THE 35th

ORKNEY FOLK FESTIVAL

25-28 MAY 2017

PROGRAMME

PER MARE

CELEBRATING THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF STROMNESS BECOMING A BURGH OF BARONY

ORKNEY ISLANDS COUNCIL

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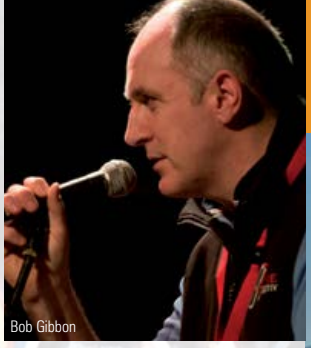

Bob Gibbon

"Well folks, here it is. The 35th Orkney Folk Festival. All grown up now, heading toward middle age, facing up to our responsibilities, but still fitting, (just), into our dancing shoes. This year sees Stromness and Orkney welcome a plethora of star folk artists, old and new, from near and far, traditional and progressive, quiet and not so quiet. As ever we will welcome them all with open arms and warm hospitality. We've got several exciting events for you, not all huge events too. Some are small and well hidden in the programme. Watch out for the St Magnus Way Launch, the Per Mare Foy and four peedie afternoon concerts in Birsay, Sandwick, Deerness and South Ronaldsay. It's going to be a busy weekend. Watch out also for some new local acts; wave after wave of talented young folk coming through our world class musical education system. It's no accident that investment brings results; never more obvious than when our 'not so young' folk come home and stand shoulder to shoulder with the professionals. Tell your friends, it's going to be a good one". – Bob Gibbon • Festival Director

'MON ROUND FOR A BLETHER!

You're here - hurray! Excellent decision. If you agree, we'd love it if you let the world, fellow festival-goers, and those of us in the engine room know you're here, and what's going on across the weekend. Photos, videos, tags, check-ins, hashtags… you know the score.

Wifi and signal permitting, we hope to be making use of Facebook Live here and there this year too, in addition to updating the usual channels throughout the weekend - but please do tag us in to anything you post as well. With so much going on it's often very easy to miss something - and a good scroll through afterwards is great for abating those dreaded festival blues.

@OrkneyFolkFestival @OrkneyFolkFest @OrkneyFolkFest

FUTURE FESTIVAL DATES

With accommodation in Stromness often (re)booked 52 weeks ahead, if not more, we're regularly asked for future festival dates long ahead of the first acts being booked. As a rule, the festival always takes place over the last weekend of May, with the late May Bank Holiday following. Our next couple of festivals will be:

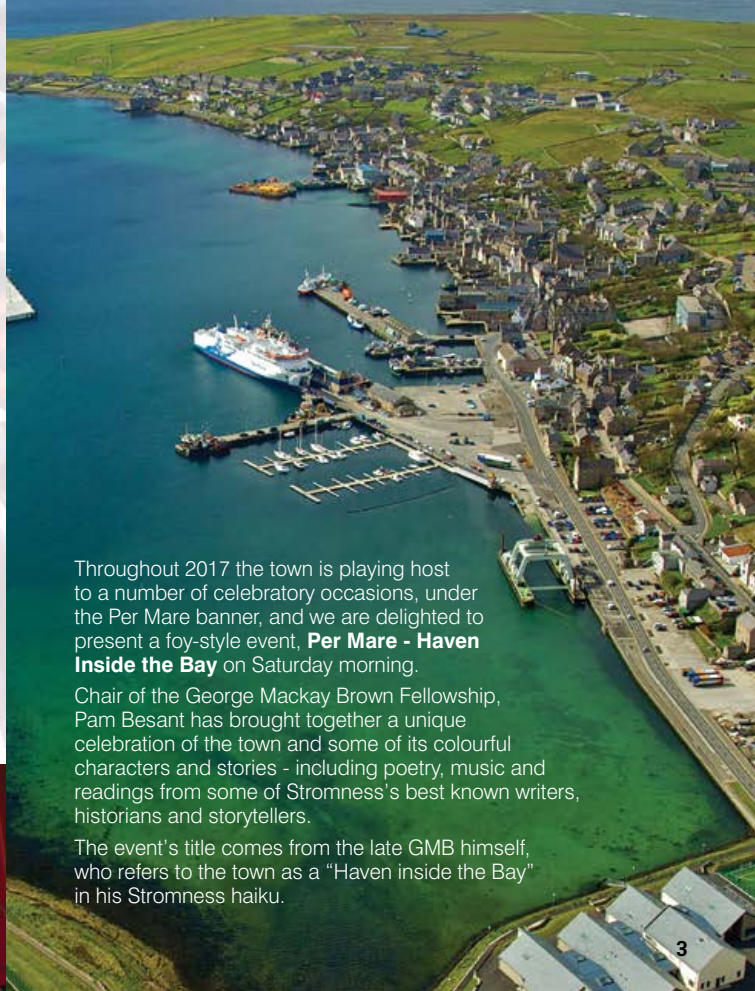
2018 - May 24-27 • 2019 - May 23-26

STROMNESS PER MARE CELEBRATIONS

WELCOME TO STROMNESS - HOME OF THE ORKNEY FOLK FESTIVAL

With its historic winding streets, unique townscape, dramatic aspect and busy harbour, Stromness is a town shaped by the sea. Norsemen named the bay Hamnavoe (*hamna* meaning small islands; *voe* meaning inlet), and the modern name of Stromness reflects a similar meeting of the sea and land: *strom* meaning tidal stream, and *ness* being the peninsula of land which protrudes off the south, creating the sheltered bay.

This year the town celebrates a huge milestone in its history, by marking 200 years since it became a Burgh of Barony - which allowed Stromness to take control of its own affairs and establish a town council. In doing so, the town adopted its motto of 'Per Mare', meaning 'by the sea'; a nod not only to its geographical location, but to the life blood that has sustained the town for generations.



Throughout 2017 the town is playing host to a number of celebratory occasions, under the Per Mare banner, and we are delighted to present a foy-style event, **Per Mare - Haven Inside the Bay** on Saturday morning.

Chair of the George Mackay Brown Fellowship, Pam Besant has brought together a unique celebration of the town and some of its colourful characters and stories - including poetry, music and readings from some of Stromness's best known writers, historians and storytellers.

The event's title comes from the late GMB himself, who refers to the town as a "Haven inside the Bay" in his Stromness haiku.

MAGNUS 900

This year Orkney marks the 900th anniversary of the martyrdom of Magnus Erlendsson, Norse Earl of Orkney and later Orkney's patron saint.
At the time, in 1117 - and for several hundred years either side - Orkney was part of Norway. Until 1470, The Earldom of Orkney was held by the Norwegian Crown, when it was annexed to Scotland upon the two-year non-payment of a marriage agreement between the impoverished Christian I, King of Denmark, Norway and Sweden, and King James III of Scotland.
In line with the Magnus 900 celebrations, we are pleased to present a couple of concerts which look at how Orkney's Norse history and our historical and cultural connections with Norway remain alive within our traditional music.

ST MAGNUS WAY LAUNCH CONCERT

To mark the 900th anniversary of the death of St Magnus, a new walk has been created through Orkney's beautiful countryside. The St Magnus Way is a 51 mile pilgrimage route through Mainland Orkney, inspired by Magnus's life and death. Linking together existing paths and roads with some new lengths of path, its four main sections each offer a very different landscape and reflective space.
The second leg of the St Magnus Way, from Birsay to Dounby, will be launched at a special concert in Birsay on Saturday morning, where concert-goers will have the option of setting off for Dounby directly afterwards.
The concert itself will feature new songs from David McNeish and Sarah Jane Gibbon, a Norwegian connection from Ragnhild Hemsing, whilst Orcadian James Watson will present a specially commissioned work on Hardanger fiddle.
Another thread to this concert will be the involvement of Beatrice Searle and her 'For the Journey and Return' project, which forms part of the Magnus 900 events. She will speak about her specially carved stone, and will walk with it to Dounby as part of her 1300-mile Orkney - Norway journey.
For further information on Magnus 900, head to:
www.magnus900.co.uk

THE ORKNEY-NORWAY CONNECTION

In recent years, the Orkney Heritage Fiddle Project has shone a light upon some of Orkney's best known composers and musicians who are no longer with us, to justly celebrate their contribution to Orkney's own rich folk scene. This year, the project moves towards reflecting upon the isles' cultural connections with Norway, and how our rich shared history is reflected in similar and overlapping musical traditions. OHFP coordinator Dr Gemma McGregor has brought together a special concert - taking place on Friday night in Tankerness - exploring the relationship between Orcadian and Norwegian music. Ragnhild Hemsing will play music for Hardanger fiddle and demonstrate Norwegian dances with her husband, Hallgrim Hansegård. Gemma and Ragnhild will discuss the musical links and local performers Belt Hid Oot, Skeldro and Dave & Co. will play Orcadian music that displays a Norwegian influence.

Ragnhild Hemsing

KRIS DREVER'S MUCKLE GATHERING

Kris Drever

One of Orkney's most prolific musical talents, **Kris Drever** is returning to the Orkney Folk Festival in celebration of his first decade as an acclaimed solo artist and songwriter. His voice and guitar now form a part of the backbone of today's contemporary roots and folk scene, where he is hugely admired as a solo artist, collaborator, and member of folk superstars Lau.

Kris was instrumental in establishing the festival's now mainstay Gathering project, alongside Douglas Montgomery, ahead of its first outing at the 2011 festival. A fluid house-band and guests concept, **Orkney Folk: The Gathering** brought together a never-before-seen cast of Orcadian musicians, from veteran stalwarts to teenage rising stars, and placed them centre stage at the festival. Six years later, the project has taken on a few international guises - including a Transatlantic Gathering, incorporating visitors from the USA and Canada, and a Northern Isles collaboration with Shetland - and has toured to major UK festivals.

This year, we are handing the baton to Kris for what promises to be an incredibly special night. His own touring band - including Louis Abbot (Admiral Fallow) on drums, and renowned double bassist Euan Burton - will be flanked by Orcadian musicians, and a closely-guarded list of very special guest collaborators.

PEEDIE FOLK

Not just for grown-ups; an important part of every Orkney Folk Festival is events for bairns of all ages. Each year we send a good few of the visiting artists out to local primary schools, to give them their own wee taster of the festival, whilst we also schedule events for the whole family to enjoy.

Mountain Ears

This year we are excited to be welcoming Hoy's Sarah McFadyen home to the festival with Giggle Spin Productions, who will present their 'Mountain Ears' family concerts in both Stromness and The Gable End Theatre, Hoy.

Have you ever heard a mountain sing? Three colourful friends - Razz, Pazz and Boing - head off on an adventure to find a mysterious musical mountain. But things don't turn out quite how they expected… some very mysteriously musical things happen during their epic climb. Can Razz, Pazz and Boing make it to the very top? There's only one way to find out - bring the gang along to the festival's Family Concerts!

Mountain Ears is an engaging show for children and adults alike, exploring and revealing the complexities of music, friendship, and aspiration.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

A lot. Or at least a few key differences between our clubs, concerts, ceilidhs and other late night goings-on. We say it time and time again, but 'folk' means a lot of different things to a lot of, well, folk – so we try and make sure that different event formats are suitably labeled, to help you find your way, and ultimately the gig that's right for you. Here's your official guide to what to expect from a few different events.

Afternoon Concerts

A relatively new, yet hugely popular, addition to the festival programme - these are short, one hour concerts without an interval and with minimal amplification, allowing the idyllic acoustic surroundings to do most of the work. The timing and locations of these gigs also allow you to venture out and about and see some of Orkney's stunning landscape too.

Ceilidhs

Our very popular country ceilidhs are true community affairs, and a tale of two halves – a concert running from 7.30pm to around 10pm, and then a traditional dance afterwards, until 1am.
The concert sections each feature three or four acts playing to a fully seated crowd, after which the seats are pushed to the sides of the hall to make way for ceilidh dancing. If you're not familiar with the steps, fear not – the dance band leaders will guide you through the paces. No excuses for sitting on the sidelines!

Festival & Lunchtime Clubs

So popular are these Clubs that they are often amongst the first events to sell out - individually and collectively. They are not the raucous affairs that you might see named Festival Clubs elsewhere, though - but chilled out, cabaret-seated concerts with space for just a hundred folk, and line-ups boasting some of the best music and song on offer over the weekend. At least one is a must in every festival-goers' diary.

Song Clubs

Our Song Clubs are very much reminiscent of early folk clubs – part concert, part sing-around, and an all-round haven for song enthusiasts and tradition bearers. Quiet songs and moving ballads, rousing choruses, and come-all-ye sing-alongs are all at home here – as is just sitting back and lapping up the atmosphere.

Academy Club

Friday night's late night club in the Stromness Academy offers night owls the chance to catch two fantastic groups from across the pond - The East Pointers and Laura Cortese and the Dance Cards – in a fully seated concert, just a bit later into the evening (and indeed morning). As you'd expect with a gig at 10.30pm, though, there may just be a bar, and even a peedie bit of space down the front, should you have your dancing shoes handy.

Laura Cortese and the Dance Cards

The Stomp

Saturday night in the Academy is home to the Stomp. With very limited seating - and strictly first-come, first-served - this is far and beyond a standing/dancing event. It's big, it's loud, it's funky, it's out for a good time… pretty much what you'd expect from a Saturday night on the town.

THE ARTISTES

The Aim Family (Orkney)

Siblings Magnus, Jessica and Graham Aim, from Kirkwall, have been performing together for around five years. Magnus and Jessica both play fiddles, whilst Graham accompanies on guitar, and although this is their first collective Orkney Folk Festival outing they have gone down a treat at numerous local concerts, and are also part of Hadhirgaan and Orkney Strathspey and Reel Society.

The Belkie Allsorts (Orkney)

Sanday's energetic young musicians have been performing as the Belkie Allsorts for just a couple of years, under the leadership of volunteer music tutor David Bowen. The school music group is consistently well received at many of the island's local events.

Belt Hid Oot (Orkney)

Making their third Orkney Folk Festival appearance, this band of young musicians from the West Mainland of Orkney - formed and tutored by music teacher and fiddler, Laura Eunson - boasts many skilled young players and cracking multi-instrumental arrangements. their debut album was released in 2016, incorporating Orcadian, Scottish, Irish Scandinavian and even self-penned tunes.

Big Foot Dance Band (Orkney/Scotland)

With possibly one of the most diverse collective backgrounds imaginable - ska, balkan, bluegrass, indie pop, internative pop, gypsy, country, folk, traditional Irish, reggae, western swing, jazz and experimental - the Big Foot Dance Band are guaranteed to sweep you off your feet in an unforgettable ceilidh experience. All highly seasoned musicians in playing for traditional and ceilidh dancing, the group covers all of your favourite and classic dances, delivered with a touch of old-timey, swingy, rocking fun.

Blazin' Fiddles (Scotland/Orkney)

Blazin' Fiddles

Originally formed for a one-off tour of the Highlands, some 18 years later Blazin' Fiddles are still raising roofs far and wide as one of Scotland's foremost folk groups. With a 'Blazers' performance comes the rare opportunity to hear regional expressions from Scotland's Highlands and islands, and the individual style from each fiddler – Inverness' Bruce MacGregor, Shetlander Jenna Reid, Nairn's Rua Macmillan, and Orkney's own Kristan Harvey – in a blend of ensemble and solo sets. Fiddles and bows ignite atop guitar and piano from Anna Massie and Angus Lyon, delivering a musically intoxicating evening for all.

Bruce Mainland (Orkney)

Orcadian Bruce, from Rousay, is an all-round entertainer, and a regular face at The Reel in Kirkwall. An accomplished multi-instrumentalist and vocalist, he certainly knows how to hold a crowd, with song topics ranging from the sublime to the bizarre – as showcased on his album, The Lang Road Doon.

The Chair (Orkney)

An annual festival highlight is The Chair at Saturday night's Stomp. If you've not seen this multi-instrumental band before, be prepared for dancing, jumping around, shouting and clucking (yes indeed). With their third CD release on the horizon, this award winning band has travelled far and wide in its ten-plus years, but somehow returning to where it all began is just that extra bit special...

David Bowen Dance Band (Orkney)

A veteran of many BBC Radio Scotland Take the Floor broadcasts, accordionist and dance band leader David regularly performs across Scotland, and has enjoyed playing at various dances throughout Orkney since moving to Sanday nearly three years ago.

The Driftwood Cowboys (Orkney)

Three parts Orkney and one part Nashville… The Driftwood Cowboys sound like no other band in the isles today. Their songs and tunes portray a landscape of Shopping Week Queens, blackening and barbed wire beer… local stories sung to the universal tune of the blues, old time country and folk.

The East Pointers (Canada)

The East Pointers

JUNO Award winners, The East Pointers are an exhilarating trio, and one of Eastern Canada's most talked about groups in recent years. Cousins Tim Chaisson (fiddle/vocals) and Koady Chaisson (banjo/vocals/step-dance) are from the seventh generation of renowned Chaisson musicians from Prince Edward Island, and here join with guitarist Jake Charron from Ontario. With each member an accomplished performer and multi-instrumentalist in their own right, the trio's union produces an easily identifiable trademark of Celtic-influenced tunes and songs that have very quickly established them as a formidable force in many corners of the world.

Eddi Reader

Eddi Reader (Scotland)

One of Scotland's most prolific and instantly recognisable voices, Eddi Reader needs little introduction. From topping the chats with Fairground Attraction in the 1980s, and winning three BRIT Awards, to her heralded reworking of the songs of Robert Burns and subsequent solo albums, hers is a career like no other. From the traditional to the contemporary, Eddi brings joyous life to all forms of song; her rare blend of meltingly true vocals and towering romanticism combine with an astute and pragmatic nature to make her a unique and powerful figure in contemporary British music.

Elephant Sessions (Scotland)

Recently nominated as Live Act of the Year at the MG Alba Scots Trad Music Awards 2016, fiery Highland five-piece Elephant Sessions are a musical powerhouse, welding weapons-grade grooves and guitar attack with quicksilver fiddle/mandolin melodies. The group fuses folk and trad with funk and electronica in an instantly captivating, progressive, visceral blend. Winners of Up and Coming Artist of the Year at the 2014 'Trad Awards, in just a few short years the group has already become renowned for breathtaking live shows, taking the festival scene well and truly by storm.

Elephant Sessions

Eric Linklater (Orkney)

Having started on his musical path with the Orkney Traditional Music Project, Eric graduated from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland in 2016, with a BA (Hons) in Scottish Folk Music. Under the tutelage of Jennifer Wrigley, he recorded his debut CD at just 17 years old, and has since gone on to perform in venues as diverse as Kirkwall's St Magnus Cathedral, and Glasgow's 13,000 capacity Hydro arena. Known for his warm, light, lyrical fiddle style, Eric was awarded the Martin Bennett scholarship in June 2016.

Flook

Flook (England/Ireland)

One of the most innovative and exciting live acts in the UK, Flook are making a hotly-anticipated return to the festival, some 16 years since their last visit! Whilst there is no shortage of virtuosity amongst the individual members, the group's unrivalled impact stems from the wholly intuitive, almost symbiotic exchange between the various flutes, frets and skins. Brian Finnegan and Sarah Allen's flutes intertwine with the guitar of Ed Boyd and John Joe Kelly's bodhran as one breathtaking and groundbreaking sound.

Freddie Pretorious (Orkney)

Freddie is a singer-songwriter and multi instrumentalist living and working in Kirkwall. Having first picked up the fiddle at the age of just six, and with his roots firmly established in Scottish traditional music, he currently focuses on contemporary acoustic songs, mostly self-accompanied on the guitar or piano. His repertoire comprises a range of self-penned songs along with cover versions by the likes of Ed Sheeran, Alt-J, Bob Dylan and Neil Young.

The Gablos (Orkney)

The Gablos are Jamie Marwick (fiddle), Neil Sabiston (accordion) and Tom Robinson (guitar). With all three showing a keen interest in music from an early age, the trio previously played together throughout the county as part of a ceilidh band, before stepping out into the big bad world of adulthood. After some nine years, they have regrouped and are enjoying making music together again. With a good variety of slow and up-tempo tunes these lads are sure to have your hands clapping and your toes tapping!

Gnoss (Orkney/Scotland)

Making their debut appearances in the county in their newly-expanded line-up, Gnoss is the award-winning pairing of Orcadians Graham Rorie and Aidan Moodie, alongside Connor Sinclair and Gregor Kincaid. A dynamic new four-piece of fiddle, flute, guitar, percussion and song, and all current students at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, they have been tipped as "ones to watch" by Songlines magazine, for their lively, engaging and honest performances.

Graham Low and friends (Orkney)

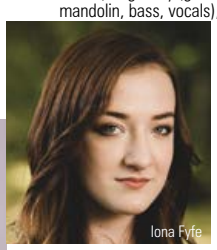
At just 21 years old, fiddle player Graham is already a very well known face in Orkney's folk scene. A two-time Danny Kyle Award winner, Graham won one of the coveted Celtic Connections trophies in 2010 as part of Broken Strings, and then again in 2013 alongside guitarist Jack Kirkpatrick. Now one third of The Eastie Boys, when not on stage with fiddle in hand Graham can most regularly be found presiding over sales from the box at Orkney's Auction Mart.

Hadhirgaan (Orkney)

A rolling army of young musicians who attend Kirkwall Grammar School, led by instrumental instructor Douglas Montgomery (also of Saltfishforty, and The Chair), Hadhirgaan never cease to impress with their unique, driving, contemporary sound. The first line-up of the group appeared at the festival nearly two decades ago, and in that time Hadhirgaan has produced an astounding number of now well-known players.

Hullion (Orkney)

Firmly established as an Orcadian institution, now in their 27th year as a group, Hullion are a real crowd-pleaser; fine songs and splendid tunes interspersed with winning banter. These seasoned multi-instrumentalists - Andy Cant (fiddle, mandolin, bagpipes), Billy Jolly (harmonica, vocals), Ingi Jolly (guitar, vocals), Micky Austin (tenor banjo, mandolin) and Owen Tierney (guitar, mandolin, bass, vocals), combine an array of instruments to great effect.


Iona Fyfe

Iona Fyfe (Scotland)

A BBC Radio Scotland Young Traditional Musician of the Year finalist in 2017, Iona performs songs of her native Aberdeenshire and showcases the unique, rich balladry of the North East. A singer nurtured by revivalist and source singers, her band creates powerful and emotive music sympathetic to tradition.

James Grieve (Orkney)

A multi-instrumentalist from Rousay, James is best known for being a dab hand on the accordion. Having given his first solo performance on the evening of his first lesson at the age of just eight, he has now been playing for nearly two decades, covering blues and classical styles, alongside folk and traditional - as well as the occasional song.

James Watson (Orkney)

James is one of Orkney's most contemporary and dynamic young musicians, both as part of the folk scene and through his work composing for film. Having studied in Orkney, Norway and Glasgow, he has developed his own unique sound influenced by folk, classical and electronic music, utilising his varied influences and carefully weaving them together to form a surprisingly organic style. Using violin, Hardanger fiddle, guitar, synthesisers and loops, his performances are as technical as they are musically ambitious - and altogether compelling.

Jeffrey Foucault

Jeffrey Foucault (USA)

One of the finest songwriters of his generation, Jeffrey Foucault has taken, in his own words, "the small roads;" building a brick and mortar independent international touring career of ten studio albums and countless miles across North America, Europe and the UK. From Whitewater, Wisconsin, and now based in New England, his terse brand of minimalist Americana marries influences of country, folk, blues and rock and roll, with an openness and dimensionality that beckons the listener further in.

Jenny Keldie and Brian Cromarty (Shetland/Orkney)

An immensely popular vocal duo, both based in Orkney, Jenny and Brian released their debut album, First Light, three years ago. Here they present a collection of songs from Orkney, Shetland, and other places - also in the world.

Jo Philby (Orkney)

An expressive and soulful singer, Jo Philby has been a welcome addition and firm fixture in the Orkney folk scene for over a decade now, with her blend of folk, Americana-flavoured and contemporary songs. She has two albums under her belt, with her third due to be released this summer. Jo regularly tours Scotland and England with Elaine Grieve, who provides vocal harmonies alongside skilled accompaniment on mandola and guitar.

Kris Drever (Orkney)

One of Orkney's most prolific musical sons, Kris Drever's voice and guitar now form a part of the backbone of today's contemporary roots and folk scene. Hugely admired as a solo artist, collaborator, and member of folk superstars Lau, he is a phenomenal and prolific artist. Having released three heralded solo albums - Black Water, Mark the Hard Earth, and 2016's If Wishes Were Horses - Kris returns to the Orkney Folk Festival in celebration of his first decade as an acclaimed solo artist and songwriter.

Laura Cortese and the Dance Cards (USA)

Propelled by inspired fiddle and cello playing, warm vocals, and arresting original songs, Laura Cortese and the Dance Cards have emerged as one of the most intriguing, versatile, and refreshing groups in the bountiful New England scene. With a sound that is both bold and elegant - schooled in the lyrical rituals of folk music whilst backed by grooves that alternately inspire Cajun two-stepping and rock-n-roll hip swagger - their four voices are as core as the instruments they wield, and as much instruments as they are providers of both lyric and harmony.

Marianne McGregor (Orkney)

From Orkney and now based in Glasgow, Marianne McGregor is a jazz singer and songwriter. A recent graduate of the Academy of Music & Sound Glasgow, and winner of a Danny Kyle Award at Celtic Connections 2017, she finds influence in singers such as Billie Holiday, Ella Fitzgerald and Amy Winehouse, incorporating a gritty tone into her smooth jazz vocal whilst using improvisation to play with tone and texture.

Martin Hayes and Dennis Cahill (Ireland/USA)

Martin Hayes is regarded as one of the most extraordinary talents to emerge in the world of Irish traditional music. His unique sound, his mastery of the fiddle and his acknowledgement of the past and his shaping of the future of the music combine to create an astonishing and formidable artistic intelligence. Dennis Cahill, of Chicago, is a master guitarist, and his spare, essential accompaniment to Hayes' fiddle is widely acknowledged as a major breakthrough for guitar in the Irish tradition. Together they are a truly world-class act.

Martin Hayes and Dennis Cahill

The McFaddyWaddys (Orkney)
Hoy family band The McFaddyWaddys are Ian McFadyen, Sarah McFadyen and Joel Sanderson, who play guitars, banjo, fiddle, saw, double bass and cello, forging their own distinct "Hoy Hillbilly" style. Having appeared at the Hoy Hoolie in both 2015 and 2016, they are making their collective Orkney Folk Festival debut this year, joined by Cammy Sinclair and Tia Files.

The Michael Harcus Family (Orkney)
Renowned for their close family harmonies, Michael and Teenie Harcus are singer/songwriters from Westray, and spend much of their time traveling throughout the UK and abroad, singing in various venues and churches. Joined this year by their son, Matthew, Michael and Teenie are also proprietors of the popular Westray venue, The Graand Owld Byre, which hosts weekly concerts throughout the summer.

Mountain Ears (Orkney/Scotland)
An engaging show for children and adults alike, Mountain Ears explores and reveals the complexities of music, friendship, and aspiration. Joel Sanderson, Sarah McFadyen and Cammy Sinclair combine their many talents within music, storytelling, clowning, prop-making and years working together in children's entertainment to bring together a magical family show. Here they are joined by guitarist and percussionist extraordinaire, Tia Files, completing their crazy, fun and supremely talented musical crew. See page 5 for further information on this year's family shows.

Noust (Orkney)
New Sanday quartet Noust are already a very popular group. Teenage schoolmates Bryony, Lauren, Finn and Ebony combine tight vocal harmonies with ukuleles and percussion to spine-tingling effect, as seen at numerous local events, social evenings and dances, and live on BBC Radio Orkney during Children in Need 2016.

Orkney Accordion and Fiddle Club (Orkney)
Club of the Year at the 2015 MG Alba Scots Trad Music Awards, the Orkney Accordion and Fiddle Club welcomes players to meet weekly in a friendly atmosphere, and throughout the summer host hugely popular monthly guest nights. A mainstay of Orkney's traditional scene, the club has been playing together regularly since the late 1970s.

Orkney Folk Festival Choir (Orkney)
For the third year in a row, renowned Orcadian singer and instrumentalist Aimee Leonard is back leading the Orkney Folk Festival choir. Two vocal masterclasses held on Saturday and Sunday mornings will culminate with a performance opening the Sunday Supplement concert. If you fancy getting involved and taking to the stage, further information is on page 17.

Orkney Heritage Fiddle Project (Orkney)
Headed up by Gemma McGregor, the OHFP seeks to research and preserve Orkney music and local playing styles, whilst also shining a spotlight on some of the county's most prolific players no longer with us. Since 2010, the project has focused on the work of Jim Craigie, Davy Eunson, Ronnie Aim, Allie Windwick, Gordon Harvey, the Garson Trio, Jackie Sinclair, and this year explores connections with Norway.

Orkney Mandolin Group (Orkney)
A new addition to Orkney's social music scene, the Orkney Mandolin Band brings together like-minded mandolin enthusiasts for fortnightly gatherings in Kirkwall's Sailing Club. New players are always welcome, as are those who just fancy sitting back and enjoying some cracking tunes.

Orkney Strathspey and Reel Society (Orkney)
The Orkney Strathspey and Reel Society is highly regarded as one of the county's most respected and established musical groups. Founded in 1948, with leader George Stewart, it originally boasted an impressive membership of 28 which included fiddle, guitar and accordion. Members of the society have included many 'weel kent' Orcadian musicians such as Pat Shearer, Ronnie Aim, Hugh Inkster, Davy Eunson and Jennifer and Hazel Wrigley. The Society currently has around 35 members, including a junior section, and will see their 70th anniversary in 2018.

Orkney Traditional Music Project (Orkney)
Another national award-winning community group, the OTMP formed in 1998 to nurture traditional accordion and fiddle playing in the county, and has now tutored well over 1,000 students. Demonstrating that Orkney's traditional music is in very good hands, the project has helped to establish many fine fiddlers and accomplished accordionists – many of whom now appear elsewhere in this programme.

Ragnhild Hemsing

Ragnhild Hemsing (Norway)
An artist of astonishing virtuosity and versatility, Ragnhild Hemsing hails from the heartland of Norwegian folk music, Valdres. One of the country's most celebrated contemporary classical violinists, she is equally skilled on the Hardanger fiddle, and, having been brought up immersed in the country's rich folk traditions, uniquely and seamlessly merges the two genres into one spellbinding repertoire. Her personal connection to Norway's musical heritage is evident in her great love of performing music with strong links to folk idioms, from throughout the world.

Robin Nicolson (Orkney)
Orkney-born Robin has been singing locally since the tender age of seven, and has undertaken many differing styles and singing collaborations, including musical theatre, choirs and alongside Scottish Country Dance Bands. From all of these, though, it is towards solo singing that he invariably returns, with a large section of his repertoire coming from locally-composed songs; "some humorous, some serious…".

Saltfishforty (Orkney)
As Saltfishforty, Douglas Montgomery (fiddle/viola) and Brian Cromarty (voice/guitar/mandola) brilliantly transcend the duo format's conventional confines. Their focus on Orkney music takes in traditional, contemporary and original material, boldly cross-fertilised with influences from Americana to East European folk, plus a high-octane whiff of heavy metal. The result is a sound of equally thrilling raw attack and multi-dimensional richness, as showcased on their fifth album, Bere, being launched at the festival.

Sarah Jane Gibbon (Orkney)
Sarah Jane is a local singer from Harray whose musical journey has taken her from Allie Windwick through to her work with the Big Orkney Song Project and the Song Shop Trio. A lifelong performer of Orkney song, she is also an accomplished songwriter, whose songs are influenced by her love of Orkney's heritage.

Scott Gardiner (Scotland)
Scott is one of Scotland's top traditional singers, and has been performing at concerts and festivals across the country since his schooldays. Brought up on a farm near Forfar, he is best known for singing the bothy ballads and songs of the north-east, having a particular love for his local Angus folk songs.

Skeldro (Orkney)
A relatively new addition to the Orkney folk scene, Skeldro play and arrange a variety of traditional Orcadian, Shetland and Scottish tunes. Skilled young fiddle players Emma, Fiona and Ewen are joined by Andrew on piano, and can be seen performing at local events, weddings and concerts.

Stella Kirkpatrick (Orkney)
Stella is the youngest of the very talented Kirkpatrick family from South Walls. She sings, plays the piano and is also a fiddler in KGS group Hadhirgaan - certainly one to watch for the future.

Stromness RBL Pipe Band (Orkney)
The Stromness Royal British Legion Pipe Band prides itself in being a community band, with membership open to all. As such, the thriving band is made up from folk in all walks of life – school bairns to pensioners – who have won a host of accolades, including the RBL overall championships, North of Scotland Quartets and Miniband champions in Grades 4 and 3.

Talisk (Scotland)
BBC Radio 2 Young Folk Award winners in 2015, Talisk are one of the fastest rising bands on the UK folk scene. Mohsen Amini (concertina, also the 2016 BBC Radio Scotland Young Traditional Musician of the Year), Hayley Keenan (fiddle) and Craig Irving (guitar) create a captivating, energetic and dynamic sound that has earned them wide-reaching acclaim. With appearances at world-leading festivals including Cambridge, Fairport's Cropredy Convention and Denmark's Tønder, as well as live sessions on both BBC Radio 2 and BBC Radio Scotland, theirs is a star firmly, and rapidly, on the ascent.

Talisk

Teebro (Orkney)
These three well known local musicians and festival regulars combine self-penned titles with Scandinavian, Balkan, Scottish and Irish tunes and influences. Teebro mixes the collective talents of Gavin Firth (guitar), James Watson (fiddle), and Dan Rhodes (double bass) to enthralling effect.

Tom Orr Band (Scotland)
One of the brightest and leading exponents of Scottish Dance Band music, Tom Orr presents a youthful approach to an idiom steeped in tradition; pushing boundaries and challenging his team to explore alternative influences, creating an innovative sound that is truly unique within the genre. With sets ranging from vintage pipe tunes to hot-off-the-press compositions, duets and adventurous reels combined with a formidable technical prowess, variety is very much the name of the game.

West Mainland Strathspey and Reel Society (Orkney)
Having recently celebrated their diamond jubilee, the West Mainland Strathspey and Reel Society are your hosts for the annual Orkney Folk Festival Fiddlers' Rally. From small beginnings, the society now welcomes more than 50 fiddlers and accordionists, aged 8 to 80+, to their weekly rehearsals and performances throughout the county.

The Wrigley Sisters (Orkney)
Jennifer and Hazel Wrigley are an internationally acclaimed Orcadian fiddle and guitar duo. Having toured the world several times over, they have been resettled back in Orkney for well over a decade now, running The Reel, their hugely successful music centre and venue, in Kirkwall alongside occasional continued touring. Together they combine boundless musical dexterity and vitality with Orcadian wit and good fun – an altogether class act.

The Young'Uns (England)
Renowned for their pitch perfect harmonies and rapid fire humour, multi-award winners The Young'uns have built a formidable reputation as one of the UK's leading folk song outfits, with a-capella or minimally-accompanied songs that tell it how it is. Self-penned titles sit comfortably alongside traditional material from their native North-East England; songs of conscience, songs of warmth and wit, songs to provoke, and songs to inspire.

The Young'Uns

Thursday 25th May

1 7.30pm **Opening Concert** — £20/£16/£10 c.£8
Stromness Town Hall
Martin Hayes and Dennis Cahill
Blazin' Fiddles
The East Pointers
Orkney Strathspey and Reel Society
Stromness RBL Pipe Band
Sponsor - The Stromness Hotel

2 7.30pm **Stenness Concert** — £15 c.£8
Stenness Community Centre
Elephant Sessions
Ragnhild Hemsing
Graham Low and friends
The Gablos
Sponsor - Lows Orkney Ltd.

3 7.30pm **Burray Concert** — £15 c.£8
Burray Hall
Laura Cortese and the Dance Cards
The Young'Uns
Hadhirgaan
Hullion
Sponsor - Clark Thomson Insurance Brokers

4 7.30pm **Deerness Concert** — £15 c.£8
Deerness Community Centre
Kris Drever
The McFaddyWaddys
Eric Linklater
The Michael Harcus Family
Sponsor - Orkney PC

5 10.30pm **Festival Club** — £20
Stromness Hotel
Jeffrey Foucault
Talisk
Jenny Keldie and Brian Cromarty
Sponsor - Peedie Pieces

6 10.30pm **Song Club** — £8
The Royal Hotel, Stromness
Iona Fyfe
Freddie Pretorious
Hosted by **Scott Gardiner**
Sponsor - The Royal Hotel

Martin Hayres and Dennis Cahill

Tom Orr

Jeffrey Foucault

Friday 26th May

7 7. 12noon **Lunchtime Club** — £15
Stromness Hotel
Gnoss
Iona Fyfe
Bruce Mainland
Sponsor - E. Flett Butcher

8 3.30pm **Afternoon Concert** — £12
Skaill House, Sandwick
Ragnhild Hemsing
Sponsor - K4 Graphics

9 7.30pm **Kris Drever's Muckle Gathering**
Stromness Town Hall — £20/£16/£10 c.£8
Kris Drever plus very special guests
see page 5 for further information
Sponsor - EMEC Ltd.

10 7.30pm **Birsay Ceilidh** — £18 c.£10
Birsay Community Hall
Flook
Elephant Sessions
The McFaddyWaddys
The Aim Family
Dance - **Tom Orr Band**
Sponsor - Fluke Jewellery

11 7.30pm **The Orkney-Norway Connection**
St Andrews Community Centre, Tankerness — £14 c.£7
Ragnhild Hemsing
Orkney Heritage Fiddle Project
Belt Hid Oot
Skeldro
see page 4 for further information
Sponsor - Scotrenewables Tidal Power Ltd.

12 7.30pm **Sanday Ceilidh** — £10 c.£5
Sanday Community Centre
The Young'Uns
Talisk
Noust
The Belkie Allsorts
Dance - **David Bowen Dance Band**
Sponsor - The Long Partnership

13 10.30pm **Festival Club** — £20
Stromness Hotel
Martin Hayes and Dennis Cahill
Blazin' Fiddles
Teebro
Sponsor - Huskyan Dive Charters

14 10.30pm **Song Club** — £8
The Royal Hotel, Stromness
Jeffrey Foucault
Stella Kirkpatrick
Hosted by **Scott Gardiner**
Sponsor - Mirek Borek

15 10.30pm **Academy Club** — £15
Stromness Academy
The East Pointers
Laura Cortese and the Dance Cards
Sponsor - Glassel Gigs

Saturday 27th May

16 10.00am **St Magnus Way Launch Concert** **£6**

St Magnus Church, Birsay

To mark the 900th anniversary of the martyrdom of St Magnus, Orkney's patron saint, a new walk has been created through the county's beautiful countryside. The St Magnus Way is a new 51 mile pilgrimage route through Mainland Orkney, inspired by the life and death of Magnus - and this concert launches the second leg, from Birsay to Dounby.

see page 4 for further information.

17 11.00am **Per Mare - Haven inside the Bay** **£6**

The Royal Hotel, Stromness

A celebration of the town of Stromness, and some of its colourful characters and stories; from its first beginnings, through its long connection with the Hudson's Bay Company, and its role through two world wars, to the present day. With poetry, music, and readings from some of Stromness's best-known writers, historians and storytellers.

see page 3 for further information.

Sponsor - Stromness Community Council

18 12noon **Lunchtime Club** **£15**

Stromness Hotel

Laura Cortese and the Dance Cards
Tom Orr Band
Jo Philby

Sponsor - Hamnavoe Hostel

19 1.00pm **Saltfishforty 'Bere' - Album Launch Party** **£15/£10/£7 c.£6**

Stromness Town Hall

Saltfishforty
plus special guests

Sponsor - Scholes Chartered Accountants

1.00pm **Music in St Magnus** **free**

St Magnus Cathedral, Kirkwall

Orkney Traditional Music Project

20 2.00pm **Family Concert** **£10 c.£5**

Stromness Academy

Mountain Ears

see page 5 for more information

Sponsor - Argo's Bakery

21 2.30pm **Afternoon Concert** **£12**

St Ninan's Kirk, Deerness

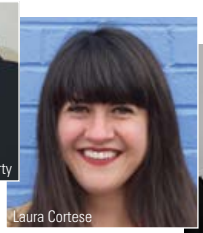
The Young'Uns

Please note that the Kirk is accessed via a single track road - audience members are encouraged to park at the Deerness Community Centre and accept shared lifts from there, allowing plenty of time to do so.

Please also be aware that this picturesque, acoustically brilliant church has no toilet facilities, however those at the Community Centre will be made available after the concert.

Sponsor - Grooves

Saltfishforty


Laura Cortese

Jo Philby

Saturday 27th May

3.00pm **Open Stage** **free**

Stromness Hotel

see page 17 for further information on how to take part.

22 7.30pm **Stromness Concert** **£20/£16/£10 c.£8**

Stromness Town Hall

Martin Hayes and Dennis Cahill
Flook
James Watson

Sponsor - The Ferry Inn

23 7.30pm **Pickaquoy Concert** **£24 c.£12**

The Pickaquoy Centre, Kirkwall

Eddi Reader
Jeffrey Foucault
Gnoss

Sponsor - Swannay Brewery

24 7.30pm **Harray Ceilidh** **£18 c.£10**

Harray Community Centre

Blazin' Fiddles
Ragnhild Hemsing
James Grieve
Robin Nicolson
Dance - **Tom Orr Band**

Sponsor - Aurora Jewellery

25 7.30pm **Longhope Ceilidh** **£10 c.£5**

YM Hall, Longhope

Laura Cortese and the Dance Cards
Iona Fyfe
The McFaddyWaddys
Dance - **Big Foot Dance Band**

Sponsor - The Long Partnership

26 10.30pm **Festival Club** **£20**

Stromness Hotel

The East Pointers
Kris Drever
The Wrigley Sisters

Sponsor - Glassel Gigs

27 10.30pm **Song Club** **£8**

The Royal Hotel, Stromness

The Young'Uns
Noust
Hosted by **Scott Gardiner**

Sponsor - Highland Park

28 10.30pm **The Stomp** **£15**

Stromness Academy

The Chair
Elephant Sessions

Sponsor - Aquatera Ltd.

Elephant Sessions

Sunday 28th May

11.15am **Morning Service**
Stromness Church of Scotland
A favourite with many festival goers. All are welcome to sing hymns to traditional, well-known tunes, whilst various acts also feature in short spots.

29 12noon **Family Concert** **£7 c.£3**
The Gable End Theatre, Lyness, Hoy
Mountain Ears
see page 5 for more information
Sponsor - The Long Partnership

30 2.00pm **Sunday Supplement** **£20/£16/£10 c.£8**
Stromness Town Hall
Eddi Reader
Blazin' Fiddles
Flook
Talisk
Orkney Folk Festival Choir
Sponsor - ICIT, Heriot-Watt University

31 2.00pm **Fiddlers' Rally** **£7 c.£3**
Stromness Academy
West Mainland Strathspey and Reel Society
Orkney Strathspey and Reel Society
Orkney Accordion and Fiddle Club
Guest: **Orkney Mandolin Group**
see page 17 for further information on how to take part
Sponsor - Northvet

32 2.00pm **Sunday Song Club** **£8**
Stromness Hotel
The Young'Uns
Iona Fyfe
Hosted by **Scott Gardiner**
Sponsor - Royal British Legion, Stromness

33 2.00pm **St Margaret's Hope Concert** **£15 c.£8**
The Cromarty Hall, St Margaret's Hope
The East Pointers
Laura Cortese and the Dance Cards
The Driftwood Cowboys
Marianne McGregor
Sponsor - Sutherland's Pharmacy

34 2.30pm **Sunday Tipple** **£15**
Orkney Brewery, Quoyloo
Jeffrey Foucault
Sponsor - TwentyTwo Promotions

35 6.30pm **Farewell Concert One** **£24/£20/£12 c.£10**
Stromness Town Hall
Eddi Reader
Laura Cortese and the Dance Cards
Kris Drever
Talisk
Ragnhild Hemsing
Gnoss
The McFaddyWaddys
Marianne McGregor
Sponsor - Orkney Fishermen's Society

36 7.00pm **Farewell Concert Two** **£24 c.£10**
Stromness Academy
Blazin' Fiddles
Flook
The East Pointers
Jeffrey Foucault
The Young'Uns
Elephant Sessions
Iona Fyfe
Open Stage Winner
Sponsor - The Royal Hotel

JOINING IN

Sarah Allen and Brian Finnegan – Flute and Whistle workshop

Whilst we've squeezed just about as many gigs as possible into just four days, there are also a number of opportunities over the festival weekend where you can take part. Whether you fancy a spot taking to the stage yourself, trying your hand at something new, or picking up some skills from a master craftstperson, we hope that there's something to take your fancy.

WORKSHOPS

With it being some 16 years since Flook were last up at the festival, we are absolutely delighted to not only have them on the ground for three days - but also to have the band leading workshops too. Not to be missed!
Please bring your own instruments to the workshops.

BODHRAN – John Joe Kelly – Saturday, 3pm (1hr) - £10

FLUTE AND WHISTLES – Sarah Allen and Brian Finnegan – Saturday, 3pm (1hr) - £10

GUITAR ACCOMPANIMENT – Ed Boyd – Saturday 3pm (1hr) - £10

ORKNEY FOLK FESTIVAL CHOIR – Aimee Leonard – Saturday and Sunday, 12noon (2hrs, both days) - £10 per day

Back for a third year, the Orkney Folk Festival Choir returns with Aimee Leonard at the helm of two group singing masterclasses – ahead of a performance in the Stromness Town Hall as part of the Sunday Supplement afternoon concert. Attendance across both days is necessary if you wish to participate in the concert.
All workshops take place in Stromness Community Centre. Places are limited, so we strongly recommend advance booking online, at:
www.orkneyfolkfestival.com

OPEN STAGE

The Open Stage is – as it says on the tin – a stage open to all: soloists or groups; singers, musicians or both. With a billed slot at next year's festival up for grabs, in return for just a 10 minute acoustic set, it's a hard (but friendly) fought competition – and one that has been credited with enhancing the profiles of many of its previous entrants, not just winners.

Introduced to the festival programme in 2006, the popular event has encouraged a vast array of new, promising or just hidden musical talent to the fore, and now many of its former participants appear throughout the programme – including our 2016 runner-up, Freddie Pretorious.

If this sounds like something for you, register via our website before 30th April. Good luck!

Or, if you just fancy coming along to watch for who might be the next big thing, head along to the Stromness Hotel at 3pm on Saturday (a change of both venue and time for 2017).

FIDDLERS' RALLY

Hosted by the West Mainland Strathspey and Reel Society, the Fiddlers' Rally brings together a great number of musicians from throughout Orkney and further afield, for massed performances of traditional tunes. It is open to all who want to participate – not just fiddlers. If you fancy taking part, download a copy of this year's sheet music from our website, head along to the Stromness Academy for a rehearsal on Sunday morning (exact time TBA, within the downloadable music) ahead of that afternoon's concert, and you're set!

WAIT, HAAD ON - THERE'S MORE!

Even though we've managed to squeeze in more events to just four days than ever before (we think…), there's a good few more on offer over the weekend. These ones are all either free or by donation on the door – just turn up, and enjoy the craic.

THE REEL CLUB

With late night tickets and accommodation in Stromness often sold out long in advance, we are delighted to be extending a nightly portion of the festival to Kirkwall once again, from Wednesday (a fine ease in to the weekend, if you're about early) to Saturday.
Jennifer and Hazel Wrigley's venue, The Reel provides the perfect setting to become acquainted with the evening's host band, join them for a tune or two, or just sit back and enjoy.

WEDNESDAY – Orkney Accordion and Fiddle Club

THURSDAY – Orkney Traditional Music Project

FRIDAY – (Act to be confirmed)

SATURDAY – Open Session

SESSIONS

A huge part of the festival's enduring – and, by many accounts, addictive – appeal is the atmosphere created in Stromness, thanks to the seemingly never-ending pub sessions that pour out of the town's bars (often literally, weather permitting) throughout the weekend.
Whilst we arrange for most of the visiting artists to lead tunes at some point over the weekend, we must stress that sessions, first and foremost, are informal, social gatherings of musicians, often from many corners of the musical globe - and so are largely organic affairs that quickly take on a life of their own. They are not performances. Joining in is very much encouraged, and it's not uncommon for a midday session to end at closing time, creating one-off collaborations, as well as meetings and exchanges of traditions and tunes along the way.
It may even be that a session's natural momentum is that strong that a band due to sit in and/or take the reins might not even be able to squeeze their way in through the throngs already playing – but that's absolutely fine by us. If the tunes are already in full flow, with little sign of coming to an end, they will (and should) always take precedent.
Even with the best will in the world, true session magic can't be planned. We do our best to make sure that tunes are happening in some form or other, but most importantly we, as a festival, are incredibly lucky to have the town of Stromness providing the ideal, and hugely welcoming, backdrop for tunes all day, every day.

HOUSE OF SONG

Especially for singers, we also have the House of Song, held upstairs in the Royal Hotel on Friday and Saturday at 2pm. Hosted by the inimitable Doris Rougvie, these open sessions are a quite haven for singers and song-lovers alike.

FESTIVAL SOUVENIRS

Don't forget to pick up a limited edition festival keepsake from the festival shop, in the Pier Arts Centre. We stock a range of festival clothing - including t-shirts designed by Siân Griffith, through our partnership with the Art Portfolio course at Orkney College. The student's work will be on display in the Stromness Library over the Festival weekend and some of their work is featured in this programme as textures or backgrounds. There's also mugs, pens, water bottles (new for 2017) and loads more, so pop past the shop for your Festival reminder.

Not to forget the festival's Orkney Folk compilation CD, and Orkney Folk: The Gathering live albums.

Our festival beer is also available to take home, with Orkney Session by the Swannay Brewery available in bottles in local shops (though not in the festival shop due to licensing laws), as well as on tap throughout Stromness over the weekend.

PATRONAGE & FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Now in its 35th year, the Orkney Folk Festival is an entirely voluntary-run event, and a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO). Like many others throughout the country, the festival relies upon the support from public bodies, organisations, companies and individuals, to keep up with ever increasing financial demands in bringing you the best festival possible.

Public Bodies

For more than three decades, the festival's main source of funding (next to ticket income) has been from public sector bodies - namely Orkney Islands Council and Creative Scotland, formerly the Scottish Arts Council. We are hugely indebted to these organisations, as this ongoing support is crucial to the continued success of the festival.

Corporate & Event Sponsors

When it comes to supporting the festival, Orkney's local business community is second to none. In addition to corporate sponsorship of the whole weekend, which starts at just £50, many businesses also kindly opt to support individual events.

Volunteers

There are also those who give the festival a gift as equally precious as any financial returns, and that is the ever-growing band of volunteers (too many to name, unfortunately) who give their time, commitment, talents and enthusiasm in order to keep this vital event going.

You make this festival unique, and the envy of its competitors – thank you all.

Patronage

For many years now, the generosity of individual patrons has provided invaluable assistance in funding the festival. For a payment of just £20, patrons receive advanced access to ticket booking, discounted travel to Orkney with Northlink Ferries, 10% discount on festival merchandise, as well as a copy of the programme mailed out before its general release. Membership of the festival's **Patron Plus Scheme** combines the benefits of individual patronage with the added bonus of a monthly prize draw, in return for year-round support. Half of the funds collected, monthly, go directly to supporting the festival, whilst the other half fills the prize draw pot. The minimum donation is just £5, and the monthly prize fund is now **over £200** – just for supporting the festival!
For information visit:
www.orkneyfolkfestival.com/patronage

The festival gratefully acknowledges the support received from this year's sponsors:

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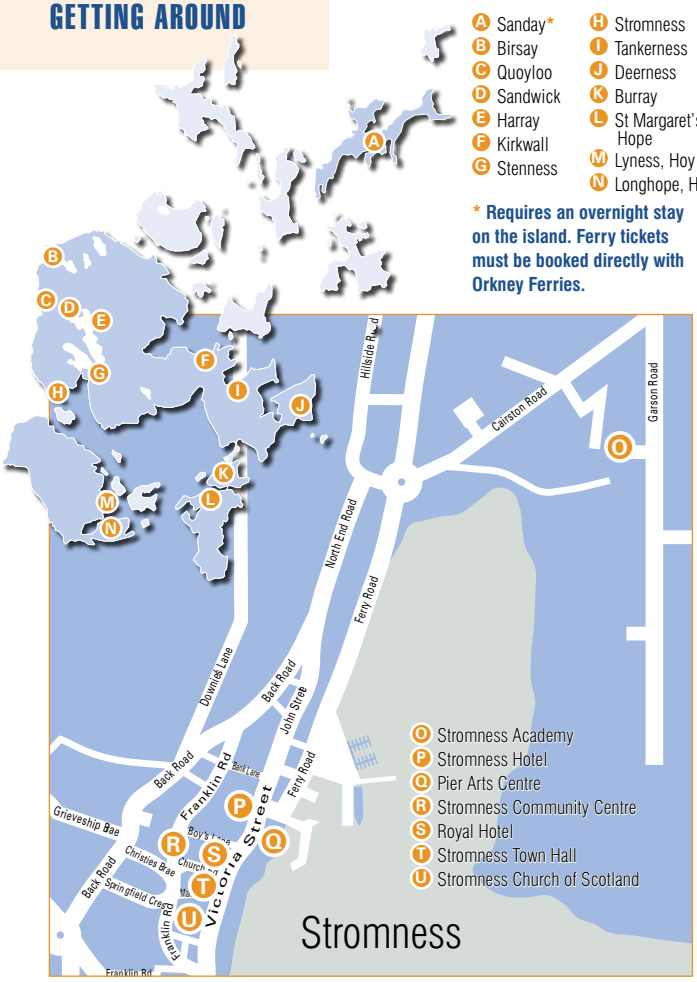
GETTING AROUND



Off the Beaten Track

Whilst two thirds of all activity takes place in the festival's hometown of Stromness, it is also important that the festival visits as many corners of Orkney's many isles as possible, allowing visitors to experience true island hospitality and see Orkney's fantastic landscape whilst here.

Sanday (Friday) has at least two sailings per day, from Kirkwall, whilst **Longhope** (Saturday), has several daily sailings from Houton, just outside Orphir. **Both of these events require an overnight stay on the island, and all ferry bookings should be made directly with Orkney Ferries, on 01856 872044. Please also note that the festival does not provide transport to/from concerts outside Stromness.**

Ticket Sales

Tickets will go on sale on Saturday 29 April, via our website:

www.orkneyfolkfestival.com

Should you not have internet access, you can call the festival office – from the same day – on 01856 851331, where we will be able to take your order. We must stress that phone sales should only be used if you cannot get online, as these orders will be processed in the same system, and same queue, as those buying from the website. From Tuesday 23 May, we will operate a Box Office in the Pier Arts Centre, Stromness. Until this date, there will be no over-the-counter ticket sales.

Please note that reduced-rate tickets are only available to children under the age of 16.

Contact us:

Orkney Folk Festival, Ferry Terminal Building, Stromness, Orkney, KW16 3BH

t: 01856 851331 e: info@orkneyfolkfestival.com

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