



CAITHNESS ARTS NEWSLETTER



'Promoting the Arts in Caithness'

July - August 2007

CAITHNESS ARTS FESTIVAL

Following the disappointing outcome of the SAC funding application, Caithness Arts recently applied to several other funding bodies for financial assistance for this year's Festival. We are grateful to the Dounreay Communities Fund for awarding us a percentage of our request which will go towards the Festival programme.

Unfortunately, due to a large demand for financial assistance, we have been unable to secure funding through other applications. We are currently pursuing other avenues. The Board will meet in July to decide the structure of this year's Festival.

VRSG NEWS

Caithness Arts is a member of the **Viewfirth Redevelopment Steering Group** (VRSG) which was set up in December 2006 to exploit the opportunity offered by the UKAEA who are planning to demolish the existing Viewfirth building and offer the site to the people of Caithness for a community purpose.

A proposal has been sent to the Dounreay Stakeholder Group based on the findings of our public consultation and we are currently awaiting a response.

Newsletter

Our **Newsletter** is published every two months throughout the County to outlets including galleries, local shops, pubs, information centres and libraries.

We need your news to make it happen so keep sending your articles and photos and we'll do the rest.

CAITHNESS ARTS FORUM

A meeting of the Caithness Arts Forum took place on the 15th May and took the form of workshops providing an opportunity to discuss the Caithness Arts Strategy document.

It was agreed that the membership of the Forum be expanded to include two individual members (Jenny Bruce and David Morrison), David Brookfield, Director of Pentland Housing Association, Donald MacBeath of North Highland College/UHI, and Highland Councillors Willie Mackay and Donnie Mackay. Lord MacLennan has been confirmed as the Chair of the Arts Forum. The next meeting is scheduled for late August/early September.

What's On Guide

Planning an event? Then send the details to us and we'll include it in our bi-monthly **What's On Guide**.

If you would like a copy sent to you by email, our contact details are below.

RSAMD MASTERCLASSES

The **RSAMD** is bringing to Caithness for two days, Monday and Tuesday 6th and 7th of August, six of its top vocal music students and their teachers for three events in Thurso.

On the evening of Monday 6th August a public Master Class for the students will be held by Patricia MacLaughlin, the distinguished Scottish teacher of Singing, in St Anne's RC Church, Thurso.

The following evening, 7th August, also at St Anne's, there will be an opera recital given by the Student Singers under the direction of Chris Underwood, head of Vocal Music at the RSAMD.

Chris Underwood is also offering to provide a Master Class for singers from Caithness at St. Anne's on the afternoon of Monday, 6th August, from 2.30 – 5.30 pm.

The events are sponsored by the North Highland Initiative and HIE Caithness and Sutherland.

If you would like to take part, please write to : Lord MacLennan, Ham Farm, by Dunnet, Caithness, KW14 9XP.

TELFORD LADE PROJECT

Following on the success of the Telford Mill Lade Walk in September 2006 as part of the Caithness Arts Festival, a group was set up to take the project further and as part of the Royal Burgh of Wick Community Council plans, redevelopment of the Telford Mill Lade has been included in the Wick Pathways Project and a sub group set up to improve the walkway and the surrounding environment.

Pulteneytown Distillery has already pledged to clean, repair and maintain the water course with work commencing June 2007. They have also agreed to fund informative panels which will include the work of the South School pupils on the heritage of the Town and nature study of the area. Caithness Archaeological Trust have also given their approval as Thomas Telford's engineering work on the Lade is of particular importance, not only to Wick and Caithness but nationally, and a special asset of industrial archaeology in Caithness.

Likewise, other interested bodies are the Highland Council Countryside Rangers, Core Access Pathways and the Institute of Civil Engineering who published a report by local artist Jenny Bruce in their historical newsletter.

A second walk has been included in the Scottish Archaeology Month's programme of events for the 22nd September, meeting at Wick Railway Station at 10am going on to Toftcarl, Hempriggs. **Enquiries: Jenny Bruce, 01955 603380.**

Membership

Caithness Arts is a registered charity and we rely on your support to help us produce our Newsletter and What's On Guide.

If you would like to become a member we will keep you up to date with what's going on in the arts.

Membership costs £5 per year and can be sent to :

Linda Hutton
Membership Secretary
Caithness Arts
1-2 Traill House
7 Olrig St.,
Thurso, KW14 7BJ

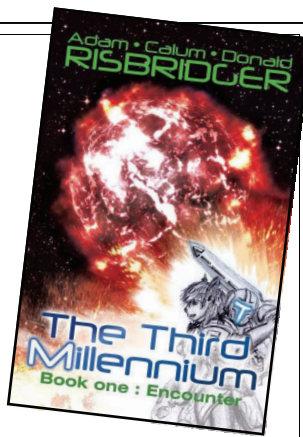
Contact

01847 895545
07736 731379
adnil72@gmail.com
www.caithnessarts.org.uk

BOOK LAUNCH

The Risbridger boys' are delighted to announce the launch of their first book, **The Third Millennium**.

The book hit the shelves on the 30th June at a special launch at D. R. Simpsons in Wick. The book is also available from the publisher at www.altbeapublishing.com and is priced at £11.45 including postage and packaging.



PROFILE - HAZEL CASHMORE

A graduate of Mid-Warwickshire College of Art in 1967, Hazel arrived in Caithness with her family in 1978. Specializing in oil and acrylic, her first exhibition was at Lyth Arts Centre in 1983. Since then, Hazel has been a regular exhibitor at the Society of Caithness Artists exhibition, now held in Thurso High School every August.

Hazel's work is all Caithness-based in subject matter and includes landscapes, flow country and sea paintings.

For the past three years, Hazel has been exhibiting her work at The Edinburgh Gallery in Dundas Street, Edinburgh 3 or 4 times a year (www.art-edinburgh.com). Her next venture will be their summer exhibition in July. If you can't make it to Edinburgh, Hazel's work can also be found at www.scotlandart.com or you can contact her on 01847 892623.



"MADE IN CAITHNESS" PROVES A SUCCESS

Julie Bolton's new Wick venture "**Made in Caithness**" opened on May 3rd providing a permanent retail outlet that showcases and promotes quality crafts and artwork produced by the residents of Caithness.

There are now 40 exhibitors and that number is growing every week with a wide range of goods available including glass engraving, woodturning, furniture making, jewellery, hats, designer and traditional knitwear, bridal accessories, music CD's, cards, photography, parchment craft, cross stitch, designer cushions, decoupage, folk art, candles, iron-work, gift items, fancy goods and a range of exclusive souvenir items as well as artwork including watercolours, oils and etchings.

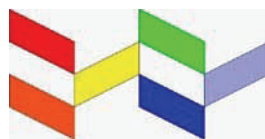
Julie says "The response from crafters and artists has been amazing, the general public and tourists alike have all been full of praise for the work on sale and the general principle of the 'Made in Caithness' ethos"

'Made in Caithness' is open three days a week, (Thursday, Friday, Saturday), and by appointment and is located at **54 High Street, Wick**. If you would like to display your goods for sale please call in to the shop to discuss it further.



The hand-in date for the annual exhibition held by The Society of Caithness Artists is Saturday, 28th July at Thurso High School between 10am and 2pm. A maximum of 6 entries per person. Cost : £5. The exhibition will run from 31st July until the 9th August at Thurso High School. The opening times are : 2pm-5pm and 6.30pm-9pm Mon to Sat.

Lyth Arts Centre Summer Exhibition



The Human Image is the theme of the summer exhibition at Lyth Arts Centre this year with six simultaneous exhibitions of painting, craft and photography which will run from the 1st July until the 31st August.

Almost all contributions are from artists living in the Highlands - from visual artists including Fergus Mather, Eugenia Vronskaya, Andrew Sinclair, Sarah Orr, Meg Telfor, Sue Jane Taylor and Mark Smith; and crafts represented by Isobel Ackary, Laura Street, Calum Young, Catherine McLeod, Ian Hamilton Findlay and Alfreda Bengie. Further information can be found www.lytharts.org.uk

Lyth's regular programme of live entertainment continues with highlights such as Christopher Lee Guild on the 8th July, Tango Siempre on the 17th July and jazz with the Frank Harrison Trio on the 8th August. Full details on these and other forthcoming music, drama and workshop events can be found on the website.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

An early mention for the **Musikschule Hochsauerlandkreis Youth Symphony Orchestra** who will be visiting Thurso on Wednesday, 26th September. The orchestra hail from the Hochsauerland region of Germany which includes **Brilon**, Thurso's twin town. The 55 musicians are mostly between 14 and 22 years old and play woodwind, string and brass.

Early plans are for the orchestra to hold workshops in Thurso High School followed by a concert in St Peter's Church in the evening.

The event is being promoted by the Thurso-Brilon twinning committee with proceeds going to local charities.