

# THE BLETHER

the bletcher ['bleðə] – the newsletter of the community of Hoy and Walls

ISSUE 28    AUGUST 2016

## VOLES AND VESSELS



Photo: Angus Budge

Tuesday, 16th August saw members of Orkney Rowing Club (ORC) setting off from Brims to paddle across the Firth in a replica Neolithic boat. The five members of ORC were joined by one of the boat builders, Jeff Mackie, a BBC presenter and a producer, who were in Orkney filming for a three part series, Operation Orkney, about Neolithic Orkney to be broadcast in the autumn. The boat, constructed by local Orkney craftsmen, was made of willow, which formed a frame, with a cow hide stretched around it.

The purpose of the exercise was to examine how people managed to travel between Orkney and the Scottish mainland given the rapidity of the tidal currents in the Pentland Firth and the dangerous eddies/whirlpools. Fortunately for the team from ORC, the weather was grand and they reached the shore below the Castle of Mey, Caithness, in just under five hours.



Photo: ORC Facebook page

Also in the county, filming for the same series, was well-known wildlife presenter Chris Packham. He met up with Keith Dobney from Loft, South Walls, to talk about the origin of the Orkney vole, remains of which have been found on many of

the archaeological sites in Orkney. The work done by Keith and his colleagues has shown these intrepid time travellers were introduced to these isles by the early farmers who arrived here some five thousand years ago in boats. Although not quite Jurassic Park, by extracting DNA from ancient and modern vole bones, this research points to the northern coast of Belgium as the origin of the Orkney vole. Were they introduced deliberately by the first farmers to arrive or did they hitch a lift in the fodder of domestic livestock also brought here as part of the new farming culture? Whatever the answer, they represent a unique species that occurs nowhere else in the British Isles.



Photo: Chris Packham

If you want to find out more about this fascinating furry living fossil, you can read more by visiting this link.

[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/304014172\\_The\\_mystery\\_of\\_the\\_Orkney\\_Vole](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/304014172_The_mystery_of_the_Orkney_Vole)

PS. No Orkney Voles were harmed during the making of the film!

**Welcome to the twenty-eighth issue of *THE BLETHER*.**

*The August issue includes updates from RNLi Longhope, the sailing club, Hoy Dancers and more!*

*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 twenty-eighth 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 LOOKS TO THE FUTURE

With a few weeks still to go of our peak summer season we're having one of our busiest years so far, with well over 11,000 visitors expected by the end of August. Keeping the site going in tandem with planning for the future has been challenging at times, but just because we have been quiet for a while about our planned refurbishment project at the museum doesn't mean that nothing has been happening!

With funding already in place from Orkney Islands Council, Historic Environment Scotland and Highlands and Islands Enterprise, work is steadily progressing on our Stage 2 Heritage Lottery Funding application, which we hope to submit in December of this year.

We are very pleased that LDN Architects and Pick Everard have been appointed on the design and structural engineering side of the project, whilst the new exhibition will be designed by Studio MB. All have an excellent track record – LDN Architects designed the Museum of Liverpool, whilst Studio MB redesigned displays for The Museum of the Black Watch and the Titanic Galleries in Belfast – so we're confident we've got an excellent team in place.

We've had a series of very positive site meetings and as we go to press are looking in detail at their design and build ideas. So far the plans are looking very exciting and take a creative approach to ensuring the site is coherent and works well as an overall space. The proposals for the refurbishment of the existing historic buildings are light touch and sensitive and will retain the authentic feel whilst providing a more artefact-friendly environment.

A lot of work has also been going on behind the scenes on all the other parts of the jigsaw that make up a Heritage Lottery Fund application. Community consultation and engagement is an important piece of this and as soon as we have a stronger idea of the building and exhibition design ideas we will be back in touch to gather feedback and ideas and to invite your participation. We want to make sure that the stories we tell reflect the reality of life on Hoy, and in Orkney, from WW1 to the present day, telling local, human stories alongside the 'official' wartime story. More details will follow shortly, so watch this space.

*Jude Callister*

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## NORTH WALLS COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Welcome to the 2016-17 school year! I hope you all enjoyed a summer of fun and lots of happy days.

Last term, I enjoyed meeting our families and some members of the wider community, and I very much look forward to continue building a strong relationship with all of you in the upcoming year.

This summer there has been lots of activity at the school. The old science room is now a bright, new classroom for class 2 and there has been new flooring laid in the children's toilets. We hope to continue making lots of positive changes beginning with the designing of a new school library. Our janitor has been working diligently over the summer and her efforts mean that we are all going back to a fresh and welcoming school environment -, thank you Grace. Class teachers met through the summer to continue working on the curriculum and plan lessons for the upcoming school year. Sarah, our clerical assistant, has been designing our new website and further details will follow once this is live.

As we enter this new school year, we are hoping to continue to work closely with members of our wider community. This term our topic is 'A'Hoy' There! Through this topic we will be taking a closer look at our island and if you feel that you may have skills or knowledge that you think would contribute towards the learning of our boys and girls then please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Thank you all for your continued support of our school.

*Shirley Stuart, Head Teacher*

North Walls Community School

## DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE MEETING UPDATE



There was a great turnout at the Council Community meeting which was held in October 2013 where a whole range of issues were discussed.

Councillors and senior officials will be visiting Hoy next Tuesday to provide feedback on the actions which were identified by the community back in 2013. One of the biggest

topics highlighted at that time was the need to make progress on the long held ambition to secure substantial development of the Council owned land at Lyness.

I am delighted that we will be able to report substantial progress on this priority during the meeting being held on **Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> August at 7.15 pm** in the **North Walls School**. I would therefore very much encourage folk to attend to hear the exciting news.

*Cllr James Stockan*

## WAR MEMORIAL UPDATE

The Community Council appreciate the Community's patience whilst the task of securing funding and identifying a suitable contractor for the repair of the Longhope War Memorial was ongoing.

The repairs undertaken by Graciela Ainsworth involved a detailed inspection and then the removal of the cross. Once free of the base, it was clear that the dowels holding the two parts of the monument together were corroded. These were removed and replaced by longer, thicker stainless steel rods. The old cement was also removed and a bed of lime mortar was put between the two sections. Metal staining and organic growth on the sections was cleaned off or lessened.

The Community Council would like to thank Eric and Luke from Graciela Ainsworth, Edinburgh, and Hed-

dle Cranes, for the professional job they did in completing repairs to the Memorial.



*Trish Avis*  
Graemsay, Hoy and Walls Community Council

## IOHDT COMMUNITY FUND AND PROJECT EVALUATION PANEL

The IOHDT Community Fund and the Training and Learning Fund are now both open for applications.

Applications to the Training and Learning Fund can be undertaken at anytime, with decisions usually made within a week. For more information about either fund and on how to apply, please contact the Trust office, 01856 701356.

The next deadline for applications to the Community Fund is 11th October, with the Project Evaluation Panel (PEP) provisionally meeting on 20th October.

Application forms can be requested from the Trust office and any queries should be emailed to [chair.iohdt@gmail.com](mailto:chair.iohdt@gmail.com).

The Trust is also looking for more members of the community to join the PEP. The PEP meet approximately four times a year to evaluate applications to the community fund and to make funding recommendations to the Board.

If you would be interested in getting involved then please contact the Trust, as above.

## COUNCIL COMMENT—POLICE AND FIRE BOARD



As part of my council duties, I am one of eight councillors who sit on the Police and Fire Board, the local scrutiny committee set up to monitor the performance of Police Scotland and the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service at a local level. Purely by chance, although now ratified as a must, all six council wards are represented on the Board allowing for scrutiny down to a very local level. Since the two new 'parent' bodies were set up, it has been a fairly trying time as we all try to adapt to life away from 'The Highlands and Islands' grouping to the more national framework, and the Board has struggled with how to get meaningful information and statistics to scrutinise.

Both services have included council ward members in the formation of their 'local plans', with Police Scotland in particular engaging with Community Council as well to draw up local policing priorities. It came as no surprise that locally, the public's priorities were to reduce alcohol related offences and have a higher profile against road traffic offences. We are very lucky in Orkney to have low incident rates for what can perhaps be described as 'hard crimes' and, from a statistical point of view, any occurrence of such an incident can result in a 50% (or more) swing in statistics!

The same is true for Scottish Fire and Rescue Service statistics, with the particular bug bear for the Board being the high level of 'false alarm' call-outs from fire alarms. The SFRS, understandably, have to react to fire alarm call-outs and it is perhaps indicative of the good coverage of the tele care system, which is certainly not infallible, that we have a statistical issue. The local service is working hard to reduce the number of false alarms by visiting

households and trying to ensure that any detectors are placed appropriately and not likely to be affected by cooking, fire cleaning or normal domestic activities.

Away from the scrutinising aspect of our responsibilities, Board members have been grappling with the issue of retained fire fighter numbers in Orkney and in particular the isles. We have been actively encouraging senior officers at local and national level to appreciate that 'one cap doesn't fit all' and to look at different ways of doing things in a rural context.

It was pleasing to note that the last recruitment drive didn't stipulate that applicants had to reside at any particular distance from the station and used the word 'appropriate' when discussing fire fighter response times. The local road network generally means that isle fire fighters, staying any distance from the station, will take longer (keeping safe and legal) to get to their station than mainland based fighters. It's acknowledged however, that it's better to have a local response, albeit slightly slower, than relying on a mainland based tender to get to the isles to react to an incident!

The next strand in trying to retain, or attract, isle fire fighters is to develop an Orkney training facility. Several isle Community Councils, including Graemsay, Hoy and Walls, have got involved in the debate and Liam MacArthur has had a number of high level meetings to try and encourage the Scottish Government to fund a facility at the airport, much like that currently enjoyed by Shetland and the Western Isles. In the current economic climate things won't happen overnight, but we'll keep pushing!

*Cllr Rob Crichton*

## LONGHOPE REGATTA REPORT

Yet again early July brought another fantastic day for the Longhope Regatta and despite the poor weather this spring 20 boats turned out for a challenging day's sailing. This included seven yoles, four catamarans and three yachts. It is often said that races are lost and won on the start line and it was certainly true of this year's regatta. The strong ebb tide across the start line called for some very skillful sailing.

In the yachts the clear winner was Jimmy Clouston in Panache, winning both races. For the two sailed yoles it turned into a close fought competition between Ally Kirkpatrick in Lily and Leyton Venabals in Solwyn. With Leyton taking the first race and Ally taking the second. The three sailed yole cup was won by a well known local councilor accompanied by a well known local talent, shortly to appear at the Hoy Hoolie. The former mentioned spent the night sleeping in his yole but you will be pleased to know that the kind locals brought him bread and water to sustain him through this ordeal.

Malcolm Tipler fought off fierce competition from Kenny Holland and Johnny Robertson in Double Dutch to win both races and receiving the Fred Johnstone Memorial Cup for the second race. However, the dinghy sailor of the day was Lee Thomson winning overall in the mixed centreboards in the morning and best dinghy in the afternoon. Among the local sailors, success went to the snipe, Crew-zen sailed by Christine Bradshaw and Zoe Nicholson. Catamarans brought speed and color to the day unless of course you were stuck on the finishing line.

Following the sailing everyone retired to the pub green for a sumptuous buffet thanks to the enormous number of local people who did so much work. This was followed by prize giving and raffles and a good lot of friendly banter.

A big thank-you to all the visiting and local sailors for taking part. To Orkney Ferries and the crew for the change of sailing and transportation of the boats. To those that collected the boats from Lyness. To the Time Keepers and their young assistants. To those that provided the rescue boats. To Terry for transporting the visiting sailors. To Alan for the use of the Royal Hotel. To Kes and Sara for the competitions. To those wonderful cooks who contrib-

uted the food for the amazing buffet. And finally to those that helped on on the day. Thank you again from all at Longhope Sailing Club for another brilliant regatta. We wish you all good luck and good sailing for the rest of regatta season.

*Angus Budge*

*Photos: Trish Avis*



## NEWS FROM RNLI LONGHOPE

02/08/2016: Longhope Lifeboat was requested to launch at 08.22 by Shetland Coastguard.

The Coastguard and two local fishermen had been alerted by a mayday call but no following communications were heard.

Longhope lifeboat carried out a coastal search along the east side of Scapa Flow from Herston to Ham then continued the search around Flotta and to the east of Fara. Stromness lifeboat was also launched and involved in the search. Sea conditions and visibility were good.

No vessels in distress were found and the lifeboats returned to station. Longhope lifeboat was refuelled and ready again for service at 10.50.

09/07/2016: A BBC film crew and presenter joined Longhope lifeboat on their weekly training exercise. Heading out into the Pentland Firth the film crew were particularly interested to see some of the notorious tidal currents that exist in these waters.

The BBC is in the process of creating a three part series about prehistoric Orkney with reference to the archaeology, environment and wildlife.

Part of this project involved the reconstruction of a Neolithic boat which was eventually rowed across the Pentland Firth. To prepare for this journey the BBC joined Longhope lifeboat to discuss with the lifeboat crew members the tidal currents and seafaring challenges that the crew of the reconstructed boat may have to deal with.



Lifeboat Coxswain, Kevin Kirkpatrick and Deputy Coxswains, Angus and Kenny Budge also advised them on the power of the water, speed of the tides, particular aspects of different currents and the pros and cons of various routes to take, in order to reach Scotland.

This was a serious and possibly dangerous venture which the RNLI did not endorse. However Longhope lifeboat crew members also offered advice on how to stay safe and what to do if they get into trouble and above all to Respect the Water.

It was great to meet the film crew, Jamie and Tom and the awesome presenter Shini Somara and we wished them a safe and successful crossing in their prehistoric vessel. Rest assured Longhope lifeboat and the volunteer crew were on standby at any time, day or night.

*Mary Harris*—Volunteer Lifeboat Press Officer for Longhope

## HOY DANCERS NEWS

### Hoy Reels and Jigs

This summer, Hoy Dancers, have held 3 evenings of Reels and Jigs in Hoy Kirk to coincide with the MV Graemsay coming over on a Friday. Our own dancers and holiday makers were joined by about 15 dancers from the Mainland each time. A great time was had by all. St Johns Trust Church and the dancing have benefited from the money raised.



I thought I'd let you see some pictures to see Strip the Willow being done from corner to corner in Hoy Kirk. All ages took part!

The next session of our weekly dancing will begin on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September going through until Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December. We have a break over the festive season then begin again in the New Year.

Everyone dances for Fun, Fitness and Friendship. It is open to anyone to join – just come along and see if it is for you. Nothing is too complicated and it isn't a 'class' which progresses each week so miss a week and you haven't missed a vital lesson.

Contact: Mabel on 791359

## HOY HOOLIE—ROCKS AGAIN!



Well, the Hoy Hoolie is over for another year. The second Hoy Hoolie was another great success for founders Liz and Ian Davidson. Although there was a slightly different line up this year, it did not disappoint. The Friday night concert was a mix of local and national talent, with Hoy's very own Billy Budge joining forces with Billy Jolly to start the night and the whole weekend off – what an inspired combination!



Saturday brought a day of fun for the kids up at the school with an afternoon concert at the Gable End Theatre. By all accounts, much merriment and entertainment was had by parents and kids alike.

The Saturday night dance brought more great music from a range of musicians, including Tom and Adam, Dallahan and Dosca. Young



and old filled the dance floor and made much of the fantastic entertainment on offer. Throughout the weekend, Peter and Isabel, along with an army of volunteers, kept the food flowing at pop-up café in The Shore,



whilst Alex Sinclair provided the traditional sandwiches and black tea half way through the Saturday entertainment and the soup to end the night with.

To finish off the weekend, many spent the afternoon picnicking in Rackwick, whilst a final evening of impromptu music was held at the Stromabank, with food supplied by Maureen and Tam. Many other people contributed to the events of the weekend and thanks go to them all.

*Photos: Barry Jones and Mary Harris*

GABLE END THEATRE  
PROGRAMME 2016— SUMMER/AUTUMN



All performances start at 8pm, unless otherwise stated

**SEPTEMBER**

Sat 3

**LECTURE: SCIENCE FESTIVAL PROGRAMME**

**Anne Strathie - "Ice Floes to Battlefields":** Ice fatally delayed the *Terra Nova's* efforts to bring supplies to Captain Scott in the Antarctic. Arriving back in the UK, the crew's lives were soon changed by war. It took them to the Western Front, Gallipoli - and in 1916 the battle of Jutland. Writer Anne Strathie tells their story.

**Pippa Goldschmidt - 'Astronomy's influence on the imaginations of fiction writers'** - professional astronomer turned author, will describe the influence that celestial science has exerted over the creative imaginations of fiction writers.

*Interval coffee break.*

Entrance: £5; £4 for age concession; £1 for school age.

Sat 10

**FILM: FLORENCE FOSTER JENKINS** (cert. PG)

Meryl Streep stars as the would-be diva who had more to her than being the laughing stock she seemed in the recording she made for posterity.

Fri 23

**FILM: OUR LITTLE SISTER** (cert. PG)

From Japan a quietly beautiful story of a family fractured at a father's death, his three daughters drawn together on discovering a fourth sister.

**OCTOBER**

Sat 1

**MUSIC: HIMMERLAND**

Himmerland perform a blend of old Danish ballads, whirling fiddle tunes, equilibristic improvisations, and new fascinating music composed and arranged by the band members.

The band is made up of ESKIL ROMME (Soprano Saxophone), DITTE FROMSEIER (violin, vocals), SIGURD HOCKINGS (Guitar), ANDRZEJ KREJNIUK (Electric bass guitar, vocals), and AYI SOLOMON (percussion, vocals). All superb musicians, they are one of the most accomplished bands we have had at the Gable End and delighted the audience on their last visit, so don't miss out this time round.

**LICENCED BAR; DOORS OPEN 7pm**

**TICKETS £10/ACCOMPANIED SCHOOL AGE £1**

**TO BOOK, TEL: HAZEL, 791312 or EMAIL [gable.end.theatre@gmail.com](mailto:gable.end.theatre@gmail.com)**

Sat 8

**FILM: BILLY'S NIGHT OOT 2016**

Full details to follow, but will include some more recent footage from John Findlay and a film of the wreck of HMS Royal Oak.

Continues on the next page.....

## GABLE END CONTINUED

**OCTOBER**

Fri 14

**DRAMA: COMPANY OF WOLVES presents 'A BRIEF HISTORY OF EVIL'**

A Brief History of Evil is a white-knuckle ride to an unknown destination: what happens when we listen to the voices inside us? Or don't? Hilarious and mesmerising, terrifying and absurd, A Brief History of Evil is a duet about lies and where they can lead us. Who hasn't embroidered the truth, or pretended to be someone they're not? When all the lies are stripped away, who is left? When we look in the mirror, who looks back? Which version is really us?

Created and performed by Ewan Downie and Jonathan Peck, with directorial assistance from Al Seed, A Brief History of Evil combines Company of Wolves' electrifying movement style with the vulnerability, mockery, and satire of clown and buffon. The result is a performance that is dangerous, relentless, and very, very funny.

Made with the support of Creative Scotland, Platform, Summerhall and Woodend Barn and is presented in association with Feral Arts.

LICENCED BAR; DOORS OPEN 7pm

TICKETS £10/ACCOMPANIED SCHOOL AGE £1

TO BOOK, TEL: HAZEL, 791312 or EMAIL [gable.end.theatre@gmail.com](mailto:gable.end.theatre@gmail.com)

Fri 21

**FILM: RAMS (cert. 12A)**

From Iceland a dramatic comedy of two shepherd brothers, estranged for years but forced to converse when scrapie threatens their flocks.

**NOVEMBER**

Sat 5

**FILM: BLACK MOUNTAIN POETS (cert. 15)**

Two reprobate sisters, on the run from the police, accidentally fetch up at a poetry retreat in Wales, needing all their wit to improvise their cover.

Sat 19

**FILM: SING STREET (cert. 12A)**

Dublin-set in the rough 1980s: a schoolboy sets out to woo, but first he needs a band. "An absolute delight." Good songs too.

Fri 25

**FILM: LOVE AND FRIENDSHIP (cert. U)**

A Jane Austen adaptation, acid sharp and evading the trap of sentimentality.

**DECEMBER**

Fri 9

**FILM: ABSOLUTELY FABULOUS - THE MOVIE (cert. 12A)**

Joanna Lumley and Jennifer Saunders launch into a movie outing 25 years after they first hit our television screens.

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.

NOTICEBOARD

HOY AND WALLS HEALTH CENTRE

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

Day	Dr am	Dr pm	Nurse	Notes
Monday	0900-1100	1730-1930	0930-1100 approx	Nurse evening surgery by request
Tuesday	1000-1200*	1300-1500	0930-1100 approx	*joint doctor/nurse clinic
Wednesday	0900-1200**	1400-1600	0930-1100 approx	**blood tests
Thursday	0900-1100		0930-1100 approx	
Friday	1000-1200†	1730-1900	0930-1100 approx	†Longhope 1st, 3rd & 5th Friday; Hoy 2nd and 4th Friday

**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.

GRAEMSAY, HOY & WALLS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

All meetings are open to the general public, and held at North Walls Community School, except where noted meeting dates for 2016 are:-

General Meeting Friday 11 November North Walls School

Computer Club at the Shore

Mondays 10.30 am to 12.30 pm

All welcome

Computers and tablets available to use during the club.

Tea, coffee and biscuits

Adults £1

\*\*\*\*\*  
 ★ Sharon's Thought for the day ★  
 ★ Change only yourself if you truly ★  
 ★ seek lasting happiness and peace. ★  
 ★ \*\*\*\*\*

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

All welcome - ; Children 50p

Tea, coffee, biscuits, gossip!

# DATES FOR DIARIES/NOTICEBOARD



Orkney Health and Care's Home Care Section is an essential front line service providing care and support for vulnerable individuals enabling them to live as independently in their own home for as long as is possible. We do this by using a Re-ablement approach where we do things with people rather than doing things for people. The type of support we provide is individualised and tasks we undertake include meal preparation, medication assistance, and personal care such as showering or bathing.

As a relief carer you will hopefully have previous experience of working in Social Care; however we will provide on-going training to develop and maintain your skills. You will enjoy responsible, challenging, varied and rewarding work as part of our team and will receive excellent support from our teams of Social Care Coordinators and Home Care Organisers. You will need the sort of personality that enjoys interacting with people and making a difference to their lives. If you are motivated, caring, honest, have a true desire to 'work with' people then this could be the job for you.

You must be willing to work anywhere within the island on which you live so your own transport is essential. A mileage allowance is payable for work related journeys.

These posts are subject to PVG Scheme Protected Adults.

Please apply online at [myjobscotland.gov.uk](http://myjobscotland.gov.uk) quoting ref: number ORK00887 or alternatively contact Customer Services on 01856 873535 to request an application form quoting the same number.

For an informal chat please call Rachel Ware – Operational Manager. Tel: 01856 888390.

*Sat 24th Sept in the YM, Bingo. Doors open 7 for 7.30pm.*

*This is in support of the Christmas Fundraising Appeal for Malawi.*



## Eyes to the skies

**Friday, 2nd September**, Hoy Kirk welcomes the Orkney International Science Festival. The evening of astral photography. Explore the night sky with Caithness and Black Isle astronomers. Also if it is a clear night we will make the most of the dark skies of Hoy for some stargazing. All this and soup and bannocks to start the evening. Admission free.

Friday evening ferry from Stromness 5.45 pm, back from Moaness at 10 pm, details from Orkney Ferries 01856 872044.

<http://oisf.org/fest-event/astronomy-evening/>

## Lunches at Kirkside

are served the first Thursday of each month for your enjoyment.

The next ones are on Thurs 1st Sept and Thurs 6th October

Soup, sandwiches, homebakes.

£2.50

## GARDEN AND GROUNDS CARE

*Mowing and strimming*

*Weed control*

*Pruning and trimming*

*Clearing & tidying.*

*Paths and flagging etc*

Call Richard on 701346

Burnhouse





WWW.ORKNEYCOMMUNITI  
ES.CO.UK/IOHDT/

Registered in Scotland as a charity  
(SC038909)

Company Limited by guarantee  
(SC306586)

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

**Date:** 14th Oct 2016  
**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 JUNE AND JULY 2016



### June

Total amount of rainfall  
59.2mm.

Highest rainfall in 24hrs.  
12.5mm on 28th.

Highest max. temp. 19.1c on 14th.

Lowest max. temp. 10.7c on 16th.

Lowest min. temp. 3.0c on 7th.

Highest min. temp. 11.0c on 28th.

Ave. max. temp. 14.8c.

Ave. min. temp. 8.8c.

Ave. temp. for June 11.8c.

### July

Total amount of rain 114.8mm

Highest rainfall in 24hrs. 20.3mm on 27th.

Highest max. temp. 22.4c on 19th.

This equals 22.4c recorded on 10th May.

Lowest max. temp. 13.6c on 28th.

Lowest min. temp. 6.3c on 8th.

Highest min. temp. 14.1c on 19th.

Ave. max. temp. 15.7c.

Ave. min. temp. 11.2c.

Ave. temp. for July 13.5c.

## 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](mailto:debs@theblether.org.uk); [vincent@theblether.org.uk](mailto:vincent@theblether.org.uk)

Snail mail: Loft, Longhope, KW16 3PQ

Items for inclusion in the next issue (October) must be submitted by 5th October 2016