



Gatliff Hebridean Hostels Trust

www.gatliff.org.uk

newsletter 34

June 2002



Guests, Trustees and Hostellers gather at the beginning of the walk to Rhenigidale on 3rd June 2002, marking the 40th Anniversary of the Gatliff Hostels. (Photo: Petra Clarke)

• SPECIAL 40TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION •

Notes From The Chair

At least six months ago the Executive Committee starting planning a 40th Anniversary event for Rhenigidale and the idea of a walk over the moor along the old access path grew.

During the spring some work was carried out to improve the hostel, and we arranged to have a set of photographs taken of Rhenigidale from the air. Lewis is the sort of place to find someone with a plane who doesn't mind flying to remote parts of Harris and taking some snaps.

On Saturday 1st June a few members did some final smartening up at the hostel and hung up one of the aerial photos, which was taken 40 years to the day after the hostel opened. The numbers of people to expect and the state of the weather were, as ever, unknown until the day.

Monday 3rd June dawned with low cloud and a forecast of rain until evening - not too good, I thought. Nevertheless, at 11.00 in Tarbert there were 18 people waiting to get going over the hills, and after a coffee we set off. Mac Hoskin, the man who found the croft house which became the hostel, was able to join us, which was very good of him. As soon as we started walking the sun came out and the weather got better by the hour. It was a great day to be on the hills - one of the best places in Britain to be enjoying an anniversary!

At the hostel we met Cllr Alex MacDonald, the Convenor of Comhairle nan Eilean Siar (the Western Isles Council as was), who gave a welcome on behalf of the local authority, and Mac Hoskin talked of finding the hostel - it was the first time he had been back to it in 40 years! Philip Lawson MBE, President of SYHA, gave an international perspective to the event by talking of how hostels contribute to greater understanding and friendship between people from different parts of the world.

All in all, a very good day.

Matt Bruce - Chairman
16th June 2002

From The Editor's Chair

It is with regret that I have recently advised the Committee of my need to seriously scale down my involvement with the Trust as I am currently going through the joys of setting up my own business, a micro-brewery, which is demanding massive amounts of my time and commitment. Whilst I will still be able to handle some publicity matters, I will now be standing down as Newsletter Editor.

We already have somebody lined up to take on the Hebridean Hostellers newsletter, but as yet there is still a vacancy for editing the annual 'Crofters Newsletter' which contains excerpts from the hostel logbooks. If you are interested in doing this worthy job for the Trust then please contact myself for further details.

Lawrence Washington - Newsletter Editor

NEWS FROM THE ISLANDS

Royal Visit To Stornoway

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh were greeted by a 5,000 strong crowd in Stornoway, Lewis, on 27th May where they were continuing their tour of Scotland as part of the Golden Jubilee celebrations. The Royal Party joined invited guests representing communities and organisations from throughout the Western Isles in the Town Hall where they were entertained with a selection of Gaelic songs.

Lewis Wind Farm Plans Get An Airing

Plans for a giant wind farm on Lewis (see HH33) were put to the energy industry recently at the All Energy Conference held in Aberdeen. Representatives from the Western Isles Alternative and Renewable Energy Partnership (WIAREP), the group behind the scheme, were joined by members of the Western Isles Enterprise, Stornoway Trust, and Comhairle nan Eilean Siar at the conference to outline the great potential that the Western Isles have to offer the renewables industry. The conference was attended by more than 90 exhibitors and many more delegates from the industry.

GHHT Executive Committee Meetings Report

19/01/02 - Members Forum & Executive Committee - Stirling SYHA

Seven members of the Hebridean Hostellers were able to join us at Stirling for a good discussion covering a number of topics.

- 1) Advance Bookings: Those present were pretty evenly split on whether bookings should or should not be accepted. A suggestion was made that when the hostels are likely to be busy (e.g. Berneray Week) this should be shown on the website, and likewise if the hostels are likely to be slack as this might encourage greater usage. It was suggested that perhaps we should consider taking winter bookings, but that the overall subject be referred to the current membership to see what their views are. *See below*
- 2) The provision of easy chairs in the common rooms was suggested.
- 3) The need for improvements to the showers was expressed.
- 4) Overnight Charges: After a discussion on the financing of the hostels the charges were considered reasonable.
- 5) Keeping Cycle Spares at Hostels: This question was originally raised with the committee last year and on this occasion was put to the members, who did not find favour with the idea, despite there being two keen cyclists present.
- 6) It was suggested that in the newsletters we should take the opportunity to ask members their views on various matters, especially those raised at members forums. In addition we should send out the newsletter by electronic mail to those who could receive it.

In the following Executive Committee meeting the Secretary advised that Historic Scotland would not be able to provide a grant towards the cost of re-thatching the annex at Berneray as they had already received a large number of applications for similar work and the building was not a black house. It was agreed that with sufficient funding now secured the order be placed for the work to go ahead in the spring.

The Treasurer reported that although the overnight figures for 2001 were down slightly on the previous year, they were not as bad as expected after the effects of the Foot & Mouth crisis. There had in fact been a considerable increase in overnights at Howmore.

The Membership Secretary advised that by the end of 2001 membership of the Hebridean Hostellers had reached 266. This was the highest level of membership achieved for a number of years.

Future Meetings

• 14th September 2002 - AGM & Members Forum to be held at Oxford YHA. An invitation will be circulated to members in the area nearer the time, detailing topics for discussion. As always though, all members are welcome to attend. Further details can be obtained from the Secretary. See page 12 for contact.

Advance Bookings - What are your views?

The subject of advance bookings has been kicked backwards and forwards amongst the Committee for a number of years now. At Members Forums the views on this are pretty evenly split, and even the wardens are split on the matter.

We would really appreciate hearing as many views as possible on this. Do you think more visitors would be attracted if they could book in advance? Do you think advance bookings would spoil the very essence of the Gatliff Hostels? If advance bookings were taken, would all the extra work have to be handled by the already busy wardens? Are there any reasonable and practical compromises which could be reached? Please let us know what you think by writing to or emailing any member of the Committee. See back page for addresses.

Newsletter by Email

Only a handful of members have responded to the question of having their newsletter sent by email instead of by post. Although it is perfectly possible to do so, for such a small number it would make very little saving in postage. If any more of you would prefer to receive the newsletter by email only then please email the editor at publicity@gatliff.org.uk

RHENIGIDALE HOSTEL

40TH ANNIVERSARY

MONDAY 3RD JUNE 2002

With a whole day of events organised to celebrate this milestone in the history of the Gatliff Hostels we just needed somebody to organise the weather. The preceding few days had seen frequent heavy showers interspersed with more persistent drizzle. However, those wishing to take part in the walk had been warned to bring adequate waterproof clothing.

Early on the Monday morning four hostellers set out over the path to Tarbert, in the rain, while the rest were conveyed by coach. At the Harris Hotel we met up for tea and coffee, and were joined by others who had stayed in Tarbert overnight, including Mac Hoskin who, having found the hostel in 1961 and helped in its opening the following year, was now returning to Rhenigidale for the first time in forty years. Several walkers took the opportunity to try out some locally brewed real ales now available on draught in the bar; Red Cuillin from Skye and Clansman from Stornoway.

The coach then took the walkers, which included locals from Tarbert and Stornoway, to the beginning of the path over the hills to Rhenigidale. Those more devout decided to walk all the way from Tarbert. The group assembled for photographs before setting off up the track, by which time the earlier clouds and rain were completely clearing across to leave us with a magnificent warm sunny day, ideal for seeing this spectacular coastal walk at its best. A few people decided to go the long way round via the deserted village of Molinginish where they met Simon Frazer, who now owns the croft, at one of the houses which he has renovated.

With people having arrived in Rhenigidale by foot, road, and boat we were all gathered at the hostel by 3pm when some of our special guests then gave speeches. This was followed by an excellent buffet, provided by the First Fruits Tea Room in Tarbert, and a chance for everyone to exchange stories and happy memories from previous visits to the islands. The good weather stayed with us right into the evening, rounding off a very memorable day.



Left to right: Cllr Alex MacDonald, Morag MacDonald, Matt Bruce, Peter Clarke, Jim Crawford, Philip Lawson, Arthur Meaby, Mac Hoskin, and Petra Clarke outside the hostel.



Visitors and hostellers enjoy the afternoon sunshine at Rhenigidale.

GHHT Press Release for 40th Anniversary

Report and photos by Peter Clarke

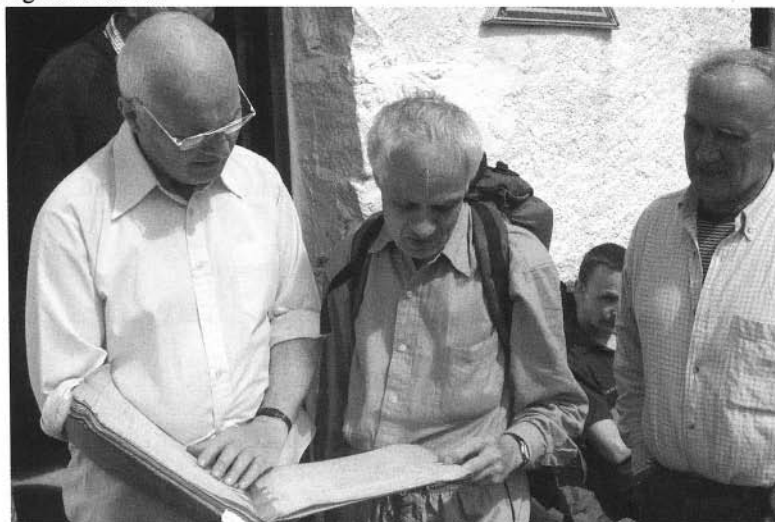
A large group of guests, Trustees and hostellers walked the path to Rhenigidale on 3rd June to celebrate the opening of Rhenigidale Youth Hostel forty years ago. They were greeted at the hostel by Cllr Alex MacDonald, Convenor of Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, accompanied by his wife Mrs Morag MacDonald. Among the walkers was Mac Hoskin, of Shrewsbury, who found and opened the hostel in 1962 and Philip Lawson MBE, President of the Scottish Youth Hostels Association and Vice President of the International Youth Hostel Federation (IYHF).

In welcoming the walkers, Alex MacDonald thanked the Gatliff Trust for their support for Rhenigidale and the three other island communities where there are Gatliff Hostels. "We owe much to Herbert Gatliff not least the fact that over the years some 20,000 people have come to this part of Harris as a direct result of the hostel. As a local authority we are keen to encourage as many people as possible to visit our islands to experience the landscape, climate and culture. This is exactly what the founder of the Gatliff Trust had in mind. He wished to make the countryside accessible, affordable and enjoyable to as many as possible without being too easy." He went on, "the hostel has played its part in securing a road to Rhenigidale. As a former Chairman of Roads and Transport I was proud to be associated with it." The road reached the village in 1991. Cllr MacDonald paid tribute to the late Roddy MacInnes for making the house available and offered a special welcome to Mac Hoskin.

Mac recalled his meeting with Herbert Gatliff in Tarbert in 1961. "Herbert thought that there might be a building available and asked me to investigate. I called at the postman's house, (Tigh na Mara), and met Mrs Marion MacInnes who introduced me to her relation Mr Roddy MacInnes. When I first saw the house the door was hanging off and sheep were wandering in and out. Roddy and Herbert later met in the Harris Hotel where an agreement was reached to allow a hostel to be run in the house for two years. At the time I was a member of the Epsom and Ewell YHA local group and voluntary warden at Achiniver Hostel. I returned on 12th May 1962 to open the hostel."

Upon his arrival at the hostel forty years later Mac was reunited with his original entry in the hostel log book. This book, along with other Gatliff material, is now stored in Stornoway Library but had been made available for the day. Mac revealed that the second person to sign the book had become his wife in 1963.

Philip Lawson congratulated the Gatliff Trust on behalf of the Scottish Youth Hostels Association and the IYHF. Philip is a recipient of the Richard Schirrmann medal, the highest honour of the Youth Hostels movement, named after the founder of the first youth hostel. Philip Lawson told the gathering "Schirrmann worked all his life to strive for international understanding. He was removed from office in the German Youth Hostels Federation by the Nazi because he refused to toe their line. The IYHF believes that these lessons have not been learned, especially in the aftermath of events on 11th September. It has therefore launched an initiative to re-emphasise the importance of youth hostels as a means of developing international understanding and tolerance."



Arthur Meaby reunites Mac Hoskin with his entry in the first Rhenigidale log book.



Chairman Matt Bruce leads some of the walkers over the path.

The Birth of a Hostel

from correspondence by Mac Hoskin

During the summer of 1961 as Herbert Gatliff was making plans to start the Gatliff Trust, Mac Hoskin, a volunteer warden at Achininver hostel, and an active member of Epsom and Ewell YHA Local Group, went over to the Outer Isles to see if he could find a hostel. He met Herbert Gatliff, who was visiting Tarbert, Isle of Harris, for a few days. Herbert had been introduced to the Outer Hebrides after the second world war by John Cadbury, past Chairman of the YHA and its President from 1964 to 1981. He became fascinated by the landscape, people and Gaelic culture and language and was keen to see a hostel opened in the islands. Herbert suggested that Mac go over to the township of Rhenigidale, which he had visited some time before, where there were some empty houses.

The following extracts from Mac Hoskin's correspondence describe that initial journey to the islands in 1961 to find a building suitable for a hostel, and a subsequent trip the following year to open the hostel.

The Search for Hostel Premises

THURSDAY 31/08/61

Crossing on the boat from Kyle to Stornoway there were wonderful views and the sunset over the harbour was really fine. From Herbert's directions I soon found the Y.M.C.A. which contains the Youth Hostel. When I entered the Y.M.C.A. the first person I spoke to didn't know of the Youth Hostel but apparently it was the caretaker/wardens day off so I piled into a small room full of beds, people, boats, bags and scattered mattresses. The hostel is the oddest one I have ever visited. It consists of one packed room - you are promoted to a bed after about three nights - and the use of the club kitchen and toilets.

FRIDAY 01/09/61

After an unsuccessful search for a bike I set out to hitch to Harris. I soon got a lift in a lorry, the first vehicle I thumbed, and after a few miles slight hills improved the scenery. The lorry was only going half way so I got out at Ballallan and decided to walk until I felt like camping. The hills got higher and the scenery finer all the way until I came to an ideal place. I went a short way up a stream overlooking Seaforth Island and Loch. The only drawback to the camp site was the lack of wind and consequent midges. This would be a good area for a Youth Hostel but there appeared to be no vacant buildings. The next morning the midges were even worse. When I met Herbert he said it was the first time in 13 years that he had been attacked by midges in Stornoway.

SATURDAY 02/09/61

I continued in hot breezeless conditions along the Tarbert road for a couple of hours before the first vehicle in my direction gave me a lift to within 2 miles of Tarbert - I had to help fill the radiator but that is a small fare to pay. I found Tarbert to be much as I had expected. I bought some food then walked on a half mile or so to set up my tent by a stream. On returning to the village I was leaning on the wall above the harbour talking to a hosteller down from Stornoway for the day when Herbert turned up. I went back to Herbert's hotel for tea. Herbert can be a bit longwinded but well worth listening to when there is plenty of time and I was in no hurry to go anywhere. My hopes of finding a hostel property keep going up and down but I am much keener on finding one than I was when I set out. My ideas are now a little bigger, and certainly more impatient than

Herbert's. I am looking for a hostel within 10 miles of here and another in South Uist, both with road access. Herbert's preference is a really remote one but I think that should wait until a 'base' hostel has been established. To extend my exploration I have hired a bike; Herbert did the 'finding of the bike'. Mr Cameron sent him to the Post Office, who sent him to the shop across the road who sent him to the driver of the van up the road.

MONDAY 04/09/61

Hopes soar again, today I visited Rhenigidale - note that name - an isolated village about 5½ miles from Tarbert, the last 3½ by an interesting coastal path. Herbert stayed there 6 or 7 years ago and I went to contact the people he stayed with. They were out but from one of the other crofters, there are only four occupied crofts, I heard that two croft houses had recently been vacated. Mr MacInnes, with whom Herbert stayed, is the postman so we will see him in Tarbert tomorrow.

TUESDAY 05/09/61

We have done it! Provided that there are no legal difficulties we have a hostel at Rhenigidale. It isn't quite the ideal spot being a little too far from the mountains but it's moderate remoteness and fine approach have the makings of a 'return again' hostel. Herbert saw Mr MacInnes at Tarbert and I went over the track again. When I got there Mrs MacInnes hadn't heard from Herbert as her husband wasn't due back until 3pm. She gave me tea and we sat talking about her family to discover that one of her daughters lives within a few miles of where I live in Surrey. The young son was sent to fetch Roddy who showed me round the emptycroft house. It looks in good repair, except the door, and very dry. It has two good sized rooms downstairs and two upstairs so it would be just right for a small hostel. The village is a wonderful place. The main approach is along a well built path that zig zags up and down hills with fine views along the coast; extremely dramatic. The village consists of four or five houses and the school in a minute cove, complete with boats. The warm, lived-in atmosphere, in contrast to the wild hills, is increased by Mrs MacInnes's flower garden. On leaving Rhenigidale I was directed onto an old track over the hills to Loch Maarraig. This wet walk over the hills through heavy showers and back again to Tarbert by another, easier track was wonderfully exhilarating.

WEDNESDAY 06/09/61

I went on a ride round South Harris on the hired bike but first there were a few adjustments needed. On an evening trip over a track to Maarraig I found an amusing lack of brakes, luckily I saw that the bridge was missing in time to fall into the heather rather than the stream. The loose cotter pin and self adjusting saddle also needed dealing with. The East coastal road is so dramatic that I went off the road several times due to looking at the scenery instead of the road.

An almost definite arrangement has been made to rent the croft house for two years after which it may be bought!

Return to Rhenigidale

FRIDAY 11/05/62

As I was sitting in the train waiting for it to leave Euston who should appear? It was MacMillan complete with hangers on and a couple of police. Prime Ministers have their uses - the train arrived in Inverness on time. With sunny weather it was the usual beautiful journey past familiar mountains to Kyle. The Loch Seaforth was late sailing but I was asleep most of the calm crossing. I woke up long enough to see Lonbain hostel and to buy my ticket - 19s 4d. As I had a good sleep and it was a fine evening I decided to carry on to Tarbert and Rhenigidale even though the bus had gone. A few lifts got me to Tarbert by 10.40 and I carried on

and arrived about midnight.

SATURDAY 12/05/62

I crept through the village, walked into the hostel and, finding that Roddy had put up one of the beds, went straight to sleep. After breakfast I had a short talk with Roddy before setting off to Tarbert to buy food for a few days and to buy a kettle, frying pan, saucepan and scrubbing brush; that was as much as I could carry. Everyone I speak to seems to approve of the idea of a Youth Hostel in the area.

On returning to the hostel I found Roddy and Alec (the Rhenigidale schoolmaster) fitting the new door. We were rather surprised how well the door fitted the crooked frame and floor. After this we continued with lining one of the upstairs rooms with plasterboard. We eventually finished at 9.30 when we ran out of materials. I was very hungry and the gift of fresh eggs and milk greatly improved my late dinner.

SUNDAY 13/05/62

I tried to do nothing but there is so much to do I did a little inside cleaning - difficult with water from a well several yards away and I haven't got any buckets yet. There was a splash of rain today - the first here for three weeks.

MONDAY 14/05/62

I was going to go into Tarbert this morning but it was pouring so I spent the morning cleaning. In the early afternoon the boat came from Scalpay with an engineer to repair the radio telephone so I took the opportunity to go to Scalpay to buy more equipment for the hostel and to collect some parcel pillows and hurricane lamps and to chase up paraffin that had been ordered. There are still no blankets - I will have to buy some in Stornoway if they don't arrive soon.

The trip to Scalpay was well worthwhile for its own sake. The approach by boat to Rhenigidale is at least equal to that by path. From the sea the approach path looks more dramatic than when one is walking it.

In Perspective

I recall staying at Rhenigidale in May 1984 when Roddy was warden, and one incident involving Roddy I periodically recall with affection.

Roddy was painting some gates and fencing with green paint and it was clear that there was not enough paint in the tin to finish the job. I was chatting to him as he finished off the last of the paint and asked him the rather obvious question about where he would get some more. He replied that he would have to walk into Tarbert over the mountain path the next day (this was in the days before the road), and of course walk back again with the paint. It would take him the best part of a day to simply get some more paint, but he was very calm and philosophical about this.

I always recall this incident when I am decorating or doing DIY at home and realise that I am going to run out of something. My initial reaction is to get irritated and think how inconvenient it is that I cannot get on with the job. It is at this point that I smile and feel a little guilty as I recall Roddy and his more measured reaction to the same situation. Within 30 minutes driving time of my house there must be a dozen or more DIY stores so I can get new supplies and be back working within an hour or so, rather than the whole day that Roddy faced. So I drive to the DIY in a calmer, more thoughtful frame of mind than might otherwise have been the case - thanks to Roddy.

Stephen Moss - Harpenden

HOSTEL NEWS & MAINTENANCE

During April new bedding arrived for the hostels and this was then distributed in the islands by Alan Sidaway. As a result all four hostels now have very plush duvets on all their beds which will really make a difference during the winter months.

Berneray - Work on the re-thatching of the annex commenced in April and was completed in mid June. Neil Nicholson from North Uist undertook the work which incorporates turf as well as thatch. New felt was applied, over which curved wooden batons were secured. This creates an air space to enable the turf, which is placed on top of these batons, to breathe as well as giving extra insulation. Finally, the thatch was applied over the turf.

Many thanks to all those who generously contributed to the appeal fund enabling this work to be carried out.



The curved timbers being applied to the roof. April 2002. (Photo: Lawrence Washington)

Garenin - With the hostel now ten years old the time has come to make some improvements and repairs to the interior of the building. In particular the shower room is in need of considerable attention, with the aim of bringing it up to a similar standard to that now found at Rhenigidale.

In order to raise sufficient funds to carry out this work we are launching the Garenin Hostel Shower Refurbishment Appeal. The excellent work recently completed at Berneray shows just what can be achieved with your generous support. If you are interested in contributing towards the work at Garenin please use the enclosed Appeal leaflet or contact the Secretary. All donations are welcome, however large or small.

Rhenigidale - During January and February MacArthur & Sons builders from Stornoway carried out improvements to the ground floor of the hostel. The shower has been rebuilt including a good sturdy base, and hard-wearing ceramic floor tiles have been laid in the kitchen, entrance area, toilet and shower room. A heavy-duty floor covering has been put down in the common room. In addition Alasdair has acquired a good quality second-hand sofa for the common room from the charity shop in Stornoway. All those present at the 40th Anniversary agreed that it was excellent work and the hostel looked much better for it.

The builders have since returned to attend to the leaking chimney breasts and install a hand rail beside the steps up from the road.

Corncrakes in Residence at Howmore Hostel

Visitors come from around the world to experience the beauty and tranquility of a Hebridean summer. Just off the 'main' single-track road in South Uist, the Howmore hostel is a popular place to stay. Each year however, the summer tourists are kept awake at night by a different type of summer visitor - the call of the male corncrake.

The RSPB Corncrake Officer monitors the corncrake population every year. Uist, Benbecula and Barra together hold almost 50% of the UK population (ca. 260 males). Three males are regularly heard in Howmore. An important site is the small fenced off area in front of the hostel, which acts as the hostel's sewage treatment works. Not only is this reed bed system effective at treating sewage, but because it is fenced off, it has also become a little oasis of suitable vegetation, which corncrakes need. It is especially important as it is surrounded by sheep grazed land.



Please do not try to search the site as a corncrake may be nesting and are easily disturbed. With patience and luck, however, you may be rewarded with a glimpse of this elusive bird. You will certainly hear it! Males attract a female by making a repetitive *crex crex* call throughout the night.

Each summer the RSPB leads a series of guided walks, so if you are planning a trip to Uist, and would like to learn more about this shy and elusive bird, then look out for posters when on Uist, or check out the Balranald reserve web page at www.rspb.org.uk

Gwen Evans, RSPB Conservation Officer, Uist and Barra

For further information please contact Gwen Evans, RSPB Conservation Officer, at gwen.evans@rspb.org.uk or tel: 01870 620369.

Loch Druidibeg National Nature Reserve - 2001

Last year did not start well for us. Because of foot and mouth disease all Reserves with stock were closed to the public for the early part of the year. By the late spring, these restrictions had been relaxed and many visitors were able to enjoy walking on the Reserve over the summer.

In early May local staff together with a small group of volunteers counted the nests of greylag geese on islands in the loch, reaching a grand total of 22 nests.

In September a group from the Scottish Conservation Volunteers came to continue the programme of reducing the rhododendron cover in the plantation. Over a number of years this has allowed trees that formerly were being smothered by vigorous rhododendrons a better growing space, and has opened up areas for natural regeneration. A number of birch trees have sprung up in parts of the open space.

Mary Harman, Scottish Natural Heritage Area Officer, Uist and Barra

For further information visit www.snh.org.uk

Summer Events in the Islands

For those of you who will be visiting the Outer Hebrides over the summer here are some of the popular events which you will be able to see.

Late June

- Uist to Barra Yacht Race
- Sea Angling Championships, Stornoway

July

- Ceolas Music School, South Uist (7th-12th)
- Berneray Week (13th-20th)
- Hebridean Celtic Festival, Stornoway (17th-20th)
- Barra Highland Games, Borge (Early to Mid July)
- North Uist Highland Games, Hosta (Mid July)
- South Uist Highland Games, Askernish (17th)
- Lewis Highland Games, Tong (20th)
- Barra Live Music Festival (Late July)

- Ceol Nis Music Festival, Ness, Lewis (26th-28th)

August

- Fish Festival, Stornoway (Early August)
- Twin Peaks Hill Race, North Uist (Early August)
- Lewis Carnival, Stornoway (Early August)
- Sail Hebrides Maritime Festival (Early August)
- Lewis/Harris Horse Show, Stornoway (Early Aug)
- Harris Arts Festival, Tarbert (2nd week)
- Uist/Benbecula Heritage Events, Uists

Fèisean (festivals) and Agricultural Shows are also held across the islands. Visit: www.witb.co.uk

Publications

Walks from the Gatliff Hostel at Reinigeadal - A guide to the many varied walks available in and around Rhenigidale, beautifully written and illustrated by Neil Pinkett. Includes a brief history of the hostel, the village, and the arrival of the road and electricity. Published by GHHT with all profits going back to the hostels. Available from **Gatliff Hebridean Hostels Trust, 30 Francis Street, Stornoway, Isle of Lewis, Western Isles, HS1 2ND** at £3.50 each (incl. P&P). Cheques payable to **Gatliff Hebridean Hostels Trust**. Currently available at Rhenigidale hostel and from Tarbert & Stornoway Tourist Offices.

Moving House?

If you are moving house or changing address please remember to inform the membership secretary so that we can keep our records up to date and keep you supplied with the latest news from GHHT.

Lawrence Washington - June 2002

ADDRESSES

THE GATLIFF HEBRIDEAN HOSTELS TRUST, 30 Francis Street, STORNOWAY, Isle of Lewis, Western Isles, HS1 2ND. email: ghht@gatliff.org.uk

CHAIRMAN: Matt Bruce, 'Achnaha', Upper Garrabost, Isle of Lewis, Western Isles, HS2 0PN. email: chair@gatliff.org.uk

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY: Peter Clarke, 264 Alexandra Park Road, LONDON, N22 7BG. Tel: 020 8888 2449; Mobile: 0790 999 3863. email: ghht@gatliff.org.uk

SECRETARY: Arthur Meaby, 33 Stratford Close, COLWICK, Nottinghamshire, NG4 2DL.

WORKING PARTY ORGANISER: Alan Sidaway, 'Caimraws', New Galloway, CASTLE DOUGLAS, DG7 3SB. Tel: 01644 420293

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Lawrence Washington, 31 Holmer Crescent, Up Hatherley, CHELTENHAM, Gloucestershire, GL51 3LR. email: publicity@gatliff.org.uk

GHHT WEBSITE: www.gatliff.org.uk