

THE BLETHER

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

ISSUE 37 MAY 2018

THE EAGLES ARE BACK!



The white-tailed eagles have been keeping everyone guessing over the past year, but we are delighted to share that they are once again soaring over the Hoy hills. Following a disappointing Spring last year when the Hoy pair of white-tailed eagles abandoned their territory, hope was re-kindled when three birds appeared around Ward Hill in May 2017.

The differences in feather colours allow us to work out roughly how old the birds are, so we know that the new pair are an adult female

(six+ years old and possibly one of the original Hoy pair) and a younger male and there is also a three year old bird that is often seen around the island.

The eagles have been seen regularly over the winter and we have been hoping for signs that the new pair would settle above the Dwarfie Stone. The birds got off to a promising start and have been busy building their nest and we were thrilled when they settled down there. I will update soon when we have more news, or pop by and see for yourself.

RSPB staff/ volunteers aim to be at the Dwarfie Stone car park every day between 11am and 3pm to help people spot any passing eagles and offer suggestions on the wildlife to watch out for each day.

It has been a 'roller coaster ride' to watch the pair decide if they would settle on the cliffs this spring, but it is wonderful to see them perched on the crags again. If anyone would like to volunteer to help speak to people at the car park, it would be great to hear from you and please get in touch with Lee to discuss: 01856 791 298 or email Lee.Shields@rspb.org.uk

Lee Shields

(Ed: You can also find out more and see a film of the birds by Raymond Besant at <http://www.orkney.com/whats-new/sea-eagles-18>)



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

This 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-seventh 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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IOHDT FUNDING SUPPORT FOR SCAPA FLOW MUSEUM

The redevelopment of the Scapa Flow Museum at Lyness involves the restoration of the historic buildings, the enhancement of interpretation and displays, and the creation of a new building which will house an exhibition space, café, toilet facilities and information areas.

The museum is currently closed and not projected to re-open until March 2020. With recent visitor numbers standing at 14,000 a year the museum is keen to continue to attract visitors to the island and will shortly be opening a temporary exhibition in part of the Hoy Hotel at Lyness, which will run throughout the 2018 and 2019 seasons.

We are delighted to have received a grant of £10,161 from IoHDT towards new interpretation and equipment for this, which will ensure that the exhibition will be comprehensive and engaging enough to warrant a special trip to Hoy, or to factor in as one of the attractions that make a visit to the island worthwhile.

Whilst there won't be any objects on show, the grant will enable us to present digital information for the first time. As a gateway site, the museum has always promoted other island attractions, businesses and services, and sees this as an important part of its role.

One of the new touchscreen computers funded by IoHDT will give visitors access to the www.hoyorkney.com website, which as well as

having a comprehensive section on the wartime heritage of Hoy contains information about all that the island has to offer, helping visitors to make the most of their stay on Hoy.

Others will allow access to digital information that complements the exhibition panels, showcases recent research and will enable visitors to take a 360° tour of the museum site and former displays.

Once the museum reopens, the equipment will be put to good use in the new temporary exhibition and education space.

The museum has also recently been awarded £15,000 from Museums Galleries Scotland. This will be used to purchase specialist audio-visual equipment and commission a film which will help tell the story of Scapa Flow and Orkney's role in the two world wars, forming a major new exhibit in the WW2 Oil Tank when restoration is complete.

These two new grants join funding of up to £1.155 million from the Heritage Lottery Fund. Funding has also been received from Historic Environment Scotland, Highlands and Islands Enterprise, the LEADER programme and Orkney Islands Council.

Jude Callister



CRAFT CLUB CRAFT FAIR

Many thanks to all of the great craft folk and to everyone who came along to the Craft Fair on Sunday 13 May.

A grand total of £387.65 was raised. A donation of £300 will go to Diabetics UK, with the remaining £87.65 going into the IT and Craft Club.

Thanks Val



COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWS

Community Resilience meeting

The first meeting of the Community Resilience Group took place at North Walls Centre on Wednesday 16 May. It was attended by local Community Councillors, Emergency Services Representatives, Development Trust representative, Dr Cromarty, Les Donaldson—Civil Contingencies Officer, Orkney Islands Council, and Pamela Harvey, Customer Relationship Manager for Scottish and Southern Energy.

The aim of the group is to look at ways to prepare for emergencies that could arise on the island and to put in place contingency plans should the need arise. More details will be forthcoming in the coming months.

Bag the Bruck

Graemsay, Hoy and Walls Community Council would like to thank all of the groups and individuals who took part in Bag the Bruck this year. The groups who took part were as follows:

Graemsay Community Association collected a total of 11 x 1 tonne bags from the beaches around Graemsay.

A collection organised by Lee for the RSPB collected 100+ bags at Rackwick, plus larger items.

Longhope Lifeboat Guild members collected 31 bags plus some big bits from around the Lifeboat Station, the Ayre, Back Shore and Brims area .

North Walls School teachers, support staff and children collected 10 Bags plus some big bits from the Ouse

Parents and Children from the North Walls Parent Council collected 25 bags and some big stuff from the Ayre and the back shore .

The Haey Hope Club collected 8 bags from North Ness and Ouse.

The Youth Club did a final collection at Creekland Bay on Thursday 24 May.

The Community Council will be making a donation to all of the groups that have taken part.

Although it is sad that there is so much bruck around and about our lovely islands, it is amazing the amount of folk that have taken part this year and helped to keep our islands as beautiful as ever. Please remember collecting bruck doesn't have to be confined to just the annual collection in April\May but all year round. There are normally some bags and gloves kept in the Bothy at Rackwick Beach and some bags will be left in the car park at the Ayre. Anything collected can be put in the "pick up 3 pieces" bins in Rackwick or at the Ayre.

Once again, many thanks!

Paper recycling at Lyness

Just a quick reminder that NO cardboard should be put in the paper recycling bin at Lyness. The cardboard is classed as a contamination and could mean that the paper can't be recycled and has to be put in the general waste.

Many thanks for your co-operation!

Next Meeting:

Finance meeting at North Walls School, 15th June 2018. For more details please contact Trish.

*Trish Avis
Island Liaison Officer*

On behalf of Graemsay, Hoy and Walls Community Council



COUNCIL COMMENT

Budget and Boats

In my February article I commented on the OIC's budget setting process, little did I know how much it would be scrutinised and feature heavily in the local press for as long as it has done. Since first becoming a Councillor in 2007 setting the annual budget has always been a trying time and I have attempted to tackle the process with an open and fair mind. 2018 was no different although, due to the efficiencies made in previous years, harder, as 'front line services' were to be affected.

Setting aside my own personal belief that OIC should be using the Reserve Fund to a greater level to 'prop up' the budget, and accepting that we were in delicate negotiations with the Scottish Government regarding the funding of our internal ferry services, I felt that elected members had come to some difficult decisions that could be justified to the general public. How wrong was I!

In the past three weeks we've seen the budgetary 'cut' to the Support for Learning Assistants overturned (rightly so as a review of the service is currently underway and a restructuring may well provide the efficiencies anyway), the reduction in service provision by Dial-A-Bus questioned and users free entitlement changed from 1 to 3 as well as several columns in the Orcadian dedicated to 'gossip' regarding St Colms and the warden service at Raes Close in Stromness and Lambaness in Kirkwall. The media are having a field day and elected members, particularly those new to the job, are feeling a bit under the cosh. Where do we go from here?

The fact is that we are in difficult financial times and OIC has recognised that we need to discuss with the general public what our next steps are.

To that end there is a plan to stage a 'Tough Times, Tough Choices II' tour to gather as much information and public views as we can ahead of setting the 2019/20 budget. Early engagement and advanced communication may well counter the type of reaction that has occurred recently. OIC intend to visit **all** island groups and mainland parishes (a tough stint by any stretch of the imagination) so watch out for when the South Isles are due for a visit and get along and contribute, your opinion will be considered – though none of us ever get everything that we want!

As far as ferries go, the funding granted last year wasn't committed as a 'base line' addition to the grant Orkney gets and there certainly hasn't been any movement in our ask that the Scottish Government takes on full responsibility for the ferries i.e. provision of new boats as well as funding the running cost of providing the service. Until we get an assurance from Holyrood that we are financially secure in that regard there will always be a 'cloud' over our budget setting process.

Although I'd personally love to see OIC balance its budget using the Reserve Fund and avoiding any cuts or efficiency savings, I fully appreciate that that would send the wrong message to the Scottish Government. We perhaps have to face some reductions to some services going forward to reach the bigger goal of a fully funded inter island ferry service – something to discuss when you're given the opportunity.

Cllr Rob Crichton

NORTH WALLS COMMUNITY SCHOOL—NETHYBRIDGE 2018



The P6 & 7's set off on Monday the 16th April to get to Nethybridge. First we went on the Hoy Head to get to town, when we got to town we parted the ferry and got onto a big coach to get to the next ferry. We stopped for some ice cream on the way. When we got to Nethybridge everyone was very welcoming and kind and we were shown to our rooms. We had to put on our own duvet covers which meant some of us didn't get to bed until very late!

In the mornings we went down into the little



living room area near the door to make our sandwiches. Then we went in the dinner room and found a seat, soon after

that one of the teachers called our table up to get breakfast. When we got a tray to get breakfast you could choose if you wanted to have a biscuit and crisps for your packed lunch. Then we set off to do our activities until lunch time then we came back and had our packed lunch and then we did some more fun activities. After activities went back to the main house and chilled. There was a shop as well that opened after dinner so you could get some goodies.

Activities

There were lots of activities that we did every

day, for example, dry slope skiing, wall climbing, bush craft, zip wiring and the forest adventure. There is a lot more info if you go on www.abernethy.org.uk and that will tell you about all of the activities and much more. The most liked activities by North Walls pupils: 6/10 pupils liked the Zip Wire and 3/10

pupils liked the canoeing and 1/10 pupils liked the adventure course best.

New friends

I think all of us made lots of lifelong friends that we will move up to secondary with. In the evening we would play manhunt and we played rugby passing. We had great fun doing the Floss demonstration with a total of 70 kids doing it and Mr Pilkington did the Haka Haka chant, it was really fun!

We went to Landmark on the last day of our residential trip and we all had the best time ever.

Thank you to everyone who made it possible for us to go on this trip including our family, The Development Trust, The Community Council and The Parent Council. We will never forget the amazing time we had at Nethybridge!

P6 & P7

North Walls Community School



RNLI LONGHOPE NEWS

RIP Jimmy Moat, who was an active member of the lifeboat crew in the past. You are sadly missed and we offer our deepest sympathy to his family and friends.

17 April 2018



Longhope Lifeboat Guild are very pleased to announce that two of our long serving guild members have received the Excellence in Volunteering Awards from the RNLI.

Jayne Traynor and Fay Clark were presented with these special awards at our AGM meeting by John Budge, the Longhope Lifeboat Operations Manager. Also a very special welcome and thank you to our new guild members.



16-21 April 2018

Longhope Lifeboat Museum were at the Blue Door charity shop and managed to raise £3582.78. The Museum Trust would like to thank everyone who helped in any way to make this such a success.

7 April 2018

We were pleased to welcome James Manson and his wife Liz, to the Longhope Lifeboat Museum. James is the nephew of the late Jimmy Swanson, who lost his life along with all his fellow crew members on the Longhope lifeboat T.G.B. in the tragic disaster of 1969.

During Jimmy's time on the lifeboat his courage and conduct was recognised by the RNLI and he was awarded various vellums (certificates) and medals. It was his ninety year old sister's wish that these precious awards be returned to his homeland and be donated to the lifeboat museum at Brims. Kindly, her son James and his wife brought the awards back to Brims and presented them to our Coxswain Kevin Kirkpatrick and Geordie Taylor DLA.

We would like to thank James for bringing the awards home and a very special thank you to Jimmy's sister



for passing them on and entrusting the museum with them. We greatly appreciate the gesture and we will treasure them dearly.

18 March 2018

Longhope lifeboat carried out an exercise with the Flotta passenger launch Herston Lass.

The scenario was that the Herston Lass had suffered complete engine failure resulting in the vessel being disabled. To complicate matters one of the three crew aboard had fallen and broken his leg. On arriving at scene and alongside, two lifeboat crew members with medical equipment boarded the Herston Lass to conduct a medical assessment, stabilise the casualty and secure on stretcher. The lifeboat then established a tow and the launch was towed out of danger. Once the two vessels were safely alongside each other the casualty was then transferred to the lifeboat.

The second half of the exercise involved both vessels carrying out a man over board recovery. This exercise went very well, an important practice of these medical and rescue procedures and was a valuable training experience for the newer crew members aboard the lifeboat.

17 March 2018

At 18.47pm Longhope lifeboat crew responded to a paged request to launch from UK Coastguard. Seven minutes later the lifeboat had left it's station and was heading up the bay. An elderly person had been reported missing in St. Margaret's Hope and the lifeboat was to search the maritime area along with the local coastguards and police. As the lifeboat approached the search area they were stood down, the casualty having been found. Sea conditions were good but bitterly cold. The lifeboat arrived back at station by 19.40 and made ready again for service.

RNLI LONGHOPE NEWS CONTINUED

9 March 2018

RNLI Longhope lifeboat was launched on service today at 10.33am. It was requested by UK Coastguards to attend a vessel in distress in Mill Bay, just north of Lyness.

A local 23ft creel boat with one occupant aboard, had a fouled propeller from a mooring line and was stuck fast.

The lifeboat arrived on scene at 10.47am and proceeded to free the vessel. This proved to be a quite a task with the rising tide causing the rope to become extremely tight. It was decided to launch the Y boat from the lifeboat so two crew members had easier access to the propeller. However it was necessary for one crew member to enter the water in order to cut the rope. Thankfully conditions were good and visibility clear.

Once the mooring line was cut the lifeboat established a tow and the vessel was brought safely home

to Longhope. They arrived back at station at 12.25pm and the lifeboat was made ready again for service.

3 March 2018

Bob Simpson reached the impressive total of £4000 for the sale of used stamps. Many thanks to Anna and Mark from Stromness for helping Bob continue with this rewarding project. Please keep collecting them.

Text and photos: *Mary Harris*

Dates for Diaries

Longhope Lifeboat Guild meeting 27th June

This is the summer meeting of the Longhope Lifeboat Guild which is held at the Hoy Centre. New members welcome to join us.

Open Day at Longhope Lifeboat Station on 1st July

The Longhope Lifeboat Guild will be preparing teas and home bakes in the station, plus raffle and competitions.

JOB VACANCY

The Longhope Lifeboat Museum Trust are looking for a **Seasonal Custodian**

The Job:

Based entirely at the Museum the successful applicant will work Mondays to Friday for five hours each day, keeping the building open to visitors from 11.00 hrs to 16.00hrs from the earliest start date until 28th September. Some Sunday work may be available by arrangement. The post will be paid monthly at £10 per hour, less tax and NI deductions as appropriate.

Duties:

Keeping the Museum open for visitors is only one important requirement of the job. The Custodian will be expected to learn the basic history of the Longhope Lifeboat in order to present a professional impression and to be able to answer questions that visitors may have.

It is essential that the museum is kept clean and tidy, so some basic caretaking and maintenance duties will be necessary.

The museum was intended for a specific pur-

pose and there may be hazards that some visitors will need to be made aware of, issues that call for understanding and some diplomacy. The Custodian must be able to identify these instances and react accordingly.

Because of the position of the Longhope Lifeboat Museum, there may be times when visitors are few. To make the best of these periods, it is expected that the Custodian will take on some archiving tasks as directed by the Trustees when appropriate.

The Person:

If you are a caring, outgoing individual with a keen interest in the Island's heritage and in particular the part played by the Lifeboat Service here, you may be the right person for this job.

If you feel you have the enthusiasm, people skills, understanding and capabilities needed to fill this role, please write saying why to Kevin Kirkpatrick at Salwick, Brims, Longhope,

or email kkkirkpatrick@btinternet.com.

HOY SOUND AT ST MAGNUS CATHEDRAL



Hoy Sound joined with our good friends Orkney Camerata for a lunchtime concert at St Magnus Cathedral in Kirkwall on Saturday 19th May.

A few words from visiting composer & musical director Laurence Rugg:

This was the eleventh year I have been to Orkney to work with Hoy Sound. My original visit to provide a workshop for singers from Cornwall joining up with Hoy singers has turned into a long and creative relationship. Long may it last!

Last September Orkney Camerata joined Hoy Sound to give a concert in Hoy Kirk. The choir put in a lot of work to make this succeed and they jumped at the idea of repeating this concert in St. Magnus Cathedral. This was not all, as they also sang recently for an evening of poetry and song, again in Hoy Kirk, supported by The George Mackay Brown Fellowship.

The lunchtime concert in the Cathedral was well attended. It gave many in Hoy Sound their first opportunity to sing in this venue. This was not without its challenges as the acoustic demands that singers follow the conductor rather than their ears! I was delighted by their devoted performance, with the Camerata, of my settings of two George Mackay Brown poems, Peat Cutting and Eynhallow.

Andy Fellows conducted 'Never Weather Beaten Saile' by Thomas Campion and an arrangement of the Rousay Lullaby and was able to demonstrate just how much work he has put into developing the choir since coming to live on Hoy. May his work with them continue.

The concert was interspersed with pieces played by the Camerata. These included the, ever-popular, "Shepherd's Hey" by Percy Grainger and a movement from Albinoni's oboe concerto, with the solo oboe beautifully played by Yvonne Gray.

I first came across Yvonne's poetry in an anthology of Scottish verse. After contacting and meeting her she wrote some poems for me to put to music. They were specifically about Hoy. These poems were the finale of the concert. They included "May Morris at Melsetter" inspired by a photo of May Morris spinning in the courtyard at Melsetter. May Morris was the daughter of William Morris, chief inspiration of the Art and Craft Movement. Yvonne played the oboe for this and Andy played the piano. The piano part was written to evoke the movement of the spinning wheel.

My other settings of Yvonne's poems were "Four Shore Stones", "Cragman", "Imprint" and "White-tailed Sea Eagle". In singing these pieces the choir gave of their best and sang so clearly that the words came across very well. For me, portraying the words in the music is central. Yvonne's words have a thoughtfulness about them which draws attention to their evocative nature and musicality, which is, in turn, a gift to set to music.

There is one poem of Yvonne's left for me to set – Travellers. As I write I am able not only to enjoy Yvonne's words and what they bring out in me, but also to think of each individual in Hoy Sound, who they are and how they are going to respond both to the words and the music. The creative relationship feels strong. Writing for friends such as those in Hoy Sound makes the relationship stronger. The pull to Orkney, and Hoy especially, strengthens.

Laurence Rugg

The Hoy Sound Choir now rehearse, weekly, at The Stromabank Hotel on a Thursday at 8pm, by kind invitation of the new hosts. We are delighted by their practical support and the ongoing assistance of the Island of Hoy Development Trust, which has made our work with Laurence, and many other ambitions as a choir, possible.

With an eye on the future, even more variety of repertoire, and yet to be arranged performances, we are now actively welcoming new members. We are a community choir, so there are no auditions and everyone is very supportive, whatever your skill level or experience.

We sing everything from simple folk song arrangements and rounds to pop song arrangements and more traditional choral pieces. So, whether you are a returning member (from years past with the Stromabank Pub Choir) or just want to give singing a try, we encourage you to come and join us!

Andy Fellows

WHAT'S ON AT THE NORTH WALLS CENTRE

- Tuesdays 8pm - 10pm Badminton cost £1
(for more information contact Adam on 791255)
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- Wednesday 11am - 12am Swimming cost £2
(contact Laura to book 701265)
Haey Hope Club 11am - 2pm
(contact Debbie on 701325 for more information)
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- Thursday 7pm - 9pm Youth Club cost £1
(open for 8- 14 years old - contact Olivia 791155)
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- Friday 11am - 12am Swimming cost £2
(contact Laura to book 701265)
Fat Burn 6.30pm - 7pm
(for more information contact Laura)
0000
- Sunday Open Swimming 4.30pm - 5.30pm
cost £2 adults /£1 children
No need to book just come along
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Meeting Room and Hall available for meetings /functions
contact - Booking Clerk S Kettle 791081

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POOL AND DARTS



with Matt the runner up.

Many thanks to everyone who came along and Alan for hosting and supplying the prizes, Rob and Val for providing the supper.

On Saturday 14 April the Mary Seatter Memorial Pool competition was held at the Royal. Gerry was the winner

The following Saturday, the Ladies Darts Challenge was held with 16 ladies competing! Val was the winner, with Dawn the runner up.

Many thanks to everyone who came along and Alan for hosting and supplying the prizes.



GABLE END THEATRE
PROGRAMME 2018— SPRING



All performances start at 8pm, unless otherwise stated

JUNE

Sat 2

FILM: THREE BILLBOARDS OUTSIDE EBBING, MISSOURI (15)

Frances McDormand plays Mildred, who in order to stop herself drowning in grief after the brutal murder of her daughter, decides to fight back when the case remains unsolved, purchasing the titular billboards and plastering them with details of the crime and the question: "How come Chief Willoughby?"

Fri 8

MUSIC: CORNER HOUSE

A welcome return for Orcadian Louise Bichan, with friends Ethan (guitar) and Ethan (mandolin). Corner House mostly play American Old Time fiddle tunes and songs, plus some of their own tunes. Join us for another evening of great music.

TICKETS £10/ACCOMPANIED SCHOOL AGE £1

BOOKINGS: Tel. HAZEL 791312

Sat 16

MUSIC: MADAM TSUNAMI

Madam Tsunami is an acoustic folk band fronted by songwriter Adam Usmani and violinist Coralie Usmani. The couple moved to Scotland from Auckland, New Zealand in 2017 and are currently based in Aberdeen. Hugely talented, their unique catchy, poppy folk sound is sure to be a hit. Take a listen at <http://www.madamtsunami.com/index.php> and join us for a great night out.

LICENCED BAR

TICKETS £10/ACCOMPANIED SCHOOL AGE £1

BOOKINGS: Tel. HAZEL 791312

Sat 23

FILM: THE POST (12A)

Oscar winners Steven Spielberg, Meryl Streep, and Tom Hanks team up for the first time in this thrilling film based on a true story. Determined to uphold the nation's civil liberties, Katharine Graham (Streep), publisher of *The Washington Post*, and hard-nosed editor Ben Bradlee (Hanks) join forces to expose a decades-long cover-up. But the two must risk their careers - and their freedom - to bring truth to light in this powerful film with a celebrated cast.

Fri 29

MUSIC: NORTHWARDS a musical journey

Sarah Smout and Sophie Ramsay are travelling to Iceland and play in different staging posts on their way. The purpose of this journey is to create a unique representation of the connections that still exist with the landscape by collaborating with local musicians, collecting memories and stories from people, recording sounds and images, and all via land and sea, including a sail boat from Shetland to the Faroes.

LICENCED BAR

TICKETS £10/ACCOMPANIED SCHOOL AGE £1

BOOKINGS: Tel. HAZEL 791312

AUGUST

Sat 25

MUSIC: KIRSTY LAW

Recommended to us by Twelfth Day, Kirsty Law is an innovative young vocalist and songwriter based in Edinburgh. Drawing on traditional ballads and Scots folk songs, she combines traditional and original melodies, poems and text for a spellbinding performance.

LICENCED BAR

TICKETS £10/ACCOMPANIED SCHOOL AGE £1

BOOKINGS: Tel. HAZEL 791312

... and looking ahead, make sure you keep Friday 14 September free for **THE POOZIES**

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

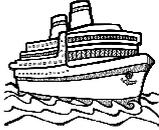
USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Useful phone numbers

Health Centre	01856 701209	
Doctor - out of hours and for emergencies	01856 888000	ask them to page the Hoy doctor
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	



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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Visiting

Longhope Lifeboat Museum	01856 701431	
Scapa Flow Museum	01856 791300	
Martello Tower	01856 701727	

Eating, Drinking

Beneth'ill Café	01856 791119	
Emily's Tearoom	01856 791213	
Royal Hotel	01856 701276	
Stromabank Hotel	01856 701494	

Opening Times

Stromabank Hotel

Bar open from 12pm to 12am 7 days a week.
Lunch served from 12pm to 2.30pm 7 days a week.
Evening meals served from 6pm to 8pm 7 days a week.
Booking advised

Beneth'ill Licenced Café

Open 7 days a week from 10 am to 6 pm

Emily's Tearoom and Craft shop

Open Monday to Saturday from 10 am to 5 pm

Lyness Burger Van

Open Tuesdays and Thursday (currently)
Ring for details— 01856 791213

Opening Times

Scapa Flow Museum

The museum is currently closed and not projected to re-open until March 2020. A temporary exhibition in part of the Hoy Hotel at Lyness, is due to open shortly which will run throughout the 2018 and 2019 seasons. Ring for details — 01856 791300

Martello Tower

Opening times—1 Apr to 30 Sept: Daily, 9.30am to 5.30pm, last entry 5pm

Longhope Lifeboat Museum

Open all year, not always manned, call for details

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

Next meeting

Friday June 15th, 6.45 pm –Finance
at North Walls Community School

All meetings are open to the general public

GARDEN AND GROUNDS CARE

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

*Call Richard on 701346
Burnhouse*



Message from Mary Walls

As she is unable to respond personally, Mary Walls would like to thank everyone for the cards and kind wishes received since November last year and notes that she now resides at St Peter's House in Stromness.

Thought for the day

To understand the heart and mind of a person, look not at what he has already achieved, but at what he aspires to do.

Kahlil Gibran

DATES FOR DIARIES/NOTICEBOARD

Ebb & Flow: Exploring the shore
Friday 1st June Hoy Kirk 7 pm
free entry

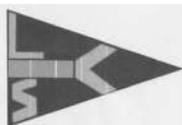
*With seaweed soup and refreshments
 from 6.30 pm*

*Free afternoon workshops from 2.30 pm,
 including shore foraging and rock pool-
 ing at the Bay of Creekland. Later in the
 afternoon from 4:30 to 6pm writer Al-
 ice Albinia will be leading a writing
 workshop along the shore and at the
 Dwarfie Stone. To find out more call
 07812807848.*

*And in the evening from 6:30pm at Hoy
 Kirk we will be bringing the sea inside
 with a film on the secret life of limpets
 introduced by Fiona and Alison; Fergus
 will share his foraging thoughts on Ork-
 ney's wild food; and Rebecca Marr will
 be showing how ten seaweeds reveal a
 social history of Orkney that includes
 food, fodder, folklore, finance and ferti-
 liser.*

*Sea washed music from local musicians
 and seaweed soup and seaweed chocolate
 to complete the flavour of the day. Free
 and all welcome. The events are sup-
 ported by the Island of Hoy Develop-*

We are looking for new mem-
 bers whether to sail or to help at
 the Regatta which will be on
Saturday 7 July.



**Longhope
 Sailing Club**

HOY HOOLIE 2018



FRIDAY NIGHT 27TH JULY
AT THE YM

Billy Budge & Billy Jolly
 The Hellihole Hounddogs
 Saltfish 40
 The Cartel

SATURDAY 28TH JULY

SATURDAY DAYTIME

We're linking with the Hoy Community Association for their annual Produce & Poultry Show and this year it's their 20th anniversary. This is being held at the Hoy Centre on Saturday open to the public from 14.00, any entries for the show can be put in on Friday evening between 20.00-21.00 or Saturday morning 09.00-10.00 Judging starts at 11.00. More details to follow.

The Youth Workers on the island with support from Hoolie funds are putting on kids entertainment on Saturday in Hoy to link with the Hoy Produce & Poultry Show.

SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE YM

Ian Cooper Experience
 Bad Apple
 The Chair

SUNDAY 29TH JULY

The Hoy Kirk are organising musical entertainment and food on Sunday afternoon, further details of this to follow. Funds raised from this will be for the Hoy Kirk.

Tickets on sale from the end of June. Keep up-to-date by checking out the Hoy Hoolie Facebook page and website.

www.hoyhoolie.com/hoy-hoolie-2018/



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: 18th July
Time: 8 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 2018



February

Total rainfall for month 51mm
Highest rainfall in 24hrs. 7.6mm
on 19th.
Highest max. temp. 9.0c on 20th.
Lowest max. temp. -0.8c on 28th.

Ave. max. temp. 6.3c

Lowest min. temp. -4.2c on 28th.

Highest min. temp. 5.5c on 19th.

Ave. min. temp. 1.3c

Ave. temp. for Feb. 3.8c

March

Total rainfall for month 154.2mm
Highest rainfall in 24hrs. 49.2mm on 27th.
Highest max. temp. 10.6c on 22nd.
Lowest max. temp. 0.5c on 1st.
Ave. max. temp. 6.3c

Lowest min. temp. -5.5c on 18th.

Highest min. temp. 5.6c on 21st.

Ave. min. temp. 1.1c

Ave. temp. for March 3.7c

April

Total rainfall for month 48.1mm
Highest rainfall in 24hrs. 8.7mm
Highest max. temp. 16.5c on 18th.
Lowest max. temp. 4.7c on 3rd.
Ave. max. temp. 11.0c
Lowest min. temp. -2.3c on 1st.
Highest min. temp. 9.6c on 18th.
Ave. min. temp. 3.8c
Ave. temp. for April 7.4c.

Jeff Clark

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 (April) must be submitted by 10th July 2018