

Keep Scotland Beautiful

“Keep Scotland Beautiful is calling for volunteers to help Keep Scotland Tidy by taking part in National Spring Clean 2010. Nearly 60,000 people took part in a litter pick in their own neighbourhood during April 2009 and even more are expected to unite to give the country a makeover this coming Spring!” The Trust has registered for a clean up on 24th April to clean up the path to the beach and pathworks to the seal viewing platform at Brough Bay. We have information packs, bin liners, litter pickers, and gloves available, and there will be tea and cakes made available in the tea room. The Highland Council are helping with this and provided a bin for Brough Bay which will be serviced by the Trustees.

History Archive

As part of the Local History Project a library of digitised images and recordings has been created. Access to the centre will be available on Saturdays, Sundays and Wednesdays from the beginning of May. Visits will be bookable via our web site, by email or by writing to us at Windhaven, Brough, Thurso, Caithness, KW14 8YE. Cost will be £5 for a tour, including a refreshment. The display includes the plans of the WWII installations on Burifa Hill and Dunnet Head, and a catalogue of information about its usage. People who have donated regularly to the Trust in previous years, have contributed materials to the archive and / or assist the Trust in its endeavours can get a free pass. We will have a new recording from the University of Edinburgh available in time for the Highland Archaeology Fortnight in October.

The archive has recently been supplemented by photos of Brough Bay and Ham Harbour by a local resident. They are currently being digitised.

New Services

- The Trustees have two gazebos for rent - one in Aberdeenshire and the other in Caithness. They are 9m x 3m - so quite a size.
- Two of the Trustees have recently attained their MiDAS (Minibus Driver Awareness Scheme) certificates. Organisations can rent our services at a reduced rate for voluntary groups. The bus belongs to West Caithness Community Transport who rent out the bus. The Trust can provide the drivers. All monies are invested back into the Trust to enable us to develop further projects.

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 which officially opens on 9th May.

Registered office: Windhaven, Brough, Thurso KW14 8YE

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



Dunnet Head Educational Trust

Newsletter - March 2010

Projects 2010

The Trustees reviewed their project list in January and the following projects are under way:

"Keep Scotland Beautiful" Day - 24th April

Caithness & Sutherland Walking Festival 1-8 May

Walkers are Welcome meeting on 5th May - on the agenda of the Dunnet & Canisbay Community Council meeting at Britannia Hall

History Archive opens 9th May

Tentative steps have been taken with HIE, the Highland Council and SNH re developing the North Highland Way as part of the Scottish Coastal Way. This will be based on the Core Path Plan, as will the Walkers are Welcome scheme. The Council are currently considering their budget for implementing the Core Path Plan. The project is supported by the Caithness Waybaggers and John Thurso MP.

Meanwhile, the proprietors of the Dunnet Head B&B are offering baggage transfers for walkers who stay with them as well as advice on their onward journey.

Local, national and international promotion through the Trust's trading arm, Caledonian Iberian ConeXions (UK) Ltd.

Caithness & Sutherland Walking Festival

The promotion for the walking festival is going full steam ahead with the event being promoted in Holland via the Trust's membership of Wild Scotland, the festival will also be promoted at VisitScotland Expo on 14/15 April as well as other information about the Trust's projects, and brochures of some of the supporters. The

criteria was very strict, and those sponsors who are members of the Caithness Chamber of Commerce were not included as some of the hotels took their own



space. The festival was also promoted via the UK Experience at the Best of Britain and Ireland (21-25 March) and at a music festival in Portugal with complements of the Wick Pipe Band. One of the Trustees went to Orkney recently to promote the event there and is working with the Orkney Tourism Group to distribute leaflets through Orkney accommodation providers.

The first walk will take place on 1st May - from Brough to the Castle of Mey - price £12 and bookable only. The price covers an entrance fee to the Castle and return transportation. The centre at Brough will be open from 1-8 May 11am to 5pm and include promotions from the digital mapping company, Quo, and Augmenta who promote the View Ranger equipment which allows walks to be downloaded to a mobile phone. Demonstrations will take place every

day as required. Just drop in. For other information about the walking festival and the budding North Highland Way, log on to www.walkcaithness.com.

The Trust is also supporting the Round Coastal Britain relay run by providing information about the local area, potential routes, places to stay, places to eat etc. The centre at Brough will be open from 20-27 June to support the runners. We will also be looking for sponsorship so we can provide them with energy drinks and bananas - £10 would do the job and the kind sponsor would get a mention in the next newsletter (unless they wanted to remain anonymous). The run leaves Blackpool on 9th May and it is estimated that they will be in the Caithness area during that week. There is a link through to their site from the walking festival site. Some of the comments on their forum are really great.....such as "is there any accommodation available between Ullapool and Thurso".... oh dear ...

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. This gives the beach a higher profile and, in addition to the land registry, recognises that the land actually does belong to the company rather than the Brough Bay



Caption for the image or graphic

Association. The Trustees are currently preparing a noticeboard, picnic table and barbecue area on the land for use by visitors and locals alike. 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.

STOP PRESS!

22nd May is International Biodiversity Day as part of the International Year of Biodiversity! There will be a Skype link up with the David Attenborough studio in London to celebrate the day and lots of activities, including a presentation by the Tugmistress. Price £5 including a viewing of the history archive. Book early to avoid disappointment!

Supporting the Trust

- By cheque to Dunnet Head Educational Trust, Monlettie Croft, Street of Monteach, Methlick, Aberdeenshire, AB41 7JS
- By shopping on line
- By sponsoring one of our projects
- By electing to donate to the Trust via <http://www.everyclick.com>
- By Paypal

All methods are promoted on our web site at <http://www.dunnethead.co.uk>

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

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

Web site: www.dunnethead.co.uk