

# Scourie News

February 2019

Edition 152

## Dates for February

**Tues 5<sup>th</sup> Refuse bins**  
**Tues 12<sup>th</sup> Recycling bins**  
**Mon 18<sup>th</sup> / Tues 19<sup>th</sup> Schools closed**  
**Tues 19<sup>th</sup> Refuse bins**  
**Wed 20<sup>th</sup> In-service day for school staff**  
**Tues 26<sup>th</sup> Recycling bins**

## Geopark News

Your Geopark has been successful in a bid to the Resilient Heritage Lottery Fund. This will secure Laura's job for another year and also enable us to recruit another employee to help with the workload. Meanwhile we are investigating other sources of funding to help with operating costs. Laura returns from maternity leave on 11 February. Bookings are going well for the geotours this year with the autumn one being fully booked already.

This year we are having a revalidation to ensure that we have made progress since the last inspection 4 years ago and that we are still fit to be a UNESCO global geopark. Two revalidators will be coming in the summer to see for themselves what we are doing, if we are successful we will be able to keep our UNESCO status for another 4 years.

The refurbishment of the Rock Stop kitchen is going well and should be completed in time for reopening this March. Cafe assistants are needed for the coming season. Both full and part time posts are available as well as relief staff and people to cover the busy lunchtime period. We would also welcome applications from students for holiday and weekend work. Email Jean at [jean@nwhgeopark.com](mailto:jean@nwhgeopark.com) for an application form and further details.

## January Weather

Scourie has managed to miss most of the snow that has affected other areas. And some not so distant. Schools in Durness and KLB have been closed, while Scourie remained open. There was one day when the mail couldn't get through, but not because of conditions here!

Looking at last year's records, the two January months are almost identical.

The temperature averaged 4.9 deg C, with a high of 10.0 degrees on 7<sup>th</sup>, and a low of -1.4 on 31<sup>st</sup>. Note: I think the thermometer is reading a little high, perhaps a degree, will do some check calibrations when I find my spare thermometer.

Total rainfall was 135 mm, with the wettest day on 12<sup>th</sup> with 21.6 mm. We also had 21.3 mm on 26<sup>th</sup>. There were 6 days without rain.

Sunshine. The weather station recorded 239 watts/m<sup>2</sup>, an average of 7.7 per day, and a high of 16.9 on 31<sup>st</sup>. Of interest, I've just read the solar panel meter in the changing rooms and submitted the figure. I do this every 6 months, but for some reason, the last two readings didn't register. So the amount paid for the last 18 months came to nearly £750. This is around twice the electric bill for the changing rooms.

The wind blew at an average of 7 mph with a high daily average speed of 16.9 mph, and gust of 55 mph both on 7<sup>th</sup>.

The barometer averaged 1006 mB, with a high of 1036 on 2<sup>nd</sup>, and low of 982 on 30<sup>th</sup>.

(Apologies, tables of weather data have not been included this month due to lack of space.)



North West Training Centre  
Kinlochbervie High School  
Manse Road, Kinlochbervie  
By Lairg, Sutherland IV27 4RR  
Regd. Charity SC019802



**Mountain and Road  
Bike Maintenance**

**Saturday, 23 February 2019**  
**10am-1pm, Scourie Village Hall**

Cycling is fun and it's good exercise but do you know how to keep your mountain or road bike in good condition and working properly?



Come along to our half-day workshop and learn from an expert how to take care of your bike and perform a range of maintenance tasks and repairs. Amongst the topics that will be covered are the following:

- \* Brakes, maintenance and adjustment
- \* Chain, sprockets, pedals, and gears
- \* Frame components and adjustments
- \* Wheels, tyres, & punctures
- \* Grease, oils, and lubricants

**Just £10 per person.**  
**Bring your own bike!**



For more details or to book a place contact Gary Sutherland on 01971 521238 or email [northwest.tc@outlook.com](mailto:northwest.tc@outlook.com).

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**Hospitality Training**  
Serving Your Business Better

**Wednesday, 27 March 2019**  
**Durness Village Hall**

Involved in the hospitality industry? Have staff who need training? Our one-day interactive training course is just what you've been looking for!



Topics to be covered include:

- Understanding the Hospitality Industry
- Personal Hygiene for Food Safety
- Staff Uniform/Work Wear
- Meeting & Greeting Guests
- Menu Choices Knowledge
- Food Intolerance & Allergy Awareness
- Table Settings for Different Services
- Food & Beverage Service at Table
- Clearing Tables & Coffee/Tea Service
- Dealing with Complaints & Handling Refunds


Get in touch now to book a place. Just £60 per person.



For more details or to book a place contact Gary Sutherland on 01971 521238 or email [northwest.tc@outlook.com](mailto:northwest.tc@outlook.com).

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**Elementary Food Hygiene**

**Tuesday, 26 March 2019**  
**9am-4pm, Scourie Village Hall**


This one-day course provides a general introduction to Food Hygiene and satisfies the requirements of the Food Safety Act and other associated legislation.

- Food Pests, Bacteria
- Food Premises, Equipment and Utensils
- Food Poisoning, Cleaning and Disinfection
- Personal Hygiene
- Record Keeping
- Food Hygiene Law



The course concludes with an examination, after which you will receive an industry recognised REHIS certificate of achievement valid for three years.

The fee is just £85 per person and a discount may be available if you have attended this course previously with us.



For more information or to book a place on this course please contact Gary Sutherland on 01971 521238 or email [northwest.tc@outlook.com](mailto:northwest.tc@outlook.com)

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Reg'd Charity SC019802



We'd like to run more of our courses and workshops in Scourie but need your help.

What courses or workshops would you like us to run for you?

Drop us an email to [northwest.tc@outlook.com](mailto:northwest.tc@outlook.com) or give us a ring on 01971 521238.

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## Countryside Ranger Activities for Northwest Sutherland

**Date:** February Friday 15<sup>th</sup>

**Area:** Northwest Sutherland

**Activity; Balnakeil beach – a wee wildlife walk & a blether.**

A short healthy walk for those less able, infirm or recovering from illness or surgery. Half an hour to an hour, whatever you prefer or can manage. Over fairly level ground at your own pace, fresh air and sunshine [maybe!]. A lift to the starting point may be available in the Durness area.

**Time:** 10:30 -11:00ish

**Booking ref:** Booking ref: 001518KNBV

**Price:** It costs £9.73 per visitor to operate our Countryside Ranger Service. We make no charge for this event but we rely on your donations to help us protect our Highland wildlife and heritage.

**Date:** February Wed 20<sup>th</sup>

**Area:** Northwest Sutherland

**Activity; Guided walk at Kinloch by Tongue.**

A fine walk along a super highland river trail, returning over the hill by the estate road, about 8k, adults only. Remote and beautiful, highland and moorland wildlife.

**Time:** 10:30 – 14:00

**Booking ref:** 001568FARR

**Price:** It costs £9.73 per visitor to operate our Countryside Ranger Service. We make no charge for this event but we rely on your donations to help us protect our Highland wildlife and heritage.



**Date:** February Wed 27<sup>th</sup>

**Area:** North Sutherland

**Activity; Guided walk from Hope bridge to Ben Heilam.**

Riverside/moorland walk [rough walking] fine views and a chance of seeing great wildlife of river and hill. About 6k, adults only.

**Time:** 10:30 – 14:00

**Booking ref:** 001569FARR

**Price:** It costs £9.73 per visitor to operate our Countryside Ranger Service. We make no charge for this event but we rely on your donations to help us protect our Highland wildlife and heritage.

**Contact:**

[donald.mitchell@highlifehighland.com](mailto:donald.mitchell@highlifehighland.com)

*Come & support Harvey with raising money for The Archie Foundation & enjoy afternoon tea.*

## HARVEY'S MAMMOTH HAIRCUT

Scourie Village Hall  
Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March  
2pm



Harvey MacDonald is having his haircut for the first time in 10 months on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March in the village hall in aid of the Archie Foundation (Highland appeal). Carolanne of Sophisticuts is taking on the challenge. Please come along and support Harvey whilst enjoying some afternoon tea & home baking. Sponsor sheet available in Scourie Stores and online donations available on JustGiving.



# Maldie Burn Community Benefit

At the monthly meeting of Scourie & District Community Council, the following organisations were awarded funds from the Maldie Burn fund.

- NWTC for courses to be held in Scourie Hall to benefit all in the community.
- Ju Jitsu club to assist pay hall fees.
- Scourie Primary & Pre-school towards travel costs of a visiting music teacher from Ullapool.
- Scourie Development Company to help with public liability insurance.
- Scourie Development Company to progress funding application for the proposed exhibition centre.

## Dog Fouling

Dog fouling on pavements & public walkways continues to be a recurring issue which is frequently brought to the attention of S&DCC.

Dog walkers are reminded that it is against the law to not pick up after your dog. Anyone found to be not doing so could be reported to environmental health on 01349 886603 or through an online portal on the Highland Council website, resulting in a visit and, possibly, a fine of, up to, £500.

The community council intend to supply free bio-degradable poo bags which will be available for collection from Scourie Filling Station.

Readers are reminded that dog faeces can now be put in the normal refuse bins.



## Community Council

At the monthly meeting of Scourie & District Community Council, on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> Jan 2019 at the newly arranged time of 7.30pm, the following points were discussed. Full minutes will be available on the Scourie website.

- Councillor Hugh Morrison was asked about the following long running village issues-

Renewal of village entrance signs  
Condition of crash barriers  
Pier Road erosion  
Old Smiddy building  
Helicopter landing site

- SCDC update on proposed exhibition centre & broadband provision
- Geopark update
- Community survey
- Provision of community defibrillator
- Grazing Committee paths funding
- Path leaflet

The next meeting will be held on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> Feb 2019 at 7.30pm in Scourie Village Hall.



Scourie News [scourienews@btinternet.com](mailto:scourienews@btinternet.com)

Compiled by Aileen MacDonald on behalf of Scourie & District Community Council

Ink & paper supplied by Roy Forest Estate

Disclaimer: The contents of this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editor or community council. Items are included at request.

If you have a news item, advert, thanks notice etc that you would like to insert into the Scourie News, please send it to the above email address or contact Aileen on 01971 302371