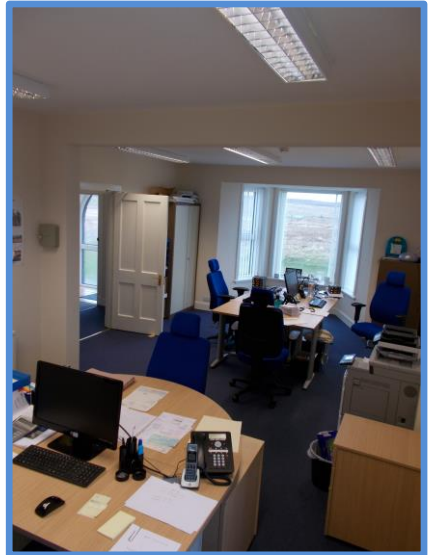




# Horshader Community Development Quarterly Newsletter May 2015

## New Offices

We have moved to our new offices at Raebhat House, having acquired the premises in October 2014, extensive refurbishment work has since taken place to make the building suitable as modern office space for the Horshader team. We moved in on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April and are getting settled in our new environment. Raebhat House provides us with additional space, two offices, a board room and a large community room in which to host Horshader events. We are currently using a temporary phone line, 710245, and hope to have our new phone number shortly, this will be 701225 and our new mail address is; Raebhat House, Shawbost, HS2 9BQ.



## Lease to shop

The acquisition of Raebhat House has also allowed us to lease part of the space to Michael Fitzpatrick to operate his own business. We wish him every success.



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## Loom leasing

We have been approached by the Harris Tweed Authority as to whether we would be interested in purchasing looms in partnership with other Community Development Trusts in Lewis. The loom leasing initiative has been trialled by the Muaitheabhal Community Wind Farm Trust in Kinloch and Pairc in 2013, who loaned to weavers in the Pairc, Kinloch and North Harris area. Following discussions with the HTA, Shawbost Mill, Carloway mill, and The Harris Tweed Weavers Association, we have issued a letter to establish whether there is any interest in this initiative within the HCD community.

The closing date is the 29<sup>th</sup> of May and the next step will be decided based on the interest and in discussions with existing weavers in our area.

## **Vacancy:**

We currently have a vacancy for a cleaner on a casual basis. Please contact the office for more details and an application form or email: [angela@horshader.com](mailto:angela@horshader.com)



Are you a keen gardener? Not a requirement. Do you want to spruce up your garden? In a low maintenance way. We have successfully been awarded a number of Grow Wild Flower Seed kits for our community. Grow Wild, Flowers to the People, is a project supported by Kew Royal Botanic Gardens, which seeks to encourage to the growth of native wild flowers. The Seed Kit provides a guide on how to get started, 5 packets of UK native wild flower seeds, site markers and a DIY bee house. All we need is for you to share your growing success, with pictures or videos of your wild flower meadow, which we can share. If you are interested in getting a free Seed Kit contact the office, limited number so get in touch

[An Eathar Coastal Rowing Club](https://www.facebook.com/pages/An-Eathar/245034302310870) are looking for someone to make 4 oars for the news boat, they have bought the wood and have a set plan. Some woodwork experience would help but is not essential. The oar maker will be assisted by volunteer helpers, if interested please visit the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/pages/An-Eathar/245034302310870>



## Growing Project Update

The growing experiment comes to an end as we pass into May, having sown in late January the rate of growth has been inspiring, with out of season growth encouraged through the installation of heat and day lighting. This allows us to increase production, and extend seasonal growth at both ends of the year. With an expected harvest in the next few weeks, we are looking forward to a busy summer of growing in the tunnels. The outdoor plot is looking great ready for sowing a crop of potatoes. We have had a busy few months at the polycrub site with various interested group coming to view the progress of the project, in April we had Clann an Latha an De, a group from Lews Castle College and a group from Sgoil Breasclate.



This year we are introducing a new system for the sale of produce, this is to help us reach our CO2 emissions savings targets. Our proposed new system will lead to less wastage from produce and will be beneficial in achieving the overall goals of the project.

An ordering system will be put in place; you can either visit the polycrub site and discuss with David Murdo what is available, or phone the office or David Murdo for an updated list and place your order. David Murdo will then prepare your order which will be ready for collection at the HCD offices the next day where payment will be taken. We believe this new system will make our produce more accessible, we thank you for your continued support of project. The new system will begin the week beginning Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May.



We are also looking forward to hosting an alfresco cookery workshop (weather permitting) at the polycrubs in Partnership with the Hebridean Celtic Festival. Music, fun and hopefully sunshine will be in abundance. Please mark the 16<sup>th</sup> of July in your diaries. More details to follow nearer the time.

**Get involved in the Project:** We welcome any volunteer support for the Growing Project, and as work increases so do the opportunities for volunteers. If you would be interested please contact the office to get more information, or DM directly on 07768895442

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## Horshader Rural Support and Connect Project

The arrival of the Horshader Minibus heralds the beginning of a new service which will be rolled out to the community over the next couple of weeks. HCD hope to appoint a Driver/handyman over the next fortnight. The successful candidate will also be required to provide basic handyman services in the locality. The minibus will seek to be reactive to the needs of the community and a draft timetable will be planned in discussion with a focus group, before being issued to the wider HCD community for feedback. The Support and Connect Project will be additional to any other services being offered in the community and will hopefully be of great local benefit. A booklet describing how the service will operate will be issued to every household over the next few weeks.

This project is funded by the Big Lottery Fund; HCD; Scottish Government until March 2016. During this time the service usage will be monitored and evaluated. This is an exciting new project and we hope that it can be of great benefit to all.

In order to make excellent use of this facility we will need volunteer drivers who will be willing to assist with the driving out with the Employee's hours. Please enquire for more information.



## Directors:

If you would like to get involved there are currently 2 vacancies for directors on the HCD Board of Trustees.

Directors have a collective duty of care for the trust and are expected to act in the best interests of the community. Director nomination forms are available from Raebhat House or can be downloaded from our website: [www.horshader.com](http://www.horshader.com) or contact [angela@horshader.com](mailto:angela@horshader.com)

## CONTACT US!

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## The Growing Project |

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