

STRONSAY LIMPET

Funded by the S1tronsay Development Trust

ISSUE 220 - October 2023



Published after 7pm on the last day of the month

TIMETABLES

Loganair - 29 Oct 2023 - 18 Feb 2024 Orkney Ferries - winter timetable 25 Sep 2023 to 4 May 2024 Orkney Ferries - refit timetable 7 Jan to 9 Mar 2024 OIC - school holidays 2023-2027

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Bonfire night	Sat 4 Nov
SWRI meeting	Wed 8 Nov
Industrial heritage—launch event	Tue 14 Nov
Industrial heritage—drop-in	Wed 15 Nov
Mobile library van visit	Mon 20 Nov
Christmas Craft Fair	Sat 25 Nov
Christmas Tree Lighting	Sat 2 Dec
School Christmas holidays	Mon 25 Dec 2023 – Fri 5 Jan 2024
Orkney Ferries refit timetable starts	Sun 7 Jan 2024
Deadline for all cats to be micro-chipped	Mon 10 Jun 2024

UPDATE ON MICROCHIPPING OF CATS! IT ONLY APPLIES TO ENGLAND AT THE MOMENT

Previous notices on this topic were incorrect, it only applies to England and even then feral/barn cats are excluded:

https://www.rspca.org.uk/-/news-rspca-welcomes-englands-new-mandatorymicrochipping-law

The Scottish Parliament is still discussing this matter: https://www.parliament.scot/api/sitecore/CustomMedia/OfficialReport?meetingId=13871

GP & COMMUNITY NURSE ROSTER

The latest available roster for the Doctor and the Community Nurse can be found on the Stronsay Limpet's website at <u>https://stronsaylimpet.co.uk/RosterGPandNurse.html</u>

BANK NOW HAS A PHONE NUMBER

Lois now has wi-fi and a telephone (616262) in the bank on Stronsay!

The next edition of the Limpet will be published on **Thursday 30 November 2023**. the deadline is 7pm on that date.

Contact details for the Limpet's editor are on the back page of every edition.



With big thanks to the Stronsay Community Council for Funding!

From Peat Spade to Tangle Trade:



Industrial Heritage

of Orkney's North Isles

Stronsay launch event: Talk: 14 Nov 2023 Drop-in: 15 Nov

Find out more about this exciting new project exploring the Industrial Heritage in the North Isles of Orkney ...

Evening talk: Introduction, Industrial Heritage 19:30 - 21:00 (New Hall) Drop-in: 10am Heritage Centre. What sites interest you? Add to the map. Site Visits: Afternoon - visit sites with the team, plan some field work.

With: Dan Lee & Sean Bell Free event All welcome

Contact: orca.enquiries@uhi.ac.uk





Stronsay S.W.R.I.



Wednesday 8th November

At 7.30pm in the hall Prize giving and buffet All ladies and girls aged 11 and over very welcome! Membership for the whole year is £20 Or £3 per meeting Hostess- Committee Special Competition-four fruit scones Supper and a raffle 31st October 2023 The Manse, Stronsay KW17 2AF DLocke@churchofscotland.org.uk 01857 616284

KIRK CORNER



Hello again everyone.

The clocks have changed, the days are getting shorter and the nights darker. Time flies! Are you like me always racing against the clock, maybe because we waste too much time? Is it time to change and use our time better?



School has started again ; our hotel has re-opened; harvest has been and gone. Change is part of life.. until we get stuck! The changing times do their bit to remind us of the challenges, but maybe also of the hope that even though we sometimes feel stuck in the dark, we and people can change for the better?

When this Limpet comes out, it will be Halloween - are you a pumpkin or a turnip person- I was brought up carving out hard turnips and am sticking to that this year. Yet pumpkins are bigger and softer, and have unusual uses- there was a picture recently of children using half-pumpkins as paddle boats or coracles. So next year I will be open to change—a typical response to change, I know- next time! But just maybe..



Halloween is basically the evening before all saints day, and reminds us that amidst the darkness, there will be light where people seek to overcome the darkness. It stems from a Christian festival called All Hallows day;

hallow is an old word that meant holy so all hallows day was **also** called All Saints day, when we remember some of the good people of the world ; people who helped others even to sacrificing their lives for others to share the good news of God's love; and so for me, in the darkness we can remember even our loved ones whose goodness can still help us see the light. And the day after all saints day was called **All Souls day**, a day to remember that souls can live on beyond the darkness of death. But the evening before all saints day, the last day of October, was called the eve of all hallows day, and this was shortened to Halloweeen and so although Halloween is about recognising the darkness, including the frightening evils in our world, it contains and is followed by signs of hope, goodness and light.



Similarly its Bonfire Night soon: "Remember, remember, the fifth of November- Gunpowder, Treason and Plot" The old saying was actually enforced by law; that we should remember how Guy Fawkes [the man behind the penny for a guy- times change- it must surely be more than a penny now!] tried to blow up the Houses of Parliament. He was stopped and caught, so we can have hope for society that again evil

can be overcome.



Its also now the season of Remembrance ; we remember in part to give thanks for those for who died for our sakes, but also to remember the lessons of war, that we and our world might change for the better. As we look around at Ukraine, Israel and Gaza, it seems we do not learn those lessons quickly. Maybe its worth remembering the need for

us all to change and do something to let the light in amidst the darkness.

It is a longstanding tradition wherever I have been to have Remembrance services on the Sunday nearest 11th November, and so once again we will have in church our Remembrance Service on Sunday 12th November, followed by a shorter service to lay wreaths at the War memorial. Do come and join us and make these community events for all and all ages.



I know its all more complicated than simple sayings, as for now no easy words can solve Gaza or Ukraine, but the changing seasons and times, can at least remind us that when we get worried, afraid and despair, about the darkness in our world, despair need not have the last word; there is hope and there is light to come: shining out of lanterns, bonfires, homes and especially people's actions for good. And faith

can help, for Jesus came to be and share light in the world, encouraging and inspiring people to know and share that light and hope, and be open to changing for the better, ourselves and society around us. In church we were greatly encouraged last Sunday by a thankyou card from someone in stronsay saying how our harvest distribution of food, inspired that person to know God's light was in their life. Our little actions or words can be the light we all need! May God bless each one of you and this amazing island of Stronsay, as we seek to share His light amidst the darker days ahead.

David Rev David I W Locke.MA M.Sc., BD



Update for congregations - October 2023

CHRISTMAS GIFT CARDS 2023

Christmas shopping solved again!

This year's Christmas gift card appeal is now launched and the form is overleaf. The Christmas appeal is now in its fourteenth year and has raised over £80,000 since 2009 to support frontline projects in Malawi. For those who it's new to, the concept is very simple and gives you the chance to send someone a "gift voucher" card, which will support our partner congregations in the Thyolo Highlands of Malawi. Simply choose how much you'd like to donate, fill in the form and we will send you a lovely Christmas card / certificate (with envelope) acknowledging the donation so you can gift it to a friend. Alternatively, we can post it directly to them saying that the donation has been made by you on their behalf. All forms must be received by Thursday 7th December and cards will be posted on Friday 8th December (two weeks prior to Christmas) unless you request them earlier, in which case we will send as soon as possible (from early November). If you wish to send outwith the UK please ask for the card to be delivered to yourself. If you want it to be sent to different people it would help if you could complete a separate form for each one (copies are fine) or make the instructions very clear. Please just call the number on the back of the





If you're ordering gift cards and completing the form overleaf you might notice that payment details have changed. This is because the old Orkney *Presbytery* no longer exists and the new *Parish* of Orkney won't be up and running until sometime next year. In order to maintain a proper and accountable paper trail all funds this year are being processed through the Stronsay congregation account by Ian Cooper, Stronsay Treasurer and former Treasurer to the Presbytery. We're delighted to have the continuity of Ian's involvement and are grateful to the Stronsay congregation for facilitating this. It also means we are still able to claim Gift Aid on donations.

By the time you read this we hope and expect that the new St. Magnus Secondary School will be welcoming its first pupils. The roofing (left) was recently completed thanks to a generous donation from Stromness donors and the new desks amongst other items were paid for by a substantial gift from Westray supporters.

The Orkney-Malawi Partnership Committee currently comprises Sally Bartkowiak, June Freeth, lain MacDonald, Catriona Matheson, Liz McVicar, Elma Moar and James Watson. For details about the Partnership Committee's work or how to donate to any project please speak to any of the above or contact lain on imacdonald @churchofscotland.org.uk / 01857-677357.

If you'd like to support this year's Malawi Christmas Gift project, (details overleaf) please complete this form (separate details for each person if you wish us to post the gift cards) and post or e-mail to the address below by **7th December**.

Your name :	
Your phone number (in case yourdetaik won't be shared with anyone.	ve need to contact you about this) :
Amount you wish to donate (chequesshould be made out to "Stronsay M	n whole pounds) : £
Name of person you wish the justwrite 'self' if you want it sent to you at	card(s) to be sent to :
If diffe e nt from the address a bove .	o be sent to :
	Postcode:
Number of cards you require	if more than one :
Tick box if you want us to sta	e the value of your gift on the card(s)?
Please tick as appropriate:	
I wish the card(s) to be sent a or	soon as possible
I wish the card(s) to be sent o	n Friday 8th December
I have enclosed a cheque ma	de out to "Stronsay Moncur Memorial Church" for the amount above
	mount to the Stronsay account number 00643707 / sort - 83 24 07
I am a UK tax payer and I wis	h this donation to be treated as Gift Aid
Signature : If giving by Gift-Akl	it giving by Gift-Ald
	Manse, Hilldavale, Westray, Orkney KW17 2DW
Further details from lain	on 01857-677357 or imacdonald@churchofscotland.org.uk

Remember - deadline for forms is 7th December THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Stronsay at War



The Stronsay Heritage Society is planning to create a display and accompanying booklet for the Stronsay Heritage Centre to document *life in Stronsay* during the First and Second World Wars.

We are hoping that folks both in and outwith Stronsay will send us copies/scans/photographs of the following types of items:

- Written memories or diaries (of life in Stronsay or from Stronsay folk experiencing life elsewhere because of the war)
- Photos (of Stronsay or of Stronsay folk)
- Letters
- Postcards
- Memorabilia or Souvenirs
- Ration Cards
- · Recipes or household hints
- Fashion
- Products/Labels/Advertisements from local businesses
- Invoices/Receipts
- Certificates or Awards
- · Programmes of Events, Fundraisers or Appeals
- · Newspaper clippings about Stronsay

We can also borrow your originals and scan them ourselves if that's easier for you.

Naturally, if you'd like to donate any wartime-related artefacts or original photos to the Heritage Centre, we'd be very glad to receive them.

> Please contact Jennifer Graham (07973 716278) or Ian Cooper (616 322) or via email: heritagesocietystronsay@gmail.com





ANNUAL REVIEW OF "HEALTH & CARE IN ORKNEY"

Meghan McEwen, Board Chair, NHS Orkney has said "I would like to hear the voices of isle communities for the NHSO Annual Review" If you have any thoughts please see the advert below:



Orkney

THURSDAY 9 NOVEMBER 2023

6pm-7.30pm via Microsoft Teams

Topic of Discussion:

"Health and Care in Orkney"

More information: If you would like to attend or submit a question, please contact us

Email: ork.corporateservices@nhs.scot

Call: 01856 888910

Visit: https://www.ohb.scot.nhs.uk/nhs -orkney-annual-review-2023



ORKNEY DIGITAL FORUM OCTOBER 2023

From Liam McArthur MSP:

Information the presentation slides provided by speakers from the Scottish Government, Openreach, Virgin O2 and Orkney Islands Council – available here (<u>https://</u><u>www.liammcarthur.org.uk/news/article/orkney-representatives-lead-discussions-on-</u> improving-island-connectivity), alongside a brief news article commenting on the event.

The slides themselves offer useful summaries of the updates shared by speakers, including details and expected timeframes for the continued rollout of broadband and mobile internet. These include promising commitments to upgrade the coverage and speed of mobile networks across Orkney, as well as some useful clarification regarding the progression of broadband rollout under the R100 programme. One issue raised during the Q&A was the apparent exclusion of some properties neighbouring those that are due to get a connection or have one already. Openreach offered to investigate each case, so do please let me know if you think this applies to you.

Speakers also pointed to helpful resources to help islanders explore options for improving connectivity. This included Digital Scotland's broadband checker at www.scotlandsuperfast.com, which can offer information on whether your property is eligible for a superfast broadband connection, when this is expected to be in place or, indeed, whether a superfast connection already available to you. One issue highlighted at the event was that only about 25% of the 1000 so properties already connected to superfast broadband in Orkney are actually making use of these connections, so it's worth checking for updates if you have not done so already.

Additionally, to coincide with the Digital Forum on Friday, OIC have now launched a specialist service to support islanders in upgrading their internet connections. If you would like to receive updates, support or advice in improving connectivity at your home, I would encourage you to contact OIC through email at digital@orkney.gov.uk or by phoning 01856 873 535.

Finally, a number of people at the Forum expressed concern surrounding the planned switch off of analogue landline services at the end of next year, as providers transition over to the digital network 'Voice Over Internet Protocol'. Alistair Carmichael has been raising concerns about the impact of this in the context of a planned UK-wide digital switch-over and, as he noted on Friday, it is going to be an agenda item at the Shetland Digital Forum being held in a few weeks. Given the understandable interest in this transition and the issues it might create in an island context, Alistair and I will be looking to hold a further Digital Forum early next year give this issue grater focus and hopefully hear from individuals directly involved in the rollout of 'VOIP', and will be happy to share further details on this in due course.

I hope these details have been of interest. Meantime, feel free to get in touch if you have any questions or issues you'd like to raise.

TWENTY IS PLENTY!

SPEED NOT

That's the message that motorists see when they drive through villages in The Highlands. Of course, SLOW DOWN many people are rushing to catch ferries at Scrabster or Gill's Bay but speeding, as we know, can wreak havoc in KILL YOUR the lives of those affected. Twenty is plenty has now become an accepted part of the journey north.

Here on Stronsay, we live a different pace of life. **OUR PETS** We have learned, just recently, the effects of speeding on our island and while "twenty is plenty" is not something we would want here, slowing down especially around houses and the school can only be for the good of us all.



Please think about it...

THERE'S A DOG POO BIN AT MILL BAY!

Gentle reminder to folk that there is now a dog poo bin (and bags) at Mill Bay thanks to Ian Cooper. I'm emptying the bin either weekly or every two weeks. Please use it as intended.

Maya Bar-Tor

STRONSAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Chair: Shirley Whiteman Vice Chair: Damian Stout

THE WHITE RIBBON CAMPAIGN

Representatives for the White Ribbon Orkney Steering Group recently gave a short presentation to members of Stronsay Community Council.

The White Ribbon Campaign is a global movement of men and boys working to end male violence against women and girls.

If you would like to know more please search whiteribbonorkney@gmail.com and if you would like a white ribbon to wear to show your support for the campaign to end male violence against women and girls, please contact the Island Link Officer, email stronsaycc@gmail.com tel: 616446.

Colin McAlpine Island Link Officer 30 October 2023



Prescription Collection and Delivery Service

Please contact the wellbeing coordinator on 01857 616410 or email sdtwellbeing@gmail.com if you would like a prescription collected and delivered.



100% DIGITAL CURRENCY MEANS YOUR LIFE IS 100% DEPENDENT ON A POWER SOURCE & THE INTERNET

EVERY PENNY YOU RECEIVE WILL BE RECORDED. EVERY TRANSACTION WILL BE TRACKED

Stronsay Stitchers



Last gathering for this year on Thursday 30th November, 7.00-9.00pm, Church Hall, £2/ person, refreshments available. Many thanks and see you soon

OSTEOPATH VISITS TO STRONSAY

Holly Elliot, registered osteopath (GOsC 9607) from Helping Hands Health, will be back in Stronsay again on the following dates:

- Friday 10th November
- Friday 8th December

All clinics will be held in Wood's Yard between 10am and 5pm. Booking is available online for all dates using this link:

https://helpinghandshealth.janeapp.co.uk.

If online booking is an issue for anyone then they can of course contact Holly and she will book them in. Holly's contact details are:

- Phone 07377 689 237
- Email <u>info.helpinghandshealth@gmail.com</u>

LOGANAIR—DECEMBER 24th & DECEMBER 31st 2023

Below are the revised operating times Loganair's inter isles flights for Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve 2023. Usual note applying to Sanday and Stronsay for Sundays.

LM728

11:00 - 11:17
11:24 - 11:30
11:37 - 11:42
11:49 - 11:58

LM729

Kirkwall – Papa Westray	12:20 - 12:35
Papa Westray – Westray	12:42 - 12:44
Westray – Kirkwall	12:51 - 13:06



Stronsay Christmas Craft Fair 2023

Saturday 25 November



Stronsay Community Hall 1.00pm – 4.00pm

Hand-made Crafts, Raffle, Refreshments & Bakes



Stronsay Community Association

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Records of a Bygone Age Hidden Treasures

To better follow this story I think it would be helpful to first give some background information: When my wife Arna's grandparents, James and Arnadyne Chalmers, retired from farming at the Lodge they moved to the Old Schoolhouse where they happily lived out their retirement and it was always a joy to visit them there as they sat beside the fire and regaled us with old stories and plied us with cups of tea. Hanging above that fireplace was an old framed picture of 'The Stages of Life', quite a well-known print depicting a man climbing a series of steps as he grew older until, after reaching the top of the steps in midlife, he descends the other side into old age. It was quite a memorable picture and, when James and Arnadyne passed away in the mid-80s another granddaughter, Arna's cousin Jean Stout, who had always admired the picture, gave it a new home in her own kitchen, where it still hangs on the wall.

Taking a leap now to 2023, Margaret Cooper (nee Shearer) of Cott, who was originally a Shearer from Kirkhall, passed away in July. When the family cleared out the house they had a sale of some of the household items among which was a large framed picture quite similar in size and style to 'The Stages of Life' but this time depicting and titled 'The Stages of a Woman's Life'. On seeing the similarity between it and 'The Stages of Life' print Arna thought this might be of interest to her cousin Jean and bought it.

She took this into Kirkwall with her and handed it over to Jean, who was delighted with it and hoped to hang the two 'Stages of Life' pictures together in her kitchen. Before hanging the print in the kitchen Jean thought she would give the frame a bit of a revamp and, in doing so, took the back off the frame where to her surprise she found a document of some sort tucked away between the print and the back board. Her surprise quickly turned to amazement when she discovered that this document was a Long Service Certificate more than 100 years old and, following this discovery, Jean returned the certificate to Stronsay to see if anyone knew anything about it or was aware of its history.



On the left is Jean's picture of 'The Different Stages of Life' and on the right 'The Stages of a Woman's Life', such an appropriate place to find Jane Shearer's certificate.

(continued on next page)

The certificate was in excellent condition and, although the ink of the hand written details was a little faded, the document itself looked as if it could have been printed last week! This 'Certificate for Long Service', dated March 1914, had been presented by the 'Highland & Agricultural Society of Scotland' (the Society was yet to gain its 'Royal' prefix) to Jane Shearer for 53 years of service and reads as follows:

Highland & Agricultural Society Of Scotland Certificate for Long Service Awarded To Jane Shearer, Whitehall For Long and Approved Service of 53 years with Thomas Sinclair, Mrs M L Sinclair and Robert B Bell on Whitehall Farm, Stronsay, Orkney

3 George IV Bridge Edinburgh March 1914

The Contractor	
Highland & Agricultural Society	J
OF SCOTLADD	
GERMIFICATE FOR LONG SERVICE	
Awarded To	
for long and approved service of 38 Years with Terms Inde	
me m & Since - and Robert & Roll, and Miller	
Church Lugar Chairman of Directors.	
3 George IV Bridge Edinburgh 19/2	

Jane Shearer's certificate, still in pristine condition after over 100 years.

(continued on next page)

53 years of service on one farm was a remarkable achievement and, of the few who would have reached this milestone, it is unlikely that many would have been presented with a certificate to mark the event. Add to this the fact that, as a female in that era, it would have been unusual to see outstanding service of any kind receive the same recognition as that of a male counterpart and it becomes obvious that this was a most remarkable and noteworthy event for a woman of her time.

I found this a fascinating story and decided to try to find out a little more of the history of Jane Shearer and of how her certificate came to be hidden away in the back of a picture. I turned first to the Orkney Family History Society website, a great resource for any family history research, and checked the census records for the period Jane would have been in service. I soon found the 14 year old Jane in the 1861 census, staying with her parents at Whitehall and recorded there as an 'agricultural labourer'. Although not always in the same house, Jane was to be found at or near Whitehall in every census thereafter, the last being in 1921 where, at the age of 74, her occupation was recorded as a 'retired domestic'. Jane died the following year.

Although Jane herself had never married she had seven siblings and I quickly came to realise that it was going to be difficult to try to find the line from them to the Shearers who came to be in Kirkhall. One of the siblings, Peter, seemed a strong possibility but I discovered that Peter had married in 1876 and had eleven children, the eldest being Peter born in 1878 and the youngest Georgina born in 1900. These siblings went on to produce an awfy lot of Shearers and, unsure if I was even on the right line from the previous generation, I asked David (whose mother was a Shearer) and Carwin Miller from Wardhill for help. They were both as intrigued with the story as I was and, although David knew nothing of Jane or her siblings, he had a wealth of information about the more recent Shearers. He was able to tell me that his granny's name was Georgina Shearer, born in 1900, and so with my having moved forward through the generations and David having moved backward we more or less met in the middle to establish the direct link to Jane that we had been looking for! David was also able to tell me that the Shearers had moved from Whitehall to Huip in the 1920s and had later bought Kirkhall, moving there in 1935. He also had memories of 'The Stages of a Woman's Life' hanging on the wall in Kirkhall and, when his aunt Margaret Shearer married John Cooper and moved to the farm of Blinkbonny the picture went too, later moving with John and Margaret to Cott when they retired. None of the family had any knowledge of the treasure hidden behind the print nor yet how it came to be there but we can only surmise that it may have been put there for safekeeping after Jane died in 1922 – possibly even when the family was flitting from Whitehall to Huip - and then forgotten about. Although there was probably little thought of this at the time, to safely conceal this certificate in the back of the picture of 'The Stages of a Woman's Life' for so long seems particularly appropriate.

(continued on next page)



Jane's certificate, now framed and hanging in the Stronsay Heritage Centre

None of the family had any wish to keep the picture of 'The Stages of a Woman's Life' and, if it hadn't been bought on the off chance it might find a home, it could well have finished up in a skip, with Jane's story vanishing along with the picture.

With the permission of the family, the Certificate has been gifted to the Stronsay Heritage Society and is again mounted in a frame, though this time in full view and proudly hanging on the Heritage Centre wall.

Ian Cooper November 2023

Stephen Clackson's Letter from School Place

A report from your councillor in the month of the 84th anniversary of the sinking of HMS Royal Oak.

I spent a couple of days in Shetland (see photo at end) attending meetings of the Orkney & Shetland Valuation Joint Board of which I am the Depute Convener. A convoluted route back had been arranged to enable me to reach Kirkwall in time to attend the UHI Orkney graduation ceremony at St Magnus' Cathedral (in my two roles of Orkney College Stakeholder Group member and OIC's UHI Foundation representative). This involved taking an overnight ferry from Lerwick to Aberdeen (it didn't call into Hatston that night), a taxi to Aberdeen Airport and then the morning flight to Kirkwall. Everything went according to plan until I arrived at Aberdeen Airport and was greeted by the notice 'Kirkwall flight CANCELLED'! Together with 8 other passengers, I was taxied south along the road and the (75) miles to Dundee, and we joined the aeroplane flying up from Heathrow, and I missed the graduation ceremony, although at least I was in time to meet up with staff and graduates at the post-graduation reception. Meanwhile, the European Regional Airline Association has named Loganair Airline of the Year for 2023 !

At the General Meeting, I proposed Clir John Ross Scott for OIC's representative on the Board of NHS Orkney. Previously, for 8 years, he was the Board's chairman, so he had a wealth of relevant experience, and, furthermore, he currently holds no senior council position, so he would have been free to dedicate himself to this onerous and time-consuming role. He was defeated by a single vote for the position by Clir Dr Jean Stevenson (also with NHS experience). In another item, I supported Clir Tullock's notice of motion in support of Orkney's agriculture.

Sanday School's Room 1 pupils (P1-P4) hosted a lunch for their parents and the island's senior citizens (like me). On the menu was vegetable soup with homemade bread rolls, apple crumble with cream, and tea/coffee with chocolate fridge cake or flapjack, all made from locally-sourced ingredients where possible. It was delicious fare, with donations going to support Mary's Mea/s. Well done Room 1 !



I've taken my first trip on the Nordic Sea. She called into Loth to take me to Eday along with other counciliors (who'd boarded her in Kirkwall) for a trip to view the EMEC onshore substation and hydrogen plant at Caldale on Eday's west side. We were then treated to coffee and cake at the Eday Co-Op before heading back to Kirkwall for lunch and lectures at the Orkney Distillery. What EMEC is achieving is impressive, but it would be nice to see more identifiable benefits accruing to the hosting Eday community, and I would welcome developments here.



On the 14th October, I deputised for the Council Convener and laid a wreath at the HMS Royal Oak memorial at Scapa on behalf of OIC. This year, it was my turn to receive, in memory of my uncle who went down with the battleship, the White Ensign that had spent the past year attached to the wreck. This is an honour often accorded to close relatives of those who did not survive the sinking (see Letter issue 100).

Other meetings I've attended (virtually) this month include: a budget seminar, meetings of Stronsay Community Council and Stronsay Parent Council, and a Joint Isles Heath & Care meeting.

Clir Dr Stephen Clackson Member for the North Isles Ward, Depute Convener Orkney & Shetland VJB

West Manse, Sanday stephen.clackson@orkney.gov.uk

Letter from School Place is also available on-line at clackson.info

Photo credits: John Ross Scott & Oliver Reid.



THANK YOU

Huge thanks to all who contributed to the shoebox appeal - 43 boxes have been delivered to McAdie and Reeve to begin their journey.

Elsie Dennison

CLIFTON FREE RANGE EGGS!

EGGCITING NEWS!! ENJOY SOME CRACKING GOOD EGGS

Our happy hens are delighted to let you know that they are now producing top quality free range eggs. The eggs are available from outside the annex at Clifton for only ± 1.50 /box.

Help yourselves and just put the money in the box.

PROPERTY FOR SALE Dunera, Lower Whitehall Road, Stronsay, KW17 2AS

A detached bungalow (period 1920-60s) with garden and parking space. Comprising huge sitting room sea facing, kitchen/diner, 4 bedrooms, shower room & hall (167 sq. metres) plus 4 sq. metre porch. Habitable but needs upgrading or project development. Oil fired central heating with multi fuel stove in living room. Water, phone connected. SEPA for up to 6 residents. Council Tax C. Primary energy indicator 288 kWh. £5736 over 3 years. Energy Efficiency Band E (44) – Scottish average is Band D - 60 Environmental Band F (37) – Scottish average band D - 59

> HRV is £130,000 (25 Aug 2022). Condition = 13 (1), 8 (2), 0 (3). Interest invited. Not currently with external agent. Viewing by advanced appointment only. Flexible entry date. Offers invited above £125k. Finance options from seller. Leo Martini-Brown Imartinibrown@yahoo.co.uk

Items on this page are free!

RECYCLED CARDBOARD LOGS

Winter is coming, the nights are getting colder, and the recycling centre has plenty of recycled cardboard logs. They are a bargain at only $\pounds7.00$ for 30 logs. Available at the recycling centre or call Viv on 207.

VAN AVAILABLE FOR CHARITY WORK

The Pomona Prefect logo peedie red van is available for charity work on the island if anyone needs a man and a van and wants to help the island reach the target. Saturdays service and cost for this is suggested as £10 per hour min donation for half hour units. All to the Stronsay Defib fund. No live animals, persons transported or dirty, sloppy stuff carried. Limited load and not a taxi service. This is a temporary thing to raise money and not a challenge to any services on the island. Call Julie for all taxi work and Sinclair Haulage for freight!

Also, if anyone needs their car karcher jet washed and vaccuming and then can do at Ellerslie as you pass for a donation to same Defib Fund. Cost is £10 per basic body wash and wheels rinsed and boot/inside vacced. Limited to cars. No monster trucks, panel vans, lorries or camper vans sorry.

This charity service will be hopefully available until there are enough defib machines in position with the people trained to cover us all 24/7. Availability is limited to Saturdays.

Any questions and to book give me a call.

Nicandro J. Porcelli, Ellerslie. Telephone or text to - 07732 276046

WANTED—INFORMATION

re. history of SS Athenia life-boat, now at Seafield, Stronsay.

Can anyone help in establishing the identity of a Stronsay resident who actually lived in the SS Athenia converted lifeboat on the foreshore at Seafield, during the years 1960-1980 (very approximate) together with his sheep!?

This information came from Mr Thomas Shearer, who lived at Seafield for many years from about 1983 - 2002, and who now lives in Kirkwall. He cannot remember this other man's name, and whilst it does not effect the wartime history of the lifeboat, it adds an interesting dimension to its post-war history.

Any information would be gratefully appreciated, thank you. Brian Crowe

Items on this page are free!

PRIVATE TUITION

I am offering private tuition in a range of subjects to all school-age pupils and adult learners on a 1:1 or small group basis. I am available to teach all primary subjects, including reading, writing, spelling and numeracy, and English for BGE and Senior Phase pupils. I am happy to liaise with class teachers at Stronsay Junior High School in order to support progress towards targets and estimated grades, if a client (and parents/carers) are willing for this to occur.

I am also available to teach adult literacy and Higher/ Advanced Higher English or to lead a community literary appreciation class now again if there is enough interest.

As a Support for Learning Teacher and former SENCo I have spent many years specialising in teaching pupils with a range of learning and behaviour difficulties. I am qualified to complete assessments and to write reports for examination access arrangements and for Pupil Support Plans/Child Plans.

If anyone would like to learn to play Clarinet, I am happy to take pupils of any age – beginners up to Grade 5, along with tuition in Music Theory as needed.

Please contact me on 616242 for an informal chat and details of prices and availability.

Donna Blyth BA Hons, MEd, PGCE, SQH, CPT3A, CELTA

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 <u>drileymoore@hotmail.com</u>

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









<u>Items on this page are free!</u> 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

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Are you missing out on £200?



Claim your cost of living payment now

Whether working, self-employed, a stay-at-home parent or claiming benefits – you could be entitled!

Automatic payments will be made to people in Orkney receiving

- Housing benefit
- Council Tax reduction (means tested)
- · Free school meals/clothing allowance (means tested)
- Exempt from council tax because all occupants are under the age of 18
- Exempt from council tax due to being under 26 and previously in care I looked after



To apply visit the website below, call 01856 873535 www.orkney.gov.uk/COL ...or scan me into your phone camera



MOBILE LIBRARY VAN VISITS 2023

Monday 20 November

For further information go to web page <u>https://orkneylibrary.org.uk/mobile-library</u>, email <u>library@orkney.gov.uk</u> or telephone 01856 873166.

	Council Houses	8.45	÷	9.45
Winter	School	10	-	12
nter	Kirk	12.45	2	3
	Fish mart	3.15	-	4.45
Sur	Council Houses	9.25		10
₹ F	School	10.15	-	12
n L	3011001	10.10	11.1	1.4-
Summer/Refit	Kirk	12.45	-	3

RECYCLING GUIDE FOR OUTER ISLES

Orkney Islands Council has published a "Household refuse and recycling welcome pack" which is available online at <u>https://tinyurl.com/3bjcbacm</u>.

If you see something in the Limpet that is inaccurate or no longer valid please drop a line to "*The Editor, Claremont KW17 2AR*" or email <u>editor@stronsaylimpet.co.uk</u>

Announcements by charities or local groups, clubs and organisations are FREE! The cutoff date for the next edition of the *Limpet* is at the foot of page 1 Contact details for the *Limpet* are on the back page

STRONSAY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Why not hire the Stronsay Community hall? We have a kitchen and fully licensed bar, with two large halls and a small meeting room; perfect for weddings, parties, games, meetings and much more!

- Disco equipment
- Table tennis
- Badminton
- Air hockey
- Pool Table

For more information & bookings contact Anne-Maree Carter email <u>annemaree.carter@btinternet.com</u>

Rooms for hire from only £2 per hour plus hydro charge. Adult supervision (over 18) must be present during hire. Find us on Facebook <u>https://www.facebook.com/hallcommittee</u>



EQUIPMENT FOR HIRE

Located at Wood's Yard we have a cabin full of great pieces of equipment including E-bikes, kayaks, wetsuits, beach games, sports equipment, accessibility aids and more. Give us a call on 616410 or email cdostronsay@gmail.com and see what's available.

HOW TO CONTACT THE LIMPET

Send an email to <u>editor@stronsaylimpet.co.uk</u> or write to *The Limpet, Claremont, Stronsay, KW17 2AR*.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

On the back page of every edition of the Limpet there is a list of useful telephone numbers including the emergency numbers for reporting problems with water or electricity.



SWIMMING POOL - OPENING TIMES

Monday	Adult lane	6:30-7:10:00	Public session 7:10–7:50
Thursday	Private hire	6:30-7:10	Public session 7:10-7:50
Saturday	Private hire	2:00-2:40	Public session 2:40-3:20

Charges - Adults £3, Children £1.50, Private Hires £15.

To book a private hire phone Elsie on 616238.

LIFEGUARDS WANTED!

Stronsay swimming pool is looking for enthusiastic, reliable and conscientious people to become part of the pool team.

We will train you using the national standard RLSS National Pool Lifeguard Qualification and in return all we ask is you help us keep our small pool open and sustainable.

The ability to swim and a degree of fitness is required before you start your journey into 'lifeguard life'.

Interested parties should contact Andy Rose: email <u>andyrose85@btinternet.com</u>, phone 01857 616277 or mobile 07769 689 310

OVERSEERS WANTED !

Always looking for reliable overseers for the swimming pool, please! Previous volunteers welcome. Involves taking payment, handing out bands, helping with evacuation procedures etc. Contact Mairi Dennison via Facebook messenger or tel 616331. We politely request that parents/guardians whose children use the pool regularly take a turn at overseeing, in particular.

STRONSAY ON YOUTUBE

- <u>59° North</u>
- Links House, Stronsay: Finding the Mesolithic in Orkney
- <u>Stronsay, Orkney</u>
- <u>The mystery of the Stronsay Monster</u>
- Orkney—living and working
- <u>1930's stone crushing machine in action on Stronsay</u>
- <u>Stronsay harbour (taken from inside the harbour)</u>
- <u>Five reasons to visit Stronsay</u>

HANDY EMAIL ADDRESSES:

Ebenezer Stores <u>stronsaystores@gmail.com</u> Olivebank <u>m.williamson1@btconnect.com</u> Fishmart café <u>fishmartcafehostel@gmail.com</u>

For telephone numbers see the back page of this edition.

OUR LADY'S CHAPEL, PIERHEAD OPEN FOR PUBLIC MASSES

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

Mass times are as follows:-

- Sunday & holidays: 11am
- 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. <u>http://www.papastronsay.com/live</u>

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.

STRONSAY KIRK

Weekly service at 11am. Minister—Rev David Locke, phone 616284. Stronsay kirk's website: <u>http://www.orkneycommunities.co.uk/stronsaykirk</u> Stronsay kirk's Facebook page: <u>https://www.facebook.com/groups/1553904828107651</u>

STRONSAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Chair: Shirley Whiteman Vice Chair: Damian Stout

APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Stronsay Community Council invites applications for financial assistance from anyone who is permanently resident on Stronsay.

Grants are available for travel assistance and events and/or projects of benefit to the community.

If the request is for travel assistance, members can award 50% of the requested amount with a capping limit of £200 funding within twelve months.

Full details of the event and/or project will be required and will be submitted to the next Community Council meeting for consideration.

Financial requests must be with the Island Link Officer prior to the event/project taking place and the payment of any grant awarded will require submission of evidence of expenditure from the applicant.

Each application will be considered on a case-by-case basis and should be submitted on an Application For Financial Assistance form available from the Island Link Officer.

If more information, or an Application for Financial Assistance form is required, please contact the Island Link Officer, tel: 616446 email: stronsaycc@gmail.com

Colin McAlpine Stronsay Island Link Officer 19 October 2022

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New Business

happyfeetorkney@outlook.com

I am starting a new business as a fully qualified foot health care practitioner . I offer home visits and competitive rates. Please contact Shirley by email or on 07767714634 for more information or to arrange an appointment.

> Happy Feet Foot Health Care 07767714634

> > Local business adverts are free!



Pupil Transport

Please contact Michael for any change to your requirement for the bus in the morning or afternoon. There is currently no need to contact school for this.

Text/WhatsApp 07508884024 Call 616 376

Minibus available for hire. Please get in touch for rates.

	AFE WINTER OPENING TIMES	
	(October-March)	
Monday	CLOSED	
(Breakfast only	served from 7am - 10am on weekdays)	
Tuesday	CLOSED	
Wednesday	7am - 2pm	
Thursday	7am - 2pm	
Friday	7am - 2pm	
Saturday	9am – 2pm (Breakfast served all da	
Sunday	11am-2:30pm (Breakfast served all day	

FISHMART CAFÉ—SUNDAY MEAL SPECIALS!

See next page for details

Local business adverts are free!

Fishmart Sunday Meal Specials

Subject to availability on the day, normal menu will also be available. To book a table please call on 616401 during opening hours or drop me a message on Face book messenger.

Sunday 15 th October	Chicken & Leek puff pastry top pie, seasonal vegetables & new potatoes	Upside pineapple cake & custard	£12.50
Sunday 22 nd October	Normal menu due to HARVEST HOME		
Sunday 29th October	Lasagne, chips & side salad	Lemon drizzle & custard	£12.50
Sunday 5 th November	Normal menu due to BONFIRE NIGHT	-	
Sunday 12 th November	Beef suet topped pie with seasonal vegetables	Fruit crumble & custard	£12.50
Sunday 19 th November	Chicken casserole & rice	Sticky toffee pudding & custard	£12.50
Sunday 26 th November	Cottage pie & seasonal vegetables	Chocolate brownie & custard	£12.50
Sunday 17 th December	Turkey Christmas dinner with seasonal vegetables, stuffing, pigs in blankets & gravy. Why not bring along your own alcohol, glasses provided	Mince pies & custard/ gingerbread cheesecake	£17.00 Table booking required

Local business adverts are free!



ORKNEY NORTH ISLES' COMMERCIAL AND LEISURE SMALL BOAT CHARTER



<u>Local</u> business adverts 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

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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

BUILDING WORK

Building work carried out by time-served tradesman No job too small! Please note changed telephone number Phone Paul Williams on 616222 or email <u>williams778@btinernet.com</u>

HOW TO CONTACT THE LIMPET

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Holmsgarth Crafts





Seasonal Gifts, Memory bears, Stronsay book bags, and much more Many items can be personalised Made To Order



Contact Margaret McAnally - <u>Holmsgarth Crafts | Facebook</u> 07432614089



Marion Miller Jewellery

Unique Jewellery inspired by the sea and shore. Designed and handmade on the island of Stronsay, Orkney www.marionmillerjewellery.com Tel 07919550943 E-mail marionmillerjewellery@gmail.com







Traditionally hand-crafted in Stronsay—soaps, solid shampoo bars, conditioner bars and balms. Hand-spun and hand-dyed yarns from Orkney fleeces, woven throws, wallhangings and more. Orkney Star Island Soap, Isles View, Stronsay, Orkney, KW17 2AG. Tel: (+44) 01857 616 281 Email: info@orkneystarislandsoap.co.uk Web: http://www.orkneystarislandsoap.co.uk Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/orkney.star.island.soap



Local business adverts are free!

Roger at Stronsay Photographic

Available for Portraits - groups and individuals ID photographs - printing on site Tuition Special commissions



Cozy studio with professional lighting Home visits

> Contact via Stronsay Photographic Facebook page and Facebook or tel 616228 Special offers also on Stronsay Facebook page

Roger at Stronsay Markets



Local seasonal soft fruit and vegetables Grown naturally without artificial fertilisers, pesticides or weed killer Cropped same day (usually) Check out Facebook "Stronsay Markets" Contact me on <u>stronsaymarkets@gmail.com</u> and 1 can add you to the regular list of available produce

See Stronsay Markets on YouTube https://youtu.be/8e6sz_Z2eQU



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

Ebenezer Oil Heating



Oil boiler servicing, repair and replacement





Oil tank inspection and installation

Why not let me check out your heating system, I can advise upgrades to make your heating more efficient & cheaper to run

10 year parts and labour guarantee on all new Grant Vortex boilers

All my work is covered by the OFTEC Competent Persons Scheme

Why would you use anybody else?

Tel 01857 616207 Mob 07500682867 Email ebenezer@stronsay.org

Local business adverts are free!





- All mechanical work undertaken.
- Tyres
- ECU/ABS/airbag diagnostic testing
- Welding specialist
- MOT prep work
- Home start
 - Towing service MOBILE: 07723 304 260

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



The Old Manse is a listed building dating back to the 1780s set in a large woodland garden just off the A9 and commanding far reaching views of the surrounding countryside.

We are ideally located for those travelling to and from Orkney. The ferry terminals of Gills Bay (Pentland Ferries) and Scrabster (North Link Ferries) are no more that 2.5 hours drive with John O'Groats just 2 hours away.

Ensuite Double and twin rooms Tel 01862 842357 Email <u>oldmanse.kildary@btinternet.com</u> Web <u>www.oldmansebandbkildary.co.uk</u>

Local business adverts are free!



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.

HOW TO CONTACT THE LIMPET

Send an email to <u>editor@stronsaylimpet.co.uk</u> or write to *The Limpet, Claremont, Stronsay, KW17 2AR*. Details of the deadline for the next edition are on the front page

Local business adverts are free!

Love Parties, but hate waste?











Reduce landfill waste by hiring Peedie Party Packs range of children's reusable plates, cups & cake stands instead of buying disposable! we even have themed packages & games packs available, happy to accept hires from across Orkney including the Isles.

Peedie Party Packs
peediepartypacks2221
PeediePartyPacks@hotmail.com

Local business adverts are free!



OIC Special collection	Closed all day 7:30am, Monday to Saturday Every Thursday 9:30am to 3pm, phone 616262 Week Commencing: 4 Dec 2023 & 12 Feb 2024 Fishmart office 10 to 12 on Tue, Thu & Sat. Phone 616475 Wood's Yard 10am - 11am Mon-Fri. Phone 616410 Weekly service at 11am Mass: Sun & holidays 11am, Tue 8am, other days 11.20am Mon 20 November Tuesday (bags out by 8am but <u>not</u> on the night before!) Send email to <u>recycling@orkney.gov.uk</u>
Forward scam emails to <u>r</u>	report@phishing.gov.uk
Stronsay's Facebook page	https://www.facebook.com/groups/476168409207488

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

Airy Fairy 616231	Registrar 616239
Bank (Thursday only) 616262	Scottish Fuels 01856 873105
Castle Bird Reserve 616363	SDT office 616410
Community council 616446	Silver Darlings 616412
Companions Club 616352	Sinclair Haulage 600404
Craftship Enterprise 0778 511 1126	Star Island Soap 616281
Doctor	Stranded seals, etc 616207/206/498
Ebenezer Stores 616339	Stronsay Band
Ebenezer Oil Heating 616207	Stronsay Pub & Hotel 616407
or 07500 682 867	Stronsay school
Fish Mart	Stronsay taxi 616335
Golgotha monastery 616210	2
or contact@the-sons.org	Balfour hospital (24/7)01856 888000
Hairdresser 616337	Water problems (24/7) 0800 0778 778
Hall bookings 616263	Electricity
or annemaree.carter@btinternet.com	general enquiries 0800 048 3516
Highland Fuels 01856 873766	(lines open Mon-Fri 8am-5p
Island Link Officer 616475	problems (24/7) 0800 300 999
Kirk secretary 616238	power cut $(24/7)$ 105
Limpet editor 616297	Police (non urgent) $(24/7)101$
Medical emergency 616321	Kirkwall Library 01856 873166
Neil's on Wheels 07723 304 260	Dentists:
Manse 616284	Daisybank Clinic 01856 870547
Nurses 616321	Deyanov Dental 01856 877118
Olivebank 616255	Com Dental Service 01856 888258
OIC out of hours	Orkney Dental 01856 872030
Post Office 616499	Vets:
Red House Plants 616377	Flett & Carmichael . 01856 872859
	Northvet

. 616335 el . . . 616407616246 ... 616335 /7). . .01856 888000 7) . . 0800 0778 778 es 0800 048 3516 open Mon-Fri 8am-5pm))... 0800 300 999 7)... 105 (24/7)101 ... 01856 873166 nic . . 01856 870547 al . . . 01856 877118 ervice 01856 888258 01856 872030 hael. 01856 872859 Northvet 01856 873403

HOW TO CONTACT THE LIMPET

Send an email to editor@stronsaylimpet.co.uk or write to "Claremont, KW17 2AR".