



The **Review**

Rousay's Community Newsletter
Published by Rousay Community Association SCIO SC051808
OCTOBER 2026

Come If you dare...

Halloween Party

The Pier @ 7pm

SATURDAY OCTOBER 31ST

SCARY DRESSCODE

CHILDREN MUST VACATE THE BAR BY 9pm

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 October 2026, 5pm

ROUSAY CINEMA

Presents



After thirty-five years abroad, Donal returns to his native Scotland to make amends with his estranged brother Sandy.

Saturday 3rd October
Rousay School - 8.00pm
Cert 12A - 1 hr 37m

Crafthub @ The Space

Stash Swap Table!



Stitch Sunday

October 4th 2pm - 4pm

The Space, Rousay

Come along and learn how to use, maintain and play with your machine, or work on a sewing project.

There are machines available to use at The Space

Stash Swap Table - bring your unwanted stash to swap.



info@crafthuborkney.com



Rousay.
Horticultural Society.

Notice of AGM

on

Tuesday 6th October 2026

at 7pm

**in the GP Room,
Rousay Community School.**

**Please come along with
your ideas to help plan the
2027 Show Schedule**

All welcome!



JOIN CRAFTHUB FOR AN

AUTUMN FAIR

LOCAL FOOD & CRAFTS

OCTOBER 10TH 2026

WITH A CRAFT WORKSHOP FOR CHILDREN

10:00AM - 2:00PM

BOOK A TABLE FOR £5

CRAFTHUB @ THE SPACE, ROUSAY
info@craafthuborkney.com

Planning Meeting

Rousay
Community
Association
SCIO



The RCA are having a meeting on
Friday 9th October at 7:30pm
in the GP Room, Rousay School.
We will be planning our upcoming winter
events.

ALL keyholders are required to attend.

**We need more volunteers to come to this
meeting, if you want us to put on events, such as
the Fireworks & Harvest Home.**



Rousay's Night Sky

Speaker

Callum Potter

*Callum is talking to us about the recent
astronomical events as seen from Rousay.*

18/10/26 at 8 pm

Competitions:

Harvest Preserve

Night sky Picture

Raffle



Tri▲ngle
Club

OCTOBER

Rousay Triangle Club will meet on
6th, 20th and 27th October
from 11am to 2pm in the
Rousay School Community Room.

NOTE: NO Club on 13th October, due to a
power cut in the School

**Everyone and all ages welcome, for any of the
following options.**

OPTION 1: COFFEE MORNING, £3

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

OPTION 3: FULL EXPERIENCE, £7

Come along from 11am for
coffee, biscuits and a chat,
option to join in with board
games of your choice and enjoy
a warming soup and sandwich
lunch at 12.45pm, followed by
tea & a homebake.

OPTION 2: LUNCH SPECIAL, £7

Join us at 12.45pm to enjoy a
warming veggie soup and
sandwich lunch, followed by
tea & a homebake. A selection
of veggie and meat
sandwiches are available.

**You MUST let Alice
Mainland know each
Sunday if you would like to
stay for lunch:**

07552387109 /

alicemnlndeb@btinternet.com



CRAFTHUB @THE SPACE

OCTOBER EVENTS 2026

05, 12, 19,
26
OCTOBER

Pop-up Cafe

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

4
OCTOBER

Rainbows, Brownies & Guides

10:15 - 11:45

4
OCTOBER

Stitch Sunday

2pm to 4pm
Join us to learn how to use & make the most
of your sewing machine. and just have fun
sewing.

10
OCTOBER

AUTUMN FAIR

10am - 2pm
Local food and crafts tables
Book a table for £5



info@crafthuborkney.com



Rousay, Egilsay & Wyre Heritage SCIO



From October 1st, the
Pier Store will now revert to the
winter opening hours:

Saturday: 9am - 5:30pm

Sunday: 11am - 4pm



A selection of Tommy Gibson's photo archive is
now available to browse in albums in the
Heritage Centre (Waiting Room) -
Individuals, Pairs, Groups, Weddings...
As the rest are catalogued, more will be added.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

13/12/26

At The Space 2pm - 4pm
Raising funds for the RNLI



BONFIRE NIGHT & FIREWORK DISPLAY



Thursday 5th November

at 7pm

at the Windbreck Site
(bottom of the turbine road)

Donations of firewood welcome!
Drop off at the Windbreck site from
Sunday 1st November



Save THE Date



SATURDAY 21ST NOVEMBER 2026
ROUSAY HARVEST HOME

*Dinner & Dance to
The Gablos*

PLEASE COME TO
OUR RCA MEETING
ON 9TH OCTOBER TO
ENSURE THIS
EVENT CAN GO
AHEAD!





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

Save the Date

Saturday 14 November 2026 EGM & General Meeting to be held at Rousay School Community Room in the afternoon. Confirmation of the time and agenda items will be posted to all households mid-October inviting you all to attend.

REWDT recently indicated that we would hold a public meeting to provide and discuss what information we could about the current status of and future plans and options for the Taversoe, and we have also now received a request from 18 residents to hold an EGM about concerns they have.

At this meeting we will firstly be addressing the four questions the residents have raised, and these will be on the agenda we will be sending out. However, we are keen that all interested residents attend, as, following the EGM section of the meeting, the directors would like to discuss their current understanding of the options that we have as a community for the future of the Taversoe, and get feedback from those present, as part of our ongoing positive practical actions to ensure the facilities and life that our community wants.

Free ferry travel and transport from the Pier will be available on the day for our Egilsay & Wyre residents.



Winter 2026 Yoga dates!

With Lisa Croft

**Hatha Yoga- Tuesdays 17.30 to 18.30
in the School Hall**

**Dates: November 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th
and December 1st**

**Chair based Yoga- Wednesdays 10 to 10.45
(followed by refreshments) at
The Craithub at The Space**

**Dates: November 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th
and December 2nd**

All adults (16yrs+) welcome

No need to book- just turn up!

For more info email nicky@rewdt.org

Chair yoga is funded by the Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund
from VAO & Scottish Government



Autumn 2026

WELLBEING ACTIVITIES

Upcoming Activities

**Painting Workshop with Ingrid Grieve
Saturday 24th October at Rousay School
10.00-13.00**

**Christmas Fused Glass workshop with The
Glass Hut, Saturday 7th November at
Rousay School. 12.00-15.00**

**Waiting list places only available now
for both activities**

**To reserve a waiting list space email
nicky@rewdt.org**



Exciting news - REWDT are recruiting a full-time Office Coordinator!

This is a fantastic opportunity for someone who enjoys a varied role and wants to be right at the heart of our busy, community-led organisation. We're looking for a friendly, organised and proactive person to be the welcoming face of the Trust and help keep everything running smoothly across a real mix of areas including administration, enquiries, transport bookings, communications and finance support.

Salary: £30,000

Hours: 35 per week - some flexibility around when hours are worked can be considered

Location: Pier Cabin, Rousay (office-based)

Further details, including the full job description and person specification, can be found on the REWDT website. Please send your CV and a cover letter to info@rewdt.org by **11th October 2026**.



Community Transport

Scheduled Trip Dates

Kirkwall

24th September,
8th & 22nd October,
5th November

Marion's Shop

2nd, 16th and 30th October
13th November

To book your place email
transport@rewdt.org
or info@rewdt.org
or phone 821229 and leave a
voicemail



Rousay Community School would like to thank the Rousay, Egilsay and Wyre Development Trust for their generous support which allowed our P6 pupils to participate in activities delivered by the OIC Outdoor Education Team in September.

Pupils who attend learn many outdoor skills, experience the value of teamwork, and challenge themselves; all important values which will follow them throughout their lives.





Since our update in August, there have only been a small number of stoat sightings by cameras or passers-by in Rousay. Happily, they continue to support the conclusion that the incursion is limited to a single male stoat.

On 6 September, the stoat was seen on camera, again close by to Muckle Water, and a second camera sighting took place on 16 September. We also received one more public sighting, on the road near Backhammer Chambered Cairn. These all place the stoat's movements within the range that a single male would be travelling through.

There have still been no signs of younger stoats or any family groups on the island. This late into autumn, we can be increasingly confident that the male arrived in Rousay alone, and that stoats aren't breeding on the island.

With the invaluable support of local community volunteers in Rousay, we have deployed a substantial network of cameras and other monitoring tools to closely observe as much of the island as possible. The volunteers have also been trained to manually check the traps on Rousay in the field and are now doing this work increasingly often. This helps our response and means our staff can devote more time to removing stoats in Mainland Orkney – allowing us to protect even more native wildlife.

This month was a particularly productive one. Since the incursion was reported, we've set up an additional 174 traps and 61 cameras, including 25 AI-assisted cameras. These will need to be in place for some time, but by monitoring them, we'll be able to quickly respond to any new developments on the island.

We ask that people report any suspected stoat sightings in Rousay to us, whether they're a visitor or a local, and whether they think that the animal was living or dead. The last case is especially important - if the stoat dies of natural causes, we'll want to confirm it, if possible.

Even if you're not completely sure what you've seen, you'll be helping native wildlife on the island a great deal by letting the project know. You can report your stoat sightings to our website, at <https://www.orkneynativewildlife.org.uk/report>, or post them on the Stoats in Orkney Facebook page.

We continue to thank folk in Rousay for their support. Locals, visitors and passers-by who've called in their stoat sightings, landowners who have given us permission to search and trap on their property, and everybody who's taken part as a biosecurity volunteer – you have all helped support the island's native wildlife, and we really appreciate it.

If you'd like further information, we publish regular updates on our project blog, at www.orkneynativewildlife.org.uk/news/rousay-updates. You can also keep up to date with us on Facebook, at www.facebook.com/OrkneyNativeWildlifeProject.

With best wishes,

The ONWP Team

Orkney Native Wildlife Project, H24 Garrison Road, Hatston Industrial Estate, Kirkwall, Orkney, KW15 1GN
T: 01856 881451 www.onwp.org

Protecting our native
species together:



The RSPB is a registered charity: England and Wales no. 207076, Scotland no. SC037654



ROUSAY HEALTHY LIVING CENTRE

OCTOBER
2026

SUPERVISED SESSION OPENING

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.

* If the gym is empty we will
close half an hour before
the advertised finish time.

** You must have a "buddy"
with you during these times.
Please do not use the gym
whilst you are alone.

BUDDY SYSTEM **

(During School Terms)

Monday to Thursday

9am to 4pm

Friday Only

9am to 3pm

Should the Buddy System need
to finish early due to school
commitments we will do our
best to let you know.



MEMBERSHIPS

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

If you have recently joined please
could you email us on the
address below to arrange a very
brief gym safety induction.

OCTOBER HOLIDAYS

MONDAY 12th - TUESDAY 27th

KEYHOLDER SESSIONS

MONDAY & FRIDAY 9.30-10.30am

SUPERVISED SESSIONS

TUESDAY 3.30-4.30pm

THURSDAY 12.30-1.30pm

GROUP X CLASSES - THEY'RE BACK



OCTOBER CLASS TIMES WILL BE RELEASED ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGES
SUITABLE FOR ALL FITNESS LEVELS

Tel: 01856 821 443

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



LOOK GOOD ♥ FEEL GOOD ♥ BE YOU

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for all your self care needs*



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WAXING

SMOOTH • CONFIDENT • YOU



BODY TREATMENTS

EXFOLIATE • NOURISH • REFRESH



BASED AT

The Space

*Book your appointment
today!*



*Appointments
Available*

MONDAYS &
TUESDAYS



PAMPER Party

PACKAGES

RELAX • INDULGE • CELEBRATE

FOR ADULTS

Pamper Party

- ♥ Foot spa & polish OR massage
- ♥ Hand spa & polish OR massage
- ♥ DIY face cleanse & mask
- ♥ Party bags



2 HOUR PARTY



UP TO 4 ADULTS



OVER 18'S



BRING YOUR OWN BUBBLY & FOOD

Deluxe Pamper Party

CHOOSE ONE HALF-HOUR TREATMENT:



Mini facial



Back, neck & shoulder massage



Manicure



Pedicure

- ♥ Face cleanse & mask OR hand scrub & mask
- ♥ Party bags



2 HOUR PARTY



UP TO 4 ADULTS



OVER 18'S



BRING YOUR OWN BUBBLY & FOOD

FOR KIDS & TEENS

Sparkle Pamper Party

AGE 5-10



- ♥ Nail polish OR stickers
- ♥ Foot soak & polish
- ♥ Face gems & glitter tattoos
- ♥ Decorate wand & crown
- ♥ Cake & mocktail
- ♥ Party bag



2 HOUR PARTY



UP TO 4 CHILDREN

Sparkle Pamper Party

AGE 11-17



- ♥ Nail polish OR stickers
- ♥ Foot soak & polish
- ♥ Face gems & glitter tattoos
- ♥ Face masks
- ♥ Cake & mocktail
- ♥ Party bag



2 HOUR PARTY



UP TO 4 CHILDREN

Stephen Clackson's Letter from School Place

Reporting on a busy and challenging month.



The image above was passed on to me by a journalist. The context of what it shows was reported in the local press. My only comments on it are that **there is no place in Orkney for cancel culture**, and that my ward constituents can be assured that bullying and intimidation will not prevent me from listening to all sides in any debate relevant to my work as their councillor.

The 27th August was a bit of a "jet-setting" day for me. It started with a flight from Kirkwall to Papa Westray for the official opening of their new airfield terminal building (see photograph below left). It was quite a gathering; some 60 people were there, with the council leader and the headmaster and pupils of Papay School wearing traditional embroidered vyshvankas (вишиванки) gifted by the island's visitors from the Ukraine. This is the third such opening I've been to in my time as a councillor. (Before I became a councillor, airfield relief fire-fighter was one of my jobs.) The ghostly hands in the photograph below of me flying back belong to the council depute leader, Sandy Cowie, who was also there. Back in Kirkwall, I went on a tour of OIC's new 40-bed care home, Kirkjuvagr House with my councillor colleague John Ross Scott (photograph below right). After an excellent buffet at Papay airfield and coffee and cake at Kirkjuvagr House, there was no need (nor time) for lunch before this busy day concluded with my attending a meeting of the Monitoring & Audit Committee at School Place.



Another island event I went along to (on a different day) was Sanday School's open afternoon (also with refreshments). It was a great opportunity to observe lessons in progress and to see some of the pupils' work. (Another job I had before becoming a councillor was supply teacher for science and mathematics.) This was followed by Sanday School Parent Council's AGM. I have also attended (virtually) a meeting of Eday School Parent Council this month.

I went across to Thurso for an evening meeting of the Dounreay Stakeholder Group, on which I represent OIC.

Other meetings I've been at include: confidential members' briefings; a catch-up with the council leader; a seminar on inclusive education; a meeting of the Sport & Leisure Member/Officer Working Group; a drop-in event about plans for the Orkney World Heritage Site; and an all-day meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee. At the meeting of the Education, Communities & Housing Committee, it was encouraging to see how Community Learning & Development partners (CLD) have been supporting projects in the Isles. If your organisation is looking for support, get in touch with the CLD team at OIC.

Finally, congratulations to council leader, Heather Woodbridge and her husband, Dr Tim Ross (the headmaster of Papay School) on the birth of their first child.

Stephen

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

