

Youth and Children's work

Since being involved with this sub-group we have been successful in getting one more year of funding from Children in Need for the Höfn. This runs out in October 2004 and we are now actively looking for another funder.

The youngsters organised a tabletop sale, which went very well raising about £280 towards new equipment and replacements. Well done!

We have begun a new cleaning rota for the youngsters. This will be done by districts and each term there will be a winning team. All groups are doing really well, but could do better by tidying up outside the building as well. We are going to give the building a facelift by painting, replacing blinds etc.

A big thanks again to parents on the cleaning rota, Yvonne for organising both rotas and Alan for bus driving and caretaker duties.

Some of the other things that have happened.

- A study visit to Shetland with a group of young women from Westray and Sanday.
- First Gear driving course with a group of boys aged 14 - 16.
- Three girls checked out a walk for a publication of Westray Walks by the Tourist Association.
- Three 16 year olds having tractor driving lessons.
- Funding found for groups and individuals for equipment, courses etc.

In the pipeline

- Exchange visits with Unst, Shetland.
- Young Farmers to visit Ireland to look at Anaerobic Digestion of slurry to produce methane. (The Renewable Energy sub-group are working on a plan for a digester in Westray.)
- Höfn leaflet to be published.
- A young person to help making a video diary of the making of the stained glass window for the Care Centre.
- Easter workshops by Fiona Foley (glass artist) for P1 to S4 and upwards.
- Revised First Gear course for young women, with a driving lesson Sooth!

Thanks to the Development Trust and everyone else who has supported and given me advice during the first 18 months of my work.

If anyone wants more details, please get in touch.

Lorna Brown

Tourism

Another beautiful summer with plenty of visitors, tourism in Westray continues to flourish and expand. The Winter Warmers Weekends are generating useful trade, out of season.

We welcome Daybreak as a new self-catering cottage in the village and Graham and Kathy Maben who will be starting Westray bus tours as Westraak. Their unit at the nest units will become a Tourist Information Point.

There is a need for more B & B accommodation.

We hope to have a new tourist leaflet for the Tourist Association called "Islands for all seasons" produced in time for the summer.

The Association was involved in "Our Westray Your Westray" a leaflet to help visitors better understand the issues of access over farmland. There is more about it below. There is also a separate report about a series of new walks that are being organized by Christine Skene working with our walks sub group. Christine has accessed grants for a pilot scheme to upgrade, sign and provide a leaflet for walks on Westray, Papay and Sanday.

Our Westray Your Westray.



Following mounting concern, especially from farmers, over the new access rights and how this would work around livestock, a leaflet was produced by the Trust for visitors.

This aims to give a better understanding of the issues especially when walking with dogs.



The leaflet was produced entirely in Westray, with funding for Edwin Rendall's cartoons provided by the Community Council, words by Geordie Drever and the printing done at school.

It was placed on the ferries, in the shops, hotels etc. Over 400 were used and it seems to be a welcome start to addressing the concerns.



A companion leaflet is in development detailing suitable walks for dogs. This was researched by Leanne Marcus as part of her summer placement and is now at the consultation stage with land owners. This should be ready in time for this season.

