



# ORKNEY DEFENCE INTEREST NETWORK

*Bringing together individuals and organisations interested  
in Orkney's defence heritage*

## SUMMER FACTSHEET 2010

Sat 12 June - **ODIN Website Launch**  
11am, The McGillivray Room, Orkney Library & Archive

Sun 27 June - **ODIN & SFLP Tour of Ness Battery**  
11am at Ness Battery Gates. **Booking Essential.**

Thurs 1, 8 & Mon 26 July & - **Hoxa Head Coastal Walk** (Scapa Flow Landscape Partnership)  
Thurs 12 & 26 Aug **WWI & WWII coast defences.** 10:30am at Hoxa Head Car Park.

Fri 2 & 9 July & - **The Earl's Bu to Swanbister Bay Guided Walk** (SFLP)  
Fri 6 & 20 Aug **Norse & Wartime history plus Wildlife.** 10:30am at Orkneyinga Centre, Orphir.

Thurs 8 July & - **Sanday Shipwrecks (The Sanday Ranger)**  
Sun 8 Aug **Minibus tour to various viewpoints with stories.** 11am at School upper car park.

Sun 11 July - **ODIN & OAS Guided Anti-Invasion Walk. Inganess Bay to Scapa Beach**  
12pm at Scapa for car share to Inganess. **Bring sandwiches.**

Thurs 15 July - **RAF Whalehead, Sanday (The Sanday Ranger)**  
**Minibus tour of WWII radar site.** 11am at School upper car park.

Sun 18 July - **Trip to Shapinsay with Orkney Archaeology Society (OAS)**  
11am at Shapinsay Pier, Kirkwall. Contact Nan Thompson 01856 850889

Wed 21 July, Fri 20 Aug & - **Past, Present & Water! (The Hoy & Flotta Ranger)**  
Thurs 9 Sept **Tour of wartime Hoy.** 11am at Lyness Pier. Contact Philip Weiss 01856 791176

Thurs 22 July & - **History & Prehistory, Sanday (The Sanday Ranger)**  
Mon 16 Aug **Minibus tour spanning 5000 years.** 12:30pm at School upper car park.

Sun 25 July - **MV Graemsay Tours The Flow (SFLP)**  
**An Afternoon tour of Scapa Flow.** Contact SFLP for details. (see below).

Sun 1st Aug - **ODIN & OAS Guided Walk. St Marys Circular & Holm battery**  
**Details to follow on the website.**

Sun 8 August - **ODIN Trip to Sanday with Rod Thorne**  
**Minibus tour of the wartime heritage of Sanday.** Details to follow on the website.

Sun 15 August - **Orkney Vintage Club Rally**  
27th Annual Vintage Rally. 11am at Orkney Auction Mart, Hatston.

Sun 29 August - **ODIN & OAS Guided tours of HMS Tern by Birsay Heritage Trust**  
**Tours of the wartime airfield.** Details to follow on the website.

Thurs 2-Wed 8th Sept - **Orkney Science Festival**

Sat 4 Sept - **Orkney Vintage Club Science Festival Display**  
Display of vehicles & engines. 1-5pm in Broad Street, Kirkwall.

Sun 5 Sept - **Ness Battery Open Day & Wartime Display (SFLP)**  
**Watch the ODIN website for further details.**

**Essential Booking for ALL Sanday Ranger Events. Contact Roderick Thorne 01856 600341  
Scapa Flow Landscape Partnership Scheme Further Details from Anne Bignall 07775 265068**

### ODIN'S GOOD BOOK GUIDE

**Scapa Flow: The Defences of  
Britain's Great Fleet Anchorage  
1914-45** by Angus Konstam

**Bloody Orkney?** by Virginia  
Schroder

**This Great Harbour Scapa Flow**  
by William Hewison

**Orkney Coast Batteries 1914-  
1956** by Jeff Dorman

**Sky Over Scapa** by Gregor  
Lamb

**Last Dawn** by David Turner  
*70th Anniversary Edition*

**Luftwaffe over Scotland** by Les  
Taylor

**Scapa Flow: The  
Reminiscences of Men &  
Women who Served in Scapa  
Flow in the Two World Wars**  
by Malcolm Brown & Patricia  
Meehan

### CONTACT ODIN

**Telephone:**  
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**E-Mail:**  
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**NOW ONLINE AT  
WWW.ODIN.UK.COM**

## Lest We Forget

Every parish has a War Memorial to those who died in both WWI and WWII. The War Memorial at Stenness Church commemorates the death of Mr James Isbister, the first civilian air raid casualty in Britain of WWII.

Those who gave their lives serving on the Arctic Convoys to Russia are remembered on a memorial outside the Scapa Flow Visitor Centre at Lyness.

There is a memorial garden at Scapa Bay dedicated to the officers and crew of HMS Royal Oak, a book of remembrance as well as the Ward Room Bell is also on permanent display in St Magnus Cathedral.

There is also a commemoration to the Royal Naval Air Station HMS Sparrowhawk that was situated at Hatston, near Kirkwall. This memorial can be found on the seaward side of Ayre Road just before the main roundabout into Hatston Industrial Estate.

A memorial to Squadron Commander Dunning who died after completing the 1st landing of an aircraft onto a moving ship in 1917 is situated by the pier in Swanbister Bay, near Orphir.

The memorial to the Italian Prisoners of War who helped to build the Churchill Barriers is located outside the Italian Chapel on Lamb Holm, after the First barrier.

The Naval cemetery at Lyness is the Commonwealth War Graves Commission cemetery for Orkney. There are also a number of war graves to be found in St Olaf's cemetery near Kirkwall.

## Wartime Walks

There are a variety of excellent Orkney walks that take in wartime sites. Orkney Islands Council has created the website [www.walkorkney.com](http://www.walkorkney.com) which gives route maps & details of sites of natural or historic interest to be seen along the way. Below are a few routes that ODIN recommends for taking in wartime sites.

### WEST MAINLAND

**Point of Ness – Stromness to Warebeth Swartland Drovers Road**

### EAST MAINLAND

**Wideford Burn Walk  
Rerwick Head Walk  
Graemeshall Circular**

**Mull Head & Covenanter's Memorial  
Newark Bay to the Point of Ayre  
Dingieshowie Circular  
St Mary's Circular  
Hoxa Head**

### SANDAY

**Lady Village to Cata Sand & Tresness  
Scuthvie Circular  
Lady Village to Elsness**

*Please remember to abide by the Scottish Outdoor Access Code whilst enjoying Orkney's outdoors.*

## SCAPA FLOW BOAT TRIPS

**ORKAN ADVENTURES**

[WWW.ORKANADVENTURES.COM](http://WWW.ORKANADVENTURES.COM)

01856 731653

OR

## DAWN STAR BOAT TRIPS

[WWW.ORKNEYBOATTRIPS.CO.UK](http://WWW.ORKNEYBOATTRIPS.CO.UK)

01856 876743

## 2010 Exhibitions about Orkney's Wartime Heritage

### ***The Orkney Blast: A Tribute to Gerry Meyer***

*Permanent Exhibition for 2010  
New Exhibits also on Display*

#### **Orkney Wireless Museum**

Kiln Corner  
Junction Road  
Kirkwall

**Telephone:** 01856 871400

#### **Opening Times:**

**April to September:**

Mon - Sat from 10:00-16:30  
Sun from 14:00-16:30

### ***Fortress Orkney, Their Past Our Future***

*New permanent Exhibition*

#### **Scapa Flow Visitor Centre**

Lyness  
Hoy

**Telephone:** 01856 791300

#### **Opening Times:**

**Mid May to September:**

Mon - Fri from 09:00-16:30  
Sun - Sat from 10:30-16:00

### ***Orkney's War, Their Darkest Hour***

*Open until 30th Sept 2010*

#### **The Orkney Museum**

Tankerness House  
Broad Street  
Kirkwall

#### **Telephone:**

01856 873535 (Ask for the museum)

#### **Opening Times:**

**1st May to 30th Sept :**  
Mon - Sat from 10:30-17:00

## Other Museums & Centres with Wartime Content

### **Stromness Museum**

52 Alfred Street  
Stromness

**Telephone:** 01856 850025

### **The Orkney Fossil and Vintage Centre**

Viewforth  
Burray

**Telephone:** 01856 731255

### **The Italian Chapel**

Lamb Holm

**Unmanned Open Access**

### **Hackness Martello Tower & Battery**

Longhope  
Hoy

**Telephone:** 01856 811397

### **Orkney Library & Archive**

Junction Road  
Kirkwall

**Telephone:** 01856 873166

### **Orkney Sites & Monuments Record**

Orkney College  
Kirkwall

**Telephone:** 01856 569000