

A note from the Chair – signing off

As most of you may be aware, after 4 years on the Development Trust board, with the last 2 years as Chair, for various reasons, I have decided it's time for me to step down, both from the Chair role and from the board. Whilst coming to this decision, which wasn't an easy one, I spent some time reflecting on the last 4 years on the SDT board, especially the last 2 years as Chair. This role was something I never envisaged I would do, and after an initial hesitant start, I hope I've carried out the role to the best of my ability.

It has been a sharp learning curve for me, challenging at times, interesting, sometimes frustrating but rewarding too, especially when projects are coming to completion.

During my first 2 years as a board member, I supported the chair and board by taking part in various meetings and discussions, and then initiated talks with a couple of local agencies regarding the need for home carers in Shapinsay.

Around this time, we had the opportunity to be involved with the introduction of funded Wellbeing Co-ordinators in Orkney. I took part in these initial talks and recruitment for this post in Shapinsay.

When in post, Alison, our Wellbeing Co-ordinator took over the discussions with Crossroads and shortly after they employed home carers for Shapinsay. This continues to be a valued service, with some of the costs to clients being funded by SDT.

Since I was asked to be Chair, following our September 2019 A.G.M., several projects have been delivered in line with our previous and current island development plans.

The most notable of these is the housing project. This was started earlier, with public consultations and then, due to the high unexpected costs of the initial project at another public meeting in October 2019 the focus was changed from building new houses to buying 2 empty houses to fully renovate and provide affordable rented accommodation, with a view to attracting families to live in Shapinsay.

These were bought and renovated during 2020/21, with some delays mainly due to legal work and shortage of building supplies at that time.

Most of the work on these properties was funded by outside agencies, keeping the costs to us to a minimum.

Other projects and activities during the last 2 years mainly include those related to the pandemic. We have our Wellbeing co-ordinator to thank for many of these (plus the volunteers that came forward to help), as she was able to quickly identify the immediate needs as they were required.

As in all projects, we worked together to develop the projects as quickly as possible and find the appropriate funding sources, whilst having to adhere to all the ever-changing guidelines at that time.

These activities included; providing about 100 weekly

grocery boxes and also ready meals weekly, for 14 weeks. This involved ordering weekly supplies, preparing and arranging for delivery or collection of the boxes and meals as well as ordering all the weekly supplies and keeping accurate details of all the finances, paperwork, statistics and feedback for the funders. As well as Alison and myself, we had another board member (Richard) helping pack the boxes and unload the weekly pallet of supplies, and Craig volunteered to help pack and deliver boxes and meals. Sourcing and providing sanitiser (plus refills when needed, providing free face coverings. These were made by local volunteers, initially with donated fabric until we ran out of supplies and had to supplement it with locally bought fabric and elastic.

Piece Place, a weekly pop-up cafe in the Kirk. This was run by Alison plus a paid part time post, and volunteers. This proved to be well supported.

Cast Affs, charity shop, still open and again providing a part time employment post. In addition, we are shortly going to be able to offer the hire of e-bikes to residents and any visitors. It was hoped that this would have started earlier this year, but it has been delayed for several reasons such planning delays and shortage of building supplies.

In line with SDT objectives to provide local employment, under the Kickstart scheme we have employed Alex to run this project as part of his work experience. The Kickstart scheme lasts for 6 months, and then this employment is being extended for a further 12 months, partially funded by OIC.

More recently, we have appointed a Community Development Officer to work with the SDT board, carrying out research, developing ongoing and future projects, primarily as outlined in the 2020/25 Development Plan and including consulting with you, the community.

During the last year we have increased the number of defibrillators available in Shapinsay, to help ensure that one is available from most locations

As a financially responsible organisation, we source funding when possible, so we can protect our own funds for our ongoing annual costs and enable the SDT to be financially secure. This also helps us to obtain funding, as we have a proven record in finance management and carrying out projects successfully.

To obtain this funding, we need to demonstrate community involvement and support. This is done partly by the current development plan action points and also, more importantly, by specific surveys and/or public meetings, for which we rely on your support to reply or attend. It doesn't matter whether you agree or not with our proposals, it's the number of replies that the funders are looking for to demonstrate community involvement and support (or not perhaps).

There have been comments, both before I joined the board 4 years ago as well as more recently, about the trusts perceived lack of communication with the community. Continued on page 2.....

We have tried to improve this over the last few years, but to work well communication needs to be by both parties, and at times this is hard work, as in the recent survey about the Smithy/cafe etc. After lots of prompts and reminders from our Development manager enough replies were eventually received to make it a valid survey.

When it does work well, as in our recent well attended EGM post meeting discussion, we received a lot of valuable feedback.

Dealing with negative comments is one of the hardest things about being part of the Trust, often these claims are unfounded and based on misinformation. My personal response to this is always - go directly to the organisation concerned, with an open mind, and find out for yourself if there is anything to be concerned about. I would urge you do the same by contacting us directly, our door is open every day. I personally heard negative comments before I joined the board, and had I discovered that there was any truth behind them I would have left long ago.

On a more positive note, following community consultation and support, we are currently communicating with OIC regarding possible purchase of both The Smithy and the land near Helliar View, both for community use, The Smithy being renovated for use as a cafe and Heritage Centre. We are also actively seeking funding for both these projects. More about this will be presented at the meeting held straight after the AGM on Thursday 7th October, 7pm.

And, as a final note, I want to thank all those who've been there to support me, over the last couple of years. I don't need to mention names, you all know who you are.

Jean Coomber.

Thank you

I would like to say thank you so much to the staff, pupils and parents of the Shapinsay School for the lovely bench that I received on my retirement.

From Heather

Ivan is 90!

Happy Birthday Ivan



Ivan Hourston turned 90 on the 26th of September. For those of you that might know Ivan, he's lived on Shapinsay all his life, and was a keen boat builder for most of that. He built his last boat in 2000, the Peedie Ivan-Ho.

He was in the Coastguard for 42 years and was officer in charge for at least 10 years of that.

He now spends his retirement Gardening, dancing when it's allowed and looking after Emma Clements dog Dillan, which (mostly) keeps him out of mischief!



Job available on Shapinsay

OIC - DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Roads and Environmental Services – Operations
Isles Operative 1 (Ref: ORK05040) Relief posts in
Flotta, Shapinsay, Eday, Stronsay and Westray
£11.08 per hour (including Distant Islands
Allowance) We are looking for Isles Operatives on
a number of our Isles to assist the Team Leader
Operations in the delivery of safe, compliant,
effective and efficient Planned, Cyclical, Reactive
and Emergency works undertaken by the Roads and
Environmental Services workforce.

You will assist in the delivery of a range of activities
relating to the maintenance of the islands roads
including pot hole repairs, drainage, verge works,
signing, lining etc. You will also assist with the
delivery of gritting and, where required, reactive
repairs associated with flooding and storm damage.

You would be required to hold a current driver's
licence which allows the operation of vehicles from
a minimum of 8.25 tonnes gross weight. Interested
parties for each position must be resident on the isle
to which their applications relate.

Prospective applicants are invited to discuss this
post by contacting John Wrigley, Roads and
Environmental Services Manager by e-mail
john.wrigley@orkney.gov.uk or telephone (01856)
872311 ext. 243. Further information is available
from, and online applications can be made through
www.myjobscotland.gov.uk/councils/orkney-
islands-council/jobs/mjs_int Closing Date Sunday
10 October 2021. Please note that interview and
relocation expenses are not payable for these
positions.

darn good yarn



Saturday 9th & 23rd October

At The Boathouse

Drop in from 2pm -4pm

Bring along your knitting, crochet, sewing whatever craft
you enjoy, stitch a yarn and have a yarn!

Refreshments provided

Everyone welcome

Free to attend.

Any queries to Alison Meason 📞 711733 The Boathouse
or 0786 762 2814



Thursday 7th October
The Boathouse
From 2pm

Have you had a previous cancer diagnosis? Are
you affected or have been affected by cancer in
anyway? Would you like to have a yarn over a
cuppa with others experiencing the same? Why
not come along on Thursday 7 October to the
next meet up.

Everyone welcome.

If you want to find out more information contact
Alison 07867 622 814

Shapinsay School

We have been busy forming our Pupil Committees. All children from **P2 – P7** are now part of either the Sports Committee, the Library Officers or are Junior Road Safety Officers (JRSOs). All groups are working with an adult, including parents and members of the community, to improve and work on different things.

Our Philosophy this month continued with the book “Where the Forest meets the Sea”, which looks at the Daintree Rainforest in Australia. We have had some very interesting discussions about reality and the environment, with the children showing great reasoning skills.

We had a visit from the Orkney Native Wildlife Project and Spud the stoat dog, where we learned about the impact of stoats on Orkney’s native wildlife. The children enjoyed seeing Spud in action and learned that a dog’s sense of smell is much better than ours!



On Wednesday 6th October we will be wearing red to support the charity Show Racism the Red Card.

Nursery

The nursery children have started to learn about the days of the week. We have been enjoying some fun sensory activities in the nursery including cornflour, soapy goop and jelly. Next term we will be looking at the schools vision and values and we will be making a display about being safe, respectful and hardworking.

P1 – 4

The children continued to learn about the Human Body, looking at organs, teeth and how to stay healthy. They also did lots of experiments around their senses. In writing the children learned how to write non-chronological reports which linked to the human body topic. In French the children learned names of body parts and words for family members.

Next term the children will be learning about David Balfour and his impact on Shapinsay, as well as the Victorian era in general.

P5 – 7

English work has involved reading some non-chronological reports, looking at their structures and language features and then writing their own reports based on what they have been learning in science.

The children have also read various poems, studied common poetry features and written their own poems using rhyming couplets or oxymorons.

In French, the children have been learning to produce sentences using a range of positive and negative verbs and a variety of animal names.

In Spanish, they have learnt to write dates and have been working with larger numbers.

Science work has been about the features of the five vertebrate groups, energy transfer in food webs and using identification keys. The children have also enjoyed taking part in four online sessions with the Orkney International Science Festival: Climate Questions, Forces, Electrostatics and What’s in Space? Health and Wellbeing lessons have been about different types of risks and how to keep ourselves safe. Technologies work has included using different features of Word and making moving models of butterflies and caterpillars. RME has been about the life of Jesus. Social Studies has involved using a variety of maps of Scotland and learning about Scottish landscape features.

Next term, our topics are Buddhism, Chronology, Light, Sound and Senses.



SHAPINSAY PARENT COUNCIL

will be holding a Bingo evening on

Saturday 13th November

from 7pm,

and a

Table Top Sale from 2pm - 4pm

on **Sunday 14th November.**

Both events will be in the school hall. More details to follow in the November Shapinsay Sound.

Could people who would like a table for the table top sale (cost £5 and a donation to the raffle) please contact Caroline Bird.

Shapinsay Lunch Club

Welcome You to an Informal Get Together for the over 50s resident in Shapinsay

On

Wednesday 20th October from 2-4 pm in the Clubrooms

Tea/Coffee & biscuits will be provided
Transport can be arranged by phoning
Jan 711270 mobile 07788941811

All current Covid Guidelines will be followed.

Seas of the North Isles: Prehistoric Seafaring and Early Colonisation

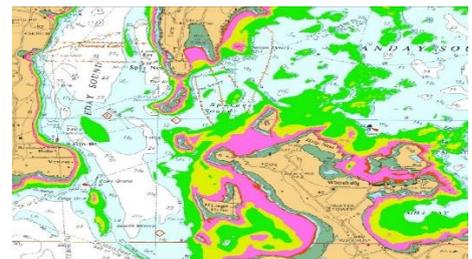
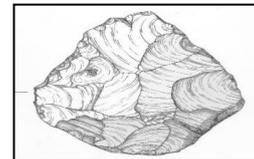
Talk Wednesday 6th October at 7:00pm in the Community Hall

Learn about the changes in landscape during prehistoric times and the islands that early colonisers would have found. Look at prehistoric watercraft and how people may have travelled here millennia ago. We will also look at some of the earliest known sites in the North Isles to paint a picture of what life was like for Orkney's earliest residents.

Workshop Thursday 7th October at 9:30am in the Meeting room at Community Hall

Take a closer look at your island and its changes over the past 10,000 years. This half day workshop will include some indoor learning and discussion followed by a site visit to put our knowledge into practice.

Everyone welcome!



For more information or if you would like to register for an event, please email n.bain@wessexarch.co.uk or call 0330 313 3568



Worrying About Money?

Follow these steps to find available money advice and support in Orkney



View online

Step 1: What's the problem?

I suddenly have no money

- Lost job/reduced hours
- Lost money/unexpected expense
- Disaster (e.g. flood or fire)
- Relationship breakdown
- Money stopped
- Sanctioned (benefit payments stopped - see option 5)

See options: **1 2 5 6**

I am waiting on a benefit payment/decision

- Made a new claim for benefit
- Benefit payment is delayed
- Waiting for a benefit decision

See options: **1 4**

My money doesn't stretch far enough

- Deciding between food/fuel/mobile credit
- Low income or zero hours contract
- Statutory Sick Pay too low to cover costs
- Not sure if eligible for support
- Change of circumstance (e.g. new baby/bereavement/illness/left partner)

See option: **2**

I have debt

- Rent or Council Tax arrears
- Gas or electricity
- Credit or store cards
- Personal loans and overdrafts
- Owe friends and family
- Benefit repayments

See option: **3**

Step 2: What are some options?

1 Scottish Welfare Fund

People on low incomes may be able to get a crisis grant from the Council.

This is a payment to help you cope during an emergency or disaster, or due to unexpected expenses. Crisis grants do not have to be paid back (not a loan).

2 Maximise Your Income

Anyone who is struggling financially can get a benefit check and speak to an advisor for free and confidential advice.

A **benefit check** can ensure that you are receiving all the money you're entitled to, especially if your circumstances have changed recently. Speaking to an advisor could also help you **find cheaper deals** on things like gas and electricity and **make sure you're not missing out** on things like school clothing grants or free school meals.

3 Debt Advice

Debt can happen to anyone. Free advice and support can help you find ways to manage your debts and reduce how much you pay each month.

4 Benefit Advice

If you have made a new claim for benefit and are in financial hardship while you wait for your first payment, you may be able to get an advance to afford things like rent or food. It's important to get advice before taking out an advance. Benefit advances must be paid back, and the money will be taken from your future benefit payments (a loan).

5 Hardship Payment

If you have been sanctioned, you may be able to request a hardship payment from the Jobcentre. Hardship payments are not always paid immediately, and they're not available to everyone. Hardship payments of Universal Credit need to be paid back (a loan), but hardship payments of Job Seekers Allowance or Employment Support Allowance do not (not a loan).

6 Challenge a Decision

You can challenge a benefit decision if your benefit has been stopped / sanctioned / reduced / refused or you have been overpaid. Most benefit decisions need to be challenged within one month.

Step 3: Where can I get help?

For free and confidential advice on these options

Orkney Citizens Advice Bureau
Advice and information on day-to-day issues, and detailed support on specialist topics including benefits, debt, money, housing and more

01856 875 266
bureau@orkneycab.casonline.org.uk
www.orkneycommunities.co.uk/CAB

Help with options: **1 2 3 4 5 6**

For information on financial entitlements

Scottish Welfare Fund
Crisis grants to cover the cost of an emergency

swf@orkney.gov.uk
www.bit.ly/orkneyswf

Discretionary Housing Payments
To help keep up with rent payments or with one-off rent deposit/removal costs. Available to those receiving Housing Benefit and/or the housing costs element of Universal Credit.

01856 873 535 (extension 2116)
benefits@orkney.gov.uk
www.bit.ly/orkneydhp

Social Security Scotland
You may be eligible for support from Social Security Scotland. For example, Scottish Child Payment, Best Start Grant and Best Start Foods can help with the costs of having a child.

mygov.scot/benefits
0800 182 2222 (trefphone)

Other Support

THAW Orkney
Information, advice and support on energy costs and energy efficiency
01856 878 388
info@thaworkney.co.uk

Orkney Blide Trust
Charity for adults with mental health difficulties
01856 874 874
www.blidetrust.org.uk

NHS Grampian
Psychological Support Hub
Help with effect of Covid-19 on mental health & emotional wellbeing
www.grah.org.uk/mental-health

Breathing Space
Confidential phone line for anyone feeling low, anxious or depressed
0800 83 85 87
www.breathingspace.scot

Turn2US
Information and support on welfare benefits and charitable grants
0808 802 2000
www.turn2us.org.uk/Get-Support

Home Energy Scotland
Free and impartial energy efficiency advice
0808 808 2282
www.homeenergyscotland.org

Shelter
Free housing advice
0800 800 4444
scotland@shelter.org.uk

AGM NOTICE



Shapinsay Development Trust

In the hall

Thursday 7th October 7pm

All members are invited to attend.
Non-members may attend but may not vote.

To become a member, please email
boathouse@shapinsay.org.uk for a form.

Membership costs a one off fee of £1.00

Anyone interested in becoming a director, please get your director form to Lisa-Marie by 10am
on the 7th

Ebike update

We are so close to being ready to hire out our bikes, we had hoped to have been ready last month, but we have one more tiny hurdle to clear for planning and THEN we can hire them out.

Keep an eye out on the Shapinsay website and facebook for updates.

Shapinsay.org.uk

Don't forget to keep checking back to our new website for island updates, we will try and keep our island calendar up to date, so if you have any events you want to add, email boathouse@shapinsay.org.uk

The Shapinsay Sound

October
2021

Just for fun!



Halloween

E	S	C	W	O	D	A	H	S	H	S	R	I	N
B	T	O	G	H	O	U	L	S	E	W	E	U	S
O	R	C	A	U	L	D	R	O	N	E	D	P	G
S	N	O	T	E	L	E	K	S	E	E	I	G	R
I	W	P	O	D	F	R	I	G	H	T	P	O	A
T	E	I	O	M	Y	T	R	A	P	I	S	B	V
S	C	R	T	K	S	S	B	O	N	E	S	L	E
B	K	O	O	C	A	T	G	E	S	S	S	I	Y
A	R	O	S	O	H	P	I	U	E	K	I	N	A
T	P	P	P	T	T	E	P	C	I	R	A	K	R
S	S	R	A	F	U	E	S	L	K	S	I	Y	D
G	S	E	R	I	P	M	A	V	E	S	I	E	M
O	H	A	L	L	O	W	E	E	N	S	E	N	A
T	S	O	H	G	F	F	A	N	G	S	M	P	G

SPOOKY
BROOMSTICKS
APPLES
BONES
GHOULS
SWEETIES
FANGS
GOBLIN
WITCHES
SPIDER
SHADOW
GUISING
HALLOWEEN
GRAVEYARD
EERIE
BATS
COSTUME
SKELETONS
CAULDRON
VAMPIRES
GHOST
PARTY
FRIGHT



online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/2809732/>