May commenced with a tribute to the late Councillor Dr Kevin Woodbridge, followed by a minute's silence. At this meeting, we approved our own Coronavirus Pandemic Emergency Loan Scheme—a discretionary loan scheme offering secured loans of between £50,000 and £100,000 to assist local businesses experiencing cash-flow difficulties as a result of the coronavirus pandemic. (It is intended to supplement the national schemes.) This is part of our £5 million Coronavirus Response Fund, £3 million of which we have taken from our Strategic Reserve Fund.

Various funds are available to businesses and various benefits are available to families and individuals, e.g. free school meals (which are now paid directly). More information on what there is and how to apply for it can be found on the OIC website, and you can also telephone 01856-873535. A further four £5 vouchers are going to be issued to each resident of the Isles to spend in island shops. OIC has enlisted community councils throughout the county in the setting-up of local “Resilience Groups”. At the national level, we are busy engaging with our governments, principally through the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (CoSLA). A current issue of grave concern is HIAL pressing ahead with its plans to centralise its air traffic control systems and operate them remotely from Inverness. This sheer madness is receiving the support of the Scottish Government despite the lack of any islands impact assessment, which is in blatant breach of the *Islands (Scotland) Act 2018*.

On the other hand, I agree with the Scottish Government's cautious approach to easing “lockdown” (details downloadable at <https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-framework-decision-making-scotlands-route-map-through-out-crisis/>), but I will not approve of Orkney being used as a “guinea pig” for relaxing restrictions before we have an effective medical means to combat the virus. The Clacksons have had to self-isolate three times now: first following the return of a family member from Glasgow just as “lockdown” kicked in, then after I'd had a hospital appointment in Kirkwall, and again following a medical emergency necessitating an SAS helicopter airlift. In Germany, the public has the benefit of regular podcasts by their leading coronavirus expert, Prof Dr med Christian Drosten, in which he provides the latest scientific Covid-19 information directly (and not filtered and distorted through journalists and politicians). If you understand German and wish to follow them, go to <https://www.ndr.de/nachrichten/info/Corona-Podcast-Alle-Folgen-in-der-Uebersicht,podcastcoronavirus134.html>

I have been assured that all medical staff entering Orkney are now routinely tested and will be quarantined if they register positive. If anyone has any contradictory information regarding this, please get in touch with me (in confidence). The same goes if you have any concerns about personal protection equipment (or lack thereof).

At a meeting of the Highlands & Islands Science Skills Academy Leadership Board (conducted via “Skype”), I asked for STEM “lockdown modules” to be considered, to present science experiments to children utilising objects and materials they can find at home. I gave the example of electrostatics demonstrations I've performed using balloons, a plastic pipe and aluminium foil.

I was delighted to be able to help facilitate the “Eday lockdown treat”—free-of-charge fish & chips delivered to the door, courtesy of the Eday Partnership and Eday Community Association. Meanwhile, Sanday Development Trust & Sanday Community Council have kindly sent each household on Sanday a 50ml bottle of antibacterial hand sanitiser (thank you).

Suggested long reads for a long “lockdown”: “The History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire” by Edward Gibbon (which I have but have not yet read), Winston Churchill's “A History of the English-Speaking Peoples” (which I have and have read), and, more topically, the complete diary of Samuel Pepys (which I was unable to procure before “lockdown”). I am currently reading my way through the “44 Scotland Street” novels by Alexander McCall Smith. When I was down in Edinburgh for a meeting back in December 2017 (see that month's issue of my *Letter*), I went to Scotland Street, and I can report that there is, in fact, no No.44 or above (nor is there a 39, 41 or 43, nor any even number greater than 28).

Stay safe, sound and sane,

Cllr Dr Stephen Clackson  
West Manse, Sanday

[stephen.clackson@orkney.gov.uk](mailto:stephen.clackson@orkney.gov.uk)



“Letter from School Place” is downloadable from [lfsp.pbworks.com](http://lfsp.pbworks.com)