

What's on!

28th August to 4th September - Participation in the Orkney Science Festival.

18th September - Participation in Doors Open Day, during Scottish Archaeology Month - viewing of the latest information provided by a Professor from Edinburgh University. Guided walk on Burifa Hill and Dunnet Head, focussing on WWII history.

First week of October - date to be decided - as part of Highland Archaeology Month. Talk and walk about the Picts. More info later.

November - March - Exhibition of the WWII information in Aberdeen, including the new material which will be available from September.

Orkney Trip

The Trust was represented at a Scottish National Rural Network event in Kirkwall on 28th May and one of the Trustees met with many people of a like mind who have an interest in rural affairs, including promoting the north of Scotland. This was the final event of a 20 stop roadshow by the team, and was well attended by the voluntary sector in Orkney, Orkney Councillors, and local businesses. Many projects were mooted which the Trust hopes to follow up both through its trading arm and development projects with the Trust and its new affiliate, North of Scotland Hospitality (NOSH) which is supported by John Thurso. It was a great opportunity to develop cross Firth ideas. The theme was Science in Tourism and was a joint project kindly supported by the Caithness branch of the British Science Association and Northlink who kindly sponsored the ticket. The Trust was able to promote its DVD alongside beautiful materials from the Forestry Commission, SNH, and its own brochures and information.

Bagging Scotland

Help us support local visitor attractions by giving a donation to cover costs of postage, postcards, and a prize for the winner of a competition which is being devised to encourage the "Baggers" to visit the far flung unknown corners of Caithness, such as Scotland's Haven and the Trinkie. A series of 10 questions is set, grid references provided and the participants answers the questions set and returns them to the Trust. For example, "What wildlife do you see here" and give the grid reference for Scotland's Haven. Cards will be available at local centres such as Caithness Horizons and a list available on the web site

<http://www.dunnethead.co.uk>. We have already had a lot of interest and "friends" joining the Dunnet Head blog within the Bagging Scotland web site, so we will be emailing the "Friends" to let them know about the quiz. <http://bagging-scotland.com/mybag/>

Information services at Brough

The information shelter at the corner by the bus stop is being updated with new information.

Mervyn has put his seat out in readiness for visitors to rest and peruse the information and stay a while. There are bus timetables, train timetables, and information packs. Walking packs will soon be for sale at local outlets and we are working with Quo and ViewRanger to make the walks more accessible.

There is also an information screen in the window of the Trust's headquarters giving further information about events, tours and the history archive.

Registered office: Windhaven, Brough, Thurso KW14 8YE

Web site: <http://www.dunnethead.co.uk>



Dunnet Head Educational Trust

Newsletter - June 2010

Projects 2010

Projects are progressing well, with the Caithness & Sutherland Walking Festival (1-8 May) now over, the link up with London and a trip to Orkney under our belts. Bagging Scotland and the Round Coastal Britain run are still to come, and the Trust is delighted with the local support for the Trust for the walking festival which this year included the Castle of Mey, Eastern Airways, and Edinburgh Woollen Mills. We are very grateful to the main core of people who give generously every year, not only with their hard earned cash but with their general support.

The weather for the walking festival was not great with a lesser number of walkers than in previous years but the Trust continues with walking development through the "Walkers are Welcome" scheme with the support of the Dunnet & Canisbay Community Council. The turnout was low at the DCCC meeting on 5th May, but the Chairman was particularly interested in the scheme and rolling it out for the whole of Caithness. The subject will be discussed again at the Community Council meeting on 9th June.

The first walkers cafe at John o Groats is being developed kindly supported by Heritage Attractions and walkers will be able to pick up walking packs from the Journey's End Cafe shortly. A heritage way is also being developed across Brough Common. Watch this space!

David Attenborough studio link

After a few technical hitches during testing, the link to the David Attenborough studio in London went very well. The David Attenborough studio is located in the Natural History Museum, and the was broadcast world wide, so plenty of exposure for the area. Tina did the presentation herself and gave the British Science Association (our partners in this event) a mention. As we weren't sure whether the link was going to work, we were loathe to ask Paula (Tugmistress) and Pat Kieran to travel out to Dunnet Head to do presentations. I would like to thank them, however, for their promised support had all gone to the original plan. We hope to be able to include a video clip in the web site at www.dunnethead.co.uk shortly.

Stop Press!

The Round Coastal Britain run is now well under way - see www.coastersgb.co.uk. There is a "Spot Barry" competition with prizes offered by the Northern Sands hotel and Dunnet Head B&B - log on for details! The runner for the Thurso to John o Groats section is trying to get to Dunnet Head at midnight on the summer solstice where we are hoping to give him a great welcome. Donations would be welcome to help support this great event - so a bottle of champers, some bananas (special request!) or even a few pounds will help with petrol costs as the Trust will be supporting the runner between Dunnet Head and John o Groats by car. Any assistance would be much appreciated.

Brough Bay

The trading arm of the Trust, Caledonian Iberian ConeXions (UK) Ltd. has registered the land owned at Brough Bay under the "Adopt a Beach" scheme run by the Marine Conservation Society. The Trustees placed a barbecue and bin at the Bay, but sadly the barbecue was demolished and the components stolen. They will, however, be replaced and a noticeboard and picnic table put in situ once the ugly rotting hulls currently languishing on the shore have been removed. An information box with information about walks in the local area and a donation box will also be placed in the Bay. As reported in a previous newsletter, the Bay does get well used, so the extra facilities will be a welcome addition to the area. Since the last newsletter, kayakers and divers have used the Bay, and it is a popular spot with local people.

The beach was cleaned on 24th April by local volunteers as part of the "Keep Scotland Beautiful" scheme and results sent to the Marine Conservation Society. A skip was kindly provided by the Highland Council, and was returned to the depot almost full. The Trustees also assisted in cleaning up the area round the seats on 25th April helped by villagers. Meanwhile, the bin is being well used and emptied on a regular basis by the Trustees. The path to the seal viewing platform has also been cleaned up and a seat put in situ.

History Archive

The history archive is now open and has had its first visitors. The archive has been promoted at the Wick Archive, the Historic Environment Record (HER) database compiled by the Highland Council - see <http://her.highland.gov.uk/> and other media. We can now offer tours of Dunnet Head and Burifa Hill, as well as the archive, using the services of a local expert. We do need 48 hours notice though, and the archive is only bookable on Saturdays, Sundays and Wednesdays. Please email us at info@dunnethead.co.uk or telephone 01847 851774. The exhibition will be on the road again during the winter months and include the new information from Edinburgh University.

I would like to support the Dunnet Head Educational Trust and receive quarterly newsletters.

I enclose a cheque for

Name:.....

Address:

.....

Email:

Please make cheques payable to the Dunnet Head Educational Trust and send to Monlettie Croft, Street of Monteach, Methlick, Aberdeenshire, AB41 7JS