

# THE BLETHER

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

ISSUE 31 FEBRUARY 2017

## TEA COSY PARTY RAISES £540 FOR BREAST CANCER CHARITY



On a horrid wet, windy day – Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February, I put on the kettle to welcome guests to my Big Tea Cosy in aid of Breast Cancer Haven. The venue was in the comfort of a cosy Gable End Theatre.

What a super day we all had knitting, nattering and having refreshments. There were lots on offer with a sales table, silent auction, raffle and a guess the Wednesday Bonus Ball. A lovely peedie display of the knitted tea cozies, on a variety of tea pots, adorned the

cake table. The unbelievable sum of £540 is winging its way to the central fundraisers in Yorkshire.

This is what Rebecca Thompson, Fundraising Assistant at Breast Cancer Haven wrote after I let her know our total on Wednesday morning – more came in after!

*Hi Mabel*

*Wow what a fantastic total, you've done amazingly well! Thank you so much for sending the pictures through, it looks like you had a wonderful time. I'm*

*so glad everything went well, it sounded like such a lovely way to get the community together. You should be really proud, £430\* is a really impressive amount and way above the average made at individual Tea Cosies! [\*total increased after Mabel was in contact].*



Heartfelt thanks all who donated raffles & goods for the sales table, dropped in, knitted and gave their time and money to such a worthwhile cause. I enjoyed every minute of the relaxing day.

*Mabel Besant*

**Welcome to the thirty-first issue of *THE BLETHER*.**

*The October issue includes news and updates from the School, the Museum 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 thirty-first 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!*

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## SCAPA FLOW VISITOR CENTRE AND MUSEUM



### Scapa Flow Visitor Centre and Museum

Tel: 01856 791300

Located a few minutes' walk from the Lyness ferry terminal the museum is centred around the former oil fuel pumping station at Lyness Naval Base. The exhibition illustrates the importance of Scapa Flow as a base for the British fleet throughout history, concentrating on its role during two world wars. The popular Pumhouse Cafe is open April - October.

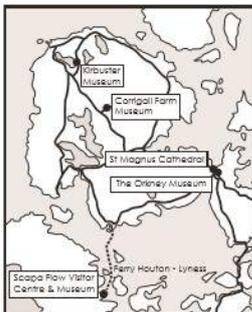
#### OPENING HOURS

March - April: Mon - Sat 10.00 - 16.30

May - Sep: Mon - Sun 10.00 - 16.30

October: Mon - Sat 10.00 - 16.30

#### ADMISSION FREE



Many thanks to everyone who came along to our Community Consultation day at the end of last season. After months of working hard on the proposals for redevelopment of the museum it was great to see so much local support for our plans. We were seeking feedback on what people value about the museum as it is today as well as what they wish to see in the future and were particularly keen to find out if, and how, local folk value the presence of the museum on the island.

The reaction to the proposals has been overwhelmingly positive. 98% of respondents thought that the museum has a positive effect on the island:

"As an accommodation provider I know that the museum is an important draw for visitors"

"Boosts the economy and provides jobs"

"This is a place to share our history that is NOT available anywhere else, many visitors come to Hoy especially to see this exhibition"

"Spin-off business to local shop, hotels and Community Bus"

"It is a very important part of our history as an island and a community"

"A fabulous museum - let's make it better by giving it the facilities it needs!"

Many of those who responded felt strongly that the stories told gained immeasurably from being presented in original wartime buildings. When asked what they liked about the museum as it is today, typical responses are:

"The atmosphere in the old buildings"

"The old machinery in the Pumhouse"

"It still retains the feel of a wartime facility"

Unsurprisingly, most commented on the state of the existing buildings when asked what they felt needed improvement, the most frequent answer being a very heartfelt reference to the temperature inside, which was 8°C with 98% humidity on the day, making tea and cake in the café even more enticing! Unfortunately, the winter weather has taken a further toll on the buildings and the Oil Tank is likely to remain closed for the time being. However, with our final grant application being submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund on 3 March, just after we reopen for the 2017 season, we are hopeful that exciting times for the museum are just over the horizon.

Jude Callister

## YOUR ISLAND, YOUR CHOICE—HOY

### Your Island Your Choice



VAO were awarded funding from Community Choices Fund, with contributions from community planning partners, to deliver the **Your Island Your Choice**

**small grants programme** - in which each of the island communities decide for themselves which projects are needed on their island.

Two applications were received for the Hoy fund. On **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 7.30 pm at the Shore**, there will be an event where the applicants will briefly

outline what they would like to use the funds for. This is your chance to make the decision as to who receives funding. All are welcome and there will be refreshments, including pancakes!

Successful bidders will be announced at the end of the event

**Remember, YOUR COMMUNITY, YOUR MONEY, YOUR DECISION!!**

A second fund is now available (deadline Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March) for bids that involve two or more islands—see page 10 for more details.

## AN ROUND-UP OF 2016 WEATHER

### Data for 2016

Rainfall total for year 1,325mm (50")

29 year ave. 1,258mm (48.7")

Wettest month January 311.7mm (12.15")

This is the highest monthly total ever recorded in Orkney since records began in 1841.

Highest rainfall total in 24hrs. 52.4mm on 7th. Jan.

Driest month May 52.1mm

Warmest month Sept. ave. temp. 13.8c

Coldest month Feb. ave. temp. 4.2c

Highest max. temp. 22.4c on 10th May and 19th July

Lowest max. temp. 3.0c on 19th. Jan.

Lowest min. temp. -4.2c on 19th. Jan.

Highest min. temp. 14.1c on 19th. July.

14.7c recorded on Dec. 7th. is the highest Dec. temp. I've ever recorded.

Ave. temp. for 2016 was 9.0c

29 year ave. temp. is 8.85c

*Jeff Clark*

## STOP PRESS

Magnus Thomson has got in touch to say that he has decided to stand for election in May to Orkney Islands Council. He is hoping to visit everybody's house in the next few weeks to have a chat and to see what people want for their island. I'm sure he would be happy to hear from anyone who has any queries or just wants a blether!

*DJ*

## COUNCIL COMMENT



## Budget Setting

Were you one of the 375 people who tried the 'Budget Simulator' that OIC piloted this year? If so it would have given you a little insight into a process that has been taking up a fair bit of Councillors and council officials time since mid-January, culminating in a protracted 'special' meeting on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February.

With the Scottish Government not releasing full details of the grant settlement until the beginning of the month we have been trying to compile a budget around some strong financial principles and some 'best guesses'. The responses generated by the simulator were also being taken into account as we tried to 'take a steer' from the public. The headline comments we considered were to protect the Education and Social Care Services as far as possible, increase income by raising charges and the Council Tax and 'dip into' the Strategic Reserve Fund (Oil Fund) to 'balance' the books. Although the latter is undoubtedly doable, and we did, it is a tactic that is generally considered to be unsustainable as, in effect; we're living out with our means and, as one council officer put it, using our savings to pay for our groceries. On top of all that we had to consider what were statutory requirements for the Council to provide and what were discretionary – nice to do but could we afford it.

In the run up to Thursday's meeting much of the debate centred around what we did for our old and young folk, so if you're in the 20 – 60 y.o. age range – sorry! We discussed and debated whether we should continue to provide free instrumental tuition and free use of council owned instruments, how we should configure non statutory education services, how we provide and utilise school transport, how we provide transport for the elderly, how we fund the voluntary sector and how

we continue to support organisations that help the elderly and provide services that often go 'unnoticed' in the bigger scheme of things.

The real difficult part that the public don't really see, and that the Budget Simulator couldn't help with, is when savings, and or cuts, (depending how you look at it) affects peoples jobs. As each council department makes saving suggestions we also get told what it would mean to the workforce. The easy suggestions to agree to are those that don't impact on staff numbers whilst it's definitely harder to consider those that do, particularly if, as mentioned earlier, they're part of a non-statutory function.

The headlines from Thursday's meeting, as far as I'm concerned, and it'll be interesting to see how it comes out in the media, were a Scottish Government grant of £67.079m, an OIC budget of £81.976m, an increase in Band D Council Tax of 3% (with government imposed multipliers meaning a greater than 3% increase for band E and above), a Strategic Reserve Fund contribution to the budget of some £7m (an increase of £3.1m), a general increase to council charges by 3% and no increase to ferry fares. It was also noted that this was a 'one year' settlement and that Councillors and officials would like to see the Scottish Government giving an extended settlement (3 years minimum) that would enable Local Authorities to plan ahead.

All in all it's been an eventful time since the Christmas break with a fair bit of 'soul searching' as we try to balance the books. Hopefully we've got it right and that we can continue to provide the services that the people of Orkney want, and deserve.

*Cllr Rob Crichton*

## COUNCIL COMMENT—UPDATE FROM HARBOURS

The Harbours sub-committee have earmarked in excess of 6 million pounds to be spent for small repairs and maintenance of our 29 piers and harbours over the next few years. Some of this work is long overdue. Now that Orkney Harbours is in a considerably better financial position we have decided to commit to a planned maintenance program. The following is the work scheduled for next year which may be of interest.

**Moaness:-** an initial lighting survey has been completed and as a result the whole pier lighting, access pier and car park lighting system is going to be renewed and upgraded to energy efficient LED type lighting. This will reduce any light pollution yet at the same time improve the levels of lighting on the pier and hence general safety for people using the ferry service. The work to fill the voids is now complete so the structure is in much better condition.

**Lyness:-** really depends on the ongoing investigation and feasibility work being carried out in conjunction with DSM ie: the decommissioning base. We are at a stage where consultants are working on

how to carry out any remediation of the site (ground oil contamination). We can confirm that FenderCare have relinquished the lease on their area and this is now back under the direct control of the Harbour Authority.

**Longhope:-** nothing planned for this pier for the next year, apart from any “normal” on-going maintenance requirements

**Houton:-** having just completed repainting the linkspan and renewing all of the linkspan hydraulic power systems there is nothing further planned at this stage. The works on the private pier that Flotta Oil Terminal use is due for completion in the next month. Otherwise the only work planned is “normal” ongoing maintenance works – which will include some white lining, signage works around the Houton marshalling area.

*James Stockan  
Chair of Harbours sub-committee.*



### Find out more about The Island of Hoy Development Trust!

**We have distributed a number of sheets for you to fill out your details on if you wish to get more information about the Trust, for example, what's happening on Hoy and Walls that the Trust is involved in, how you can engage and contribute, and how you may be able to get support from us.**

**You will find sheets at various locations, including:**

**JMF Groats  
The Hoy Head  
The Doctors Surgery  
The Hoy Kirk  
North Walls Community Room**

**\*\*\*Alternatively, you can sign up via the 'Island of Hoy Development Trust Email Sign Up' tab on our Facebook home page. (Only available via desktop site)\*\*\***

**The Trust will safely store your contact details and will not pass these on to any third parties. For more information on our Data Protection Statement, please follow the link below.**

## NORTH WALLS SCHOOL NEWS

We are in the middle of another busy term here at North Walls Community School and as ever, it is great to be able to share our news with the wider community.

### Staff news

Our clerical assistant, Sarah Firth, will be leaving us soon to begin her maternity leave. While we are sad that Sarah will be leaving us for a time, we join her with thoughts of excitement and happiness for what the future holds. We can't wait until she comes back to see us soon with her beautiful bundle!

### Youth Club

I attended the Youth Club this week and what a fun time I had! It was great spending time with our lovely boys and girls outside the context of school and what a fun lot they are. Olivia and Karen are to be sincerely thanked for the time and thought they put in to providing the children with fun and engaging experiences, great job ladies. =)

### New Library & Reading Programme Update

Thanks again to the substantial funding awards received from the Island of Hoy Development Trust and Cooke Aquaculture Scotland, we have been able to buy a five year subscription to a reading programme called Accelerated Reader.



This programme has proven to be a high quality system which accelerates children's ability to read effectively with outstanding outcomes, our boys and girls can't wait to start using it. Our very supportive Parent Council is going to help us get this



programme up and running by taking part in specialist training and by volunteering their time to undertake the essential task of grading books to enable us to begin using this programme.

We look forward to inviting representatives from the Island of Hoy Development Trust and Cooke Aquaculture Scotland back to see our new library (when completed) which they have so generously funded.

### JRSO Competition Winners

Our Junior Road Safety Officers, Craig and Andrew, had the difficult task of choosing two winners for the Road Safety Poster competition they ran just before Christmas.

The reason for the competition was to help raise awareness amongst the boys and girls of the Orkney, 'Be safe, Be seen, Be warm' campaign.

Craig and Andrew were impressed by all the posters entered, however, they chose Bryony Besant and Connor Thompson as the overall winners. The JRSO's thought their posters were really clear and engag-

## NORTH WALLS SCHOOL NEWS CONTINUED



ing and sent a clear safety message to their audience.

### What we are looking forward to...

We are all really looking forward to our visit from the Royal Observatory at the end of March and can't wait to tell you about our rocket making and what the inflatable planetarium looks like!

Magnus 900 - Every school in Orkney has been asked to celebrate Magnus 900 in a creative and meaningful way. North Walls has begun this learning through Learning and Teaching that introduces St. Magnus and his influence on Orkney. It is our plan to demonstrate our learning about St. Magnus in an expressive and creative way and we very much look forward to sharing this learning with the wider community in the very near future.

### Pupil Council News School Garden

The Pupil Council have been working closely with Grace, our school janitor, to think about what our new school garden might look like. Taking into account the £3000 grant we secured through the 'Food for Thought' initiative, the Pupil Council thought about what we would need to do to make our garden accessible and a good Learning and Teaching space. The Pupil Council identified the need for a new path, new surfaces and a new greenhouse. Grace

shared the information she had gathered about a new Polytunnel made by a Shetland company that was designed to withstand harsh weather. The Shetland Polycrub will cost around £2600, however, the Pupil Council thought that it would be a good use of money.

The Pupil Council also agreed that the garden needed to be extended and that a new path and new chippings should be laid. Grace is going to order the new Polytunnel and the Pupil Council are going to contact local contractors to source a price for chippings and they are going to find out who can relocate our fence and lay a new path. If you think you may be able to give your time to help the Pupil Council carry out our garden makeover then please contact the school on 791246.

### Design Competition

My name is Zach and I am the Chairperson of North Walls Community School Pupil Council. I am writing to invite you to take part to an exciting competition! We need your help to come up with a creative 'Welcome to North Walls Community School' design that will be turned into an amazing art display (using a variety of recycled bottle tops and jar lids) for our front entrance.

Entries should be drawn on an A4 landscape piece of paper. Please include your name and address and either drop your design off at the school or send it into the school, posted entries should be addressed to the Pupil Council.

We have opened this competition up to pupils and the wider community to be sure that we receive lots of creative ideas, please take the time to share yours! Entries should be returned by the 10<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

*Shirley Stuart*



## HOY HOOLIE REVIEW

We thought you would like to see how we did, where the money came from and where it went. We were so pleased to see that this year covered its costs and we still have a good reserve to go forward with.

We won't be able to do a 2017 Hoolie, but want to look towards 2018. Some people have suggested that every two years would keep it fresh and avoid volunteer fatigue.

For our part, we need more "core" support. The set-up, weekend and knock down brings a lot of wonderful people together, but all the work that goes on for months either side needs more people who will help work out the format of the weekend, find the right acts, chase the funding, arrange travel & accommodation etc, so if any-one is up for helping with the boring stuff, please let us know.

Chas Whatmore has created this lovely video of the 2016 Hoolie, so enjoy and remember and have a fantastic 2017.

<https://vimeo.com/180872569>

Loads of love and thanks to you all.  
Ian and Liz

## HOY HOOLIE 2016 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

### INCOME

Community Fund £3,500.00  
Community Council £ 50.00  
Robertsons Trust £1,269.13  
Donations £1,271.36  
Ticket Sales £3,692.00  
Food Sales £ 858.12  
Bar Sales £3,803.00  
Raffle Sales £ 564.30  
Total £15,007.91

### EXPENDITURE

On Island - Businesses £ 5,035.75  
On Island - Charities £ 625.00  
Orkney Mainland £ 3,803.64  
UK £ 646.97  
Performers Fees £ 3,700.00  
Performers Fuel Costs £ 661.00  
Total £14,472.36  
Surplus 2016 £ 535.55  
Opening Reserves £ 5,435.21  
Balance Carried Forward £ 5,970.76

## HAWEG

The HAWEG theatre group will be meeting next on 5th March at 2pm in the Gable End Theatre.  
Everyone welcome.

If you are interested in acting, writing, directing, stage management or any aspect of theatre, do come along.

This will also include a children's fun session. Lots of theatrical fun and games .

Please spread the word.  
Many Thanks.



## YOUR ISLAND YOUR CHOICE—INTER ISLAND FUND

### Your Island Your Choice



Following on from the first round of funding, there is now a second chance to acquire funds for projects across the non-linked islands. The difference this time is that the project must be a collaboration or benefit the communities of two or more islands.

VAO has been awarded funding from the Community Choices Fund, with contributions from community planning partners, to deliver the Your Island Your Choice small grants participatory budgeting programme where island residents decide for themselves which project should receive funding.

#### Who can apply?

- Any community/voluntary group, even informal groups, can apply for funding from £200 to £6,000.
- You don't have to come from an existing group or constituted organisation to apply for funds but **all the activities have to happen in more than one non-linked island to benefit their communities.**

- Your ideas need to meet one of the identified key themes:
  - \* Positive Ageing
  - \* Health and Sustainable Communities
  - \* Vibrant Economic Environment
- Your project must benefit as many people as possible
- Your project must help make the isles a better place for everyone (excludes Orkney mainland and the linked islands)
- Large or small, single or collaborative projects welcome

#### How to Apply?

If your idea fits in with one of the identified themes please complete and submit the application form to Voluntary Action Orkney, who may contact you for additional information.

If the application meets the criteria then island representatives will vote for their favourite projects at an event to be held in Pickaquoy Centre, Kirkwall on **25th March 2017**.

At that event you will be required to do a short 2 to 3 minute presentation about your project/activity and the difference it will make to island communities.

You can download an application form from the VAO website or if you prefer please contact Meghan ([meghan.mcewen@vaorkney.org.uk](mailto:meghan.mcewen@vaorkney.org.uk)) or the Admin Team (01856 872897) to request an application pack.

## FRIDAY CRAFT CLUB BELATED XMAS PARTY!

Friday Craft Club postponed their Christmas Party until February because everyone was so busy in December. There was a sumptuous buffet, with club members bringing lots of homebakes and yummy cakes.



Santa had left some pressies for the kids and the kids gave Val a well deserved Christmas present to thank her for all her hard work.

by Jane, and Teresa and Ivy won a cushion each.

Many thanks to all our lovely members for a fun afternoon!



## PUBLIC CONSULTATION SSE

Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks is developing proposals to reinforce the electricity network on Orkney to enable the connection of renewable energy. The project team is hosting a series of open door events where members of the community can drop in to receive further information on the proposals.

This includes a drop-in event on Hoy on 28th February at the Stromabank Hotel between 10.30 am and 12.30 pm.

More information can be found at [www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/projects/orkney](http://www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/projects/orkney)



Entry is now open for the 31st Hoy Half Marathon, which will take place on Sunday 11 June 2017.

Entry is online, via Entry Central - <https://www.entrycentral.com/hoy-half-marathon>

If you prefer to pay by cheque, you cannot use the website to enter. Instead, you must post a paper form and cheque to the Race Organisers and await confirmation of a place. Places cannot be confirmed until payment has been received. Email [hoyhalf@gmail.com](mailto:hoyhalf@gmail.com) for details.

## THE GABLE END—YOUR THEATRE!



It is now 15 years since the first performance in The Gable End. It doesn't seem like a long time ago to us, but it's a good time to look back and see how far we've come since then.

### WHAT MAKES US TICK?

The Gable End Theatre Co. Ltd. is a community enterprise and registered charity that was established in 2000. The official aim of the company is 'to advance education by the encouragement of the performing arts'. Another key aim is to encourage the artistic aspirations of young people and the theatre is proud of being able to provide a professionally equipped venue for local school and amateur groups.

Since its establishment, the Gable End has been presenting a varied programme of events which are sometimes unexpected, sometimes challenging, sometimes thought-provoking, but always entertaining.

The Gable End Film Society began in 2003, in response to public demand. The programme features exciting new film releases, nostalgic old favourites, foreign language titles and classics of the cinema, and an annual kids' anima-

tion is organised for the school. The Film Society continues to draw impressive audiences long after the initial novelty might be thought to have worn off.

Alongside the YM, the Hoy Kirk and major events such as the Hoy Hoolie, the Gable End is part of the island tradition of folk getting together to enjoy music, drama, film and dance (not to mention the odd dram, too!) and we're very much looking forward to the future.

### THIS IS YOUR CUE...

You, our audience and supporters, are a big part of our success and a vital part of our future. The Gable End is a not-for-profit organisation and we don't receive any revenue funding, so bums on seats are important to us!

If it's a while since you've been to a film or show, we'd love to see you. If we're not staging the type of performance that appeals to you, tell us what you'd like to see. And if you would like to get involved in local drama, or have skills you'd like to offer, we'd be delighted to hear from you.

Email [gable.end.theatre@gmail.com](mailto:gable.end.theatre@gmail.com) to join our mailing list and to give us your views.



GABLE END THEATRE  
PROGRAMME 2016— WINTER/SPRING 2017



**All performances start at 8pm, unless otherwise stated**

**MARCH**

**11 March      FILM: GIRL ON THE TRAIN (15)**

A divorcee becomes entangled in a missing persons investigation that promises to send shock-waves throughout her life. Starring Emily Blunt and Justin Theroux.

**18 March      MUSIC: THE NIGHT AT THE MARGOTS**

Once again we'll be celebrating the Ides of March by holding our annual variety show at the Gable End Theatre.

The show will be at 8pm on the 18th of March and we invite all the talented folk on the Island to come along and take part. If you feel like giving your friends and neighbours a treat then phone Lindsay on 791 200 and get yourself a spot.

**25 March      FILM: A STREET CAT NAMED BOB (12A)**

Based on the international bestseller. The true feel-good story of how James Bowen, a busker and recovering drug addict, had his life transformed when he met a stray ginger cat. Starring Luke Treadaway and Joanne Froggatt.

**APRIL**

**8 April          FILM: A UNITED KINGDOM (12A)**

Prince Seretse Khama of Botswana causes an international stir when he marries a white woman from London in the late 1940s. Starring David Oyelowo and Rosamund Pike.

**22 April          FILM: ARRIVAL (15)**

A linguist is recruited by the military to assist in translating alien communications. Starring Amy Adams and Jeremy Renner.

The diary will continue to fill up, so do keep a look-out for emails and posters, or check out <http://www.orkneycommunities.co.uk/IOHDT/calendar.asp> . If you would like to receive alerts, please email [gable.end.theatre@gmail.com](mailto:gable.end.theatre@gmail.com) to be added to our mailing list.



## DATES FOR DIARIES/NOTICEBOARD

### THE NIGHT AT THE MARGOTS 2017

Once again we'll be celebrating the Ides of March by holding our annual variety show at the Gable End Theatre.

The show will be at 8pm on the 18<sup>th</sup> of March and we invite all the talented folk on the Island to come along and take part. If you feel like giving your friends and neighbours a treat then phone Lindsay on 791200 and get yourself a spot.

#### GARDEN AND GROUNDS CARE

Mowing and strimming  
Weed control  
Pruning and trimming  
Clearing & tidying.  
Paths and flagging etc

Call Richard on 701346  
Burnhouse



Craft Club— Fridays  
2.00 pm to 4.00 pm at  
The Shore, Longhope

All welcome - Adults £1;  
Children 50p

Tea, coffee, biscuits,  
gossip!

#### Longhope Sailing Club

Longhope Regatta

Saturday 1st July  
2017



The Hoy Centre Committee are applying for funding so that Youth Activities can take place at the Hoy Centre this summer. If the Committee is successful in obtaining the funding, the Youth Activities will run over 4 days from Monday 10 July.



## Hoy Dancers

### Final Fringe Event

Dance workshop, dinner & dance  
In the YM, Longhope

**Wednesday 12th April 2017**

Dance Workshop with Lorna and Mabel from 2.45pm

Dinner at 5.30pm

Dance from 7pm until 10.25pm  
With The David Bowen Trio

**Booking essential - by 30<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

All Day - Adult: - £18 and Child: £9 (16yrs and under but still at school)  
Dinner & Dance - Adult: £15 and Child £6 (as above)

**Dance only** pay at the door £5.00 per adult and £3 per child  
**All children MUST be accompanied by an adult**

Late ferry returns to Houton after the dance - leaves at 11pm

Contact - Mabel ☎ 01856 791359  
Or ✉ [mabel.besant775@btinternet.com](mailto:mabel.besant775@btinternet.com)

The late hire of the Hoy Head, on this day, is a **PRIVATE** hire.  
Anyone wishing to use this ferry **must** contact Mabel as above otherwise the crew are within their right to turn people away.

**Normal fares apply**

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WWW.ORKNEYCOMMUNITIES.CO.UK/IOHDT/

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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:** 22nd February 2017

**Time:** 8 pm

**Venue:** North Walls Centre



### Island of Hoy Development Trust Meeting

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 [debs@palaeoecology.co.uk](mailto:debs@palaeoecology.co.uk)



## WEATHER ROUND UP FOR DECEMBER 2016 AND JANUARY 2017



### December

Total rainfall for  
month 120.4mm  
Highest rainfall in

24hrs. 30.6mm on 30th.

Highest max. temp. 14.7c on 7th.

Lowest max. temp. 6.0c on 21st.

Ave. max. temp. 10.2c

Lowest min. temp. -2.8 on 6th.

Highest min. temp. 11.0c on 7th.

Ave. min. temp. 5.0c

Ave. temp. for Dec. 7.6c

### January

Total rainfall for month 105.3mm

Highest rainfall in 24hrs. 15.8mm on 28th

Highest max. temp. 12.2c on 24th.

Lowest max. temp. 3.3c on 13th.

Ave. max. temp. 8.5c

Lowest min. temp. -1.4c on 29th

Highest min. temp. 8.8c on 18th.

Ave. min. temp. 3.9c

Ave. temp. for January 6.2c

## THE BLETHER®

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

Phone: 01856 701444

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Items for inclusion in the next issue (April) must be submitted by 8th April 2017