



## **TIMETABLES**

[Loganair - interisland timetable 29 Oct 2023 to 19 Feb 2024](#)

[Orkney Ferries - winter timetable 25 Sep 2023 to 4 May 2023](#)

[Orkney Ferries - refit timetable 7 Jan to 9 Mar 2024](#)

[OIC - school holidays 2023-2027](#)

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

OIC special collection	Mon 12 Feb
Companions group	Wed 14 Feb
Peedie Library	Mon 26 Feb
Stronsay Stitchers	Thu 29 Feb
Mobile library van visit	Mon 25 Mar
Stronsay SWRI centenary	Sat 7 Sep

## **STRONSAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

### **BROADBAND UPDATE**

See document <https://www.stronsaylimpet.co.uk/scc.pdf>

## **STRONSAY SWRI - CENTENARY!**

Stronsay SWRI will be celebrating their 100 year anniversary on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2024. We will be having a buffet meal in the community centre for all present and past members! If anyone has any old photos/memorabilia that they'd be happy to share, please contact me as soon as possible, we'd hopefully have a slideshow on the TV of old photos. Also any stories or memories that you have would be appreciated, thank you!

Sheena Cooper

## **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 <https://stronsaylimpet.co.uk/RosterGPandNurse.html>

The next edition of the Limpet will be published on **29th February 2024**, the deadline is 7pm on that date. Contact details for the Limpet are on the back page of every edition.



## **PEEDIE LIBRARY**

The next peedie library will be held on **MONDAY**  
26<sup>th</sup> February from 2.30-4pm at the Kirk hall.

**Refreshments provided.**

**Come for a browse of our books and  
enjoy a blether with friends.**



**ORKNEY FERRIES**  
**ADDITIONAL FOOT PASSENGER SERVICE**  
**FRIDAY AFTERNOONS 12 JANUARY – 23 FEBRUARY**

We would like to advise customers that there will be an additional foot passenger service utilising the MV Nordic Sea on Friday afternoons from 12 January – 23 February inclusive. Times as follows:

- Depart Kirkwall: 13:30
- Depart Stronsay: 15:20
- Depart Sanday: 16:00
- Depart Eday: 16:25
- Arrive Kirkwall: 17:40

This additional service is to allow school pupils to get home earlier on a Friday, however is available to all members of the public. All sailings are subject to weather and tidal conditions, and passengers wishing to travel on this service must book and pay in advance by phoning 01856 872044 or on our website - [Orkney Ferries | Bookings, timetables and information](#) □

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**COMPANIONS GROUP.**

Tara, John and I are planning to restart the Companions group from Wednesday 14th February at 2pm at the Fishmart, and continuing every week at the same time. This is an opportunity for folk to meet together to for a cuppa and cake, and to catch up on news. If folk wish to play games Tara and I have got together a pretty good collection, but if folk just want to chat and share stories that is equally fine, we will be led by you.

If anyone would like transport, we can liaise with the CDO (Anna Bliss-Davis) who can liaise with the new transport operative and see if it is possible to use the community bus or taxi for this under a grant scheme. We look forward to seeing you on 14th, but please feel free to get in touch if you have any questions or ideas.

*Shirley Whiteman (438).*

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**SURVEY—SCOTTISH RAINFOREST**

Hi there

My name is Douglas and I'm completing a BSc (Hons) in Environmental Management. As part of my honours project, I'm investigating how our understanding and perception of the Scottish rainforest impacts the conservation of this special habitat. As such I'm reaching out to people from every region of Scotland and asking them to complete a survey which should take between 10-20 minutes linked below. The survey is completely anonymous, and I'd greatly appreciate if you took the time to contribute to my research.

Many thanks

Douglas

[https://sruc.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/public\\_survey](https://sruc.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/public_survey)

# BARBARA SMITH—LONG SERVICE AWARD FROM OIC



31<sup>st</sup> January 2024

The Manse, Stronsay KW17 2AF  
[DLocke@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:DLocke@churchofscotland.org.uk)  
01857 616284

**KIRK CORNER**



Hello again everyone.

It's still cold, windy, and often wild; but the days are getting longer and the sun does shine at times, and there is hope for a more peaceful February, weatherwise at least. But not necessarily in other spheres, where international political crises increasingly affect us. Someone sent me an email recently to express concern at all that is going on in the Middle East. *"I'm sure you are deeply troubled by events in Gaza and the Middle East. The deaths in Gaza are gross and continuing. World leaders do not seem to have the ability to influence this situation. What can we do? Accept we are impotent and despair or somehow express our anger? How can our Christianity react to this.? It is not acceptable to just wring our hands."*

I agreed and said what you might think a typical minister type comment : *I do not know, but we cannot lose concern, nor lose hope, nor do nothing. Pray?? Pray ? Pray?? For what we should be doing, and expressing our concern is maybe part of the first step.* Not long after, maybe as a result of prayer, our church agreed to join with people around the world in the World Day of Prayer



## **World Day of Prayer** (Scottish Committee) *Informed Prayer; Prayerful Action*



The World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who invite you to join in prayer and action for peace and justice. It involves people from over 180 countries and over 1000 languages A service is held annually on or near the first Friday in March.

This year the service including prayers, has been designed by the Christian women of Palestine who, despite all the suffering and injustice in the land of the Holy One, have maintained their sumud (steadfastness) through mostly non-violent resistance, and a genuine effort to advocate and work for justice together with Muslims and Jews who believe in equal rights. They wrote the details before the current Middle East Crisis, but their words seem very relevant. They ask everyone to bear with them in love and to pray for an end to all human suffering; to stand with them to achieve security and peace for all people around the world.

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This artwork was made by a Palestinian artist in honour of the World Day of Prayer. It represents 3 Palestinian women praying together in a peaceful place. It has olive tree branches as a sign of everlasting and abundant life because they can live for thousands of years. The golden roots underline continuous roots for justice and freedom that will always exist. Poppies remind of loved ones who have given their lives. The women wear traditional dresses and keys as a symbol of hope.

The World day of prayer this year says “I Beg You... Bear With One Another in Love.” Taken from {St Paul’s] letter to The Ephesians: “As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.”

Its an opportunity to share prayer, concern, faith, hopes with each other and with God, and listen for what more we can do. There are at least 6 services planned across other parts of Orkney, so we are planning one here on Stronsay for that day. It might just be about half an hour; but when joined together with people praying around Scotland and the world , we can hope for change for good. You are warmly invited to come along.

We held a day of prayer for the Ukraine situation over a year ago, and some might say; what good did that do? Well I still wear my Ukraine ribbon which I started wearing then, as a reminder to keep praying and remain concerned ; one day some Ukrainian people spotted it and were encouraged by it. How prayers were answered I do not know, but they can at least continue to influence and encourage us to keep praying and speaking up about that situation and also the Middle East. The prayers of millions during the second world war must have felt at times like they were unanswered, but peace did eventually break out. And prayer was part of the steps that brought about that. So we continue to pray for peace in the Middle east, with hope despite it all.

The World Day of Prayer is for everyone – men, women, and young people. A warm welcome awaits you at our local service, in the church hall probably early afternoon on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March. More details to come.

Separately, may I ask readers to let church leaders know how they think holding our Christmas church services in the hall went? Some may have liked the cosy feel of the hall, but some might have preferred say the Watchnight service to have been in the church itself. If you have comments, do pass them to church leaders or email me as above. Many thanks

May God bless you and people around our world with Peace and Justice

David

## **TWENTY YEARS AGO—“THE FLETCHER SAGA”!**

When I retired from the Civil Service in 2003 Maureen and I intended to spend the rest of our lives in Scarborough. However, we soon realised that the main road near our house had become the main route for emergency vehicles so we had flashing blue lights and two-tone horns at all hours of the day & night. Something had to be done!

Eventually we decided that it was time to move and, after a lot research, we decided that we would sell our house, place our effects into storage in York, hire a cottage on mainland Orkney for a few weeks and begin a search for our new home.

And so it was that 20 years ago we arrived in Orkney and I began writing “The Fletcher Saga”, a record of our first impressions of life on Orkney in general and on Stronsay in particular. It formed part of the very successful and popular BBC Island Blogging scheme, covering the period from 2004, when we arrived in Orkney, to 2011, when the BBC stopped supporting the Island Blogging scheme. I preserved “The Fletcher Saga” by adding it to my own website [www.claremontstronsay.co.uk](http://www.claremontstronsay.co.uk). Below is a copy of the first post that I made on 2 February 2004.

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### **February 2 2004**

An enormous removal van arrived on the morning of Friday 30 Jan. All our effects were swiftly and efficiently packed by 4 pm and transported into storage in York whilst we stayed in a local hotel overnight before setting forth on Sat 31 Jan. The weather forecast proved to be wildly optimistic. The promised showers and bright intervals turned out to be driving rain, sleet, and snow so we changed our plan to drive north on the A68 to Edinburgh via Jedburgh - crossing the Cheviots in that weather was something we did not wish to contemplate. Instead, we headed west for Carlisle and the A74/M74. This road proved to be quite well ploughed and salted/gritted so we reached Glasgow by dusk and stayed the night.

On Sunday the weather was improved but still bitterly cold with lots of snow lying quite deep in places; it was especially bad crossing the Cairngorms where only one lane of each dual carriageway was clear and even then, quite deep in slush. Our progress northwards continued to Thurso and a very pleasant hotel where we had a hot bath and an excellent meal before falling into bed utterly exhausted.

Today (Monday 02 Feb) we drove to Scrabster (just two miles) and at noon boarded an almost empty ferry for a smooth trip across the Pentland Firth to Stromness - it felt strange buying two single tickets. There followed a brief drive off the ferry into Stromness and over to Kirkwall where a visit to the estate agent produced the news that the main house we were hoping to buy was not ready as the lady who lived there had yet to find alternative accommodation - this appeared to be as much as surprise to the estate agent as it was to us. However, we have more than one house in mind so tomorrow we shall be visiting the estate agents (both of them) to view at least one more house.

The island had bad weather last week - our temporary accommodation (which is excellent) was cut off for a couple of days and the island came to a virtual standstill for 48 hours. The roads are all cleared even though snow lies quite deeply in places. We are now in the process of unpacking our few possessions ready for a stay of a week or two whilst we attempt to find a house that really is for sale. Watch this space for the next exciting instalment.

**Records of a Bygone Age  
Stronsay Schools Part 3 –  
Into the 1880s and room for all**

At the end of last month's article we heard that plans were in place for the new North and South schools, with tenders actively being sought for the building of both. Things moved on quickly from there with contractors appointed and the buildings going ahead.

At a School Board meeting in October 1878 it was noted that, with the completion of the South School in October 1876 and the North School in September 1878, there was now sufficient school accommodation for all the island's children. It was agreed that the 'compulsory' clause of the 1872 act could now finally be brought into operation on the island, this clause legally obliging every parent or guardian to send their child to school from the age of 5 until the age of 13.

By mid-1879 teachers listed at the Central School were headmaster John Forbes assisted by ex-pupil-teachers Alexander Learmonth and Edith Forbes, whose apprenticeships were complete and who were now to receive a salary of £20 per year. During their pupil-teacher apprenticeship and training they had been paid at a rate of £7 in their first year, £8 in the second, £9 in year 3 and £10/10/- in their final year, so that would have been quite a rise in their salary. It was also agreed that teachers at the Central School should be allowed 2 days holidays per year at a time suitable to themselves which, I assume, would have been in addition to the normal school holidays.

With many pupils having stayed home to work with the herring fishing and, soon after it was finished for the season, more pupils staying at home to work with the harvest, attendance figures were again giving the Board cause for concern. It was noted that in one week in October numbers at the school were down to 17, this out of a roll of around 80 at the time.

We move on now to a School Board meeting in January 1880 where headmaster John Forbes, who had been in poor health for some time, had submitted a letter asking for the Board's support in applying to the Scotch Education Department for a retirement pension. This support was readily given and the Department agreed to grant Mr Forbes an annual pension of £30. He subsequently retired in May 1880 and his post was advertised at a salary of £100 plus a free house and garden, with Charles S Smith being appointed and taking up the post in October. Mr Smith was to endure numerous periods of ill health during his time as head, the first of which was in December that year with Robert Learmonth of Millfield, Alexander Learmonth's elder brother, being appointed interim teacher until he recovered.

Also in 1880, with the ever increasing number of vessels engaged in herring fishing and supplying the needs of the growing industry, the pier at Whitehall Village had been lengthened and heightened.. This was seen as a very important step in the growth of the industry with proprietor Colonel Balfour, who was sole funder of the construction, performing the opening ceremony on 26<sup>th</sup> July 1880, following which he was presented with a service of silver plate by the islanders to mark the occasion.

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In further recognition of the importance of this event the Local Artillery Volunteers were in attendance and the school was closed that afternoon to allow staff and pupil to also attend. With the ships in the harbour all well decorated with bunting this must have been quite an impressive event.

On 5<sup>th</sup> August 1881 the school was shut as the School Board was meeting in the school room (singular). With only one room measuring 48 x 21 feet (14.6 x 6.4 metres) and, on occasion, three teachers and a sewing mistress at the school it must have been a busy room although, with newly qualified teachers Alexander Learmonth and Edith Forbes having previously moved elsewhere to find work, the only staff recorded at that time was Mr Smith, together with his sister Frances who was acting as Assistant and Sewing Mistress.

Following Frances Smith's resignation in January 1882 it was agreed to appoint a permanent Assistant Teacher and Sewing Mistress as her replacement at the school, with Mr Stevenson of Holland offering to pay £12 annually to help meet this cost, and also to appoint an additional Mistress to the Central School if numbers rose above 80. 17 year old Janet Learmonth and 19 year old Isabella Wiseman were both engaged on a trial basis, with Miss Wiseman later being the favoured candidate and appointed to the post.

Mention had been made in previous minutes regarding periods when no fires were lit or floors cleaned and this was addressed by the Board with the appointment of a cleaner at a wage of 1/- (5p) per week.

Permission was granted to Kirkwall businessman John B Russell, who was described in the 1881 census as a 'Master Photographer and Sewing Machine Agent', for the use of the Central School on 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> March 1882 to provide 'optical lantern entertainment'. This 'Magic Lantern' attraction would probably have been the first time that such a facility would ever have been available to the good folk of Stronsay.

Following School Board elections in early 1882 Robert Miller of Coweshouse was reappointed as Clerk and Treasurer to the School Board at a salary of £15 while William Moodie was appointed as School Board Officer (later retitled as 'Compulsory Officer'). Mr Moodie's duties included visiting each school regularly – at least once a fortnight - and checking the attendance figures. If it was found that any particular children had been absent without good excuse then he was also to visit their parents to warn them of their legal obligations to provide for the education of their children.

One of the many problems facing Mr Moodie in his duty of ensuring all children attended school was that many parents simply couldn't afford to pay the fee of 1/6d per term to allow their child a place at school. Although relief was available from the 'Poor Fund' administered by the local Parochial Board (the fore runner of the Parish or District Council) many parents were too proud to apply or failed to qualify for assistance. To try to ease this burden on larger families the Board agreed that where four or more pupils from the same family were attending school then fees should only be charged for three. These fees were finally abolished by the Government in 1890, giving for the first time the availability of free education for all.

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This new Board also had to address the thorny issue of a discrepancy in school funds found after John Forbes, headmaster of the Central School and treasurer to the School Board, had resigned. It was agreed that the Board should pay Mr Forbes a retirement allowance of £66/13/4d but noted that there was a shortfall in School Board funds of £136/4/2d due by him when he remitted office. This affair rumbled on for several years, being destined to go the Court of Session in Edinburgh at one point but the matter was resolved before it got that far, with the School Board offering a reduced pension to Mr Forbes and this being accepted. This pension was to continue to be paid up until the death of Mr Forbes in January 1899.

A HMI report for the year ending May 1882 again seemed to give an excellent account of the school although, as we will see later, this didn't appear to be a view shared by the School Board. The report recorded 'A highly successful appearance has been made. The children are in excellent order and show more drill and activity. Intelligence well trained throughout Geography, and History full, ready and accurate. Arithmetic extremely correct. Figuring and paper-writing might still be improved. Mathematics, Latin, French, Domestic Economy and Physical Geography all very well taught. Sewing and Knitting specially commendable. Singing very fair.'

The only staff members recorded at the time of this inspection were headmaster Charles Smith and Sewing Mistress and Assistant Teacher Isabella Wiseman.

Soon after this HMI report was to hand, in what seems a rather strange reaction by the School Board, it was recorded in the Board minutes on 1<sup>st</sup> February 1882 that 'After discussing the subject of Sewing Mistress and Assistant Teacher referred to in both above reports fully (these were reports dated November and December the previous year), it was unanimously resolved to remonstrate with the teacher in the Central School to exercise greater energy and activity in the discharge of his duties. The Board feel drawn to this position by reason of the terms of the last Report by H. M. Inspector on the school, and also from the continuance of complaints as to the amount of work done in the school, the Special Subjects having not yet been overtaken by the Teaching Staff sanctioned by the Board.'

Just a month later, and probably after the Board had remonstrated with Mr Smith, another minute states that 'At a meeting of the School Board of Stronsay and Eday held here this day (1<sup>st</sup> March) Mr Stevenson moved that the Board, having reconsidered the remonstrance with Mr Smith, Teacher in the Central School recorded in the minute of 1<sup>st</sup> February last – find the Report of H. M. Inspector the best of any school under the Board and believe the School to be in the most satisfactory condition it has been during this board's term of office; therefore clear Mr Smith of all blame.' Mr Learmonth seconded this motion.

Mr Smith resigned in April 1883 after only 2½ years in post and, in August that year, was succeeded by 22 year old Alexander Learmonth. Mr Learmonth, a son of Alexander Learmonth of Millfield, had first qualified as a teacher in Stronsay and had been teaching in Carnwath in Lanarkshire before moving back to his native Stronsay as headmaster.

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Attendance was again highlighted in April 1883 when it was recorded that, out of a roll of 84, only 20 pupils were in attendance with the rest either working on the farm or working at home to allow a parent to go out to work. Of these 84 pupils, more than two thirds were boys.

It was in 1883 too that the school leaving age was raised to 14. Although this gave pupils the right to remain in education until that age few chose to or were given the opportunity to do so, and there was still provision for children as young as 10 to leave school if they gained a 'Labour Certificate' by passing certain tests set by Her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools. It was to be a further 18 years before full time education up to the age of 14 was to become compulsory.

Around this time the School Board acknowledged that they were struggling at times to visit and be fully acquainted with all that was happening and needing attention in all three schools. In an attempt to alleviate the situation and to make better use of the Board's time and resources it was agreed that Board members Mr Ralph Fotheringhame of Boondatoon be appointed to look after the educational needs of the South School, Mr Oliver Drever of the Bay the Central School and Mr William Stevenson of Holland the North School.

November 9<sup>th</sup> 1883 saw another school holiday given as both churches in the island were observing a Fast Day, something which seemed to occur once or twice a year.

Miss Wiseman left in January 1884 to be replaced by Miss Janet Learmonth from Millfield, a sibling of headmaster Alexander Learmonth, who had previously qualified in Stronsay as a teacher.

On 19<sup>th</sup> March 1884 it was again recorded that many pupils were absent, this time because they were attending a sale of wreck at Rothiesholm. This event would have been quite an attraction for the older pupils and must have been the remains of the Swansea registered brigantine *Laura*, wrecked at Rothiesholm in January that year. There had been no loss of life but the cargo of salt was all lost and the ship mostly broken up.

An outbreak of measles in July 1884 seemed to give less cause for concern than in previous epidemics, with the headmaster recording that there were 'a few pupils off with measles of a very slight nature and not dangerous.'

In an entry in the log soon after, it was recorded that the school was closed for an Industrial Show on 1<sup>st</sup> August. Although an Agricultural Society had been formed in the island in 1877 it is remarkable to see this as what must have been a 'stand-alone' event, with the first Cattle and Agricultural Show not taking place until 1888.

Moving on to 1885, the school was closed for the afternoon of 4<sup>th</sup> February to allow pupils to attend the annual ploughing match in Rothiesholm. It again closed early on 1<sup>st</sup> March, this time to allow for a meeting of the School Board. These meetings were a regular occurrence and, it seems, were regularly held in the afternoon, probably to allow members to attend during daylight hours. As the school at this time still consisted of just one large room, this meant that pupils had to be dismissed early to allow the meeting to take place.

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Then, on 6<sup>th</sup> March, although the school wasn't shut, it was recorded that a great number of pupils were absent to attend Rev Claude Brownlie's ordination and induction as minister to the United Presbyterian Church in Stronsay, a post he was to hold for the next 35 years. It was closed a few months later though, when the 27<sup>th</sup> July was declared a holiday to allow pupils to attend the United Presbyterian Church picnic.

Several closures were recorded in July 1886, all related to the parliamentary election of that year. The first of these was on 1<sup>st</sup> July, when the building was given over to Leonard Lyell, the Liberal candidate and sitting MP, for his campaign for re-election and then again on the 20<sup>th</sup> when this same courtesy was extended to Henry Hoare, the Unionist candidate. The school was again closed on 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> July to allow the building to be used as a polling station in an election where Mr Lyell was returned with a reduced majority.

It's quite thought provoking to think that, with votes for women still decades away and many others excluded by age or status, there were less than 5,000 constituents eligible to vote out of a combined Orkney and Shetland population in excess of 60,000. At that time Stronsay had a population of 1300 and, of those, only about 30, all male, were eligible to vote.

Poor attendance was again an issue in 1886, with older pupils regularly missing school to work with the herring in season, to help out on the farm as needed or to look after younger siblings to enable their mothers to go out to work. It was noted, however, that some pupils, including 5 boys who had been engaged in herding, returned for a few days prior to the annual HMI inspection.

This inspection was held on 28<sup>th</sup> August and seemed to be very satisfactory, with the inspector noting that:

'This school attains a high level of efficiency. The discipline is of a most satisfactory character, in particular the alertness and precision of movement displayed are very admirable features in a school, and are evidently the result of constant and effective class drill.

The results of examinations would have been most satisfactory under any circumstances and when the large proportion of children who are presented under Article 20 is taken into account they reflect very high credit indeed on the teacher. The work of the lower standard is almost all that could be desired, the test questions in arithmetic except in 2 occasions worked with absolute accuracy. The writing in the first standard however is somewhat irregular and intelligence in the second might be further developed. In the upper standards also the work deserves the highest praise. There again the arithmetic was particularly good, the few failures in this subject being confined to the fifth standard. The composition in the fifth deserves special mention. On the other hand reading and intelligence on the fourth and to some extent in the fifth admit of improvement.

The grant for History and Geography was creditably earned throughout but especially in the sixth. Sewing and singing very satisfactory.'

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With Janet Learmonth having left at some stage previous to the inspection, the teachers at this time were headmaster Alexander Learmonth and the newly qualified Joanna Shearer from Sunnybank who had moved up through the local school ranks, firstly as Monitor and then as Pupil Teacher. Miss Shearer's appointment as Assistant Teacher and Sewing Mistress was to be confirmed in January 1887.

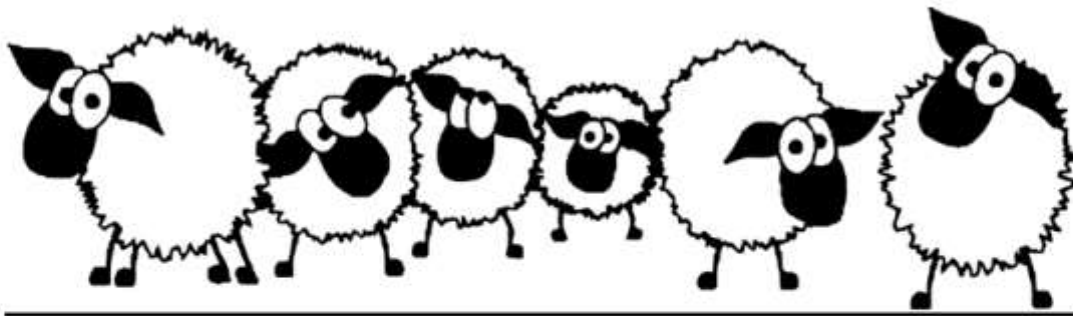
Those same 5 boys who had returned from herding duties to attend the school for a few days prior to the 1886 inspection had spent the rest of the summer herding and, on their return in November, by which time the cattle had been housed for the winter, it was noted that they were very far behind and would require special attention.

This highlighted the problems caused by poor attendance where, with grant funding being largely dependent on all pupils attaining a basic level of education, additional time and resources had to be given over to help those poor attenders catch up on their education. This, in turn, led to less teaching time devoted to those who attended regularly and whose education was more advanced.

As will be seen later, this was often a cause of friction between School Board and Headmaster, where the Board expected more pupils to be given a grounding in additional subjects, which would lead to more grant funding, and the Head feeling he was let down by the Board not ensuring better attendance from pupils to enable this to happen.

Part 4 will be in next month's Limpet  
Ian Cooper  
January 2024

## Stronsay Stitchers



Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February, 7.00pm-9.00-pm, Church Hall,  
£2.00/person.

We are an informal group meeting monthly doing our own stitchy things. You can bring any project you're working on such as crochet, needlework, knitting etc. Everyone welcome.

# Stephen Clackson's Letter from School Place

*Orkney's only regular councillor newsletter.*

James Stockan MBE is stepping down as Leader of Orkney Islands Council and retiring as councillor for the Stromness & South Isles Ward. We've had our differences over the years, but we've also had our agreements, and, on the whole, I'd say we've enjoyed a good working relationship. I first met James in the early 2000s, when he was contemplating standing for the Council. He told me he'd been inspired to do so by my article (published in *The Orcadian*, 6<sup>th</sup> March 2003, p.31) on Sanday's radical Free Kirk minister, the Rev Matthew Armour, who represented Lady at Orkney County Council from 1890 to 1899. I wish James all the best for the future.

What will 2024 bring? In 1967, Enver Hoxha's New Year message to the Albanian people warned: "Ky vit do të jetë më i vështirë se viti i kaluar. Por nga ana tjetër, do të jetë më i lehtë se viti i ardhshëm." In English: "This year will be harder than last year. But on the other hand, it will be easier than next year."! Will this be the same for us in 2024? (I did not visit Albania until Hoxha's reforming successor Ramiz Alia was in power. We shared a plane between Tirana and Zürich, and he kindly autographed a copy of his photo I'd bought off a street vendor.)

The 1<sup>st</sup> January marked the 100th anniversary of the shipping forecast being broadcast by the BBC. In Orkney we live the shipping forecast, dwelling on small patches of land surrounded by the Atlantic on one side and the North Sea on the other. Storms Gerrit and Henk brought the North Isles disruption, damage, flooding and power outages. And then, to paraphrase James Joyce, "Snow was general over all the islands, falling thickly upon all the living and the dead." We must acknowledge the unstinting help of our farmers with digging us out of this.

On Christmas Eve, with those of my family home for the holiday, I attended the watchnight service at Sanday's Cross Kirk. I hope this won't be the last, for the Church of Scotland has now closed the kirk. I regard this closure as representing the renunciation of the Church of Scotland's "distinctive call and duty to bring the ordinances of religion to the people in every parish of Scotland through a territorial ministry", enshrined over a century ago in *Article Declaratory III* of its constitution and the *Church of Scotland Act 1921*. Last year, I wrote in support of a funding application to the Scottish Land Fund by the Friends of Sanday Kirk to purchase the kirk building. This has been successful, so fingers crossed for the church being in community ownership by next Christmas.

Congratulations to Nancy Scott for being awarded the British Empire Medal (BEM) in the King's New Year's Honours List for her services to the Westray community. If you wish to nominate somebody to be considered for such an award in recognition of their service and commitment to their community, details on how to do this can be found on the following webpages: [www.gov.uk/honours](http://www.gov.uk/honours) and [www.orkneylieutenancy.org.uk/honours](http://www.orkneylieutenancy.org.uk/honours). The important thing is that the nomination has to be submitted while the nominee is still actively involved in what you are nominating them for. I suspect quite a few deserving cases have slipped through the honours net because folk only think about nominating them after they have retired. Congratulations, too, to Maurice and Jean Soord of Sanday for each receiving a Benemerenti medal from the Pope.

Since my last [Letter](#), I have attended a couple of confidential members' briefings, and I was at a very interesting joint session held for OIC and NHS Orkney to meet with Public Health Scotland (at which I was able to remind them that Orkney has populations living in the Isles needing healthcare, too).

I shall close with a reminder that the **deadline** for registration in *The Register of Persons Holding a Controlled Interest in Land* (RCI) is the **31<sup>st</sup> March**. It is a requirement that all persons with controlling interests in land or property be recorded in this register by this date, after which it becomes a criminal offence punishable with a fine of up to £5000 not to be registered if required to be so. Persons requiring to register include individuals subject to contractual or other arrangements, partnerships (e.g. where not all partners are registered as owners), trusts (e.g. where not all trustees are registered as owners), and unincorporated bodies (e.g. voluntary groups, clubs, associations and faith groups). Guidance can be found online at <https://kb.ros.gov.uk/>.

My New Year's resolution as a councillor is summed up by the words of Protestant theologian Rienhold Niebuhr: "God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference."

Incidentally, in the end, my festive season reading was "The Pilots of Pomona" by Robert Leighton—a ripping boys' adventure story set in early Victorian times, and taking place mainly in Stromness and the West Mainland.



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

West Manse, Sanday  
[stephen.clackson@orkney.gov.uk](mailto:stephen.clackson@orkney.gov.uk)

**Letter from School Place** is also  
available on-line at [clackson.info](http://clackson.info)



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## Prescription Collection and Delivery Service



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

The logo for "Cash is Freedom" features the text "CASH IS FREEDOM" in a semi-circle above a stylized bird or flame icon held in two hands.

**A CASHLESS SOCIETY  
MEANS ZERO CASH**

**NO CAR BOOT SALES / MARKETS  
NO TOOTH FAIRY / PIGGY BANKS  
NO SAVING CASH FOR A RAINY DAY  
NO TIPPING THE WAITER OR HAIRDRESSER  
NO GIVING TO THE HOMELESS  
NO GIVING TO BUSKING MUSCIANS  
NO SELLING UNWANTED ITEMS FOR CASH  
NO BUYING ANYTHING WITH PRIVACY  
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**

## **FOR SALE, WANTED, THANK YOU, etc**

### **TO ALL DRIVERS FROM LEONORA**

You have probably noticed me driving my mobility scooter on odd places on the roads. This is not ignorance or selfishness. The dreadful road surfaces mean that there are many places where it is impossible for me to drive my scooter at all, so I have to look for the smoothest bits. I hope that you understand. Thank you for bearing with me.

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### **FOR SALE**

White Citroen Berlingo diesel van, MOT July 2024, 2007 Reg. £850.  
Will deliver to Stronsay. Phone Ken on 01856 841487 or 07939 304 766.

---

### **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 £7.00 for 30 logs. Available at the recycling centre or call Viv on 207.

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### **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

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



# FOR SALE, WANTED, THANK YOU, etc



## 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](mailto:heritagesocietystronsay@gmail.com)



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## **FOR SALE, WANTED, THANK YOU, etc**

### **DONNA BLYTH EDUCATION SERVICES**

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

Email: [donnablyth@outlook.com](mailto:donnablyth@outlook.com)

Tel: 01857 616242 / 07852 805780

Tuition in English Language, English Literature, EAL and Literacy for learners of all abilities from age 5 - adult

£25.00 per hour for 1:1 tuition

£45.00 per hour for groups of 2 or more depending on requirements (max 4)

Tuition in clarinet performance and music theory up to grade 5

£15 per 30min lesson for 1:1 tuition

Assessment for Applications for Examination Access Arrangements

Assessments and reports for EHCP and Coordinated Support Plan applications

Please contact me for details and prices

I am GTCS, DBS and PVG Scheme registered.

I have valid, current Safeguarding and Prevent certification

References available if required

All enquiries and services provided are treated in confidence as far as possible and according to KCSIE legislation 2023

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### **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

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# FOR SALE, WANTED, THANK YOU, etc

## **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

**Interest invited. Not currently with external agent.**

**Viewing by advanced appointment only. Flexible entry date.**

**Offers invited above £130k. Finance options from seller.**

**Leo Martini-Brown**

**[lmartinibrown@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lmartinibrown@yahoo.co.uk)**

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# 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](http://www.visitstronsay.com)

For further information about the sites please contact

- Sharon at Orkney Property Centre, Kirkwall on 01856 877 866 or
- Dianne on 07785 111 126 or
- email [drileymoore@hotmail.com](mailto:drileymoore@hotmail.com)

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



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# Are you missing out on £200?



**ORKNEY**  
ISLANDS COUNCIL

## 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 / looked after

You can apply if you currently receive  
Universal Credit or Pension Credit

You can also apply if you have savings under £6000 and your  
earnings are below the threshold in the table below.

Number of Children	Single Person Earnings	Couples Earnings
0	£1928 per month	£2361 per month
1	£3300 per month	£3734 per month
2	£4048 per month	£4482 per month
3	£4978 per month	£5412 per month

To apply visit the website below, call 01856 873535

[www.orkney.gov.uk/COL](http://www.orkney.gov.uk/COL)

...or scan  
me into  
your phone  
camera



## MOBILE LIBRARY VAN VISITS 2024

25 March, 20 May, 15 July, 9 September, 4 November

For further information go to web page <https://orkneylibrary.org.uk/mobile-library>, send an email to [library@orkney.gov.uk](mailto:library@orkney.gov.uk) or telephone 01856 873166.

Winter	Council Houses	8.45	-	9.45
	School	10	-	12
	Kirk	12.45	-	3
	Fish mart	3.15	-	4.45
Summer/Refit	Council Houses	9.25	-	10
	School	10.15	-	12
	Kirk	12.45	-	3
	Fish mart	3.15	-	5.30

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### FIRST PASSENGER ON THE NEW STRONSAY BUS!

I have apparently just had the honour of being the first ever passenger on the new Stronsay Bus!

When I first heard of the idea of having a bus, I was a bit unsure as to how it might work. Having now been on my first bus ride on Stronsay, I am absolutely delighted, and would encourage everybody to give it a go! Here's to many happy bus rides around Stronsay!

[Check with Mick if you need to go anywhere on the island - he is introducing a bit more flexibility to the bus schedule to make it more of an "on-demand" service]

*Ruth Gurny (Wed 10 Jan 2024)*

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**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 [annemaree.carter@btinternet.com](mailto:annemaree.carter@btinternet.com)

Rooms for hire from only £2 per hour plus hydro charge.

**Adult supervision (over 18) must be present during hire.**

Find us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/hallcommittee>



## **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](mailto:cdostronsay@gmail.com) and see what's available.

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## **HOW TO CONTACT THE *LIMPET***

Send an email to [editor@stronsaylimpet.co.uk](mailto:editor@stronsaylimpet.co.uk) or write to *The Limpet, Claremont, Stronsay, KW17 2AR.*

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## **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**

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

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

To book a private hire phone Elsie on 616238.

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### **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 [andyrose85@btinternet.com](mailto:andyrose85@btinternet.com), phone 01857 616277 or mobile 07769 689 310

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### **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**

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

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### **HANDY EMAIL ADDRESSES:**

Ebenezer Stores [stronsaystores@gmail.com](mailto:stronsaystores@gmail.com)

Olivebank [m.williamson1@btconnect.com](mailto:m.williamson1@btconnect.com)

Fishmart café [fishmartcafehostel@gmail.com](mailto:fishmartcafehostel@gmail.com)

For telephone numbers see the back page of this edition.

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### **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

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### **GOLGOTHA MONASTERY, PAPA STRONSAY**

#### **DAILY STREAMING BROADCAST**

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

<http://www.papastronsay.com/live>

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.

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### **STRONSAY KIRK**

Weekly service at 11am.

Minister—Rev David Locke, phone 616284.

Stronsay kirk's website:

<http://www.orkneycommunities.co.uk/stronsaykirk>

Stronsay kirk's Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1553904828107651>

**PLEASE NOTE**  
**REVISED NOTICE WEDNESDAY 31 JANUARY 2024**

**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. During 2024 meetings will be held on 25 March, 19 August, 7 October and 25 November.

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 a new version of the 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](mailto:stronsaycc@gmail.com)

Colin McAlpine  
Stronsay Island Link Officer  
31 January 2024

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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 [editor@stronsaylimpet.co.uk](mailto:editor@stronsaylimpet.co.uk)



**Happy  
Feet  
Foot health**

## **New Business**

[happyfeetorkney@outlook.com](mailto: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!  
The cutoff date for adverts to be included in the next edition of the *Limpet* is on the front page  
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## **LOCAL BUSINESSES**



# Community Bus

Book by 7pm the day before travel

Contact Mick

07508884024  
01857 616 376

[bayviewtransportlimited@gmail.com](mailto:bayviewtransportlimited@gmail.com)

Tuesday - Morning ferry drop off, evening pick up

Tuesday - Olivebank round trip 9:30-11:00

Wednesday - Village drop off 11:30, pick up 1:00

Thursday - Morning ferry drop off, evening pick up

Friday - Morning plane drop off, afternoon plane pick up

(max. 4 passengers)

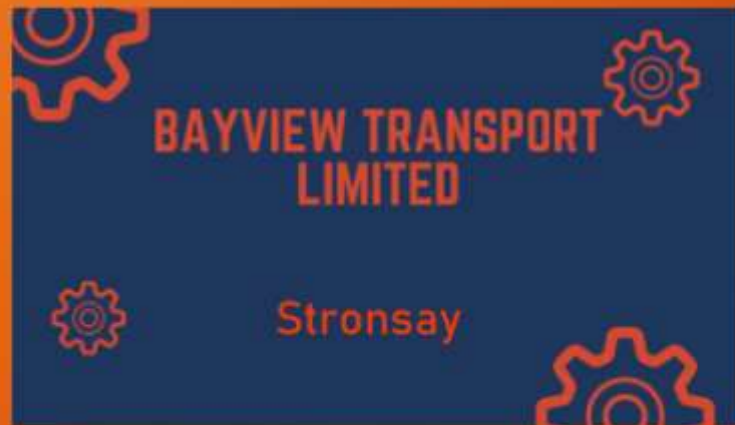
Maximum 8 passengers. £2.50 per return journey. Cash or card accepted.

Booked passengers will be contacted the evening before travel with a collection time.

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***LOCAL BUSINESSES***



Taxi

School transport

Mechanic repairs and diagnostics

Contact Mick

07508884024

01857 616 376

[bayviewtransportlimited@gmail.com](mailto:bayviewtransportlimited@gmail.com)

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**POMONA  PREFECT**

**ORKNEY NORTH ISLES' COMMERCIAL  
AND LEISURE SMALL BOAT CHARTER**



+44 (0) 7707 306787  
pomonaprefect@gmail.com  
[www.pomonaprefect.com](http://www.pomonaprefect.com)

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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

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### **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 [williams778@btinternet.com](mailto:williams778@btinternet.com)

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### **HOW TO CONTACT THE *LIMPET***

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**LOCAL BUSINESSES**

# *Holmsgarth Crafts*



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



Contact Margaret McAnally - [Holmsgarth Crafts | Facebook](#)  
[07432614089](tel:07432614089)

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## LOCAL BUSINESSES



# Marion Miller Jewellery

Unique Jewellery inspired by the sea and shore.  
Designed and handmade on the island of Stronsay, Orkney

[www.marionmillerjewellery.com](http://www.marionmillerjewellery.com)

Tel 07919550943 E-mail [marionmillerjewellery@gmail.com](mailto:marionmillerjewellery@gmail.com)



Local business adverts are free!

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## **LOCAL BUSINESSES**



Traditionally hand-crafted in Stronsay—soaps, solid shampoo bars, conditioner bars and balms. Hand-spun and hand-dyed yarns from Orkney fleeces, woven throws, wall-hangings and more.

Orkney Star Island Soap, Isles View, Stronsay, Orkney, KW17 2AG.

Tel: (+44) 01857 616 281

Email: [info@orkneystarsoap.co.uk](mailto:info@orkneystarsoap.co.uk)

Web: <http://www.orkneystarsoap.co.uk>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/orkney.star.island.soap>

**PATRICK  
McGRATH  
LTD**



**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](mailto:patrickmcgrathltd@gmail.com)



Local business adverts are free!

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## **LOCAL BUSINESSES**

### 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 [stronsaymarkets@gmail.com](mailto:stronsaymarkets@gmail.com) and I can add you to the regular list of available produce

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See Stronsay Markets on YouTube [https://youtu.be/8e6sz\\_Z2eQU](https://youtu.be/8e6sz_Z2eQU)

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Local business adverts are free!

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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](http://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](mailto:ebenezer@stronsay.org)

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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

### **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 [oldmanse.kildary@btinternet.com](mailto:oldmanse.kildary@btinternet.com)

Web [www.oldmansebandbkildary.co.uk](http://www.oldmansebandbkildary.co.uk)

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Local 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

## **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.**

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### **HOW TO CONTACT THE *LIMPET***

Send an email to [editor@stronsaylimpet.co.uk](mailto:editor@stronsaylimpet.co.uk) or write to *The Limpet*, Claremont, Stronsay, KW17 2AR. Details of the deadline for the next edition are on the front page

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**LOCAL BUSINESSES**

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

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## USEFUL INFORMATION

Post Office opening hours . . . .	Monday to Saturday 8:30am - 5:00pm. Sunday closed all day
Post collection times . . . . .	Ebenezer post box 7:30am, Monday to Saturday
Bank (RBS) . . . . .	Thursday 9:30am to 3pm (closed 12-1 lunch), phone 616262
OIC Special collection. . . . .	Week Commencing: 12 Feb 2024
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 . . .	Weekly service at 11am
Our Lady's Chapel, pier head	Mass: Sun & holidays 11am, Tue 8am, other days 11.20am
Next mobile library van visit .	<a href="https://tinyurl.com/orkmoblib">https://tinyurl.com/orkmoblib</a>
<a href="#">Weekly rubbish collection</a> . . . .	Tuesday (bags out by <b>8am</b> but <b>not</b> on the night before!)
Recycling skips nearly full? . .	Send email to <a href="mailto:recycling@orkney.gov.uk">recycling@orkney.gov.uk</a>
Forward scam emails to . . . . .	<a href="mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk">report@phishing.gov.uk</a>
Stronsay's Facebook page	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/476168409207488">https://www.facebook.com/groups/476168409207488</a>

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

Airy Fairy . . . . .	616231	Silver Darlings . . . . .	616412
Bank ( <i>Thursday only</i> ) . .	616262	Sinclair Haulage . . . . .	600404
Community council . . . .	616446	Star Island Soap . . . . .	616281
Companions Club . . . . .	616352	Stranded seals, etc . . . . .	616207/206/498
Craftship Enterprise . . . .	0778 511 1126	Stronsay Band . . . . .	616335
Doctor . . . . .	616321	Stronsay Pub & Hotel . . .	616407
Ebenezer Stores . . . . .	616339	Stronsay school . . . . .	616246
Ebenezer Oil Heating . . .	616207	Stronsay taxi, school . . . .	616376 or
	or 07500 682 867	transport, mechanic	07508 884 024
Fish Mart . . . . .	616401	diagnostics & repairs	
Golgotha monastery. . . .	616210	Balfour hospital (24/7). . .	01856 888000
	or <a href="mailto:contact@the-sons.org">contact@the-sons.org</a>	Water problems (24/7) . .	0800 0778 778
Hairdresser . . . . .	616337	Electricity	
Hall bookings . . . . .	616263	general enquiries	0800 048 3516
	or <a href="mailto:annemaree.carter@btinternet.com">annemaree.carter@btinternet.com</a>	(lines open Mon-Fri 8am-5pm)	
Highland Fuels . . . . .	01856 873766	problems (24/7) . . .	0800 300 999
Island Link Officer . . . . .	616475	power cut (24/7). . .	105
Kirk secretary . . . . .	616238	Police (non urgent) (24/7)	101
Limpet editor . . . . .	616297	Kirkwall Library . . . . .	01856 873166
Medical emergency . . . .	616321	Dentists:	
Neil's on Wheels . . . . .	07723 304 260	Daisybank Clinic . .	01856 870547
Manse . . . . .	616284	Deyanov Dental . . .	01856 877118
Nurses . . . . .	616321	Com Dental Service	01856 888258
Olivebank . . . . .	616255	Orkney Dental . . . .	01856 872030
OIC out of hours . . . . .	01856 873535	Vets:	
Post Office . . . . .	616499	Flett & Carmichael .	01856 872859
Red House Plants . . . . .	616377	Northvet . . . . .	01856 873403
Registrar . . . . .	616239		
Scottish Fuels . . . . .	01856 873105		
SDT office . . . . .	616410		

## HOW TO CONTACT THE [LIMPET](#)

Send an email to [editor@stronsaylimpet.co.uk](mailto:editor@stronsaylimpet.co.uk) or write to "Claremont, KW17 2AR".