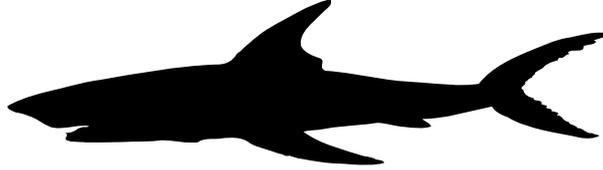


# "Roond About Birsay"

## News for and by the people of Birsay



Spring 2009

Issue 34

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### Editorial

Here goes with another attempt at a Newsletter. Another New Year has come and gone and we wish you all the best for 2009. The weather has been a bit "unsettled," as I believe the technical term is, although we could think of more descriptive words. Still, as I make a start to this in the beginning of April, it is not bad at all. There has been quite a lot of sowing done and a lot of slurry spread (most aromatic). We just have to believe it is the scent of Spring.

Once again, may I thank all who took the time and trouble to send me a contribution. We really appreciate this since that is the main reason for this Newsletter being written - just to keep everyone up to date with what the rest of the Parish is doing.

**Johnny Johnston - Editor**

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S O S

SOS? What's sinking? The services our Dounby Surgery can offer, that's what.

Surely that is an exaggeration. The newspapers have reported that a newly formed group Norsepharm has applied for a licence to open a pharmacy in the former HeadWest shop in Dounby. It may not be known to the readers, however, that the law requires the Dispensary at the Dounby Surgery to close immediately upon the licence being granted.

For all of us who rely on the Surgery for our health care and medications, this would be a serious blow, because the major portion of the Surgery's income (from NHS) is from the dispensary. This income helps support the practice nurses that are essential for the blood tests, injections and other functions we use daily. The current practice would change dramatically should the pharmacy be licenced, because the Surgery would no longer have funds to pay the nurses or to grow the practice by providing an additional doctor as is the current plan. A new pharmacy in Dounby would not and could not supply these services. The loss is ours and ours alone.

A Focus Group has been established by patients of the Surgery to raise awareness of this threat to our excellent health service provided by the Dounby Surgery and its staff. You may have seen the SOS posters and petitions. Please sign the petitions and check your local shop for a poster to put in your car or window. For more information on the situation and to help, see [www.dounbysurgery.co.uk](http://www.dounbysurgery.co.uk)

### **Surgery Survival Bag**

Here is a check-list of things you can do to help maintain the current excellent level of service provided by the Dounby Surgery:

- 1) Sign the Petition in the local shops.
- 2) Write letters to M.S.P./M.P. The Orcadian and Orkney Today.
- 3) Contact Radio Orkney and the Superstation and express your opposition to NorsePharm setting up a dispensary in Dounby
- 4) Put an SOS Dounby poster in your car or in a window at home. Encourage everyone you meet to do the same.

**Thank you for your support!**

**Alan Jones, Chairman SOS DOUNBY**

**Could anyone who has petitions please return them to the Dounby Surgery by May 1<sup>st</sup>. Thank you.**

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### **Birsay Community Council**

There has not been a great deal of activity in our Community Council over the winter but this is quite normal. However, we are now back up to full strength. At our November meeting, Wendy Hourston joined us to make up our numbers and at our next meeting in January, Marty Hay was appointed Vice Chairman. Just to keep you up to date, our Community Council now consists of :- Chairman - Johnny Johnston, Vice Chairman - Marty Hay, Members - Sandy Scarth, Kenny Spence, Maxwell Tait, Susan Norquay, Wendy Hourston.

There is one thing we would like to draw to your attention. We have been informed by the Council that the re-cycling facility at Dounby is being abused. Some people are leaving stuff there which should not be there. For example, there have been black bags of household refuse left there. Now why would anyone take their household refuse to Dounby and leave it at the re-cycling centre? You only have to leave it at the end of your own road and it will be collected. There are also some articles being left in some of the containers which do not belong there. Please, do not abuse this service. It is very handy for the elderly people in Dounby who do not have transport to go to the Amenity Sites and if the service continues to be abused, the Council will simply withdraw it. Please read the instructions on the skips and containers and only put in what is allowed. I have spoken to Alton Tait, Chairman of the Sandwick Community Council, and they are in total agreement with us on this.

**Johnny Johnston - Chairman**

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### **Birsay, Harray and Sandwick Guild**

A meeting of the Birsay, Harray and Sandwick Guilds was held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2008 with a view to uniting and forming ONE guild. The proposal was agreed, a format for the running of the New Guild was put into place and a committee was agreed with Merle Walls as President. A Planning Meeting followed on the 21<sup>st</sup> May when the Committee worked on the framework for the year's Programme.

On Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September, the Inaugural Meeting of the United Guilds took place in the Harray Church Hall. Andrea Price was invited to speak about her visit to the Thydo Highlands in Malawi. She gave us a very clear picture of life in Malawi and of what she herself felt she had gained from the trip.

In October we held an In-House night. There was fellowship and discussion regarding many of the things that Guild Members concern themselves with, such as The Project, Teddies for Tragedy and the Christmas Shoe-Box Appeal.

Mr. Joe Horrocks came to talk to us about Mental Health in Orkney on the 3<sup>rd</sup> November, giving us an insight into the problems encountered in the care of people with mental illnesses.

The December meeting was held in the Harray Hall, when we were entertained by The Linties. The weather was particularly wintry and fitted perfectly with the Christmas Themed Programme they sang for us.

Christmas seemed far behind us when in January Helen and Harvey Johnston, together with their grand-daughter Freya, gave us a talk illustrating their visit to Japan. The evening was a great success, we saw beautiful slides of Japan and Freya showed us how to make an Origami Cup, with our efforts being judged by Harvey. Supper included Green Tea and Sushi, also provided by our guests.

Members Night on the 2<sup>nd</sup> February highlighted the talent among us when President Merle and Vice President Renee, together with Mona Wood and Elizabeth Herdman, provided a programme of music, singing and readings. It was a lovely evening, happy and relaxed, followed by supper and a chat.

The AGM took place in March, when guest speaker Martin Prentice chose as his theme He Restores My Soul.

Members are looking forward to a visit from the East Mainland Guild in April. The Coffee Evening and Sales Table this year will take place on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May in the Harray Hall.

The first year of the Uniting of the Three Guilds has been a great success, new friendships have been formed and we look forward to the future.

The Birsay, Harray and Sandwick Guild meet on the first Monday of the month from September through to April and anyone wishing to join us will be made very welcome.

**Cindy Miller**

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### **Birsay Toddler Group**

The Birsay Toddler Group continues to be very well attended by babies, toddlers and their mums, grannies and even uncles from Birsay and neighbouring parishes.

We had another successful Halloween Party last year, after 2 years this looks like it may now have become a regular event for local kids to show off their neepee lanterns and fancy dress outfits.

Santa found time to visit us again in December and this was much appreciated by the bairns.

We meet every Tuesday at the Birsay Hall from 10am - noon

**Avril Hay**



### The St Magnus Church Birsay Trust

#### The Power of the Press

Thanks to the last issue of "Roond About Birsay" and to Harold Esson's article in it, the St Magnus Church Birsay Trust received a cheque for £100. Harold's article mentioned our old French teacher at Stromness Academy, Margaret McGuffie (later Mrs Calder). While we were working on "Willies World" Gregor Lamb had put me in touch with her again. She is now in her late eighties and lives in a retirement flat in Perth but she is as alert as she ever was and I thought she might be interested to see that she is still remembered so I sent her a copy of "Roond About Birsay". She remembers the recording mentioned by Harold in his article but she was also delighted to see that the old Orkney traditions were being maintained with the milling of beremeal at Barony Mills and she was so impressed with the range of activities organised by the St Magnus Church Birsay Trust that she sent a cheque for £100 to encourage us in our efforts. A big thank you to Harold Esson and to "Roond About Birsay".

#### Carol Singing - 2008 - 2009

Christmas may seem a long time in the past but I'm sure that everyone who came to our carol singing on 22<sup>nd</sup> December will remember it vividly. In addition to plenty of well known carols for audience participation, we had a few short readings from Jan Crisp and KayKay Meadows and two groups of folksongs and a carol from our guest artistes, the SongShop Choir, directed by Aimée Leonard. The audience was the biggest we have had at any of our events for quite a number of years and the evening was so successful that we asked the SongShop Choir to put Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December in their diary for 2009 so put it in your diary too or mark it on your calendar.

#### Calendars

Speaking of calendars, we are delighted that Birsay Community Council has managed to prevail on The Orcadian to mark St Magnus Day on their calendars, even if it's not in the most obvious place. It's something they should have been doing for many years.

#### St Magnus Day

As well as flying the flag, you can celebrate St Magnus Day by joining us in our annual St Magnus Day Service of Praise in the kirk at 7.30. Short passages about Magnus at different periods of his life will be read by members of the Orkney Family History Society and the speaker will be Rev Fiona Lillie. We hope to see as many of you as possible there.

### St Magnus Festival

The St Magnus Festival concert in St Magnus Kirk this year will be given by a Norwegian female trio and a percussionist, Trio Mediæval. I've heard them on radio and they should sound wonderful in the kirk.

The latest edition of OPERA magazine, which gives details of festivals in Britain, America and virtually every European country, has an article by a critic who attended the St Magnus Festival for the first time last year. She says that the venues themselves are a factor in making the St Magnus Festival what it is and St Magnus Kirk is mentioned not just once but twice.

A highlight for many of the visitors is the tea served after the concert. If you would be willing to help with baking cakes or making sandwiches, please get in touch with me as soon as possible on 721241.

### More than a Book-signing

Gregor Lamb is going to be in Orkney during the second half of August and has offered to do another book-signing for the benefit of those who didn't manage to get a signed copy of "Willie's World" last year. If you would like a copy for friends or relatives "Sooth" or abroad, having it signed makes it a bit more special.

However, it will be more than just a book-signing. Gregor is to begin by giving a talk. He has found a fascinating subject, a story that doesn't seem to have been recorded in any Orkney books, and it was before "The Orcadian" started publication that it happened. How did it come about that a group of Italians spent several months in Westray in the early 1850s? Even to hear how Gregor chanced upon this story and how he has managed to piece together most of the jigsaw is very interesting so come and hear about it. It's likely that this will be on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> August, with the talk at 12o'clock, followed by the book signing, but it will be advertised nearer the time.

### Jazz Festival Service

Another very popular annual event will take place at the end of this month. The Jazz Festival Service will be at 5.30 on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April. The music will be provided by Bill Salmond's Louisiana Ragtime Band, the reader will be Cameron Stout and Bill Crichton will be the speaker. The kirk is always well filled for this event with a large number of the band's followers from Stromness and Edinburgh, but there's always room for more. Don't miss it!

### Orkney Science Festival

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September is the first day of this year's Orkney Science Festival and that evening we will be presenting a programme of prose, poetry and music relating to "Willie's World". If anyone has any memories of the Orkney Nights held in the Community Centre in the 1950s, I would be interested to hear from them, even if it's only one specific item from the programme.

**Bertie Harvey - Secretary**

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## **Birsay Community Association**

The committee are starting off their fundraising this year with a Snail Race on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April in the hall, It's a great night's entertainment for all ages.

Our Big Day Out will be a week later this year on Sat 13<sup>th</sup> June, confirmation of this will be locally advertised nearer the time.

We have been lucky enough to receive two weeks at the Blue Door charity shop from 26<sup>th</sup> Oct - Sat 7<sup>th</sup> Nov. Organising this event are Ann Spence (721301), Fiona Thomson (771427) and Stella Martin (721394). So please have a rummage around your houses and anything you can find that you no longer use or want would be gratefully appreciated, just give one of the ladies a phone.

We were disappointed with the response to our 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner Dance last November, but we have decided to try a less formal event this year in November.

We continue to hold Whist and 500 in the hall on the last Tuesday of the month. We thank you for your support and hope to see you at future events.

**Caroline Atkinson – Secretary**

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## **Birsay Church Flower Club - A New Name**

**Birsay Church Flower Club** has changed its name to **Dounby Flower Club**, which is a small friendly group and new members and visitors are always made welcome.

Before I came to live on Orkney 19 years ago, I never had time for flower arranging, but I soon got hooked and love every minute of messing about with flowers. It takes your mind off other things and you soon feel at ease with yourself.

I am still only learning, so if you decide to join us, we have experts and beginners, so think of the thrill you could get out of a bunch of flowers.

The club meets every third Tuesday of each month in the Dounby Centre at 7.30 pm. Hoping to see you there.

A poster advertising meetings is placed in local shops and post office a week before each meeting.



Our year started in September with 25 Years On, a workshop with Esther Slater, who was the club's first demonstrator.

October - Flower Card with Emilie Kirkness, with glue, a card, flowers, leaves and beads. 13 amazing flower cards were made.

November - Open Night. Our demonstrator was Sandra Linklater, a member of the Kirkwall Flower Club. With sales tables, raffles and a delicious supper, 60 members and guests had an enjoyable evening.

No meeting in December.

January - the start of a new year. We welcomed Sally Clouston to demonstrate a Hand Tied Bouquet.

February - Valentine with Yvonne Paice.

March was Miniature, a workshop with Christine Groat, who produced 7 lovely miniatures..

April is Two Tiers with Bertha Mainland

May - Swop Shop, you could pick up a plant or two, followed by Decorate a Hat.

June - AGM, then workshop. Pass It On.

July - Picnic to Mr Alan Clouston's Garden, followed by meal.

August - Sports Theme workshop with Pat Kirkpatrick

**Yvonne Paice - Secretary**

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### **Birsay, Harray and Sandwick Churches**

The Sun is out and spring is springing with great vigour. Although March did come in like a lamb! So we might get a lion yet....Still, at the moment the sun is blazing and all farmers and gardeners will be getting itchy feet and fingers to get on with land work and digging.

I found a nice plan for the ultimate kitchen garden:  
For the garden of your daily living

Plant 3 rows of peas:

1. Peace of mind
2. Peace of heart
3. Peace of soul

Plant four rows of squash

1. Squash gossip
2. Squash indifference
3. Squash grumbling
4. Squash selfishness

Plant four rows of lettuce:

1. Let us be faithful

2. Let us be kind
3. Let us be patient
4. Let us really love one another

Plant three rows of turnips:

1. Turn up for meetings
2. Turn up for service
3. Turn up to help one another

Plant three types of Thyme:

1. Time for each other
2. Time for family
3. Time for friends

Water freely with patience and cultivate with love and there will be much fruit in your garden. Because you reap what you sow.

In our service during Lent, the 40 days before Easter Sunday on 12 April, we are trying to remember just such things, reflect on what we do, how we live and how we could improve our living. At Easter we will celebrate new life given first of all to the risen Christ but given to us as well, when we come close to God. So come and join us in digging over the gardens of our souls on a Sunday morning at 11am in the Harray Church at the moment. The whole family is most welcome.

Not much news on the building front. We are fundraising steadily and the plans are going through the various departments for approval. Soon we will be ready to progress we hope. A big funding application has begun and how we do in this will largely determine the timescale of our Milestone Project.

May God bless all your gardening and farming with plenty.

**Andrea Price**  
**Minister of Birsay, Harray and Sandwick, Tel 771803**  
**Church of Scotland**

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### **Birsay Heritage Trust**

What's new at the Mill? Work,work work. So far we have ground eighteen tonnes of wheat, and not a grain for sale. It all has been ordered by local bakers or to help the Agronomy Institute. Now it is bere's turn, and indeed the stones turn and grind away, literally. That fact has caused the millers, Rae and Brian, quite a trouble, because the bed stone is supposed to be slightly higher in the centre so the meal migrates to the rim and drops off. What has happened is the centre part of the stone has been worn down, trapping the meal. Rae, our master miller, has 'addressed' the matter, and the stones

are happy once again. Maintenance is always a problem. The roof leaks and slates are blown off by gales. OIC to the rescue: they have promised to replace the roof and have begun inspections. The main work may be done in late summer - at least we hope so. However, that means extra work now to prepare enough bere meal to cover the down-time. Work, work, work.

Cooperation with the Agronomy Institute of Orkney College continues. Their latest project (now in the feasibility stage) is a major study of the growing, processing and marketing of cereal crops that prosper in Orkney's weather. Milling is a vital part of the enterprise, and we are helping with the proposals.

### **Website Directory**

It is time for our website ([www.birsay.org.uk](http://www.birsay.org.uk)) Directory page to undergo its 'annual refit'. Letters have been sent to those presently listed giving an opportunity for corrections or changes. NEW LISTINGS are welcome, and if you have a business in the area consider please joining your neighbours. New listings cost £12, and renewals only £6 in subsequent years. Call, write or email ([fwizz@orknet.co.uk](mailto:fwizz@orknet.co.uk)) or 'phone (721 293)

**Frank Zabriskie, Harpsa**



## *Do you Remember the War?*

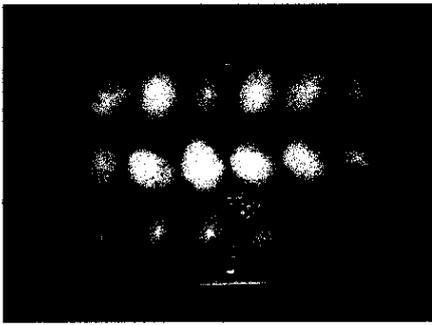
The parish of Birsay played a big part in the defence of Orkney and UK during World War 2 with HMS Tern at Twatt Airfield being the focus of a large number of war-time sites in Birsay

Birsay Heritage Trust (BHT) is collecting information about war-time sites in Birsay. We would like to have a record of what existed during the war - gun batteries, searchlight batteries, radar installations, air raid shelters, radio masts, trenches, bunkers etc. We want the record to be as authentic as possible and to help we ask that anyone who has photographs showing a war-time site during the war or just after the war, would be willing to loan us the photograph so that we could make a copy for the record.

BHT are contributing to an Orkney wide initiative to record the war-time sites on Orkney in order to create a historical record which will be of interest to people in Orkney and to tourists.

Please contact Keith Johnson on 771328, e-mail [ak.johnson@btopenworld.com](mailto:ak.johnson@btopenworld.com) or call past Hundasaeter if you have any photos or other information about the war.

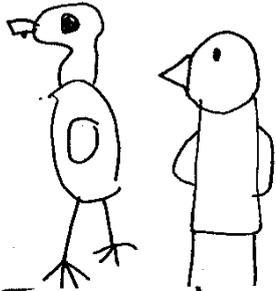
The egg game in class 1.  
Today we looked  
inside to see if a chick  
was growing.



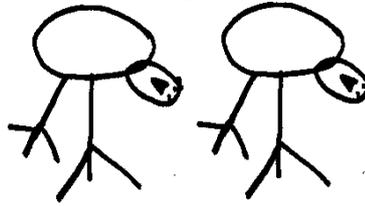
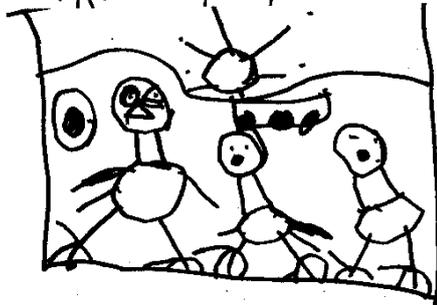
Class 1 at Dounby  
School have been  
looking after some  
eggs . . .

There are some eggs in class  
one we candied the eggs  
There is some chicks  
in the eggs

In class one there is a egg  
that is hatching. We can  
see a crack in the shell.



...we had some new  
additions to the class  
when 4 of the eggs  
hatched!



We named  
the chicks  
Derek,  
Ribbon, Fluffy  
and Chicky!



## BAGPIPES and SWORDS

Extract from a letter written in 1891 by

JOHN SPENCE, Overabist, Birsay, to NICOL SPENCE, Provost of Kirkwall

'..... Nicol Spence went among the Hillside folk by the title of *'Auld Nicol o' the Sooth'*. The tradition concerning him is hazy. All that I can find is that he ran away from Skelda about some matter when quite a boy. Nothing more is known about him or how he got on, only that he did get on well after a while and came to occupy an influential position in the Scottish metropolis.

His nameson was Nicol Spence of Kirbister, and he was sent south by his namefather with the intention of making him a minister. But ministers, like poets, seem to be in some measure born and not made. Anyway, all the prudence and wisdom of *'Auld Nicol o' the Sooth'* could not make a minister of young Kirbister. Instead of attending to his proper studies, he got a set of bagpipes and one day when his guardian came home, he was in an upstairs room *'garring them skirl till roof and rafters all did dir!*'. This brought things to a crisis, and the master of the house went up and kicked his protégé down the stairs, finishing up the job by throwing the bagpipes down after him. It is not reported what Kirbister said as he went downstairs, but as the pipes went down they cried *'Beauw! Weauw! Weauw!'* The upshot of this skirmish was that young Kirbister was sent home to Orkney again, and the report which his guardian sent home regarding him was this: *"You have sent a fool off to me and I send you a fool back again."*

Kirbister was no fool however, though there did not happen to be the makings of a clergyman in him. Kirbister was a swordsman of the first water, if you will tolerate such a simile. A bully or swashbuckler had come to Orkney and given out a challenge to the Orcadian swordsmen, daring any one of them to single combat. Sir William Ballentine of *'Stennes'*, as he was called from his lands being chiefly in that parish, accepted the challenge. *'Stennes'* beat the bully and so proud were the Kirkwall gentry of him for vindicating the honour of Orkadia, that they would have helped him to redeem his lands, which were so sunk in debt, but he was much too independent to accept such an offer.

*'Stennes'* was now the champion swordsman of the Orkneys. Kirbister could not tolerate this, so he gave *'Stennes'* a challenge, which was promptly accepted. The duel was arranged to be fought with swords on the Broad Street of Kirkwall, mayhap on the very spot where, on a later date, a certain scientific gentleman took aim at that venerable fowl, the cock of St Magnus, with fell intent to take his life. Kirbister and *'Stennes'* met on the Broad Street and foot to foot they fought it out. After some skilful fencing, Kirbister, by a deft stroke, neatly carved off the wrist button of *'Stennes'* shirt. He then coolly told him to look sharp as he might take off his neck button next time. Then, so hardly did he press *'Stennes'* that in a short time he had him disarmed and finally took his sword and threw it on the top of the *'Tow-buith'*. Nicol Spence of Kirbister seems, in truth, to have been a born warrior; brave, reckless and careless in word and action, a gentleman of the sword and honour, which in these days meant pretty much the same.....'

Thanks are due to Robert R Spence, Ayr, Kirkwall, for allowing this extract to be published

This was also published in Orkney Vintage Club Newsletter No 17 in 2000.

(Submitted by Harold Esson)

### MEMORIES FROM THE BOX ON THE MANTELPIECE (1)

Most folk over a certain age can still see it in their mind's eye - the box on the mantelpiece of their parents' or grandparents' house, which held a virtual treasure trove of neatly folded news-cuttings and pieces of paper. It is only with the passing of the years that the box changed hands, when father-time claimed the lives of those we remember so dearly, and the box fell into younger hands.

I can remember the first time I went through the contents of the box that stood on my maternal grandparents' mantelpiece at Sunnybrae. I never knew my grandfather as he passed away in 1941 when I was just over a year old. However, my grandmother lived until 1959 and, even then, the box on her mantelpiece stood undisturbed for many years after that. I have sifted through the contents many times since then and nearly always find something I had missed or simply forgotten about.

In the age that we now live, when communication with the rest of the world is instantaneous, we tend to forget that our parents and grandparents swapped newspapers and magazines with friends and relatives in places like Canada and the U.S.A. About twenty of the news-cuttings in my grandparents' box were from *The Family Herald and Weekly Star* from Montreal. They were titled 'Favorite Hymns', and gave the words and music of each, along with the details of who had written each one, and the often interesting circumstances surrounding this. The reason for keeping these would have come about as a result of my grandfather being 'The Presenter' in the Kirk.

Many years ago, when someone was clearing out their house in preparation for flitting, I was given a sackful of papers that had been sent from Canada. They were still in their wrappers and had never been touched. As I opened them, I discovered that Biro pens had been enclosed with some and if it was a bundle of comics for the bairns, there would be a cigar in the centre - I didn't try any of them! I can't understand why the bundles had never been opened. They dated from the 1950s and I found them of great interest. Mind-you, they were forty years old by then, so that would explain it.

Although nothing to do with the box on the mantelpiece, another thing I remember is receiving a box of 'goodies' each Christmas from relatives in either Canada or the U.S.A. The one thing that still sticks in my mind is the box of drinking chocolate. My mother had a first cousin, Jack Spence, who was sent over to fight in the war. His father, James, had left Orkney about 1880 and was never back. So, when Jack got leave and came up to Orkney, he met his three aunts and an uncle for the first time. Jack never forgot the hospitality he received and nearly every letter he sent, up to the time of his passing, mentioned this. In fact, I think it is safe to say that the war affected him for the rest of his life, as he always said that his *'nerves were shot'* as a result of his wartime experiences.

Another news-cutting from *The Family Herald and Weekly Star* contains a picture of Jack bidding goodbye to his tearful nephew, George Barrett, as he set out on the first part of his journey to join the war in Europe. Jack was twenty-five years of age and was one of 165 members in the B Company of the Royal Canadian Regiment - *'Canada's full-time, cash on the barrel-head, professional soldiers. Fighting is their job and they do it well.'* The report goes on, *'After farewells were said, there was no cheering as the train pulled out, only a straining to catch a last glimpse of husband or father. Women wiped furtive tears and tried to be brave; children done up in their best bibs and tuckers wept quietly but without shame. Stern-looking men turned quickly toward the dark so no-one would see.'*

Jack had a visit to Orkney planned in 1978. Of course, his uncle and aunts had long since departed, and my mother, who was ten years older than him, was beginning to be forgetful. The day he was due to leave Toronto, we got a telegram to say he had suffered a heart attack. Jack was never again well enough to travel such a long distance and, as so often happens, letters got further and further apart and I no longer communicate with any of my Canadian or American cousins. So, for me at least, the box on the mantelpiece is all that remains. It contains so much more than the faded pictures and the printed words. It is a treasure that you can never replace.

Harold Esson

(First published in Orkney Vintage Club Newsletter No 23 in 2006)

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HUNDLAND LOCH CLIMATE STATION - ANNUAL SUMMARY 2008

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	Average/ Total etc 50 year Av
Mean Min Temp	1.2	1.9	1.5	2.7	5.1	8.5	10.8	10.4	9.2	5.4	3.0	1.5	5.1
Mean Max Temp	6.8	8.4	7.1	9.9	14.4	14.4	17.1	16.9	15.4	10.8	8.3	6.9	11.4
MEAN TEMP	4.0	5.2	4.3	6.3	9.8	11.5	14.0	13.7	12.3	8.1	5.7	4.2	8.3
Min Temp	-3.6	-3.8	-5.0	-1.6	-0.8	6.0	8.2	2.6	3.3	-2.1	-4.0	-5.1	-5.1
Max Temp	10.7	12.0	9.8	16.0	22.2	19.0	23.2	23.5	18.8	15.3	12.2	12.0	23.5
Min Grass Temp	-6.5	-5.0	-6.6	-4.6	-3.1	3.5	7.9	1.0	1.5	-5.0	-6.5	-7.5	-7.5
Days with Ground Frost	14	12	13	10	7	0	0	0	0	2	11	12	81
Days with Air Frost	8	4	6	7	4	0	0	0	0	1	6	7	43
Av Rel Hum at 0900	87	86	79	77	73	84	86	84	87	82	86	84	83
Rainfall	208.8	71.2	110.5	83.4	7.4	80.9	38.3	53.1	54.5	153.7	103.0	133.4	1098.2
Rainfall Max	16.5	14.4	15.4	19.8	2.9	14.1	8.9	8.8	13.5	19.3	13.4	22.3	22.3
Days with No Rain	1	11	1	11	23	5	16	16	11	0	2	6	103
Hours of Rainfall	200.5	83.5	131.0	95.5	11.5	90.0	47.0	42.0	57.5	154.5	113.0	141.0	1167.0
Sunshine	12.3	72.6	112.5	164.3	288.3	121.6	134.5	148.8	92.7	77.6	29.2	22.9	1277.3
Sun Max	2.3	8	13	9.5	29	15.5	13.4	11.5	8.9	22	6.6	5	15.5
Days with no sun	14	4	2	5	1	3	2	4	5	6	9	13	68
Wind Av Spd	14.1	13.8	14.9	12.3	10.0	10.6	11.5	9.6	8.8	16.0	13.6	11.7	12.2
Wind Dir	SE	S	NW	SE	E	NW	SE	SE	SE	S	S	SE	SE
Wind Max	56.5	31	61.7	22	55.7	1	47.0	6	35.7	4	33.9	10	67.0
Number of Gale days	4	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	3	16
Wind Chill	-5.9	-9.2	-9.3	-6.6	-2.4	19	4.3	3.9	2.7	-5.8	-7.7	-6.4	-9.3
Days with Snow Lying	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	7	7
Air Pressure min	950.1	966.4	966.5	989.2	998.8	992.5	992.8	988.6	987.4	975.9	977.1	972.3	950.1
Air Pressure max	1022.6	1044.8	1031.8	1026.5	1030.8	1023.3	1023.5	1015.8	1035.2	1019.2	1031.7	1042.4	1044.8
Air Pressure 0900	999.1	1009.3	998.5	1010.3	1020.5	1011.4	1011.0	1005.5	1014.2	1001.7	1006.8	1012.0	1008.4
Average Daily Solar radiation	7.98	17.88	68.16	129.62	221.95	169.33	174.84	142.53	80.25	38.11	14.27	6.53	89.29
Max. Daily Solar Radiation	16.63	47.04	140.76	224.31	306.83	303.43	283.85	229.00	143.96	90.83	32.54	12.46	306.83
Min. Daily Solar Radiation	2.48	12.27	14.43	25.57	74.98	58.37	78.04	59.58	36.15	13.95	4.33	1.23	1.23
Max solar in 1Hr	275.50	431.00	738.00	939.50	1083.00	1150.00	1048.00	944.00	820.00	572.00	422.00	139.00	1150.00
Solar Energy Temp	503.48	1568.95	4291.63	8014.78	13963.42	9798.36	10950.54	8416.34	4851.58	2304.51	868.55	412.33	65944.47