Monthly

Newsletter

October

Updates

Housing Project

Building is progressing well, more information to follow over the coming months, including the application process.





Monthly
Newsletter
October

Updates

Summer BBQ Donations

At The Taversoe Summer BBQ Day, money donated by residents for the **Rousay School** & **Scotland Air Ambulance** has now been paid by the REW DT (the funds having not been received from the previous employees running the business on behalf of the REW DT) at £298.75 each.

Thnk you very much for your donations.

Monthly

Newsletter

October

Updates

A Stoat update from ONWP...

Since a stoat was previously caught and removed on 9 October, we've continued to closely monitor Rousay for any further developments. During a routine check of our cameras on 22 October, we confirmed that a second stoat had been seen on camera, close to a trap just south of the Loch of Loomachun, the previous day.

The following morning morning, our trappers went out to respond to this new sighting and found the stoat caught in the same trap from the trail camera photo footage caught on 21 October! We can confirm that this stoat was also an adult male, at least over a year old.

While it's concerning to find there was a second stoat present on the island, this incident has also demonstrated the effectiveness of the monitoring network in Rousay. It’s still not currently known how either of the two stoats arrived on the island, but we are looking to use DNA analysis to shed some more light on this.

We'll also continue expanding our monitoring network, and keeping Rousay under close surveillance, to confirm whether or not any other stoats are on the island.

We’d like to warmly thank everybody in the island community for their support – without you, we wouldn’t have been able to respond here anywhere nearly as quickly and effectively. If anybody believes that they’ve seen any other stoats, please report them to us as soon as possible, on the Stoats in Orkney Facebook page or at https://www.orkneynativewildlife.org.uk/report!

Monthly

Newsletter

October



Residents of Egilsay & Wyre will be provided with free ferry tickets to attend the EGM and the Taversoe Options Meeting. The REW DT can also provide transport from the Pier to the School if required.

Please contact transport@rewdt.org or ring 01856 821229

by 3p.m. Wednesday 11 November, so we can make the bookings for you.

We would love to see as many residents as possible at both meetings.

Monthly

Newsletter

November

Update

It's been a busy few months on RSPB Trumland and Onziebust. In early September we again hosted a group of Aberdeen conservation students, led by Callum Nicol who was also employed as a temporary stockperson on Onziebust for Summer 2026.

The main crux of the student's work was to plug away with the fuchsia and salmonberry bashing. Each year there are usually some sort of weather events that hinder this work, wind, rain, snow or all three. The weather was ok for the students this year, but that meant the midgies came out in force and I suspect on some days midgies stopped play!

In addition to cutting and burning the fuschia, the students also tidied up the west side entrance to the reserve and made a crossing over the ditch. Several years ago, the RSPB stopped promoting the west entrance as the path across the field was often too muddy and overgrown. Our neighbour (Eric) on Trumland Farm has put in a gravel track across his field. For visitors wishing to use the core paths it is once again more accessible. At some point over the next few months we will also look to make and install some sort of signage to help visitors unfamiliar with the route.





Monthly

Newsletter

October

Update

Over on Onziebust, we have had some new arrivals. We will be producing lambs again in 2027 and new tups arrived a few weeks ago. We are also mixing up the type of cattle we use on the reserve and we have bought some young Belted and White Galloways from our neighbours on Onziebust Farm, Wyre and Eric Shortland. Wader survey results for Onziebust are in, and it was another good year for the reserve with a total of 278 pairs of waders overall. Our next update will focus on breaking down that figure and the other wader monitoring work we do on Onziebust.

Monthly

Newsletter

October





Monthly

Newsletter

October



Community Transport

Scheduled Trip Dates

Kirkwall

5th & 19th November

3rd & 17th December

Marion's Shop

30th October

13th & 27th November

11th December

To book your place email
transport@rewdt.org
or info@rewdt.org
or phone 821229 and leave a voicemail



Three vibrant, self-sustainable islands

Monthly

Newsletter

October

REWDT Education & Skills Bursary

The REWDT Education & Skills Bursary opened for new applications on 1st April 2026. The bursary can fund 90% of course fees, up to a maximum of £750 per REW resident. For more information or to apply, please email grants@rewdt.org call the office on 01856 821229, or visit www.rewdt/grants



Three vibrant, self-sustainable islands

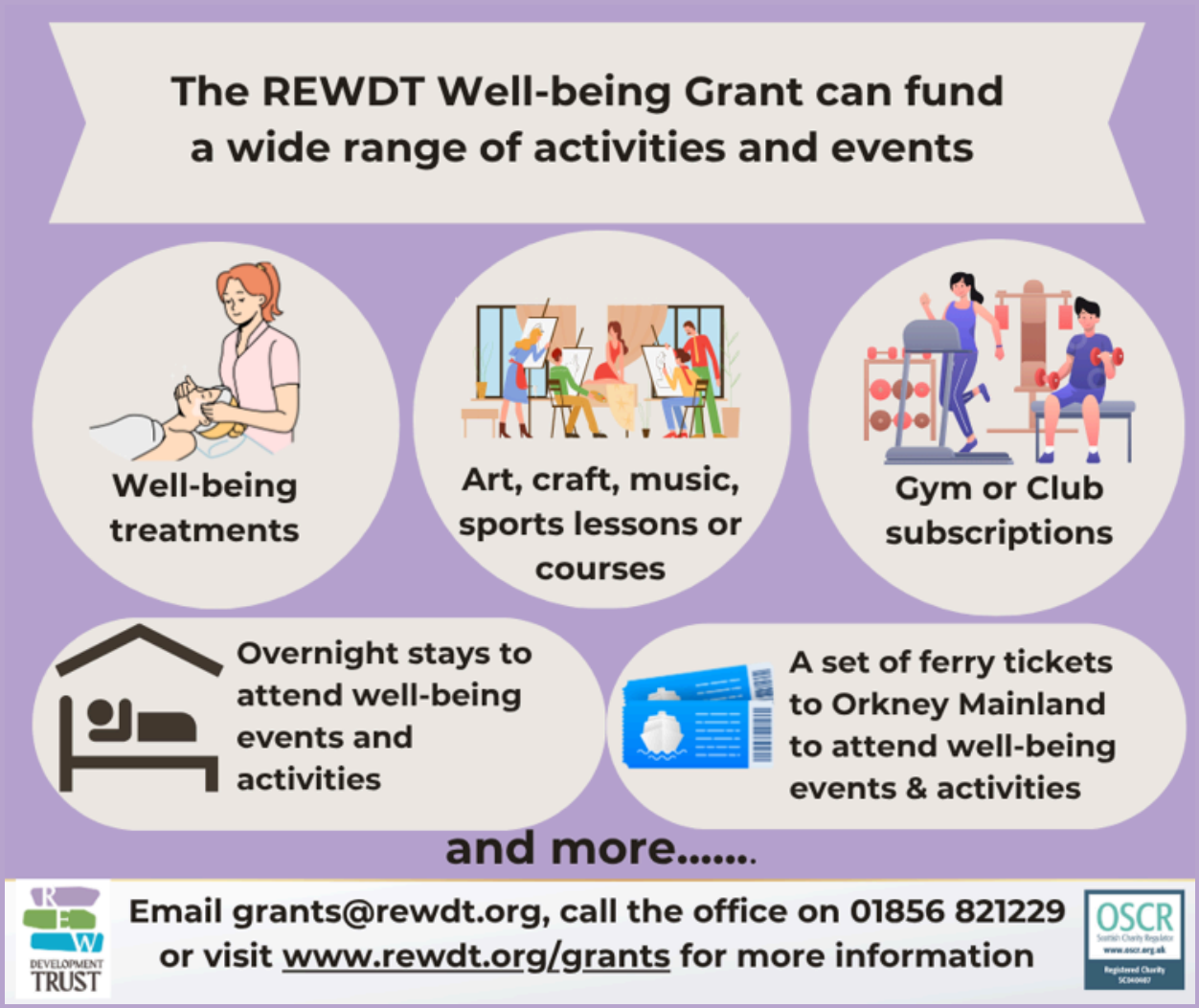
Monthly

Newsletter

October

REWDT Well-being Grant fund

The REWDT Well-being Grant fund opened for new applications on 1st April 2026. The Well-being Grant can fund a wide range of activities, up to a maximum of £250 per REW resident. For more information or to apply, please email grants@rewdt.org , call the office on 01856 821229, or visit our website www.rewdt.org/grants



Monthly

Newsletter

October

Contact us

Please call into the office, email info@rewdt.org or call us on 01856 821229

Office opening hours

Monday - Friday
09:00 - 12:30

Appointments outside of these times can be arranged

Sharing Shed opening hours

Monday - Wednesday
09:00 - 12:30

Staff

Helen Castle
Admin/Finance

Rachel MacGill
Youth Worker

Ellie Roberts
Grants Officer

Hannah Shell
Community Estate Manager

Nicky Jacques
Wellbeing Coordinator

Board of Directors

Lisa Croft
Acting Chair

Grant Mainland
Vice Chair

Alison Mainland
Treasurer

Callum Flaws
Director

Carole Maguire
Director

Julie Gibson
Director

Kayleigh Tipper
Director

Mark Hull
Co-opted

Joy Henderson
Director

Martin Douglas
Director

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