



The Review

Rousay's Community Newsletter
Published by Rousay Community Association SCIO SC051808

MARCH 2026

ROUSAY HEALTHY LIVING CENTRE



ORKNEY
ISLANDS COUNCIL

PRESENTS

OPEN EVENING

6.30 PM - 7.30 PM
TUESDAY 3RD MARCH 2026

Refreshments provided



Contact Carey or Kate for more information

Edited by: Kayleigh Tipper, on behalf of Rousay Community Association SCIO

Subscribe / Submit Articles: kayleigh@aroundrousay.co.uk

Deadline for submission of articles for the next edition: 27th March 2026, 5pm



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

**in the
SCHOOL COMMUNITY
GARDEN**

WORK DAYS

March 1, 15, 29

April 12, 29

1:00 to 3:00 pm

Bring rakes and garden tools





REW Heritage SCIO

AGM

Rousay Community School

Sunday 01 March 2026,

at 2 p.m.

Everyone is welcome to
attend to find out about our
projects.



TALK: Skaill farm, Rousay: recent discoveries

Monday 9 March 7:30 pm

Rousay School, Community Room

Join us for a talk about the recent discoveries at Skaill with Dan Lee, Dr Julia Cussans and Dr Clea Paine.

Meet the world famous Skaill carved head!



Image: Bobby Friel @TakeTheHighView

Free event, no need to book, just come along!

Contact: studyarchaeology@uhi.ac.uk



Bird Talk



Line up

11.30 - Ian Barker

6 months of surveying Wabister Loch - The Results

12.00 - Helen Aiton

Long Term Studies on Rousay Skuas including the impact of Avian Flu on Great Skuas

13.00 - Light Lunch

13.45 - RSPB Onziebust

Updates about the Onziebust and Trumland Reserves

15:00 - RSPB guided walk

Weather dependant guided session from RSPB. This could be a guided visit to the Trumland reserve, or an ID'ing session - please bring suitable outdoor clothing

When: 14th March 2026 - 11.15 for an 11.30 start

Where: The Pier Restaurant, Rousay

Please RSVP by 11/03/26 if you would like to be catered for - specifying any dietary requirement

REW Residents - Free of charge with lunch included

Non REW residents - Free of charge UNCATERED (feel free to BYO) or £10 for lunch

Any questions/ RSVP to hannah@rewdt.org or 01856 821229

ROUSAY CINEMA

Presents



After a failed trans-Atlantic rowing attempt, a woman washes ashore on Hoy on a blood-stained boat. With all of her crew mates missing she must try and piece together fractured memories to prove her innocence.

Saturday 14th March

Rousay School - 8.00pm

Cert 15 - 1 hr 58 mins

Optional silver collection for funds



MABEL'S MAD MARCH MINI DANCE

Friday 20th March 2026
from 7:30pm to 9:30pm
in the Rousay School Hall

Join us for a free, fun evening, full of dancing!
This will be less like a 'class' and more a traditional
dance, with Mabel Besant on hand to assist!
Everyone welcome, beginners and experts alike!
There will also be a break for an Orcadian supper.

Programme of dances:

1.Eva Three Step, 2.Wyre War Dance, 3.St Bernards Waltz,
4.Boston Two Step, 5.Dashing White Sergeant, 6.Britannia 2 Step
BREAK
7.Pat-a-cake polka, 8.Gay Gordons, 9.Virginia Reel, 10.Westray One
Step, 11.Strip the Willow, 12.Palais Glide

Please let Alice Mainland know if you plan to attend.

CRAFTHUB @THE SPACE

MARCH EVENTS

02, 09,
16, 23, 30
MAR

Pop-up Cafe

Every Monday 11am to 3pm
Come and enjoy some food & a natter
Hot drinks, soup with scone or bread & homebakes.

THERE IS NO STITCH SUNDAY IN MARCH
Next one will be on 12th April

08
MAR

Drawing Class

2pm to 4pm
A free taster class with Frances
Materials provided

04, 11,
18
MAR

Musical Wednesdays

7pm to 10pm
Free music & singing group for all ages & abilities.

15
MAR

Musical Sunday

2pm - 5pm once a month
Free music & singing group for all ages & abilities.

01, 08,
22, 29
MAR

Rainbows, Brownies & Guides

10:15 - 11:45

04, 11
MAR

Chair Yoga

10:00 - 10:45 Drop-in session with Lisa
For more details contact Nicky@REWDT.org



Tri▲ngle
Club

MARCH

Join Rousay Triangle Club every Tuesday
from 11am to 2pm in the Rousay School Community Room

NOTE NEW LATER START TIME

You don't have to stay for the full day, there are several options to suit everyone's needs and time pressures. We would love to see more people enjoying the Club, in whichever way they can!

Option 1: Coffee Morning, £3

Join us from 11am for tea or coffee and biscuits and have a catch up with friends or even meet new faces!

Option 2: Lunch Special, £7

Join us at 12.30pm to enjoy a warming veggie soup and sandwich lunch, followed by tea & a homebake. A selection of veggie and meat sandwiches are available.

Option 3: Full Experience, £7

Come along from 11am for coffee and biscuits and a chat, join in with board games of your choice from 11:30am and enjoy a warming soup and sandwich lunch at 12.30pm, followed by tea & a homebake.

It is essential to let Alice Mainland know each Sunday if you would like lunch for catering numbers:

07552387109 / alicemnld@btinternet.com



Hatha Yoga

Hatha Yoga

Every Tuesday,
5:30 – 6:30,
School Gym

Free & equipment provided

Bring a blanket or a towel

Lent Prayer

Lent Prayer

0900 to 10.00 at The Pier Cabin

8th, 15th and 29th March

07850064093 for more information



Musical Wednesdays @ The Space

March 4th, 11th and 18th (not 25th)

Free music and singing drop in groups.

After school from 15.30 for families and young people.

(Under 12s must be accompanied by a responsible adult)

Followed by Rousay Session from 19.00 to 22.00



Also ... Sunday 15th March 14.00 and 17.00



Drawing Class

Sunday 8th March 14.00 to 16.00 @ The Space Rousay

Make a wee sketch book and try out different mark making.

No experience needed and all materials provided.



Over 12yrs. Contact Frances Roebuck 07850064093 for more information.



Rousay, Egilsay & Wyre Development Trust

Company Registration No: SC318527 Charity No: SC040407

REWDT, The Pier Cabin, Rousay, Orkney KW17 2PU Tel: 01856 821229

email: info@rewdt.org website: www.rewdt.org

PROJECTS

The Taversoe

We have recruited a couple to manage the Taversoe. Josh Chambers and Tania Dadushka will join us from their current role managing a 29-lodge holiday park near Loch Ness. Josh trained as a chef but has more recently been managing catering and hospitality businesses. Tania is trained as a graphic designer and was brought up working in the family catering and accommodation business in Ukraine. They will move into the Taversoe in early April and will open to staying guests on 1st May. They will open the bar and restaurant to locals before then. Keep an eye out for news of times, dates of the grand re-opening.

Johnstons Road

The contractors expect to be back on site in mid-March. The water connection will go in and the timber frame kits will be put up. Let's hope the weather is kind to them!

EVENTS

YOUTH

Save the date - Sunday 29th March

Bag the Bruck

Meet: 12.30 Pier Cabin, Rousay

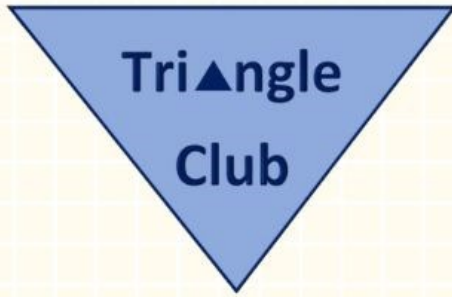
3pm (ish) finish

Everyone welcome! Kids are encouraged to bring friends and family along! More details to follow.

Community Transport this month

Town Trips: 5th and 19th March

Shop Trips: 13th and 27th March



Transport

THE TRIANGLE CLUB IS PLEASED TO OFFER FREE TRANSPORT TO AND FROM THE CLUB, THANKS TO THE REWDT COMMUNITY VEHICLE AND VOLUNTEER DRIVERS.

We hope to be able to start this service from 10th March. Get in touch with Alice Mainland for more information or to book a space on the bus.
alicemnld@btinternet.com / 07552387109

RNLI Easter Egg Hunt

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday 5th April 2026
11am
at Rousay Community School
All welcome!

Donations to RNLI welcome

Tatties and buckets for the Rousay Horticultural Society's 'Tattie in a Bucket' competition will be available to collect at the same time. If you still have your bucket and are not competing this year, please return it to us.

SAVE THE DATE!!

JULY 4, 2026

ROUSAY SUMMER GARDENS DAY

In association with Scotland's Gardens Scheme

<https://scotlandsgardens.org/>

THREE OPEN GARDENS:

- ❖ Trumland House
- ❖ Rousay Community School Garden
- ❖ Kirkgate Garden

EVENTS INCLUDE:

- ❖ Plant sale, Homebakes, Coffee and Tea at Rousay Community School
- ❖ Lunch at The SPACE
- ❖ Coffee, Tea, Cakes at Pier Restaurant
- ❖ Shuttle buses (transport around island - stops at gardens, The SPACE, School, Wind turbine Boardwalk and Saviskaill Beach)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED ON JULY 4!

- ❖ Greeters, Parking Directors, Garden Helpers
- ❖ Helpers: The SPACE, Pier Restaurant, School, Plant sale
- ❖ Sandwich Makers at CRAFT HUB **July 3**
- ❖ Garden Guides at each Garden, Collect donations
- ❖ Attend School Garden work days
- ❖ (EXPECTING LOTS OF FOOT TRAFFIC FROM FERRY)

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

CALL/EMAIL/STOP BY:

LISA CROFT

QUOYOSTREY

orkneygardenfestival@gmail.com

0798 494 4425



WANTED!

Plants
for ROUSAY COMMUNITY SCHOOL
Plant Sale, JULY 4th



Plants of all kinds welcome - Vegetables, House plants,
Flowers, Trees, Shrubs!

As you start your own seeds for the season, add a few
extra for the sale

100% of all proceeds go to ROUSAY COMMUNITY
SCHOOL

ANY QUESTIONS?

Please contact Trish Prater


rousay1@myyahoo.com



Busy B's

CLEANING SERVICES








Rousay · Orkney

"Creating a Buzz About Cleanliness!" 







★ GENERAL CLEANING SERVICES

Keeping homes, businesses, and island spaces fresh, clean, and guest-ready:


- ♥  Basic Household Cleaning
- ♥  Deep Cleans
- ♥  Weekly Freshen Ups
- ♥  Indoor Areas
- ♥  Outdoor Areas
- ♥  Sheds & Outbuildings
- ♥  Garages & Storage Spaces



★ SPECIALIST CLEANS

- ♥  Cars & Work Vehicles
- ♥  Motorhomes & Campervans
- ♥  Boats & Sailboats
- ♥  Holiday Equipment Areas

★ HOLIDAY LET & COTTAGE SERVICES

- ♥  Changeovers
- ♥  Deep Cleans
- ♥  Linen & Turnovers
- ♥  Guest-Ready Finishing Touches
- ♥  Key Holding Available



If it needs cleaned – we'll clean it!

★ WHY CHOOSE BUSY B's? ★

- ✓ Local & Trusted on Rousay
- ✓ Reliable & Professional
- ✓ Flexible Scheduling

 07856 073768

 bjmillerrousay@gmail.com

 Bobby-Jean Miller



Message via Facebook anytime





Treatments available

- ★ Gel polish
- ★★ Manicure & Pedicure
- ★★ Lash and brow tinting
- ★ Waxing
- ★ Spray tans
- ★ Massage
- ★ Facials
- ★ Pamper Partys

For more information or to book an appointment please CALL [07731428809](tel:07731428809)



🌷 March offers 🌷

Gel polish fingers and toes

£50.00

Save £10.00

Mini Facial and Back Massage

£50.00

Save £10.00

Deluxe Pedicure

File and shape, cuticle removal, hard skin removal, foot soak and scrub, foot mask, moisturise and massage.

£30.00

Save £10.00

For more information or to book an appointment please call [07731428809](tel:07731428809)



ISLES SPECIAL COLLECTION

OIC Special Collections for Rousay, Egilsay and Wyre

The next REW Special Collection will take place the week commencing 9th March 2026
 If you wish to have domestic bulky items uplifted you can apply online at: <https://www.orkney.gov.uk/our-services/waste-and-recycling/household-waste-and-recycling/special-refuse-collections-households> or by calling 873535.

Bookings must be placed as soon as possible and up to 2 working days prior to the week commencing collection date.



ROUSAY HEALTHY LIVING CENTRE

SUPERVISED SESSION OPENING HOURS

MONDAY 6.30 - 8.30pm*
TUESDAY 6.30 - 8.30pm*
THURSDAY 6.30 - 9.00pm*
SATURDAY 4.00 - 5.00pm

SUPERVISED SESSIONS

Supervisor on duty.
No buddy required.

BUDDY SYSTEM

Mon -Thur 9am to 4pm
Friday 9am to 3pm

* We will shut early if the gym is empty of users half an hour before the advertised close time.

Should Mrs Ferguson be unable to remain open till 4pm due to school commitments we will do our very best to inform the buddies as soon as we can through our Facebook group.



Please check out our various Facebook pages for updates:

"Rousay Healthy Living Centre"
"Rousay HLC - Group X Classes"
"RHLC Buddy System"

ROUSAY GROUP X CLASSES

WHAT KIND OF CLASSES WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN SEEING ADDED TO THE ROUSAY HLC SCHEDULE?
HAVE YOU SAY IN THE POLL AVAILABLE AT THE GYM OR SEND US AN EMAIL OR MESSAGE US VIA FACEBOOK.



MEMBERSHIPS

Full details: www.pickaquooy.co.uk/activelife

If you have recently become an Active member please could you give us a quick email on the address below to arrange a very brief safety induction.

ActiveLife & ActiveIslands give you access to the gym and Group X Classes. Budget £1 per session.

Tel: 01856 821 443

Email: rousay.hlc@glow.orkneyschools.org.uk

Stephen Clackson's Letter from School Place

A report from your councillor in a busy month.



It's been a busy month. At the end of January, I spent two exhausting days in Glasgow attending the *Offshore Wind Conference 2026*, learning about this burgeoning industry and doing my bit as an ambassador for Orkney among the thousand or so delegates, many from abroad. The photograph above shows the impressive Orkney stand, and the one below shows me meeting the Norwegian Deputy Ambassador, Mariam Naqvi. (I was often accosted by Scandinavians, who were intrigued by the Orkney flag on my lapel.) As well as all the trade stands directly related to offshore wind energy, some of the "ancillary" ones were also of interest to me given my broad scope of concerns as a councillor. For example, I had a discussion with a representative from SAMS (Scottish Association for Marine Science) about the UHI transformation and how Oban was developing as a university town (my long-standing vision for Kirkwall, you may remember—see *The Orkadian* 15th March 2018 p39); I had a conversation about personal, civic and corporate heraldry with intellectual property experts; and I talked about flags and flag-flying protocol with a shipping company. The stand of a Shetland marine engineering enterprise had on display a very neat 3D-printed model of an on-board accommodation unit for sea-going vessels, so I enquired about the possibility that such units might also find an application as habitation modules to augment sub-standard dwellings in the Isles. And a conversation I had with a firm that specialises in hiring out remotely-monitored, solar-powered, portable welfare units might possibly lead to a way of solving our Ring of Brodgar public convenience problem. The key message that came out of the conference sessions was that electricity transmission charges are much too high. These are not only making developments such as the West of Orkney Windfarm financially unviable, but are, of course, also the reason our electricity bills are higher in Orkney than elsewhere, despite the fact we see electricity being generated all around us. Orkney Islands Council needs to be lobbying harder to get transmission charges lowered, and work towards making fuel poverty here history.

A fortnight later, and I was in Glasgow again for a meeting of the Scottish Councils' Committee on Radioactive Substances (SCCORS) on which I represent OIC. I sparked off an interesting discussion when I asked whom a member of the public should inform if they discover something radioactive on the beach or in a deceased relative's attic. In Orkney, you are advised to contact OIC's Environmental Health team, who will be able to "triage" the case to alert it to the appropriate agency. Telephone 01856-873535 and ask for Environmental Health, or e-mail environmental.health@orkney.gov.uk.

Another organisation I represent OIC on, the University of the Highlands & Islands (UHI) Foundation, had a meeting and conference in Inverness, but bad weather and transport unreliability meant, regrettably, that I had to attend virtually. Nevertheless, my contribution to the UHI transformation debate was well supported by those in attendance. The conference part was about the Inverness & Cromarty Firth Green Freeport, which was very timely given my recent attendance at the *Offshore Wind Conference 2026* and all I had learnt there.

Back in Kirkwall, other meetings I attended included a confidential members' briefing; and meetings of the newly-rebranded Education, Communities & Housing Committee (no more *Leisure* 😊), and the Monitoring & Audit Committee. At the Policy & Resources Committee meeting, in respect of our council Climate Change Study, I once again asked that further work be done on investigating our carbon emissions footprint resulting from our use of digital services such as e-mail, online meetings and the Internet, as, for as long as these details are absent, we are getting an incomplete picture of the true situation.

Out in the Isles, I went along in person to meetings of the Shapinsay Community Council and Westray School Parent Council.

Cllr Dr Stephen Clackson
Member for the North Isles Ward,
Depute Convener Orkney & Shetland VJB

West Manse, Sanday
stephen.clackson@orkney.gov.uk

Letter from School Place is also
available on-line at clackson.info



Photo credits: Stephen Clackson & conference delegate

