

Weel Bressa, Whit News?

Getting involved! With several interesting new projects underway we think this is an excellent time to get involved in Bressay Development. We would welcome new directors to help us oversee developments at Speldiburn, potentially at the Lighthouse and in community energy, and of course in our ongoing running of Speldiburn and activities including increasing our creative ideas and activities at the Community Woodland. If you're not sure about committing to become director, we always need folk to help, whatever your time availability and skills - come along and find out about volunteering with us. **Find out more at www.bressay.org, email info@bressay.org or call 01595 820706.**

BDL Update

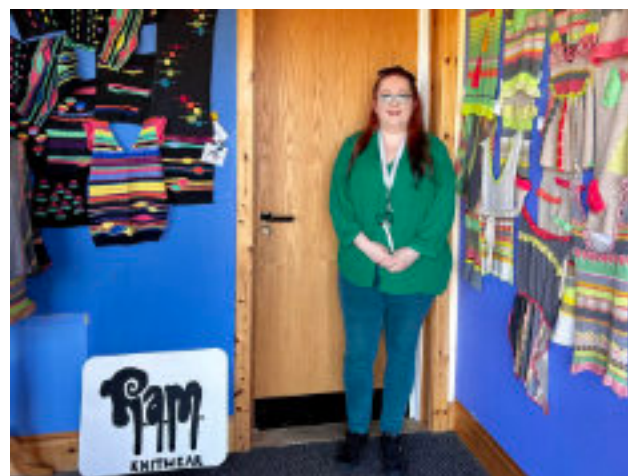
Firstly, we want to give a big thank you to our Development Officers Aimee and Jo who have just finished their contracts with us. They have been a big part of our Speldiburn team and have contributed a huge amount in the way of research, activities and the general friendliness of Speldiburn. Both will continue to work in smaller roles at BDL, Aimee through her Climate role and Jo in her Wednesday Social Group role. DO funding is no longer available from HIE but we will continue to work with them on other projects. We are exploring options for future staffing, but this will be focused on particular project delivery. The first of these is a six-month role which will expand on the work recently done for us by Voar Energy. This includes home energy surveys and further exploration of community energy generation.

Speldiburn re-development. We have been successful with the first stage of our application to the Regeneration Capital Grant Fund, the second stage is more detailed and must be completed by the end of November. If this goes well we will receive £1M towards the project. We are working with the SIC and HIE to secure additional funding. The plans are available to view and comment on at Speldiburn.

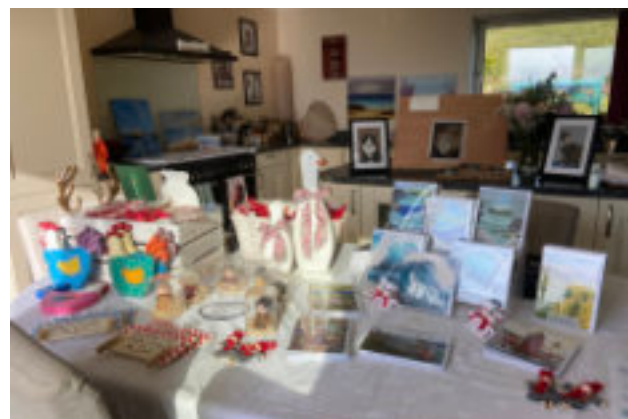
The Lighthouse. BDL has submitted an expression of interest at the asking price (conditional on surveys and funding) for the Bressay Lighthouse along with a proposal outlining our plan to develop the site as a community asset, primarily centred on community housing. We viewed the site recently with community housing consultants from Orkney and a local builder. We feel confident we have a viable plan which includes affordable housing, community access and increasing the site's heritage and tourism potential, all important to Bressay folk. Community housing differs from social housing it allows us to offers affordable rents and choose the criteria for applicants.

Open Doors Bressay

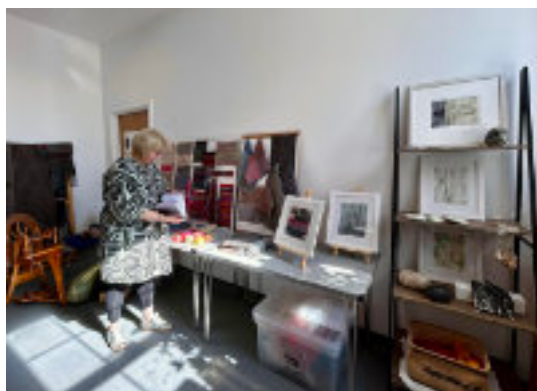
Photos below, see page 2. For further details.



Roisin McAtamney outside her Speldiburn Studio.



Rozanne Perdu's kitchen studio at Papillon.



A room with a view! Heather Christie's studio at Utsikten, Edina Széles set up a pop up studio at Speldiburn, Freddie and Charlie Christie-Henry enjoying their visit to the Ham Station garden.

What’s On?

BRESSAY HALL
Bairns Halloween Party Friday 31st October, 6pm - 8pm
Race Night (Bressay Sports Club) Saturday 1st November, doors open at 7pm
The Nomadic Pizzeria Saturday 15th November, 4.30pm - 7.30pm
Over 60s Christmas Dinner Sunday 7th December
Bairns Christmas Party Sunday 21st December
Cards (500) Wednesdays 7:15pm, all welcome
Mobile Library Van At the Hall Car Park. Wednesdays 1:45 to 2:45pm: 12th November

SPELDIBURN
Speldiburn Cafe Open Tues - Sat until October 31st, then open Fridays and Saturdays through the winter
Open Mic Night Friday 31st October, 7pm - 9pm
Social Afternoon Wednesdays, 2 - 4pm. Big Room. Everyone welcome. Come for a free cuppa, a chat, and bring a friend!
Gentle exercise with Matthew Laurence October 22nd, November 12th, December 17th 2.45pm - 3.15pm
Drawing from Photographs with Aimee Labourne 18th November
Family Christmas Art with Aimee Labourne, Saturdays 29th November, 6th and 13th December
Living Well Hub Currently suspended. Get in touch through livingwellhub@shetland.gov.uk or by calling 01595 74 4120
Bressay Under 5s Friday mornings 10:30am - 12:30pm. Suggested donation of £3 per family, all welcome.
Parkrun Saturdays: Meet outside the Heritage Centre by 9:15am for 9:30am start.
Check www.facebook.com/bressayparkrun for updates.
Keep a look out on notice boards, social media, our website www.bressay.org for updates.

Open Doors Bressay

Everyone at Speldiburn were delighted to take part in the Doors Open Festival, Scotland’s largest free festival that celebrates places and stories by enabling access to spaces not usually open to the public, with a weekend of open studios and gardens.

On Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th September, a range of inspiring spaces by Bressay residents were open across the island, and Speldiburn Café and Bressay Heritage Centre specially opened for Sunday afternoon too. At Ham, where June and Bernard Redman and Jo Smith stay, visitors could see beautiful gardens created by the family, and rest on the many hand-built chairs and benches. Indoors visitors enjoyed the grape-vine filled glasshouse and numerous artworks on display, including by some very well-known Shetland artists. Rozanne Perdu also opened her lovely garden, with flowers blooming in the September sunshine, and shared her skilled painting, drawing and craft in a pop-up display in her home. Jonathan Wills also welcomed visitors to Sundside to admire his fantastic vegetable plots and enjoy the well-developed garden. At the north of the island, Heather Christie's home studio was open, showcasing framed works, prints and drawings, and works in progress. Also at Utsikten, Malcolm Innes transformed a caravan into 'The Light Box', a fantastically immersive and interactive space to show his inspiring light art projects. There was lots of creativity on show at Speldiburn too, home to resident creatives Midwinter Yarns, Aimee Labourne and RAM Knitwear, who excitingly gave visitors a look at a brand new Shima Seiki whole-garment knitting machine. This is the most northerly fine gauge machine of its type installed in the UK, and will be a huge development for the company. Visitors also enjoyed a pop-up display by Edina Széles, who displayed her stunning paintings, textile art and ceramics, and brought a beautiful loom and spinning wheel for visitors to have a go.

Thank you to all our participants for generously giving their time and sharing their space, and thank you to all the weekend's visitors for making it such an enjoyable two days.

Bressay defibrillator locations

- Speldiburn - outside the front entrance
- Bressay Ferry - onboard the Leirna
- Pelagia fish factory - outside the canteen door

Bressay Hall - What Next?

The new Hall committee formed in January this year and have been discussing a number of possible improvements ever since. The first changes we have planned are to move Speldiburn’s unused deep fat fryer over to the Hall to improve the kitchen on fish and chip nights and to add acoustic panels to the upper walls and ceiling in the main Hall, we know that other Halls have seen a great improvement to their sound quality by adding these panels. We expect this to be done this winter. The repairs to the outside rendering begun under the previous committee has continued this year.

However, before we go further we would like to hear what everyone else thinks are the most important areas the committee should focus on. We have attached a survey to this newsletter and hope to hear from as many folk as possible. Please complete the questionnaire - we really do value your thoughts. Completed questionnaires can be returned to Speldiburn, the Mail Shop or emailed to bressaypublichall@gmail.com. Thank you!

Wool Week

Thank you to everyone who loaned items or helped install the exhibits for our Wool Week exhibition at Speldiburn - it was a busy couple of weeks! The knitwear looked beautiful and was very much appreciated by our visitors.



Finger less gloves donated by Hazel Anderson and knitted by her aunt, Annie Stove of Newhall. Elizabeth Edwards boarding a jumper knitted by her mother, Stella Sutherland.

Bressay History Group News

Ham Phone box. Bressay History Group has taken ownership of the phone box at Ham. We are keen to hear as many views on its possible future use. Back in 2020 BDL received a number of suggestions which included: visitor information (particularly focused on walks and attractions at the south end of Bressay), temporary sound or art installations, book exchange, defibrillator. Some folk have noted that there’s no parking at the Ham kiosk so it is better suited to the sort of things that might be attractive to walkers (or don’t encourage folk to stop their car) and that the Galley Shed might be a better site for a 2nd defibrillator. We also like the idea of the kiosk being one stop on a Bressay audio trail. Maybe you’re happy for it to remain as a quirky but empty point of interest. Let us know your thoughts.

Bressay Stone Project. Our work with UHI Shetland and the Shetland Museum towards returning the Bressay Stone and corresponding exhibition in the Heritage Centre has evolved into a wider project to update the visitor areas in the Centre. Bressay Heritage Centre will be thirty years old next year, so this feels like a very appropriate time for a re-vamp. The photos below give an impression of some of what we hope to achieve.

The next Bressay History Group meeting takes place on the 5th of November at 7.30pm, so if you are interested in being involved in any aspect of our work please come along.



The new look Heritage Centre interior. Looking south to the patio doors, this view includes the planned Bressay Stone display which includes a full size artist’s recreation of the original Stone.

Den a days



The first Warden of Noss; Jonathan Wills. These photos were taken in 1970 by Georges Larondelle.

Aimee & Jo’s farewell!

Thanks to everyone we’ve worked with during our time as development officers for making our role at BDL such an enjoyable one. Aimee will be continuing her role as a community resource centre worker for the ICAN Climate network and would welcome your ideas to help us develop climate related activities and resources at Speldiburn. She will also give voluntary time to look after the arts and crafts. Jo will continue with the Wednesday Social Group afternoons, partnering with invaluable community support from our local Red Cross. She will also give voluntary time to assist events such as the Community Land Festival open mic event and keen to volunteer help in any way she can with growing projects. For the above roles both with still be contactable via BDL email: info@bressay.org

Ella’s Park

The official opening of Ella’s Park took place on the 26th of July along with the unavailing of the winner of the logo competition - congratulations to Patty Mason. The Sunday Tea’s held on the 3rd of August raised £727 towards future projects at the Park.



Patty Mason with committee members Louise Anderson, Katrina Christie and Katrina Gifford and Patty’s lovely wining logo.



Bressay Garden Show

The annual Bressay Garden & Produce Show took place on Sunday the 31st of August with visitors to the Hall presented with a fantastic display of flowers, vegetables, photos, junior art, home baking and jams. Beatrice Lowe was awarded the Anderson Best Vegetable Exhibit for her huge purple and green cabbage, and Jonathan Wills won the trophy for the Best Basket of Vegetables, plus most points overall. David Manson won the much-coveted Tattie Cup. The other trophy winners were Estelle Hughes, Ishbel Bremner, Amanda Sinclair, June Redman, John Bateson, Sheila Tulloch and Joanna Smith. Jonathan Wills was awarded Best in Show. Magnus Tulloch won the Junior Shield for his brilliant photo of his Grandad Harry and peerie brother Lowrie. Ella Tulloch won Best Junior Floral Exhibit. Thank you to all the bairns who entered, your entries in all categories looked lovely and it was great to see such creativity – well done to you all.

The kitchen team were busy throughout the afternoon, donations towards the delicious home bakes and raffle raised a total of £729.36 towards Bressay Development Ltd.'s community projects. The 'Tattie in a Bucket' competition saw heaviest crop of tatties won by Charlie Christie-Henry and largest number of tatties won by Estelle Hughes.

We would like to thank the judges, Adrien Labouinne (fruit & vegetables), Marion Armitage (food), Ruth Archer (floral) and Colin Smith (photography) for their time & diligence. Thank you also to the many people who helped on the day to make such a lovely show.

Trophy Winners:

Best Pot Plant – Estelle Hughes
Best Floral Arrangement – Ishbel Bremner
Best Cut Flower – Joanna Smith
Best Basket of Vegetables – Jonathan Wills
Anderson Best Vegetable Exhibit – Beatrice Lowe
Hilltown Best Fruit Exhibit – June Redman
Tattie Cup – David Manson
Best Food Exhibit – Sheila Tulloch
Photography Cup – John Bateson
Rose Bowl - Amanda Sinclair
Best in Show – Jonathan Wills
Junior Shield any Exhibit – Magnus Tulloch
Most Points in Category F - Jonathan Wills



Colourful and ingenious knitted food entries!



Amanda Sinclair won the trophy for the best rose.



Ali Mason and her perfect gingerbread.



Ella Tulloch with her beautiful flower arrangement, flowers and foliage - the Hall looked splendidly colourful, with a little help to carry home her entries Ishbel Bremner with Hugh Tulloch, John Bremner and Diane MacLeod.