

SCHARP NEWSLETTER



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June 2014 Iss

Dates for your diary

30th June to 14th July, Sanday, Orkney Meur burnt Mound ShoreDIG

<u>Saturday 5th July, Westray Heritage Centre, Westray, Orkney</u> ShoreUPDATE training day

Sunday 6th July, Meet at Westray Heritage Centre ShoreUPDATE field trip

<u>Saturday 30th August, Durness Community Centre, Durness</u> ShoreUPDATE training day

Sunday 31st August, Meet at Durness Community Centre ShoreUPDATE field trip

4th and 5th October, Glasgow

Newshot Island wreck recording weekend with the NAS

Preparations to move a burnt mound

Meur Burnt Mound ShoreDIG is well underway. SCAPE has form in this type of project. In 2008, we teamed up with the Bressay History Group and Archaeology Scotland to move a burnt mound in, Shetland in the **Bronze Age Bressay**Project. More than 5 years on, the re-located and reconstructed site still looks great and is still attracting visitors. In April of this year, the Shetland-based reconstruction team joined us on Sanday to prepare for the fieldwork which starts on June 30th. We also found time to visit many of Sanday's stunning coastal sites with old friends and new ones. As always you can read about it on the SCHARP blog.

Launch of Wemyss Caves 4D website

http://www.4dwemysscaves.org

The Wemyss Caves 4D website was launched at a packed SWACS annual lecture in the Adam Smith Theatre, Kirkcaldy in April. The website is the culmination of all the work that SWACS, the East Wemyss Community and the York Archaeological Trust have put into this innovative project to digitally record and interpret Pictish carvings in Jonathan's Cave. We hope to be in a position to roll out the project to the other caves in East Wemyss soon.





Virtual Eyemouth Fort launched with a bang!

Organised by the Eyemouth <u>Friends of the Fort</u>, a group from the Border Reivers took over Eyemouth Museum to launch the Virtual Eyemouth Fort installation. Inside a specially built booth in the museum you are transported into the 17th century where with the help of modern gaming technology you can explore the fort in its heyday and access loads of historical information about the fort and the period. Put a visit to <u>Eyemouth Museum</u> and fort on your to do list this summer. They're brilliant.

New discoveries in Shetland

Easterly gales over the winters of 2013 and 2014 exposed at least two important archaeological sites in Shetland. A possible Iron Age wheel house or broch has literally been half sectioned in the coast edge at Channerwick. A few kilometres up the coast, severe erosion at the Sands of Mail has exposed archaeological remains extending over 150m. You can read about these sites and others in our **latest blog** from Shetland.





SCHARP shortlisted for 3 BAA Awards 2014

We are delighted to tell you that SCHARP projects (which means you) have been shortlisted for **3 British Archaeological Awards** in 2014. These are, SCHARP for Best Community Engagement Archaeology Project, Wemyss Caves 4D for Best Presentation of Archaeology and the ShoreUPDATE app for Best Archaeological Innovation. The awards are presented in London on July 14th.

ShoreUPDATE roundup

Early spring was all about East Lothian, and late spring has been all Northern Isles with organised ShoreUPDATE field trips in Orkney and Shetland. As well as running ShoreUPDATE training sessions in new areas, Ellie and I are visiting places and people who are already contributing to make sure we visit as many of our high priority sites as possible over the next few months. If you can get a group together for a weekend of coastal surveys with us – let us know. It's a very enjoyable, sociable and effective way of getting a lot done (dogs and children welcome).



SCHARP recommends...

One of the particular delights of travelling the length and breadth of Scotland is a visit to the local heritage centre or museum. Often run entirely by volunteers, always full of quirky objects and fascinating local information and usually providing the best cake available in an area, we would like to give a special shout out to all local heritage centres and museums. Do seek them out on your travels and support them. The brand new Sanday Heritage Centre will soon have a Burnt Mound next to it – well worth a visit. Eyemouth Museum is now host to a cutting edge digital experience – not to be missed. Bressay Heritage Centre in Shetland is the best place to start your exploration of the history of the Island.

Our other recommendation is for a really simple free photo resizing program called Shrink O'Matic. The software resizes whole batches of photographs, perfect for your ShoreUPDATE photo uploads. Don't be put off by the slightly dodgy looking website. We've tried it and it all works fine. Thanks to Brian in Shetland for telling us about it.

The call is out for contributors for this year's Community Heritage Conference at Crieff Hydro Hotel, on the 8th and 9th of November. If you're involved in a community heritage project, this is your forum to tell people about it and learn about others.

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

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<u>SCAPE</u> 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 <u>Heritage Lottery Fund</u>, <u>Historic Scotland</u>, the <u>Crown Estate</u> and the <u>University of St Andrews</u>.