



# Annual Report

## 2021-2022



[www.westraydevelopmenttrust.co.uk](http://www.westraydevelopmenttrust.co.uk)

# Contents

---

<b>Contents.....</b>	<b>p2</b>
<b>Message from Chair.....</b>	<b>p3</b>
<b>Westray Renewable Energy.....</b>	<b>p3</b>
<b>Friends of Kalisgarth Update.....</b>	<b>p4</b>
<b>Project Progress Report.....</b>	<b>p5-9</b>
<b>Grant Awards 2021/22.....</b>	<b>p10-13</b>
<b>Operations Report.....</b>	<b>p14</b>
<b>Finance Report.....</b>	<b>p15</b>
<b>COVID-19 Community Response.....</b>	<b>p15</b>
<b>AGM Agenda &amp; Thanks.....</b>	<b>p16</b>

# Message from the Chair

---

This year has seen a lot of activity and change for Westray Development Trust (WDT).

In this last year we have seen some changes in our office with Isobel and Clare leaving the Trust's employment and we wish them both well for the future. In the absence of a manager Margo and Kieran did a brilliant job of keeping the day to day running of WDT working smoothly. After advertising we were delighted to appoint two Westray lasses to the vacant jobs. Gina Rendall taking on

the role of Operations Manager and Mhairi Noble as Administration Assistant. Kieran's time is coming to an end with us and I would like to pass on our thanks for the work he has done with WDT in his year with us. He will be much missed and we wish him well in the future.

The Bayview housing project is now nearing completion and we have had another year of supporting other projects which will be shown within this annual report.

We have begun to organise our next Island Conference, which will take place next October, and set out the aims and future direction of the trust.

I must lastly give my personal thanks to the board of directors and employees of Westray Development Trust for all of the hard work that has been done this past year, without which we wouldn't have been able to carry on our work in supporting the island.

**Louis Pottinger**  
**Chair**  
**Westray Development Trust**

## Westray Renewable Energy

---

Production by the community wind turbine this year, July 2021 to June 2022, was significantly lower than the same period last year with 208,576kWh total power exported to the national grid, compared to 3,345,001kWh for the previous year. This production gives a total gross income (including weighted average) of approximately £500k. All operating profits are transferred to Westray Development Trust as the sole shareholder. The agreed Gift Aid payment for 2020/2021 was £480K.

The dip in generation for the turbine was due to a breakdown in November 2021 which resulted in the turbine not being operational for almost two months. Consequently, WRE are awaiting a compensation pay out from Enercon and a pay out from our Insurers for loss of income for the period of turbine breakdown. Unfortunately, these payments have still not been settled and this along with further issues in receiving FITs payments meant that the actual sum paid to WDT was £380K.

This results in WRE incurring a tax liability for the year. WRE are in the process of switching to another FIT licensee.

A Forward Planning sub group has been setup comprising members of the WRE and WDT Boards as they begin exploring feasible options for the company to replace the income generated by the current turbine once it reaches the end of its operational life. David Hutchison retired from the WRE Board this year and we would like to thank him for his time and contribution to WRE. We welcomed George Thomson to the WRE Board in May 2022. Current Board members are Willie Bain (Chair), Philip Bews, Andrew Seatter, Jim Stout, Louis Pottinger and George Thomson. Elizabeth Drever is secretary for the company and Clare Walker is the Administration & Finance Officer (AFO) to the company.



*Pictured: Gallowhill turbine on a snowy day.*



# Friends of Kalisgarth Update

Friends of Kalisgarth have had another busy year as we head closer to normality.

A car boot sale brought in close to £500 and we continue to receive a number of generous donations from folk in the Westray community, as well as FITs income from the wind turbine, via WDT. We're also grateful to be regular participants on the Bargain Box rota and, as always, thank folk for their brilliant support.

Over the past year, the group has been pleased to help with items such as magazine subscriptions, Christmas gifts for tenants and day care service users, and outdoor items and garden materials including a new wheelbarrow.

We're also very happy to continue to support Day Care activities and staff initiatives whenever we can. This includes items ranging from art and craft equipment to a couple of essential oil diffusers.



*Pictured: Jessie Ann (above) and (below) Madgie displays her beautiful wreath.*



*Pictured: Kalisgarth residents & daycare visitors enjoying crafts and the blankets that were bought using money from Friends of Kalisgarth.*

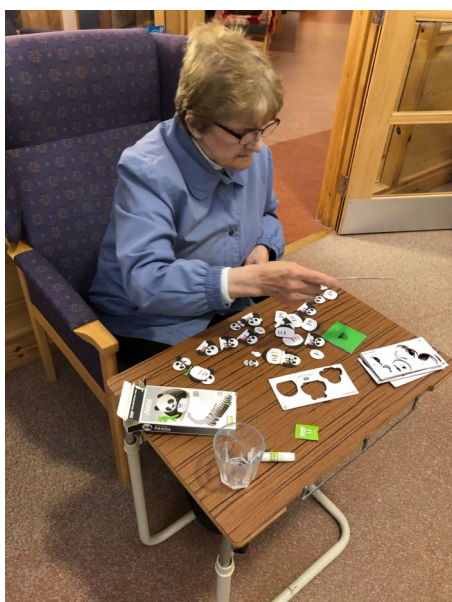
We were delighted to see the WDT grant-funded purchase of the two electric rickshaws, which have proved a big hit already and we're grateful to Val Thomson for organising this.

Amongst the things we're now looking towards to is the third and final stage of the garden landscaping, which is at the north (Quarry Road) end of the grounds and will include some woodland development. We're also very grateful to David Sinclair who has kindly tidied up garden beds and borders following John Fordyce's retirement.

Last year's report concluded by saying "We look forward in hope to a more 'normal' year ahead." We're almost there now.

**Iain MacDonald  
for Friends of Kalisgarth**

*Pictured: Pat making a lovely craft flower.*



*Pictured: Jessie Ann gets to grips with some pandas*

# Project Progress Report

## Bayview - Westray Affordable Housing

*Key development themes; **Housing, Industry & Business, Youth and Children***

It has been a long journey from July 2019 when Scottish Land Funding was secured to purchase Bayview from Orkney Islands Council and bring it into community ownership. Since then, funding for renovation work was secured from the Scottish Government's Island Housing Fund and work commenced on renovating Bayview in 2020 with local contractor Daniel Marcus Construction.



*Pictured: Bayview Flats pictured from the rear during renovations.*



The outside dashing has been completed and we think it looks brilliant! Most of the outside groundworks are now also complete and the flats are shaping up.



*Pictured: Rear car park and paving taking shape.*



Since work began on Bayview, a global pandemic coupled with national supply chain disruptions means that the renovation work has been delayed and is still not quite complete.

However, at the time of writing, we have had confirmation for a electricity meter connection. Once the building has its electric supply, the final touches can be applied to the inside and the applications for letting can commence.

From the lettings side of things we're working with our letting agent to get everything ready as soon as possible once renovations are done. A survey was held with the community on the contents of our lettings policy and we can confirm the letting policy for Bayview is now in place with Drever & Heddle letting agents.

We can't wait to open the doors to Bayview. It has been a long journey to get here.

We would like to give special thanks to Daniel Marcus, Billy Groundwater and Shane Scott for persevering with the project despite numerous setbacks and delays. We would also like to extend our thanks to Gill McEwen of the WDT board for pushing the project along this year.

Once everything is complete we will have an open day where the community can come and have a look around the building before the four modern flats are placed on the rental market.

*Pictured: The front of Bayview with dashing complete and plaque attached*





# Project Progress Report

## Westray Community Garden

*Key development themes; **Environment, Health & Care, Education***

It is five years since the Garden Project was launched under the name 'Food miles to food smiles' and the garden has really "grown" year-on-year since then.

Whilst the weather this summer has been far from ideal for growing fruit and vegetables, the garden team have had a successful year nonetheless. Our strawberries at the beginning of the growing season were received very well and we could barely keep up with demand! The raspberries towards the end of the season proved just as popular. The early new tatties also proved a success, and it is a crop the community garden will continue to grow next year.



*Pictured: Protective netting over the outdoor beds.*

The garden team are always trialing new crops and new varieties to evaluate which are best suited to the climate here. This research is of good quality and WDT is exploring how we can best share this knowledge gained with the wider community in an accessible and effective way.

This year has seen the garden team plant hedgerows at the roadside. It is hoped the hedgerows will provide the garden with a much nicer looking windbreak than the fencing ever did!



*Pictured: Flowering hedgerows at roadside of the garden.*

The shrubs and hedges have all taken really well and we've even been treated to some autumn flowering from a few of the bushes. We hope to include some more hedging as the years go by and try to include some understory flower planting to improve the site for biodiversity.

### Garden Events

The first event of the year, our first ever Seed Swap, was held in April and was well attended. Going forward we hope to make this an annual event where Westray residents can come down, exchange some seeds, swap plant cuttings and generally chat about all things gardening at 59° North in Westray. Our second event of the year was a garden open day which was also well attended with around 50 folk coming past. For both of our events

we were delighted to have GoGo Olive's "Coffee to GoGo", providing teas, coffees and home bakes. Many thanks to Iain Macdonald and the Coffee to GoGo team.

### Garden Consultation

The community consultation held in May regarding the garden project had a fantastic response rate with over 50 replies; a full summary of the results can be found on our website. The consultation has given us much to think about going forward and we hope we can act upon the views given by the public.



### Graduate Study

WDT's Graduate Project Officer Kieran Fowler has completed a 12-month post researching the garden project and has submitted a development study regarding the next steps of the project. The garden and office team will be working with the board to adopt and take forward elements of the study which will ensure future sustainability of the garden project.



# Project Progress Report

---

## Westray Media Library

*Key development themes; **Industry & Business***



Westray Development Trust has launched a free online Media Library for Westray Groups and Businesses to use in order to promote Westray and all our island has to offer. Need a photo for Auk Talk, your website, or an advert? The Westray Media Library is here for you! Please get in touch with the office team if you would like access to the media library.

## Westray Public Bins

*Key development themes; **Environment, Recreation and Leisure***

We're pleased to announce that we have an agreement with Orkney Islands Council, whereby they will empty up to five public bins. Five locations have been selected from community suggestions, and we are making our final confirmations with landowners before the locations are announced. A tender for the work was undertaken and, at the time of writing, an official tender has now been accepted to begin construction on Westray's new public bins.

## Community Defibrillator Network

*Key development themes; **Health & Care***



*Pictured: Defibrillator at Midbea telephone box.*

For defibrillator access, Westray is remarkably well-provided for, with 7 public access defibrillators for a population of about 600. Six of these were installed by WDT and the School's one was donated by the Orkney Heart Support Group. Please familiarise yourself with where your nearest defibrillator is, as it could make the difference in saving a life one day.

In the event of a cardiac arrest call 999 for help and begin CPR.

## Höfn Youth Centre

*Key development themes; **Youth & Children, Recreation and Leisure & Voluntary Groups***

It has been a difficult couple of years for our Höfn users with COVID stopping many young folk getting the most out of the youth centre. We now hope that the Höfn continues to remain open for use as we put the

pandemic in our rear view mirror. This year has seen one of our Youth Support workers leave the role and, at the time of writing, WDT are in the process of hiring new youth support workers. WDT would like to thank all the youth support workers for their hard work.

## Home Help Service

*Key development themes; **Health & Care***

The WDT home help service is continuing to run thanks to Angela Muir. We have found that this service is making a real difference to folk in Westray so a huge thanks from everyone at WDT to Angela for her continued work. If you, or a family member, are interested in the Home Help Service then please see our online application form, or, alternatively pop in past the office, drop us an email or give us a call.

## WDT New Website

*Key development themes; **Industry & Business***

Thanks to the Orcadia Design team and funding support from Highlands & Islands Enterprise (HIE) our website has had a revamp! On the website you can find our new News section, and our online application forms. You can apply for an Education, Travel, or Community, Entertainment and Investment Budget Grant directly through our website! This makes it easier for people to apply using a smartphone or tablet and will hopefully increase the amount of applications. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank Phil at Westray Digital Art for his work maintaining our website for many years, and wish Phil all the best on his retirement.

# Project Progress Report

## Bargain Box & WDT Office Extension

*Key development themes; **Recreation, Leisure & Voluntary groups, Environment, Industry & Business***

Planning permission for the new Bargain Box and WDT Office extension was granted back in March 2019 however there were unavoidable delays due to the pandemic.

We were therefore thrilled in September 2022, when the building warrant was also approved.

We are now looking forward to inviting firms to tender for the build, and Billy Groundwater is currently producing a bill of quantities and tender documents for the work.

*Pictured: Existing plans and current buildings (left) and the new proposed extension (right).*

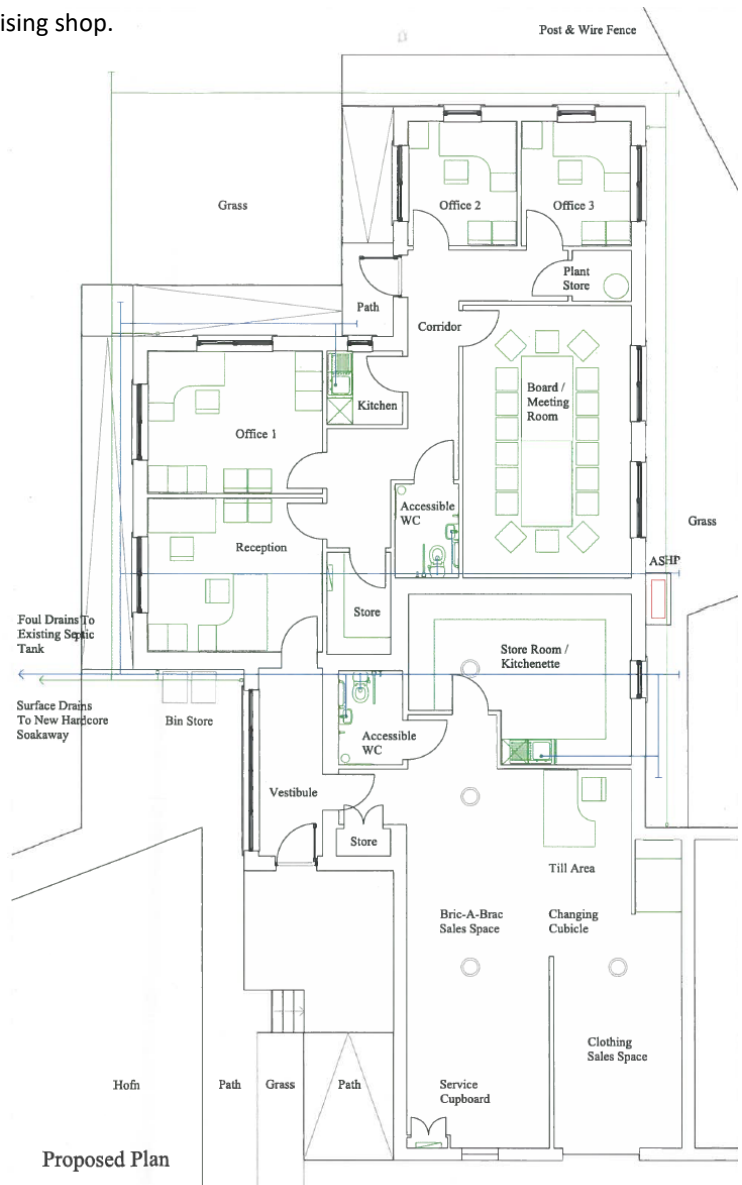
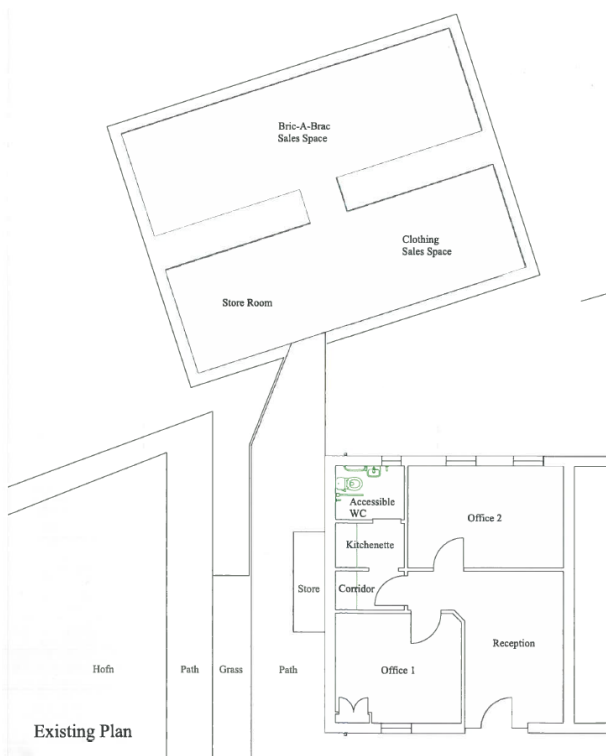
This will be an exciting development for our office, as we are beginning to outgrow the space, but also for the Bargain Box. The existing portacabin units were only intended to be a temporary building and a test site while evaluating if a charity fundraising shop could successfully operate on Westray.

The success of the bargain box is down to all the hard work that the community groups put into it and also the volunteers who give up their time every week to help sort and manage the local fundraising shop.

The bargain box itself will be incorporated into the front of the new building. This will be a purpose built charity shop area, with fitting rooms, bespoke shelving, and much needed storage space.

At the rear of the building will be the new WDT office with three modern office spaces, a new reception and a much-needed meeting room, which can be used by the wider public.

We hope to begin work on the extension in 2023.





# Project Progress Report

## Bargain Box—Westray Community Fundraising Shop

*Key development themes; **Recreation, Leisure & Voluntary groups***

The Bargain Box has done really well this year, and this was achieved despite the Bargain Box being shut from the 4<sup>th</sup> of August to the 22<sup>nd</sup> of January due to a leaky roof. Thanks to Danny Harcus the leak has been sealed as best as possible. This has meant we were able to open up again on the 9<sup>th</sup> of February and the roof is still holding back, most of, the water despite a very wet year. Sadly, we did have to close again for a short period due to high local COVID infection rates in April.

The total funds raised over this time, despite all the setbacks, was £3895.56. This was shared between all our Bargain Box groups; giving much needed funds to groups who haven't been able to carry out their normal fundraising for the past two years due to the pandemic.

We currently have 24 groups who can, if they wish, reserve slots in the Bargain Box. Some groups only request one or two slots per year, whilst others often accept additional. Either option caters to each individual groups needs.

A big thanks to Anne Burgher for all her hard work this year in managing the Bargain Box. Thanks also to all the volunteers who have spent countless hours sorting donations and pricing items. And finally, thanks to everyone who donated and bought items, thereby ensuring Westray's fundraising shop is so successful.

We are all looking forward to the new custom built premises, with fitting rooms and enhanced storage space.

## Digital Connectivity

*Key development themes; **Industry & Business***

WDT has reached out to Orkney Islands Council and volunteered to be part of any discussions around digital connectivity in the isles. WDT will continue to push for the equitable delivery of the R100 programme in Westray and for more clarity on the Government and Openreach's plans.

## Extra Mobile Library Visits

*Key development themes; **Education and Training, Youth and Children, Recreation and Leisure***

BookyMcBookFace, Orkney Library's mobile library, came for its first WDT funded visit in June 2021 and welcomed a steady stream of visitors throughout the day. Since then WDT have funded an extra six visits per year, ensuring monthly visits from the mobile library.

This valuable service enables Westray residents to access Orkney library's services without leaving the island.



## Westray Fuel Grant

*Key development themes; **Education and Training, Youth and Children, Recreation and Leisure***

The Westray Fuel Grant was first established in response to a higher cost of living recorded in the North Isles and in particular high fuel bills. In recognition that all are affected in different ways by these higher costs in our community, the WDT Board agreed to make a Fuel Grant available to all Westray households. It was hoped that a universal grant would reduce stigma, and ensure the grant reached those who needed it most.

Many thanks to Margo Makin, Gill McEwen and the office team for administering the fuel grants so smoothly. It is a mammoth task making sure everyone's grants are paid. In winter of 2021/22, WDT paid out a total of 253 grants to Westray households. These 253 grants were administered through over 13 different national energy suppliers as well as the three island shops. With each grant totaling £300 the total 2021/22 fuel grant payout was £75,900. We'd like to extend a huge thanks to the local post offices/shops for helping to administer everyone's grants.

As electricity costs are at the forefront of everyone's mind this year, WDT will continue to assist Westray residents in reducing their fuel bills. Due to all the uncertainty surrounding fuel prices this year, there has been considerable thought within WDT regarding the most effective timing to administer the grant as well as the amount of grant itself. News of when to apply and further details of the grant will be released in due course through the usual channels.

# Grants Awarded 2021-2022

## The Community Turbine Fund

Once again, COVID-19 has impacted the community for large portions of this financial year. Despite this, the Community Turbine Fund has paid out nearly £60,000 for projects, events and training within the Westray Community. As everyone begins to look to the future and recovery from over two years of uncertainty, we hope that the Community Turbine Fund can provide funding to; assist new projects start up, help put on great community events, and encourage individuals in Westray to take up more training courses.

## Education and Training Grants

The Training and Education grants have had an excellent take up this year with 37 people accessing 50 grants, totalling £5,527. This fund is proving very popular and has grown, in terms of applicants, year-on-year. This is very positive for Westray and enables members of the community to access training at a more affordable cost, which in turn furthers personal and professional development in Westray.

**“The education grant has made learning and undertaking training more affordable and accessible.” Johny McEwen**

**“Both kids are more alert to other musical instruments they might want to try in the future, and given the opportunity, they might be confident enough to join in community events.” Uka Summers**

Applicant	Course	Awarded
Lydia Harris	Weaving Westray Archaeology	£200
Irene Cockett	Weaving Westray Archaeology	£200
Peter Brown	Weaving Westray Archaeology	£200
Amanda Phillips	Stone Westray	£75
Iain MacDonald	Piano Lessons	£72
Jack Summers	Piano Lessons	£204
Arun Summers	Piano Lessons	£204
Libby Rendall	Piano Lessons	£72
Violet McEwen	Piano Lessons	£72
Mia Pottinger	Piano Lessons	£72
Davy Hutchison	Piano Lessons	£72
Olivia Kent	Piano Lessons	£36
Amelia Kent	Piano Lessons	£36
Magnus Risbridger	Driving Lessons	£130
Mairead Grant	Advanced Photography	£119
Mairead Grant	Introduction to Gaelic Poetry	£107
Nemina Dickinson	Contemporary and Jazz Dance	£31
Ailsa Seatter	Certificate in Culture and Heritage	£322
Nemina Dickinson	Contemporary and Jazz Dance	£45
Mia Pottinger	Piano Lessons	£66
Jamie Donaghey	Diploma in Holistic Integrated Arts Therapy	£500
Iain MacDonald	Piano Lessons	£60
Martin Donaghey	Piano Lessons	£66
Caleb McEwen	Piano Lessons	£66
Ivy McEwen	Piano Lessons	£66
Davy Hutchison	Piano Lessons	£66
Mairead Grant	Reading Drama: An Introduction	£107.50
Violet McEwen	Piano Lessons	£60
Erika Pottinger	Diploma in Health Coaching & Nutritional Therapy	£500
Amanda Phillips	Growing Undercover	£24
Willow Pickering	Piano Lessons	£42
Tanna Groat	Piano Lessons	£42
Johnny Bain	Seafish Fire Fighting for Seafarers	£85
Valerie Thomson	Lambing Course	£54
Xander McKnight	Piano Lessons	£42
Clare Walker	Lambing Course	£45
Monika Mazur	Lambing Course	£54
Coilla Drake	Outdoor First Aid	£70
Willow Pickering	Piano Lessons	£54
Mia Pottinger	Piano Lessons	£48
Tanna Groat	Piano Lessons	£48
Caleb McEwen	Piano Lessons	£48
Ivy McEwen	Piano Lessons	£48
Davy Hutchison	Piano Lessons	£48
Irene Cockett	Weaving Westray	£190
Emily Bain	Woven Tapestry Workshop	£190
Rozi Rendall	Diploma in Youth Counselling	£299.50
Violet McEwen	Piano Lessons	£48
Drew Shearer	Driving Lessons and Test	£109.50
Jack Paterson	Driving Lessons and Test	£111

# Grants Awarded 2021-2022

## Entertainment Grants

### Westray Sailing Club Regatta 2021

The regatta is a staple event in the Westray calendar and was one of the first to return after Covid-19 restriction. The funding went towards providing food for the participants and trophy engraving. The regatta attracts lots of support both locally and from visitors. The event is a great opportunity for the Sailing Club to fundraise while also providing a fun day out for all. *Funding Awarded: £240*

### Westray Sailing Club End of Season Dance

This was the first dance held in Westray for two years so we were delighted to be able to contribute towards this event. It provided people with the chance to socialise again, as well as enjoying the traditional dancing that has been a part of the Westray culture for decades. *Funding Awarded: £595*

### The Orcadian Story Trust— Island Jaunt to Westray

Last October saw Westray host the Orcadian Story Trust who came out and held a number of events which included storytelling from both local and invited speakers. The events covered a range of stories and demonstrated the importance of this ancient art form for the cultural heritage of Orkney. *Funding Awarded: £351.82*

### SWI Industrial Show

After another absence the past couple of years due to Covid-19 we were pleased to fund the 2022 Westray Industrial Show. This was a great chance for the island's bakers, gardeners, and craftspeople, young and old to show off their skills and hard work. It's always a great day out. *Funding Awarded: £700*

### Westray Youth Groups Inflatables Weekend

The islands children had the opportunity to let loose and bounce off all that excess energy, brought about by COVID restrictions, in March as the Youth Club organised a fun filled weekend of inflatable entertainment. The inflatables weekend was a great success, with 40 young Westray folk aged between P4-S4 attending on Saturday and 32 on the Sunday. Alongside the Youth Club members, WDT funding allowed for P1-P3 pupils and the playgroup to access an inflatable session free of charge, meaning every child in Westray up to the age of 16 could attend a session. *Funding Awarded: £550*

***"The weekend 'blew up' to be a big busy success! We were delighted with how it all went, and the funding meant it was able to happen at all. We were delighted to access funding locally for this event—the application process is less onerous than I anticipated, and we felt the funding was very generous."*** Karen Penn, Westray Youth Club

### East Mainland Young Farmers Dance

Hosted by Westray Drama Club, the island welcomed guests from East Mainland Young Farmers and treated them to a much loved Westray Dance. The event was an opportunity for the whole island to let their hair down post-covid and for strengthening ties with groups from Mainland. *Funding Awarded: £700*

### CoSY Group Christmas Party

The Church of Scotland Youth Group were able to hold a Christmas party for the first time in two years, like many groups, having been thwarted by COVID. The party was open to anyone secondary age and involved a meal at the hotel plus games and entertainment. *Funding Awarded: £600*



*Pictured: Caly McCracken demonstrates the power of the Sumo suits at the Inflatables Weekend!*



# Grants Awarded 2021-2022

## Screen Machine

It was fantastic to see the beloved screen machine back on Westray in March. As always, there was an eclectic mix of films for all ages on the big screen over the course of 4 days.

*Funding Awarded: £700*



## Intergenerational Jubilee Celebration

This was a great opportunity for the Kalisgarth residents, daycare attendees and invited guests to commemorate Queen Elizabeth II jubilee by looking back at her reign, having a buffet, looking at memorabilia and generally making the most of the chance to socialise with friends and family.

*Funding Awarded: £700*

**“Great time had by all. The older generation really enjoyed engaging with the young ones again, it is something they have missed immensely owing to covid. It re-engaged their sense of belonging to the community by being able to invite someone in. As always, we’re very thankful for the financial support from WDT. The application process is very straight forward.”** Valerie Thomson, Kalisgarth

*Pictured: Trishaw pilots Valerie Thomson and Ailsa Seatter trialing the new bikes on Westray roads*

## Westray Churches – School Nativity Costumes

There is nothing that fills you with Christmas cheer more than watching the island’s children perform the nativity play. For the past two years, they have managed to create superb Christmas entertainment under very difficult circumstances, and for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year running, the school nativity was pre-filmed and screened at Christmas time. The nativity was filmed all over Westray and the video has since been viewed over 500 times! WDT were delighted to provide funding for new costumes for Westray’s budding actors. We thought the shepherds, sheep, angels, soldiers and gladiators really looked the part! *Funding Awarded: £188.47*

## Community Grants

### Connect Youth Group – Magnitude Festival 2022

Previously known as Soul Survivor, this Christian festival in Kinross is open to children aged 11-18. The Connect Youth Group received WDT funding to enable children from Westray to attend the 5-day event. *Funding Awarded: £1,005*

## Cycling Without Age Scotland— Westray Trishaw Vehicles and Pilots

At the time of writing this report there have been numerous sightings of the new pilots and their trishaws around the roads of Westray! This fantastic project has been spearheaded by Valerie Thomson and Dr David Mazza. It is a great way to make the whole island more inclusive and accessible as well as being a social activity, and let’s not forget the exercise for the pilots!

The funding for this project was for the purchase of the trishaws but also for the ongoing upkeep of the project for the next 5 years. We hope that Kalisgarth residents and day visitors get to go for a spin around Westray. If you see them in the passing make sure to give them a big wave!

*Funding Awarded: £24,000*

## Westray Heritage Centre - Financial Stability of WHC following COVID-19 restrictions

The 5-year Development Grant previously awarded to the Heritage Centre came to an end last year. Prior to the pandemic, Westray Heritage Centre was expected to run at an acceptable positive financial balance without the need for further funding assistance from WDT. However, like many similar tourist venues, the Heritage Trust have faced a difficult



# Grants Awarded 2021-2022

time due to COVID-19. They suffered a significant drop in income over the course of the pandemic. This meant revising their financial forecasts accordingly, and WDT were happy to provide further financial support this year whilst the effects of COVID were still acutely felt.

Going forward, the Heritage Centre is moving towards self-sufficiency into the future, and there is great confidence they will achieve this. WDT recognises the Heritage Centre as a significant and important visitor attraction and guardian of Westray's cultural heritage.  
*Funding Awarded: £12,000*

## Westray Parent Council – Westray School Tops

The kids went back to school last summer with the option of sporting new Westray School t-shirts and hoodies in Westray's traditional green colour. They looked great and the discount enabled by the WDT funding meant that the tops were affordable for everyone. *Funding Awarded: £590*

*Pictured:*

*(below) Pupils from Westray Nursery demonstrate their new school hoodies*

*(right) Westray Junior High School pupils wearing their new school tops in music class*



## **Development/ Investment Grants and Ongoing Grants**

These are large grants, some of which span multiple years of ongoing support. We also provide the option for Community grants to be awarded on a three-year rolling basis for annual grants that change little from year to year. This saves groups having to submit the same application every year.

### Nursery Healthy Snack

We have been supporting the healthy snack for the Westray Nursery since 2016 and we like to think we have put a lot of fresh fruit and vegetables into the tummies of Westray children during that time. Orkney Islands Council have now started fulfilling this need so this was our last year supplying the healthy snack.

*Funding awarded: £734.16*

### Inter-kirk Christmas Card

WDT continues to support the Inter-kirk Christmas card, providing Seasons Greetings to every Westray household as well as information about their services over the Christmas period.

*Funding awarded: £250*



### Roadside Bulbs

Thanks to Sandy McEwen, WDT once again funded the purchase of flower bulbs for people to pick up and plant along Westray's roadside verges. Having previously focused on Daffodil bulbs, this year also saw tulip bulbs available. This grant is now on the three year rolling scheme so we will be seeing more spring colour appearing over Westray in the next few years.

*Funding awarded: £400*

### Auk Club – Auk Club Outing and Social Activities

The Auk Club is a much loved and well attended social club on the island whose members were hit particularly hard by COVID-19 restrictions. The Auk Club provides vital social interaction for its members, particularly for those who live alone, and the funding from WDT, now on a three-year award, enables the group to meet up for social engagements, activities and trips to Mainland.

*Funding awarded: £2000*

### Westray Processors Business Review

We were approached by Westray Processors with a request for funding to enable them to commission a business review. As the processors have a co-operative structure, it falls within the means of the Trust's charitable objectives to provide financial assistance for such a proposal. WDT agreed to match fund that which was received by Highlands and Islands Enterprise.

*Funding awarded: £7,500*



# Operations Report—Looking to the future

---

As this is my first report as Operations Manager I would like to say thank you for all the encouragement I have received. I thought this would be a good opportunity to introduce myself officially. I am what you would call a born and brought up Westray lass, Gina o' Trenabie is my official Westray title. For the last 15 years I worked for Orkney Islands Council as an Early Years Lead Practitioner in Papa Westray and latterly Westray. Something I am very proud and privileged to have done. Before that though, I came home from college to get married which, 21 years and 3 sons later, seems to have worked out okay. I came home with no solid work plan but have been lucky enough to work in most industries in Westray and at one point had nine jobs!

I was co-opted by the community onto the original Westray Development Group which would later become the Trust, where I also worked as an administration assistant for two years.

Although we have to keep looking forward I don't think it hurts us to look back from time to time. In the beginning, the island wanted opportunities for young folk to stay and a group to "fill the gaps". Has that changed? I think more than ever it's an important grassroot to cling onto. I am under no illusions that this will be a steep learning curve for me. However, I know I'm part of an established and encouraging staff and board team, with the most supportive community any lass could wish to be a part of. I am excited and honoured to be working with you and for you.

Looking forward, we now have Bayview almost ready to go. This next year will be all about getting tenants in and managing the building.

The Bargain Box and office extension now has planning permission and a building warrant. Getting this out to tender and advancing this project will be top of my list as our existing bargain box unit is now holding on by the skin of it's teeth.

Something I would personally like to see developed is public engagement. We are all now starting to get back to a new normal after the COVID-19 pandemic and I don't know about you but I felt tired. We are out of the habit of gathering and meeting face to face. The AGM gives us an opportunity to gather but please also remember the office door is open. We want you to come with ideas and opinions and the kettle is always on.

Now that things are really starting to open up and get going again, we would also like to encourage you to come and apply for grants. We have our Community, Education and Training, Entertainment and now our Travel for Young People grants.

Not only do we have our own grant options but we are continually receiving information about other funding streams out there and can signpost you to them. We are happy to discuss options with you and help with any queries you have.

One of my all-time favourite quotes about communities is by Margaret J Wheatley: "There is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about" which leads us nicely into our 2023 Westray Conference plans. The original Westray Conference was held in October 1998 and I hope we can all agree that went well! Twenty-five years on, the 2023 conference (held between 6th-8th October) will be an opportunity for us all to gather and celebrate successes but most importantly to wonder together and ask the question "what next?". A time to refresh and renew the Trust. Real community engagement is the only way that the trust will have a clear path for the future of Westray.

I really do look forward to this year of challenges and hopefully next year we can all reflect on achievements with a new shared vision for the future. Already bursting with ideas and plans?

Please contact me on

OPSManager@westraydevelopmenttrust.co.uk  
01857 677858

**Gina Rendall**

*Pictured: Noup head lighthouse,  
Westray*





# Financial Report

---

This year has seen the Westray Development Trust part-ways with our longstanding accountants the Long Partnership. We would like to thank Alan and his team for all the work done over the years.

Westray Development Trust are now delighted to be working with Scholes Chartered Accountants who will be managing our accounts going forward. We would like to extend our thanks to them for stepping in at short notice.

Scholes have only recently commenced their service as our accountants and have had a backlog of accounts to work through getting up to speed.

Understandably, their financial update was not available in time for publication of this annual report.

Sadly, this means that our annual report this year does not contain the financial update from the accountants. The full report for the financial year 2021-2022 will be distributed to all members once it is complete and it is expected to be circulated at our AGM.

We are happy to have Scholes attending our AGM where they will be presenting the accounts and will be able to answer any questions from those in attendance.

We duly await the financial update and subsequent report from the accountants and we look forward to working with Scholes in the future.



## COVID-19—Community Response

---

We all hoped that by 2022 we wouldn't be writing about COVID-19 but living with it is our only option. Westray of course were quick to respond to the pandemic back in March 2020 and that's how things have remained.

Around Easter 2022 when COVID-19 seemed to arrive on our shores we were worried but also prepared. Although the rest of the country started to open up Westray remained cautious in its approaches. Being realistic that life had to carry on but also mindful of each other.

COVID-19 will be something no-one forgets for many frustrating, worrying and deeply sad reasons. Equally it should be a reminder of how lucky we are to be able to see what a strong and united community can achieve.

Between 1st July 2021 and 30th June 2022 Westray Development Trust continued to support the school and local groups with the purchase of handwash and sanitiser from our COVID-19 fund.

**Thanks go to the following funders and partners who have supported WDT in 2021/2022**

- Alan Flint, Bank of Scotland
- Billy Groundwater, Orkney Surveying Services
- Burness Paul LLP
- Communities Housing Trust
- Community HeartBeat Trust
- Companies House
- Dalgleish Associates Ltd
- Daniel Marcus Construction
- Developing Strathclyde Limited
- Development Trust Association Scotland (DTAS)
- Francesca Couperwhite, Highlands & Islands Enterprise (HIE)
- Heather Lamont, CCLA
- Highlands & Islands Enterprise
- Luke Fraser (Aspire Orkney)
- National Lottery
- North Isles Landscape Partnership Scheme (NILPS)
- Office of Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR)
- Orkney Island's Council (OIC)
- RM Computing
- Scholes Chartered Accountants
- Scottish Communities Finance
- Scottish Government
- Scottish Islands Federation
- Scottish Land Fund
- Scottish Rural Housing
- Shane M Scott Ltd
- Social Enterprise
- Social Farms and Gardens
- The Long Partnership
- The Prince's Trust
- Triodos
- TwoCircles Communications
- Voluntary Action Orkney (VAO)
- Westray Renewable Energy Ltd.

**Thanks to all WDT Staff & Project Team who have worked for WDT in 2021/2022**

- Gina Rendall (Operations Manager)
- Isobel Thompson (former Operations manager)
- Margo Makin (WDT AFO & Youth Support)
- Clare Lucas (former Administration Assistant & former Youth Support )
- Mhairi Noble (Administration Assistant)
- Kieran Fowler (former Graduate Project Officer)
- Mark Dickinson (Lead Gardener)
- Benny Norquoy (Assistant Gardener)
- Edith Costie (Youth Support)
- Angela Muir (Home Help)

Thank you to everyone in the community for your support

**Many thanks to all volunteer Directors who have worked with us in 2021/2022 who were elected to represent the Westray Community in WDT's work.**

- Louis Pottinger
- Douglas Leslie
- Anne Burgher
- David Stephenson
- Coilla Drake
- Gill McEwan
- Steven Drever
- Harmadeep Gill
- George Thomson

If you are interested in joining our Board please contact a current Trustee.

**Agenda for the AGM 6th December 2022**

- 1. Welcome and Apologies—Louis Pottinger (WDT Chair)**
- 2. Minutes of AGM on 2nd December 2021**
- 3. Minutes of EGM on 17th March 2022**
- 4. Accounts Presentation and Adoption**
- 5. Appointment of Auditors**
- 6. Election of Directors**
- 7. Presentation by Kieran Fowler, Community Garden**
- 8. A Year in review—Project Team**
- 9. Questions**
- 10. AOCB**



**Westray Development Trust**

Quarry Road, Pierowall, Westray, Orkney KW17 2DA

Telephone: 01857 677858

Email: [admin@westraydevelopmenttrust.co.uk](mailto:admin@westraydevelopmenttrust.co.uk)

[www.westraydevelopmenttrust.co.uk](http://www.westraydevelopmenttrust.co.uk)