



NHS SCOTLAND—CORONAVIRUS

NHS Scotland website for information on coronavirus is

<https://www.nhsinform.scot/coronavirus>

If in doubt phone the surgery on 616321

FOOD BANK REFERRALS

Orkney Citizens Advice Bureau

If you are facing financial difficulty and struggling to afford food, please get in touch with us so that we can make a food bank referral for you. These are extraordinary times which nobody was prepared for so please don't feel embarrassed at asking for help, there are so many others in the same situation. To request a referral you can email the following address:

bureau@orkneycab.casonline.org.uk

Our service is free and confidential.

ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND

"There will be no Royal Bank visits until further notice.

Also we have set up 2 dedicated tel numbers

0800 051 4177 for anybody in isolation

0800 046 6734 for all NHS staff

Both lines are open 8-8

I hope you are all keeping well, and it won't be too long before I am back.

Lois"

TOILET AND WASHING FACILITY FOR KEY WORKERS

Due to the current situation and all public toilets being closed (understandably) we would like to offer the use of the bathroom at Cleat Cottage (house empty) to any KEY WORKERS who have to come to Stronsay-oil deliveries, BT, etc. Soap and paper towels available. Please pass the word around.

Sheena Cooper

HOW TO CONTACT THE *LIMPET*

Send an email to editor@stronsaylimpet.co.uk (preferred method); phone Bruce Fletcher on 616297 (after 10:30am & before 9pm, please!); or write to *The Limpet, Claremont, Stronsay, KW17 2AR*.

The next edition of the *Limpet* will be published on **Thu 30 July**. Items for inclusion in that edition should be submitted by 7pm on **Sun 26 July**. Contact details are on the back page. The Limpet's website address is <http://www.stronsaylimpet.co.uk>

ORCADES PRACTICE—STRONSAY BRANCH

In an emergency phone 01856 888000

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

SURGERY ARRANGEMENTS HAVE CHANGED DURING THIS TIME.

Please phone as usual if you require an appointment on 616321
or email orkney.stronsay@nhs.net

All appointment requests are being triaged by Admin through the GP who will then contact you and give you an appointment if you need a face to face consultation. These arrangements will continue for the foreseeable future.

REPEAT PRESCRIPTIONS **CORONAVIRUS RISK REDUCTION**

From Monday 16th March until further notice:

- No more paper requests to be handed in.
- Please phone 616321 or email orkney.stronsay@nhs.net to order.
- Check one week later to see if they have arrived.
- Time slots will be given for collection.

Thank you
Dr Rosalind Fisher



TEST & PROTECT: A STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

Following these steps is vital to tackle coronavirus in Scotland

<p>1</p>  <p>RECOGNISE SYMPTOMS</p> <p>A new persistent cough, fever, or loss or change in sense of taste or smell means you should immediately begin household isolation.</p>	<p>2</p>  <p>REQUEST A TEST RIGHT AWAY</p> <p>It is important to get a test as soon as possible. Visit NHSinform.scot/test-and-protect or call 0800 028 2816 if you cannot get online.</p>	<p>3</p>  <p>ISOLATE</p> <p>Isolate for 7 days from symptom start date, longer if fever continues and 48 hours after fever ends. Others you live with should isolate for 14 days.</p>
<p>4</p>  <p>GET TESTED</p> <p>When isolating, you should only leave home to get tested. There are various ways of having this done.</p>	<p>5</p>  <p>GET RESULTS</p> <p>They should be with you within 48 hours.</p>	<p>6</p>  <p>PROVIDE DETAILS</p> <p>If you have coronavirus, NHS contact tracers will contact you to confidentially ask who you have had contact with recently. If you don't have the virus, you and your household can stop isolating.</p>
<p>7</p>  <p>NHS INFORMS CONTACTS</p> <p>If you have coronavirus, the NHS will contact the people you have had close contact with. Your name will not be shared unless you give permission. All data will be held safely and securely.</p>	<p>8</p>  <p>CLOSE CONTACTS ISOLATE</p> <p>They will be asked to isolate for 14 days from the last time they had contact with you.</p>	<p>9</p>  <p>HOUSEHOLD OF CLOSE CONTACT</p> <p>If the close contact has no symptoms, others in their household don't need to isolate. If the close contact develops symptoms, they should follow this guide starting from step 1.</p>

If you do not have community or family support and need essential help, call the National Assistance Helpline on 0800 111 4000 (Mon-Fri 9am-5pm) or via textphone on 0800 111 4114. The helpline is for those who cannot leave their home or get the help they need elsewhere.

For current health advice and more information about the Test & Protect service visit [NHSinform.scot/test-and-protect](https://www.nhs.uk/infocentre/subject/coronavirus-test-and-protect)



CROSSROADS ORKNEY

and



We would like to help ease the loneliness and difficulty of lockdown for Dementia sufferers and their carers at home. We have a variety of puzzles, crafts and activities which we can post or deliver. All free of charge. If you know someone who could benefit from this or wish more information please call Crossroads 870500 or Lorna Reid 781329



CORRA
FOUNDATION
voice - power - change

Community Wellbeing Fund
@corrafoundation
T 01551 444407
W www.corra.org.uk

THE PEEDIE LARDER BOX PROJECT



STARTING JUNE 2020

FUNDING PROVIDED BY EAT WELL AGE WELL AND THE NATIONAL LOTTERY COMMUNITY FUND

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS!



OVER AGE 65?

If you or someone in your household is over age 65, you are eligible to participate in the Peedie Larder Box Project.

OUR LOCAL GROWERS:

Stronsay Markets, Redhouse Plants, and Raymond's Veg

This project is designed to support the nutrition of older adults, by providing fresh and locally grown fruit and vegetables. The project will run from approximately mid-June through September, providing fresh fruit and vegetables weekly.

While the Covid-19 pandemic continues, those participating will

receive a Newsletter with nutrition information, tips and recipes. We will feature our local growers and let you know what fruit and veg you can look forward to. If restrictions are lifted, at the end of the project we will all celebrate with a group meal at the Community Hall.

CONTACT: Sarah Powers Richings, Stronsay Community Wellbeing Coordinator
sdtwellbeing@gmail.com, 01857 616495



STRONSAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Chair: Ian Cooper Vice Chair: Shirley Cooper

FERRY TICKETS

In response to queries relating to whether the expiry date of books of Orkney Ferries tickets will be extended by the equivalent length of time that Covid-19 ferry restrictions remain in place, please note the following:-

- Each ticket is valid for 500 days and contains a unique barcode but unfortunately, the ticket operating system is not robust enough to automatically extend the expiry date for each book of tickets.
- Orkney Ferries will consider each case on an individual basis and re-issue the book with a new expiry date, at no cost to the customer, if the Covid-19 travel restrictions have prevented the individual from using books of ferry tickets where appropriate.

Colin McAlpine
Stronsay Island Link Officer
19 June 2020

RECENT BIRD SIGHTINGS

John Holloway

Predicting what uncommon species are likely to arrive in late Spring is impossible – there are always some common species which don't turn up and a few very uncommon species which do! A Swift seen by Ant at Gesty Dishes in late May was unusual as nearly all the island records of the species are in July, and 3 Snow Buntings were a surprise for Sue and I on 24th May when they suddenly flew up close to the road as we drove past the Bu Links. A Wood Pigeon and a Carrion Crow (all black) were both surprises further along the road at Springwell. Just a single Spotted Flycatcher was recorded – at Millgrip on 1st June and a Short-eared Owl (no evidence of breeding on Stronsay this year) was seen the same day.

Early June is the most difficult time of all for predictions, and this year was a 'classic', with a Great White Egret seen by Raymond Dennison in Whitehall Village on 3rd; a Corncrake heard calling on 4th (one had been heard in the same area two weeks previously); a family party of Stonechats on 7th; an adult Rosy Starling on 8th (and on several dates well into the second half of June), and a Buff-breasted Sandpiper at the Matpow Loch briefly on 9th. The egret (the first record for Stronsay) was a short-stayer but was seen well at very close range along the shoreline behind the Council Houses; the Stonechats are a mystery as they do not breed on the island (not enough gorse here); the Rosy Starling (breeds no closer than Eastern Europe) is one of over 200 in the UK at present, and the sandpiper had somehow found itself on the wrong side of the Atlantic!

A 'bird of prey' – seen briefly by Hazel and Norman towards the middle of the month - remains unidentified. It was a 'small falcon' which flew in through the open door and down the full length of the Community Greenhouse. It perched briefly at the far end, before flying back and out through the open door. Small birds of prey are notoriously difficult to identify but the time of year suggests it may have been a Red-footed Falcon (rare visitor to Orkney) or perhaps a Merlin or a Sparrowhawk both of which nest elsewhere in Orkney).

It is hard not to notice the big return to former numbers of the Skylark and Curlew in particular – both of which nest in the grassy fields - and the tern colony at Matpow continues to thrive although the Mute Swans on the same island reared just a single cygnet this year (5 in 2019), whilst just along the shore, the pair at Gricey Water have 8 (Don Peace)...and Norman and Hazel have just reported that the pair on the Hescome loch have 5 cygnets.

There were 20 adult Shelduck on the Bu loch on 19th June and on the dry sandy rim, one adult female with a brood of 8 tiny ducklings. Lovely!

Thanks again for all the calls. The Rosy Starling may stay for some time and is likely to feed with the common species. It is very easy to pick out!

(photographs appear on next few pages)

All the photographs taken from inside the car!



'The male Sedge Warbler in the Castle drive.'



'Short-eared Owl near Eastbank – a favourite hunting area for the species.'



'Juvenile Stonechat at Millgrip'

(continued on next page)



'Adult female Stonechat at Millgrip.'



'Adult male Stonechat at Millgrip.'



'Rosy Starling near South School.'

(continued on next page)



'Rosy Starling near South School.'



'Oystercatcher with chick by the roadside - near Roadside!'

All the photographs taken from inside the car!

STEPHEN CLACKSON'S LETTER FROM SCHOOL PLACE

Informing you of what your councillor is doing during this pandemic period

Image removed



for copyright
reasons

See the OIC website at <https://www.orkney.gov.uk/> for the latest Council news and up-to-date information on the Covid-19 situation as it pertains to Orkney, as well as referring to *The Orcadian* and listening to *BBC Radio Orkney*.

See also the Scottish Government's guidance at <https://www.gov.scot/coronavirus-covid-19/> or call 0800-1114000.

NHS Orkney has information at <https://www.ohb.scot.nhs.uk/coronavirus-covid-19-latest-information>

For Covid-19 testing telephone 01856-888221. For OIC's Homelessness Service ring 01856-873535 or 07921-582962.

Maybe this missive should really be renamed "Stephen Clackson's Letter from the West Manse", as this is where during the "lockdown" I am "attending" all Council meetings, and I am only "virtually" at School Place. We councillors are continuing to receive regular briefings at which we can discuss matters with council officers. We also had 2 "virtual" seminars ("webinars", I suppose) on OIC's business and economy response to the crisis, and on the "Islands Growth Deal". Because the Monitoring & Audit Committee provides a distinctive governance function dealing with essential matters best addressed separately from a Special General Meeting of the Council, the scheduled meeting went ahead as planned, but, of course, via the Internet.

The by-election to elect a successor to the late Cllr Kevin Woodbridge will be held on the 1st October (postal voting only).

At a Special General Meeting, the vacancy his death has left on the Orkney Health & Care Committee was filled by Cllr Sandy Cowie, and the vacancy on the Orkney Ferries Board by Cllr David Dawson (the choice of chairman will be decided at the next Board meeting). We received an update on the progress of our Children's Services inspection improvement plan. The very unsatisfactory Care Inspectorate report (published in February) which necessitated this improvement plan came to me and other councillors as a great shock, because we had been led to believe that everything was just fine. As I brought up at the meeting, this leaves me very wary about the veracity of *any* information I am fed as a councillor.

I attended my first on-line community council meeting, Eday's, by "Zoom". The chair gave a verbal coronavirus report with a very impressive list of all that is being done to help Eday residents during "lockdown". Notably, thanks to the Eday Partnership topping up the funding it receives from external bodies, the island has been able to adopt an inclusive approach and distribute the aid available universally, so that nobody in need is left out by being put off by an application process or embarrassment.

(continued on next page)

OIC is extending its £5-per-head voucher scheme for Isles' residents for a further 4 weeks (making it 12 weeks so far).

The Scottish Government is tentatively exiting "lockdown" through its phased "Route Map". In Phase 1 we were allowed to go fishing and play golf (although I can currently do neither because, once again, the Clacksons have had to self-isolate, this time on account of an emergency dental trip to Stromness). Phase 2 is now being phased in. Travel restrictions for us islanders are likely to remain in place, with the addition that it is now mandatory for face coverings to be worn on all public transport. As if on cue, Sanday Community Council has provided each resident of Sanday with a facemask. I'm trying to get the limited time window that the Outer Isles Covid-19 ferry timetable allows in the town extended, principally to assist those with hospital and dental appointments. To fully understand the complexities of Phase 2, see <http://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-framework-decision-making-scotlands-route-map-through-out-crisis-phase-2-update/> .

Whilst he was recovering from Covid-19 in hospital, the Prime Minister was purportedly reading "Tintin" books by the Belgian cartoonist Hergé. If you are lacking "lockdown" literature, there are 24 of these books (although for several decades, British publishers refused to publish an English translation of "Tintin au Congo", owing to our more enlightened attitudes towards race relations and animal cruelty). "Destination Moon" ("Objectif Lune") contains a very accurate, elementary description of how a nuclear reactor works. Since boyhood, I've been reading my way through Richmal Crompton's "William" books (all 38!). The authoress and I studied at the same University of London college, although 70 years separate our respective graduations—she in classics, me in physics. Regarding physics, it has long been my intention to read Richard Feynman's 115 legendary "Lectures on Physics" in 3 volumes. (Now freely available on-line at <https://www.feynmanlectures.caltech.edu/> .) If "lockdown" life has descended into domestic disputes, John Shuttleworth's book "Two Margarines and Other Domestic Dilemmas!" (a copy of which my younger daughter kindly gave me for my birthday) could help resolve them. Back in April 2012, when I was on the council election campaign trail, I met John Shuttleworth in Rousay. He gave me a cup of coffee and exchanged a signed copy of his DVD "Southern Softies" for a jar of my Sanday honey, the label of which he insisted I signed for him!

I am continuing to engage with NHS Orkney on the issues of Covid-19 testing and personal protection equipment (PPE), as I know how many members of our communities are worried about these (as, indeed, are health workers). As always, if you have concerns about these or any other matters please get in touch with me (in confidence).

World War 2 "Forces' Sweetheart", Dame Vera Lynn has passed away. In an interview on her 103rd birthday, she said the key to getting through any crisis is "to come together to help one another", and to be kind and foster a strong community spirit during the coronavirus outbreak. She urged Britons to remain positive, use the time isolated at home to reconnect with their families and rediscover the joy of writing letters to loved ones far away.

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Keep calm and carry on!

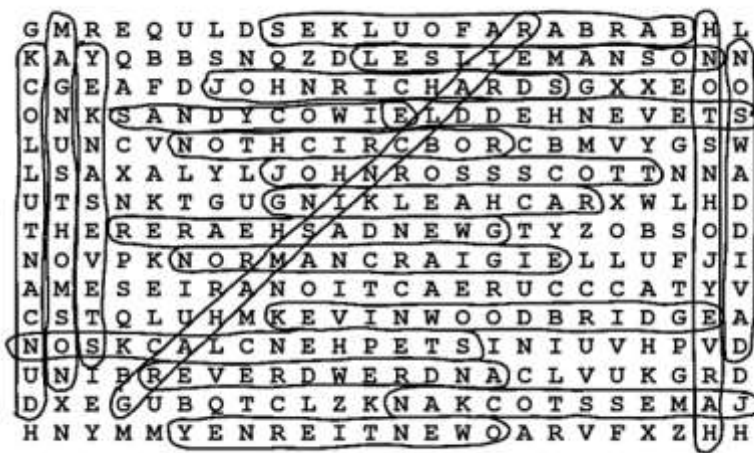
Stephen

Cllr Dr Stephen Clackson,
West Manse, Sanday
stephen.clackson@orkney.gov.uk



You can download “Letter from School Place” from lfs.pbworks.com

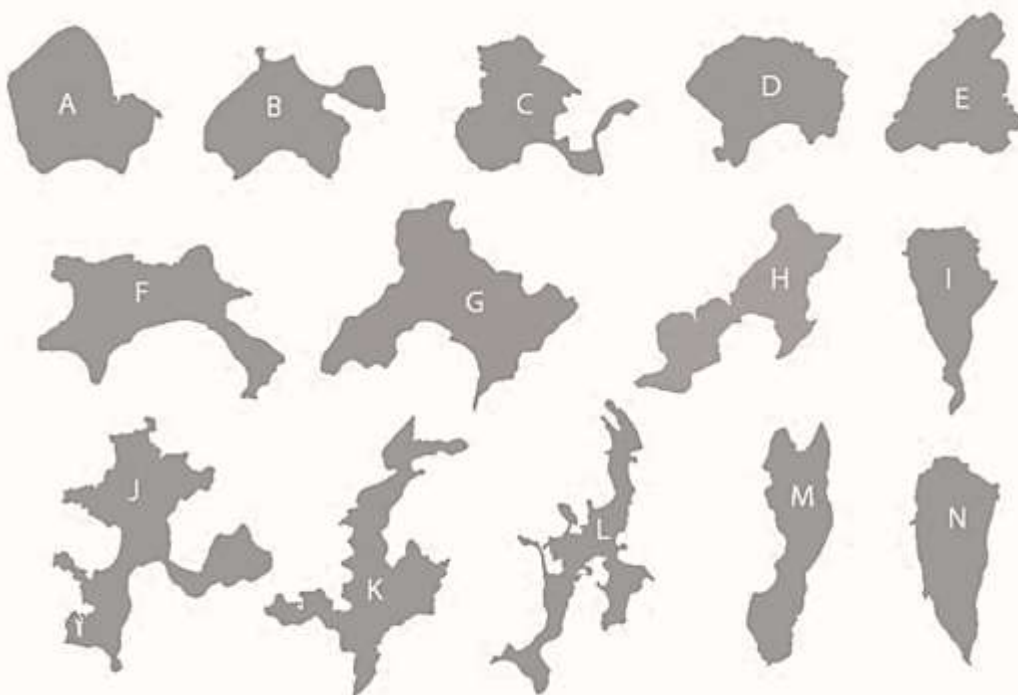
Solutions to last month’s quiz:



Councillor Clackson’s Covid-19 Council Ward Quiz

Supplement to “Stephen Clackson’s Letter from School Place” Issue 89

Here is a puzzle to challenge your shape recognition skills. (Don’t worry, it’s not a Rorschach test!) The 14 shapes below (A to N) are silhouettes of all of the inhabited islands in the North Isles Ward plus Eynhallow (where maybe Finfolk still dwell); however they’ve been re-orientated and re-scaled with respect to one another. Can you identify and name the islands?



ROTHIESHOLM GOLF COURSE?

This is an email which was sent to the Limpet's editor - a copy of the article he mentions appears below. A copy of this has been sent to the Limpet's email list and placed on the Stronsay Facebook page.

Hi, my name is Harry Ward from Crossford near Lanark. I research all the old defunct golf courses of Scotland. I am looking at the old course at Rothiesholm which was on the beach etc. I have emailed you as I suspect the heritage centre will be closed at the moment but would be grateful if you can pass this enquiry on. I would like to find out where the Sutherlands lived at Rothiesholm in the attached article. George Sutherland was the proprietor of the links, and also if the centre holds any info on the old course etc. Hope you can help and stay safe.

Best Regards

Harry Ward

www.forgottengreens.com

07548-763027

P.S. Coming up next year for a wee tour round all the orkney courses so will be on the scrounge for a wee cuppa.

Rothiesholm Links

The Orkney Herald July 19th, 1899
Orkney golf club

On Saturday last the members of this club and their friends had a trip to Rothiesholm, Stronsay. On arrival a competition was engaged in for three prizes, viz., a gold medal presented by Mr Sutherland, (Vice Captain), and prizes by Mr Shearer and Mr Hutchison. There thirty players. The prizes were won respectively by Messrs Brass, Buchanan, and Milne. The weather was everything that could be desired, and the links and greens were in splendid condition. On departing cheers were given for Mr and Mrs Sutherland.

Orkney Herald May
29th, 1901

On the birthday of our late revered queen, the Kirkwall golf club went to Rothiesholm, Stronsay, where, by the courtesy of Mr Sutherland, the proprietor, the links were thrown open to the club. Various foursomes were made up, and, although the weather was somewhat cold, a most enjoyable day was spent. In the interest of the club, the



President, Sheriff Cosens, and the Captain, Mr Sutherland, proceeded to Stronsay **two days beforehand** and arranged for the preparation of the green for play. The result was most successful, the course being in the best order in which we have yet seen it.

LIVING WITH MEMORIES

I took the Scout Promise to BE PREPARED (even though I was expelled for nicking crackers at camp)!

In the co-vid lockdown tens of thousands have been unable to be with loved ones; especially if they die.

Last month I wished my cat "Pussy Willow" happy birthday for June when he reached 16. I cared with him to his death on 8th June. That brought back memories of Dorothy his previous owner at Mirland. Also his first overnight stay alongside Jean de la Mothe, at Waterhall the night we received news of Dr. Michael her husband dying in his sleep, as he wished. So Pussy Willow was special and we buried him together.

This month after 4 visits to hospital by ambulance (20 miles each) Sylvia my step mother (aged almost 94) was taken for the first time, against her will to a "care" home. She declared she wished to die and did so within a couple of days. A Land Army girl in Cornwall, her ashes will be scattered there at sea. She was "mum" to me from the age of 6; in all to three step-children and four of her own (7 boys - I being the poorest, smallest and oldest - all still alive).

She was the last of the pre WW2 generation in my family and I have been urged to get my affairs in order! So we must live for today but prepare for whatever tomorrow brings.

Leo Martini-Brown, Waterhall/Dunera



Affordable Housing Boost for Orkney following Scottish Land Fund Awards

A total of £367,915 been awarded to two separate projects on Orkney in the latest round of grants from the Scottish Land Fund. The groups are amongst 16 in Scotland sharing £3,669,762.

Stronsay Development Trust has been awarded **£130,790** with which to purchase a three-bedroom house, which it intends to make available for affordable rent.

“We are absolutely delighted with the award from the Scottish Land Fund. The work on the property will be undertaken by local tradesmen, providing valuable employment on Stronsay and, when completed, it will provide affordable energy efficient housing, which is a much-needed and valuable asset.

We would like to thank the community for its support and we look forward to beginning the project in the coming months”

Mike Erdman, Chairman Stronsay Development Trust

WONDER BY R.J PALACIO—BOOK REVIEW

I really loved and enjoyed reading this book ‘*Wonder*’ by R.J Palacio. This book is a fictional story about bullying. The theme of bullying runs through the book from start to finish. It brings out all sorts of emotions in the reader and you can sympathise with all of the characters in the book.

The story is about a young boy who is named August Pullman. His nickname is Auggie. Auggie was born with a facial disfigurement so his parents didn’t send him to school. They decided to home school him to protect him from other children who might bully him because of the way he looked. His parents thought he was beautiful and loved him unconditionally. Auggie also had a sister called Oliva who was “normal” who attended school from the beginning of her school life. They both loved each other and were very close.

Once Auggie became a certain age, home schooling became more problematic for his parents. His parents made the difficult decision to send him to school. This is when all of Auggie’s problems started. Three children showed Auggie around the school; Julian became the main bully, Charlotte became known as the crazy kid in the story and Jack became Auggie’s best friend.

During the story the children began to bully Auggie in little ways. They left mean notes in his locker, they called him names such as “freak”, and they physically pushed, shoved and shook him from pillar to post. At the start of the school year the children had their photograph taken as a class. Julian’s mother decided that Auggie was too ugly to be in the class photo so she erased his image from the photo. Whilst the children were putting the class photo around the school Auggie noticed that he had been erased from the photo. Auggie said nothing about this but was very hurt. One of the class teachers brought the photo to the Head master’s attention and the Head master told the children off and then he found out that it was Julian’s mother who had done this dreadful, dark deed! So not only were some of the children bullying Auggie but it had spread to some of the parents.

Eventually Auggie became the hero in the story. The class went on a school trip and camped in the forest with other schools. The bullying against Auggie continued until some bigger bullies from other schools started bullying some of Auggie’s classmates including Julian. The crunch came when Auggie and his classmates ganged up together against the big bullies. This united Auggie with his classmates including Julian and the other bullies. Auggie became one of the most popular children in the school.

I have watched the movie of ‘Wonder’ and read the book. I preferred the book because it went into more detail about Auggie’s feelings. However watching the movie also helped me because it made me visualise how Auggie looked. I could really sympathise and empathise with Auggie because I have also been bullied in the past. I really loved reading the book and understand that “*Auggie’s extraordinary journey united everyone and proved that you can’t blend in when you were born to stand out.*”

By Aimee Carr

Records of a bygone age: Scotland's First Public Library

In a chance conversation with Carole Cotterill some months ago, she made mention of Scotland's first public library having its origins at Holland in Stronsay. While I did have a dim recollection of hearing of this before, it was something I had completely forgotten about and, curiosity aroused, I delved a bit deeper into the story.

This account has its origins in the first half of the 17th century when William Baikie, a son of James Baikie 1st of Tankerness and a keen reader and collector of books, went to study at Edinburgh University where he graduated MA in 1657. William never married and apparently lived a fairly solitary life at Holland, which he had acquired from his father in 1670. Although much of his study was on theology and many of his contemporaries were men of the cloth, William never entered the ministry, preferring to stay at Holland studying his beloved books. He had a reputation as a good and likeable man and a compassionate landlord who cared deeply for his fellow man and gave encouragement to those



*Holland Farm, where the Orkney Library had its
17th century origins*

with an aptitude for study. In a letter to the father of one boy who was showing academic promise, William wrote "*Faill not to keep your sone diligent reading and wreatng yt he losse not what he hes attained*". Does that quote ring any bells for you? More later!

A man of means, William added considerably to his collection of books over the years and was an avid studier of books as well as collector, with many of his books having copious notes and observations written on the flyleaf in his small and neat handwriting. It seems he didn't enjoy the best of health in later life and, in failing health shortly before his death in 1683, wrote bequeathing his books "*extending the number thereof to eight score*" to the care of his long time dear friend Rev James Wallace, minister of St Magnus Cathedral in Kirkwall, with the instruction that they were to be left "*to the ministers of Kirkwall successive for the Publick Liberarie to be kept within the town of Kirkwall*". James Wallace conscientiously carried out those instructions to the letter, adding a number of his own books to the collection and handing them over to the Bishop and Presbyteries of Orkney where they were deposited in St Magnus Cathedral for safe-keeping. Then in 1689, the Church authorities ordained that "*... a Press should be builded at the expense of the Session for ye books mortified by Mr William Baikie and oysrs to the Church of Kirkwall*".

When a new tollbooth was built in Kirkwall around 1740, the Bibliothek found a new home within the building. Little is then heard of these books until 1815 when a meeting was

appeal for books and donations resulted in the receipt of around 200 books and £70 in cash and, with the incorporation of the “Bibliothek of Kirkwall”, the “Orkney Library” as we know it today had its beginnings. A gift of money from Andrew Carnegie in 1889 enabled the library to buy a large and varied selection of new books and, with this influx of new material, many of the older books were deemed as surplus to requirements. These books, including nearly all those from the original “Bibliothek of Kirkwall”, were sold by public auction in 1891.



The Library in Laing Street which served the people of Orkney for well-nigh a century.

library service was started up on the Orkney Mainland in 1963 and, with the advent of the roll on - roll off ferry service to the isles in the early 90s this service spread to all the isles with ro-ro facilities and quickly became an important and accepted part of island life. The Archives became an established part of the Library in 1973 and the ‘Orkney Library and Archive’ moved into its superb purpose built new premises in Junction Road in 2003. It has gone from strength to strength ever since and currently provides access to over 145,000 items! I wonder what William, with his love of books and his thirst for knowledge, would have thought of the multitude of resources freely available here and of the part he played in its establishment!



The new Orkney Library and Archive opened in 2003

But what of the books themselves? As stated earlier, back in 1891 the original Bibliothek books were deemed to be surplus to requirements and were sold off by public roup where they were all purchased by Archdeacon J B Craven of the Episcopal Church in Kirkwall "in the hope that this ancient and curious Bibliothek may be preserved to future generations." Dr Craven found the books to be in a deplorable condition after almost 200 years of disuse and had several of them rebound, a number of them mended and all of them cleaned.

In 1914 Dr Craven, a graduate of Aberdeen University, then gifted to the university this collection of almost 500 printed items and 50 manuscripts all contained in a handsome mahogany bookcase (the self-same Press that had been "builded at the expense of the Session" in 1689).

Now back to the quote from William Baikie's letter: "Faill not to keep your sone diligent reading and wreating yt he losse not what he hes attained". Can you remember seeing it before? This quote was shown on the bookplate inside a great number of Orkney Library books up until around 2003 when, with a change of book supplier, the bookplate was no longer used and I suppose that after more than 300 years the quote was possibly becoming a little dated! It is still rather sad to see the passing of what is possibly the last direct link back to the foundation of the library in 1683.

Ian Cooper
June 2020



The Orkney Library bookplate with its famous quote from a William Baikie letter.

A SUITABLE SOLUTION

By Ellie Harrison

It's just a verbal agreement
Decided years ago.
Blackbirds being so bossy
As I'm sure you know.
It was over the autumn blackberries
And who has the rights to feast.
The birds believed that right to be theirs
To the bulk at the very least.
There is always more than enough,
Plenty without a doubt,
So this was a minor problem
That could easily be worked out.
For already we shared with the bees
And who would argue with them
And so a decision was made, I believe,
Then seconded by a passing wren:
All the berries high up on the brambles
Now were owned by my feathered friends
While the middle-grown fruit is reserved
For the pies where they usually end.
But what of the lower brambles?
Does this bounty waste or dissolve?
Well, no, I tremble to tell you
They're devoured by our Orkney Vole.
So an amicable agreement is settled
That this fruit belongs to us all,
Not forgetting the little beastie who lives in the dry-stone wall.
The birds, myself, those bees, and yon chappie vole share the fruit
So I tuck me trousers well into me wellies
For fear up me leg he might shoot.
Peace reigns again on me croft
With a blackberry pie for our tea
And outside the kitchen window
The word is "tranquillity".

©Helene Harrison

FOR SALE, WANTED, THANK YOU, etc

FOR SALE

For Sale 1 pair of men's size 8 Birkenstock covered toe sandals.
Brand new. Bought men's instead of women's.
Cost £60 open to Offers. Ring 616 375

SINCLAIR FAMILY HISTORY

Charles Hollander, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA is seeking information on some Stronsay Sinclair families of the 18th and 19th centuries.

In his email to the Limpet he says "*The two families I am most interested in are those of William Sinclair, 1821-aft 1872, and Jane Sinclair, 1824-bef 1872. They married; William's parents were Thomas Sinclair, 1783-1862, and Janet Chalmers. I have no parentage for Janet; I am told that Thomas's parents were Charles Sinclair and Barbara Dennison. Jane's parents were James Sinclair, 1824-bef 1872, and Barbara Drever, 1790-1875. I list Barbara's parents as Benjamin Drever and Janet Sandison; I have no parents for James Sinclair. I would like to trace these families farther back if someone could help me.*"

I have referred Charles to the Kirkwall Library Archive and the Orkney Family History Society but I am sure other folk will be able to provide some information.

THANK YOU!

The kirk plant sale at Ebenezer Stores last month raised an amazing £720.50 for Church funds. Huge thanks to Viv for all the hard work raising the plants and to everyone who came along and bought them. It's not too late if you still want a few as Viv still has some left for sale.

WANTED

Hi there, I just wondered if rental property with land is available on the island at all? Looking for a place on the islands for myself my five year old daughter and our animals. We are looking at properties to buy too but should we be able to rent that would speed up our progress. I work from home so can live anywhere but a rural place with plenty of space and some land around it is what we are looking for. I am registered with agents but there seems very little available.

Many thanks.

Anna Holland (annacholland@icloud.com, Scottish Borders)

Items on this page are free!

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Contact details for the *Limpet* are on the back page

LOCAL BUSINESSES



We are a brand new local company, we decided to take the plunge after many years of working for others, to set up our own business. Craig has many years experience in general building work, labouring, ground work ect. I am a time served joiner. We have all our own equipment so no need for the extra cost of hiring from elsewhere.

**We can do all types of ground work, pipe laying, guttering and roofing. Replacement windows and doors, finishings, concrete and general work. All types of work considered, no job too small, all work finished to a high standard. Full public liability insurance, safe, reliable and trustworthy.
Reasonable prices.**

Contact Craig or Christine for more information.

BELLIE M DESIGNS

Tieve Studios, Berryhill Road, St Ola, Orkney KW15 1SF.

Online shop www.belliemdesigns.com

Orders also taken via Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or phone 07736838489 with email invoices that can be easily paid by card or PayPal.

Local business adverts are free!

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LOCAL BUSINESSES

REDHOUSE PLANTS MARKET GARDEN



Seasonal vegetables available daily. Bedding, perennial and vegetable plants.

Local honey in season according to availability.

Open 09.00-17.00 Mon-Sat.

Redhouse, Lower Whitehall, Stronsay. Tel: (01857) 616 377

**STRONSAY
RANGER**

**GUIDED TOURS
AND NATURE
WALKS**

CONTACT 07922711525

FIND US ON FACEBOOK AND
INSTAGRAM
SEARCH FOR STRONSAY
RANGER

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LOCAL BUSINESSES

handmade  with love

Airy Fairy

- ★ Handmade Quilts, cushions & clothes ★
- ★ Beautiful, bespoke & personalised gifts ★
 - ★ Handmade especially for you ★
- ★ Makower fabrics in stock £10 per metre ★
- ★ Studio visits welcome by appointment ★



Hazel Shearer, Airy, Stronsay, Orkney, KW172AG • Phone 01857 616231
hazel.airyfairy@gmail.com • www.airyfairyonline.co.uk

The Wyrð Weaver

Handcrafted Textiles and Primitive Folk Art



Come and visit Eunice's studio at...
Newbigging, Stronsay, Orkney KW17 2AN

Open Daily
Phone - 01857 616230

Find and buy on Facebook @orkneywyrðweaver
Email - thewyrðweaver@btinternet.com



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LOCAL BUSINESSES



*New business, a mini market garden, set up in late 2015 at
Sunnybank, Stronsay*

*Currently supplying mixed salad leaves, some winter vegetables and
bedding plants. There will be more as the season progresses.*

I will supply a list each week with availability

*Please look at my Face book page "Stronsay Markets" or
send me an email "stronsaymarkets@gmail.com and I will put you
on my mailing list*

**PATRICK
McGRATH
LTD**

**PLUMBING
& HEATING**

**Gas Safe Registered Engineer
Plumber**

Services include:

- Installation, servicing, maintenance of all domestic gas appliances
- Landlords gas safety checks
- Bathroom fitting
- Bathroom supply
- General heatings
- All other types of domestic, commercial, industrial plumbing works
- Isles work welcome

Call Patrick on **07933 488283**
Email: patrickmcgrathltd@gmail.com



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LOCAL BUSINESSES

STRONSAY HOTEL

Phone 01857 616213, email cjdbuk@gmail.com

STRONSAY HOTEL AND THE VIRUS

In these challenging times we have changed the hours that we are open. We will still provide a Takeaway service and we can deliver if required. Ordering can be done via phone or email.

- Mon, Bar closed
- Tues, Bar closed
- Wed, Bar closed
- Thurs, Bar closed Takeaway available from 5pm.to 7pm
- Fri, Bar closed, Takeaway available from 5pm to 7pm
- Sat, Bar closed Takeaway available 5pm to 7pm
- Sun, Bar closed Takeaway available 5pm to 7pm

We know this is very drastic but it is a drastic time, hopefully it will not last too long.

TAKE AWAY MENU

Homemade lasagne + chips	£5.95
Homemade chicken curry + rice or chips . .	£5.95
Homemade chicken & bacon pie + chips . .	£6.50
Breaded haddock + chips.	£5.50
Battered haddock +chips	£6.50
Breaded wholetail scampi + chips	£6.50
2 sausages + chips	£3.00
2 fish fingers + chips	£2.80
“Stronsay beast burger” + fries	£4.50
“Stronsay cheese beast burger + fries	£5.00
Portion of chips	£1.30
Half portion of chips	£0.80
Portion of cheesy chips	£2.10
Half portion of cheesy chips	£1.10
Portion of onion rings	£1.20
Half cheesy chips = minus 20p	
Cheesy chips = add 80p	
Half chips = minus 60p	
Half rice = minus 60p	

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LOCAL BUSINESSES

“NEIL’S ON WHEELS”



- All mechanical work undertaken.
- Tyres
- ECU/ABS/airbag diagnostic testing
- Welding specialist
- MOT prep work
- Home start
- Towing service

MOBILE: 07723 304 260

HOME: 01857 616454

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Oil Tank Installation



Boiler Servicing

Oil boiler servicing,
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Boiler Installation

A serviced boiler
is an efficient boiler
and will save you money

& Commissioning

Tel 01857 616339
ebenezer@stronsay.org

Anthony Potts
Foot Health Professional

Qualified Foot Health Professional
MCFHP MAFHP

About Me
I qualified as a foot health professional (FHP) in 2017 studying at the SMAE Institute in Maidenhead. I am a Member of The British Association of Foot Health Professionals.

Treatments offered
Nail cutting and filing
Callus (hard skin) removed
Corns treated
Nail conditions treated
Verrucas treated
General assessment and advice on foot health
Home visits
Please telephone for an appointment

Tel: 07570531618
antpottsguitar@btinternet.com
Gesty Dishes, Stronsay, Orkney, KW17 2AJ

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LOCAL BUSINESSES



Orkney Star
Island Soap & Textiles

Producer of the unique range of Orkney Bere hand-made Soaps

Hand-spun Yarns made from Orkney's famous seaweed-eating sheep

The home of traditionally hand-crafted Orkney soaps, solid shampoo bars and balms.
Hand-spun yarns, woven throws, wall-hangings and more.

Member of Stronsay Craft Trail: Orkney Star Island Soap & Textiles, Isles View, Stronsay, Orkney.

Open all year round. Visitors welcome by arrangement.   

Tel: (+44) 01857 616 281. Email: info@orkneystarislandsoap.co.uk

Web: www.orkneystarislandsoap.co.uk.



The Old Manse Bed and Breakfast Logie Easter, Kildary IV18 0NZ



Dating back to the 1780s set in a large woodland garden just off the A9 and six miles from Invergordon, the Old
Ensuite Double and twin rooms

Telephone : 01862 842357

Website : www.oldmansebandbkildary.co.uk

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GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS

CHURCH PLANT SALE 24th MAY

Lots of plant raised by Viv. Steady sales but numbers down on last year. Social distancing observed

(Photographs courtesy of Roger Neville-Smith)



Announcements by charities, local groups, clubs and organisations are FREE!
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GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

I've been trying to make a collection of school photos for the Heritage Centre and I think I've got most of the newer ones (thanks to Elsie Dennison) but wonder if someone might have photos from about 1982 I could copy? I've got this one class photo from then but no other class photos or whole school photo for that year so I would be awfy grateful if you could dust off your old photos and have a look.

Ian Cooper



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GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS

EBENEZER STORES UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP

Ross Becalick took over the keys to Ebenezer Stores on Monday 15 June. Viv continues to work part time in the shop. Wishing him ever success in continuing a vital island service.



OUR LADY'S CHAPEL, PIERHEAD—NO PUBLIC MASSES

In accordance with the directives of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of Scotland, because of the COVID-19 virus, there will be no public Masses in Stronsay or in Scotland until further notice. The chapel will remain open for private prayer.

Holy Communion may be received and Confessions may be heard either by the priest visiting your home or by your coming to the Our Lady's Chapel. Please telephone 616210 to make arrangements.

With best wishes to all Limpet readers,
Father Michael Mary
Papa Stronsay

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GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS

KIRK CORNER

Dear Stronsay Friends,

Let me use this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Julia Meason, I'm the minister at Kirkwall East linked with Shapinsay and the interim moderator of the church in Stronsay. These are strange times indeed, but the church life continues.

Coronavirus pandemic might have closed our buildings and prevented us from meeting in person, however, our worship still takes place. Rev Scott Daily has faithfully led worship every Sunday under lockdown through Facebook and we are very grateful to him. After he left, the Kirk Session decided to accept my offer of joining for online worship with my two congregations – until such time as we can return to our buildings. We began thus meeting together online for e-services and e-Messy Church from the 7th June.

You can access our services in either one of the three ways:

- Through Moncur Memorial Church Stronsay Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1553904828107651>) where our joint services are published every Sunday
- Through the YouTube channel: <https://tinyurl.com/ycw5ptyo>
- By dialling 01856 404667 from your phone and listening to the audio recording of the service. You will be charged as you would normally be for a phone call to Kirkwall (and that of course depends on your contract).

We hope you can join us in worship – it is easy to do so and you can even stay in your pyjamas! Just click on or phone in!

We are also trying to find a new minister for Stronsay, doing as much as we can under the current restrictions. Please pray for us as we discern our way forward.

If you have any questions or comments or simply fancy a chat, please don't hesitate to phone me on 01856 874789 or e-mail me at jmeason@churchofscotland.org.uk.

With every blessing to you and yours,

Rev Julia Meason

No services in the kirk until further notice. Kirk website <https://tinyurl.com/y2ctm7o5>

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USEFUL INFORMATION

POST OFFICE OPENING TIMES etc

Monday to Saturday	8:30am—5:00pm
Sunday	Closed
Post collection times	07:30, Monday to Saturday
Bank day	No bank until further notice. See article on page 1
Island Link Officer.	Fishmart office 10 to 12 on Tue, Thu & Sat. Phone 616475
SDT Office	Wood's Yard 10am - 11am Mon-Fri. Phone 616410
Sunday service at the Kirk . . .	No services. See https://tinyurl.com/pj7xtg5
Our Lady's Chapel, pier head	No services. See article in this edition of the Limpet
Next Special Collections	?
Weekly rubbish collection	Tuesday (bags out ready by 9am)

EMERGENCY! POLICE, FIRE, AMBULANCE or COASTGUARD - dial 999

Airy Fairy	616231	SDT office	616410
Castle Bird Reserve	616363	Stronsay Band	616335
Craftship Enterprise	616249	Stronsay Hotel	616213
Doctor	616321	Taxi	616335
Ebenezer stores	616339	Stranded seals, etc	616339/206/498
Electrician (Dave)	616230	Balfour hospital (24/7) . . .	01856 888000
	<i>or</i> 07917 191 797	Electricity	
Fish Mart	616401	general enquiries	0800 048 3516
Hairdresser	616337	<i>lines open Mon-Fri 8am-5pm</i>	
Hall bookings	616420	problems (24/7) . . .	0800 300 999
	<i>or</i> 07570 531 618	power cut (24/7) . . .	105
Island Link Officer	616475	Water problems (24/7) . .	0800 0778 778
Medical emergency	616321	Highland Fuels	0800 224 224
Neil's on Wheels	616454	Kirkwall Library	01856 873166
Manse	616286	Kirkwall Police (24/7) . . .	101
Nurses	616480	Vets:	
Olivebank	616255	Flett & Carmichael .	01856 872859
OIC out of hours	01856 873535	Northvet	01856 873403
Post Office	616499	Dentists:	
Red House Plants	616377	Orkney Dental	01856 872030
Registrar	616239	King Street	01856 888258
School	616246	Deyanov Dental . . .	01856 877118
Silver Darlings	616412	Golgotha monastery. . . .	616210
Star Island Soap	616281		<i>(Email contact@the-sons.org)</i>

HOW TO CONTACT THE [LIMPET](#)

Send an email to editor@stronsaylimpet.co.uk (preferred method); phone Bruce Fletcher on 616297 (after 10:30am & before 9pm, please!); or write to *The Limpet, Claremont, Stronsay, KW17 2AR*. Details of the deadline for the next edition are on the front page

