



## Welcome to the Fetlar Community Newsletter, Christmas 2013

### Fetlar's latest arrivals !



Clare, Andy and Murray are delighted to welcome two, in-calf Galloway cows to Fetlar. It is believed to be the first time that representatives of this hardy and practical breed have set hoof on the island. They should provide the nucleus for a project to develop a small herd of this breed which are noted for their superlative beef. In addition, as a consequence of their grazing habits, their presence will be a useful management tool in habitat restoration and an associated increase in biodiversity.

### Car boot success



All sorts on offer at the "car boot" sale

Fetlar youth club held a "car boot" sale in the hall in November as a fundraiser. Soup, Teas, coffees and cakes were all on sale to feed the hungry shoppers and stall holders. Most stallholders had a very successful day as did the youth club raising around £250 for club funds.

The youth club would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who came along and supported them.

### New water treatment works official opening



Chris Wallace, Director of communications with Scottish water poses for a photo with pupils and teachers from Fetlar primary school. One of the pupils was off sick and is missing from the photo. An assembled invited group were treated to a guided tour of the excellent new facility, before returning to the school for a splendid lunch prepared at the school by the children. The commemorative plaque shown is to be fixed to the building. Scottish Water also donated two picnic tables for school and community use.



### **Fetlar kids at Aladdin**

The Fetlar youth club recently took all the children down to see the pantomime at the Garrison Theatre in Lerwick. They were all wearing their red hats to get them into the Christmas spirit and they had a good singsong in the minibus on the way. It was a fabulous day out for all the children and the accompanying adults.

Unfortunately due to deteriorating weather conditions they had to leave slightly before the end to be able to catch the last ferries home, but the day worked out as a massive success. the youth club would like to thank everyone for their support in funding the trip.

Brightening up a dark morning in Clograve sound, the drilling ship Stena Carron provides a festive feel to the sound as we approach the Christmas holidays

### **The house that Colin and Bridgette built.**

This brand new super insulated house has drastically reduced their heating bills. Now approaching their second Christmas in their new home, the first built in Fetlar for many years. The family are now fully settled and the few teething troubles that they experienced have all been sorted.



The new house is situated just below their old one at Vealzie and commands stunning views out over Papil loch and the Wick of Tresta towards Lamb Hoga

Built to the latest building regulations the house is of wooden frame construction, highly insulated, with double glazing throughout. Heating when required is provided by an oil boiler. A heat recovery system has also been installed.



This panoramic view shows the kitchen and dining room along the front of the house. The sitting room is located at the far end and a utility room is located behind the photographer. Three bedrooms, one en suite and a family bathroom are located at the rear of the house.



## Poly crubs one step closer...

We are now expecting to finalize a lease for the property with the SIC early in the New Year. This will hopefully allow us to get the project in place during 2014.

More info on polycrubs <sup>Polycrubs have a hard twin wall polycarbonate "shell" and use recycled pipe from salmon farms.</sup>

### Tourism Development

Anyone with ideas for tourism development on Fetlar, or looking for assistance with a tourism project, should contact Kyle Sylvester the Fetlar Tourism Development Officer.

Kyle will be presenting a feature in the next issue on the potential for "Walkers are Welcome" status for Fetlar. Unst has already achieved this and both Yell and Fetlar are working towards accreditation.

### Fetlar Schools fabulous festive performance.



Tea and mince pies for all after the screening of "Laird of time"

Building on the success of last year's film and now with even more children at the school, as well as a new Mac laptop and video camera, expectations were high for this year's performance.

The production was largely written, filmed and edited by Shane Painter with assistance from Principal Teacher Paul Gill.

The film was an unusual take on the standard nativity play involving a central character who resembled a well known time traveling gentleman with a blue box. Who could that be I wonder?

With a deftly wielded "chronic drowscriver" and a regularly regenerating narrator, the timeline of the Christmas story, despite several attempts at meandering off, was maintained. The child receiving the traditional gifts of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh, instead of one possible timeline where a gameboy was suggested! Very clever use was made of green screen techniques to transport characters to far off lands. As a first time production my hat is well and truly off to young Shane. However credit must also go to all his fellow school pupils who performed brilliantly and put on a lovely and enchanting production.

As always, the specially selected bonus bloopers reel at the end had everyone in stitches.

The school would like to thank Zetland Educational Trust and Fetlar Community Council for their financial support which enabled the school to get the new equipment.

Is this to be the last one? We hope not!

## Properties Available

For further details on these and any newly available properties visit

[www.fetlar.org](http://www.fetlar.org)

### Braeside



3 bed cottage with wonderful views out over Papil loch and Wick of Tresta. Also included is the tenancy of a substantial croft.

<http://www.fetlar.org/croft-house-and-assignation-of-tenancy-of-a-croft>

### Tresta Cottage



Fully modernised and extended traditional 2 bedroom cottage currently run as a 4 star self catering business.

Up to 100Ha of land and buildings available by separate negotiation.

<http://www.fetlar.org/tresta-cottage>

### Various crofts and building plots

**Mid house croft** approx. 14 acres, tenanted.

**Aith croft** approx. 11 acres with portal frame building, tenanted.

**Gibb House croft** approx. 24 acres, stone byre, tenanted.

**The Ness croft** approx. 40 acres, owner occupied.

For further details on the crofts please visit the website.

<http://www.fetlar.org/various-crofts-and-building-plots>

Our pre christmas craft fair went down well with both locals and the visitors who made the journey into Fetlar for the day. Sales were brisk and there were some great special offers available. Avalina Dixon was promoting her range of attractive locally made jewelry and Joanne Bell was there promoting her woolen products, the star of which must be the "Russi Foal."

The Interpretive Centres new Electric Vehicle "fast charge" points should be available in the

new year once they go through their final commissioning. They can charge most EV's to 80% capacity in an hour. With said hour hopefully being spent constructively in the Interpretive Centre.

The charge points were fully funded by Chargeplace Scotland.

The Energy Saving Trust manages the funding on behalf of Transport Scotland

### **A micro woolen mill, is this a viable new industry for Fetlar?**

Following initial public meetings earlier in the year, at which there was general support for the idea, FDL have been taking investigations further. A meeting between the directors of FDL and Shetland Organics highlighted a large potential customer for the mill, which would need organic certification to process their wool. At present all organic wool has to be sent out of Shetland for processing. The mill would also support the increasing local craft market in Fetlar. A feasibility study has now been tendered and subject to funding being obtained will be undertaken towards the end of the first quarter of 2014. There will be plenty of opportunity for members of the community

to contribute and more public meetings will be organised.



Pictured above is a Belfast mini mills 8 spindle spinner, equipment similar to this is what is being considered.

### **Fetlar Developments Ltd Membership**

FDL is the company set up by the community to develop projects on the island. Full membership is open to anyone over 18 who is a Fetlar resident. This year additional classes of membership were introduced, Junior membership, for residents aged between 12 and 17 and Associate membership (non voting) for anyone out with the island who has an interest in supporting the work of the development company. Membership in all categories is currently free. But donations are always welcome. Membership forms are available from the Development office, contact details are given below.

### **Winter clubs and activities**

With the nights drawing in, various clubs are starting up again.

Friday nights at 7pm for Badminton

Saturdays from 7pm - 1am for the club bar

Film nights and matinees will be running every few weeks normally on Fridays. Details advertised locally.

The Youth club runs on Friday nights from xxx

Sundays at 2pm Tai Chi - contact Avalina Dixon

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*The directors and staff at Fetlar Developments Ltd would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year*