Brora Community Newsletter



July 2023

Prepared by Brora Development Trust

NEWS

Brora Youth Partnership

Last month a meeting was held in Brora to discuss how, as a community, we can make improvements to services and provisions for young people in Brora. This meeting stemmed from results of a Brora Development Trust community questionnaire survey, which found that current services and provisions for young people in Brora was one of the top improvements that respondents would like to have made.

Invited to and attending the meeting were local volunteers and others involved with activities for children and young people currently, including the Primary School Head Teacher, representatives of the High School and Primary parent and teacher associations and Sutherland Young Carers (TYKES). The meeting was co-facilitated by Brora Development Trust Development Officer, Sarah Morrison and Clair Nichols from Youth Highland. Youth Highland is working closely with the Trust to advise and support on how to take forward a youth programme.



Youth Highland supports a network of voluntary and third sector organisations to work with young people to deliver youth work outcomes in community settings: "We believe that young people should be supported to identify and lead positive change to bring about best outcomes in their lives and communities." Youth Highland currently work with 8 member clubs in Sutherland.

The meeting agreed that there was a need for improvements to provisions and services and several assumptions were aired about the types of activities that young people might like to take part in as well as a discussion about potential venue/s for activities to take place.

The challenge for existing community volunteers to deliver a youth programme was discussed, given that volunteers are already stretched for time: for example, volunteers who attended are involved in delivering a weekly football training session for primary children and church youth club (again, primary school aged). The conclusion of the meeting was that the participants agreed to form a subcommittee of Brora Development Trust, to steer a youth programme; and that a dedicated person to organise and deliver youth activities is needed in Brora.









Following on from the meeting, Clair Nichols began consultations with older pupils at Brora Primary school. Golspie High School will have 100 pupils from Brora in the next academic intake. Consultations will continue after the school holidays with High School aged young people.

Youth Highland will be providing support the Trust to developing a plan for youth activities in Brora, including around sustainability, leadership, governance and fundraising.

Board Member Wanted!

The Board of Trustees are currently looking for someone with experience in youth related activities, as the Board embarks on a new youth programme. If you would like to be part of this exciting new venture, please get in touch (contact details below) and let us know what skills and experience you can bring to the table. The Trust now has 260 members and has 7 voluntary Trustees. As a member you can sit on the Board of Trustees and have a say in the running of Brora Development Trust.

Pedestrian Fingerposts for Brora

Brora's pedestrian signposts are now being made, with installation expected to take place in September. These will be similar in style to those in other villages, including Golspie and will be burgundy with gold lettering. The signs will serve to guide visitors to key points and services in Brora



and encourage pedestrians to move around the village and therefore spend more time in the village.

The planning of the signposts has been guided by a working group of volunteers, who have taken time to discuss and plan where the signs would be best placed, to consider what will be on the signs, colour and style.

An Open Road Permit from The Highland Council has been received for the signpost to be installed at Gower Street, adjacent to the public notice board by the Co-op. with permission from private landlord at Station Square, to have adjacent to the A9 and Bear Scotland have agreed to instal one at the Harbour Road junction with South Brae.

Funding for these signposts and installation comes from the Community Regeneration Fund administered by The Highland Council.

Photo: Pedestrian sign in Golspie









Collaboration and Learning for Community Tourism

Information Officer, Odhran McLeod spent time in his first few months with Brora Development Trust, on learning exchange visits at Visit Scotland's I Centre in Inverness and Loch Ness Hub and Travel in Drumnadrochit.



Photo: Odhran with Alice, from Loch Ness Hub

These visits were part of the Trust's ongoing collaboration and learning exchange with other community groups. The I Centre in Inverness is a busy information point for visitors wishing to visit the Highlands. Odhran enjoyed the benefits of the team's experience and skills greatly. Brora's Information Point has applied to be an independent partner with Visit Scotland, which will enable Visit Scotland to better signpost visitors to the Information Point in Brora.

Loch Ness Hub and Travel is an independent Tourist Information Centre in Drumnadrochit and provides information for visitors, eBike rental and bag transfer service. Odhran also had a very informative and inspirational time with the team in Drumnadrochit. Brora Development Trust and Loch Ness Travel and Hub are part of a network of community tourism network in Scotland called SCOTO www.scoto.co.uk

Visit Brora



This month a Visit Brora social media campaign was launched. This visitor facing platform will show visitors what a fantastic place Brora is to live in, to visit and spend time in, that Brora is more than a place to pass through. Facebook, Instagram and Twitter pages have been launched to showcase Brora to visitors.

A Visit Brora website is coming soon and will link the social media platforms and have business listing pages. A pivotal part of both the website and social media platforms is the Community Calendar, which is widely contributed to by local groups and organisations and produced by Brora Development Trust.

To have your business listed, Brora Development Trust will

provide a form to complete either online or on paper. The online link will be shared shortly.









100+ CLUB



This month's 100+ Club winner is Jim Cunningham! Congratulations Jim! The 100+ Club is a significant source of fundraising for Brora Development Trust and runs from April to March at a cost of just £12 a year. A winning number is drawn at the Trust's monthly Board meeting. There is one prize of £20 each month with a grand draw in December, with £100, £50 and £30 prizes. If you would like to take part and have a chance to win, please get in touch to request an application form.

COMMUNITY CORNER

Community Defibrillators

Brora Development Trust is working with local partners to organise a series of defibrillator training sessions delivered by St John Scotland https://www.stjohnscotland.org.uk/ over the next few months with the first sessions planned for September.



The training is delivered by highly experienced and qualified St John Scotland trainers and comes at no cost to participants. There will be a brief preamble, 15-minute demonstration covering resuscitation and how to use a defibrillator and then each participant will have the chance to practice using the training equipment. There is no need to book, just turn up on the day! Training sessions will take place as follows:

Doll Hall, 10.30am, Saturday 16th September

Scout and Guide Hall, Gower Street, Brora, 2pm, Saturday 16th September

Brora Bowling Club, Golf Road, Brora, 10.30am, Saturday 14th October

If any other venues or groups would like to host a training session, please get in touch with Sarah Morrison, Development Officer (contact details below).









Brora and the district of Brora have seven defibrillators, located at the sites shown in the map below. Most recently, Brora Bowling and Tennis Court installed and arranged a defibrillator training in September 2022, delivered by St Johns Scotland volunteers, with funding from Bowls Scotland and Brora Community Council. Doll Hall has also raised funds for installation of a unit in 2021.

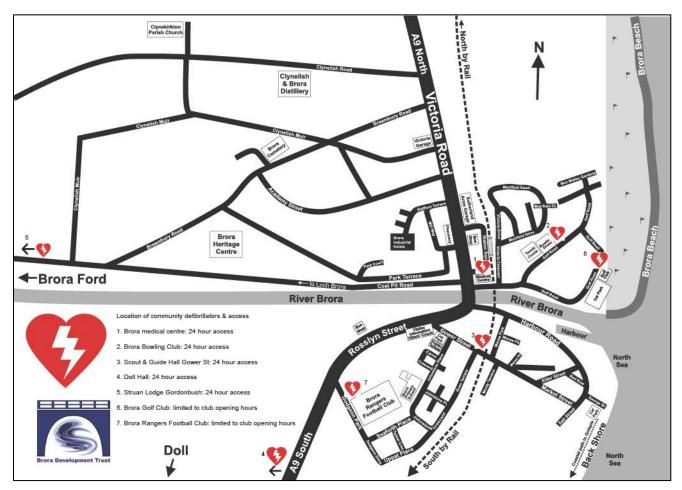


Image: Map showing location of defibrillators in and around Brora



Brora Carnival Week Sunday 23rd to Saturday 29th July

This year's Carnival Week will once again be filled with fun activities for everyone and events taking place all over Brora. The Queen is Holly Preston, with Emma Sutherland as Attendant and Daisy Cameron as Princess. The Carnival Week Programmes is available to buy at Capaldis, Otter's Couch, Clynelish Distillery and Kelpie's Treasures. Also see

www.facebook.com/broracarnivalweek.

Many thanks to the Carnival Week committee and volunteers for making this week possible. See next page for just some of the events taking place!

