



# **STRONSAY LIMPET**

**FUNDED BY STRONSAY DEVELOPMENT TRUST**

**ISSUE 78 - DECEMBER 2011**

*Published on the last Thursday of the month*



## **OPENING HOURS—CHRISTMAS & HOGMANAY**

	<b><u>SURGERY</u></b>	<b><u>EBENEZER</u></b>	<b><u>POST OFFICE</u></b>	<b><u>OLIVEBANK</u></b>
<b>Sat 24 Dec</b>	Usual times <u>urgent</u> problems	7:30am—7:30pm	9am—12noon	8:30am—7:30pm
<b>Sun 25 Dec</b>	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
<b>Mon 26 Dec</b>	Closed	10am—12noon	Closed	Closed
<b>Tue 27 Dec</b>	Closed	10am—12noon	Closed	Closed
<b>Wed 28 Dec</b>	Usual times	8:30am—6:30pm	8:30am—12noon	10am—1pm
<b>Thu 29 Dec</b>	Usual times	8:30am—6:30pm	8:30am—12noon 1pm—3pm	Normal hours
<b>Fri 30 Dec</b>	Usual times	8:30am—6:30pm	8:30am—12noon	Normal hours
<b>Sat 31 Dec</b>	Usual times <u>urgent</u> problems	8:30am—7:30pm	9am—12noon	8:30am—6:30pm
<b>Sun 1 Jan</b>	Closed	10am—12noon	Closed	Closed
<b>Mon 2 Jan</b>	Closed	10am—12noon	Closed	Closed
<b>Tue 3 Jan</b>	Closed	Normal hours	Closed	Closed
<b>Wed 4 Jan</b>	Usual times	Normal hours	8:30am—12noon	Closed

## **GERAMOUNT SURGERY**

Opening times over Christmas & Hogmanay are as above. Please check that you have enough medication for the holiday season, ordering early if required.

## **REFUSE COLLECTION**

Collections on Wed 28 Dec and Wed 4 Jan instead of the usual dates.

The next edition of the *Limpet* will be published on Thu 26 Jan. Items for inclusion in that edition should be submitted by Wed 18 Jan. Contact details on back page

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## **GERAMOUNT SURGERY**

Opening times over Christmas & Hogmanay are on the front page. Please check that you have enough medication for the holiday season, ordering early if required.

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## **STRONSAY HEALTHY LIVING CENTRE**

### **WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS**

### **AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR**

School holiday and Christmas opening  
Supervised Sessions  
Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> Dec 2011 – Wed 4<sup>th</sup> Jan 2012



	<b>am</b>	<b>pm</b>
<b>Fri 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	10.30 - 12	4 - 5.30
<b>Sat 24<sup>th</sup> – Tue 27<sup>th</sup></b>	CLOSED	CLOSED
<b>Wed 28<sup>th</sup></b>	10.30 - 12	Closed
<b>Thu 29<sup>th</sup></b>	10.30 - 12	Closed
<b>Fri 30<sup>th</sup></b>	10.30 - 12	Closed
<b>Sat 31<sup>st</sup> – Tue 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan</b>	CLOSED	CLOSED
<b>Wed 4<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>	10.30 – 12	4 - 5.30

OIC have asked us to reduce Supervised Hours from 5<sup>th</sup> Jan  
Please check shops in new year for revised timetable – not yet decided. Any suggestions /  
input would be welcome.

Tel: 616449

# TURNING AND EARNING

## BACKGROUND FOR NEW MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY

The community wind turbine project was chosen by the Stronsay Development Trust and the community it represents as the best option for Stronsay to make a real difference to its future sustainability.

2009 The work began in earnest

The independent income stream from this project will create a fund which will allow us to reduce our dependency on grant funding and to generate economic, social and environmental benefits.

Stronsay Development Trust (SDT), as a charity, is unable to trade in the generation of electricity. A trading company, Stronsay Renewable Energy Ltd. (SREL) has been set up to deliver and operate the turbine project on their behalf.

SREL is a social enterprise and profit from the company will be Gift Aided to the Trust providing it with a tax efficient income. The Development Trust will hold this Community Fund in a separate bank account and will publish details of the grant criteria and how to apply **by November 2012**

### **Update to end of 2011**

- \* **1 November**—the site manager and two technical assistants were employed.
- \* **17 November**—the turbine began turning and earning albeit still under trial and testing.
- \* **4 December**—problems with the grid stopped all wind turbines across Orkney
- \* At the time of going to press Enercon engineering work has to be independently signed off and the turbine officially handed over to SREL.
- \* **8 December**—Stronsay, along with other members of Community Power Orkney, tried to collect our SURF (Scottish Urban Regeneration Forum) award for partnership working. Foul weather prevented us from getting to Glasgow, but it was nice and warm and dry in Kirkwall airport!

Best wishes to everyone for 2012 and please watch out for an invitation to a community celebration planned for the spring.

Julia Crocker

Chair

SREL

## **NEWS FROM STRONSAY SCHOOL**

### **GWEN MAYOR TRUST – SUCCESS!!**

An application was made for funding to the Gwen Mayor Trust to enable us to continue bringing Joyce in to work with children developing their knitting skills and to introduce the primary school pupils to weaving, felting and other craft skills. We are delighted that this application was successful and we have been awarded £300. The pupils were very keen to bring back Joyce and will be happy to see her back in the New Year.

We also made an application to the Scottish Youth Hostel association to fund an activity week through a funding programme they have. Unfortunately this was not successful however they have indicated that their fund raiser is continuously seeking new funding sources and if they have any success with this then they will get back in touch.

We are still waiting for feedback from Warburtons about an application for funding to enable pupils from nursery to secondary to continue to work on a healthy eating and cooking project. We have also not yet heard back about the application to enable pupils to access more dance tuition. The application to Awards for All to improve our outdoor learning areas is still being worked on with parents and staff and we hope to get this away in the New Year.

### **STAFFING**

We would all like to say thank you to Sheena for her work in the Nursery over the last few years, we will not be losing her altogether as she will continue in her roles as Classroom Assistant and Auxiliary. We know that the children will miss her but are sure she has lots to do to fill her time. Hopefully by the time you are reading this the job will be advertised and we hope to appoint someone to the post early in the New Year, in the meantime Yvonne will continue to cover.

### **GREAT STRONSAY COOK OFF WEEK**

I would like to praise all the S1/2 pupils for their efforts during the Great Stronsay Cook off, they stayed on task all week and all the staff that worked with them during the week were equally impressed so well done to all. I would also like to thank the staff who helped in any way and to Paul Doull of the Foveran who worked with Diane and Natalie along with his staff. It was their first evening of the festive menu and we really appreciate him giving up his time and providing meals and accommodation. All pupils from nursery up participated in some way in the cook off – the nursery children discovered a wide range of vegetables and chose the recipes to make their own soup (their second go at this!), the lower primary tasted various fruits and made fruit salad and the upper primary made cookies to go in their advent calendar which they also designed. All the children and young people have met the criteria to achieve an Active Kids Get Cooking Award at the various levels and certificates will be presented once they arrive. Well done everyone!

*(continued on next page)*

## **S4 WORK EXPERIENCE**

We have had very positive feedback from all the employers praising the young people from S4 who recently completed their work experience as usual they were a credit to home and school alike.

## **S3 SPORTS LEADERSHIP**

The S3 pupils have embarked on their Sports Leadership Award and have completed the first three days, they have two more days to do and these will take place before the Easter holidays. In the meantime they will have tasks to complete working with the younger pupils.

## **JUNIOR ROAD SAFETY OFFICER**

The Upper Primary are continuing their work with the younger pupils to deliver road safety sessions while developing their own leadership skills.

## **ASTRONOMY**

Steve Owens (the Dark Skies man) worked with pupils from P7 up running sessions about Astronomy which the pupils found interesting. The Astronomy club members also spent time with him looking at the new telescope which has been given to the school as part of this project.

## **CALENDAR COMPETITION**

Thank you to all who entered this competition, there were a great deal of entries and we would like to thank Bill for judging this. The calendars are available from the local shops and school at a cost of £6.50 with any profit made going towards next summer's school trips for all pupils. There were twelve photos selected to appear in the main calendar and an additional six commended photos on the back page.

## **CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION**

Congratulations to Molly Shearer who won the competition to design a Christmas Card to be used by the school this year. Thank you to all the pupils who entered.

School starts again on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2012.

I would like to wish all pupils, parents, staff and community a Happy Christmas and all best wishes for 2012 and to thank everyone for their on-going support.

Susan Robertson, December 2012

# **REPORT**

## **FROM THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER.**

This past year has proven to be a productive one for the island with regard to progress towards our projects. As you all know the community turbine is now up and starting to earn its keep. The Enterprise Zone is moving forward with tenders going out in the New Year for ground works and the actual build. We will ask all potential applicants to utilise local labour whenever possible and appropriate to do so.

As part of the turbine outcomes is to grow community assets and reduce fuel poverty the Stronsay Development Trust have decided to finance the replacement of existing heating in the community hall and upgrade the insulation. This is a major project and will benefit the users of the hall comfort wise and help reduce heating costs. This is a good example of community groups working together and I hope one of many in the future.

Remember that the SDT's latest development plan has been published and offers a full rundown of what is intended to be achieved in the next few years. As with all infrastructure projects they take a long time to come to fruition but are worth the wait!

Remember that I can be contacted by email anytime on [cdostronsay@btconnect.com](mailto:cdostronsay@btconnect.com) or by phone Mon-Friday 9-5 on 01857 616300 or mob 07780 291673.

I would like to thank everyone who has expressed an interest and given support to us in our endeavours and I wish all in our community a wonderful Christmas and Happy New Year!

All the Best

Tony Withers.

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## **NEWSFLASH FROM STRONSAY DEVELOPMENT TRUST**

Following Julia Crocker's resignation to take up her new post, Malcolm Addison has been duly elected as our new Chair. We wish him well in his new role.

The Board would like to take this opportunity to thank Julia for the enormous amount of work she has done for the Trust and this community.

We are confident that Julia will continue to be our most important asset.

Thankyou!!



## **THE GREAT STRONSAY COOK OFF**

The pupils at Stronsay School had been asking Mrs. Robertson to do a bake off and this finally happened the week beginning 21<sup>st</sup> November. The pupils started on the Monday with planning and then a technical challenge to make shortbread. The 22<sup>nd</sup> November was a signature dish to make cakes, where each pupil chose their own recipe and a technical challenge to make a Banana Spice Loaf, where everyone had the same recipe and ingredients. On the 23<sup>rd</sup> November pupils had two technical challenges which involved sweet and savoury pastry, there was a chocolate tart and a cheese and onion flan. The 24<sup>th</sup> November pupils made their own seasonal soup with a technical challenge of making a white cob loaf. On the final day pupils had to make three signature buffet dishes in the morning and then parents and friends came in to school to taste them. Wilma and Arna judged all our dishes during the week and were very impressed with what we had all achieved. The winners Natalie and Diane got to go to the Foveran hotel in Kirkwall to cook with Paul Doull. They worked in the kitchen and then had a meal and stayed the night. A big thank you to Gaynor for doing a lot more washing of tea towels than normal, to Wilma and Arna for judging and to Mrs. Robertson for organising it. Mostly we all enjoyed the week although at times it was tiring and confusing but we would still do it all over again. If you are in school we have made a display with lots of photos and quotes from everyone involved during the week.

S1/2



## **WORK EXPERIENCE REPORT—NOVEMBER**

Stronsay Junior High's S4 pupils had a week's work experience from the 21<sup>st</sup> to the 25<sup>th</sup> of November, it saw all eight pupils go to various different work places including: Radio Orkney, J&W Tait, Papdale nursery, Papdale Primary, the Airport, Orkneys Planning permission office and department, the Reel and the Tankerness Museum.

All pupils travelled to Kirkwall on the Sunday night boat, luckily, at that time the weather was calm. Once in Kirkwall everyone made their way to Papdale Halls of Residence (the hostel), and our rooms were allocated. That night some of us mixed with the other residents, whilst others got settled in as it was their first time there. Monday morning came, most of us left for work at half eight, while others were luckily, only leaving at nine, or half past.

Everyone experienced five days working in a completely new environment and enjoyed their week. All of us felt that it was a chance to see what we were interested in, and what we weren't, giving us a better idea of what we would like as a future career.

Alison felt that her time at J&W Tait's was brilliant, and it had changed her view on the typical stereotype given to Office work "boring and dour". She got the chance to do a bit of everything from opening letters to accounts. On leaving her workplace she received a generous gift of £50 for her time there and has kept in contact with the people she worked with.

Jamie worked with the nursery children at Papdale, he experienced classes of up to 40 small children at one time. He said "I had to sweep up a lot; oats and play dough are not a good mixture for carpets! I also helped the children develop their counting skills. I would definitely consider doing this job in the future".

Nattie loved his time at the Planning permission office and department. He said "I got to learn about the policies involved in the department, go on four different trips across the mainland including the Bay of Skail, the Peerie Sea Loan, Weyland Terrace and also a house in Deerness". He also got to know the staff there. It gave him a good idea of what he must do to achieve his future career in architecture.

Alasdair worked with the children at Papdale Primary school. He said "I really enjoyed it and found working with the primary ones very enjoyable, it was different being in a school helping out, not getting taught". Alasdair strongly considers a job in a primary school for the future.

Tilly worked in the Reel, where she got the chance to see all sides to the business. Cooking, music and accounts were some of the tasks she undertook. Tilly enlightened us on her time there "I swept up, and kept the cafe nice and clean for the first day. Later on I made some refreshments to serve. I also took part in a piano class with Hazel Wrigley with a variety of ages". She met the staff there too and says: "The staff at the Reel were very jolly and I hope to keep in touch with them all whenever I go to Kirkwall".

*(continued on next page)*



Weather girl Jacqui managed to go on air twice reading the forecasts which brought south easterly winds and snow. Many said to her “Ya could have come wae a better een!” Jacqui said “I thoroughly enjoyed my time at Radio Orkney. It was great being able to meet and put a face to some of the voices I hear every day. I managed to edit and record voices, make up programmes for the 12.54 show and hear the Housegarth band and transfer tracks of theirs from old reels to a computer. I didn’t want to leave! It’s definitely a career I’d like to pursue.”

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## **CONTRIBUTORS TO THE LIMPET**

### **PLEASE NOTE**

In order to avoid the recent annoying delays in publishing the Limpet the cut-off date will be a few days earlier. This will give the Orcadian more time to print the Limpet and return it to Stronsay for distribution. Thus:

- January 2012      Publication Thu 26 Jan      Cut-off Wed 18 Jan
- February 2012      Publication Thu 23 Feb      Cut-off Wed 15 Feb

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# CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING 10 DECEMBER



## LATEST BIRD NEWS

The recent stormy period has been surprisingly quiet for unusual sightings but there have been a few interesting birds around the dwellings and farm buildings, including a Long-eared Owl by the side of Millburn Cottage (see photo), a Chiffchaff in the Airy garden, and Chiffchaff and Woodcock in the Castle Garden - the Chiffchaff seen the day after the huge '95mph plus' storm in early December. It is incredible that this tiny insectivorous species can survive at such high latitude in Winter but some years one or two do cling on into December and even January. A Dunnock is still present at Helmsley - perhaps not surprisingly as the garden there is ideal for this species which favours leaf litter under shrubberies. Where better on the island than Helmsley?!

A real surprise at Dale in late November was a Little Auk found dead by the byre. Why these tiny sea-birds which breed in the High Arctic (Spitzbergen etc) and spend the rest of the year at sea, 'plop down' on dry land is a real mystery. It is quite probable that they just 'get it wrong' at night and are then doomed, with no hope of getting back to the sea. Norman and Kath also saw a late Pied Wagtail on the Bu Sands in early December and still have a wintering Chaffinch in their unharvested crop along with the Linnet and Twite flocks. Sue and I saw a Snow Bunting on the roadside stone dyke near the Water Works around the same time - but there will no doubt be more elsewhere on the island!

The Matpow Loch has been worth scanning recently. Good numbers of Wigeon and a female Red-breasted Merganser have been present for some time and there is always the possibility of Goldeneye and Long-tailed Duck at this site. This area is also good for Hen Harrier sightings but as with the other regular wintering raptor - Merlin - they may turn up just about anywhere on the island. Red-breasted Mergansers can often be seen between the piers in Whitehal Village where they are easy to pick out with the male's shaggy bottle-green heads and the female's rust-coloured crest. Two small parties of Whooper Swans have been seen wandering about in grassy fields near the Meikle Water recently. They are quite confiding and very easy to watch from the car. Lapwings seem to be more numerous than usual this winter and as with the majority of the wintering wading birds here, are to be found in fields of short grass where they too can be watched at close range from the car.

Another surprise - this time indoors - was a Small Tortoiseshell Butterfly found by Molly in the house at Airy. It had probably come out of hibernation due to the temperature but was soon relocated to a more suitable site in the large greenhouse nearby.

Very many thanks to all who have contacted us during the year. Have a good Christmas and Best Wishes for 2010.

*(photographs on next page)*



*Three Whooper Swans  
near the South School*



*Long-eared Owl  
Millburn Cottage*



*Snow Bunting  
This individual photographed on the stone  
dyke at Cliffdale in late Autumn by Brian  
Richings*



*Little Auk  
This one was safely returned to the  
sea some years ago*



## **STRONSAY “COMPANIONS” CHRISTMAS PARTY**

Stronsay “Companions” held their annual Christmas party in the community centre on Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> December, where they were treated to a scrumptious three course meal, followed by tea, coffee and other goodies, prepared and served up by their ever attentive hostesses, Wilma Stout, Margaret Miller and Carwin Miller.

Santa also attended, despite the inclement weather, and he was warmly welcomed by all the “Old Fogies”, who each received a nice present and shared a few jokes with him. Breda Miller then presented Santa with a gift and thanked him for taking time out of his busy schedule to come and visit us. We have a sneaky suspicion that he came from the “North End”, not the North Pole.

In thanking the three hard working hostesses, Belle Embleton expressed our gratitude for all the hard work they put in over the year, to ensure that we all have a great time on a Monday afternoon, playing cards, bingo, dominoes, raffles etc. This they do voluntarily, in their own time. Belle then presented each one with a gift as a small token of our respect and gratitude for all their hard work.

The Companions is open to anyone of fifty years and over, and I would strongly recommend it to everyone who has reached that magic age.



A great afternoon was had by all. Thank you Wilma, Margaret, Carwin and Santa. Bill Miller, Glenmanna, Stronsay. 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2011.

## SUCCESSFUL RESCUE OF PORPOISE.

On Sunday 4th December 2011, while walking along the Mill Bay sands in Stronsay, John Walsh of Millbank, Stronsay, came across an eight foot porpoise, stranded at the high water mark. It was still alive, but had abrasions on it's left side which were bleeding slightly. Those were possibly caused by colliding with some rocks, but were not serious injuries.

John called me for assistance, and together with Breda, we joined him on the sands. We were unable to move the porpoise due to the fact that it was quite heavy.



Eoin Stevenson of the Bu kindly loaned me his “Manitou” telescopic handler with an eight foot bucket on the front and I returned to the sands, where, with the help of a few locals we managed to slide the porpoise into the bucket. I then drove to the water's edge, extended the boom of the handler, and gently lowered the porpoise into the surf. It was not deep enough to float the porpoise, so I dragged it out by the tail into deeper water where, after about twenty anxious minutes, during which time it was turning over on its back and heading back for shore. I managed to get it heading out to sea and it was last



seen happily ploughing through the waves, heading out of the bay.

A happy ending for all concerned.

Bill Miller, Glenmanna, Stronsay. 4th December, 2011



# PHOTOGRAPHS OF ONE OF THE RECENT STORMS

Taken by Roger Neville-Smith



## **SMOKING IS GOOD FOR YOU**

As the festive season draws inevitably closer (urg), my thoughts turn depressingly to new year's resolutions. I don't bother with the darn things but there are others with a bit more gumption than me who are willing to try them, poor things. And I decided to come to their rescue if I can, in a matter very close to my heart, which is of course my beloved best mate and worst devil nicotine.

Now, as the time of self denial approaches (aforementioned resolutions, or, lies one tells oneself) there are all too many masochistic souls; fellow sad happy cigarette junkies like me who think they must give up their closest companion.

DON'T DO IT.

I made an attempt to exorcise (or maybe just exercise) this demon for six months; in joyful ignorance of the symptoms of total withdrawal.

The first three days were excellent. Glowing with self-satisfaction I brisked about my home and my life, thinking of all the great things that would happen; clean air, my dogs not passive smoking, no more trees chopped down on my behalf. Oh my goodness I was pleased with myself. 'This is a doddle', I thought.

Listen up folks. Day 4 hits you like the proverbial, ok? Sleep deprivation comes creeping in, and by week three you are managing roughly 15 minutes a night. (Sleeping tablets are dreadful things. I did them for 3 nights, then decided it was better just to go without sleep). Accompanying them are the nightmares when you do doze off, and the cold sweats.

Forget about sitting still for longer than 5 minutes; quitting the smokes gives you instant ADHD. You would think this would have you trim as a willow wand, all that hyper-activity? No chance mate. You are constantly putting things in your mouth, mostly food, apart from that wretched chewing gum which tastes like a chimney (I haven't actually put that to the test, alright?), like all unweaned bairns do, which is what we smokers essentially are, if we are honest with ourselves.

Watch yourself become inflated, very quickly, as if being blown up like a balloon, as yet another depression comes in having to go to the shops to get jeans with expandable waistbands and tent-like tops, or worse still, another full size up. I was in a total state of denial about this size issue. I wore all my usual clothes, and completely ignored the muffin top of my stomach bulging over the waist and the increasingly stressful effort of getting into the \*\*\*\* things.

Then comes the thoughts of suicide. As in serious, straight up; that's it, there is no more hope about anything, now how shall I go about it chain of ideas. A further 3 months before I finally saw just how funny that actually is. I got up, bawled until I went to work, and bawled when I got back. Why my poor dogs did not pack their bags and run away to my Sheltie loving neighbours I'll never know. In between times of almost barking like them, to all and sundry, with monotonous regularity.

You know get those moments when your mouth opens and out it comes, and you think, 'Yikes!!! I never meant to say that!!!?' This is a constant, believe me. Most of the time it was a very bad thing (although there were a few incidences in which it was actually well good). I do not include in the latter category a certain outdoor incident which took place a wee while ago that most here kens of, but which I will not elaborate on.

*(continued on next page)*

Which, by the way, I blame entirely on my nicotine withdrawal. It had nothing to do with any other contributory factors.....

**NO.**

### **SMOKING IS GOOD FOR YOU.**

What else is there better to look forward to after breakfast, lunch and dinner but a cuppa and a fag? What else is there to motivate you through boring work but the light at the end of the tunnel called a cigarette? What else can you celebrate enjoyable work (such as partying) with but with a mug in one hand (interchangeable with glass of alcohol) and its well-fitting glove to follow suit?

Actually, now I come to think of it there is another enjoyable activity that nicotine is great after, but I won't dwell on that in case it reminds you of aches and pains in your back.....This is gardening I'm referring to, naturally. Why, what were YOU thinking I was on about??? Goodness me, the minds of some people. Tut, tut.

Picture the scene played out before you, as I reach the end of my tether of my 6 month sentence, I mean abstinence from my favourite drug.

It is twenty to eight of an evening, just over a year ago. I have only just decided two moments previously that I've had enough; so, neither shop was an option for their long-suffering owners. It is pitch black and the wind is working up gale force northwesterly. There are blizzards to near white-out proportions and the roads are like a bottle. I have about just enough petrol to get to the village and back(I am hoping). Now you would think after 6 months and conditions like these I could wait until morning.

No deterrant whatsoever. Off I went, or should I say slithered, until I arrived at the only other lifeline I had. Marching into the pub, completely ignoring the cheerful greetings of fellow customers I approached Allen and spake thusly.

'A packet of Royals. And a lighter. Now.'

Allen, recognising a crisis when he saw one, did not inflict the usual 'Are you sure?' platitude upon me, but wordlessly handed me the required items, which I then took outside, ripped open with utter gracelessness and enjoyed a few moments of utter bliss as I was reunited with my best beloved once more.

Anyway, for all those masochistic souls deluding themselves into thinking they are ready to give up that dreadful weed tobacco please take heart; all is not gloom come 2012.

Every time you even begin to consider such a foolhardy venture, just say, 'Bah! Humbug!' when ever the pesky thought ventures near. It'll soon go away.....

Or, if you are feeling like really punishing yourself, please at least look up 'Nicotine Withdrawal' on the net or whatever, before you contemplate it. This way you will at least know what you're in for!

Happy Christmas, and an excellent ( or at least less battle-weary ) 2012 everybody!  
More commiserations from 'The Parked Cottage'.



# 1924

# December

# 1924

## Monday—December 1st

*"Poor and content is rich, and rich enough",*  
Othello

Henry Cowie. Corra Linn, Bieldside, Aberdeen

## Tuesday—December 2nd.

*"Man wants but little here below,  
He is not hard to please,  
But woman — bless her little heart  
Wan s everything she sees".*

Alaistair Fotheringham 9 Hugh Miller Place  
Edinburgh

## Wednesday — December 3rd.

*"My wishes are but few,  
All easy to fulfil,  
I make the limits of my power,  
The bounds unto my will".*

G. D. G. 5 Bridge Street, Kirkwall.

## Thursday —December 4th.

*"Trust no future, however pleasant!  
Let the dead Past bury its dead  
Act — act in the Living Present!  
Heart within, and God o'erhead!*

Isabel Sinclair 7 Glen Street, Edinburgh.

## Friday — December 5th.

*"Keep your face towards the sunshine  
And the shadows will fall behind you"*

B. Muir. 11 Carter's Park, Kirkwall

## Saturday — December 6th.

*"Despise not the poor man, though clad in rags,  
For beneath them a pure heart may shine,  
And while noble and true there, there may be few  
Dressed up in garments so fine".*

Thomas D. Miller Mingro, Stronsay

## Sunday — December 7th.

*"I am the Bread of Life"*

Mrs J. Smith. Hundy, Stronsay.

## Monday — December 8th.

*"Scatter seeds of kindness,  
For our reaping by and by"*

Mrs. Wm. Rendall. Hundy, Stronsay.

## Tuesday — December 9th.

*"I'm over young too mairly yet".*

Master Jim Moodie. Whitehall, Stronsay.

## Wednesday — 10th.

*"It's all very well to depend on a friend,  
That's if you prove him true,  
But you'll find it better by far in the end,  
To paddle your own canoe".*

T. C. Stronsay.

## Thursday — December 11th.

*"Little puffs of powder,  
Little drops of paint,  
Make your dainty face look  
Just like what it ain't".*

Jas. Chambers 15 King Street, Maxwelltown,  
Dumfries

## Friday — December 12th.

*"Have a heart that never hardens,  
And a temper that never tires,  
And a touch that never hurts".*

Miss Barbara P. Dreviers 16 Dundas Crescent  
Kirkwall

## Saturday — December 13th.

*"We are never more discontented with others  
than when we are discontented with ourselves".*

Mr James Chalmers. The Castle,  
Stronsay.

## Sunday — December 14th.

*"My belief embraces the Divinity of Christ,  
and a recognition of Christianity  
as the mightiest factor in the world's civilization".*

A saying of the late President  
William McKinley.

## Monday — December 15th.

*"Life isn't all sunshine, nor is it all shade,  
There are profits and losses in every trade.*

D. Chalmers, Jr. Norton, Stronsay.

## Tuesday — December 16th.

*"They may speak of the signs of the weather;  
Of the days to come they may sing;  
But sitting down on a red-hot stove  
Is a sign of an early spring".*

Rev. W. G. Strachan M.A. The Manse, Stronsay.

## Wednesday — December 17th.

*"Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow;  
they toil not, neither do they spin; yet Solomon  
in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these".*

Annie Jane Rendall. Airy, Stronsay.

## Thursday — December 18th.

*"Learn to make the most of life,  
Lose no happy days,  
Time will never give thee back,  
Chances swept away".*

J. Chalmers, Jr. The Castle, Stronsay.

## Friday — December 19th.

*New friends can never take the place  
Of those proved true by time  
And fresh attractions ne'er efface  
The days of 'Auld Lang Syne'."*

Mrs R. Robb Fort William,  
Canada

## Saturday — December 20th.

*"Nor love, nor honour, wealth, nor power,  
Can give the heart a cheerful hour  
When health is lost. Be timely wise:  
With health, all taste of pleasure flies".*

Mrs. Heddie Lynnbreck,  
Stronsay.

## Sunday — December 21st.

*"There's a divinity that shapes our end,  
Rough-hew them how we will".*

M. M. Leith.

## Monday — December 22nd.

*"Better suffer a great wrong, than do a little one".*

A. Chalmers. Bank House, Stronsay

## Tuesday — December 23rd.

*"Be not anxious about to-morrow. Do to-day's  
duty, fight to-day's temptation, and do not weaken  
and distract yourself by looking forward to things  
which you cannot see, and could not understand if  
you saw them".*

Mrs. Mowat. Village, Stronsay

## Wednesday — December 24th.

*"Procure not friends in haste, nor break  
the ties of friendship needlessly".*

D.S. Mowat c/o Sangster, Dundas Street  
Stromness

## Thursday — December 25th.

*"Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, to-day, and forever.  
Thanks be to unto God for His unspeakable Gift".*

In Memory of Rev. J. Coultts, M.A.,  
Whiteinch, Glasgow

## Friday — December 26th.

*"He died that we might be forgiven,  
He died to make us good,  
That we might go at last to heaven,  
Saved by His precious blood".*

Peter Stevenson Viewforth, Rothieshoir  
Stronsay

## Saturday — December 27th.

*"Tis easy enough to be pleasant  
When life flows by like a song,  
But the man worth while is the man who can smile  
When everything goes dead wrong".*

Bella Chalmers. Oddie, Stronsay

## Sunday — December 28th.

*"Let not your hearts with anxious thoughts  
Be troubled or dismayed,  
But trust in Providence Divine,  
And trust My gracious aid".*

Miss Dickson. Yearnsetter, Stronsay

## Monday — December 29th.

*"He that cannot do what he would  
Let him do what he can"*

A. Moodie. Kirkwall

## Tuesday — December 30th.

*"The Lord is nigh unto all who call upon Him".*

M. Chalmers. Post Office, Stronsay.

## Wednesday — December 31st.

*"There failed not ought of any good thing which the Lord had  
spoken . . . . . all came to pass".*

Rev. David Buchanan. Lomond Cottage,  
Hellidon, Northants, England  
(Stronsay U.P. Church, 1873-83)

Compiled by Reverend Alex Skene, Stronsay Minister 1922 - 1928

## **AFTER YOU!**

By Ellie from Newfield

It was bound to happen  
That our paths would surely cross  
In this popular patch by the blackberries  
Where no-one appears to be boss.  
The attraction being the fruit  
That we all find deliciously sweet.  
And it's while I was gathering berries  
That I discovered you at my feet.  
Now I believe it is said "head on"  
Is the way to face all danger.  
And believe me when I say  
To that I am no stranger.  
But the day has now arrived  
And here we are, confronting each other.  
Alas, long gone are those days  
When I would have screamed for mother,  
Paralysed in fear;  
Isn't that what they say?  
And since neither you nor I  
Have moved an inch either way  
I can only believe it's true  
That your fear is as great as mine;  
That your heart thumps just as heavily  
And there's a weakness in your spine.  
So then now that we've said "Hello"  
And passed the time of day  
Should we politely nod  
And then both go on our way?  
Now don't you move a whisker  
And I'll just slip right by.  
For me nerves are strung like a fine guitar  
And I possibly might cry.

*(continued on next page)*

So, let's be on our way,  
Don't let me delay you longer.  
Should we perchance to meet again  
Perhaps we will both be stronger.  
As they say "It's been a pleasure"  
And, as charming as you are,  
The space we have between us  
Isn't wide enough by far.  
So let's retreat together,  
Just one step at a time.  
I'd love to know you better  
But I really must decline.  
For it was bound to happen,  
Our meeting so suddenly.  
Two lovers of all garden fruits,  
The Orkney vole and me

©Helene Harrison



**GREETINGS**

A happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year to all readers of the Limpet  
From Bruce, Maureen & Surrey

John and Madge send season's greetings to all who know us

Butch and Flora would like wish all their friends in Stronsay  
a merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year

Best wishes to all on Stronsay & those further afield for this Festive Season  
and the New Year from Simone.

The management and staff from Olivebank would like to wish their customers a Merry  
Christmas and a Happy New Year and thank them for their custom and their humour and  
kind words over this last year.

Happy Christmas and a healthy, happy and prosperous 2012 to all you Limpets  
From Margareth & Al

Jonas, Lisa, Emilia and Josephine would like to wish all on Stronsay a Happy Christmas

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**Business adverts**

Up to 25 words - £1.50. 25 word advert with photo - £3. 25 to 50 words - £3 and so on.

**Private adverts (for sale, wanted, birthday greetings etc)**

Up to 25 words - £1.00. 25 word advert with photo - £1.50. 25 to 50 words - £1.50 and so on.  
Adverts for the next (January) edition of the *Limpet* must be placed by Wednesday 18 January  
Contact details for the *Limpet* are on the back page

## **LOCAL BUSINESSES**



### **“NEIL’S ON WHEELS”**

All mechanical work undertaken, welding specialist,  
MOT prep work, home start, towing service, no call out fee.  
MOBILE: 07723 304 260  
HOME: 01857 616454

## **ORKNEY STAR ISLAND SOAP**



Real soap made by hand in Stronsay. Flavours include bere and tangle, also bars featuring the Stronsay Beast. We may be able to help with Wedding Favours or special occasions so please contact us to discuss your requirements. Available at Olive Bank, Stronsay Arts & Crafts and online.

Tel: 616281

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

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

## **STRONSAY ARTS AND CRAFTS SHOP** **CLIFTON**

Thank you for supporting local crafts

Open for more days and longer hours in the run up to Christmas

A very Happy Christmas from Julia to everyone with best wishes for 2012.

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## **LOCAL BUSINESSES**

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### **INSTANT PHOTOS**

Passport, visa, travel pass, driving licence,  
gun licence, etc.

Personalised birthday, Christmas & get well  
cards with your own special message or  
photograph.

Business/Invitation cards.

You name it! Tell me what you want & I'll  
supply it.

*Call Bill Miller on 616420*

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### **STRONSAY ARTWORKS**

Original paintings of Stronsay Landscape;  
Limited edition prints, greetings cards and  
postcards which are available for sale at lo-  
cal shops, Post Office, Hotel, B&B's and  
the Fishmart. Commissions taken.

*Phone Jenny on 616475*

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### **COMPUTER SERVICES**

Advice, Internet connection issues, Web-  
site design, Hosting, I.T. Training and  
much, much more.

Contact Neil @ Schoolbrae, 616317

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Up to 25 words - £1.50. 25 word advert with photo - £3. 25 to 50 words - £3 and so on.

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## ***GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS***

### **BOXING DAY DIP**

In aid of CLIC Sargent cancer charity. 2pm at the Ayre of Myres, spectators welcome!

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### **FORTHCOMING EVENT AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Hogmany dance Saturday 31st December

More details in shops nearer the time

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### **SANTA'S FLOAT**

The Stronsay Games club would like to say a massive thank you to everyone who helped make the Santa Float such a success on Sunday 11th of December 2011. We raised £125, thank you all!

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### **STRONSAY SWIMMING POOL**

#### **AN APPEAL FROM THE POOL COMMITTEE**

The Pool needs to raise some money. Fortunately we've been offered the funds raised at "The Blue Door" in Kirkwall for the week beginning Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2012. All we have to do is send in items for inclusion in the shop. So, have a clear out before (or after) Christmas and help raise funds to keep the Pool open.

We will be storing items at Knugdale (opposite the Post Office) so if you have any

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### **STRONSAY GAMES CLUB**

The Stronsay Games Club would like to thank everyone who supported us at our 'Toastie and Hot Chocolate Night'. The grand total raised was £120. Thank you all.

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### **FREE HELP FOR DEPRESSION**

<http://www.onlinehelpfordepression.org.uk/>

NHS recommended sites

Free and easy to use

[onlinehelpfordepression.org.uk](http://onlinehelpfordepression.org.uk)

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**Announcements by charities, local groups, clubs and organisations are FREE!**

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## ***GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS (continued)***

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### **MOBILE LIBRARY**

Next visit:

**MONDAY** 30 JANUARY 2012

Council Houses: 9.00am-11.00am

Stronsay School: 11.30am-2.00pm

Stronsay Kirk: 2.30pm-4.30pm

Stronsay School: 6.30pm-8.00pm

Mobile library schedule [http://www.orkneylibrary.org.uk/html/mobile2\\_timetable.htm](http://www.orkneylibrary.org.uk/html/mobile2_timetable.htm)

Kirkwall library contacts - 01856 873166 or [general.enquiries@orkneylibrary.org.uk](mailto:general.enquiries@orkneylibrary.org.uk)

Kirkwall library website - <http://www.orkneylibrary.org.uk>

Kirkwall library online book catalogue - <http://212.219.208.10/TalisPrism>

Check new library opening times

[www.orkneylibrary.org.uk/html/opening.htm#NewHours](http://www.orkneylibrary.org.uk/html/opening.htm#NewHours)

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### **FRIDAY NIGHT GAMES CLUB**

Ages 10 or over only

Friday night 8pm until 10pm

Entrance £1

Come along for a fun filled night

Air hockey table

Pool table

Play station 2

Nintendo Wii & Sing Star

Snooker

Juice, crisps and sweets available

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### **STRONSAY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

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

Special event coming up? Why not hire the disco equipment with rotating glitter globe and pulsating coloured lights for only £5 plus room and hydro charge? A DJ from the Hall list must be used.

Also available for hire: badminton, table tennis and snooker all at £2 per hour plus hydro. All equipment provided.

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

For details and booking contact Colin on 616446.

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**Announcements by charities, local groups, clubs and organisations are FREE!**

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## ***USEFUL INFORMATION***

### **POST OFFICE OPENING TIMES**

*(see front page for Christmas and Hogmanay opening hours)*

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 8:30—12  
Tuesday Closed  
Thursday 8:30—12 and 1—3  
Saturday 9—12

Post collection times . . . . . 07:30, Monday to Saturday  
Replacement bin bags. . . . . Telephone OIC (Technical Services) on 01856 873535  
Sunday service at the Kirk . . . . . 11 am  
Our Lady's chapel, pier head . . . . Daily Masses at 7:30 am and every Sunday at 9 am  
Next Special Collection . . . . . 3 February 2012

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Doctor . . . . .	616321	Castle Bird Reserve . . . .	616363
Nurses . . . . .	616480	Balfour hospital . . . . .	01856 888000
Medical emergency . . . .	01856 888000	Hydro . . . . .	0800 300 999
Registrar . . . . .	616239	All water enquiries . . . .	0845 601 8855
Hall bookings . . . . .	616446	Kirkwall Library . . . . .	01856 873166
Post Office . . . . .	616278	Kirkwall Police . . . . .	01856 872241
Companions . . . . .	616261	Vets:	
Kirk . . . . .	616311	Flett & Carmichael . . .	01856 872859
Stronsay Hotel . . . . .	616213	Northvet . . . . .	01856 873403
Fish Mart Hostel . . . . .	616339	Dentists:	
Olivebank . . . . .	616255	Great Western Rd . . . .	01856 879683
Ebenezer stores . . . . .	616339	King Street . . . . .	01856 875348

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Golgotha Monastery: phone 616210, email [contact@the-sons.org](mailto:contact@the-sons.org)

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

Send an email to [ricardian@btinternet.com](mailto:ricardian@btinternet.com), phone Bruce Fletcher on 616297 or write to *The Limpet*, Claremont, Stronsay, KW17 2AR

The cut-off date for the next (January) edition is Wednesday 18 January.

### **SUBSCRIPTIONS TO *THE LIMPET***

You can send a subscription to a friend or relative for a birthday present?

12 editions for £15.00 including P&P

Please make cheques—UK banks only—payable to “Stronsay Development Trust”  
(UK only. Non-UK subscriptions, please ask for a quote) Contact Bruce, details above

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The Stronsay Development Trust, a Scottish Charity SC038888

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

Supported in its activities by HIE Orkney, Orkney Islands Council, and  
Orkney Community Planning Partnership