



October 2014 Issue 9

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Dates for your diary

[Saturday 1st November, University of Abertay, Dundee](#)

A joint SCAPE/SWACS presentation about Wemyss Caves 4D at the TAFAC annual conference

[Saturday 8th November, Crieff Hydro, Crieff](#)

Tom is the Keynote, and the Friends of Eyemouth Fort are also presenting at this year's Community Heritage Conference

[Saturday 15th November, Queen Margaret University, Musselburgh](#)

A joint SCAPE/Friends of Eyemouth Fort presentation about interpreting the Fort at the Edinburgh, Lothians and Borders Archaeology Conference

[Saturday 15th November, Museum of London](#)

A joint SCAPE/NoSAS presentation about recording and researching the Loch Fleet herring boats at the annual Nautical Archaeology Society conference



The Newshot Island Ship Graveyard

The River Clyde was one of the driving forces which shaped modern Scotland, and it was human ingenuity which shaped the Clyde from a shallow estuary of sandbanks and islets into the river that became an international hub of trade and shipbuilding. Our most recent ShoreDIG project at Newshot Island aims to record and research the remains of the fleet of vessels which toiled to deepen the river's channel. These boats were abandoned on the muddy foreshore of Newshot Island; read about our weekend recording them and delving into their history on the [SCHARP blog](#), and see Eddie Martin's [amazingly detailed photomosaic of the boat graveyard](#).

Meur Burnt Mound ShoreDIG

The excavation, dismantling and re-location of the Meur Burnt Mound from its perilous location on the beach to Sanday's new Heritage Centre was a great success this summer.

Important new discoveries were made in the process. A Bronze Age well which would have supplied fresh water for the tank contained perfectly preserved plants and insects; a time-capsule of the local environment 3000 years ago. Upon dismantling the known structures you can see on the image on the right, we found evidence of a completely unexpected earlier site underneath. The ShoreDIG will continue next year to investigate these – and we will keep you up to date with results of the post-excavation work as they come in.

The [Meur Burnt Mound Facebook album](#) will give you a flavour of the summer fieldwork.



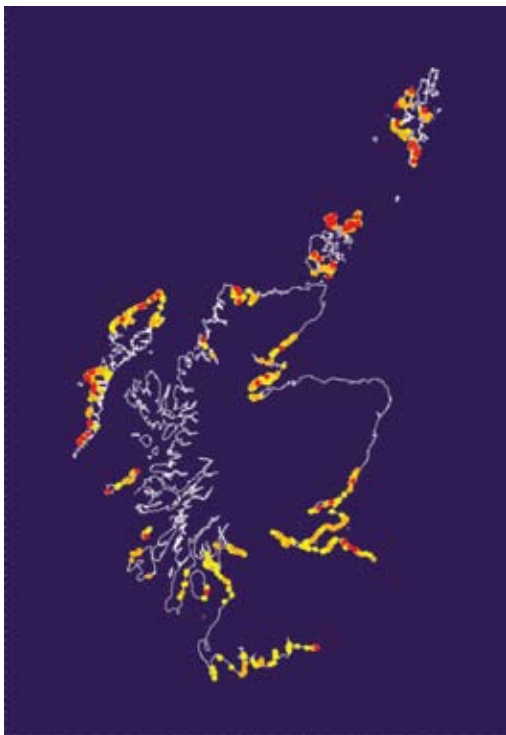
September in the Western Isles

In September, we had an excellent week in the Western Isles, spending time with old friends and making new ones on the Isles of Lewis, North Uist and South Uist. As always, the archaeology was world class, and some of it very vulnerable to the Atlantic waves. You can read all about our travels [on the blog](#). ShoreUPDATE volunteers in Lewis and the Uists are joining together to do group surveys of as many of our highest priority sites (the red ones on the ShoreUPDATE map) as they can over the coming winter. This is a great idea and the next item could help you find some company in your area to go out on surveys with.



Facebook forum for SCHARP volunteers

By popular demand, we have created a [facebook group](#) specifically for SCHARP Volunteers. Here you can find people in your area to arrange to meet up for site visits with, as well as a general forum for communication with other volunteers and with us. This is a closed group which means that new members have to be approved by Joanna or Ellie. If you're interested in joining, click on the picture to the right to be taken to the new SCHARP Volunteers facebook group.



ShoreUPDATE - update

In 2 years you have submitted **571** ShoreUPDATE surveys, **201** new site records and nearly **1500** photographs. This is a really significant achievement. Your data will directly influence approaches to managing coastal heritage in Scotland in the future.

190 high priority sites remain to be surveyed – and over the coming year, we're having a big push to update as many of these red sites as possible.

You can help us by targeting any red sites in your area that haven't been surveyed yet. Get in touch with [Ellie](#) who can send you a list of the outstanding high-priority sites in your area.

For those of you who have a bit of a backlog of site surveys you did during the summer (like us) –the lengthening evenings are a perfect opportunity to spend some time uploading them through the SCHARP website. You'll find a [refresher video](#) on how to do this under the [GUIDANCE](#) tab of the website.

Eyemouth Fort at the Scottish Parliament

Congratulations to the [Friends of Eyemouth Fort](#) who last week brought the Fort to the Scottish Parliament in a reception to celebrate this important historic site. Thanks to MSP Paul Wheelhouse for hosting the event, which showcased the great work the Friends have done and the progress they've made towards getting the Fort the recognition it deserves. After learning about the project and the



history of the fort, guests got a chance to explore the 16th century digital reconstruction of the fort built by St Andrews University School of Computer Science and now housed in [Eyemouth Museum](#).



SCHARP success at BAA2014

SCHARP's impact on the archaeological world was recognised in the biennial [British Archaeological Awards 2014](#) held at the British Museum in July.

The project won Best Community Engagement Archaeology Project and the Sites at Risk Map portal and ShoreUPDATE app won Best Archaeological Innovation. Wemyss Caves 4D made it to the final 3 and was highly commended in the Best Presentation of Archaeology category.

We would like to say congratulations and a heartfelt thank you to all of you who together ARE this project.

European Association of Archaeologists Conference 2014

From the shores of the North Sea in St Andrews, to the shores of the Bosphorus in Istanbul, the SCAPE Team spent a week in Turkey in September for this year's European Association of Archaeologists Conference. Your contribution through SCHARP to Scotland's coastal heritage was highlighted in our presentations. There was a lot of interest amongst this international audience and some great discussions with archaeologists from all over the world.

EAA2015 will be held in Glasgow! Click on the icon on the right to go to the website.



ShoreUPDATE Roundup



We've been out and about a lot over the last 3 months and have really enjoyed meeting new volunteers. Westray in July was a weekend break from Meur, visiting yet more spectacular Orkney sites in great company. In August, as part of the Wild North Festival, we spent a weekend exploring the heritage of the Durness area and Loch Eriboll with a great bunch of new citizen archaeologists, before squeezing in our trip around the Western Isles. Most recently we had a most enjoyable day closer to home with a new group at the Scottish Fisheries Museum, then visited a local site on the Fife coast that's particularly close to our hearts.

SCHARP recommends...

It's conference season again, the regional conferences are always fascinating insights into recent archaeological work in different parts of Scotland. The SCAPE team are talking at a few of them this year, come and say hello if you're at the [TAFAC](#) conference in Dundee or [ELBAC](#) in Musselburgh.

We're very pleased to say that the [Inner Forth Landscape Initiative](#) was officially launched earlier this year at a reception at the Scottish Parliament – congratulations to the IFLI team. IFLI and the [Forth Naturalist and Historian](#) are putting on a conference on the natural, cultural and historic heritage of the Inner Forth on Saturday 15th November. You can find more information and find out how to book your place on the [IFLI website](#).

The [Community Heritage Conference](#) is always an interesting weekend showcasing great community projects from around Scotland. This year Tom is giving the keynote address and the Friends of Eyemouth Fort are talking about their work. It's on Saturday 8th November and booking is open now, we hope to see you there.

Could you be a citizen archaeologist of the coast?

The project is actively recruiting volunteers to help with coastal surveys and to develop ideas for local projects. [Find out more](#)

[Unsubscribe](#)

[Feedback](#)



[SCAPE](#) developed Scotland's Coastal Heritage at Risk Project so that we could involve more people in effectively tackling this important national issue. Our philosophy is that eroding coastal heritage provides opportunities for everyone to enjoy and to benefit from taking part in archaeological and historical exploration and discovery.

The three year project will run until 2015 and is generously funded and supported by the [Heritage Lottery Fund](#), [Historic Scotland](#), the [Crown Estate](#) and the [University of St Andrews](#).