

## STRONSAY LIMPET

ISSUE 6 OCTOBER 2005





Early in June Dr Mackay received a phone call from a Dr Henrietta Rosie regarding her grandfather who was a past resident on Stronsay. They asked if whilst visiting Stronsay if they could see Geramount, the house that her grandfather lived in and practised from. Dr Rosie, a native of Orkney was well liked and a respected doctor who died whilst still serving the island. Henrietta now a doctor herself is researching Dr Robert Rosies' life and would be interested in any photo's, memories or stories anyone might have, if you could forward them to us, we will pass them on to Henrietta. Dr Rosie came to Stronsay in 1897 when he

was 31 years old, he worked until he died of a heart attack in 1928, aged 61 years. On his death his daughter Jessie Irenne (known as Irenne)

who was practising in Leeds at the time, was approached about taking over the practise temporarily, this she accepted, much to the relief of everyone. She took over straight away and steps were taken to appointing a successor to the late Doctor. It was agreed that before advertising for a replacement that Captain Robert Rosie RAMC, his son who was serving in the Sudan, should be offered the position, He declined and never returned to Orkney again. After Irenne retired she often did locum but never on Stronsay. Henrietta who works in a semi-rural practise in Hampshire comes from a long line of GP's though strangely enough none of her 3 children want to carry on the tradition. Henriettas' grandfather died after serving Stronsay for 29 years and 9 months, her father also a GP died age 92. On his death Robert Rosies' wife moved to Edinburgh. When Dr Rosie served here it was during the busy herring

times, his patient list was often above 3,000, to all of these he gave excellent service especially to those whose injuries had been sustained whilst at sea, sometimes weeks before. He had to perform surgeries when needed, appendectomies etc. All of this Before the introduction of antibiotics. All of the children on the island were delivered by Dr Robert Rosie and in all of his years he can boast the fact that he only lost one mother during childbirth. Dr Rosies' only form of transport was his trusty horse 'Charlie' who pulled behind





him a cart until the doctor became the proud owner of one of the 1st motor vehicles on Stronsay. With regard to his work on Stronsay he always had a constant readiness whether by night or day, in storm or calm to answer the call of need, never losing his calm, kind sympathetic manner opening the hearts of all alike, this made his departure all the more sadly felt.

## LOCAL BUSINESSES

### STRONSAY ARTWORKS

Original paintings of Stronsay Landscape; Limited edition prints, greetings cards and postcards which are available for sale at local shops, Post Office, Hotel, B&B's and the Fishmart. Commissions taken. Tel. 616282

### INSTANT PHOTO'S

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 616420

### STRONSAY FISHMART

Cafe, Hostel & Interpretation centre.

Hostel open all year round. Hot meals, light snacks, home bakes, teas, coffees refreshments.

Thursday 12pm - 2pm
Friday 5pm - 7pm
Saturday 12pm - 2pm & 5 pm - 7pm

Sunday 12pm - 2pm & 3 pm - 7p

Sunday 12pm- 7pm

Special occasions catered for by

arrangement Tel 616386

### SPARKY

For all your electrical & Plumbing needs Contact John at 11 Whitehall Tel: 616466

### FOR SALE

Tatties various kinds £6 per 25kg bag Can deliver if necessary Call Ian or Arna 616322

DOGHOUSE DESIGN
Cards for any occasion
Hand made to order
Also on sale at the Post Office
Tel. 616453

### FOR SALE

Fresh Lobsters & Crabs available Contact William Caithness 07833682077

### REDHOUSE PLANTS

Seasonal vegetables ready NOW Contact Gil or Lindsay on 616377

### GOING AWAY?

Do you need someone to look after your animals at your house?

I have 8 years experience with all kinds of animals.

> Contact Beth Erdman 616339

## **USEFUL NUMBERS**

DOCTORS	616321/308	B&B CLESTRAIN	616340
NURSES	616453/232	B&B AIRY	616231
HYDRO	616335	CAMPING BARN	616314
DENTIST STATION RD	01856879683	COMPANIONS	616307
BALFOUR HOSPITAL	01856888000	GALA	616463/339
DENTIST KING STREET	01856875348	REGISTRAR	616239
VET - FLETT & CARMICHAEL	01856872859	STRONSAY ARTWORK	S 616282
VET - NORHTVET	01856873403	FISHMART	616386
THE MANSE	616311	HALL BOOKINGS	616253
STRONSAY HOTEL	616213	POST OFFICE	616217
MAURICE'S	616255	SPECIAL CONSTABLE	616216
EBENEZER STORES	616339		





### HALLOWE'EN CAKE MIXED TOMBOLA

fancy dress ounder fives, six to eights, nines and over, and best group

CLASS ESPECIASO FOR PARTIES, VILLEDONA AND VILLED AND SUFFERE TO ANA PROFESSOR TO THE SUIZAL HARDING CHESTOAT INSTRUMENT

HALL OPEN FROM 2PM - 4 PM FOR SALES COODS ETC. W. Militer, Secretary.



#### RNLI NEWS

Thank you to all who returned their envelopes, we have received 8 so far which came to a generous £46.42p. If you still wish to send in your envelopes Sue at the Post Office will be happy to take them.

### A BIG THANK YOU

to all who donated at Carrie's funeral £410.23p was collected for the RNLI

### FAMILY DISCO

Friday 21st October at the Community Centre With our new disco equipment Starts 7.30pm Entrance £1 Burgers & Sausage rolls on sale 100 club & Raffle

### PARTY AT THE PUB

Saturday 22nd October Alan's 60th From 8.30 onwards Hot & Cold Buffet Everybody Welcome

### November 5th

Guy Fawkes night at the hall Bonfire & Firework display Entrance Adults £1 - Children 50p Mince, haggis & clapshot

Followed by a musical evening BRING YOUR OWN INSTRUMENT

IT'S NEARLY CHRISTMAS
SO IF YOU WANT TO SEND A
LETTER TO SANTA YOU CAN DO IT
BY POSTING IT IN THE
SPECIAL LETTERBOX AT THE
SCHOOL

### BONFIRE NIGHT

Guy competition

Make a Guy and bring it along
To be Judged 7pm PROMPT
Prizes for
Primary, Secondary and Adult categories

### HARVEST HOME

12th November
Starting at 8pm
At the Community Centre
Guest speaker Dr George Mackay

Entrance for Dinner & Dance Adults £5 & Children £3 Dance only Adults £3 & Children £1

Dance to Gaynor and Co.

### ADVERTS

PRIVATE ADVERTS UP TO
25 WORDS £1
25 WORD ADVERT WITH PHOTO £2
25-50 WORDS £2 AND SO ON
Lost & Found free

To be placed by (date) 9th November
Tel:- Yvonne 616375 Heather 616453
e-mail:- hfazak@onetel.com
Letter:- Lower Leaquoy

### WANTED

Any old clocks
Or anything to do with old clocks
Cash paid
Phone Paul 616479

### FREE TO TAKE AWAY

Grey Fergie Engine and back end No wheels or tyres Phone Charlie 01856 879291

### FOR SALE

FOOT SPA, GOOD CONDITION £10 ono
Mont Blanc Car Ladder rack
Suitable for 4x4, van etc
Cost £120
Used once excellent condition £70
24" Mitsubishi Colour TV
With remote £30
Phone Heather 616453

## BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

HAPPY 90th BIRTHDAY
ON THE 26th OCTOBER
DAD
WITH LOVE FROM
HEATHER & LINDA
BARNEY, LUCY, JAMIE, THOMAS,
SOOTY & BOSSY
XXXXXXXX

GRANNY
HAPPY BIRTHDAY
25th OCTOBER
LOVE FROM LEAH & MOLLY
XX

MOLLY
HAPPY 5th BIRTHDAY
ON 15th NOVEMBER
LOVE FROM
MUM, DAD & LEAH
XXX

JIM
HAPPYBIRTHDAY
ON 29th OCTOBER
LOVE YOU
MICHELLE & GIRLS
XXX

DAD HAPPY BIRTHDAY ON 26th OC-TOBER LOVE FROM LEAH AND MOLLY XX

LEAH
HAPPY 8th BIRTHDAY
ON 26th OCTOBER
LOVE FROM MUM DAD & MOLLY
XXX

GRANDAD
HAPPY BIRTHDAY
ON 13th NOVEMBER
LOVE FROM LEAH & MOLLY
XX

MIA
HAPPY BIRTHDAY ON
5th NOVEMBER
LOVE FROM
NORMAN, HAZEL, LEAH & MOLLY
XXXX

# GROUPS, CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

### **COMPANIONS**

OVER 50's CLUB

Every Monday 2 pm Lunch Club every 2nd Monday of the month 1pm Contact Jean 616307

### GAMES CLUB

Friday 8 till 10 pm in the hall For ages 10 & over Lots of fun and activities TEL 616306

### CLAY PIGEON SHOOTING EVERY OTHER SUNDAY ON BU LINKS

STARTS AT 1pm on 23rd October also 6th, & 20th November £6 to shoot 25 rounds For more info phone Mike on 616345

### STRONSAY SINGERS

Meet every Monday From 19.30-21.30 from 12th September £42 for 10 sessions Concessions available contact BRIAN CROWE 616464

### MOTHER AND TODDLER GROUP

Thursday 9.30-11am All welcome

YOU COULD ADVERTISE YOUR GROUP OR CLUB HERE FOR FREE PLEASE LET US KNOW ABOUT ANY EVENTS OR ACTIVI-TIES GOING ON LET US KNOW AND WE WILL TELL EVERYONE FOR YOU

### SWIM CLUB

Thursday evening. For more information contact Sheena 616306

### KIRK NEWS

Introducing the "Film and Faith" series

Good films have a way of helping us look at life differently, to ask other questions, to consider new angles on old situations. In this series, which will carry on through the autumn and winter, films introducing different perspectives on what it means to live as people of faith will be shown on a "Big Screen" in the Community Centre, free of charge. All are invited to attend, but films are not generally suitable for children under 12.

First film: Chocolat 16th October 7.30pm

### HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Looking for a chance to say "Thank You" to God for all the good things that have come your way this year, including another harvest safely in? The Harvest Thanksgiving service will be held Sunday morning 11am, 30th October at Moncur Memorial Church. You are encouraged to bring along something representing your thankfulness this year- maybe a vegetable, a sheaf, a loaf. A stone or shell or flower, or a photo of family or friends (...a favourite cow or sheep).

### **EVENING PRAISE**

Sunday 30th October, 7.30 pm in the Church Hall. An informal hour, giving us all a chance to sing old favourites and learn new songs and hymns, as we hear a little about the experiences that inspired these song's of praise. Tea & biscuits will follow the singing. All are warmly invited to come along!

### SHORT STORY.....Part 2

### TIR-NAN-NOG

......Down The harbour they slipped, the crystal clear water magnifying the sand and patches of sea weed on the sea bed, the occasional crab scurrying across the open spaces and the shoals of young coal fish scattering before them. Gradually the sea bed becomes indistinct in the deepening opalescent green water and finally disappears. The frisson of fear brought on by the disappearance of the bottom quickly replaced by the activity of preparing for the work ahead, donning oilskins, placing fish boxes by the open hatches in readiness for the catch, laying out the handlines with the heavy nylon attached, on their square wooden frames. Dangling from the nylon, the bright silver haddock hooks dressed with rainbow coloured hens feathers, red, green, orange, black, purple, white, sixteen in all finally fixed to a cylindrical lead weight of over a pound to drag the flies down through the shoal of mackerel. Barely time to glance at the passing scenery. The passing bulk of Craigendargety, the rock guarding the entrance to the harbour with its alien serpent shaped head held aloft on a thin neck to seaward. To landward the twin humpbacks of the Blackstones, covered at high water patiently waiting for unsuspecting passers by. Somewhere close to here the unfortunate sailing vessel 'Betty' from Malmo in Sweden met her end, still commemorated in the local poem

The Betty of Malmo ran ashore
Between Troup Head and the point of Mhor
They saved the crew and robbit the ship
And carried the coal on a Sunday Nicht.

Now they were heading eastwards Troup Head and the rising sun which was already painting the sky in an inverted colour wash with the strongest reds and pinks at the base. To the south of them nestled the sleeping village they had so recently left. More and more frequently they passed patches of sea birds on the calm surface of the the sea herring gulls, kittiwakes and terns, wheeling and screaming, auks, guillimots sitting patiently on the surface all staking a claim to the silver shoals of sand eels below. Pursued by the birds from above, the voracious mackerel from the sides and the bottom feeders, cod haddock and whiting from below. These tiny silver eel like fish in their uncountable millions represented the most important link in the food chain of the coastal waters. Food for the hordes of breeding sea birds, the saviour of the lean starved bottom feeders after the exertions of spawning who gorged on the sand eels till their newly acquired flesh became soft and oily. Ignored by the marine scientists, hunted to almost extinction by the Danish descendants of the warriors lying beside the old ruined church on the side of Mhor, aided and abetted by our own commercial fisherman they had been scooped up in small meshed nets to feed the oil fired power stations of Danish electricity generators, surely the ultimate folly in mans rape of the sea. This however was still three or four decades in the future as they steadily ploughed their way through a vast feeding bowl. At last Sandy was satisfied that he had reached the appropriate spot, the engine slowed, the propellor stopped and the Bella Buchan lay drifting with the tide. The days work could now start in earnest. First the lead weight, then the nylon line with the sixteen brightly coloured flies attached by a swivel to the heavy white cotton line disappeared below the surface. And, there, barely two or three feet below the surface, invisible from above by their camouflage was the shoal of mackerel. The rapid descent of the line, barely started, slowed and stopped as fish after fish struck at the bright lures, then hooked, start to swim upwards with the line. Now there was no time to waste. No slack line must be given to the struggling mackerel otherwise the

hooked fish would swim themselves into a tangled mass which would take precious minutes to unravel. Sometimes the shoal was so close to the surface that the flash of the silver bellies as they hit the lures could be easily seen. Unceremoniously they were hauled from their native element in a seemingly endless stream, a fish on every hook. Occasionally one or two fell off but the majority were hauled aboard, the shank of each hook grasped in turn and with a quick shake the fish ended up in the waiting boxes. There they danced their dance of death, fortunately and mercifully quick as they were buried under their fresh comrades. Their beautiful iridescence quickly faded, splashed with pink blood flecked froth, washed clean with buckets of sea water to lie still, the flashing life colours replaced by the silver, green and blue metallic sheen of death. So it continued for the next two hours. This morning they had hit the jackpot, no time wasted trying to locate the shoals, no time wasted hauling fish from deep down. Simply dip and fill. The boxes were full, almost a ton of fresh mackerel, he had been reprimanded by Sandy for being too enthusiastic in his washing of the fish causing the bilge's to fill with water to a level where the engine itself was threatened. However, a few minutes of the pump and all was well and they were heading for the harbour.

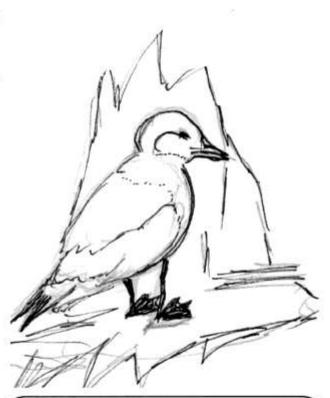
Back on land it is still barely breakfast time. The fish are landed, loaded on to a waiting lorry for dispatch to the main market twenty miles down the coast. The deck is washed and scrubbed, fresh boxes taken on and the Bella Buchan one more lies peacefully at her mooring Ten prime mackerel are selected and tied together with a string through their gills and mouth to be proudly borne home for supper. But first a visit to the local bakers where the morning

rolls (or Aberdeen butteries as they are now called) are still warm from the oven. Then clutching the bag of rolls and the string of mackerel, they start on the long walk home. Back over the shingle beach, back through the high grass now rich with the smell of summer. Back to the cottage, one of the few built to face the sea, where Granny had the teapot heating by the fire. Hot, sweet tea, two, maybe three fresh rolls spread with fresh farm butter and topped with white crumbly farm cheese (cholesterol and listeria still unheard of) and so to bed for six hours, supper of our very I own mackerel slowly simmered in water and vinegar, allowed to cool in their own juices and served with new potatoes. Then off with the men to start the whole process again. Looking back down the four decades since then it all seems too good to be true.

However it is a memory, which true or false, has helped to carry me through the darker

days. The memory of that unforgettable, unattainable land of eternal youth - TIR - NAN - OG.

G.Mackay



Dr Jon Buchan will be back from 31st October to 28th November he will be covering the GP post while Dr Mackay is away on vacation.

### QUIZ

### JUST FOR FUN

- Which organisation was founded in the USA by Curtis Sliwa?
- 2. Name the American President who was responsible for introducing Prohibition?
- 3. Who is the only British Prime Minister to have married a divorcee?
- 4. Peter Cetera is the lead singer of which pop group?
- 5. What name is given to the spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation?
- 6. Which politician founded the British Union of Fascists?
- 7. Who was the ruler of Argentina at the time of the Falklands conflict?
- 8. Who is the only American President to have been a bachelor?
- 9. Ammon is the chief god in which civilisation's mythology?
- 10. Who played the leader of the gang in the classic comedy film The layender Hill Mob?

Answers to Septembers quiz. 1. HMS Victory 2. The little mermaid 3. Kissing in the back row of the movies 4 Rodin 5. Georgie Porgie 6. Mistletoe. 7. Sealed with a loving kiss 8. The Duchess of York 9. The Taming of the shrew 10. Tony Curtis said those words after starring with Marilyn Monroe in the film Some like it hot

### SURGERY HOURS

Monday-Saturday Open Surgery

9.30-10.30

Monday-Tuesday-Thursday-Friday

4pm - 5.pm by appointment

Repeat Prescription collection times Monday-Friday 10am -12pm and 1.30- 4.30pm

### LIBRARY

NEXT VISIT 8th NOVEMBER

WHITEHALL 08.45-11.00 11.30-2.00 SCHOOL GORRIES 14.30-16.30 SCHOOL 18.30-20.00

3,6,9 or 12 monthly subscriptions, available at 75p an issue which includes post & packing for friends or family living away. If your Group or organisation is having an event or there is anything going on why not tell us so we can tell Stronsay. No event is too small or insignificant, we are trying to give out local information but cannot do it unless YOU tell US. Have you got a story or a poem or old photo's of Stronsay to share with other islanders.

### If so Pleeeeeeease CONTACT EITHER YVONNE, 375 OR HEATHER 453

### USEFUL INFO AND DATES

POST OFFICE TIMES- MON & THURS 9am-4pm TUE, WED, FRI & SAT 9am-1pm NEXT SPECIAL RUBBISH COLLECTION FEBRUARY REPLACEMENT BIN BAGS TEL: 01856 873535 SUNDAY SERVICE AT THE KIRK SUNDAY 11am OUR LADY'S CHAPEL, PIER HEAD. - DAILY MASSES 7am SUNDAY 9am

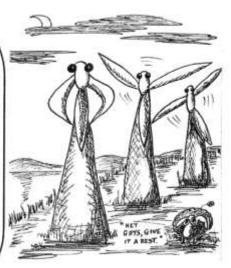
The Stronsay Development Trust is supported in its activities by Orkney Enterprise, Orkney Islands Council, Communities Scotland, The Crofters Commission and Orkney Community Planning Partnership.

## A NIGHT OF MAGIC

### <u>&</u> MUSIC

Thank you to all those who came along on Saturday night. In particular all those who gave their time to entertain us all so well & everyone who helped in any other way.

A grand total of £453.60 was raised Again a big thank you to all Recreation Area Sub -Group



FOOD FOR THOUGHT



AS IT IS HALLOWEEN THIS MONTH
WE THOUGHT SOME OF OUR YOUNGER READERS MIGHT LIKE TO
COLOUR IN THIS PICTURE. MAKE A GOOD JOB OF IT AND YOU COULD
WIN A SMALL PRIZE. IF YOU WANT AN EXTRA COPY OF THE PICTURE FOR
BROTHERS OR SISTERS ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS ASK AT SCHOOL YOU
CAN HAND THE FINISHED PICTURE IN AT THE HALL ON 31st OCTOBER AT
THE RNLI PARTY ------ age groups under 5's 6 to 8's 9's & over

