



Clean Coast
OUTER HEBRIDES

Newsletter Spring 2026

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At the recent Science Fair in the Nicolson Institute, Stornoway at the beginning of March. We had plenty of community engagement

Note from the Chair

Despite the months of awful weather and having to postpone some events, here at CCOH we've been busy preparing for more. I was at Holyrood in February helping to advise the Scottish Government on marine environment issues, speaking at conferences, and have been working with many local organisations and communities planning for the future. We have had a slight shuffle of Board members, and still have some spaces in the team, see in the coming pages.

Also we have been a bit slack about chasing membership renewals; that will be changing soon as we implement some new software. Your membership fees help us pay for all sorts of elements that we need to help CCOH to continue to flourish, see Membership.

Janet Marshall

Clean Coast Outer Hebrides
is a Registered Scottish Charity



Calendar

At beach cleans we'll supply all kit and deal with what is collected, but all volunteers will need to listen to a safety briefing. Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult. There are plenty of different roles; not everyone needs to be on the shore.

Date	Event	Notes
April	Earth Month	The entire month of April is dedicated to raising awareness about environmental issues. It promotes action through community cleanups, educational programs, and sustainability-focused initiatives, culminating in Earth Day on 22 nd April, see https://www.earthday.org/
Saturday April 11 th from 10:00am	Beach Clean at Bayble in association with UNISON Western Isles Health branch	We hope to have Rodeo, that lovely donkey with us again. The weather looks like it may be quite vigorous so wrap up warm.
Thursday 30th April 12:00 – 13:00	Event by SWT Scottish Wildlife Trust at An Lanntair, Stornoway	Free admission but they'd like you to book a ticket here: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/sea-songs-and-stories-tickets-1986900317335?aff=oddttdtcreator
Middle of May	Community engagement in Uist and Barra	Dates tbc
Saturday 16th May from 10:30	Beach clean at Sandwick, meet at graph.link.laugh s at the western end of the bay	In association with Stornoway Running Club, parking is limited so if you must bring a vehicle, park it thoughtfully

Wednesday May 20th	World Bee Day	https://www.fao.org/world-bee-day/en
Thursday 28th May 7:00pm	Ocean, the Attenborough film at Horshader Community Centre	Free admission (but donations most welcome) Raebhat House between Bragar and Shawbost
Friday June 5th	World Environment Day	https://www.worldenvironmentday.global/
Saturday 6 th June from 1:00pm	Beach Clean in associations with Horshader Community Centre	Various beaches depending on turnout. They are having a family event that day, if the weather is bad we'll do screen-printing and repurposing with crisp packets
June 6 th – 14th	Great Big Green Week	https://www.greatbiggreenweek.com/ various events all over the country
Monday June 8th	World Oceans Day	https://worldoceanday.org/
Saturday June 20th from 11:00	Beach clean at Ramadal, Point	In association with the Outer Hebrides Wildlife Festival https://www.outerhebrideswildlifefestival.co.uk/
Saturday June 27 th	Ness Show	We hope to have a presence at the show
July	Plastic Free July	https://www.plasticfreejuly.org/
Saturday 11 th July	Point Show	

Saturday July 18th	Beach Clean at Newton	Awaiting confirmation of a sponsor
Saturday July 25th	Barvas Show	
July 26th – August 10th	National Marine Week	https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/national-marine-week
Wednesday August 12th	Carloway Show	
August 12 th – 18th	National Allotments Week	https://thenas.org.uk
Sunday September 20th	World Clean Up Day	https://www.worldcleanupday.org/
TBA	Climate Hebrides OH-COP3	
November	CCOH	AGM



Some of our lovely supporters



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sea-changers



Annual Update from Dave Harris, Compliance Officer & Trustee

Welcome to our Ninth Year, thank you to every volunteer who has joined a beach clean over the years. Your commitment is the reason Clean Coast Outer Hebrides continues to thrive. We simply couldn't do this without you.

Trustee Elections

Our Trustees were re-elected for another year at the AGM held at An Taigh Ceilidh, Church Street, Stornoway, in November 2025. The election was carried out in full accordance with our constitution.

Trustees for the Year Ahead

Janet Marshall - Chair

Magaidh Smith - Gaelic Advisor

Mike Macleod - Treasurer

Gerald Earp

Dave Harris - Compliance Officer

Our Wider Team

Alongside the Trustees, we are supported by dedicated Board members: Pete Wright (Depute Chair) and Sue Dobell (Minute Secretary) plus Carole Perrit, and Sarah Maclean of Barra.

Vacancies remain for a Membership Secretary, a Media Officer, and a Youth Liaison Officer.

Youth Liaison Officer Requirements

This role requires the volunteer to be at least eighteen and to pass an Enhanced DBS check.

Membership Renewals

All subscriptions are now due on either 1 June or 1 December each year. Your membership is vital and helps us meet essential administrative and regulatory requirements. We will be sending out reminders in the very near future, please continue to support us.

Annual Membership Fees

Concession: Students, Unwaged, Senior Citizens: £10

Standard members: £15

Family membership: £30

Organisations: £120

You can pay via [Paypal](#) or even better, set up a standing order - email us at hello@cleancoastoh.com and we'll send you the details

Community Engagement

We have been working closely with many different community groups. These include schools, community associations, sports groups, an Eco-congregation, Community Interest Companies, and several businesses.

We are especially interested in training up, mentoring and supporting groups to maintain their own areas, please email us at hello@cleancoastoh.com for more information

Ocean and other relevant media



Ocean with David Attenborough

We have licences to have four showings of this wonderful film. We are not allowed to charge but will gladly receive donations. A showing is arranged at Horshader Community Centre on Thursday 28th May from 7:00pm. More showings are being arranged throughout the islands.

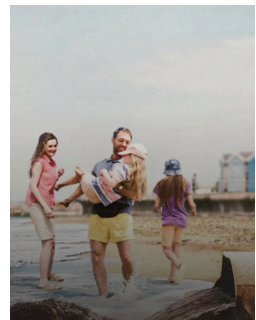
I believe that this should be essential viewing for ALL politicians!

Whet your appetite with this [YouTube clip](#)

Dirty Business, a Channel 4 Film

In an idyllic Oxfordshire hamlet, the fish in the river keep dying. Why? David Thewlis and Jason Watkins lead this shocking real-life drama of victims, whistleblowers and England's water companies.

You'll need to have an account with C4, you can download everything [here](#)



UNISON, the Public Service Union's Year of Green Activity

The Western Isles Health Branch of UNISON are holding a beach clean in association with CCOH at Bayble on **Saturday 11th April from 10:00am**. The image shows the last time we worked together with Rodeo, the lovely pack donkey that lives in Bayble.

We provide all the equipment, sign people in, give a safety briefing, and deal with the marine litter collected. We need people for all sorts of roles, not just on the beach; we need volunteers to help sort, weigh and log what we collect.

It can be deeply satisfying to see the difference that can be made to a shore, come and have a go.



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The ReBoat Project

The Problem

Examples of the environmental and social consequences of un-efficient waste management include:

- plastics waste being disposed in beaches,
- marine litter and micro-plastics being dispersed in the sea,
- waste being burned in hidden island areas, typically far from core touristic places and resorts but close to the island citizens houses.



A very new and exciting project operating in 3 EU countries so far, where a ship collects marine plastic from islands and turns it into practical items. In the future there will be volunteer spaces on board [click here](#) We need this here!

Fundraising

There are many ways in which you can support us, as well as being a Member, you can fundraise...from your sofa!

Just sign up to [#easyfundraising](#) and retailers will donate to us every time you shop online.

The best part? It's completely free and your shopping won't cost you any extra!

Plus, sign up today and we could win a £250 donation:

<https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/ccoh/mphif6/ctos/wNs7cxDk/OSATW/facebook/>

A recent donation from the wonderful Semma Fund has helped us purchase these lovely waterproof jackets for our loyal volunteers, and funds a storage unit so Janet can reclaim her kitchen!



Getting in Touch

As well as via our website: <https://www.cleancoastoh.com> you can find out about what we do, and when and where we do it via [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)

You can email us at hello@cleancoastoh.com

Please get in touch about relevant issues, finding out about community working, volunteering, and other ways we can help make a difference - Janet Marshall, Chair