

ENVIRONMENT

As new environmental issues take priority within the Trust and new sub-groups evolve e.g. Renewables, we as the Environment Sub-Group regularly re-assess our aims and objectives.

Though there is little to report to date, our aims, as a group remain constant. We want to increase awareness of the importance and potential of our local environment.

We recognise the quality of our environment as a priceless resource. Ongoing initiatives such as Bag the Bruck remain a priority. We are grateful to all who help to make this a success. This year, in conjunction with the Tourist Association, we are looking to expand this project to a wider Westray clean up.

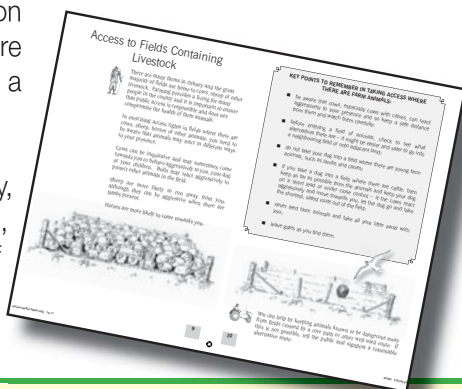
We are carrying out a feasibility study, liaising with environmental bodies, and locals, to pursue a variety of creative initiatives to tackle everyday environmental issues.

SUB-GROUP

Alena Tulloch (Chair)
Liz Drever
Jenna Hume
Sandy McEwen
Willie Bain

A new access guide to the countryside has been written with an Orkney emphasis, and produced by SNH in Kirkwall, and will shortly be available from the SNH offices, TICs and other places throughout Orkney. It was written after much local consultation, and superbly illustrated by our own Westray artist Edwin Rendall. It's worth owning a copy just for Edwin's illustrations alone.

As a group we always welcome local help, enthusiasm and ideas.



TRANSPORT UPDATE

Orkney Islands Council have made their representation to the Scottish Executive regarding a funding package to enable them to progress the improvement of the inter isles ferries and services.

The proposals for the 3 replacement ships for the outer North Isles are to have accommodation on board to enable the crew to stay on the ship which would give the opportunity for the ships to be based in the islands.

MONITORING THE FIGURES

Transport figures are increasing steadily on both the sea and air routes. The air service still retains its importance in service provision.

The Scottish Ambulance Service has agreed to a year's monitoring of the helicopter Air Ambulance starting in April 2005. We will be looking for your thoughts on the service as the year progresses.

All transport issues are addressed through the Community Council.

12



AGM Wednesday 20th April

The AGM is open to all. As directors of the Trust we work away in the sub-groups of the Trust and also meet regularly as a board of directors, but we need constructive feedback from you.

Come along on the 20th April and tell us what you think of what we are doing, good and bad.

If you are not already a member of the Trust we invite you to join on the evening, by signing your name as you come in.

There is no membership fee, but we are a Company Limited by Guarantee, and should we ever go into liquidation, you would be asked for the princely sum of £1.

Our constitution ensures a rolling membership of directors so no-one

gets stuck in a post and fresh people with fresh ideas come in.

Some directors step down each year, this year there will be four doing so. As well as the election of directors, there will be short updates from some sub-groups, a financial report, and ample opportunity for you to raise concerns and make suggestions.

Tea, coffee and biscuits will be served during the evening. We look forward to seeing you in the Parish Kirk on Wednesday 20th April.

DIRECTORS

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|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Gordie Drever (Joint Chairman) Willie McEwen (Joint Chairman) Janette Rendall (Treasurer) Ally Sangster (Secretary) Liz Drever Jenna Hume Elaine Langford Iain MacDonald Peter Needham Robbie Rendall John Talbott Alena Tulloch | drever@trenabie.fsnet.co.uk william@millwestray.com JRoakleigh@aol.com ally.sangster@orkneyschools.org jenna.hume@btinternet.com e.langford@watermill.clara.co.uk iain@rapnessmanse.freepress.co.uk peter@seabridge.org robbie@rendall.fsbusiness.co.uk whitelettcards1@btopenworld.com alenatulloch@btopenworld.com |
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If you would like more copies of this report, please contact Sam Harcus: 01857 677790

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