



MESSAGE FROM STRONSAY SURGERY STAFF.

As we all move towards the 'new normal' all clinical staff will continue to wear PPE when seeing patients, both in the surgery and on home visits. This will include plastic aprons, gloves and masks.

It would be appreciated if patients attending the surgery would wear face masks wherever possible.

Thank you,
Stronsay Surgery.

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.

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](http://www.stronsaylimpet.co.uk)

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](http://www.stronsaylimpet.co.uk) will be published on **Thu 29 October**. Items for inclusion in that edition should be submitted by 7pm on **Sun 25 October**. Contact details are on the back page. The Limpet's website address is <http://www.stronsaylimpet.co.uk>

FLU VACCINATIONS STRONSAY SURGERY 2020

Who is eligible for a flu vaccination?

This year, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the flu vaccination programme has been extended so that more people are eligible than before.

Primarily the flu vaccine will initially be available to those aged over 65 and those with underlying health conditions, such as asthma/COPD, heart or kidney disease or diabetes or who are very overweight. It will also be available to all primary school age children, pregnant women and those who provide hands on health or social care.

There will be a second round of flu vaccinations for those aged 55- 64 who have no underlying health conditions and those who live with people who are shielding.

How will it work?

Because of the increased numbers and the need for social distancing we will be undertaking this year's clinics in the Community Hall, rather than in the surgery so that people can enter and leave by different doors.

People aged over 65 and those aged under 65 with underlying health conditions get slightly different forms of the flu vaccine so we will be providing flu clinics for the two groups on **different days**.

It will be an appointment based system.

What do I need to do next?

Currently you don't need to do anything. Once we have a confirmed date for the vaccine delivery we will advertise the date of the clinic and ask people to phone the surgery to make an appointment. This is likely to be in October for the first group of people and December for the second group.

As usual our nurses will visit those who are unable to get out to give those people their flu vaccine.

BLYTHSWOOD SHOE BOX APPEAL 2020

Dear all,

We all rather assumed the Blythswood Shoe Box Appeal wouldn't be going ahead this year but the lovely news is - it is! We have put some slightly different procedures in place to incorporate COVID and the Kirk being closed but we are hoping, with the community's generous help to put a few boxes together ready to send. Unfortunately this means we don't have much time but any donations would very much be appreciated.

Collection boxes are already in the shops and shoe boxes are available upon request (see posters on pages 35 and 36). Many thanks in advance!

Sarah Evans

STRONSAY'S NEW DOCTORS

Dr Alison Lievesley (L) & Dr Mandy Fry (R) outside Geramount.
Dr Fry is on duty until Sunday 27th September
then Dr Lievesley from Monday September 28th until Sunday 18 October.



DIABETES & FLU VACCINE

Extract from “Balance” magazine, Autumn 2020 edition

www.diabetes.org.uk

Diabetes gives you a greater risk of getting the flu. It can make managing your blood sugar levels harder, increase your risk of developing complications such as pneumonia, and increase your risk of urgent admission into hospital. We’re urging anyone with diabetes, including children and pregnant women, to get a flu jab to protect against the most common types of flu. As this changes each year, you need a new flu jab annually.

Question: Will the vaccine give me flu?

Answer: No. The jab contains an inactive form of the virus which cannot cause flu. It can take about two weeks for the jab to work, so you may still get the flu. The sooner you have the jab, the sooner you’ll be protected.

Question: Where can I get a vaccine?

Answer: Your GP surgery or a participating pharmacy. In light of coronavirus, steps will be taken to ensure this is done in a safe environment. You may receive an invitation or the information may be on a website. Remember, it’s free because you need it, so get your vaccination now, before winter starts.

(Editor: see notice on previous page!)

ORCADES PRACTICE—STRONSAY BRANCH

In an emergency phone 01856 888000

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

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**

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

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"





RECYCLING SKIPS

From OIC Updates on Facebook:

"Isles Residents - To help us plan and schedule skip collections, you can notify us at recycling@orkney.gov.uk when skips are nearing full and we will pass on the information to our Operations Team to arrange collection."

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/sections/2020/06/01/test-and-protect)



*Promoted by Coilla Anne Drake, of Cott, Westray, KW17 2DA.
Coilla is the Scottish Labour candidate for the
North Isles Ward of Orkney Islands Council*

Orkney is a beautiful place with a rich heritage and a magnificent and diverse environment. The North Isles are a wonderful and special part of this whole.

Last year OIC declared a climate emergency, and we must continue to act to reduce our emissions. We are leading the way in many areas in addressing Climate Change. We are fortunate to be surrounded by abundant natural energy resources of wind and tide (though sometimes they can feel a bit too abundant). At the moment we are very dependent on another resource that has been abundant here, fossil fuels, both in our use of them and our economy's dependence on them. Fossil fuel use will and must reduce and this section of our economy will fade, we must replace it in our economy and our lives with renewables. Fortunately Orkney is already leading the way in wind and tidal energy, and now also in hydrogen and smart energy systems. There is much opportunity here for our economy, for growth and for really good jobs, we must ensure that our isles also benefit. In developing this we must also be aware of preserving our environment and our heritage for ourselves and for the tourists who flock here to enjoy it and who are very important to our economy.

Orkney also is a leader in the use of electric, and other alternative fuel vehicles and this is to be encouraged. The mainland already has public electric charging/fuelling points for these, it is past time there were also public charging points on the isles. We have had electric buses for a while now but marine and air transport are still large contributors to emissions and this must be addressed.

Fuel poverty is high in Orkney generally and worse in the North Isles, and space heating is a major contributor to our emissions. This is due to a combination of poor energy efficiency of some housing, expensive, inefficient heating systems often still using fossil fuels, low wages and a cold, damp climate. Much work has been done in this area and this needs to continue to improve the lives of our residents and to reduce our contribution to emissions

Waste and recycling is a particularly sore point at this present time. With the Covid restrictions closing recycling centres and stopping what collections we had, many folk are fast disappearing under the accumulated recycling. Fortunately the recycling centres are again open but not all residents know this or are easily able to access them. This really needs sorting out immediately.



COILLA DRAKE FOR NORTH ISLES

A bit about me:

I was born and brought up in a very rural area. For my secondary education I boarded weekly at my school, as most of the isles students currently must.

On leaving school I worked for:

26 years as a veterinary nurse in mixed practice.

3 years as a lecturer in Further Education

Whilst working I studied and obtained:

A Degree in Biology and Environment (First)

A Masters in Animal Behaviour including research

A Management qualification

A teaching qualification

Fifteen years ago I moved to a very small farm in Westray and spent twelve years as a 24/7 carer for my husband and my father. The last three years I have worked at the Processors and then the Bakehouse. I also work part-time as a lifeguard and an ambulance driver.

Vote for me and allow me to serve our communities

MY MANIFESTO includes:

Transport

I will fight for:

- Ferry replacement
- Better timetables
- Fairer Fares

Environment

I will pursue:

- Greener Transport
- Isles EV charging points
- Better recycling capability

Employment

I will press for:

- Remote working policy
- Better connectivity
- Grants to help access to faster satellite/mobile broadband for business and home workers.

Health and Social Care

I will work for:

- Continued improvement in Healthcare and access to emergency and routine services South
- Continued improvement in Social Care
- Improved resources and training for carers

Economy

I will work towards:

- a Community Wealth Building Programme
- to ensure that money that comes into our economy continues to circulate here
- to encourage our large institutions such as OIC and NHS to procure as locally as possible by considering social as well as financial benefit

I will hold a surgery every month, and I will visit all the isles as soon as it is safe and practicable.
Contact me at home on 01857 677402, or at coilla4northisles@gmail.com

Promoted by George Vickers on behalf of Coilla Drake, both at COTT, WESTRAY, KW17 2DA, printed by COILLA DRAKE at COTT, WESTRAY, KW17 2DA.



Vote

Claire Stevens



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- FOR ADDRESSING HOUSING ISSUES
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Printed and promoted by Claire Stevens of 2 Hamarhill, Eday, KW17 2AB



**VOTE
HEATHER
WOODBIDGE
for
NORTH ISLES**



Vote Heather Woodbridge
for North Isles Councillor



voteheatherwoodbridge@gmail.com

About Me

I grew up in North Ronaldsay, took part in the Orkney - Hordaland student exchange to Norway and studied Ecology at the University of Stirling, including a semester in BC, Canada. I returned home to Orkney where I have been living and working since. I believe using new technologies and green energy are key to a sustainable future. In my spare time I enjoy playing the fiddle and getting involved in local projects and events.

If elected, I would be the youngest ever Orkney Islands Councillor at 26 years old.

I want to continue my father's good work, and share his vision for the North Isles.

As a Councillor, I would be a strong and clear voice for the North Isles and will fight for investment and regeneration in the North Isles.

TRANSPORT

Push for the quality services the North Isles need and deserve.

REGENERATION

Promote remote working, investment, affordable housing, better digital connectivity & more opportunities for young islanders.

HEALTH AND CARE

Prevent the erosion of core services & fight for improved ambulance waiting times.

Promoted by Alison Duncan on behalf of Heather Woodbridge, both at Lurand, North Ronaldsay, KW17 2BE

MOBILE LIBRARY IS BACK ON MONDAY 16 NOVEMBER!

Council Houses 8:45-9:45

School 10-12

Kirk 12:30-3

Fish Mart 3:15-4:45

MOBILE LIBRARY

THE MOBILE LIBRARY IS BACK



17 September	Deerness	12 November	Deerness
22 September	Dounby, Sandwick & Birsay	16 November	Stronsay
24 September	Shapinsay	17 November	Dounby, Sandwick & Birsay
30 September	Westray	19 November	Shapinsay
1 October	Burray, South Ronaldsay & Holm	25 November	Westray
6 October	Evie, Rendall & Firth	26 November	Burray, South Ronaldsay & Holm
8 October	Sanday	1 December	Evie, Rendall & Firth
13/14 October	Longhope, Hoy & Flotta	3 December	Sanday
20 October	Tankerness & Toab	8/9 December	Longhope, Hoy & Flotta
22 October	Harray & Quoyloo	15 December	Tankerness & Toab
26 October	Eday	17 December	Harray & Quoyloo
29 October	Rousay & Egilsay	21 December	Eday
3 November	Orphir & Stenness		

FACE MASKS MUST BE WORN

ONLY ONE PERSON OR HOUSEHOLD ON THE VEHICLE AT A TIME

For more information contact **Orkney Library & Archive**
on **01856 873166** or email library@orkney.gov.uk



ORKNEY LIBRARY & ARCHIVE

Mobile Service to Isles – Aug – Oct/Nov 2020

We are delighted to be able to offer a temporary book delivery service in collaboration with our colleagues from Democratic Services and Island Link Officers.

- We will deliver boxes to the hauliers for each island on a Wednesday morning.
- Your local Island Link Officer will deliver bags of books (up to 6 items) within the next week. For your safety, we advise leaving the bag for 72 hours before opening.
- We would prefer a drop off/pick up non contact service if at all possible. If contact cannot be avoided, please take all precautions and move back to keep a safe distance from the person delivering the bags.
- Returns can be taken. Please bag and leave them for collection at your door/porch as items are delivered. We would encourage customers to return outstanding items as we realise many of you will have loans issued pre lockdown.
- Loan period will be 6 weeks but this may be flexible if staff capacity allows.

Please contact your Island Link Officer on stronsaycc@gmail.com or 616446, or the library on library@orkney.gov.uk or 01856 873166

UPDATE: Mobile Library Service - plans are being made to restart the mobile library service later this year.

Please note restrictions:

Only one household on the vehicle at a time, a face covering should be worn and use the hand sanitiser provided on entry, during your visit and exit. Please avoid handling books if possible.

Your next scheduled mobile visit is due on 16 November 2020

This service will cease 2 weeks before that date.

**OPEN
NOW**

STRONSAY POP UP HERITAGE CENTRE

The Stronsay Heritage Committee is pleased to announce the reopening of the pop up Heritage Centre and ask the following

- Only one family unit or "bubble" at a time within the centre
- Please use the sanitiser provided, hand washing facilities can also be found at reception if required
- Do not touch any of the displays or artifacts
- Enjoy and pass the word on



Situated in the Village of Whitehall, the centre showcases Stronsay's maritime history, specifically related to the herring industry. Stop by to see pictures of Stronsay as it was with 4,000+ people living on island. The pop up centre offers the community and visitors the opportunity to influence the permanent Stronsay Heritage Centre by providing a chance to comment and give feedback on existing displays, add ideas and offer suggestions on future displays.

Contact us

01857 616410

Email

stonsayheritage@gmail.com

For further information

Entry is free but donations towards the maintenance of the displays are greatly appreciated



RECENT BIRD SIGHTINGS

Although most of the interesting and unusual sightings here on Stronsay are discovered around the farms and dwellings – and particularly in the gardens – there are some amazing records of birds seen on and around the shoreline in Whitehall Village over the years. The Great White Egret on the beach alongside the play-park by Raymond Denison in June this year was a classic example of ‘birds might turn up almost anywhere’. Several other rare species in the UK have been recorded from that small stretch of road, including a Great blue Heron on the beach (American species – see photo); Black-eared Wheatear on the road (see photo); Tree Creeper in the Monk’s Garden behind Morven; Waxwings feeding on rose-hips in the gardens along the roadside, and both Hawfinch and Blue Tit attracted to the bird-feeders in Mirland some years ago, A Spotted Crake present in late Spring 1989 could be heard all around the village, it’s ‘whiplash’ call keeping several residents awake! Oh yes – and the most exotic sighting of all – the Bee-eater of late Spring 2015.....which was seen catching bees in several gardens including the Hotel and later in Tam Chalmer’s garden in Whitehall.

Two species which are regularly seen along the ‘Village Street’ are Black Guillemots and Rock Pipits, the former present all summer around the piers in their dapper mainly black breeding plumage, and Rock Pipits which are present throughout the year, pecking for insects and other ‘morcel’s of food along the tarmac road (see photos).

The last month has been very quiet regarding migrant species, and only a handful have been recorded on the island. Donald Omand (Lower Samsons) has recorded Barred Warbler, Rosefinch, Blackcap and Brambling in the area, and Ant and Clare at Gesty Dishes found a Yellow-browed Warbler close to their house on 17th Sept. There have been just a few other migrants elsewhere, including 2-3 Willow Warblers, one Pied Flycatcher at Airy, and two Stonechats near The Mill. There have been far less ‘Greenland’ Wheatears around the roads in September this year – perhaps a big influx is just around the corner!

Several raptor’ species have been recorded during the last month (all probably ‘one of each species’) : Merlin, Sparrowhawk, Hen Harrier and Buzzard. Swallows and Sand Martins have both reared good numbers of young this year, and there has been a noticeable increase in the numbers of Sandwich Terns off-shore in early Autumn which also suggests a better breeding season. Pied Wagtails seem to have had a good season with several seen feeding along the tarmac roads during the last few weeks, and the local Linnets have certainly had a good breeding season in the island gardens. A flock of 50 or more Linnets is not unusual anywhere right across the island at this time of year.

Ant and Clare watched a pod of 5 or 6 Risso’s Dolphins in Holland Bay in mid-month, but the group had soon moved off southwards – perhaps heading back to the area around Shapinsay where a pod of that size had been seen recently on several occasions.

One other sighting of interest was of a Humming-bird Hawk Moth in the garden at Park Cottage on 9th Sept – with plenty of Red Admirals all around the island during the very welcome warm spell of weather in mid-month.

(continued on next page)

September has so far been very disappointing regarding migrant species from the east. The weather forecasters kept promising us winds between SE and NE but very little materialised, If a warmish airflow from the east does materialise during the next month have the binoculars at the ready!

Thanks again for all the calls. John & Sue



'The Great Blue Heron discovered feeding opposite the Playpark in Whitehall Village.'



'Black-eared Wheatear outside 'Mirland'.

(continued on next page)



'Black Guillemot off the Ro-Ro Pier – in juvenile/winter plumage rarely seen close in-shore in Whitehall.'



'Rock Pipit on the low wall opposite Ebenezer Stores.'

STEPHEN CLACKSON'S LETTER FROM SCHOOL PLACE (CURRENTLY WEST MANSE)

Reporting on what your councillor is doing virtually and really as the Covid-19 crisis continues

To keep up to date with the latest Council news and Covid-19 information as it pertains to Orkney, please check OIC's website at <https://www.orkney.gov.uk/> . Don't forget also to read *The Orcadian* and listen to *BBC Radio Orkney*.

For Orkney Ferries information see <http://www.orkneyferries.co.uk/> or ring 01856-872044. For inter-island flights see

<https://www.orkney.gov.uk/Service-Directory/T/internal-air-services.htm> or ring 01856-872494 / 873457.

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.

The Scottish Government's guidance is located at <https://www.gov.scot/coronavirus-covid-19/> .

SAGE has warned that Britain is “on the edge of losing control” of Covid-19, hence the introduction of the “Rule of Six”. I have tried to dissuade OIC Leader, James Stockan from obsessively seeking variations for Orkney. We can't afford to play politics with a pandemic. We may feel safe on our islands, but, in reality, our situation is fragile and precarious. I was involved in a lengthy, multi-agency Covid-19 debriefing session, which I hope will bring improvements to handling the coronavirus crisis locally. I discovered recently that one of my great-great-great-great-grandmothers and her 9-year-old son died in the cholera pandemic (or “Asiatick” as it was called then) that reached Britain in 1832. Although it was barely at the dawn of the railway age, the disease spread rapidly across the country—a warning from history for all us. We still don't have a Covid-19 vaccine!



You may be wondering why I am illustrating this month's *Letter* with the front cover of the Westray SWRI's “Golden Jubilee Cookery Book”. The reason is that it was published by the *Cienfuegos Press*, founded in Sanday in the 1970s by an anarchist, Stuart Christie, who passed away on the 15th August.

(continued on next page)

As well as a heap of anarchist literature, he also published “A Visit to the Island of Sanday”, a nicely illustrated extract from Alexander Goodfellow’s “Sanday Church History” (published in 1912). In the early 1960s, Christie hitchhiked to Spain to assassinate the Caudillo, Generalissimo Franco, was caught and was jolly lucky not to have been executed by garrotte. Sanday seems to be a haven for those willing to act on their convictions. Take, for example, my W.Manse councillor predecessors: Rev Matthew Armour (OCC 1890-99), who was imprisoned for inciting a political riot against a Tory parliamentary candidate; and Mrs Christine Muir (OCC 1964-75, OIC 1975-78), famed for refusing to sit down in the council chamber “until the water comes” (in her campaign to bring mains water supplies to the Isles).

I am taking up the speed-limit cause again by attempting to get speed limits reviewed throughout Orkney with full community participation. OIC reactions to Covid-19 have demonstrated that where there’s a will there can be a way. “Cienfuegos” means “hundred fires”. Just one bonfire of the bureaucracy which has consistently blocked progress on our speed limits would suffice!

At a Special General meeting back in April, if you remember, I supported an amendment calling for the “Orkney Harbours Masterplan Phase 1” to be referred back for proper scrutiny by all councillors rather than going through on the approval of merely the 6 members of the Harbour Authority Sub-Committee. Regrettably, the Chairman of D&I (my North Isles counter-part Cllr Graham Sinclair) refused to take it back and our amendment failed. I share the concerns of my colleague Cllr Steve Sankey expressed in his article in the 10th September issue of *The Orcadian*. The glossy “Masterplan” has now been released to the public. If you read it, you will observe that our crumbling North Isles life-line harbour infrastructure is not addressed at all, and I urge my ward constituents and North Isles community councils to highlight this fact if they make a response.

Other meetings I have “virtually” attended this month include those of the Monitoring & Audit Committee, Education, Leisure & Housing Committee, Orkney Health & Care Committee, and Shapinsay Community Council; also a rescheduled Air Services Consultative Forum meeting, and patchy Skype attendance at an Orkney College Management Council meeting.

It was nice to attend a real event for a change. Owing to a combination of change of head and Covid-19, the achievements of both the 2019 and the 2020 school leavers were celebrated simultaneously in the playground of Sanday School. Well done to them all and to the staff who brought them this far. I wish them godspeed for the rest of their respective life journeys.

Since my last *Letter*, the goslings have become practically geese. Here they are a month later at the beginning of September.

Keep well and carry on!



Cllr Dr Stephen Clackson,
West Manse, Sanday

stephen.clackson@orkney.gov.uk

You can download *Letter from School Place* from lfsp.pbworks.com



RECORDS OF A BYGONE AGE **AMMUNITION DISPOSAL ISLAND STYLE!**

In last month's article about the Stronsay Boy Scouts, I mentioned the role that James Sinclair Gorie of Clestrain played in the formation of the Stronsay troop of Scouts. After spending much of his life in South Africa, Jim Gorie returned to his native Stronsay to retire at Hazelbank. With the formation of the Local Defence Volunteers in May 1940, he was called into service once more as officer in charge of the Stronsay Local Defence Volunteers, later to become the Home Guard. It was this involvement with the Home Guard that jogged my memory and brought to mind a rather strange event that occurred more than fifty years after the end of the war and the disbanding of the Home Guard.

As a little bit of background information, Jim Gorie moved to Kirkwall in October 1941 and my wife's grandfather Jim Chalmers, who had served in the 1st World War, was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and took over as officer in charge of the platoon, a role which he held until the Home Guard was disbanded in 1945.



Stronsay Home Guard pictured in 1945. Jim Chalmers is 7th from the left in the third row from the back.

Jim Chalmers bought the farm of the Lodge and moved there in 1945, farming there until the property was taken over by his son Bobby in 1962. It was then bought by Arna and I when Bobby retired in 1991. In May 1997 we decided we were going to build a silage pit at the Lodge and, to get the site ready, we had to remove a couple of small concrete sheds which had been erected by Jim Chalmers soon after he had bought the farm. These sheds had been

used for keeping hens and pigs, both of which had been so important to the farming economy for many years, but the sheds were now redundant.

Robert Rendall, who worked at Midgarth with us for over forty years and stayed in the farmhouse at the Lodge after we bought it, was dispatched with a digger to demolish these old buildings and get the site ready for the new building and all seemed to be going smoothly and according to plan. Then came a phone call from Robert to tell me that demolition had come to a standstill as he had decided it wasn't safe. When asked what the problem was, he told me I had better come over and have a look so off I went, wondering what could have happened. On arrival I found that Robert had pulled up the concrete foundations of the shed with the digger only to discover several hundred rounds of .303 ammunition, still in their cardboard boxes, arranged neatly in the bottom of the trench where the concrete foundations had been poured many years before! After much debate about what we could do with this, we decided we had better call the police to report this find and see what they would advise us to do. They seemed surprisingly uninterested and told us they would come along and have a look next time they were out in the island, and maybe take it away for disposal! Knowing nothing about ammunition and how stable it would be after lying for a long time, we weren't sure what the next step should be and certainly didn't want to risk hitting it with the bucket of the digger!

As we could do nothing more with site preparations until the ammunition was moved, we decided that it would have to be shifted from there and gingerly gathered it all up and put it in a five gallon drum, which it almost filled! We then topped the drum up with sand and set it aside to await future inspection and collection by the police.

Jim Chalmers, Arna's grandad, had passed away by this time and her father Bobby knew nothing about where this ammunition came from or how it came to be buried under the foundations of a shed. On thinking back to some of the stories about the Home Guard previously related by Arna's grandad, we could only surmise what may have happened. As the officer in charge of the unit, Jim Chalmers would also have been in charge of the ammunition and, when the Home Guard was demobilised, would have had to return all the rounds that had been issued. Being the army, I'm sure every round would have had to have been accounted for. I believe the issue was fifty rounds per man, of which a maximum of ten rounds could be used for practice.



Robert Rendall's photo of some of the ammunition he discovered

As target practice was one of the more interesting and competitive parts of the Home Guard training, I understand that extra ammunition was sometimes obtained from some of the armed fishing boats and cargo boats that called in along Stronsay, who were quite happy to exchange a few boxes of cartridges for some milk, eggs or butter. As this practise would have been highly illegal, both from the point of view of the seamen handing over ammunition and from the locals handing over produce which should have been rationed, this ammunition would have had to remain very much 'off the record'. It obviously couldn't be returned to stores and, as the Home Guard's .303 rifles had by now been returned, the ammunition couldn't be used.

This would have become something of a concern and embarrassment for Jim as it would have been highly illegal to be holding this ammunition and it would also be very difficult to account for where it came from in the first place. The problem he was now faced with was how to dispose of this ammunition quietly, safely and permanently. With new sheds being constructed at the Lodge, it would have seemed an ideal opportunity to dispose of the surplus under the foundations, never to be seen again and no one any the wiser. He would never have dreamt that these boxes would see the light of day once more over fifty years later!

The drum containing the ammunition stood in the yard at the Lodge for months and it seems it had been completely forgotten about. Then one day a police officer called along Robert at the Lodge to check his shotgun licence and was quite surprised, to say the least, to have a drum full of ammunition set in the boot of his police car and to be told to take that back to Kirkwall with him! What became of it then I have no idea, but it may still be gathering dust in a 'lost property' office somewhere!



This is what remains of the Stronsay rifle range, where servicemen practised their shooting skills

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 444 4027
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
sdwellbeing@gmail.com, 01857 616495





The North Isles Landscape Partnership and Stronsay Heritage Group would like your help to create a record of nature and wildlife in Stronsay during this slightly unusual summer of 2020.

We're making a scrapbook.

We can't get together as we usually would, instead we're asking if you can complete a page for the book at home over the summer. The pages are A3 size and can be picked up from the heritage centre from the week beginning 27 July.

You can do your page in any way that you choose. You might have a particular interest in birds or mammals, plants or shells. You might want to highlight a favourite spot in Stronsay and the wildlife you see there, or you might want to record what you see in your garden over the summer. How you do it is completely up to you – you might choose photographs, facts, figures, illustrations, art, craft, poetry or prose. You can include pressed flowers or feathers, but just remember it needs to be 2 dimensional for the scrapbook. There's a couple of example pages below to help you start thinking about what you could do. We'd like you to include your name and the name of your house on your page. There's also an example of what the front cover of the scrapbook might look like.

You've got till the end of August, and you can drop your page back to the heritage centre when it's done. The main thing is have fun.

If you have any queries or you can't get to the heritage centre to pick up your page please get in touch with Ian Cooper, 616 322.



FOR SALE, WANTED, THANK YOU, etc

THANK YOU

A very big “thank you” to SSE, Orkney Ferries (boat & pier staff), Craig Weaver and anyone else involved in arranging a midnight run on Friday/Saturday 11/12 September with generators to get power back to the island!

THANK YOU

Continued thanks to Ebenezer Stores, Olivebank, Stronsay Hotel, Geramount Surgery, Fishmart Café and Holland Haulage for ensuring that life on Stronsay continues with minimal disruption. Special thanks once more to the posties for ensuring that our mail continues to be collected & delivered in a timely manner.

WANTED

I am looking to come to Stronsay in Feb/March 2021 to stay for a year. I hope to rent a one or two bedroom place and wondered if anywhere was available.

Feel free to contact me directly for further information.

mike.hannam@rediffmail.com

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!

The cutoff date for adverts to be included in the next edition of the *Limpet* is on the front page
Contact details for the *Limpet* are on the back page

FOR SALE, WANTED, THANK YOU, etc

BUILDING PLOTS FOR SALE

2 Building plots, Whitehall Village, Stronsay, Orkney

£35K each. Planning in principle for 2/3 bed bungalow plus 2 parking spaces. Electricity and water supplies are on site.

The plots are behind the village street making a secluded location but within easy walking distance of the shop, ferry, cafe and hotel.

The tried and tested practice on the Orkney isles for building is to buy a house kit and either have it erected by the supplier or our island contractor Castlehill Construction (who can also do the ground works)

For information about Stronsay, our lifestyle, its good school and other facilities please visit www.visitstronsay.com

For further information about the sites please contact

- Sharon at Orkney Property Centre, Kirkwall on 01856 877866 or
- Dianne & Paul on 07785111126 or
- email drileymoore@hotmail.com

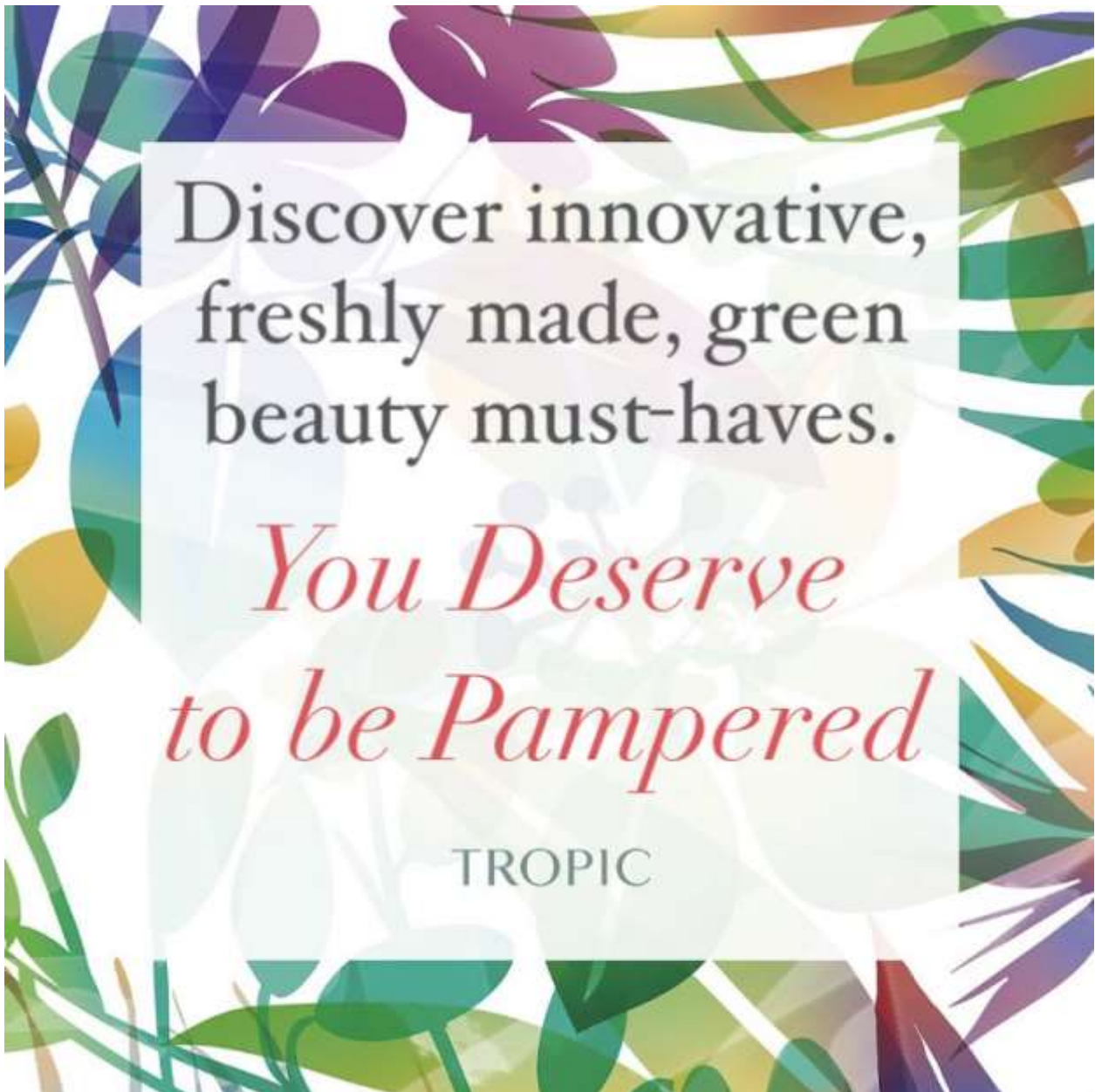
Planning ref: 18/038/PIP on Orkney Islands Council planning web site



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LOCAL BUSINESSES



An award-winning skincare company with a purpose; to help create a healthier, greener more empowered world.

FREE Catalogue available for pick-up or drop off.

Please be in touch with Sarah Powers Richings at 01857 616495 or follow me on Instagram: @sarahmarie.tropic or on Facebook: Tropic with Sarah Marie

Local business adverts are free!

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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

Ebenezer Oil Heating Services

Oftec trained engineer



Oil Tank Installation



Boiler Servicing

Oil boiler servicing,
repair and replacement



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

Local business adverts are free!

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GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS



Blythswood Shoe Box

Appeal 2020

Call the school and we can organise
delivery of a box to fill.

Alternatively, just buy a few
items or even just one and
place in the collection boxes at
our local shops.

Filled boxes can be dropped
off at Sandybank.

Collection ends 3rd October

Thank You!

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

SUGGESTED ITEMS (ALL ITEMS MUST BE NEW):

Toothbrush	Toothpaste
Hat/scarf, gloves	Soap
Toy car for a boy	Small doll for a girl

(Sorry no hand-made or knitted stuffed toys)

Shampoo	Face cloth or wipes
Deodorant	Moisturising cream
Comb/Brush	Sanitary Products
Shaving foam/Razors	New Make-up
Underwear/Socks/Tights	Kitchen Utensils
Sewing Equipment	Household Candles
Screwdrivers/Pliers	Notepads/Colouring books
Pens/Pencils/Sharpener	Rulers/Rubbers

Sweets (No chocolate or any other food) 'Best Before' date of 31st March 2021. No loose sweets, lollies or undated bags of sweets.

Sorry, no talcum powder.

Other items may include: T-shirts, Pyjamas, Jumpers, Shirts etc.

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GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS

HANDY EMAIL ADDRESSES:

Ebenezer Stores stronsaystores@gmail.com

Olivebank m.williamson1@btconnect.com

Stronsay Hotel cjdbuk@gmail.com

Fishmart café fishmartcafehostel@gmail.com

OUR LADY'S CHAPEL, PIERHEAD **NOW OPEN FOR PUBLIC MASSES**

Our Lady's Chapel on the pier is now open for public Masses with the permission of the Bishop of Aberdeen.

Mass times are as follows:-

- Sunday: 10.30am
- Tuesday: 8.00am
- All other days: 11.20am

GOLGOTHA MONASTERY, PAPA STRONSAY **DAILY STREAMING BROADCAST**

There is a daily streaming broadcast from Golgotha Monastery, Papa Stronsay.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCegAufkJnWsQRMXi98kn36w>

or

<https://tinyurl.com/y2w5rcyp>

The broadcast runs from 4pm – 7pm (the times shown are approximate):

- 4pm Short talk by one of the priests.
- 4:30pm Recitation of the Rosary.
- 5pm Mass.
- 6pm Further prayers and office of the day.

HEALTH WALK

Stronsay Community Led Wellbeing would like to start up a Health Walk on Tuesdays at 10 am. To adhere to current guidelines it will need to be a small group, but hopefully will be able to grow as we continue out of lockdown. Is anyone interested?

Please be in touch via Facebook messenger or by calling 616495.

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GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS

KIRK CORNER

Dear all,

As you will know, we are still limited in numbers in our church for any acts of public worship so from the 24th September we began with arrangements of opening our church for private prayer only once a week. We will try to re-start other services as soon as it is safe and practical to do so. When our church is open, we would respectfully ask everyone to act responsibly and safely at all times. This means ensuring:

- that you are not exhibiting any Covid19 symptoms
- that you have not been in contact with anyone who has recently tested positive for the virus (and you should therefore be self-isolating!)
- that you are not putting yourself at risk if you have any underlying health conditions or general frailty.

We are constantly reviewing the situation, taking on board the latest Scottish Government advice as well as advice from the Church of Scotland and our own Presbytery.

CHURCH OPENINGS FOR PRIVATE PRAYER ONLY

EVERY THURSDAY 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU COME TO CHURCH:

- The wearing of face masks in church is now mandatory. Please bring your own masks with you when visiting church.
- You will be required to sanitise your hands as you enter and exit church. Hand sanitisers will be available.
- Signs will direct you into the designated seats. When leaving church please exit via the main door and follow the signs. Please give way to others who may be exiting at the same time.
- Seating area will be clearly marked to ensure the required social distancing. There are three socially distanced chairs in the roped off area designated for private prayer. All children should be accompanied by an adult.
- There is a notebook provided in which you are required to leave your contact details for track and trace purposes.
- Anyone is welcome to use the building for private prayer but a maximum time limit of 15 minutes per person applies to reduce the risk to all involved.
- All hymnbooks and Bibles will be removed so please bring your own for your perusal.

Looking forward to welcoming you back in!

Rev Julia Meason, Interim Moderator

(01856 874789, jmeason@churchofscotland.org.uk)

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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	Mass - Sun: 10.30am, Tue: 8.00am, all other days: 11.20am
Next Special Collections	?
Weekly rubbish collection	Tuesday (bags out ready by 9am)
Recycling skips nearly full? . .	Send email to at recycling@orkney.gov.uk

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

