

Weel Bressa, Whit News?

Bressay Development update

BDL are pleased to have appointed Malcolmson Architects to redesign Speldiburn. The project aims to improve the inside and outside space to better suit the needs of our tenants, user groups and visitors, increase accessibility, and allow for future development. The design stage of this project will take place this winter and will result in plans which can be used to secure funding and contractors to complete the work.

Welcome to Rebecca Christie Innes who has joined BDL in a 6-month post as Development Assistant. Rebecca recently moved to Utsikten with her parents and brother. Her job includes organising activities and classes, helping run the Good As New Shop and working on projects with Bressay History Group.

Speldiburn Café and Good As New Shop have returned to their winter hours, open Fridays and Saturdays. We want to give a big thank you to every member of our fantastic Café, Parkrun and GAN teams. Speldiburn has had a particularly busy summer and one unlike any before but we are delighted that together we've been able to continue operating Speldiburn for our community.

We wish to thank Elizabeth Edwards, who stood down as a BDL director in August, for her dedication and her continued support as a volunteer. Stuart Barton has replaced Elizabeth as BDL Vice Chair.

We hope you enjoy our hairst issue. Questions, comments and suggestions are always welcomed.

Pop along to Speldiburn or get in touch

Jackie on 07904445610 / Chris on 07748 926454

email us at info@bressay.org

Fantastic new murals at Speldiburn

BDL commissioned Yolanda Bruce to lead a project which would give youngsters in Bressay an opportunity to get creative and brighten the entrance to Speldiburn.

During the week-long project Yolanda encouraged the bairns to consider what Bressay means to them, sketching out ideas in chalk before painting the finished pieces.

All their hard work has resulted in three amazing murals all showcasing different aspects of Bressay life: - lighthouse and sea view by Ruby Smith, croft life by Mariette Lowe and the playpark with parkrunners by Lee Smith with help from Patti, Ozzy and Pip Mason and Willow and River Tulloch.

The murals have replaced long faded work by the Primary School bairns. We would like to thank Yolanda for all her help and give a really huge thank you to the super group of bairns involved in the project.



Lee Smith, Magnus Tulloch, Freya Paton, Mariette Lowe and Ella Tulloch were joined by Artist Yolanda Bruce to cut the ribbons at our Mural Unveiling at Speldiburn. Ruby Smith with her beautifully designed lighthouse panel.

What's ons

2021

Craft day - Saturday 4th December, 1.00 - 2.30. Speldiburn. Swap and sale of craft materials and accessories plus Christmas craft activities for the bairns.

Community Market - Sunday 5th December, Sunday 2.00 - 4.00. Speldiburn. Range of Christmas crafts, cards and gifts by Rozanne, Yvonne, Fyon Fybes, Marjory Scott & more. Vegetables, bakes and jams by Gemma Tulloch, Bev's Bakes, Knowes Croft & Garden, L&S Gifford & more. Teas, coffees and homebakes.

Bressay Bairns Christmas Grotto - Sunday 12th December. Bressay Hall.

Speldiburn Christmas Dinner - Friday 17th & Saturday 18th December.

Bookings only, please call Speldiburn 820706 or email info@bressay.org or via facebook.

2022

Lampshade workshop with Helen Robertson Saturday 15th & Sunday 16th January, 2pm - 8pm, Speldiburn. Wire knitted lampshade, materials provided.

Community Market and Woodland information day - 20th February.

Ongoing

Bressay Heritage Centre has closed for the winter but visits can be arranged by appointment. Contact Bernard on 820 352, Hazel on 820 377 or email us at bressayheritage@btinternet.com.

Speldiburn Good As New Shop is open Fridays and Saturdays 12.30 - 2.30. Closed for Christmas from 19th December.

Speldiburn Cafe is open Friday 11.00 - 3.00 and Saturday 9.30 - 3.00. Closed for Christmas from 19th December.

Bressay Under 5s are at Speldiburn every Friday 10.30 - 12.30.



Christmas gifts, crafts and cards available at the Bressay Community Market.

Community Awards

All of us at BDL are really chuffed to have been nominated for a 'Community Spirit' award. Our team have worked hard to make Speldiburn a safe and welcoming space throughout this difficult past year, and that the award nominee asked that this work be recognised is really appreciated by us. We'd like to congratulate Alison Reid too as she was also nominated for delivering food in the community and stocking local produce in the Shop!



Showing off our award, Speldiburn staff and volunteers; Beryl Williamson, Hillary Wagstaff, Rebecca Christie Innes, Claire Davenport, Beatrice Lowe.

Walks, nature, geology and wellbeing

BDL's Chris Dyer led a series of walks this summer to interesting areas in Bressay. These included Bressay Lighthouse and pier, and up to the Ord cliffs, where substantial quarrying that took place in the nineteenth century and provided so much building stone for the growth of Lerwick.

And also exploring the landscape of the Iron Age broch and later steading at Aith; the fishing station, nineteenth century sandstone slate quarries before culminating at the summit of the hill at the Great War naval gun, ammunition bunker and accommodation block remains.

Chris teamed up with Noss Wardens Jen and Sally for two family friendly walks to Culliesbrough and to Noss Sound where they learned how gannets can dive into the sea at almost 100mph, used the telescope to look across to Noss, explored historical features, including the Iron Age broch, possible Viking longhouse and crofting period remains. The bairns also got to grips with studying maps and looking at the Viking place names in Bressay and Noss.

Finally, in September Chris joined Robina Barton for a Geology event at Speldiburn. Visitors learned about Bressay's desert origins with activities and crafts followed by a guided walk to Culliesbrough to see how Bressay's early residents made use of rocks in their daily lives.



A view which is well worth the climb! Chris Dyer leads a group from the lighthouse to the Ord.



Dani Manson, Pip Mason and Mariette Lowe plan their route.

Broadband feedback

More than 20 surveys have been returned. The responses show considerable variation in Broadband speeds across Bressay. Average download speeds at Speldiburn are 65.05mbps, 22-35mbps at the Glebe and between 1.6 - 6.6 at places like Brough, Beosetter and Ham, dropping to nothing on a bad day. Please continue to send your completed surveys to Speldiburn as your information will provide a useful picture of speeds and usage.

Congratulations to John and Beverley!

The lovely couple were married in the Bressay Hall by Aubrey Jamieson on the 21st of August. Their daughters Freya and Astrid were flower girls, Gemma Tulloch and Gillian Poleson were bridesmaids. The Hall Committee were delighted to see the Hall dressed up for the 1st evening event since Covid. Anyone wishing to hire the Hall but unsure about current guidance should speak to Roddy, Chris, Janice or Beatrice.



Hall Chairman Roddy Christie Henry, Mother of the groom Jessie Paton and Ralph Tulloch slide the cake into place.

On the road again

Bressay Parkrun restarted on Saturday 17th July with around 50 runners and walkers taking part in recent weeks. For more information about the Parkrun, or to get involved as a volunteer, visit <http://www.parkrun.org.uk/bressay>



Lesley Roberts and Jonathan Wills on the start line.

Bressay Woodland plans

Site fencing and boardwalk is due to start soon and the woodland group have begun to focus on designing interpretation boards, footpaths and a tree planting plan. Tree planting will commence in March 2022. A habitat survey undertaken this summer was the first step in a long term study of the impact of rewilding an area of Bressay safe from the grazing mouths of sheep! We will hold an information day on the 20th of February to offer an update on the project and an opportunity to sign up to help on one of our planting days. If you would like to get involved or find out more about the project, contact Chris on 07748 926454.

Fabulous 1st year of Bressay Community Markets continue to December

With Covid-19 in mind, our 1st Community Markets were fairly small scale, however they have been a wonderful success and have proved popular with producers and customers alike. There's been a great selection of homegrown vegetables along with homemade jams, bakes, art and crafts. We are delighted to be able to showcase the great variety of creativity and talent we have here on Bressay, but we are especially pleased to promote locally grown food. The range being grown in Bressay is remarkable and increasing local food production must be encouraged. So whether you wish to reduce your food miles, support local or want to know exactly where your food comes from - get growing your own or buying fresh in Bressay! Our next market is on the 5th of December.



Clockwise I-r; - Claire Davenport with the 1st of her new work which captures daily tasks in the Speldiburn Cafe; Freya and Beverley Paton with Bev's Bakes; Mariette Lowe behind colourful flower arrangements; Marjory Scott with her fantastic stall of veg, jams and lovely craft items; Magnus Tulloch selling Rhubarb Jam and eggs at our June Market.

Bressay Garden & Produce Show

A fantastic celebration of Bressay folk's accomplishments and a great day out! BDL were delighted to hold the Bressay Garden and Produce Show again this year. We hope everyone had a wonderful afternoon, it was lovely to see so many friendly faces and such a great display of Bressay produce. What a great variety of flowers and vegetables are grown here in Bressay! The sun shone on our Tattie in a Bucket count encouraging a crowd to gather in the car park to watch Roddy, Hannah and a big group of bairns emptying out, weighing and counting the 19 entries! Special thanks to the bairns, for their help with the tattie count and for their entries – a brilliantly creative collection of mini gardens, home bakes and floral arrangements. Well done!

We would like to thank the judges, June Redman (fruit & Veg), Hazel Tulloch (produce), Aimee Labourne & Elizabeth Edwards (floral) and Fiona Gray (photography) for their time & diligence. And thanks to everyone else who helped out on the day.



It's just too tasty! Cleo Gifford and Pip Mason fail to resist!

Trophy

Hilltoun Fruit Cup
Basket of Vegetables
Anderson Best Vegetable Exhibit
Junior Shield – any exhibit
Best In Show – any exhibit
Tattie Cup
Food
Photography
Best Pot Plant
Bruntland Rose cup
Best Floral Arrangement
Best cut Flower
Best Junior Floral Exhibit

Winners Name

Lesley Roberts
Beatrice Tulloch
Charles Christie Henry
Lee Smith
Beatrice Tulloch
Jonathan Wills
Janice Jones
Beatrice Tulloch
Anne Bateson
Anne Henry
Beatrice Tulloch
Afra & Christine Skene
Cleo Gifford



Growing flowers in Bressay can be a challenge but the results are amazing!

Tattie In A Bucket winners

Back in March we encouraged folk to compete with their friends and neighbours by growing a tattie in a bucket. With the help of Edwin Gifford, who donated the seed tatties, folk could collect a tattie from the Mail Shop to grow in their chosen container with their chosen soil. The tattie count was brilliant fun and the bairns enjoyed getting hands on. Here are the winners, rated on heaviest weight and most tatties - however small!

John Bateson – 1083g
Zander Groat – 956g
Charlie Christie-Henry – 922g

Magnus Tulloch (pictured) – 44
Charlie Christie-Henry – 26
Fiona Gray – 22



Five of our six fantastic mini garden entries!



Marion Scollay had plenty of help to draw the raffle, Bressay grown blooms, Charlie Christie Henry and his mum Amanda McCartney watch their tattie weigh in. Lee Smith and Danni Manson with their cookies.