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Our Ref:
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Date: 17 September 2012

Dear Ruth

Shetland Society of Wellington 90th Anniversary Celebrations

On behalf of Shetland Islands Council and all the people of Shetland I am very pleased to congratulate the Shetland Society of Wellington on this milestone occasion. For 90 years the Society has made sure that Shetland kinsfolk in New Zealand have had the opportunity to maintain their cultural links with the old rock, and the bond between Shetland and your Society remains very strong.

As recently as 2010 130 people came from New Zealand to celebrate the Golden Anniversary of the Hamefarin in Shetland and this was a truly joyous event. Every year people from Shetland holiday in New Zealand to keep up to date with relatives there and we see a constant stream of visitors from New Zealand here in Shetland.

The relationship between Shetland and New Zealand spans many generations and will endure for many more.

I wish you all the best for your special evening and we all look forward to your centennial event in 10 years time.

Yours sincerely

Councillor Malcolm Bell
Convener