

# Weel Bressa, Whit News?

If you have an idea, picture, story or event you would like us to include in the next issue contact Beatrice - [bealowe2@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bealowe2@yahoo.co.uk).  
Or call us on 820 706 or 07547280040  
or email. [info@bressay.com](mailto:info@bressay.com)

## Should We Own the School?

News from Bressay Development Limited

BDL is currently considering community ownership of the school building. We've applied to the Scottish Land Fund for a grant to pay for specialist advice, surveys, valuations, business planning, etc. This support will help BDL to make a well informed decision about what option would be best - asset transfer, purchase, lease or even, possibly, leaving the building.

To get the grant, BDL must be able to show community support for the school development along with clear benefits that the cafe, facilities and services bring to folk in Bressay. We would therefore hugely appreciate folk taking the time to complete and return the attached survey and please feel free to add any comments of your own.

BDL Members will receive a survey by email too. Membership is open to all Bressay residents over the age of 16, email us at [info@bressay.com](mailto:info@bressay.com) or drop along the office to find out more.

BDL's AGM took place in January and four new directors were appointed. The committee is as follows: - Afra Skene - Chair, Amanda McCartney - Vice Chair, Beatrice Lowe - Secretary, Sheila Tulloch - Treasurer, Marion Scollay, Kathy Kelly, Noel Kelly, Alison Reid, Hazel Anderson, Moira Smith, and Dee Henderson-Haefner.

## Speldiburn Cafe has longer opening hours

The Speldiburn Cafe has begun its summer opening hours! We're open four days a week;

**Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 11.00 - 3.00**  
**Saturdays from 9.30 - 3.00.**

Our new staff, Janice Jones and Chrissie Clark, will be serving up tasty homemade cakes and soups, with specials including quiche and frittata - and there's a hot meal option every Friday. Volunteers will continue to offer bacon rolls and egg rolls on Saturday mornings, so whether you've done the parkrun or not, why not come in along.

Our gallery space currently has a show of beautiful seascapes by artist Sam Davis. The exhibition will change monthly during the summer and will showcase work by a number of well known local artists.

Our lovely filter coffee is Bean Shop Blend. Bean Shop gourmet, decaf or La Peña del Leon Fairtrade organic are all available in a cafetiere. We also have 250g bags of coffee available to buy too!

The Speldiburn Cafe is supporting No Single Use Plastics Shetland and all our take away food containers, coffees cups and straws are made from plant based material - just put them on the compost heap when you're finished!



Photos from left: Elizabeth Edwards and Stephen Anderson give the Ham junction phone box a spruce up; Parkrunners Ray, Phoebe and Payton; Kathy and Noel Kelly taking a break from making the bacon rolls on a Saturday morning in the Speldiburn Cafe.



## What's on.

**Speldiburn Cafe** is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 11am - 3pm. Saturdays - 9.30am - 3pm

**Speldiburn Good As New Shop** open Tuesdays, Wednesday, Fridays and Saturdays - 12.30pm - 2.30pm.

**Under 5s** - Tuesday mornings, 10.30am - 12.30pm.

**Craft Group** - Wednesday 1:30pm - 3pm in the school. Bring your sewing or makkin, or come for some new project ideas.

**Speldiburn Gallery** - open cafe hours as above.

May - A collection of wonderful seascapes by Sam Davis.

June - Beautiful watercolours, Shetland scenes and botanical studies, by George Henderson.

July - Striking Shetland scenes in oil by Avril Thomson Smith.

August - Maritime oil paintings, originals, prints and cards, by artist Jim Tait.

September - Work in watercolour by well known cartoonist, Steven Gordon (smirk).

**May.** 29th - SIC Recycling Service 'drop-in session' in the Hall, 6.30pm - 8pm

**June.** June 3rd, 10th, 17th & 24th - 'Lines Made By Walking' with artist Aimee Labourne. Booking essential.

**August.** 19th - Bressay Garden & Produce Show in the Hall.

## Lines Made by Walking

Join artist Aimee Labourne for an afternoon's drawing and walking in Bressay's beautiful landscape

Explore drawing, movement through the landscape, and recording of experience. This tour also includes a visit to Amanda Welch's 'Conditions' exhibition at Bressay Lighthouse, part of Shetland Arts' 'Beyond Bonhoga' visual arts programme, and an opportunity to meet Vicki Fleck, artist-in-residence at the lighthouse during June.

All materials and travel are included. £40.00 per person

**Sundays 12.15pm - 5pm:** June 3rd, 10th, 17th & 24th

Tea, coffee and cake at Speldiburn Cafe are also included.

Spaces are limited, and booking is essential for the tours to run. To book, contact Aimee Labourne:

alabourne@hotmail.co.uk or 07584085851

## Playvan wows the Bressay youngsters

The council's Playvan came to Bressay on 7th May and was a huge hit with the Bressay Under Fives Group at the School.

The Playvan staff were excellent – and brought some warm sunshine with them. Come again soon, please! All pre-school bairns and their parents/grandparents are welcome to join the group's weekly sessions – every Tuesday from 10.30am to 12.30pm at the school.



## Bressay Development Ltd Environmental Bulky Waste Uplift Schedule 2018/19

Month	Date	Location
May	12th	Voeseide
Aug	4th	Bressay Hall
Oct	27th	Voeseide
Feb	9th	Bressay Hall

We need volunteers to supervise the skip while it's in Bressay so if you can spare an hour or two on any of these days please let us know.

Please do **not** bring your cardboard, but fold it and put out with your domestic waste. Anyone requiring assistance to move items can contact BDL Ltd on 820706 or email [bressaydevelopment@gmail.com](mailto:bressaydevelopment@gmail.com).

## Recycling Your Plastic Bottles for Free

The only kind of plastic the Council currently recycles is plastic bottles, so please continue to bring washed plastic bottles - milk / shampoo / washing liquid, etc. to the school and BDL volunteers will take them to Lerwick for recycling.

## Animal Bedding For Sale

BDL currently has a quantity of shredded newspaper, ideal for animal bedding. £3 per 5kg bag.

## Bressay weather updates online

Access real-time weather data from the world's largest community of personal weather stations.

Chris Bunyan's weather station at Kyoab is the only one on Bressay (although called 'South Road' for some GPS reason). It gives outside temperature, humidity, pressure and wind speed and direction. It should be updated every 5-10 minutes - if all goes well. <https://weathermap.netatmo.com/> To access more detailed weather details and charts showing day/week/month please contact Chris at [kyoab@outlook.com](mailto:kyoab@outlook.com) and he will send a link to enable full access to his Netatmo Weather Station "Kyoab" so you can check weather and air quality in real time.

## Maryfield making great progress

Maryfield House Hotel is going from strength to strength as its new owners, Nelly and James, complete the renovation of the guest bedrooms. The hotel has earned a 4.9 star rating on TripAdvisor and is proving popular with locals and visitors alike. A full colour spread about The Maryfield appears in the latest issue of **ii** magazine, written by Bressay's own Davie Gardner.

## Dogs, lambs and birds...

It's that time of year again: the lambs are frolicking and ground-nesting birds are busy raising the next generation; so, dog owners, please take extra care to keep your pets under control. Much of our island is wide open country. It may look 'wild' but all of it's used by farmers, crofters and birds, so please follow the Countryside Code. Thanks!

## Noss wardens are back in the isle

Noss National Nature Reserve is open again after the winter break and Andy Denton is back as an SNH warden. Craig Nisbet has moved to Handa island off the north west coast of Scotland and his replacement, Jen Clark, has come here from the Farne Islands. The isle is open to visitors every day except Mondays and Thursdays. You can keep up to date with Noss wildlife sightings on the very interesting Birds of Noss **Facebook** page (which already has 544 members).

## Bressay Heritage Centre is Open

News from Bressay History Group

The Bressay Heritage Centre is now open for the summer season. Opening Times:

1st May – 30th Sept, Tues, Wed, Fri & Sat 10am-4pm,  
Sun 11am-5pm

### The *Brenda* May Be Saved

12 Bressay folk volunteered to help with the long term preservation of the *Brenda* at the *Brenda* film night at the Bressay Hall, on 20th March.

A '*Brenda*' group of volunteers (Theo Smith, John Clark and Bernard Redman) as part of the Bressay History Group, met Dougie Stevenson of Malakoff Ltd and Norman Moncrieff and Charlie Simpson to agree a form of presentation to the Shetland Amenity Trust and Shetland Islands Council with a view to these bodies rescinding their ownership of the *Brenda*. The presentation to the owners on 12th April included an illustrated history, plus an offer by Malakoff Ltd to uplift the *Brenda* and store under cover at no charge and with no time limit. This extremely kind offer has now been accepted in writing, and so now in late May we anticipate the *Brenda* being shifted and then temporarily stored in a big shed at the Greenhead out of the weather, which will stop her deteriorating even further. Due to Health and Safety Regulations no volunteers are allowed to assist in the uplifting of the *Brenda*, or work on the *Brenda* while it is at the Greenhead.

This is very good news for this old lady, a rare survivor from the First World War. More '*Brenda*' news to follow in the next issue of this newsletter.



*Brenda* at the Mail Pier in 1957. Photo: the late John Wills.

### Dialect Words from the E. J. Smith Collection

The Bressay History Group holds a large collection of dialect words collected during 1934 - 1944 by the late Elizabeth Jane Smith, Old Manse, Bressay. In each issue we will give you a word which she heard used in Bressay.

Last issue > **rick (v)** - **To catch; to be entangled.**

This issue > **benge (v)**

[bressayheritage@btinternet.com](mailto:bressayheritage@btinternet.com). Phone 820 750

## Danadays – pictures from way back then...

Two Bressay characters, well-known to the older generation: Georgie Smith of Gunnista (left) and Tammie Laurenson of Gorie on board the s.s. *Brandon* in the tropics, on their way to South Georgia in the 1920s; and, below, Tammie and Georgie launching *Veng* at Grutwick for a fishing trip, some 50 years later. Photos courtesy of Margaret Findlay.



SPELDIBURN  
GOOD  
AS  
NEW  
SHOP

**Need volunteers to help in the shop  
during the summer**

We'd like to be open every Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday  
and Saturday 12.30 - 2.30

If you can do an occasional day please get in touch.

Call Sharon 07547280040 or email.

[bressaydevelopment@gmail.com](mailto:bressaydevelopment@gmail.com)

Proceeds help support BD ltd community projects in Bressay



## Bressay Parkrun is Sprinting Ahead



Bressay Parkrun is proving to be a huge success, with Britain's most northerly event of its kind attracting runners from as far away as South Africa and New Zealand. The founder, Kate Wills, says she and the organisers are pleased to see local residents getting involved in walking, running and volunteering at the weekly event, which starts from the Maryfield every Saturday at 9.30am. Numbers are steady, with 30 to 40 participants, plus volunteers to help organise it, and this is expected to rise during the summer.

"We've had at least one visitor from outwith Shetland every single week," Kate says, "and the interest it's sparking in Bressay is definitely growing. However, without a doubt, the highlight so far has been Robert Henderson casually sprinting it in his jeans and working boots!"

Bressay Parkrun would like to say a big "thank you" to all who've contributed, including volunteers of the day, cafe helpers and Liz Edwards, Lesley Roberts and Steven Anderson who even gave the old Ham phone box a paint job to delight the Parkrunners - just in time for their ambassador (Liz Corbett) arriving on the 12th May. If anyone can offer to help in future or has any queries about Parkrun please email [bressayhelpers@parkrun.com](mailto:bressayhelpers@parkrun.com) or contact Bressay Parkrun on Facebook.

## Keep our Bressay Hall open!

Bressay Public Hall Committee urgently needs new members – they're down to just five now – and a bigger team of volunteers. If you'd be willing to join the committee (attending monthly meetings) or become a regular volunteer (setting up and clearing the hall for functions, helping maintain the building, doing bar or door duties), please get in touch now with Sharon Anderson 07810 676 611; Chris Bunyan 820 336; Bryan Law at the Mail Shop; or Lesley Roberts 820 205.

## Plant Sale Raises Cash for Refugees

This year's Bressay Plant Sale, held in the Hall on 20th May, attracted a good crowd and raised £550 which will be shared between the Red Cross Refugees Appeal and the Hall funds. Many thanks to all who donated sale items and raffle prizes.



*Photos, clockwise from right: - Elizabeth Edwards and Susan Manson at the Plant Sale; Volunteers Niamh Paton and Hilary Wagstaff in the kitchen for the annual over 60s Christmas dinner; Bairns having an eggcellent time egg rolling at Bressay Junior Club; Graham from Ness Engineering and Brian from Roadside. The Hall Committee would like to thank for solving our slight sewage problem on a freezing day in February!*