



If you'd like to receive the newsletter through email or if you would prefer to receive it in the post, please get in touch and we can arrange that for you.

Email: ncdcoffice@northmavine.com or phone 01806 544222, or just nip into the office if you are passing by.

Shetland Wool Week Patrons Announced

The Doull family from Islesburgh have been chosen as this year's patrons for Shetland Wool Week, the announcement was made during the launch event held on Friday the 26th April at the Shetland Museum.

This year's [hat pattern](#) the *Islesburgh Toorie*, which has been designed by Anne features a Shetland Ram motif which strongly links to the family's involvement in the Shetland Flock Book, a group focused on preserving the unique characteristics of the Shetland sheep breed, along with the 'print of the wave' pattern linking to Margaret's lace knitting.

Shetland Wool Week runs from the 29th September to the 5th October, you can find out more information at www.shetlandwoolweek.com



Ollaberry Hall Office Bearers

The Ollaberry hall has appointed new office bearers at their AGM held earlier this month. Grant Anderson is now the chair, Duane Nicolson is now Vice Chair, Joy Ramsay continues to be Secretary, while Elaine Jamieson is to step down as treasurer.

Climate Cafe

The Shetland Climate Café was launched on Thursday 18 April, at Islesburgh Community Centre,

The aim of the café is to provide an informal monthly meeting space for people to gather and talk about climate issues and our future. The group hope to provide a speaker each month on a topic of interest to the group – so if you have any ideas for a presentation please let them know. For their first meeting they were joined by Sue White, who spoke about peatland restoration in Shetland. Their next meet is on the 16th May, you can find them on Facebook [here](#),

A Comfort Stop at the Ollaberry Kirk

The Ollaberry Kirk is open all year round for a comfort stop, there is self service tea & coffee available along with toilet facilities.



Northmavine Beach Cleaning Group

The Northmavine Beach Cleaning Group went to the West Ayre, Hillswick on Saturday 20th April, 5 bags of bruck was gathered from the beach, a total of 3 bags of fishing gear weighing 15.2kg, and 2 bags of non fishing related litter weighing 8.1kg.

A Scottish Islands Federation Survey was also conducted whilst they cleaned up the beach, over 300 pieces of rope was found, along with lobster tags, oil sample tags, and over 50 shot gun cartridges thought to have come all the way from Canada.



[In The Same Boat](#) is Norwegian beach cleaning group funded by the Norwegian Government, by using professional methods combined with mobility and volunteer effort, they want to create a plastic pollution-free world, and a clean and thriving ocean. The group of volunteers have been working hard cleaning up the coast of Norway which is considered to be the 2nd longest coastline in the world. Their organisation has 4 workboats and 3 sail boats allowing them to get to the smaller islands in Norway and 1 expedition boat which has been kitted out to face the extreme weathers of the Artic and the Antarctica. So far in Norway alone they have gathered over 1500 tonnes of litter since they started in 2017.

They are on a mission to clean up the beaches and coastlines of the UK, they have sailed across from Norway and come up the east coast of Britain and visited Hillswick on the 25th April, having come up from Westray, Orkney earlier in the week. Jane from the Scottish Islands Federation along with NCDG joined up with them to clean up the remaining part of the West Ayre beach on Thursday afternoon following an informative talk which was held in the Weaving Shed.

You can follow In The Same Boat on Facebook & Instagram to keep up with their progress.



Afore da Door Project

A few years ago NCDG director Margaret came up with the idea to create a record of the folk who lived in Northmavine. It was thought the best way to do that was to take photos of local families "afore da door". As part of celebrations for NCDG's 20th Birthday, we want to do this again. We hope to have the original photos and new photos on display in the Weaving Shed Gallery in September. If you would be interested in getting your family photo taken in front of your house please get in touch with us. It would be great to get as many folk as possible involved!

Polycrub for rent

NCDG have been approached to help advertise a 4 x 10 m polycrub which is available to rent for the year. Sylvia is looking for a peppercorn rent and some veggies in return. There are a few established fruit trees in the polycrub already. There is also an outdoor space available too. Tools can be provided.

Sylvia is also looking for a general handyman/ gardener to help out hours and pay negotiable.

If you are interested call Sylvia on 01806 544 266 or alternatively email ncdcoffice@northmavine.com



Our apologies to Joy French, as we missed the February weather report in last month's newsletter, so here is both February & March together

Weather Report for February & March from Joy French, 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 Weather Report

The old saying of "February fill-dyke" certainly came true for us this month, as it rained on every day, all 29 of them ! It is not surprising that Pressure has been very low, with 18 days below 1000 millibars. The total rainfall was 176mm (7 inches) while the 30 year average is 137.5mm (5 ½ ins). The most rain in any day was on 1st with 21.1mm (just short of an inch). A good start!

Not content with that, in the 2nd week we had 6 days with snow lying, up to 10 cm (4 ins), more in some places. Patches of road were blown in, and dug out by local folk, as well as the council gritters.

The wind has played a big part in the month's difficulties. There were 6 official gale days – MET office criteria for a gale day is that the wind must blow for a 10 minute average for at least 39mph, Force 8. Ours lasted longer than that! February left the worst to the last day, when on the 29th the wind blew Force 8 to 10 from the early hours until it eased to F8 in the evening! The maximum gust was 60 mph. Two more days reached 50 mph plus, and 6 more reached 40mph plus.

Temperature.

The highest daily temperature was 10.2deg Celsius on 2nd, the lowest -1.7degC, and the lowest grass temperature - 3.8deg C on 7,8th. There were 18 ground frosts. Temperatures felt much colder with the wind chill, but were actually + 0.4degC above the average mean at 4.5degC. Sometimes, when the wind direction changed, it was warmer at night than in the daytime!

Sunshine.

Listen to this! Sunshine hours were 53.7hr for the month, but 38 of those hours did not come until the last week! The first 3 weeks shared 15.7hrs of sunshine between them. No wonder we were getting desperate in those dark days!

March Weather Report

Before the more mundane observations for this month, might you have been outside around 9pm or so on Wed. 20th March? Did you see a huge circle of light in the South Western sky, with the large (almost full) moon at its centre? You were watching a 22degree lunar halo. It was the best we have seen since coming to Shetland 21 years ago. The outer circle was complete, and very clear.

Following this on 26th, how about the huge fluffy flake SNOW shower, which surprised us by arriving between 8 and 10 am that morning, covering the ground with 3 inches of lying snow so quickly, and thawing by midday! Was it anything to do with long 8 hours of sunshine the previous day, (25th), which was the most in any day that month?

Another surprise!

Rainfall was less than average this month with 105.8mm, just above 4 inches, and 88% of 30yr. average. One third fell in the first half of the month, and two thirds in the second half. There were 4 dry days and 7 more below 1mm. There were no extreme amounts on any single day, the highest being 11.2mm on 28th.

Total sunshine hours were very low. In fact, at 63.4 hours, only 61% of average, it was the lowest March figure in my records (21years). This made it a very dark month until the last week, which included 3 days, accruing 17hrs between them!



Winds have continued to be strong, but only 2 actual gale days were recorded, one of which was also the only fog day, but also on other days high winds have caused disruptions in the timetables of ferries, and some flights, with some being cancelled.

The mean temperatures for this month are exactly the same as in March 2010. In both years the mean temperatures were as follows: Mean max 7.8deg C; Mean min 3.7deg C; and overall Mean 5.8deg C. which made a difference of +0.9deg C above the 30 year norm. Even so there were 14 ground frosts during the month, and the lowest temperature at grass level being -5.1degC on 26th.

What's On:

Friday 10th May

Chinese Takeaway, 4-8pm phone 503 265
Hillswick Hall

Sunday 12th May

Suppers Night, Sit in or Takeaway, phone 503 265
Hillswick Hall

Saturday 25th May

End of Lambing Dance to Peter Wood Dance Band including supper. 8pm - 1am Over 16s £10, under 16s £5, primary school bairns free.
Ollaberry Hall

Friday 31st May

Closing date for entries to Shetland Library's Young Writer 2024 + Shetland Dialect Short Story Competition for the Rhoda Bulter Award for more information go to the Shetland Library [website](#).

Sunday 2nd June

Annual Plant Sale & Teas
Hillswick Hall - more info to follow
Car Wash & Breakfast Roll Morning 10-12pm
Ollaberry Primary School

Sunday 9th June

Sunday Teas 2-4pm
Sullom & Gunnister Hall

Sunday 23rd June

Fairy Afternoon Tea, 1-3pm
Tickets available [here](#)
North Roe & Lochend Hall

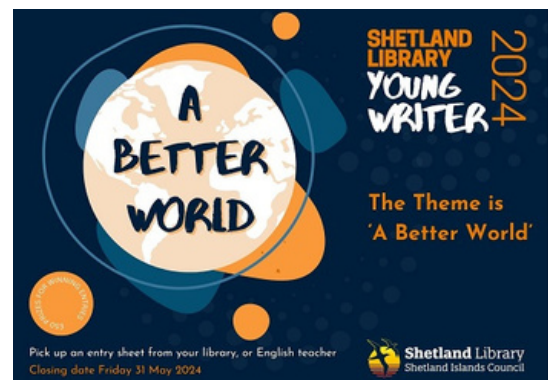
Shetland Library Young Writer Competition 2024

The deadline is fast approaching for the Shetland Library Young Writer Competition, their theme this year is 'A Better World.' They have 3 separate categories: age 7 - 9, age 10 - 12 and 13 - 18.

They are looking for either an original poem or an original short story (750 words max.) written in English or Shetland Dialect, the winner gets £50!

Your child can pick up an entry sheet from the Shetland Library or your English teacher, the deadline for the competition is the **31st May 2024**.

You can find more information [here](#) about the competition.



Every Monday

Bruckland open 2pm -5pm
The Living Well Hub Brae Youth Centre 10am - 2pm
Northmavine History Group, Tangwick Haa Museum, 7:30pm

Every Tuesday

Bruckland open 2-5pm
Northmavine Fiddle and Accordion Club Hillswick Hall 7.30pm start
Makkin & Yarnin, North Roe Methodist Kirk, 7:30pm, (Fortnightly from 12th March)

Every Friday

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

Every Sunday

Bruckland open 2-5pm

