

Weel Bressa, Whit News?

Have any pictures or stories for the next edition? Then please get in touch. Contact us at info@bressay.org or 820706 Jackie will be in the office on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, or email her at bressaydevelopment.jj@gmail.com Chris can be contacted at c_thomasdyer@hotmail.com

Bressay Development Ltd update

New NHS Clinic

Bressay will have a purpose built clinic within the school next year! The present Library room is set to become a consulting room and waiting area with building work commencing in the spring. BDL are delighted to be able to provide space for the clinic and we look forward to working with the NHS to help improve health and well being of all in Bressay. The clinic is part of a new approach to health care developed by the 'Caring For Bressay' project team which includes representatives from the NHS and Bressay Community Council as well as other stakeholders.

Feedback from survey

Thank you to everyone who took the time to chat to Chris about BDL, the school and community ownership. We are delighted that the results show the community believes the facilities at the school bring benefit to Bressay and this is being used to support our Asset Transfer application. There was understandable concern around what would happen if BDL couldn't continue to be financially sustainable but we are confident that BDL has a good business plan and financial forecast in place which is based on growing our current model, which is already sustainable. There were plenty of suggestions too, for example:- BDL directors should be bolder with their aspirations; consider offering adult education classes; greater promotion of Bressay. BDL will use the feedback to help us as we look during the winter at ways to increase promotion of Bressay, increase activities and facilities and as we consider wider community projects which would benefit Bressay. Chris has provided a summary of the results which can be found on page 2.

Welcome new members

Thank you to everyone who signed new membership forms. BDL now has a total of 59 members and we are really delighted that so many of you have chosen to give us your support.

Bressay Kirk Closure

Members of Bressay History Group arranged a community meeting with Rev Ian Murray on Saturday 5th October. The meeting, held in the Hall, was well attended and folk there felt Ian listened to concerns, answered questions honestly and took on board the dismay and confusion inflicted on folk following recent actions and lack of consultation by the Church of Scotland. More on page 3.

Wool Week at Speldiburn

The Speldiburn Cafe welcomed an amazing number of visitors during Wool Week - from near and far! Chris brought along 18 groups from his Garth Croft Tours (he ran a total of 27 tours!) Douglas Coutts brought along 2 groups of 18 and John Odie brought along another 24! Many visitors made their own way, and some did so more than once! We'd like to thank them all, everyone has been so enthusiastic about Bressay, our knitwear, crafts, exhibition and cakes. We were so lucky to have two music groups (we were delighted that both featured Hamish). The Overlys provided us with great music and a thoroughly entertaining Saturday afternoon and Christine brought along a fantastic selection of musicians for the grand finale on Sunday. Well done to Ishbel who's vintage cardigan was so admired by one visitor that she bought it by giving a £70 donation to the Shetland MRI Scanner appeal! A big thank you to all of you who helped with the exhibitions, demonstrations, the food and staffing the GAN Shop. We enjoyed every minute of it and hope you did too!



Above. Superb musicians, fantastic fun and great tunes on Saturday and Sunday at the Speldiburn Cafe!

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What's On

Speldiburn Café - open Fridays 12.00 - 2.30 and Saturdays 9:30 - 11.30. Christmas Lunch Friday 13th December (last Friday will be the 13th, re-opens 10th January) - NOT Closing on Saturdays!

Speldiburn Gallery - A great selection of limited editions watercolour and cartoon prints by Smirk.

Speldiburn Good As New Shop open Fridays - 12.30 - 2.30 and Saturdays 10.00 - 12.00

Bressay Under 5s - Tuesday, 10.30 - 12.30 in the Nursery.

Badminton - Monday evenings in the Hall

500 - Wednesday 7.30pm in the Hall.

Craft Group - Wednesday 1:30 - 3.00 in the school.

November

Fish & Chips - Boating Club supper night 29th November in the Hall.

December

Youth Club - Thursday evenings - 5th & 19th in the Hall

Over 60's Christmas Lunch in the Hall, 8th December, 12.30 for 1.00. Call Beatrice to book - 820773.

Bairn's Christmas Party - 14th December, 2pm in the Hall.

Christmas Service - Christmas Eve, 6.30 in the Hall.

New Year's Party in the Hall, 31st December.

Speldiburn Autumn/Winter 2019/2020

Introduction to yoga with Hazel Thompson. Saturday 7th December 14.00 - 16.00

Aa Fired Up in Bressay. Sunday 15th December 14.00 - 16.00

Crafting. 'Gnome is where the heart is'. Saturday 21st December 13.30 - 16.30

BOOKING REQUIRED

Email bressaydevelopmentjj@gmail.com or call 820706

To Check out what's on in the Bressay Hall this winter see the yahoo calendar on the @BressayPublicHall Facebook page.

Bressay Christmas Card delivery. Cards need to be in no later than the 10th December. Please ensure money is left in a plastic bag with the cards. 35p per card. Proceeds to the Bairns' Christmas Party.

R.A.M Knitwear move

Roisin has swapped rooms in the school and now has a large and bright new studio to display her fantastic knitwear designs. Roisin along with her Mam Rosie made great use of the new space during Wool Week and will continue the studio transformation through the winter.



Congratulations!

Congratulations to Katrina and Damian who were married in the Bressay Hall on the 20th of September. The service, meal and reception all took place in the Hall with the committee helping to provide the meal and the family doing a wonderful job with decorations and table arrangements along with a cheerful pair of bogies! Blue skies made Beosetter a perfect spot for photos.



BDL Asset Transfer Community Consultation

Between June and August, Chris Dyer undertook 52 interviews, discussions and digital consultations with folk in the island to explain and gauge feedback related to the proposed Asset Transfer of the former school buildings. Questions included identifying to what extent Bressay folk are using the facilities provided by BDL at the school, what are the benefits, what new services would folk want to see and what would influence them to use the facility more. The principle of Asset Transfer was also explained - this is a legal process which allows community groups to take over publicly owned buildings or land at a discounted price or with grant assistance. All of those surveyed were aware of BDL although the majority linked the organisation wholly to the school and the present manifestation of Speldiburn café, classes and workshops, studio spaces, GAN, under 5s. This is perhaps not surprising given the substantial energies that have been concentrated in this direction but should be considered in light of the wider aims and aspirations of the organisation going forward, as stated, to support the Bressay community, provide better facilities and services on the island, promote Bressay's assets, and encourage tourism, business and work opportunities. Individually the services are respected, if not necessarily used by all those surveyed, and the Speldiburn café in particular is extremely well regarded. Whilst concern was expressed concerning future viability should the Asset Transfer process be successful, it gave the opportunity for folk to state what services they would like to see in the future and using the school to host a form of NHS presence was an extremely common response.

Bressay Calendar

2020 Calendars are available to buy from the Speldiburn Cafe and GAN Shop.



Bressay History Group update

The Heritage Centre is now closed for the winter but we've had an enjoyable summer season. Our use of volunteer custodians has meant reduced opening times but our hard working volunteers have ensured the centre opened at its regular advertised times. Our visitors have included numerous Bressay descendants from across the globe seeking family history information and we provided an afternoon of guided walks for a party of visitors from the Hebridean Princess.

The BHG outing this year took 14 of our members all the way to Unst. The torrential conditions did little to dampen spirits, though it meant the guided walk was cancelled and the afternoon at the Unst Show was cut short. Five of us did have a super night out at the Show Social in Haroldswick though! Belmont House proved to be the ideal accommodation for a large housebound group and our catering was prepared before leaving Bressay so we could enjoy excellent food without too much work. The photo below shows us enjoying one of BHG favourite pastimes.



Danadays



This photo was taken fifty years ago, in September 1969, Violet and Willie Leask posed for their photograph outside their croft house at Everby on Bressay's east side. Photo courtesy of Jonathan Wills.

Bressay Kirk Closure

Members of Bressay History Group arranged a community meeting with Rev. Ian Murray on Saturday 5th October. The meeting held in the Hall was well attended and those who were there felt Ian listened to concerns, answered questions honestly and took on board the dismay and confusion inflicted on folk following recent actions and lack of consultation by the Church of Scotland. Ian produced notes and action points (for him to follow up on) and anyone who wishes to have a copy can get one from Beatrice. Four members of BHG met Ian on Monday in the Kirk along with Judith Roebuck and David Grieve to discuss items of artistic, architectural and local significance, notes from this meeting are also available.

Here are some of the most important points: -

- Bressay Kirk was closed on the 1st of July at St Columba's by agreement of the congregation of Bressay, Lerwick and Gulberwick, only one member of the Bressay congregation attended.
- Shetland is the first area in Scotland where wide scale Kirk closure is being undertaken, large numbers of Kirks throughout Scotland will close.
- An Energy Performance Certificate and valuation will be carried out in the coming weeks, following which, the Kirk will go up for sale.
- Ian told us that to date, no church has failed to sell and there is no plan for that possibility but also it is not uncommon for naive purchasers to buy such a building without realising the full cost of work needed and therefore the building to be left to decay. Judith's view was that if the Kirk did fail to sell it would most likely slowly deteriorate as the CoS wouldn't undertake any significant works. The Kirk is Class B listed but this won't stop any owner leaving it unmaintained.
- Ian is unable to share the last survey of the Kirk but discussions suggested that a full renovation was needed to safeguard the building's future because of aged slate nails and fallen rubble between the exterior and interior walls. A structural survey would be required by any prospective buyer.
- The CoS are keen to work with the community towards either a pepper pot sale or full maintenance lease if a community use for the Kirk and ability to maintain can be demonstrated.
- Ian Made a public apology on behalf of the Church at every level for failing to communicate the process, engage with the wider community, and at times, failing to recognise the sensitivities of the community concerning the closure and future of Bressay Church.

Rev. Ian Murray is the Interim Minister East of Scotland, Acting Presbytery Clerk, Shetland, Interim Moderator, Lerwick St Columba's, Gulberwick and Bressay. David Grieve is CoS property convener for Lerwick, Bressay and Gulberwick. Judith Roebuck is from CARTA - The Committee on Church Art and Architecture.

A community meeting took place on the 22nd of October to allow folk the chance to discuss possible future options and concerns, particularly about safeguarding the graveyard and ensuring adequate maintenance of the building. The CoS will be undertaking work to repair the broken outside cover of one of the stained glass windows in the coming weeks.

Bressay History Group will continue at present as the contact between Rev Ian Murray and the Bressay community. Unless a group can be formed to take forward any planned use / renovation then the Kirk will go up for sale shortly. If you'd like some inspiration on possibilities for a community Kirk then take a look at the Papa Stour History & Community Group's Facebook page.

Anyone interested in being part of such a group can speak to Chris or Beatrice.

Speldiburn Cafe

Hot lunch on Fridays. Bressay sausage, eggs and sassarmaet on Saturday mornings. Lovely homemade cakes.
For take aways or home deliveries info call 820 706 > www.bressay.org

FRIDAY 12.00 - 2.30
PARKRUN EVERY SATURDAY CAFE OPEN 9.30 - 11.30

GOOD AS NEW SHOP OPEN FRIDAYS 12.30 - 2.30 SATURDAYS 10.00 - 12.00

Bressay Garden and Produce Show



Photos clockwise from top: - Joanie Mason, Mariette Lowe, Patty Mason, Roddy Christie Henry

Trophy Winners

Hiltoun Fruit Cup (any fruit)
Susan Manson
Basket of Vegetables
Afra Skene
Anderson Best Vegetable Exhibit
Sheila Tulloch
Junior Shield – any exhibit
Mariette Lowe
Best In Show – any exhibit
Afra Skene
Tattie Cup
Jonathan Wills
Best Food Entry
Chris Bunyan
Photography
Afra Skene
Best Pot Plant
Gemma Tulloch
Bruntland Rose cup
Hilary Wagstaff
Best Floral Arrangement (class C)
Beatrice Lowe
Best cut Flower (class A)
Lesley Roberts
Best Junior Floral Exhibit
Lee Smith

Show winners - 1st place winners shown below.

1. Vase of mixed cut garden flowers.
2. Vase of garden flowers (1 species)
3. Marigolds
4. Nasturtiums – 3 blooms.
5. Pansies
6. Single Rose.
7. Single Bloom – any kind,
9. Indoor flowering plant.
10. Foliage plant
11. Fresh Flower arrangement
12. Fresh Flower arrangement.
13. Meadow flowers or grasses
- 17 Garden flowers in an unusual container
18. Arrangement of grasses or wildflowers
19. Garden flowers in an unusual container
1. White Tatties.
2. Coloured Tatties.
3. Peas.
4. Beans.
5. Carrots.
6. Onions.
7. Leeks.
8. Beetroot
9. Single Turnip
10. Single Cabbage.
11. Single Cauliflower.
12. Single broccoli.
13. Single garlic.

- Beatrice
Elizabeth Edwards
Marion Scollay
Afra Skene
Anne Bateson
Hilary Wagstaff
Lesley Roberts
Gemma Tulloch
Marion Scollay
Verity Cumming
Grace McCombe
Chrissie/Gemma
Lee Smith
Lee Smith
Niamh Paton
Jonathan Wills
Roddy Christie Henry
John Bateson
John Bateson
Roddy Christie Henry
Roddy Christie Henry
Roddy Christie Henry
Chris Bunyan
Hannah Bateson
Hannah Bateson
Sheila Tulloch
Sheila Tulloch
Roddy Christie Henry

14. Any other vegetable
15. Tomatoes
17. Cucumber
18. Raspberries
19. Gooseberries.
- 23 Mixed basket greenhouse
24. Basket of Vegetables
25. Vegetable Creation
27. Weird shape veg.
28. Garden Theme.
29. Individual Flowers.
32. Croft.
33. Shetland Scene.
34. Non Shetland Scene
35. Black & White
36. Under 16yr - animal.
37. Under 16yrs – view.
38. Under 16yrs – any other
40. Rhubarb Jam.
45. Shortbread
46. Choc marble cake.
47. Fruit scones.
48. Hen eggs.
49. Cooked tatties.
50. Any other food.
51. Miniature garden.
52. Painted Stone
54. Animal cookies
55. Choc Chip

- Sheila Tulloch
Jonathan Wills
Roddy Christie Henry
J. Wills
Susan Manson
David Manson
Afra Skene / Rosa Strachan
Niamh Paton
Kathy Kelly
John Bateson
John Bateson
Afra Skene
Afra Skene
Afra Skene
Beatrice
Niamh Paton
Joanie Mason
Niamh Paton
Gemma Tulloch
Beverley Clark
Kathy Kelly
Anne Bateson
Patty Mason
Ishbel Bremner
Chris Bunyan
Mariette Lowe
Mariette Lowe
Mariette Lowe
Lee Smith

Garth Croft Wool Week Tours.



During the nine days of Shetland Wool Week 2019, over three hundred people visited Garths Croft Bressay to see the colourful ewes and lambs, pigs (little and big!), poultry, polycrub, dykes and newly planted woodland. Three tours were run every day and visitors were transported to the croft where they had refreshments, looked through fleeces and had time to learn about native breeds. Despite the north wind in the early part of the week, the weather was superb for getting out and seeing the animals and this allowed knitters, spinners, dyers and many interested folk the opportunity to see how the production of wool and meat was undertaken. After a tour of the croft, visitors (and their colourful hats) were transported to Speldiburn for an excellent dinner of soup, scones, tea, coffee and cake before having a chance to visit the textile studio at RAM Knitwear and related exhibitions and displays. Those that took part in the tours particularly enjoyed the live music on the second weekend of Wool Week.