

The Shapinsay Sound

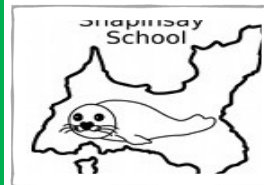


LOCAL

The newsletter for the island of Shapinsay produced by the Shapinsay Development Trust.
Registered Charity Number: 80034818; Registered Company Number: SC255127.

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It feels like Term 1 has flown by! The children's learning in class has again been supplemented by visits and visitors. Both primary classes had visits from the SSPCA, to tie in with the older class's work about animals. P1 – 3 also had a visit from the dentist as part of their learning about the human body.

The Nursery children have been busy as well, producing lots of models in particular. Next term a lot of the learning will focus around the science of light and sound, and the festivals of light. We will also be starting to think about Christmas and learning some Christmas music to sing and play.



Lisa and Jennifer are our new Junior Road Safety Officers. At the start of the new term they will be getting some training which they will use to promote road safety to others.

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SHAPINSAY
DEVELOPMENT
TRUST

The Shapinsay Sound

From the Chair

by Steven Bews

November 2017

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Well despite hoping for a dry October at the start of my last report I think we have all been disappointed with what October's weather had to offer us. On a far more positive note this week has seen the draft results from the Housing Needs Survey being distributed to the Island Development Trusts whose communities took part in the survey. The number of returned surveys from Shapinsay is really encouraging as it reinforces the case to funders that there is a need for investment on the Island. The next step in this process will be to form a housing strategy, so that the Trust together with the community, and in conjunction with Central and Local Government officials, can work towards fulfilling the needs identified in the survey. The survey was intended to allow us to gather public opinion which would form the basis of any future decisions, but these decisions still require approval from the community.

The information gathered from the survey was not limited to housing needs, but also gave an insight into Shapinsay's economic and social situation at the moment. This additional information is incredibly valuable, as it can help to inform future decisions on what Shapinsay needs, and can be used as evidence of need when approaching funding providers in the future.

I would like to arrange a public meeting as soon as it is practical to do so, so that the findings of the survey can be discussed with the community and relevant stakeholders. The survey results, along with this public consultation can then form the basis of deciding how best to develop any housing or other social project which the community could progress. It will be interesting to see what projects the other Island communities who took part in the survey will be taking forward too.

Whilst I had hoped to have a launch date for a new development plan by this newsletter, it has not been possible due to the time staff have had to dedicate to ensuring the continuity of the services we provide and to furthering current projects. We will publicise both of these events in due course.



Heart Start Machine is located on the wall directly opposite the electric charge point

Wur al Spaekin' Orcadian!

By Leanne Bews



We have been doing a bit of Orcadian each year in the school as and when it fitted in, but when it was suggested in a staff meeting that we do it each year in the autumn term I decided it would be a good idea to come up with some focussed project ideas. I started this term by having a discussion with both classes in the school about what the Orcadian dialect means to them. The response was that some were concerned that Orcadian is dying out and that they think it needs to be kept alive, they were all keen to explore common and forgotten Orcadian words.

After some discussion with the bairns we decided the best place to start would be by creating a word bank, which will hopefully make future projects a bit easier. After a bit more discussion we decided an interactive word bank with recorded voices would be the most fun way to do that. I don't think any of us realised when we started the project just how big a project it would become. We started with both classes brain storming as many words as they could think of, the P1-3 have then turned their words into an Orcadian wordbook, we then asked for suggestions of words and were inundated with responses from folk in Shapinsay and further afield via the Shapinsay Facebook page.

We then collated all the words and P4-7 alphabetised them and began to add meanings to each one (with the help of Orcadian dictionaries), we then came up with a sentence which we thought showcased the way the word is used. Then began the process of recording, a mammoth task with over 160 words, meanings and phrases to be individually recorded!



Thankfully the Trust offered to loan us their recorder, as the school recorder is somewhat antiquated, and Lynne kindly agreed to come in and show the bairns how to use it. The P4-7 bairns were asked whether they identified themselves as having an Orcadian accent or not, those who have an Orcadian accent have recorded the Orcadian words and those who don't have recorded the meanings.

We then put an appeal out for Orcadian voices and Sheila Garson, Samantha Muir and Marjory Kent kindly agreed to loan us theirs. They came into school and had some sessions with the bairns recording the sentences. Annette Kirkpatrick, Steven Bews and Heather Robertson also loaned us their

voices, but unfortunately for them they only got to record them with me.

We then began putting all the recordings into an interactive PowerPoint presentation and drawing illustrations for the PowerPoint. As I write this the PowerPoint isn't yet finished, as I am still inputting the recordings we have made along with the drawings, and I am still trying to get more Orcadian voices recorded, so if you see me coming towards you armed with a recorder please don't run away, it is honestly quick and painless. Or if you would like to have your voice recorded please get in touch with the school.

We are not sure yet what we are going to do with the PowerPoint once it is finished, but we have been asked if this is something we might be able to put on CD-ROM to sell or something which could be published online.

We will be investigating this next term and will keep everyone posted.



Shapinsay Surgery



Shapinsay Surgery GP Clinic Times

After reviewing our summer arrangements in Shapinsay we have decided to continue with an increased number of appointments over two GP clinics per week. It has been calculated that only 42% of the appointments on offer were used during the trial so this new service meets demand.

It was also found that the late clinic appointments on a Monday evening were not being requested. With this in mind, and winter approaching, we have decided to provide a clinic over lunchtime instead. We will also hold an early clinic in Kirkwall from 8.00am on a Monday which may be more suitable for some of our Shapinsay patients.

The GP clinics will now be held on a **Monday 12.30 – 16.00** and **Thursday 9.00 – 12.00**.

A Nurse Practitioner will be available every day as normal and appointments can also be booked at Heilendi Practice. These changes will commence on Monday 9th October 2017.

The new administration opening hours will be as follows:

Monday –	12:15 – 16:00
Tuesday –	12 noon – 14:45
Wednesday –	Closed
Thursday –	09:00 – 13:15
Friday –	12 noon – 13:15

Please bear in mind that if you need to book appointments or order prescriptions outwith the Shapinsay reception hours our administrative staff at Heilendi can do so.

Once again all feedback is welcome. There is a comments box in the Shapinsay Surgery waiting room which is checked regularly.

Nurse Practitioner Surgeries— Appointments with the Nurse Practitioner are available as follows:

Monday	Blood Clinic from 9am to 10.20am, normal appointments from 10.30am to 11am and 2pm to 4pm.
Tuesday	9am to 11am and 2pm to 4pm
Wednesday	10am to 11am and 6pm to 7pm
Thursday	Blood Clinic from 9am to 10.20am, normal appointments from 10.30am to 11am and 2pm to 4pm.
Friday	9am to 11am and 2pm to 4pm

Emergencies and Out of Hours

The nurse practitioner provides 24/7 cover for emergencies if you require emergency assistance, you should contact the Shapinsay Nurse via the **Balfour Hospital switchboard on 888000, or dial 999**. If you want advice or reassurance on symptoms or medication, you can contact **NHS24 on 111**.

You can leave a non-urgent message out of hours on the nurses surgery number (**711348**) which will be listened to the next working day.

Zero Waste Kate!



A Shapinsay resident is being hailed a zero waste heroine for her 'reduce, re-use, re-cycle' lifestyle.

Kate Fereday Eshete of Millbank is featured in the latest newsletter from OIC's Environmental Services department as a shining example of living in an environmentally friendly way.

Kate doesn't use the refuse collection services on the island and has even given up her wheelie bin. After years of living a simple lifestyle in Ethiopia, where she runs a school,

Kate makes a point of buying fresh, unpackaged food wherever possible. Whenever she has some small items of light plastic rubbish she drops them off in a bin in Kirkwall. You can read the full story about Kate and pick up some tips and tricks about re-cycling by going online to see the newsletter at

<http://www.orkney.gov.uk/Service-Directory/R/Recycling.htm>

Kirk



Philosophy for Community

is a monthly opportunity for an informal discussion about big questions. We start with a thinking stimulus (for example a poem, video clip, story, quote or pictures) and the discussion goes wherever the group take it. Please come along if you'd like to see what it's all about, everyone is welcome.

We meet in the back room of the Kirk (please come to the side door) on the first Wednesday of each month from 7.30pm until about 9.



The uniformed organisations (Guides, Brownies, Rainbows, Cubs and Beavers) joined with Sunday Club at the Harvest Thanksgiving service.

Shapinsay Cubs and Beavers



The Cubs and Beavers visited the Fire Station where Barry and Darren showed us the equipment, the special clothing and the appliance. Most of the children (sadly we emptied the tank before everyone had a go!) had a shot at using the hose. We will be following this up next term by talking about how to stay safe near fire and what to do in an emergency.

The Cubs and Beavers have also been to the climbing wall at the Picky, where they all showed amazing spider like climbing skills! They worked well to help and support each other, and the children who climb regularly were able to help the others.

Many thanks to the SDT and to Karen and Fiona – your donations and funding mean that the children get to try different things.



Matthew and Logan have now taken their promises as Cubs.

Fireworks



Bonfire and Fireworks

SATURDAY

**4th November
6.30pm
at the
Gas house**



Shapinsay Youth Drop-In Centre

By Markus Muir



As you may remember I was successful in securing £500 from the Your Island Your Choice Fund towards a project to start a Shapinsay Youth Drop-in Centre at the Boathouse.

This was a few months back now and since then many people have been working hard to help make this project happen. I am very thankful for the support of the Shapinsay Development Trust for the use of the Boathouse and its facilities for the drop-in.

I am excited to announce that we now have a starting date of the 10th of November. It will be open on Fridays from 8.30pm to 10.30pm to make sure it doesn't overlap with Youth Club, and on Saturdays from 7.30pm to 10.30pm.

There may be a few exceptions in order to avoid meetings and other events.

The Youth Drop-in Centre is aimed at anyone aged 12 to 17 and will be a great place to meet and interact with others of the same age group, which is not in school or an organised club.

There will be an on-call rota of parents or guardians who have to give their permission for young people to attend the unsupervised drop-in.

The £500 from the Your Island Your Choice Fund can be spent on anything the users decide to buy, everyone will get a chance to suggest what they think should be bought. There may also be a tuck shop of some sort to keep up funds for the Youth Drop-in Centre.

This project will be run and supported by the youth of Shapinsay.

Shapinsay Handbell Group



We now have a borrowed set of handbells for the next year. The handbell group will be meeting again on Mondays at 7pm in the Music Room.

All are welcome to come and join in – no musical ability is necessary!

Children are welcome to come along as well but must be accompanied by an adult. If you would like to know more please contact Emma on 711740.

Shapinsay Wildlife Matters

by Paul Hollinrake

A rare hoopoe sighting and Gavin the gannet.

On a blustery late September day I came around the corner of a building at Sandsend and nearly stepped on a blackbird sized very pink and black and white bird. It flew off out of sight over a wall, and I knew instantly that it was a bird I'd never seen in Orkney before, but was familiar with seeing in Greece. It was a hoopoe.



Hoopoes breed all over many parts of Europe and the nearest ones to us are found in northern France. They are extremely striking birds with pink bodies and head, with flashy black and white wings and tails. We relocated our bird and watched it pecking for insects on the ground for a few minutes, and saw it fly short distances and each time its crest became erect briefly on landing. Of course I had no camera on me, so we had to be content with watching and relying on the internet for these fine pictures. They normally inhabit farmland with copses and bushes, but are naturally wary of humans. We had fleeting glimpses of the bird over two days, both at Sandsend and up at Skenstoft, and I later heard that Gladys and Ian Gray saw what was probably the same bird at Gebro. A hoopoe was seen on Papay for a few days before ours, so it may well have been the same individual. They are rare birds in Orkney, but one is often seen somewhere each year, and I remember Catherine Zawadski telling me she had seen one on the lawn at Balfour Castle many years ago. Hoopoes nest in holes in a tree or wall, and sort of say their name when singing a soft but far carrying "oop-oop-oop", a calming sound which reminds me of warm Mediterranean climes, rather than the wilds of Orkney. Hopefully this hoopoe is now back on track in its African wintering grounds.



Many folk marvelled at seeing lots of gannets feeding close in to Shapinsay shores early in October, with spectacular diving birds in Elwick Bay in particular. Gary and Evelyn Nicolson asked me to come and inspect a gannet they had seen on the ground amongst the houses at Helliar View. It had landed exhausted in the storm. So I took it home and put it in a cage in the boathouse at Sandsend as it was too weak to fly and the weather was appalling. Mel and I donned leather gloves and goggles and fed it fresh cod from our freezer. We opened its extremely powerful beak with our gloved hands and popped in the fish with a spoon, covering the wind pipe with another spoon. It was amazing how wide it could open its mouth once it realized we were trying to feed it. We contacted the SSPCA for help, but they were unable to do anything for the bird, so we were kind of stuck with it. John Leslie was a great help, providing horse mackerel from his creel bait store, and we continued to feed it two or three good sized fish a day for several more days.

At last the wind died down a bit and we decided to let Gavin go as he was now known, and he seemed a lot stronger. We took him down to Sandgarth beach and sat him on the edge of the sea. He looked around then swam off strongly into the String until we could no longer see him. He occasionally flapped his wings and stretched his neck, but unfortunately we never saw him fly and have no way of knowing if he survived.

In an extraordinary twist to this tale, 10 days later, a gannet flew from the sea and landed on the boathouse roof at Sandsend. Now I've seen a lot of gannets in my time, but never seen one land on a house. They normally land on a cliff, or just spend the night out at sea. It was late in the day, and as it got dark, we saw the gannet was roosting on the gable end. The next day he was gone. It's a long shot and probably far too far-fetched an idea, but it would be nice to think this was Gavin trying to tell us he was OK now. I'll settle for that Gavin.