

THE BLETHER

the blether ['blɛðə] – the newsletter of the community of Hoy and Walls

ISSUE 42 AUGUST 2019

SEPTEMBER START FOR SCAPA FLOW MUSEUM PROJECT



Following a decision by Orkney Islands Council last month to take forward a revised project at Lyness, work to restore and improve the Scapa Flow Museum is set to begin in September.

This involves the restoration of the former oil pumping station at the heart of the museum, the enhancement of interpretation and displays, and the creation of a new extension which will house an exhibition space, café, toilet facilities and information areas.

After a competitive tendering exercise, the contract for the work has been awarded to Orkney Builders (Contractors) Ltd. The company's managing director, Stephen Kemp, said: "We're delighted to be involved with this construction project which is hugely important to the local community of Hoy and to Orkney's heritage. We look forward to working with the design team on this exciting and challenging contract."

Essential repairs to the Romney Hut and options for the Oil Tank will be developed as separate projects.

It has taken much longer than hoped to get to this point, but the fact that Orkney Islands Council and all the external funders - the National Lottery Heritage Fund, Historic Environment Scotland, the Orkney LEADER 2014-2020 programme, Highlands and Islands Enterprise and Museums Galleries Scotland - remain fully committed to the project is an indication of its significance both locally and nationally.

When works are complete the museum will once again be able to remain open into the winter, encouraging more visitors to the island throughout the year.

Meantime, the temporary exhibition in the Hoy Hotel, which is partly funded by the Island of Hoy Development Trust, together with the twice-weekly guided walks have received nearly 3,000 visitors so far this season.

The refurbished and extended museum is expected to re-open during the summer of 2021.

Jude Callister

Welcome to the forty-second issue of *THE BLETHER*.

This issue includes news and updates from the Museum, RNLI and the community.

See the 'Dates for Diaries' and Gable End programme for what's on, but do check dates and times nearer the event as some things do change.

Many thanks to all of the contributors to the forty-second issue and for the use of their photographs.

Contact details for further information or for contributions can be found on the back page.

Do please get in touch if you have anything you'd like to share with the community!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

HOY DANCERS LONGHOPE PLAYPARK	2
SCIENCE FESTIVAL EXHIBITION	3
WELL-BEING PROJECT	4
HOOLIE	5
COMMUNITY COUNCIL	6
WIND TURBINE COMMUNITY COUNCIL	7
DEAR DIARY	8
PARISH CHURCH NEWS FIRE AND RESCUE VISIT	9
GABLE END	10
NOTICEBOARD	12

SUMMER 2019 HOY REELS AND JIGS

May 10th: A small gathering of enthusiastic dancers gathered in Hoy Kirk on a bonnie evening for the first of the four summer monthly dance session. Quite a few had come over on the ferry from Stromness to join Hoy Dancers in the varied programme of dances on offer. I taught a new dance - Nifty Ninety - and it certainly will not be the first and last time as it was so much enjoyed. All too soon everyone was heading back home but there will be three more yet.



June 14th: Once again an enthusiastic group of dancers arrived at Hoy Kirk ready for the programme to unfold for another evening of Reels and Jigs. The highlight, for me, was to teach the dance I wrote earlier in the year - 'Our Heroes' which had only ever been danced by the pupils of North Walls School at their fundraising Ceilidh in May.

This was specially written for them to honour our Lifeboat crews past and present. I did promise the 'North Walls Peedie Ceilidh Group' that I would share the dance at the next Reels and Jigs. We had a very special dancer in our midst - a lady who walked to Hoy from Cornwall to raise awareness of dementia and danced.

July 19th: This was a very special Reels and Jigs as we had live music for the very first time in the seven years of these events. Craig Mainland, originally from Rousay, was willing to carry his accordion with the help of his dad with his PA system, on and off the

Graemsay to play for lots of different set dances which were mostly new to him. Craig is an experienced musician so Hoy Kirk rang with the sounds of lively tunes and a fantastic time was had by all. We danced the Orkney Eightsome Reel which was always danced in my young days but has more or less died out. Come along to the August Reels and Jigs and have a go as we certainly will be dancing it again as Craig agreed to come back again on 23rd August.

23rd August: At the time of writing, this one hasn't happened yet but the programme has been written, the band has a copy and a shopping list for supper written. Raffle prizes are being collected so the beginnings of our last session for 2019 is well underway. Really looking forward to it and welcoming a keen peedie dancer for her third session of Hoy Reels and Jigs - Andy's niece, Alice. Age is no barrier in dancing.

It really is great fun dancing in a unique venue with fantastic acoustics and a sloping dance floor! Thank you to **everyone** who has wholeheartedly supported Hoy Reels and Jigs!

Mabel j Besant
3rd August 2019

PS - the regular dancing on Monday evenings in the YM will begin on 9th September at 8pm. New dancers welcome. The first session is always an easy session to break in gently. Please ring me if you want further information. (791359).

UPDATE ON THE LONGHOPE PLAYPARK

To the Community of Hoy and Walls

I'm writing on behalf of the play park group, which was set up to help maintain the play park in St Colms Quadrant, to let everyone know what is currently happening with the play park.

While many things have been happening, we are still waiting for everything to be finalized before we start to repair and replace what is needed. One of the most important things to mention is that the roundabout is unlikely to be replaced before the end of the summer holidays. The reason for this is that we are still waiting for public liability insurance to be sorted out and we're also waiting for the go ahead from the council to start repairs. We're working with the council to sort out the

legalities to let us take over managing the play park, which means we will be able to repair, replace and maintain the play park a lot more easily.

Once everything has been sorted, we will be moving on with improving the play park and making it a more community friendly space. The play park is for all of the community and we aim to make it a space that everyone can enjoy together. As things progress we will keep everyone informed and then will be able to engage with the community to find out what you would like to get out of the play park.

Thank you for your patience in this matter!

Liz Train
on behalf of the Play Park group

SCIENCE FESTIVAL AT THE HOY KIRK—FRIDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER



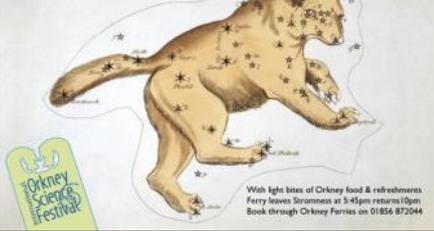
In the Steps of the Ice Bear

with wildlife author & photographer
MICHAEL LEACH

HOY KIRK FRIDAY 6 SEPT 6:30 - 9:30pm Free



& Astronomer Royal for Scotland
PROF. JOHN C BROWN



We're looking forward to another event from the Science Festival at Hoy Kirk. It's become something of an annual event, a boat load of folk come over and join in with islanders, have their minds expanded by some interesting talks, enjoy some free refreshments and light supper and return on the 10pm boat happy. All for free what's not to like!

This year we are welcoming the wildlife author and photographer Michael Leach with a talk on Polar bears.

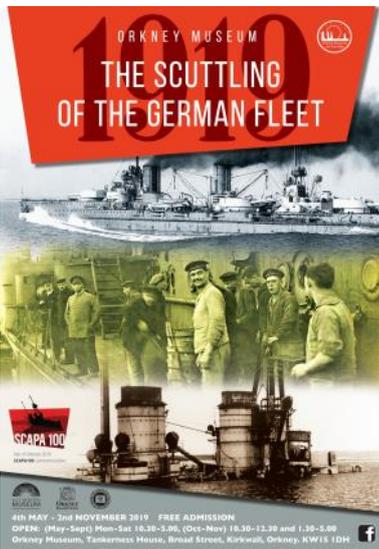
In the Steps of the Ice Bear. Polar bears, the super-predators of the frozen North, may vanish in our lifetime. The ice that supports them, in every sense, is becoming thinner.

This talk explores the life of the giant white bear that roams the Arctic wilderness, the seals upon which it depends and its turbulent relationship with humans. We discover its ancestors, the myths that surround it and consider its specialisation for a truly uncompromising environment.

We also welcome Astronomer Royal for Scotland Prof. John C Brown.

Ferry leaves Stromness 5:45pm. Starts at 6:30pm with a light supper. No booking, just come along. It is recommended that you book the ferry with Orkney ferries on 01856 872044

SUMMER EXHIBITION AT THE ORKNEY MUSEUM



Although the commemoration of the scuttling of the German Fleet is over, the summer exhibition at The Orkney Museum in Kirkwall telling the story and background of the event in 1918 runs until 2 November and entry is free.

It tells the story of the surrender and internment of the German fleet in 1918, life for the German sailors in Scapa Flow, and the circumstances before and after the scuttling in 1919. The subsequent salvage of the ships is also explored.

Among the objects on display are several items previously featured in ex-

hibitions at the Scapa Flow Museum at Lyness. They are joined by material which has never before been shown before, including a searchlight reflector from the German fleet, a vanity unit from a German ship with a fold-out wash basin and compartments for toiletries and shaving equipment plus a selection of small objects from HMS Vanguard from the beach at Rinnigill.

Documents and objects on loan from private individuals are also on display.

*Rachel Boak
Curator*

HOY KIRK—HERITAGE NIGHT

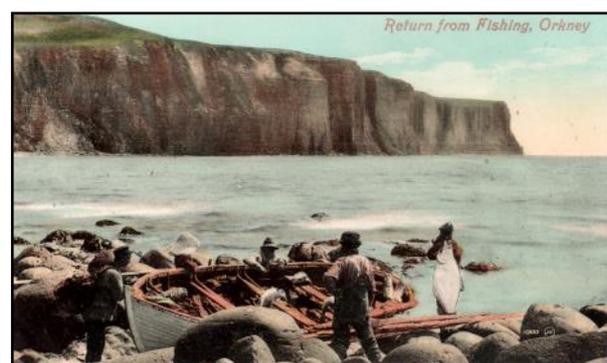
Heritage Night at Hoy Kirk

DATE: 4th October 2019

TIME: 19:00 – 21:30

LOCATION: Hoy Heritage Centre, Hoy Kirk

End of season Heritage Night at Hoy Kirk - Look out for further details - the usual warm welcome and intriguing programming! All welcome



ENHANCING WELL-BEING IN OUR ISLAND COMMUNITIES



ISLAND OF HOY DEVELOPMENT TRUST



EUROPE & SCOTLAND
European Social Fund
Investing in a Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Future

Hello!

And for the people of Hoy and Walls community I have yet to meet my name is Denize Lace, my career has been predominantly in Health and Social Care for the past forty years.

I passionately believe that every man woman and child has a right to access adequate health and social care provision when required regardless of where you live. In March I was appointed by IoHDT as the well-being co-ordinator for our local community. This 12 month (in the first instance) project was developed with the aim of addressing:

“ How can community led care solutions be implemented in the small islands communities?”

To answer this question a community led care project was undertaken in partnership between the Island Development Trusts of Hoy, Eday, Sanday, Shapinsay, Stronsay, Rousay, Egilsay and Wyre, the community council of Papa Westray, Robert Gordon University, Highlands and Islands Enterprise and Voluntary Action Orkney.

During preliminary research work, it was seen that there was a real need for island-based representatives to help co-ordinate, develop and facilitate non-regulated community care initiatives. The report also flagged up the need for the local health and care services on Orkney to work closely with the island communities in order to deliver community-led support. In conclusion the report suggested two recommendations;

1. The isles communities to continue to build and extend existing community services, including identifying the potential for the development of further services. The isles to also consider the potential for bringing services together into one community led care service.
2. Orkney Health and Care to identify the potential for close partnership working with communities, including co-production.

Each participating island, through the relevant Development Trust, has recruited a community **well-being co-ordinator** whose primary role is to look at existing services, assess how current services meet the need of the local community, identify gaps, develop and implement

a delivery plan to encourage community led groups to fill the gaps, and encourage development of new initiatives designed to enhance health and well-being in the local community.

We are fortunate to live on a beautiful and vibrant island but, unfortunately due to geography, some services on Hoy and Walls differ from the services available on the mainland- for example— there is no intermediate care team, no mobile responder, no formal night support, no care home and no extra care housing available.

My intention is to look at existing provisions of Healthcare services and find out what works, and then to look at potential options in regards to finding feasible and sustainable solutions to existing gaps in the provision of healthcare. My aim is to identify the potential for a co-production of care services to fill the gaps in healthcare provision whilst exploring the potential of new initiatives. I am examining the feasibility of personal care, respite and social care services being provided locally now that self-directed support options are available allowing people to have more choice in choosing a care provider.

At present Health and Social care in Orkney covers a vast umbrella of services and my intentions are to investigate these services and to see if it is feasible to access services that are not currently available on Hoy and Walls. While the report does focus predominantly on health care provision for the Elderly, I will be trying to look at all areas that potentially affect the health and well-being of the whole community.

As this is a local project designed to enhance the well-being of the community I would like to hear your thoughts or concerns regarding healthcare provision or any ideas or suggestions regarding any subject that you feel affect your well-being or the community's well-being. There will be regular drop-in sessions and you are welcome to call in at the Development Trust office for a chat and cuppa. If you'd prefer I would be happy to visit you at home.

If you'd like to contact me please call the Hoy Development Trust on 701356 to arrange a time and a place that suits you.

Denize Lace

SEPTEMBER 13TH AND 14TH—MINI HOOLIE

IT'S BACK.....

The Hoy Hoolie team have organized a one night music event and a children's fun day to raise funds for the Longhope Playpark. The Hoy half Hoolie takes place on **14th September** and will feature appearances from Billy Budge, Mabel Wong and The Chair. During the day on the Saturday, there will be a children's event with entertainment and face painting.

Raising funds for the Longhope Play Park



SATURDAY
14 SEPTEMBER
YM HALL
Doors & Bar open 7.00pm
Start 8pm
 Adults £12
 under 18 £1.00

Free Campsite
 Shore Cafe Open Saturday 10am-5pm

MABEL WONG
 BILLY BUDGE



Friday 13 September **POET OF THE IMPOSSIBLE**
 8pm The Gable End Theatre

Tickets for Saturday night available at Groat's Shop and online @ www.hoyhoolie.com

LORENZO "TONI" NOVANI PRESENTS

POET OF THE IMPOSSIBLE

"ASTOUNDING... WORKS HIS MAGIC WITH WORDS AS WELL AS DEEDS"
 HONGKAI REVIEW

"MYSTICAL PROSE"
 CULTURE TRIP

"COMPELLING"
 WORLD MAGIC REVIEW

★★★★★
 BROADWAY BABY

Verbal wizardry meets magic and mentalism.
 Prepare to be spellbound.

FRI 13 SEPTEMBER, 8pm
 A Mini Hoolie event, in partnership with loHDT
 TICKETS £10/ACCOMPANIED SCHOOL-AGE £1
 Phone 791312 or email gable.end.theatre@gmail.com to book

The team have also linked up with the Gable End Theatre's **Friday 13th September** event, Poets of the Impossible—a playwright, poet and magician, Scots-Italian Lorenzo Novani, performing a combination of stories, his own poems and some incredible magic tricks. Call 01856 791312 to book for Friday night.

Tickets for both evening events are limited so please get them early to avoid disappointment. All children 14 years of age and under must be accompanied by an adult.

For Saturday night, tickets will NOT be available on the door on the night, only pre ordered tickets are available for this event so please come prepared.

Tickets can be bought online (please copy the link and paste into your browser <https://bit.ly/2Zlc5r2>) or you can purchase them at JMF Goat & Sons on Hoy. You do not need to book for the kids day, just come along and enjoy!

As ever, all events are family friendly so please book for everyone. You can keep an eye on what's happening with the half Hoolie by visiting our Facebook group and the website.

Finally folks, we can't wait to do it again and we're excited to see you all soon!

Hoy Hoolie organisers

HOY 1/2 HOOLIE Kids Free Fun Day
 YM Longhope
 Saturday 14th
 September

To Raise Funds for the Longhope Playpark

Children of all Ages Welcome

Facepainting with Lianne
 11:00-12:00
 &
 13:30-14:30

Party Funtime
 Orkney
 Circus Activities & Games
 12:00-13:30

Shore Cafe
 10:00-17:00

KIDS DAY

WHAT DOES THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL DO?

The Community Council consists of seven members who currently are:

Grace Robertson, acting Chair and Planning Representative
 Colin Bates, Transport Representative
 Alex Sinclair
 Rachel Thomson, Deputy Transport Representative
 Jayne Traynor
 Adam Clark

The seventh member of the Council was Moira Groat (Chair) who sadly died a few months ago.

They are elected by the Community, the elections being held by Orkney Islands Council, via postal vote to everyone on the electoral register in Graemsay, Hoy and Walls. The role is entirely voluntary and members receive no expenses. The Community Council is a voluntary organisation that exists within a statutory framework and although strongly linked and work very closely with the Council are NOT part of the Council.

Eighteen months ago, the administrative role of Community Council Clerk was replaced with the role of Island Link Officer. This encompasses the role of Clerk, plus any further tasks asked for by either the Community Council members or Democratic Services, OIC. The Island Link Officer post is intended to support the Empowering Communities Liaison Officer in OIC and to develop and implement new service delivery mechanisms on the island, working with the Community Council and other local groups to deliver a range of Council services locally. The Island Link Officer (ILO) is tasked to be a communication link by liaising with OIC, the Community Council and a range of organisations and stakeholders. OIC will normally arrange any public meetings i.e. the Hoy Wind Farm meetings via the CC, plus any drop in sessions such as the meeting with the OIC recycling team. On top of this, the Community Council is often invited to third party meetings plus would arrange any for visiting Officers from OIC.

The CC has limited funds of grant money available throughout the year, they are:

Community Council Grant Scheme (CCGS): Many voluntary organisations apply annually to this fund to cover such costs as building insurance, cost of hiring films etc
General funds: These are to cover costs of Remembrance Days Wreathes, annual trips, travel costs for the local school etc

Community Development Fund: This money has funded such items as pagers and training equipment for the ambulance crews, building repairs etc

Seedcorn Funding: Funds provided for start up business ideas.

The CC holds a finance meeting in June (although this

was delayed to August this year) where the money from the CCGS is allocated as it is an annual budget and has to be spent within the tax year. The other funds are available on a rolling basis and are not tied to financial years.

The CC also has responsibility for the maintenance of the 4 kirkyards i.e. Osmandwall, St Johns, Hoy and Graemsay. This involves tendering for the grass cutting and awarding a 3 year contract, the Clerk then liases with those cutting the grass and reports back any other issues such as gates/walls that need repairing.

The Island of Orkney Tourist Brochure: each year the Clerk advertises locally if there are any new entries, amendments and deletions from the previous years brochure, this is then passed back to OIC who issue final proofs for checking before they are reprinted.

Each year the CC is allocated a small amount of funding for the transport of aggregate, the scheme is advertised, shipment arranged and members decide on the allocation. Then the paperwork is raised and those who have been allocated aggregate informed.

Bag the Bruck: every year the CC get £300 to give to organisations that take part in this annual clean up. The school, youth club, lifeboat guild, Graemsay community association and RSPB have all taken part in the past.

Scrap car scheme: At certain times there may be funding to allow scrap cars to be taken from the island with the cost of removal being paid for by the CC.

With the advent of the Island Link Officer other things have been taking place:

Opening of the Island Link Office: The Island Link Officer has an office in the Development Trust offices and tries to open at least once a week, here and also at other points round the island (see advert at the end of this article). Members of the public are welcome to come to the office if they have any ideas for the Community Council, want any information on the schemes above, want to report any issues with anything.

Community Resilience Project: With OIC guidance the CC initiated a project group to look at what would happen in the event of an emergency on the island which could be brought about by weather, loss of communications, power outage etc. Representatives from all the emergency services, the doctor and the Development Trust were invited along. The plan is still in its early stages but the hope is that ultimately it will be a document that will be updated annually and will help the island cope in any emergency situations should they arise.

Recycling: The CC would also like to see more recycling facilities at Lyness i.e. for plastics, for cardboard etc. Currently, there is a year long trial in Stronsay for plastics recycling, if successful OIC may extend this to other is-

(Continued on page 7)

COMMUNITY TURBINE GENERATOR—UPDATE



As many will have noticed the community Turbine has been out of action numerous times over recent months - so here's an update as to what's been

happening and what's coming next!

The Rackwick cable outage of February to July of this year resulted in our turbine being regularly constrained over this period, with levels of curtailment reaching 80% at times, following the cable repair grid access is back to normal. The turbine was also completely out of action for a week in early July for the scheduled 'four year major service' which further affected our cumulative generation levels.

During the service operation faulty generator coils were identified and 'bridged out' leaving any subsequent generation up to the 5th of August being clipped by 25%. The turbine was again 'locked off' with an Enercon repair team attempting to repair the coils in situ - a process we expected to take three weeks, but has just been completed in under two.

Additionally, we have our first major service of the rotor blades a process that usually takes between one and four weeks dependent on what the inspection uncovers, what remedial work is required and indeed what the weather will allow.

Based on the above it is perhaps expected that we are projecting our financial performance to be well below average for this year, although we of course remain ever hopeful that a 'windy winter' will turn things around.

Whatever the remainder of the year brings Hoy Energy Ltd has sufficient operational reserves to support and maintain the turbine business activities and financial commitments for the foreseeable future, certainly beyond any worst case scenario this particular string of events is likely to create.

Of course the project's ability to produce a trading surplus for the Development Trust will likely be diminished, but the IloHDT has been kept fully informed over recent months and indeed have already made known to us their plans for contingency.

If anyone has any questions please feel free to email.

Brian Clegg
Operations Director
Hoy Energy Ltd
brian.clegg@btconnect.com

COMMUNITY COUNCIL CONTINUED

lands.....watch this space. Recently a battery recycling point was established in the Lyness waiting room and this will soon be joined by a recycle box for old writing materials. Please check what items can be placed in the box. These will be recycled via Orphir Community School who are now a Terracycle collection point. Northwalls School will also be recycling crisp packets and biscuit wrappers via the same scheme, it is hoped to arrange other collection points.

Liaison with other groups: The ILO role is also one of communicating with other groups, particularly the Development Trust, to ensure that efforts on various issues are not duplicated.

And then there is always something else cropping up.....remember when the War Memorial was repaired a few years back? All arranged by the Community Council and funded via the War Memorial Trust and the Island of Hoy Development Trust!

And finally after 12 years as Community Council Clerk and latterly Island Link Officer I decided it was time for a change and at the end of March 2019 resigned. I am pleased to say the new Island Link Officer is Kim Dobrynski who started in the role in June 2019. Keep a look out for details from the Community Council from Kim.

Trish Avis

Island Link Officer

*The Island Link Officer which encompasses the role of
Community Council Clerk for Graemsay, Hoy and Walls
Community Council.*

Office Opening times from Tuesday 20th August

Every Tuesday 14.30 to 17.30
Development Trust Office, Longhope

Every Wednesday 14.30 till 17.00
Waiting Room, Lyness

The Hoy Centre, Hoy
Thursday 21st August 2-4pm
(Alternate weeks thereafter)

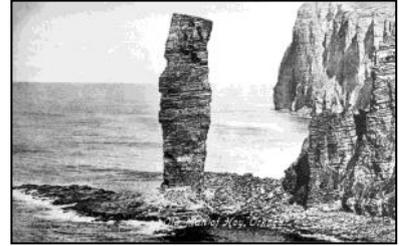
**If anyone would prefer an evening visit I am
more than happy to make an appointment.**

For further details please contact Kim Dobrynski 701402

Email ilohoywalls@gmail.com

DEAR DIARY.....

Diary entries from one of our famous locals: The Old Man of Hoy ☺



Dear Diary,

Well the sun's out, the sky's blue, and the flowers are bloomin' marvelous (there's a few on me head as well). Finally the temperature has reached the 'not-freeze-your-nose-off' stage (although, go out on the wrong day and the wind will definitely blow your hat off, or at least give you the classic and coveted 'island-hair' look) and summer has arrived. Which is great for some I'm sure but NOT for me. Nope. 'Cos you know what this attracts? Climbers. Annoying little humans that find it amusing to clamber all over me-up and down, constantly, day after day. -and for some reason they seem to feel a sort of sense of achievement when they reach the top of my head, which, frankly I find bizarre. I mean, who on earth gets a kick from climbing a column of rock sticking out of the sea? I know I'm the 'Tallest sea-stack in Great Britain' and all that, but really?

Dear Diary,

Today was fairly uneventful. This morning there was another swathe of those climbers (tut tut) and then I did a bit of whale spotting (to be honest, there's not much else to do from where I'm sat). Didn't spot anything though. I did notice that the waves were getting a wee bit choppier and there were a few angry-looking clouds so maybe a storm's on the way. Hmm, that'll be good. Chase those climbers away for sure. This afternoon I saw me good old friend, the Hamnavoe, who sails past me several times a day. I find he's not a particularly chatty guy, but he's perfectly pleasant and polite enough. Just thinking about it, even though he's sailed past me for years, I've got no clue where he's off to. He just sort of disappears round the headland and comes back the same way after a while. Actually now it really does make me wonder. Where on earth's he going?

Dear Diary,

You know I mentioned that there may be a storm brewing? Well boy, there was one HECK of a storm. I haven't been able to write in my diary ALL WEEK because the pages were too soggy. The rain was HORRENDOUS and so was the wind. It howled and the thunder growled and the waves thrashed and bashed me- (Ooo look! I've gone all poetic!). It's a pain though as well, 'cos with me being made mostly of 'Old Red Sandstone' (though less of the old mind you,- I'm only 400) rough weather like this makes me a wee bit crumbly, so there's a chance I wake up the day after a storm and, um, whoopsies, I'm missing a chunk of myself. Still, I'm suppose it's how you all became to be graced with my glorious presence.

Dear Diary,

Well, I started off today in a good mood. The storm seemed to have freshened everything up, and y'know what they say, 'sea air (which I've got plenty of) does you good' n'all that. I said 'mornin' to the Hamnavoe (nice chap he is) and settled down for a refreshing nap. Said refreshing nap was rudely interrupted and my good mood shattered by the most undignified squawking and flapping. Guess what? It was those blasted darned seabirds! They nest ALL OVER me, year on year- and they don't see if it's ok with me first. It would be nice if one day, one of them asked if they could build their home on me. But no. It's the same EVERY year. They don't even clean up after themselves- I mean, HOW disgusting! Absolutely no manners whatsoever. The only alright ones are those puffins, but they're not around much. Oh well. You've probably noticed I complain a lot. I suppose my mates don't call me grumpy 'Old Man' for nothing.

AJ

HOY AND WALLS PARISH CHURCH NEWS

Hoy & Walls Parish Church News

KIRK SALE



St Columba's and
Kirkside, Longhope
SC023194

Well the Kirk (summer) Sale finally went ahead on Sat 20th July and it was very successful. It was opened by Rev Dr Scott McKenna, a minister from Mayfield Salisbury Parish Kirk, Edinburgh who, with his wife Shelagh came and stayed in Kirkside for the month. Scott thought he was coming only to take services, but happily agreed to open the Sale too. There were many goods on offer and the tables were soon busy with the business of buying and selling.

Competition Winners:

Guess the Amount in the Money Jar – Lauren Garrett

No. of Sweets – Maggie Budge

Weight of the cake – Sarah McFadyen

Weight of the Elders – Kathleen McFadyen

(this fun competition caused many smiles, but Kathleen was so close, only a couple of pounds, not £s out)

I'm sorry I don't have the name of the winner of the whisky grid but hopefully they've had time to enjoy it along with everyone who won cake, sweeties etc.

Special thanks go to all the many folk who donated items for sale, to the ladies who came and helped out on the stalls and everyone who supported it on the night by coming and buying, trying the competitions and raffle and staying to enjoy the tea and homebakes which were provided for supper. The Sale raised £1100.

Ken Dodd, comedian (do you mind him?) used to say 'hhow hhappy I am', well can we say, 'hhow hhappy we are' such a wonderful amount and all because of your support.

Thank you muchly.

Jean Gillespie

SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE VISIT

Island firefighters recently hosted an event to shine a spotlight on the importance of fire safety in the home. A team from Scottish Fire and Rescue service visited Hoy to provide vital fire safety advice and to promote Home Fire Safety Visits. During the home visits, the firefighters identified potential hazards, passed on vital safety advice and installed free smoke detectors where appropriate.

They also stressed their ongoing commitment to recruiting firefighters and encouraged anyone interested in joining to contact their local fire station. If you would like more information about recruitment or fire safety visits get in touch with the fire station in Longhope and ask for details.



GABLE END THEATRE PROGRAMME SUMMER/AUTUMN



All performances start at 8pm, unless otherwise stated

SEPTEMBER

Fri 13

MAGIC: POETS OF THE IMPOSSIBLE

In partnership with IoHDT the first Mini Hoolie event is playwright, poet and magician, Scots-Italian Lorenzo Novani, who performs a compelling combination of stories, his own poems and some incredible magic tricks. This one-of-a-kind show, which has been touring the UK over the last year with stops at Brighton Fringe, Carlisle Fringe and most recently the International Magic Festival at The Scottish Storytelling Centre, features both visual and mentalistic impossibilities weaved together by stories and poetry. The words enchant, the magic defies explanation (and gravity).

TICKETS £10/ACCOMPANIED SCHOOL AGE £1

**BOOKINGS: Tel. HAZEL 791312
LICENCED BAR; RAFFLE**

Sat 21

FILM: RED JOAN (Cert. 12A)

Joan Stanley is a widow living out a quiet retirement in the suburbs when, shockingly, the British Secret Service places her under arrest. The charge: providing classified scientific information - including details on the building of the atomic bomb - to the Soviet government for decades. As the interrogation gets underway, Joan relives the dramatic events that shaped her life and her beliefs.

OCTOBER

Sat 5

FILM: EIGHTH GRADE (Cert. 15)

Thirteen-year-old Kayla endures the tidal wave of contemporary suburban adolescence as she makes her way through the last week of middle school -- the end of her thus far disastrous eighth-grade year.

Fri 11

MUSIC: AIDAN O'ROURKE & KIT DOWNES

Aidan O'Rourke, from the trio Lau (singer/guitarist Kris Drever, accordionist Martin Green) is a fiddler, composer, producer and one of the most influential folk musicians of his generation. **Kit Downes** is a BBC Jazz Award winning, Mercury Music Award nominated, solo recording artist for ECM Records, touring the world with artists such as Squarepusher, Thomas Strønen and Django Bates. This exciting new combination of their talents is not to be missed!

TICKETS £10/ACCOMPANIED SCHOOL AGE £1

**BOOKING: Tel. HAZEL 791312
LICENCED BAR; RAFFLE**

Sat 19

FILM: WOMAN AT WAR (Cert. 12A)

Halla is a 50-year-old environmental activist who crusades against the local aluminium industry in Iceland. As her actions grow bolder, her life changes in the blink of an eye when she is finally granted permission to adopt a girl from the Ukraine.

GABLE END THEATRE PROGRAMME SUMMER/AUTUMN CONTINUED



All performances start at 8pm, unless otherwise stated

Sat 26

MUSIC: GNOSS

All current and former students of the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, Graham Rorie, Aidan Moodie, Connor Sinclair and Craig Baxter have been tipped as 'ones to watch' by Songlines magazine for their lively, engaging and honest performances. This dynamic four-piece of fiddle, flute, guitar and percussion, Gness tackles energetic tune sets and driving folk song with a 'maturity of ability many of a greater age will envy' (The Living Tradition).

TICKETS £10/ACCOMPANIED SCHOOL AGE £1

BOOKING: Tel. HAZEL 791312

LICENCED BAR; RAFFLE

NOVEMBER

Sat 2

FILM: ROCKETMAN (Cert. 15)

A fever dream musical, exploring Elton John's early years as a young boy and his piano to extravagant superstar famed the world over. Framed through Elton's scant recollections and musical songbook after a stint in rehab, Rocketman delivers an exuberant and flamboyant dramatic punch.

Fri 15

FILM/MUSIC: AIR LOMALL

A film and suite of new music inspired by a voyage aboard the tall ship Wyld Swan to some now uninhabited islands deep in the North Atlantic, some of Scotland's most remote, and remarkable places. The film is centered around the first performance of this new music on St Kilda on the 88th anniversary of the evacuation of its native population.

Sat 16

FAMILY FILM: KIND HEARTS AND CORONETS (Cert. U). 6.00pm

When his mother eloped with an Italian opera singer, Louis was cut off from her aristocratic family. After the family refuses to let her be buried in the family mausoleum, Louis avenges his mother's death by attempting to murder every family member (all played by Alec Guinness) who stands between himself and the family fortune. But when he finds himself torn between his long-time love and the widow of one of his victims, his plans go awry.

Sat 30

FILM: BALLOON (Cert. 12A)

This follows the crossing of the inner German border by the families Strelzyk and Wetzel from the GDR to West Germany in the summer of 1979. Desperate to leave the GDR, they flee in a homemade hot-air balloon.

ADVANCE NOTICE THAT THE ANNUAL HAWEG PANTOMIME WILL TAKE PLACE ON FRIDAY 6 & SATURDAY 7 DECEMBER, SO SAVE THE DATE!

The calendar will continue to fill up, so keep checking the Events Calendar on www.hoyorkney.com and if you would like to be on our email mailing list, please get in touch at gable.end.theatre@gmail.com

NOTICEBOARD

HOY AND WALLS HEALTH CENTRE

Telephone: 01856 701209 Web: www.hoydoc.co.uk

Day	Dr am	Dr pm	Nurse	Notes
Monday	0900-1030	1745-1915	0900-1000**	
Tuesday		1300-14.30	0900-1000**	
Wednesday	0900-1100***	1400-15.30	0900-1000**	***blood tests
Thursday	0900-1030		0900-1000**	
Friday	0900-1030† 1000-11.00*	1745-1915	0900-1000**	†Longhope 1st, 3rd & 5th Friday; *Hoy 2nd and 4th Friday

**Nurse usually available at these times but please ring for an appointment

Appointments and Prescriptions

The Hoy and Walls Health Centre will be open Monday to Friday 9 am to 1 pm and during surgery hours. Please call within these times to arrange an appointment and request prescriptions. Please ensure that you give **5 working days** notice for repeat prescriptions.

Emergencies

In case of an emergency, phone 01856 701209.

When the surgery is closed call Balfour Hospital 01856 888000 and ask the operator to bleep the Hoy GP.

Useful phone numbers

Health Centre	01856 701209
Doctor - out of hours and for emergencies	01856 888000
Island of Hoy Development Trust	01856 701356
North Walls Community School	01856 791246
YM	01856 701824
Hoy Centre	01856 791256
Orkney Islands Council	01856 873535



ask them to page the Hoy doctor

**Travelling**

Community bus mobile	07833777760
Houton Ferry office	01856 811397
Kirkwall Ferry Office	01856 872044
Northlink	0845 600 0449
Pentland Ferries	0800 688 8998
Taxi/Tours - Albert Clark	01856 791315
Taxi/Tours - Steve Rhodes	01856 701632

**Shopping**

JMF Groat - shop	01856 701273
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Registered in Scotland as a charity (SC038909)

Company Limited by guarantee (SC306586)

Registered Office: 8 Albert Street, Kirkwall, Orkney KW15 1HP

Date: 18th September
Time: 8.00 pm
Venue: North Walls Centre



Island of Hoy Development Trust

FOR ANYONE WHO IS INTERESTED AND WOULD LIKE TO COME ALONG

If you have any queries or questions, please contact Debs prior to the meeting

Debs 701444 or chair.iohdt@gmail.com



WEATHER ROUND UP FOR FEBRUARY, MARCH AND APRIL 2019



February

Total rainfall for month 111.2mm

Highest rainfall in 24hrs. 18.7mm on 1st.

Highest max. temp. 15.4c on 21st.

This is the highest Feb. max. I have ever recorded.

Lowest max. temp. 3.7c on 1st.

Ave. max. temp. 9.9c

Lowest min. temp. -0.6c on 2nd.

Highest min. temp. 10.0c on 22nd.

Ave. min. temp. 4.3c

Ave. temp. for Feb. 7.1c

March

Total rainfall for month 109.4mm

Highest rainfall in 24hrs. 11.0mm on 14th.

Highest max. temp. 12.5c on 28th.

Lowest max. temp. 6.6c on 6th and 10th.

Ave. max. temp. 9.0c

Lowest min. temp. -0.6c on 12th

Highest min. temp. 8.6c on 27th.

Ave. min temp. 2.7c

Ave. temp. for March 5.8c

April

Total rainfall for month 38.6mm

Highest rainfall in 24hrs. 17mm on 2nd.

Highest max. temp. 19.2c on 23rd.

Lowest max. temp. 7.8c on 3rd.

Ave. max. temp. 12.3c

Lowest min. temp. -1.6c on 2nd.

Highest min. temp. 9.9c on 18th.

Ave. min. temp. 4.9c

Ave. temp. for April 8.6c

Jeff Clark

(We'll catch up on the weather next time! Ed.)

THE BLETHER®

If you have something to contribute or ideas for the newsletter then please contact Debs or Vincent:

Phone: 01856 701444

Email: debs@theblether.org.uk; vincent@theblether.org.uk

Snail mail: Loft, Longhope, KW16 3PQ

Items for inclusion in the next issue (October) must be submitted by 10th October 2019