

Hello!

Welcome to the April newsletter. After the snow last month, the sun has been a welcome sight this week! The daffodils are putting on a good show this year and the lambs will be enjoying the sun on their backs. Da Voar Redd Up runs from Saturday 22nd to Friday 28th April this year. Ollaberry Youth Club and the Sullom & Gunnister Hall have registered routes this year. If you would like to join in there is more information in the what's on section at the end of the newsletter.

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

Winter Warm Space

There was a great turn out for the last winter warm space at the end of March in Ollaberry. We are looking at ways to make this a monthly event and will have an update on this for the next newsletter.

Energy Saving Help Bags

Shetland Citizen's Advice Bureau have put together some Energy Saving Help bags which include a draught excluder, hot water bottle, disposable dehumidifier, LED light bulb, hand/feet warmers, torch, selection of energy advice leaflets and a welfare benefit check form. NCDC have 1 of these bags left. We also have a number of blankets, hot water bottles and a couple packs of nappies left over from the Winter Warm Spaces. Get in touch with Charlotte at the office ncdcoffice@northmavine.com, 01806 544 222 to organise collection/ delivery.

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.

Some folk might have noticed the Peerie Poly that has been sitting at Bruckland has disappeared. At the beginning of April we moved it into the walled garden at Tangwick Haa for the summer as part of the current exhibition - Building and Construction. Over the next few weeks it will be planted up with a variety of plants so please go along and have a peep inside!



It's been a week of glorious weather, long may it continue! As we look forward to May in the garden, although the daylight hours continue to increase, and it begins to warm up, temperatures can still drop at night so make sure to keep an eye on tender plants such as tomatoes, aubergines, chillies and

peppers undercover and fleece if necessary. The first week of May is a good time to sow courgettes, pumpkins and sweetcorn. Outside, this is a good time to sow late cabbages, broccoli, kale and cauliflower which should be ready around September. You can also sow herbs outside in May. If you have stone fruit trees undercover, the third week in May and onwards is a good time to prune.

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."

Why ever did I end February's report with hopes of Spring coming soon? I must never do that again!

After a few days SNOW started with a vengeance on Sunday evening, 5th. By Monday morning, 6th, 14cm (5.5 ins) had accumulated. Schools closed, 2 trucks off the road – no snow plough round here, hardly keeping main roads open, but gave up in the end. North East Force 5 wind, carrying snow, filled in where clearing had taken place. Sub-zero minimum temperatures began and continued till 16th.

This pattern of heavy snow showers continued. By Sunday 12th some thaw began, only to be followed on Monday 13th by a big gale day into evening. Tuesday 14th a strong wind was blowing the snow back into where it had been cleared. Schools remained closed for a full 2nd week.

By Thursday 16th thaw began, roads were not good, car parks and passing places still difficult, even until 21st. There were many patches of deep snow, and some odd patches

lasted almost to the end of the month.

It is not easy to measure snowfall and melt it into water and convert it into “rainfall”, in a place where some force of wind is blowing most of the time! A “snowboard” is suggested to place on top of the previous day’s snow, in order to measure any new snow, but the snow was usually blown well clear! We did our best, using a marginally sheltered place, in the rough conditions. In the end our measuring of the total snowfall depth was 87cm, almost 3 feet. And the total month’s precipitation, rain and snow, amounted to 162mm, (135% of March average). Paul’s help has been invaluable.

However, the Sunshine hours accrued until the month’s total reached 116.6 hours, 112% of the 30 year average. This was the first time anywhere near average, was reached since Sept. 2022, and then further back until June 2021. On 14 days the sunshine was recording up to 2.4 hrs before 9am. Most sun in a day was 8.1hrs on 20th .

Temperatures began to rise during the last few days of the month. The mean temperature was 3.2deg.C (norm 4.9deg.C).

North Roe & Lochend Hall Anniversary

Margaret Tulloch gives a round up of the Anniversary do.

The North Roe & Lochend hall celebrated its 30th anniversary this month. The event had had to be postponed due to the heavy snowfall in March.

Around 90 folk gathered at the hall for the buffet which had been prepared by members of the hall committee. The hall chairman welcomed the guests and urged the community to continue to support the hall. She thanked everyone who had helped with the event especially all the young folk who had worked willingly and tirelessly and specially thanked the firms who donated salmon and mussels.

After every one was fed, Andy & Bruce entertained with a song. The hall was cleared and the dancing continued to the Alan Nicholson Band . A number of keen dancers from as far away as the Ness came along for the dance.

Everyone had a great night and the committee would like to thank everyone for their support.



Photos taken by Kirsteen Mullan

Weaving Shed Creator in Residence



Suzanne Morlock, The Weaving Shed's current creator-in-residence invites you to come by and make a fun print that is developed by the sun. In honour of Da Voar Redd Up and Earth Day, Suzanne and Glenn (her husband) have collected some debris from the beaches and other bits, (some donated) to help make these magical, quick and easy prints. Many school children have started to make them and there will be a pop up exhibition of all the work created during the 6 weeks on 7th May.

Suzanne opens the barn doors to The Weaving Shed when she is in working on some of her residency projects and welcomes folks to stop by whenever the doors are open or during set times Thursdays 12-4pm and Sunday noon-4pm or text her to arrange a different time that works for you 07939 335870. Stay for a cup of tea!

Suzanne welcomes everyone to come to The Weaving Shed on Sunday 7th May between 12-4pm to celebrate the artwork the children and adults have made reflecting on care for the planet. Refreshments will be served! Call Suzanne with questions, come make a print and join the community art exhibit.



Social Security Scotland
Tèarainteachd Shòisealta Alba

Social Security Scotland is an Executive Agency of the Scottish Government. It's responsible for delivering Scottish Government benefits with dignity, fairness and respect.

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) and local authorities will also continue to deliver some benefits in Scotland. You can find information on Department for Work and Pensions benefits at gov.uk/benefits

Social Security Scotland currently deliver the following benefits: (Links below open in a new window or download a file)

- [Best Start Grant Pregnancy and Baby Payment](#)
- [Best Start Grant Early Learning Payment](#)
- [Best Start Grant School Age Payment](#)
- [Best Start Foods](#)
- [Carer's Allowance Supplement](#)
- [Child Winter Heating Allowance](#)
- [Funeral Support Payment](#)
- [Job Start Payment](#)
- [Scottish Child Payment](#)
- [Young Carer Grant](#)
- [Child Disability Payment](#)
- [Adult Disability Payment](#)
- [Winter Heating Payment](#)

How Do I Apply?

Visit [Benefits and Grants at mygov.scot](https://mygov.scot) to apply online.

You can also call freephone on 0800 182 2222 (8am to 6pm Monday to Friday) to complete an application over the phone or to request a paper application form.

If you need in-person support, you can arrange to speak with a Client Support Adviser at a location and time that suits you.

This includes:

- at a venue in your local community
- at your home
- in a hospital or prison
- via video call
- telephone appointment

Client Support Advisers can answer queries about Social Security Scotland benefits, help you to complete online or paper application forms, offer other support such as identity and document verification and help with submitting change of circumstances information.

Client Support Advisers can also help refer people or provide information on other relevant services including the Scottish Government's free independent advocacy service.

If you're a British Sign Language user, you can use the [contactSCOTLAND BSL app](#) to contact Social Security Scotland by video relay.

Other News

Scottish Government Consultations

You can head to consult.gov.scot to take part in consultations which may interest or impact you. You can also see the published responses and analysis from past consultations. Currently there are 14 open consultations ranging from minimum number of learning hours in schools, community wealth building and a review of adult disability payment. You can also sign up for their mailing list to be kept informed.

2023 Agricultural Survey

The 2023 Agricultural census opens on 1st June. The quickest and easiest way to complete it, is online through Rural Payments and Services (RP&S). If you do not have an RP&S account linked to your business, create one here: www.ruralpayments.org/topics/your-business/

Bike Month Challenge 1st - 31st May

Riders everywhere have one mission - to get more people riding than ever before. Riders will earn points by riding their bikes and encouraging others, and workplaces with the most points will top the leader boards. It's totally free to take part and everyone is invited to join the fun! For more info on how to take part, head to [Love to Ride](#).

NCDC own five ebikes available for hire all year round for £15 a day or £75 a week. If you would like to try one either email us at ncdcoffice@northmavine.com or phone 07507975301

What's on

Saturday 22nd April

Voar Redd Up - meet at the Sullom & Gunnister Hall at 3pm, everyone welcome

Sunday 23rd April

Voar Redd Up - meet at the Ollaberry Hall at 10am, everyone welcome

Tuesday 25th April

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

Wednesday 26th April

Session Music Night North Roe & Lochend Hall 7.30pm. Bring your instrument or just come and listen.

Thursday 27th April

Chinese Takeaway Ollaberry Hall 4-8pm

Sunday 7th May

Pop up community art exhibition Weaving Shed Gallery 12-4pm

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

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

Weaving Shed open 12-4pm

Every Friday

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

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

Every Sunday

Bruckland open 2-5pm

Weaving Shed 12-4pm