

REAL HELP FOR LOCAL BUSINESSES



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Dunnet Bay Distillers typify the proud history of innovation and entrepreneurship that can be found in Caithness and North Sutherland.

Run by husband and wife team Martin and Claire Murray, Dunnet Bay Distillers was the first craft distillery in the Highlands, with its artisanal products now enjoyed all over the world.

They first approached the North Highland Regeneration Fund in 2012 for financial assistance to help fund the construction of the distillery.

Two years later the foundations were officially completed and since then the business has gone from strength to strength.

Each batch is carefully handcrafted, and changes in the climate will lead to minor variations in the botanicals used for production, each year will herald a new vintage - much like a fine wine.

This artisanal approach, combined with a growing interest in both UK and overseas markets in high quality spirits, has been a recipe for success for this ambitious young company.

Now, Dunnet Bay employs fourteen people, has won a number of coveted awards, and added Holy Grass Vodka to its offering.

Plans are also in place to convert Castletown Mill where the new Stannergill whisky will be distilled.

“The NHRF team really knew what we were trying to achieve”

Mr Murray said: “The NHRF team continue to be extremely helpful and encouraging, and were supportive from the point of application to now.

“Going into business for ourselves for the first time - and building a whole new premises - was a daunting experience. But the NHRF team really knew what we were trying to achieve.

“We wouldn’t be at the stage we’re at today if it wasn’t for the support from NHRF”.

Dunnet Bay is taking an innovative approach to the production of its Rock Rose Gin.



NORTH HIGHLAND REGENERATION FUND

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Assistance is available through North Highland Regeneration Fund which is managed by Caithness Chamber of Commerce and funded by the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority.