



Horshader Community Development

Newsletter March 2018

In Memory of David Dow Wright

As many of you will be aware, David Wright was the Chairman of Horshader Community Development and a very well respected figure in the community. David passed away following a long illness on Friday 16th February 2018. His cremation took place on 27th February in Livingston. The family asked for no flowers or cards but there is a donation tin in the Horshader Shop and Café for anyone wishing to donate to Cancer Research in David's name. There is also a book of condolence in the shop which will remain available until the end of March when it will be sent to his daughter Susan who lives in New Zealand.

Much of this newsletter is dedicated to David and highlights just a few of the things that he achieved during his time with Trust.

David was the sort of man who realised the importance of a community coming together and his biggest accomplishment had to be the Horshader Wind Turbine being installed with the profits coming to the Trust and funding local worthy causes as well as residents from the Horshader area of South Shawbost to Dalmore.



Following interest from a private developer, a steering group was formed in 2003 to look at the prospect of building a community owned windfarm on the plateau below Ben Horshader which is situated on the common grazing land of South Shawbost, Dalbeg and Dalmore.

The Horshader charitable trust was established in May 2005 with the aim to build and run a community wind turbine for the benefit of people in the Horshader area.

After a lot of hard work over the next ten years, in October 2012 the turbine began generating electricity



As a very unassuming man it was difficult to thank David for his tireless efforts. He did not want a plaque on the turbine but the local residents, grateful for his grit and determination wanted to have a plaque somewhere in recognition. A large Rock near the turbine has this brass plaque on it thanking him, which was done unbeknownst to him until he found out, but it was too late for him to stop it.

RIP David Dow Wright

28.7.1947 - 16.2.2018

We will continue with the tools that you have given us, the paths that you have shown us and with the dedication that was with you to the last.



Other News from Horshader Community Development

Job Vacancy at Raebhat House

DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Full time (37 hours per week). Fixed Term 2-year contract. Salary £25,000-£28,000 per annum, commensurate with experience.

The main purpose of the Development Officer post is to carry out general development and administrative duties in support of the work of the Horshader Community Development Trust and associated Projects

For a Job Description and details on how to apply please contact admin@horshader.com

Closing date for applications is Monday 19th March, 5pm.



Other News from Horshader Community Development



Polytunnel Update



There are some allotments available for anyone in the Horshader area. Please phone the main office to register your interest .



Hebridean Ark Tree Project Update



The tunnels have been built for teaching and to grow trees from Hebridean seeds and cuttings. The seeds collected throughout autumn 2017 are germinating in the new tunnels at Raebhat House which also hosted a "Trees for the Croft" skills course on the 24th of February run by Viv Halcrow, a Woodland Trust officer based at Point and Sandwick Trust. Those attending learned so much about growing trees on the croft and the course covered theory and practical skills too. The weather was nice and sunny and 600 trees were planted on a local croft. Lunch was provided by Horshader café supplying lovely hot soup and sandwiches, perfect after all that digging !

The tree seeds we grow in Horshader will be sold to many of the island woodland schemes ensuring that the trees are adapted to the gales and the salt spray from the Atlantic with an excellent chance of establishing successfully.

On Thursday 1st of March we received a visit from Barvas School pupils and they learned about Horshader Community Development and its role in the community. They learned about the polytunnel's Growing Project and the history of the turbine and its many benefits including the shop and café.



Minibus Update



As well as all of the usual runs that Don does with the minibus he also took a group of schoolchildren to see the Iolaire Monument. They learned that just after new year bells, the Iolaire struck the "Beats of Holm" in 1919, just on approach to Stornoway.

The boat was full of sailors returning to their families and loved ones on the island following WW1. The tragic loss of 205 men is still felt deeply today.



Shop and Café Update



We have added more lines to our already extensive range in the shop but please ask if there is something you feel we are missing from the shelves.

The café menu has extended too. The fish and chips options are selling really well, closely followed by our new range of Artisan Ice-cream hand made in the café kitchen with new flavours appearing daily. There is everything from chocolate to whisky and Honey varieties.

The shop and café are getting ready for the visitors during the season but ultimately it is a place for our local residents and people staying on the island too. Your Shop, Your Café.

We have had new signs made up which will make it easier for people to see the opening hours.

Why not pop over and have a coffee or a pot of tea and cake, maybe some lunch or just to get some messages.

And finally, please note the minutes displayed on the Horshader site were put up prematurely and prior to ratification by the Board and as such were not a true record of events. As soon as the minutes have been agreed and signed off they will be available for anyone to download and read.