



Illumination 6: Reawick Congregational Church

Our sixth illumination forms one of a pair in our fourth set of illuminations that celebrate the art of light throughout Shetland this winter.

The **Reawick Church** was built in 1863, and there were several Congregational churches scattered through the isles, at Sullom, Walls and Sand to name but three. During the mid-1950's the churches amalgamated under one minister based in Lerwick, and some of the buildings were sold off. The one in Walls was used as a bakery and is now in private ownership, being renovated from time to time and before that it was a knitwear business. There was a bequest made providing the building was made to that specified design, otherwise it might not have been so big and tall.

The Reawick and Lerwick churches are the last two remaining Congregational churches in Shetland and are members of the Congregational Federation in the UK. There are services fortnightly, normally at 3pm. The minister comes from Lerwick and the organist and his wife come from South Whiteness; members are mostly based in Sandsting and one travels from Walls; the congregation is always delighted to welcome folk to the services whether they are members of any denomination or none - the church is normally open all year round for people to spend some quiet time if they so wish.

We would especially like to say a huge thank you and congratulations to those of you from the area and their friends, including the pupils of Skeld Primary School, who have made films that are now part of the illuminations for the **Reawick Church**. Everyone has made films that you can see translated into the dynamic colour light scores for this illumination. We have several hundred films altogether, so please let us know if we have made a mistake and your films are not included.

Members of the West Side community were also involved in the selection of the sites that were finally chosen to be illuminated. We looked at many sites before short-listing this site, Bousta Geo, Voe House and the Waas Brig. It was extremely difficult to make the short-list and the final selection. We considered the aesthetics and meaning of each site, as well as their visibility. This site was chosen because it is a beautiful building and because it is white, the lights will show up well. It is in a remarkable location and will be very visible to a large part of the local community. The church is embedded with historical meaning as well as religious importance. Many of the churches throughout Shetland would illuminate well, but this one was unanimously seen to be the best example. In the end we also had to think about practical design issues as well as those linked to safety and technical considerations, which all rated very high for this site.

Lighting for **the Reawick Church** will be visible every evening from 5 pm to 11.00 pm until 1st February, after which we'll dismantle it and take the kit to the empty crofts at Snarravoe in Unst. This illumination is running at the same time as the one at the former Listening Station in Garths Ness, Dunrossness. **The party will be on 30th January at Skeld Hall.**

MirrieDancers

ILLUMINATION no. 6, Reawick Congregational Church

Programme of film contributions (up-dated)

Mondays

Anne Summers, Christine Ferguson, Jonathon Barlow, Roxane Permar, Sarah Hazell, Timothy Ferguson

Tuesdays

Amy Irvine, Dian Thompson, Kieren Fraser, Robbie Drummond, Stanley Ross Smith, Teigan Jeromson, Malcolm Ferguson, Jenna Johnson, Jake Anderson

Wednesdays

Angela Irvine, Christine Ferguson, Carl Wynn, Hannah Barlow, Dian Thompson, Natasha Hunter, Robert Frazer

Thursdays

Angela Irvine, Dorothy Ferguson, Emma Hudson, Hilary Saetter, John Frank Scott, Sam, Nayan Kulkarni

Fridays

Ellie Simpson, Emily Moss, June Ross Smith, Jason Webb, Kristie Hutchison, Malcolm Ferguson

Saturdays

Dian Thompson, Kody Jeromson, Loui-Bo Scott, Stephanie Mercer, Nicola Robertson, Jason Mercer, Lewis Scott, Hermione Boyes, Erin Ridland, Timothy Ferguson

Sundays

Angela Irvine, Christine Ferguson, Heather Drummond, Corey Meades, Morgan Robertson, Rachel Anderson, Timothy Ferguson,

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