

## Shapinsay School March 2024

### Nursery

The children have been playing with dolls, exploring paint. They have loved doing obstacle courses and playing with the parachute in the hall. Bookbug was very popular. Robots has been a particular interest with their children making their own Nursery robot, Bebe. They are starting a project on minibeasts.

### P1 – 4

The children have been continuing to learn about Vikings, learning about



longhouses and longships. They have been learning about what life was like in Viking times and been writing in role as Vikings. They really enjoyed Barry's visit for Up Helly Aa! In French the children have been continuing to learn about transport as well as revising information about themselves.



In PE this term the children have been using apparatus in gymnastics to go over, under, around, through and across. They have created obstacle courses for themselves and for the nursery. We have also been

exploring fun ways to keep ourselves fit, healthy and active in our "Fun fitness" sessions, this has included learning action rhymes, using the parachute and playing active games.

### P5-7

In Health and Wellbeing, the P5-7 children are investigating the different careers, occupations and ways of working that they might choose when they are older. They've also been learning out about what people can do in college, university or apprenticeships. In Social Studies, they learnt about Anne Frank and the Holocaust. Technologies work has included work on internet safety; how the internet influences us and some of the different types of persuasive design used. They have used a block-based, visual programming language to create computer programs. English lessons have focused on techniques authors use for characterisation in stories.

In PE this term the children have been using the gymnastics apparatus to create varied routines, exploring pathways and transitions. They have been doing some solo work, but are now moving onto work with a partner, exploring mirroring, counter balance and counter tension in our routines.

### Cinderella & Rickerfella

On Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March we would like to invite everyone to come and see our pantomime. This will be held in the school hall, with performances at 1.30pm and 6.15pm. Entrance is free, but Parent Council will be providing refreshments and a raffle. The children (and staff!) have been working really hard on this panto and it would be great to see a big audience for them.

### Rights Respecting Schools Award

We have been continuing to work on this, and hope to apply for our Silver Award in the Summer. We have been

School continued.....learning about the language of rights, and talking about how to respect the rights of others. We have been looking at the right to a family, the right to choose our own beliefs and the right to privacy in particular. You can see our display about the Rights of the Child in the Community Centre.

## Active Shapinsay Week

The Sports Committee are organising another Active Shapinsay week for the week beginning the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April. We already have a few visiting coaches booked in and would be keen to hear from anyone who would be willing to lead a session in any sport or active activity, you don't need to be an expert, just willing to share some skills. We will share the timetable in next month's Shapinsay Sound and on Facebook and via posters.

community  
C A F E



Join us for a monthly drop-in community cafe featuring afternoon snacks and a selection of beverages. Feel free to express your creativity at our open craft table.

March 27 from 3-5 pm, Clubrooms

Cost: free or by donation



Are you living with a life limiting condition and in fuel poverty?

Would free energy efficient white goods help you?

THAW Orkney in partnership with Energy Action Scotland is offering free energy efficient replacement white goods for those with MS, MND, Cystic Fibrosis or similar and in fuel poverty or receiving benefits.

Contact THAW Orkney for a confidential assessment.

Tel: 01856 878388

Email: [info@thaworkney.co.uk](mailto:info@thaworkney.co.uk)  
[www.thaworkney.co.uk](http://www.thaworkney.co.uk)



**Shapinsay Remembering Together**

**Meet the artists -**  
Louise Barrington and Megumi Barrington-Uenoyama

**Wednesday 20th March**

Louise and Megumi will be meeting with lunch club members and giving an after lunch presentation,

**3 - 4pm in the community halls, music room**

An open session for anyone to pop along, meet Louise and Megumi. Come and find out about the project which will create a new community space in Shapinsay, share your ideas and ask questions.

project supported by:  
 <https://www.rememberingtogether.scot>  
 Scottish Government  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba  
[gov.scot](http://gov.scot)

## Shapinsay Men's Group



### Social + Play

Weekly social gatherings; conversation and activities.

Special shoutout to Billy McInnes who has been baking for us each week. Last week we had a delicious Victoria sponge.

Next meeting: March 7, 3-5 pm, Clubrooms.

### Communication + Collaboration

- We're in touch with members of other Men's Sheds in the Orkney Isles to share ideas and support each other.
- We have registered with The Scottish Men's Shed as a group.
- 30 newsletter subscribers
- Voluntary Action Orkney will be coming to the Shapinsay Men's group to conduct a SCIO workshop; guiding the registration process, and discussing board roles & responsibilities and support.

### Projects

Based on the interests of the group like allotments for those interested in gardening. Or a need in the community, like paper mould-making for the February Play Piece. Thanks to Glynn Diamond for arming us with his staple gun and John Leslie for providing the workshop, materials and skills. We spent time together, making a prototype and learning how to use a staple gun.

We will be co-developing a vision and plan that we will continue sharing and progressing forward. Moving slowly to enjoy the progress ;)

### Land and Space

Some of the group are keen to move forward with creating a "shed". This might mean renting a shed from someone or finding land and building a space (which temporarily could be a shipping container or two). The Westray Men's Shed rents a resident's shed. They got funding to rewire and do some interior work, so there is a benefit to the shed owner.

If you or someone you know is interested in discussing the possibility of sharing a space or land with us on Shapinsay, please reach out ([shapinsaymensgroup@gmail.com](mailto:shapinsaymensgroup@gmail.com)).





There was an excellent turnout for our most recent event on 24<sup>th</sup> January which explored the subject of The Garden In Winter, a somewhat ironic topic as the event had to be postponed for a week due to heavy snow! The evening began with a presentation looking at plants that can provide interest during the winter period. There may not be many flowers at this time of year but many plants can provide colour and interest in other ways. This might be shrubs and trees with coloured bark, evergreens with variegated leaves or shrubs which reveal interesting shapes and forms when stripped bare of leaves. There is no reason why a garden should be dull during the winter months.

After enjoying refreshments which included some very tasty home-bakes, the raffle was drawn with all prizes being related to seeds and seed sowing. The remainder of the evening was spent browsing through numerous packets of flower and vegetable seed which had been brought along on the night, and for a small donation, choosing something to take home to grow this year. Many thanks as always to everyone who helped on the night and particularly the bakers!

Our next social event will take place on **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April**. Full details for this event will be provided in the next edition of The Shapinsay Sound, together with our usual posters and postings on social media, so look out for this nearer the time. We can confirm however, that this event will include the relaunching of our famous "Tattie In A Bucket" competition, which this year will see all aspiring competitors provided with both seed potatoes and buckets to grow them in, with judging to take place at a social event in the autumn.

Before this however, we will be holding a special meeting on **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March** to examine whether there is sufficient interest and support to

hold an annual show this year and if so, what form this might take. You may remember that in our Shapinsay Sound article last October, we explained that there was dwindling support for running the annual show, which at that point was the only activity we ran, seemed likely to spell the end of the Horticultural Association.

However, it was decided that instead, the whole focus of the Association should change to provide a number of activities throughout the year, which would provide anyone with an interest in gardening/horticulture the opportunity to get together to share and develop those interests, with the annual show being just one of those activities, with a decision made each year on whether it can be held, depending on the level of support at that time.

At the meeting, we will examine what is involved in running a full show as has taken place previously, breaking down the various tasks and resources needed at given points to perform them. This will give everyone a full understanding to enable an informed discussion of what may or may not be possible and if a decision to hold a show of some sort is reached, which tasks attendees would be prepared to undertake. As an example, on show day itself, a certain number of people are required to support the judging of each class at the same time. Therefore, if you have half the number of classes, you only need half the number of people supporting. A show can potentially be whatever we want it to be, everything is up for discussion!

We would therefore ask everyone who wishes to support holding a show this year to come to the meeting on **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March** so that a decision can be made as to what type of show, (if any), will be held and preparations can begin.

## **SHAPINSAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWS**

### **Kirkyard Grass Cutting 2024 - 2026**

Tenders are again invited for the above contract, which runs for a period of three years, from April to the end of October each year. The budget that the Council has provided for this is £2,600 per year, however all tenders will be considered.

Conditions of contract and tender documents are available from the Interim Clerk: c/o Democratic Services, Orkney Islands Council - [communitycouncils@orkney.gov.uk](mailto:communitycouncils@orkney.gov.uk)

Or phone (01856) 873535 ext 2264. **Closing date for receipt of tenders is Wednesday, 13 March 2024**

### **Community Council Clerk**

The post of clerk to the community council remains vacant. This is a part-time role, supported by Democratic Services, and would be ideal for someone looking for a small job that could be done remotely and around other commitments. Anyone with an interest in the community is encouraged to apply. An admin background would be advantageous but is not essential. Please contact Jenny McGrath, Community Council Liaison Officer, for more information – [jenny.mcgrath@orkney.gov.uk](mailto:jenny.mcgrath@orkney.gov.uk) or 873535 ext 22264

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting of Shapinsay Community Council is scheduled to be held on Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at 18:45. Should you have any agenda items or financial requests, please ensure that they are with the Interim Clerk no later than Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> April – [shapinsayclerk@gmail.com](mailto:shapinsayclerk@gmail.com) or c/o Democratic Services, Orkney Islands Council, KW15 1NY

(A new financial request form is available which can be requested from the Interim Clerk).

### **Members**

Leanne Bews (Chair & Health Rep), Esther Chaney, Colin Leslie (Vice-Chair & Planning Rep), Val More (SDT Rep), Darren Muir (Transport Rep), Jean Noble and Eileen Philips.



The Smithy  
-CAFE RESTAURANT-

## Afternoon Tea

SUNDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> MARCH  
12-3PM

*Treat someone special this Mother's Day*

Our traditional high tea  
includes a selection of

- Sandwiches, Sausage Rolls
- Scones with jam & cream
- Mini Chocolate Eclairs
- Mini Individual Cheese Cakes
- Oat Cakes, Cheeses Chilli Jam and
- Fresh Strawberries
- Choice of specialist teas
- Barista made coffee

£15  
per person  
(BOOKINGS  
ESSENTIAL)  
£7.50 for under 10yr  
olds

PLEASE BOOK VIA FB MESSENGER  
OR EMAIL [SMITHY@SHAPINSAY.ORG.UK](mailto:SMITHY@SHAPINSAY.ORG.UK)  
BY WED 6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH



## BEITING & BREW

### BEITING AND BREW MEXICAN NIGHT

AT THE SMITHY  
ON THE 16<sup>TH</sup> OF MARCH  
SIT IN OR TAKEAWAY  
KEEP AN EYE ON FACEBOOK OR POSTERS FOR DETAILS



## Shapinsay Development Trust News

A fair bit has happened in the last month, since the last edition of the Shapinsay Sound.

**Rulinvoe:** On the 7<sup>th</sup> of February, the grant payment from Scottish Land Fund for £145000 came through, the property was signed over to SDT on the 9<sup>th</sup> of February, thank you to Gillian Harbour for offering us the opportunity to purchase her house.



We ran the tender process towards the end of last year and awarded the successful tender the contract in December (??) so that we were ready to commence renovations as soon as the property changed hands. Darren Muir Joinery was awarded the contract and work commenced on the 12<sup>th</sup> of February and as you will see by the photos below, the stripping back is well under way. For those of you that aren't aware, the property was damaged by fire in 2021 and the top floor was renovated through the insurance, so it's mainly the ground floor that needs extensive renovations, with only a couple of small changes required on the first floor. We will keep you updated with progress.



It is important that we get a family allocated to the property as soon as possible, ideally with minimum of 3 primary school age children to keep the school roll up above the capacity for 2 teachers. An allocation policy will be created very soon and within the next couple of weeks, we will begin this process of recruiting a family who would be hopefully ready to move by August.



Below is the funding breakdown for the whole project, (based on current projected costs, these costs may be subject to change if anything crops up that was unforeseen during the renovation process):

Purchase of No 2	£162,000
Legal Costs Attached	£2,578
Project Management - Post Dev Stage	£5,000
Clerk of Works - Post Dev Stage	£7,020
Insurance - Construction Phase	£500
Tender Awarded	£158,450
<b>TOTAL COSTS</b>	<b>£335,548</b>

Scottish Land Fund	£155,098
Rural Housing Fund	£120,000
OIC - Housing Fund	£50,000
SDT Contribution	£10,450
<b>TOTAL FUNDING</b>	<b>£335,548</b>

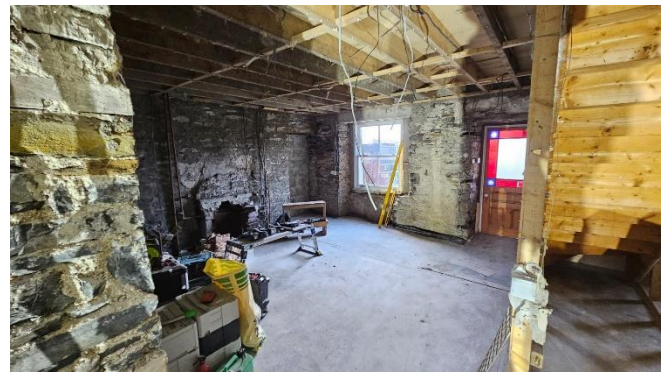
Last week we were awarded £31000 from the Community Development Fund toward the purchase of a portacabin for a charity shop, along with a £15000 grant from Highlands and Islands enterprise and a grant of £9000 from CLLD. We hope to purchase the portacabin in the next few days, although delivery may take up to 3 months.

We ran a community coffee afternoon on the 13<sup>th</sup> of February with around 30 people attending for coffee, a chat, some pancakes and crafts! We will host another on the 27<sup>th</sup> of March (see poster for details). It's a great opportunity to have a chat with your Wellbeing Coordinator (Alison McDougall) and your Community Development Officer (Lisa-Marie Muir) if you have any ideas or anything you'd like to share or discuss.

Alison has facilitated the startup of the men's shed, which is now fairly well established. The group intend to set up a SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation), this will allow them to apply for funding themselves and have complete ownership of the project. If any men out there are interested in being part of this project, see the poster for details on attending a meeting.

**Rural Housing Conference:** Davie Campbell and I were at the Rural Housing Conference 2024 in Aviemore last week where we Davie and Luke Frazer had the opportunity to get up on stage and tell them all what fantastic work is being done here in Orkney and we had lots of people asking for advice! We met some great like-minded people there and realised how great it is that we have such a great relationship between our local council and our development trusts, it makes what we do so much easier. Many haven't got that relationship and are hitting many stumbling blocks on the way. This relationship has taken a lot of work from a few people over the years, and we hope that it can continue long into the future. The housing minister Paul McLennan was on stage talking about housing budgets, strategies and hurdles. He was in Orkney the week before and spoke very highly on stage and in the strategy meeting the day before, of what we are achieving in Shapinsay and in Orkney as a whole. Unfortunately, it looks like budgets for HIE, Scottish Land Fund, and the Rural housing fund will be significantly cut in the next while, so projects will have to fight harder for a smaller slice of the funding,

thankfully we got significant funding in the last round for Rulinvoe.



There is no progress to update on Balfour Cottage, we await news from planning, so there won't be any more updates there until we have more news to tell.

**First Aid course:** We have been talking to the Orkney College around the possibility of offering full day first aid courses on Shapinsay. June Bacon leads on these courses at the college and may be able to do one over a couple of evenings. This comes at a cost of £110 each, but SWAP would fund 60% of that, leaving £44 for individuals to pay. If we can get 10 people interested in a full day first aid course, we can book it to run on the island. If interested, message (Lisa-Marie) [boathouse@shapinsay.org.uk](mailto:boathouse@shapinsay.org.uk)

**Smithy news:** We are spending the first part of the year upskilling our staff, with Barista training having already taken place, hopefully you will notice a difference in your coffees! Our young staff are all undergoing customer service training at Orkney College and our bar staff are all undergoing mixology training, so watch out for some fab new cocktails!

If you have skills or are interested in becoming a relief cook at the Smithy or helping out in the kitchen over the Summer, please get in touch [smithy@shapinsay.org.uk](mailto:smithy@shapinsay.org.uk) as we will need lots of help to be open 7 days and do takeaways etc.

We have a vacancy for the front of house supervisor and if you are good at baking and would be willing to be on our list of bakers to come in during evenings when the café is closed, or have a passed kitchen you can work from, please get in touch.



## Job Vacancy – Front of house supervisor

For more information contact:

[boathouse@shapinsay.org.uk](mailto:boathouse@shapinsay.org.uk)

Closing date 15.03.24



Job Description			
Job Title	Smithy Front of house supervisor	Salary	Living wage
Hours of work:	Flexible 10-15 hours per week, may include some weekends	Term:	No fixed term
Location:	Smithy, Shapinsay	Reporting to:	The Shapinsay Development Trust

Job Summary	
To ensure efficient running of the Smithy Café/restaurant	
Roles and responsibilities	
<b>Responsibilities:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Be part of a team, assisting to create a healthy working environment for the whole Smithy team</li> <li>Ensuring the Smithy front of house is run efficiently</li> <li>Taking customer bookings including checking emails and social media regularly</li> <li>Rota creation for FOH and bar staff and communicating shifts to staff</li> <li>Stock control – ensuring that the bar and front of house is kept stocked and stock is rotated regularly to ensure that goods are used in date order, keeping storage areas tidy and stock stored safely and efficiently</li> <li>Ensuring all café and bar equipment is in safe, working condition</li> <li>Ensuring all fire &amp; security procedures are followed and documented</li> <li>Typing and printing menus</li> <li>Advertising and social media, looking out for new opportunities to advertise</li> <li>Keeping the till updated with latest pricing and data</li> <li>Welcoming, seating and looking after customers, creating a friendly atmosphere, ensuring all FOH staff are sufficiently trained to do so.</li> <li>Helping to create an effective, efficient, good working environment.</li> <li>Be familiar with the menu to be able to make recommendations &amp; known allergens &amp; ensuring all allergen data is up to date</li> <li>Ensuring all staff training records are kept up to date</li> <li>Be flexible to take on any role required in the café/bar environment (cooking not included but appreciated)</li> <li>Ensuring FOH, bathrooms and garden are always kept clean and tidy</li> <li>Do regular stock takes</li> <li>Assisting with ongoing business development</li> </ul>	



We would like to invite tenders for valeting of 2 electric vehicles April 2024- April 2025

Both vehicles will need cleaned inside and out, including hoovering and making sure upholstery is clean and tidy. This should be done once per month when the cars are not in use.

Closing dates for tenders is 12pm on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Apply in writing to Boathouse, Balfour, Shapinsay, KW172DY or email [boathouse@shapinsay.org.uk](mailto:boathouse@shapinsay.org.uk)

## We would like to invite tenders for Garden Maintenance at the Boathouse & Smithy Garden.



The tender should include 15 full cuts of the grass on the land around the Boathouse and Smithy Garden, inclusive of the ditches and strimming where necessary.

The first cut should be in April and the final cut in late October/early November according to seasonal growth patterns. Any extra cuts are to be at the contractor's discretion, taking into account the growth of the grass. There should be a maximum of two weeks between cuts. The tender should also include weeding of paths. All grass cuttings should be removed by the contractor and all hard surfaces should be swept clean after each cut. The contractor is responsible for compliance with the Health and Safety at work Act, including all personal protective equipment and must have their own insurance. The Contractor will supply suitable cutting equipment, ensuring that blades are sharp and properly set, to produce a true and even cut. They will also ensure that all persons operating the equipment are adequately trained.

The contractor should submit a monthly account, in arrears, throughout the cutting season for all works carried out

Anyone interested in tendering should put their quotes in writing by 12pm on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2024

to [boathouse@shapinsay.org.uk](mailto:boathouse@shapinsay.org.uk)

or to

The Boathouse, Shapinsay, Orkney, KW172DY



## We would like to invite tenders for window cleaning at the Boathouse.



The tender should include:

- Cleaning of all windows and plastic window frames on the Boathouse and the Ebike shed.
- 6 monthly maintenance cleans of the following: Letterbox, lights & sensors, signage, external sockets, air source heat pump housing, car charging point and defibrillator box
- Guttering and downpipes will be cleaned once per year
- Window cleaning should take place once per month at a time that is convenient to the contractor, so long as that work does not interfere with the day to day running of the Boathouse.

The tender should include all required cleaning materials and equipment, this will not be provided.

The contractor is responsible for compliance with the Health and Safety at Work Act including all personal protective equipment and must have their own insurance.

Anyone interested in tendering should put their quotes in writing by 12pm on the 20<sup>th</sup> March 2024

to [boathouse@shapinsay.org.uk](mailto:boathouse@shapinsay.org.uk)

or to

The Boathouse, Shapinsay, Orkney, KW172DY