

# Weel Bressa, Whit News?

## **Bressay Development update**

### **Speldiburn Cafe re-opens Friday 25th!**

*We will be open Fridays and Saturdays 12.00 - 2.30.*

Tables and seating is arranged at 2m distances, with seating in the cafe and the big room. A one way system will be in place with customers coming in through the main entrance and leaving through the fire escape off the big room.

*Home deliveries and takeaways are available, call the cafe on 820 706, or Jackie 07904445610 / [info@bressay.org](mailto:info@bressay.org) to order.*

*Table bookings are encouraged. Card payments are welcomed.*

Everything is subject to Scottish Government guidance and any changes in the coming days, weeks and months.

### **Cakes on Friday 25th**

**Call, text or email to nominate yourself or a neighbour to receive a box! Let us know if you have any food allergies.**

The Speldiburn Cafe will be making up boxes of cakes which will be free to collect from Speldiburn on Friday. We'll deliver them to anyone who'd like a treat too.

### **Speldiburn Good As New Shop**

**We are open by appointment. Call Jackie 07904445610 or message us on Speldiburn Good As New Shop Facebook page to arrange a visit.** Thank you to everyone who has donated items over the past few months. We have a huge selection of really lovely new stock and our volunteers have done a splendid job of sorting, cleaning and getting the shop ready to re-open.

### **Speldiburn Gallery**

Our Speldiburn Gallery will be showcasing a selection of 'Lockdown Art'. This will include some of the pictures from our online exhibitions. We would be delighted to receive more items to display. They can be craft creations of any type, paintings or drawings, the main criteria is that they were created during the lockdown period in Bressay.

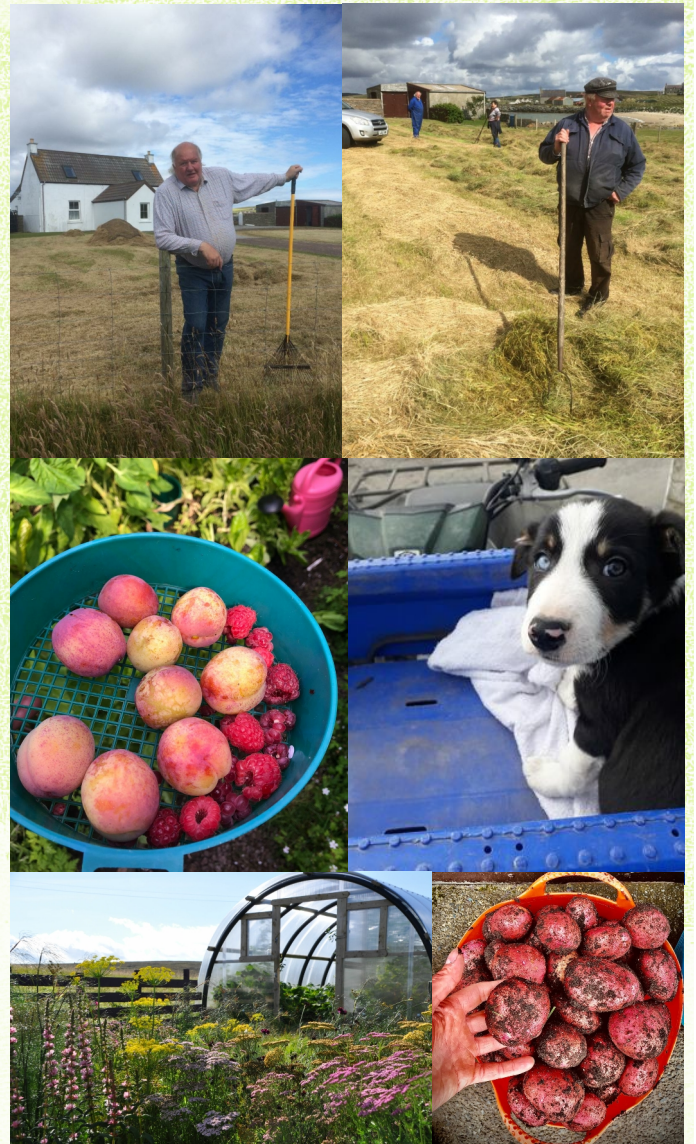
Below. Our lovely new up-cycled cafe counter is perfect for displaying some of our gorgeous Bressay crafts!



Welcome to our quick 2-page September issue. Please get in touch if you think there may be a way BDL can help you or a neighbour during these strange times. The Speldiburn Office is closed just now but feel free to contact Jackie on 07904445610 or Chris on 07748 926454. Or email us at [info@bressay.org](mailto:info@bressay.org)

### **What's Growing On in Bressay?**

Clockwise from top. Making hay the old way at Noustigarth - Richard Birnie and Brian Deyell, Emily Gifford's 4-month old pup at Grindischool, some of Chris Dyer's Setanta Tatties, flowers outside the new polycrub at da Knowes, some of Emily Williamson's tasty looking fruit grown at Gunnista.



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## Dan a days. Three Tammies fae Gorie

Like his father and grandfather before him, Tammie Laurenson of Gorie (1906-1980) went to sea. In this picture from his niece Margaret Findlay's collection we see young Tammie on his first voyage to the South Atlantic in 1924, learning to steer a compass course aboard Christian Salvesen's ship s.s. Sevilla. In the second picture, taken on the briggistanes at Gorie in 1937, Tammie's father, Aald Tammie (1854-1938), keeps a lookout with his prized binoculars. His father, also Tammie, was born in Culbinstown in 1795 and died at Gorie in 1883.



## Brough Loch woodland

Informal meetings including BDL, members of the community and Nathalie Pion (RSPB) have resulted in a survey of the 2.8ha area between the west shore of the Brough loch and the Gorie track. Plans so far, include initial ideas for fencing, gates, tree species and wider community aims. A map has been produced showing the vegetation cover in the area, which is a mix of heath and semi-improved grassland, along with a species list for bird and plants - a total of 36 species of plants have been identified!

## Sanitiser top ups

BDL has a stock of gel and spray sanitiser for topping up folk's bottles- just ask!. We also have plenty of handy peeie bottles of spray sanitisers available free of charge for Bressay folk. These can be collected from outside the Speldiburn Cafe, or delivered to households.



## Bressay History Group Update

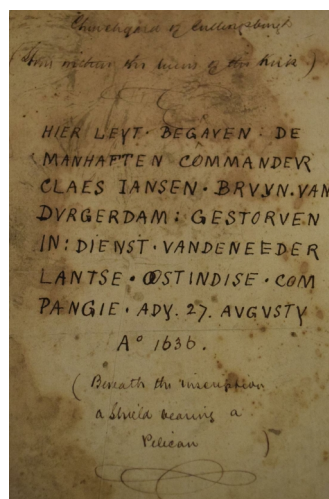
Commander Claes Jansen Bruyn. Bressay History Group has been very busy this summer at Culliesbrough and is now researching a most interesting gravestone within the kirk walls.

Claes Jansen Bruyn was Commander of the *Amboina*, a vessel of the Dutch East India Company. She had sailed as escort from Surat, in the Indian Ocean, on 9th February 1636. Delay caused her to miss the Dutch convoy at Cape of Good Hope and she left Table Bay on 9th May, on her own, for a terrible voyage of headwinds and disease amongst the crew.

The *Amboina* turned up in the Bressay Sound on 24th August with 29 of her crew perished. The surviving crew of 20 were offered shelter within Bressay. Commander Bruyn died the following day. In 1637, a memorial stone was shipped from Holland to mark his grave at Culliesbrough.

Bressay History Group hope to install a small interpretation panel adjacent to the gravestone to tell this fascinating tale and a winter project is to acquire a copy of the Bruyn family Crest from the archive of the Dutch East India Company in addition to an archive drawing of the *Amboina*.

If you are interested in joining the Bressay History Group, please email [Chris\\_c\\_thomasdyer@hotmail.com](mailto:Chris_c_thomasdyer@hotmail.com) or Bernard [bightofham@btinternet.com](mailto:bightofham@btinternet.com) who will keep you informed of projects and meetings.



Photos L-R. The commander's gravestone as photographed in the 1920's by J D Ratter, from the Shetland Museum Archives, a transcript of the stone's text, an image of the Dutch ship 'Batavia' built 1628 and likely similar to the *Amboina*.