



We hope this newsletter finds you cosy and warm this winter, surrounded by all that you need.

There has been a bit of a reshuffle here at NCDC and Polycrub. Polycrub have moved into their new office at Bruckland which is located just to the left of the junction in front of the big Shed, we are plan to move over to the Polycrub's old office in the New Year.

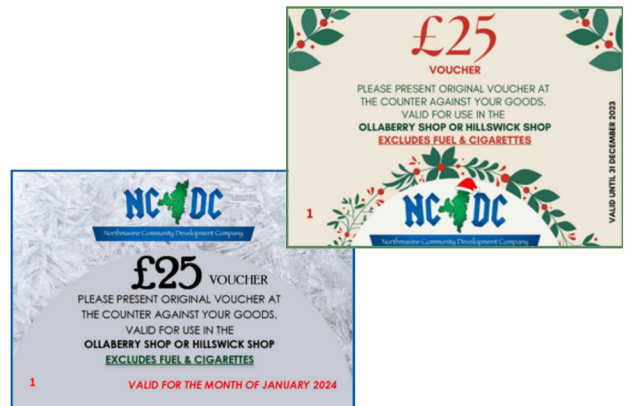
NCDC will be closed from Friday 22nd December and open again on Friday the 5th January, meanwhile Bruckland will be closed from the 19th December till the 8th January.

We would like to wish our community a very Merry Christmas and all the best for 2024!



Christmas Vouchers

We hope you've kept hold of the vouchers we sent out last month, as you can now spend the December voucher in the shops, just make sure you lay the January voucher in a safe place for next month!



Christmas Gift Guide

Our Christmas Gift Guide is now available, there are copies at the Ollaberry Shop, Hillswick Shop and Bruckland. The guide has just a fraction of all the lovely craftmakers here in Northmavine.



Festive Competition!

Polycrub are running competition for photos of your festive Polycrubs. All you have to do is send in your photos of your festive Polycrubs, for the chance to win a gardening voucher. This can easily be posted, so entries from Polycrubbers everywhere are welcome.

Please message us your photos by New Years Eve, along with anything you'd like to say, and we'll post them up on social media to spread a bit of festive cheer. People can then vote by liking the photo of their favourites, and the photo with the most likes by January 8th will win the prize.

People can vote on as many different photos as they choose, but please only vote for each photo once.

We can't wait to start receiving festive photos!

By sending in photos and any text, Polycrubbers are agreeing to photos being posted on X, Instagram and Facebook. This isn't sponsored, endorsed or administered by, or associated with Facebook in any way.



December has certainly brought the cold weather. The Winter months is the best time to get tidied up for the year ahead. If you have any room inside for any containers or pots, and if you haven't brought them inside yet, bring them inside to protect them from the harsh frost we've been having recently.

Something that you can get started with is a new compost heap, having tidied up the garden, and cut back the perennials, together with these cuttings, vegetable peelings, and fallen leaves - if there are any left and not blown away! - can be turned in to compost for use later next year. Other products that can be put in your compost heap are:

- Cardboard egg boxes and scrunched up paper, though these are slower to break down, they produce vital fibres and allow air pockets for form within the pile, creating an all-round healthy compost
- Crushed eggshells provide valuable minerals
- Teabags, some teabags still contain microplastics which aren't good for the environment, check the packaging or the manufacturer's website to see if your favourite brew is plastic free.
- Air, turning and mixing up your compost helps to aerate and mix up the waste and cuttings, which leads to faster composting.



NCDC Projects

The Weaving Shed – Hillswick

Esmé Wilcock is planning to hold more open days in the Weaving Shed Gallery on Sundays, from the 13th January from 12-3pm throughout 2024 along with an exhibition during the summer.

The studio apartment which is rented through AirBnB continues to be busy for guests from near and as far as Europe and the United States.

Bruckland Community Fridge

In last year's Christmas newsletter, you may remember we had a successful funding application to the Hubbub Foundation for a Polycrub to be sited at Bruckland for use as a Community Fridge, we finally took delivery of the Peerie Poly Opal mid-November. The aim of the community fridge is reducing food waste in our local community, by having both a fridge and a freezer inside, we hope that this will encourage our community to share and support each other. We plan to get the Community Fridge underway in the New Year, if you are interested in volunteering for the project, please get in touch with us at ncdcoffice@northmavine.com

These jobs would include some of the following:

- Picking up food donations from various stores
- Sort through and organise food donations, ensuring food is stored correctly.
- Keeping track of stock
- Monitor best before and use by dates and dispose of food not safe to use.



November Weather

by Joy French, Ollaberry

What swings we have had in the weather this November!

Fluctuating from gale to calm, we had 6 gale days viz. 1st 2nd, 18th 19th, 23rd 24th, spread throughout the month, with more days of high winds around the latter two dates, giving us those 4 days without boats at all.

Between the gales were 7 days of flat or almost calm, some over a 24hour period. Neither was it good news for those with wind mills!

Next was the barometric pressure. During the first 10 days of the month pressure was below 1000 millibars, after which it fluctuated up and down, lowest 977mb, highest 1025mb.

Now to the rainfall --- 2 days, one day just below 1inch viz. 23.3mm on 8th, and one just above viz. 25.7mm on 19th. Interspersed were 7 dry days. So the month's rainfall was below the November average at 144mm (90.5%).

Sunshine hours also dropped below average to 35.9hrs 80% , with 6 days sunless.

Temperatures in brief. Maximum daily temperature was 10.3 deg C, which was the lowest for November since 2010 when it recorded 10.2 C.

The means for the month were below the 30 year average: mean max 7.6 C, mean min 3.6 C, over-all mean 3.6 C, lower by -0.3 C.

10 ground frosts. Lowest grass level temperature was -1.5 C.

Hopefully most of us saw something of the Mirrie Dancers as we dodged the cloud. The moon and the stars have been great too.



House Check

We have been contacted by Glyn Harrison who has recently purchased a house here in Northmavine. They are currently still living and working south while the property is being renovated. They are looking for somebody to check on the property once or twice a month, to check for leaks, run the taps and forward any important post. If you would like to help Glyn, please get in touch by emailing GlynHar@Aol.com



Bruckland continues to be busy, we are always looking for anyone willing to volunteer their time to help. If you sign up to volunteer just a few hours a week, this could reduce your yearly membership fee. We'd like to remind the Bruckland members and members of the community that anything that is placed in the skip that shouldn't be, can result in our skip load being refused, so just a polite reminder to please only put in bulky household waste and metal. If you aren't a Bruckland member it is only £10 to put an item in the skip.



Other News

Festive Essy Kert Days

Non-recyclable rubbish week

Monday 25 December will be collected on
Saturday 23 December

Grey lidded bin (plastic, tins, cans) week

Monday 1 January will be collected on
Wednesday 3 January



You can find the 2024 Refuse Collection Calendar [here](#)

Hillswick Health Centre

The Hillswick Health Centre will be closed on the following days

Sunday 24th, Monday 25th and Tuesday 26th,

Sunday 31st, Monday 1st and Tuesday 2nd

Normal hours will apply for the rest of the Festive period.

Please remember 48 hours required for repeat prescriptions.

Repeat prescriptions cannot be issued or collected on the days the surgery is closed.



HILLSWICK HEALTH CENTRE

Telephone: 01806 503277
Email: shet.hillswickhealthcentre@nhs.scot

Christmas and New Year Opening Hours

Monday 18 December 2023	Open: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday 19 December 2023	Open: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday 20 December 2023	Open: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Thursday 21 December 2023	Open: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Friday 22 December 2023	Open: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday 23 December 2023	Open: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Sunday 24 December 2023	Closed
Monday 25 December 2023	Closed
Tuesday 26 December 2023	Closed
Wednesday 27 December 2023	Open: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Thursday 28 December 2023	Open: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Friday 29 December 2023	Open: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday 30 December 2023	Open: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Sunday 31 December 2023	Closed
Monday 01 January 2024	Closed
Tuesday 02 January 2024	Closed
Wednesday 03 January 2024	Normal hours recommence

48 hours required for repeat prescriptions
Please note: Repeat prescriptions cannot be issued or collected on the days the surgery is closed



HillswickShop
Community Owned Licenced Grocer LTD

Festive Opening Times

Saturday 23rd December: 10am – 5pm

Christmas Eve: 1pm – 4pm

Christmas Day: CLOSED

Boxing Day: CLOSED

Wednesday 27th December: 11am – 3pm

Thursday 28th December: 10am – 6pm

Friday 29th December: 9am – 6pm

Saturday 30th December: 10am – 5pm

New Year's Eve: 1pm – 4pm

New Year's Day: CLOSED

Tuesday 2nd January: CLOSED

Wednesday 3rd January: 11am – 3pm

NORMAL HOURS THEREAFTER

THE BRAE PHARMACY

FESTIVE OPENING HOURS



Saturday 23rd December: 9.00 am – 1.00 pm

Sunday 24th December: CLOSED

Monday 25th December: CLOSED

Tuesday 26th December: CLOSED

27th – 30th December: Normal opening hours

Sunday 31st December: CLOSED

Monday 1st January: CLOSED

Tuesday 2nd January: CLOSED

Wednesday 3rd January: Normal opening hours





Ollaberry Shop
and Post Office

**Christmas and New Year
Opening Hours**

Friday 22 nd December 2023	9.00 am – 6pm
Saturday 23 rd December 2023	9.00 am - 6pm
Sunday 24 th December 2023	2pm - 5pm
Monday 25 th December 2023	CLOSED
Tuesday 26 th December 2023	CLOSED
Wednesday 27 th December 2023	9.00am – 1.30 pm
Thursday 28 th December 2023	9.00 am - 6pm
Friday 29 th December 2023	9.00 am - 6pm
Saturday 30 th December 2023	9.00 am - 6pm
Sunday 31 st December 2023	2pm - 5pm
Monday 1 st January 2024	CLOSED
Tuesday 2 nd January 2024	CLOSED
Wednesday 3 rd January 2024	9.00 am - 1.30 pm

HOURS RETURN TO NORMAL

Friday 29th December

Christmas Spree and Family Bingo 7pm till late - Ollaberry Hall

Saturday 30th December

Festive Gatherings from 8:30pm – Hillswick Hall

Sunday 31st December

United Service 11:00am, Ollaberry Church of Scotland

Saturday 6th January

Bairns Dance + Adults Social 7pm, North Roe & Lochend Hall

Monday 8th January

Bruckland re-opens! 2-5pm

Tuesday 9th January

Bruckland 2-5pm

Thursday 11th January

Makk n Yakk – 7pm Sullom & Gunnister Hall, tea and tabnabs all welcome

Friday 12th January

Lunch Club, Ollaberry Hall 11:30-2pm

Sunday 13th January

Esmé Wilcock Made by Shetland at the Weaving Shed Gallery 12-3pm
Bruckland 2-5pm

Wednesday 17th January

500 7:30pm - Hillswick Hall

Sunday 28th January

Winter Lunch – Sullom & Gunnister Hall

What's On

Saturday 23rd December

Festive Gatherings from 8:30pm – Hillswick Hall

Sunday 24th December

Brae Church of Scotland United Service 11:00am

The Kirk will also be open for quiet reflection from 1-5pm

Catholic Mass 5:00pm

Ollaberry Church of Scotland

Watchnight Service 11:15pm

Thursday 28th December

Northmavine Fiddle & Accordion Club Open Night, everyone welcome, bring your instrument or just come and enjoy the music, supper & raffle 7pm – Hillswick Hall

Raft Race, muster at the North Roe & Lochend Hall at 12pm, the race will be down the burn at the hall, with a light lunch served in the hall.

