

# Fetlar

GARDEN OF SHETLAND

## Merry Christmas



## Welcome to the Christmas 2015 Fetlar Community Newsletter

### Latest news

A lot has happened on the island since our last newsletter around a year ago. We promise that the next interval between newsletters won't be as long !

### Housing news

There have been a lot of properties on the market recently and they seem to have for the most part sold. We have also had a number of people arriving and some leaving. In addition to the sale of Gibb House and Feal, St Ninian Skete (previously Weatherhead), Upper Ness and Bethany are all believed to have been sold or are under offer. We are expecting a number of the new owners to arrive soon.

### Comings and goings

We would like to welcome Paul & Caroline, Felix and Joshua and also Anthony who have all arrived during the past year. Also a warm welcome back to Davy Chalmers who has returned to Fetlar after a "few years" away.

We said goodbye to Mothers Mary Agnes and Mary Aidan from SOLI and Jean one of

the oblates, who have moved to Unst. Also to Mother Mary Elizabeth who has also made the move to Unst.

Also leaving the island to take up a new employment were Nic, Sally and the twins. Kyle, Clare, Eden and Maddy have left to return to their native Wales.

### All change at the school.

The pupils and wider community were deeply saddened to say farewell to principal teacher Paul Gill who was without doubt one of the best teachers that Fetlar school has had. Paul took a leading role in the community being a founding Director of Fetlar Developments and latterly a Trustee of Fetlar Museum Trust and Director of Fetlar Wind. While Paul is moving onwards and upwards having been offered a headship at a school on mainland Scotland. It is likely that his skills and experience could have been retained in Fetlar or Shetland, save for the actions, or more accurately the inactions of our glorious education department. The community is now waiting to hear word about a replacement.

Fetlar Wind's two new turbines



### Fetlar Wind

Fetlar Wind was set up as a Community Benefit Society to raise the money for, and to build two turbines to supply power to the Fetlar Green Energy(FGE) project. Within the space of this year it has been set up, raised capital and is now in the final stages of getting its turbines operational. The new turbines should be commissioned by the end of this year. The turbines will be connected via a power management system to the FGE heat and power distribution system, which following testing should be fully operational by the middle of January 2016. It will supply connected buildings with heat and power and will also be used to charge the electric minibus making its operations virtually carbon free.

New look for the hall clubroom with new furniture and flooring



The Community Association who run the hall are looking to secure funding for upgrades to the building. These will include significantly increasing the insulation, some replacement fire doors and also adapting the building to provide appropriate toilet and shower facilities to complement the planned caravan/motorhome hook up points. Upgrades and/or modifications to the heating system to lower costs are also being considered.

## Christmas quiz

See if you know the "English" names of the birds listed below using their Shetland Names.

1. Bonxie
2. Shalder
3. Tammie Norie
4. Haigrie
5. Skooty Alan
6. Solan
7. Maalie
8. Whaap
9. Tirrick
10. Dunter

Please note there is no prize its just for fun. If your stuck try using John Grahams online Shetland dictionary.

### Sudoku fun challenge.

				1		5		9
1		3						2
8				4	9			
	5						6	8
			1				3	
9		7						
	6			2			7	5
							9	
	7	9		8	5			



Recently the community mourned the passing of Harry Thomason, a Fetlar man born and bred, he made his home on the island with his wife Beattie and children Robbie and Dawn. While he loved a “spree” he was a family man at heart and enjoyed when his family visited including more recently his grandchildren. Harry started of working at the fishing, initially on the Concorde before a period working on the building of several ferry terminals. He then returned to the fishing finding a berth on the old Madalia and then on the new Madalia. After leaving the fishing Harry got work with his brother working on the Salmon in Unst, as well as working the croft in Fetlar. He continued working with the salmon and the croft until illness prevented him from doing so. Returning to the salmon between treatments as he felt able. He finally gave up the croft about a year ago. He will be sadly missed but is now at peace after a brave and uncomplaining struggle.

### **Fibre for Fetlar- Broadband update**

In collaboration with North Isles Community Broadband, [www.ni4cb.com](http://www.ni4cb.com) and with funding from Community Broadband Scotland, we are hoping to install a fibre network on the island. Initially making use of the existing backhaul. This will then allow almost instant speed increases once an upgraded backhaul link is available. It will also mean that users will get a more uniform speed as some people have suffered from the degradation of the wireless kit. More detail available in 2016.



### **Community Polycrubs**

We have now identified an alternative site near the B.A.R club shed which we can use to provide our community growing project. This will be moving forward in 2016 and there will be public meetings held in the new year both to gauge current demand and also to look at other potential aspects of the project, such as training, composting etc



# Festive Whats On

Friday 18th December - Community Christmas party at the hall from 7pm

24th December - Christmas eve - Carols and the Christmas story, 5pm at the Kirk, with coffee and mince pies to follow and appropriate refreshments for the children.

26th December - Clubroom open at the hall from 9pm

31st December - New Years Eve party at the hall from 9pm

## **Brough Lodge News**

Having secured funding and brought Brough Lodge back to a wind and watertight condition, the Trust is now seeking funding for the main phase of the project. They have also announced the development of a pilot scheme to promote hand knitting in Shetland schools. The Shetland Peerie Makers project launched a successful crowdfunding appeal. The appeal exceeded its initial target of £4500 with the total on the website currently standing at £7194. For more information please visit the website.  
<http://www.broughlodge.org/hand-knitting>

## **Fetlar Crafts at Clickimin Craft fair**

Joanne Bell from Fetlar attended the annual craft fair held at the Clickimin Centre in Lerwick with a range of her crafts which are all handmade in Fetlar. She uses wool from their own sheep which she has fully prepared through all the processes from fleece to finished product.

## **Newsletters by email**

Please sign up on the website at [www.fetlar.org](http://www.fetlar.org) to be added to the mailing list.

## **Next Newsletter - due by Spring 2016**

Please let us know if you have something you would like included and we will do our best to fit it in.

Please note the Development Office will be closed from 4.30pm on Friday 18th December and will reopen on Wednesday 6th January. the Directors and staff at Fetlar Developments Ltd would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

## **Properties available**

Shetland Island Council still have some properties for rent at the Stakkafletts estate. These are currently classed as low demand housing. Visit the following link for more information.  
[http://www.shetland.gov.uk/housing/housing\\_options\\_low\\_demand.asp](http://www.shetland.gov.uk/housing/housing_options_low_demand.asp)

### **Gord for sale**



B&B, Post office and previous shop premises with attached dwelling.

### **SOLI Property for sale**



Built for a religious order this is a large property comprising of several buildings. It has significant potential.

For more details on properties available visit <http://www.fetlar.org/housing>

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