



Weel Bressa, Whit News?

Bressay Development Update

SURF Award Nomination

Speldiburn has been nominated for a prestigious award! The annual SURF Awards recognise and reward best practice and innovation in community regeneration projects.

Speldiburn and BDL's ongoing activities continue to turn the building into a lively community hub and have been recognised in the Community Regeneration Category. A panel of judges visited Speldiburn in October, and a lovely afternoon was spent showing them how the building continues to respond to community need. The results will be revealed on December 8th.

Speldiburn could not continue without our dedicated members and volunteers - thank you to those who helped welcome the judges, and everyone who continues to volunteer and take part in what we do...and fingers crossed!



Speldiburn is a welcoming space for islanders and visitors alike, creating opportunities to meet and greet - like this group of knitters during Wool Week, chatting with their makkin and a cuppa!

Weel Bressa, Whit tinks du?

We are updating our development plan. It will help us prioritise for the next few years, both at Speldiburn and in the community. We'd like the opinions of as many of you as possible about what makes Bressay a great place to live, and what would make it better.

In January, we'll be asking you what you think about where we live. Look out for questionnaires, drop-in activity sessions at Speldiburn and more. There will be some focus on housing and what you think the future could be for the Bressay Lighthouse. The Development plan will belong to the whole community and can be used, for example, to help us and other groups in Bressay to apply for funding.



Please contact us with your comments, questions and suggestions about any of the projects in this issue.

Contact our new Development Officers, Heather and Aimee;

Look up www.bressay.org,

email info@bressay.org,

or call 01595 820 706

Christmas Market



It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas! Bressay's first festive event was Speldiburn's Christmas Market on 13th November. We were delighted to see such a fantastic turnout and the afternoon had a lovely atmosphere. Shoppers could browse a whole range of crafts and produce, find a bargain in the Good As New Shop, and enjoy their first mince pie of the year, made by Ali! Thank you to all of our stall holders for such a great display of talent and hard work, and thank you to all those who helped beforehand and during the afternoon. Ho ho ho!



Above: Mary and Tam Christie with their festive display, and shoppers browsing produce. Below: Yvonne Groat with beautiful cards and Rozanne Perdu with her amazing selection of hand-crafted decorations.



There's lots more happening in Bressay for Christmas! See inside for details.

What's On

BRESSAY HALL

Saturday Social Night. 3rd December. From 7.30pm. Games, try bowls or just chat! Bar will be open (cash only).

Over 60s Christmas Meal. 11th December. 12.30pm for 1pm start. £5 per person (see ad at bottom of page).

Bairns' Christmas Party. 18th December. 4-6pm.

Christmas Service. Christmas Eve. 6.30pm

New Year's Eve Party. 9.00 until late, music, bar and nibbles.

Cards - 500. Wednesday evenings, 7.15pm.

Badminton. Monday evenings from 7pm. Equipment is provided, or feel free to bring your own. No need to book.

SPELDIBURN

Christmas Cookie Decorating. Sunday 4th December, 1 to 2.30pm. Festive family fun!

Free and no need to book. All ingredients included.

Christmas Lunches. Friday 16th and Saturday 17th December. For all the family! £17.50 per person. Includes soup, main course, mince pies and coffee! Bookings only, contact us info@bressay.org or 820 706.

Winter Workshops. Helen Robertson knitting class, look out for posters/social media. 5th and 6th Feb, all day class. Please bring a packed lunch. Tea and coffee provided. To book, contact info@bressay.org or call Speldiburn 820706.

Cafe and Good As New Shop Winter opening hours. Wednesday, Friday 11am- 3pm, Saturday from 9.30 - 11am for Parkrun breakfast, then 11.30am to 3pm. The GAN is always looking for more help, please just get in touch!

Bressay Under 5s. Friday mornings from 10.30 to 12.30am. £2 per family, all welcome.

Parkrun. Still every Saturday! New meeting place just outside the Bressay Heritage Centre, and turn up around 9.15am for a 9.30am start.

Keep a look out on noticeboards, social media and our website for other events and winter workshops coming soon. Also see our new online calendar for updates - visit www.bressay.org/whats-on and follow the link.

BRESSAY CHRISTMAS CARD DELIVERY

Cards need to be in the box at Speldiburn no later than 15th December. Please ensure money is left in an envelope with the cards. 35p per card. Proceeds to the Bairns' Christmas Party.

Bressa is open fir winter

There is lots is happening in Bressay over the winter - see above! Why not give something new a try. Parkrun now operates Parkwalk too. The hall has a great winter programme - it also runs entirely on volunteers and needs all of our support to keep offering its events. Speldiburn is planning socials on Wednesday afternoons, and are hoping to encourage anyone who would not otherwise get out to attend, as we are working with the Red Cross to provide transport. At the time of writing, there are a few final practical details to put in place, but do please get in touch with us on 820 706 or email info@bressay.org if you or someone you know would like to attend.



Bressay Community Groups Meeting

Thank you to all the representatives of Bressay's community groups who came along to a meeting at Speldiburn on 6th October. We were also joined by councillors Stephen Leask, Gary Robinson and Arwed Wenger. It was a fantastic opportunity to get together and discuss a broad range of issues affecting Bressay, and BDL's future plans.

Over 60s Christmas Dinner

Bressay Public Hall
Sunday 11th December

12.30 for 1pm start

All welcome

£5 per person

To book, call Beatrice 820773, or Lesley 820205

Bressay Woodland Wins Award!

Bressay Community Woodland was recently shortlisted in two categories at this year's RSPB Scotland's Nature of Scotland Awards - the Community Initiative and the Forest and Woodland Categories. The awards celebrate projects that make a difference in their local communities to support Scotland's wildlife and special places.

Our fledgling woodland was announced as the prizewinner in the Forest and Woodland category. This project involved the hard work and dedication of so many. Thank you to everyone involved - including every single person who planted a tree!

The woodland group are always looking for new volunteers, please get in touch via www.bressay.org.

Macmillan Coffee Afternoon



As well as working her socks off this summer to produce what our summer visitors called 'the best cafe food they have had in Shetland', Ali our amazing cook was behind the Macmillan Coffee afternoon in September, which ran alongside one of our Community Markets. It was a fantastic afternoon raising a grand total of £621!! We were all overwhelmed by your generosity for this worthy cause which is close to many people's hearts. Thank you to everyone who donated homebakes and to those who came along and donated by eating them!

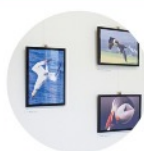
Danadays

Thirty years fae syne: 1992 was an important year for Bressay, with the Leirna coming into service and the marina breakwaters completed.

Below: The 'Brenda' leading the 'Grima', and the new ferry on the 'Leirna's' inaugural crossing, and a view of the new breakwater. Right (top) the marina today and (bottom) the 'Brenda' decked out with flags.



The Bean Shop Coffee • Art & Craft • GAN Shop • Wi-Fi



Serving light lunches, tasty soup and fantastic homemade cakes!

- Table bookings are welcomed
- Takeaways available
- Contactless payment available



SPELDBURN
CAFÉ



• Winter Hours •

WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY 11.00 - 3.00
SATURDAY

PARK RUN 9.30 - 11.00 CAFE 11.30 - 3.00

Wednesday
**MEAL
DEAL**

Hearty home-made soup served with bread, tea or coffee and a tasty cake.

£7.20

Charlie Umphray Exhibition at Speldiburn



A display of Charlie Umphray's photographs, focusing on birds, is now on show in Speldiburn's exhibition space. Featuring a fantastic range of regular visitors as well as rare birds, this collection captures stunning colour, delightful details and charming moments from the natural world - all taken in Bressay.

Charlie bought his first camera in 2005 after seeing a friend enjoying photography. We asked Charlie about what inspires him:

"I've always had an interest in birds and wildlife. We were brought up never to hurt birds or wildlife by my father and grandfather. They were both fishermen and very superstitious, and reckoned that it's very unlucky to harm birds or wildlife. That's probably why I've always had an interest in photographing birds since I started with photography. I wish I'd had a camera when I was younger and at the fishing."

The most exciting bird-sighting on Bressay is probably the Leucistic (White) Sparrow, because I'd never heard of them before I saw one at our bird feeder in April this year."

Bairns' Halloween Party

On Sunday 30th October, Bressay Bairns enjoyed a frightfully good afternoon of Halloween fun!

Lantern prizes: Charlie Christie-Henry 1st Patty Mason 2nd Fancy Dress: Layla Walterson, Emily Treacy.

The committee would like to say thank you to everyone for the great turn out, to the folk that baked and for the generous donations, and to Heather Christie for judging!

Left to right: Mariette Lowe and Danni Manson in devilishly good costumes! Orla Anderson, River and Willow Tulloch enjoying treats (and probably tricks too!). Nicole Johnson, Beverley Paton, Gemma Tulloch and Karen Blair joining in the dressing up fun!



Wool Week at Speldiburn

We welcomed an amazing number of visitors during this year's Wool Week! Bressay residents lent items of vintage knitwear and textiles for display in the Big Room. Local items for sale included knitwear from Ishbel Bremner and Pat Tulloch and wool from Grindischool. We were delighted to see so many visitors and locals knitting triangles for our bunting.

We'd like to thank everyone who helped make the week a success, including our cafe staff, those who lent and exhibited knitwear, and those who came along for makkin and yakkin!



Share a skill

Do you have a skill you would like to share? Speldiburn is the perfect place to hold a workshop or classes. We're also looking for activities for our winter Social Afternoons. Do get in touch if you'd like to hire a room for your session!

Are you a budding photographer, artist or crafter?

We are currently putting together a programme for our exhibition space for next year. We have worked with established as well as emerging artists, and those who simply enjoy being creative as a hobby. We are also always keen to work with new crafters to sell items in the cafe. We support creativity in all forms, so if you would like to showcase your work, please do get in touch.

In partnership with Shetland Arts, we are also pleased to be able to offer temporary use of a small selection of frames for artists with unframed works.