



The Northern Times

Interpretation & Exploration of the landscape at Loch Croispol Schoolhouse and the position of this in the history and Heritage of Mackay Country

Loch Croispol school history project

Recent work following on from the ongoing research and archaeology the area between Balnakeil and Keodale has been surveyed to develop a Landscape survey map of the area describing the various types of features visible within an archaeological timeline. When completed Visitors and lay will be able identify the main types of archaeological features visible – particularly burial cairns, hut circles, pre-clearance settlement remains and “improved” agricultural landscapes.

People are invited to hear and see the story so far with a weekend of exhibition & events is planned for Friday 18th 19th 20th 21st June. The event starts on Friday evening with introduction & update by local historian graham bruce followed by *historian Malcolm Bangor Jones 'Durness parish – from clanship to crofting'* On Saturday 19th June open day activities and View the videos taken and participate in filming, '*start the loch croispol storyboard*' and help develop the script for the dvd drama. '*Walk the walk*' with Graham Bruce – a virtual tour of the old parish school from 4,500 years till now '*archaeological art: school days remembered*' – paper marbling & collage with artist Nicola Poole. Soup & sweet lunch will be in aid of project funds. The exhibition will be open all with a display of artefacts from the dig including the 4,500 year old arrow head! All age groups welcome Durness Hall - 18th, 19th ,20th & 21st June – Free Entry. The results of the work, as well as advancing research into the prehistoric to post-Medieval occupation of northern Scotland in general and Mackay Country in particular, could be used for various forms of public education and outreach, including the contents of interpretation boards. This project is supported through funding from Historic Scotland, Highland Legacy Fund and Heritage Lottery For more information, to attend events or to get involved:

www.durness.org/Loch Croispol/

Project supported by

