



Bea House,
Back Road,
Stromness,
Orkney
KW16 3AW

March 22nd 2018

Mr Rune Haugsdal
Fylkerødmann

Dear Mr Haugsdal
[17th May 2018 Invitation](#)

I write in my role as Chairman of the Orkney Norway Friendship Association to ask if you would consider being our Guest of Honour for our 17th May Celebrations this year. I believe you have not been to Orkney before and as this is our 40th anniversary year we feel it would be fitting were someone from the Hordaland Fylke able to attend.

Our day begins with a short graveside ceremony at St Olaf's cemetery in Kirkwall to pay tribute to the Norwegian sailors who are buried there. This ceremony has grown over the years and we feel it is a very appropriate start to our day. As our Guest of Honour we would ask you to lay the first of nine vases of flowers on one of the graves at the appropriate time.

Your next official duty would be to make a short speech either outside the Cathedral (or inside if wet weather!) after the Tog when our Convener would first make a speech of welcome. Then we have a short Lunchtime Concert in St Magnus Cathedral followed by a reception from Orkney Islands Council.

In the evening ONFA has a party/dance and at this after our meal we would again wish you to make a short speech. This is a less formal occasion than after the Tog and so the tone of your speech can be more light-hearted if you so wish!

I do hope you feel able to accept our invitation, but should you be already committed to other engagements at that time I would ask that you nominate someone to come and represent Hordaland/Norway for this our special 40th Anniversary. We have already met some members of the Fylke as they have been over on more than one occasion, but mainly for the tree-lighting in December, so they might enjoy seeing Orkney in the better weather of mid May! I look forward very much to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Ishba Borland.

Ishbel Borland (Chairman Orkney Norway Friendship Association)