

Hello!

Welcome to the March newsletter. It's great to see the lighter nights again and we are finally adjusted to the clock change. We had our AGM this month and have some exciting projects happening over the summer. If you are jetting off somewhere nice for the Easter Holidays we hope you have a great time!

We hope that you find it an interesting read and if you have anything you would like to add please get in touch. Email: ncdcoffice@northmavine.com Phone: 01806 544 222 or just nip into the office if you are passing by.

NCDC Projects

Old Urafirth School

NCDC are excited to announce we have been successful in our Stage 1 Scottish Land Fund application and have received just over £9000. This money will be used to conduct a housing needs assessment for the whole of Northmavine and get an architectural feasibility study and concept drawings of the Old Urafirth School done. We will be working on this over the next few months.

Winter Warm Spaces

NCDC is working with Shetland Islands Council to offer Winter Warm Spaces in each of the halls through to the end of March. There will be Soup and Tea/Coffee available for free. Come along for some board games, company and a chat. We will also have information about the support available for the current cost of living crisis. This is supported by the SIC Winter Activities Fund. Unfortunately the North Roe and Lochend Hall and Hillswick Hall dates had to be cancelled due to the snow. There is one date left at the Ollaberry Hall Friday 31st March 11am - 2pm.

Bruckland Festival

Date for you diary, NCDC will be hosting a Bruckland Festival on the 31st August until the 3rd September. Over the long weekend we will have a variety of things on offer including talks, workshops, a repair shop, clothes swap and much more. If you have skills that could be helpful for the repair shop or are interested in hosting a workshop, or would be happy to volunteer to help out, please speak to Charlotte.

AGM

We had our AGM on the 19th of March at the Ollaberry Hall alongside Sunday Teas. There was a good turn out of folk. There was an update on all current projects as well as from our trading subsidiaries the Hillswick Shop and Nortenergy. We had one new director join the board.

Junior board

NCDC are working with the Brae High School to get a junior board set up for Northmavine residents. We hope the junior board will be able to share issues for young folk living in Northmavine and ideas for projects in the future. If you are interested in being involved, get in touch.



We can hardly believe its April this weekend! April can be a month of changeable weather which offers some challenges in the garden. If you have plants growing undercover, make sure to keep an eye on the weather as it can be a stressful time for plants with cool grey days having bursts of sun, shocking unprepared plants. Now is the time to remove overwintered crops and prepare beds for the next crop. You can also start successional planting of cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, salad and spring onion in module trays which will be ready to plant out in June. Once the ground is warm enough you can plant tatties and onions. Towards the end of the month is the time to plant cucumber, courgette, pumpkin and sweetcorn which will be ready to grow undercover at the end of May.

Last year we ordered a pallet of compost and sold the bags to anyone that wanted them. Would anyone be interested in this again for this year? If you are can you let Charlotte know by Friday 7th April so we can get it ordered.

We are also sad to see Mandy and Yoyo leaving the team this month with the initial funding



coming to an end. We are busy behind the scenes applying for new funding, so watch this space. Charlotte will be continuing with some aspects of the Growing Local project. If you have any questions or thoughts, please get in touch.

Joy's Weather Station, Ollaberry

*"Whether the weather be Cold, or whether the weather be hot
We'll weather the weather, whatever the weather, whether we like it or not."*

February was another wet month with 125% of the average rainfall, 173mm. (7inches). Sunshine, which must show a strong shadow, was only 31 hours in total (46%), and the most in any day was just 4.4 hours. On looking back into the last decade, 2011 – 2021, February recorded around 60 hours sunshine and about 8 hours for the maximum daily total.

Here are a few facts thrown in regarding this month:-

Sunless days 9. Dry days 4. Just 9 days with ground frosts at 9am. Lowest temperature at grass level was -3.8 deg. Celsius on 18th. The highest temperature was 9.8 deg. C, about the norm, and the lowest air temperature was just above zero at 0.2 deg. C. The overall mean temperature was 5.1 deg. C, up by + 1.8 deg. C on the 30 year average! It did not feel like that in the wind!

The wind? Yes 5 gale days, all blowing over 50 mph but not as extreme at this north end of the island as was predicted: viz.

1st Feb. In the early hours of the morning, a left over from the January Up Helly Aa winds. Max gust 52mph.

3rd & 8th Max gust 55 mph.

9th Max gust 53 mph.

20th Max gust 52 mph

These latter 4 days of gales blew during the daytime, causing local and mainland ferries to be cancelled or re-arranged due to rough seas.

However by the end of the month the daylight had extended to 10/11 hours, which cheers us no end. Dare we hope for Spring?

Other News

Ollaberry Kirk Survey

The Ollaberry Kirk are currently consulting the community on ways they kirk could be used in addition to Sunday morning worship. You should have received a consultation in the post this week. Completed surveys need to be returned by the **3rd of April**. You can drop them off at the Hillswick or Ollaberry Shops, the NCDC office at the Ollaberry Hall or you can take a photo/scan and send it to yoyo.buchet@northmavine.com

Library Budget Survey 2023

The library has to make budget savings this year and in future years. There is a lot more going on behind the scenes, and this survey is to give you some information and get your feedback. You can take part in the survey by following this link: <http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/SKV6FL/>

Small Producers Pilot Fund

The Scottish Government announced a new fund this week aiming to grow local food chains. The fund will offer small scale producers a range of new support designed to create more localised supply chains and cut food miles. The fund will replace the Small Farms Grants Scheme, and aims to increase the proportion of food grown and processed by small farms and small holders, and consumed locally by their local community, including those affected by the cost of living crisis. If you are interested in finding out more, head over to <https://www.gov.scot/news/supporting-scotlands-small-producers/>

Viking Community Fund Consultation

There is currently a Shetland wide consultation about what should be done with the money that the Shetland Community Benefit Fund will receive once the Viking wind farm is operational. Paper consultations will be sent to every household during the first two weeks of April, or you can go to their website and fill in the online survey <https://ibp.eu.com/vcfconsultation/>

Spare and Share

Emma Sandison shares here about the new Spare and Share project that has started in Northmavine.

Since the cost of living has increased and remains high, a few of us decided to try and support our local community by setting up 'Spare and Share'.

Spare and Share consists of buckets of non-perishable food items available in bus stops throughout Northmavine. We currently have one at the Hillswick Shop, Valladale and the Hillswick Junction. Soon one will be set in North Roe too, updates about this will be found online.

Susan Bowie, Barbara Sandison and I decided to set this up in the hope that local people and families can benefit from it. We can't bear the thought of people going hungry or struggling. We thought that bus stops seemed a good way to ensure privacy and would be easily available for those who don't own transport.



Since we set this up in February two other communities have done the same, which is fantastic to see. We encourage folk to take what they need and if anyone can donate any non-perishable items that would be greatly appreciated.

What's on

Thursday 30th Mar

Ability Shetland Youth Club at the Hillswick Hall

Dancing at the Ollaberry Hall 7.30-9.30pm

Friday 31st March

Winter Warm Space at the Ollaberry Hall 11am - 2pm

Living Well Hub, Brae 10am - 4pm
Sport & Leisure will be along with sportswear "kits for all" boxes, anyone can take what they need or donate.
Relationship Scotland will also be at the hub.

Saturday 1st April

North Roe & Lochend Hall Anniversary buffet /dance. A few tickets available £20 adults. £10 bairns call: 01806 533368

Wednesday 5th April

Beatrice Wishart MSP – Spring Constituency Surgeries
Hillswick Hall, 11.15am-12noon
North Roe & Lochend Hall, 2.30-3.15pm

500 at the Ollaberry Hall 7.30pm start

Monday 10th April

SWRI meeting Ollaberry Hall

Tuesday 11th April

Maakin and Yarnin Night North Roe Methodist Kirk 7.30-9.30pm

Friday 14th April

Living Well Hub, Brae - Cake, Cuppa and Company 10am - 4pm, everyone welcome

Saturday 15th April

Race Night Ollaberry Hall

Sunday 16th April

Claes and Teas North Roe and Lochend Hall 2pm-5pm

Monday 17th April

Tangwick Haa open for the season 11am-5pm

22nd - 28th April

Da Voar Redd Up - to join in sign up the Shetland Amenity Trust website <https://www.shetlandamenity.org/da-voar-redd-up>

Tuesday 25th April

Maakin and Yarnin Night North Roe Methodist Kirk 7.30-9.30pm

Sunday 4th June

Sunday Brunch North Roe Hall 11am-2pm

Every Monday

Bruckland open 2pm -5pm

The Living Well Hub Brae Youth Centre 10am - 2pm

Northmavine History Group Tangwick Haa 7.30pm

Every Tuesday

Bruckland open 2-5pm

Northmavine Fiddle and Accordion Club Hillswick Hall 7.30pm start

Every Thursday

Makk & Yakk Sullom and Gunnister Hall 7pm start

Every Friday

Northmavine Under 5's Ollaberry Hall 1.30pm - 2.45pm. During term time

The Living Well Hub Brae Youth Centre 10am-4pm

Ollaberry Youth Club October - March. During term time

Every Sunday

Bruckland open 2-5pm