



Highlands and Islands Media Awards

NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

# The Shetland Times

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*Merry Christmas to all our readers*



CATS appeal chairman Peter Malcolmson is sprayed with champagne as fellow committee members celebrate the charity reaching its £1million target. Committee members Nicola Halcrow and Jennifer Anderson were unable to attend the photoshoot. *Photo: Keith Morrison*

## Sickness scuppers Andrew's voyage

BY ROSALIND GRIFFITHS

SOLO yachtsman Andrew Halcrow has had to break his non-stop round the world voyage after becoming ill off the coast of Australia.

He is being taken ashore to Western Australia by a 90,000 tonne bulk carrier and his condition is said to be improving.

Andrew, 47, was 300 miles off the south west tip of Australia when he contacted his partner Alyson Keiller by satellite phone and told her he was suffering severe abdominal pains and

*(Continued on page four)*

## CATS hits target 12 months ahead of schedule

BY MELISSA DUNCAN

THE CATS appeal has been given the best Christmas present ever – it has reached its target of £1 million, a year ahead of schedule.

The campaign to buy a CT scanner for the Gilbert Bain Hospital has galvanised the whole community since it was launched in January.

Thousands of people have taken part in the fundraising effort.

And in announcing to *The Shetland Times* that the £1m target had been reached CATS committee chairman Peter Malcolmson said a big thank you to everyone.

He said: "I wish to thank the people of Shetland for their unprecedented level of support and commitment to the CT Scanner Appeal. It is truly amazing to think that a small population of 22,000 people could raise so much money in such a short time."

Mr Malcolmson said he and the rest of the group were in complete awe about how well things had gone.

"I'm just gobsmacked and delighted with the whole thing. We never thought that less than a year ago we would be in this position."

"We thought we might be able to get the implementation process going and by November 2007 we would have the bulk of the funds in place."

"We were anticipating fundraising until the health board took over – so that was really three years but we have done it in one."

"I think the response from the community has been the most heartwarming thing of all. The realisation that the community is backing us to the hilt made our jobs so much easier and so much more enjoyable."

Mr Malcolmson believed the unbridled support from the community was because people could see that everyone could benefit from it.

He said: "I think everybody locally can see that this might be a huge step in health care for them and their families. It's something that's going to happen here that will have direct application for everyone in Shetland. If you think charity begins at home, that's maybe a very good example."

The final figure needed to buy, maintain and staff the scanner is £1,050,000. The extra £50,000 is for contingency funds. And the

CATS committee will continue collecting money until that is reached.

But Mr Malcolmson is confident that with money from fundraising events already held, and projected income from functions planned for next year, that target won't be far away.

And while he recognised that the money could never have been raised without the public he praised the efforts of the committee over the last 11 months.

"I can't praise the folk on the committee enough, because they have pulled out all the stops. The whole committee have worked together as a team and there's never been an ill word said."

Building work to house the scanner is due to start at the hospital in March and, all going well, it is expected the scanner will be in place and operational by November.

CATS will continue to support the scanner for a further two and a half years, until April 2010, when it will be handed over fully to the health board.

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● How we hit the target and what happens next, pages 14 & 15

## Cod deal slammed

BY JOHN ROBERTSON

SHETLAND whitefish boats are likely to do a deal with the European Commission so they can fish for the same number of days in 2007 as this year.

But while the fleet has escaped the threat of being forced ashore for longer it could suffer badly from a big cut in cod quota.

Shetland Fishermen's Association (SFA) chairman James Anderson said the deal would prove costly and frustrating, probably leading to prime fish being dumped to stay within the law.

*(Continued on page nine)*

## Future of terminal?

BY JOHN ROBERTSON

SIC COUNCILLORS are to begin looking at possible uses for Sullom Voe and its local workforce to plan ahead for when oil eventually runs out.

Convener Sandy Clunness revealed he had commissioned a special report on the matter.

He said: "The facilities at Sullom Voe are fantastic in many ways with the piers and the staff and all the rest of it."

Among various potential new functions could be as an oil decommissioning base, the convener said.

He is hopeful the terminal will not be abandoned, as the army did with nearby Graven after the Second World War.

He said: "It would be a pity to simply close the whole thing down and put it back to sheep or whatever."

● £50m Sullom plan, page 2

## Nativity pull-out



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CATS REACHES £1M MILESTONE — LATEST FUNDRAISERS

# CATS hits target thanks to folk from all



A birthday bash in the Aith Hall recently to celebrate Colin Deyell's 40th raised £1,850 for both the CATS appeal and Mind Your Head charities. Colin and Alison Bain (left) accept the CATS cheque from Colin's wife Sharon and daughter Emma while Colin and daughter Freya present Shona Manson with the cheque for Mind Your Head.

Photo: Keith Morrison



Selling off surplus barrels at the Shetland Catch pelagic factory earned the CATS appeal an extra £265. Appeal chairman Peter Malcolmson accepts the cheque from marketing assistant Jolene Garriock.

Photo: Keith Morrison



Two Shetland based charities each received £1,493 from runners Louise Robertson (left) and Julie Johnson. The duo raised the sponsorship by completing the Berlin marathon. Clara Pottinger accepts a cheque on behalf of Cancer Shetland while Ian Spence accepts the donation for the CATS appeal.

Photo: Keith Morrison



A charity night held in the Scalloway Boating Club in November raised £1,000. Appeal member Louise Malcolmson accepted the proceeds from committee members Margaret Goodlad and Cheryl Jones (left).

Photo: Keith Morrison



A charity music night in the RAFA club raised £700 for the CATS appeal. Social committee members (from left) Doris Laurenson, Ian Fraser and Marion Smith present CATS appeal committee member Louise Malcolmson with the cheque.

Photo: Keith Morrison



Council staff raised £284 by wearing Fair Isle attire. Presenting Peter Malcolmson with the cheque are (from left): Jemma Johnson, Billy Sandilands, Kaye Mackay and Irene Bruce.

Photo: Keith Morrison

**SHETLAND CONSTITUENCY  
PARLIAMENTARY OFFICE**  
171 Commercial Street, Lerwick, ZE1 OHX

**TAVISH SCOTT MSP  
ALISTAIR CARMICHAEL MP**

Please note that the office will be closed from  
Friday 22nd December to Friday 5th January  
(both dates inclusive)

*Wishing all our constituents  
a Merry Christmas and  
Happy New Year*

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Thank you for your custom and support over  
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and their  
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We will be closed from Saturday  
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Monday 25th December — CLOSED  
Tuesday 26th December — CLOSED

Monday 1st January — CLOSED  
Tuesday 2nd January — CLOSED  
Wednesday 3rd January — CLOSED

CLOSED SUNDAYS

May we take this opportunity to wish  
you a Merry Christmas & Prosperous  
New Year



## CATS REACHES £1M MILESTONE — HOW WE GOT THERE AND WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

## walks of life

BY MELISSA DUNCAN

THE CAMPAIGN to buy a CT scanner for the Gilbert Bain Hospital was kickstarted on Lerwick Up-Helly-A' day (31st January) and ever since the fundraising efforts of the community have been monumental.

By 3rd March the appeal had reached £25,000 and the CATS committee began to realise that this was no ordinary campaign.

Just over a month later the total stood at £86,000, then in May an application was made to Shetland Charitable Trust and an award of £600,000 was donated to meet the cost of the scanner itself.

In the months following the thrust of the campaign grew and it seemed Shetland folk had really taken the quest for a scanner to their hearts.

There are still some big events to come. And despite hitting the £1m target the appeal committee still needs to collect an extra £50,000 for contingency funds.

Future events include a Burns supper next month, a rock concert, and celebrity dinners at The Shetland Hotel on 23rd and 24th February.

Former middle-weight boxing champion John Conteh will be the guest of honour at the dinners. Tables have sold out and it is hoped around £10,000 will be raised from those two nights.

The fundraising side of the campaign will be wound down at the end of February and the committee is urging anyone planning an event to contact them if they have not already done so.

CATS committee chairman Peter Malcolmson described slowing down the appeal as like bringing a large tanker into harbour.

He said: "Such is the momentum that over the next few months we will have to bring the whole thing to a halt slowly because we don't want to overdo it. We are having to put the brakes on early."

"If folk are thinking to do something then we will say thank you and we will be very pleased to receive the support, but if anyone is actually planning to start something new I would encourage them to do so, but think of another local charity that they would like to give that money to."

Shetland NHS board chairwoman Betty Fullerton said she was delighted how well the appeal had gone and was astounded by people's generosity.

She said: "I would like to record my thanks and that of Shetland NHS board to Peter Malcolmson and the CATS committee for the commitment and innovation they have shown in driving this campaign."

"The response by the Shetland public has gone beyond our wildest



Peter Malcolmson gets to sit on Santa's knee on Tuesday as he accepts a cheque for £425 from Anne Campbell of Mama Mia. The clothing shop in the Toll Clock Shopping Centre organised a have your photo taken with Santa day on Sunday to raise the money. Photo: Keith Morrison

dreams so that the committee are confident that the target will be reached by the end of February 2007.

"Thank you, Shetland, for your support for your local NHS and due to your hard work and generosity, the scanner will be operational as planned in November 2007."

One of the final donations to push the appeal to its target was the

unexpected news that the charitable organisation The Robertson Trust donated £20,000.

The trust, which trades under the name The Edrington Group, was set up in 1961 by sisters Elspeth, Agnes and Ethel Robertson after they inherited a controlling interest in their father's two companies – Robertson and Baxter and the Clyde Bonding Company.

One of their main objectives was to ensure that dividend income was given to charitable purposes. One of the Edrington Group's brands is the Orkney whisky Highland Park.

Anyone wanting further information about the appeal is asked to contact Peter Malcolmson on (01595) 693247 or 07799 326 836.



A marathon effort in Amsterdam raised £2,730 for the CATS appeal. Burra couple Maurice and Karen Fraser present appeal member Ian Spence with the cheque last week. Photo: Keith Morrison

## What is a CT scanner?

A CT scanner is a special kind of X-ray machine which takes lots of pictures of your body from different angles.

The latest technology uses a spiral scanning technique, and this is the type which will be installed in Lerwick.

A computer then processes the information and puts it together to show a series of cross sections or slices of body tissues and organs.

This builds up very clear and detailed images of the inside of the body. A CT scanner helps identify any problem areas without the need for exploratory surgery.

What will the CT scanner be used for?

- multiple injuries, such as that found in crash victims
- spinal and head injuries
- chest and abdomen problems
- kidney, lung and liver disease
- cancer diagnosis
- strokes
- bowel and digestive disorders

Who will analyse the scans?

A radiographer based in the Gilbert Bain Hospital will operate the scanner and perform the examinations. The scans will be reported on by a radiologist – a doctor with specific training in imaging techniques and the interpretation of those images.

Why do we need to have a CT scanner here?

At the moment over 500 people a year are travelling down to Aberdeen for scans.

This can cause worry and distress to patients, relatives and staff and can result in longer waiting times for non-urgent scans.

Having the scanner based in Lerwick would:

- help reduce patient trauma and distress
- be less disruptive for families
- help conditions or injuries to be diagnosed faster
- minimise transfers to Aberdeen
- reduce waiting times for scans

## Shetland Islands Citizens Advice Bureau Christmas & New Year Closure

The Bureau will CLOSE at 12.30pm on Wednesday 20th December 2006.

We will OPEN again at 9.30am on Friday 5th January 2007.

A Merry Christmas and a Good New Year is wished to all our clientele

## Rotary Club of Shetland



President Larry Sutherland and members of the Rotary Club of Shetland extend Season's Greetings to all who have supported their fundraising activities during the year 2006. A special thank you to members of the Retail Trade for their help in organising the successful Shetland showcase exhibition, and to all the Shetland schools who have so enthusiastically supported the Shelterbox Tent Appeal this year.

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Our sincere thanks for your support throughout 2006.



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## HOLIDAY CLOSURE

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24th/25th/26th December	Closed	Closed
27th December	9 - 5	9 - 5
28th December	9 - 5	1 - 5
29th December	9 - 5	1 - 5
30th December	9 - 1	9 - 1
31st December, 1st/2nd January	Closed	Closed

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TO ALL OUR CLIENTS  
AND FRIENDS