

SPELDIBURN SPECIAL



In this issue...

...we are celebrating Speldiburn!

For many of us in Bressay, the school is full of memories and the building seems to mean much more than merely the sum of its parts.

BDL's staff and volunteers have worked hard over the past 5 years to use the classrooms and facilities in ways that ensure the building will continue to play a valuable part in our lives now and into the future.

We think Speldiburn really is special and hope you will agree.

Contact us anytime:

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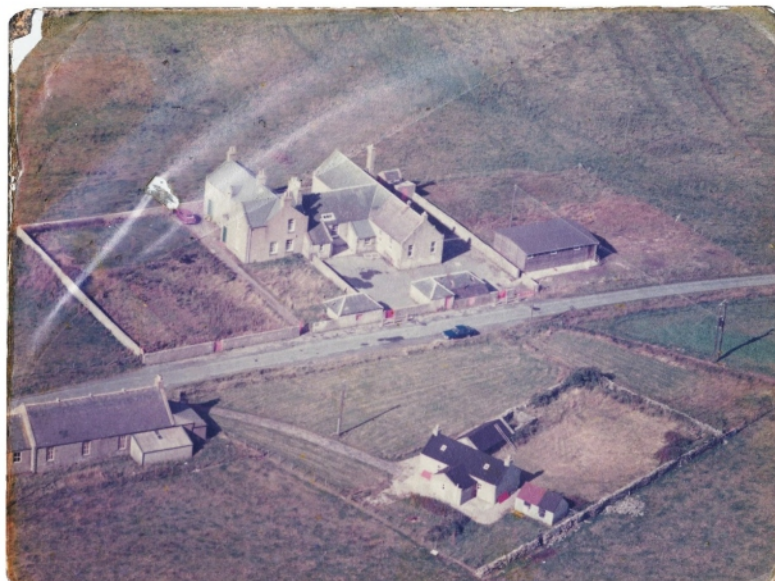
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(during cafe opening times)

f | [@speldiburncafe](https://www.facebook.com/speldiburncafe)

New Speldiburn Logo

Some of you may have noticed that BDL has begun to use a new logo for our promotional materials, as seen at the top of this page.

Designed by *and* BDL director Aimee Labourne, the logo is a bright, welcoming and easily recognised symbol of our creative community hub.



Above | Bressay Primary School 1970s. Date and photographer unknown.

BRESSAY DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Speldiburn Asset Transfer

On the 31st of March BDL's solicitors paid £1 to the SIC for the purchase of the school, playground, sheds and multicourt. In line with Community Asset Transfer legislation, the terms of sale state "The School shall be used as a community hub for the purposes of the advancement of community development and resilience." Ownership allows us to secure grants and take on larger refurbishment projects like the one we've just completed. Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) and the SIC's Community Development Department have provided us with considerable support. We are delighted with the outcome and BDL will continue to improve and develop a sustainable community asset for the Bressay community now and into the future.

Below | Magnus Tulloch & Freya Paton enjoying the Bressay Under 5's group.



Speldiburn green heating now complete!

BDL secured almost £50,000 of funding from CARES and Highlands and Islands Enterprise for an energy saving project at Speldiburn. We are amazed at the difference the new heating has made to the building. Our customers have noticed the difference too - nobody's eating lunch in their coats!

...And Next! Our work at Speldiburn is not complete. BDL have begun a project which will allow us to redesign Speldiburn to better suit the needs of BDL, our tenants and visitors. We have completed a feasibility study with help from Bernard Redman and an application has been submitted to the Crown Estate which, if successful, will fund an architect to look at ways to create more studio space, improve the entrance, make use of the tarmac outside and provide outdoor access toilet and shower. We hope work might begin in early 2022.



Above | Sean and Luke Fillingham from Heatsave Shetland with one of our new heaters; the Big Room has one outside unit working one heater inside.



Above | Nordri fitting the solar panels; the solar panels are fitted to both the east and west roof to maximise the daylight they receive.

The contractors all did a fabulous job and we are delighted with the outcome. We would like to thank them all for their help and attention to detail - Shetland Heatwise (insulation), Heatsave Shetland Ltd (Air Source heating) and Nordri (solar).

REDUCING OUR CARBON EMISSIONS, SAVING MONEY AND IT'S SO WARM!

Speldiburn has undergone a huge transformation this year. We have insulated the loft space in the old building, installed 40 solar panels and swapped our old storage heating system for air-source heating. The project, which was almost fully funded by CARES and HIE, began in 2019 with an energy survey by Resource Efficient Scotland (which also included the Bressay Hall and Heritage Centre). We are so pleased with the result - a warmer, more controllable and more environmentally friendly building.

It's early days but so far we've seen a 60% reduction in our electric costs. The heaters are easy to use, smaller and very efficient meaning we could remove 3 x 24kw heaters from the GAN Shop and replace them with 1 x 6kw heater! All heaters can be controlled remotely, so we can set individual heaters to come on at different times at different temperatures, all from a mobile or tablet! The 8 outdoor units are each linked to one or two heaters inside, and units work like a fridge in reverse, drawing heat from the air outside. The solar panels deliver electricity into our main meter which is being used to power the heating as well as lighting etc. Anyone interested in seeing what the panels are generating in realtime can visit our site using this link: www.tinyurl.com/evp2cshj. Let's hope the sun shines!



NEW TO SEE AT SPELDIBURN

Visitors to Speldiburn have been welcomed in with new signage and visitor information panels. We hope the new 'Speldiburn blue' signs will help guide new visitors through the building. We are particularly pleased with the new information panels. Three, detailing areas of interest in Bressay, were produced in conjunction with Bressay History Group and we have a wonderfully original map designed by Aimee Labourne to help visitors, and locals, find their way around. Two bright 'Bressay Primary School' panels tell the story of the school from its opening in 1879 to its reincarnation as a welcoming community hub, creative centre and visitor attraction.

Speldiburn Tour

Speldiburn has slowly re-open again and the Speldiburn Cafe will be open to our summer hours (Tues, Wed, Fri, Sat) from the 1st of June. We've kept busy throughout the past year, using periods of lighter restrictions to clean, organise, ponder and plan. We've designed additions like our new visitor map and information panels, signage, and our school history display panels which provide an insight into the building's past. We have new lovely craft displays and card payment machines in the Speldiburn Cafe and GAN Shop. We have enjoyed welcoming back our customers, friends and neighbours during April and May but for those of you unable to visit here is a little tour of Speldiburn 2021.



Fiona Gray is one of a number of talented Bressay folk displaying items for sale at Speldiburn. Fiona's Fyon Fibres woven, sewn and knitted items are bright, creative and exquisitely well finished.



Chrissie Clark and Ali Mason, pictured above, along with Chrissie's sister Beryl form the fantastic Speldiburn team who produce our lovely homemade soups, frittatas and cakes.



Callum Taylor, Dean Gifford, Andrew Lowe and Liam Taylor meeting for lunch in the Speldiburn Cafe.



Our classes and workshops have been temporarily on hold but best friends, Mariette Lowe, Dani Manson and Patty Mason met to paint eggs at Speldiburn one Easter lunchtime.



Family lunch at Speldiburn. Benji Wills, Kate Wills, Cathy Shearer, Tom Wills, Lesley Roberts, Robin Gifford, Cleo Gifford.



Bressay Under 5s have begun their Friday Morning playdays at Speldiburn again. The photos show Freya Paton, Cameron McDonnall, Magnus Tulloch, Astrid Paton and Ella Tulloch finding plenty of opportunity to have some fun!

Our new School panels document the important role Bressay Primary School played in our community. We had a lovely time going through photos and choosing which to use. We've been especially keen to use photos which show the building along with the pupils. Here are a few of our favourites. Many thanks to Bressay History Group and Jonathan Wills for their help.

