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## **LATEST GP ROSTER**

Dr Alison Lievesley 13th Dec - 4th Jan

Dr Rosalind Neville-Smith is doing a phased return over the next 2 weeks - 3 surgeries this week then 3 days the week beginning 21st, and then on call 1-3 January.

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## **OPENING DATES & TIMES OVER XMAS & NEW YEAR**

See the table on page 2 for the opening dates & times for the island's businesses

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## **ORKNEY FERRIES - REFIT TIMETABLE**

The refit timetable starts on Sunday 10 January 2021 and runs until 13 March 2021.

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## **MESSAGE FROM STRONSAY SURGERY STAFF.**

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

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

Thank you,  
Stronsay Surgery.

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## **FOOD BANK REFERRALS**

Orkney Citizens Advice Bureau

If you are facing financial difficulty and struggling to afford food, please get in touch with us so that we can make a food bank referral for you. These are extraordinary times which nobody was prepared for so please don't feel embarrassed at asking for help, there are so many others in the same situation. To request a referral you can email the following address:

[bureau@orknecab.casonline.org.uk](mailto:bureau@orknecab.casonline.org.uk)

Our service is free and confidential.

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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.*

The next edition of the *Limpet* will be published on **Thu 28 January**. Items for inclusion in that edition should be submitted by 7pm on **Sun 24 January**. Contact details are on the back page. The Limpet's website address is <http://www.stronsaylimpet.co.uk>

## **OPENING/CLOSING DATES FOR CHRISTMAS AND HOGSMAN 2020**

	Surgery	Hotel	Olivebank	Ebenezer	Post Office	Fishmart
<b>Tue 22 Dec</b>	<b>Open</b>	Closed	09:00-18:00	7:30-19:30	The Post Office will be open as long as the shop is open	Closed from Mon 21 Dec. Open again on Mon 12 Jan
<b>Wed 23 Dec</b>	<b>Open</b>	Closed	09:00-18:00	7:30-19:30		
<b>Thu 24 Dec</b>	<b>Open</b>	18:00-22:30	09:00-18:00	7:30-19:30		
<b>Fri 25 Dec</b>	Closed	12:00-14:00	Closed	Closed		
<b>Sat 26 Dec</b>	Closed	Closed	Closed	10:00-12:00		
<b>Sun 27 Dec</b>	Closed	Closed	Closed	10:00-12:00		
<b>Mon 28 Dec</b>	Closed	Closed	10:00-14:00	10:00-12:00		
<b>Tue 29 Dec</b>	<b>Open</b>	Closed	09:00-18:00	7:30-19:30		
<b>Wed 30 Dec</b>	<b>Open</b>	Closed	09:00-18:00	7:30-19:30		
<b>Thu 31 Dec</b>	<b>Open</b>	19:00-22:30	09:00-18:00	7:30-19:30		
<b>Fri 1 Jan</b>	Closed	Closed	Closed	10:00-12:00		
<b>Sat 2 Jan</b>	Closed	Closed	Closed	10:00-12:00		
<b>Sun 3 Jan</b>	Closed	Closed	Closed	10:00-12:00		
<b>Mon 4 Jan</b>	Closed	Closed	Closed	08:30-19:30		

## **ORCADES PRACTICE—STRONSAY BRANCH**

In an emergency phone 01856 888000

(*NOTE NEW EMAIL ADDRESS* [ork.stronsay@nhs.scot](mailto:ork.stronsay@nhs.scot))

### **CORONAVIRUS UPDATE**

Please phone as usual if you require an appointment on 616321  
or email [ork.stronsay@nhs.scot](mailto:ork.stronsay@nhs.scot) (*NOTE NEW EMAIL ADDRESS*)

All appointment requests are being triaged by Admin through the GP who will then contact you and give you an appointment if you need a face to face consultation. These arrangements will continue for the foreseeable future.

### **REPEAT PRESCRIPTIONS** **CORONAVIRUS RISK REDUCTION**

Until further notice:

- No more paper requests to be handed in.
- Please phone 616321 or email [ork.stronsay@nhs.scot](mailto:ork.stronsay@nhs.scot) to order. (*NOTE NEW EMAIL ADDRESS*)
- Check one week later to see if they have arrived.
- Time slots will be given for collection.

Thank you

Dr Rosalind Fisher, Dr Mandy Fry and Dr Alison Lievesley

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### **GOVERNMENT ADVICE ON FACE COVERINGS**

WHEN TO WEAR FACE COVERINGS AND HOW TO MAKE THEM

<https://tinyurl.com/y6ayxdc6>

WHO IS EXEMPT FROM WEARING FACE COVERINGS

<https://tinyurl.com/y4e7gpgu>

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### **NHS SCOTLAND—CORONAVIRUS**

NHS Scotland website for information on coronavirus is

<https://www.nhsinform.scot/coronavirus>

If in doubt phone the surgery on 616321

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### **SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK**

Five level plan to vary rules for rapid but proportionate response to COVID-19

For full details go to <https://tinyurl.com/y5ec6nln>

# Recognising Coronavirus (COVID-19) Symptoms



Symptoms	<b>Covid-19</b> Symptoms range from mild to severe	<b>Flu</b> Rapid onset of symptoms	<b>Cold</b> Gradual onset of symptoms
 <b>Fever (37.8C or above)</b>	Common	Common	Rare
 <b>Fatigue</b>	Sometimes	Common	Sometimes
 <b>Cough</b>	Common (usually dry)	Common (usually dry)	Mild
 <b>Sneezing</b>	No	No	Common
 <b>Aches and pains</b>	Sometimes	Common	Common
 <b>Runny or stuffy nose</b>	Rare	Sometimes	Common
 <b>Sore throat</b>	Sometimes	Sometimes	Common
 <b>Diarrhea</b>	Rare	Sometimes (for children)	No
 <b>Headaches</b>	Sometimes	Common	Rare
 <b>Shortness of breath</b>	Sometimes	No	No
 <b>Loss of taste or smell</b>	Common	No	Sometimes



# TEST & PROTECT: A STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

Following these steps is vital to tackle coronavirus in Scotland

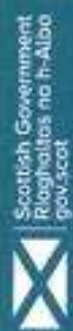
<p><b>1</b></p>  <p><b>RECOGNISE SYMPTOMS</b></p> <p>A new persistent cough, fever, or loss or change in sense of taste or smell means you should immediately begin household isolation.</p>	<p><b>2</b></p>  <p><b>REQUEST A TEST RIGHT AWAY</b></p> <p>It is important to get a test as soon as possible. Visit <a href="https://nhs.uk/inform-scot/test-and-protect">NHSinform.scot/test-and-protect</a> or call 0800 028 2816 if you cannot get online.</p>	<p><b>3</b></p>  <p><b>ISOLATE</b></p> <p>Isolate for 10 days from symptom start date, longer if fever continues and 48 hours after fever ends. Others you live with should isolate for 14 days.</p>
<p><b>4</b></p>  <p><b>GET TESTED</b></p> <p>When isolating, you should only leave home to get tested. There are various ways of having this done.</p>	<p><b>5</b></p>  <p><b>GET RESULTS</b></p> <p>They should be with you within 48 hours and no more than 72 hours.</p>	<p><b>6</b></p>  <p><b>PROVIDE DETAILS</b></p> <p>If you have coronavirus, NHS contact tracers will contact you to ask who you have had close contact with recently.</p>
<p><b>7</b></p>  <p><b>NHS INFORMS CONTACTS</b></p> <p>The NHS will then contact the people you have had close contact with. Your name will not be shared unless you give permission. All data will be held safely and securely.</p>	<p><b>8</b></p>  <p><b>CLOSE CONTACTS ISOLATE</b></p> <p>They will be asked to isolate for 14 days from the last time they had contact with you.</p>	<p><b>9</b></p>  <p><b>HOUSEHOLD OF CLOSE CONTACT</b></p> <p>If the close contact has no symptoms, others in their household don't need to isolate. If the close contact develops symptoms, they should begin household isolation and request a test straight away.</p>

If you do not have community or family support and need essential help, call the National Assistance Helpline on 0800 111 4000 (Mon-Fri 9am-5pm) or via textphone on 0800 111 4114. The helpline is for those who cannot leave their home or get the help they need elsewhere.

For current health advice and more information about the Test & Protect service visit [NHSinform.scot/test-and-protect](https://nhs.uk/inform-scot/test-and-protect)



## Extra protection level advice for people at highest risk from coronavirus (COVID-19)



This is advice, consider which level of protection is right for you.

**All levels:** we will not ask you to distance from people within your own homes or to stop taking outdoor exercise.

	Level 0	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
<b>Contact with others</b>	Follow the level advice to the general population	Follow the level advice to the general population	Reduce the number of people or households you have face to face contact with Avoid one metre zones	Limit meeting people outside your own household, avoid indoor public spaces	Minimise contact with people outside your own household if you can You should not take public transport
<b>Shopping</b>	Strictly follow the guidelines when shopping	Strictly follow the guidelines when shopping	Strictly follow the guidelines when shopping	Strictly follow the guidelines when shopping and limit the number of times you go to a shop	Strictly follow the guidelines when shopping and limit the number of times you go to a shop
<b>If you cannot work from home</b>	Following a workplace risk assessment, your employer should make the necessary adjustments to your workplace to protect you The majority of workplaces can be made safe	Following a workplace risk assessment, your employer should make the necessary adjustments to your workplace to protect you The majority of workplaces can be made safe	Following a workplace risk assessment, your employer should make the necessary adjustments to your workplace to protect you The majority of workplaces can be made safe. Where you have a concern you should discuss this with your employer	Speak to your employer to ensure all appropriate protections are in place The majority of workplaces can be made safe. Where you have a concern you should discuss this with your employer	The majority of workplaces can be made safe. If you have any concerns you should discuss these with your employer However, at this level the Chief Medical Officer will issue a letter which is similar to a fit note and which will last for as long as your area is under Level 4 restrictions. This letter can be used in the few cases where it is not possible to make your workplace safe Please note that this does not automatically mean you should not attend work. You should discuss this further with your employer, and if this results in adequate protection, you can continue to work
<b>School/formal Childcare</b>	Follow the level advice to the general population	Follow the level advice to the general population	Follow the level advice to the general population	Parents or guardians should discuss with their GP or clinician whether children should still attend	Children on the shielding list should not attend in person

Everyone in Scotland should follow the guidance for their area, but there are some extra steps you might want to take at each level. Think about what you'll do differently if your Protection Level changes.  
In all Protection Levels, you can be in close contact with people living in your household. You can also take outdoor exercise.

Find your Local Protection level at [www.gov.scot/coronaviruslevels](http://www.gov.scot/coronaviruslevels)  
or call the **National Assistance Helpline** on 0800 111 4000.  
(Monday-Friday, office hours).



2020 has been a year different to many and am sure will be affecting us for some time to come, as an Island we have continued to stand strong in adversity and it has been a privilege to continue to serve the community members in my role and as a part of the community.

This year development has continued with a number of COVID response programmes providing essential PPE and hand sanitiser to households as well as businesses, support with essential groceries, fuel, fresh fruit and veg and other services where needed, we also sourced items to fill family boxes for all children upto 16 years old to support general wellbeing all at the same time as the normal projects the trust has been running including housing. Which saw a big step forward with funding to purchase a property in order to offer energy efficient affordable housing.

We have also recently been successful in a funding application to support safe tourism in 2021 with funds aimed at outdoor activities such as cycling and walking etc. this includes the purchase of additional E-bikes and accessories . Lots more details to come on this and many more projects in the new year.

The Trust has welcomed a number of new board members as follows

Mike Holland

Ian Stevenson

Maryanne Thompson

Norman Peace

Richard Groat

and has said goodbye to some valued long serving directors with thanks to

Richard Seeber, Susanne Davidson, Jamie Davidson and Raymond Dennison

We will be publishing the Trusts annual report for the new year and hold a very different kind of AGM in January/February. We welcome new members to the Trust and the community and say Merry Christmas and Thank you to you all.

Anna Bliss-Davis

Community Development Officer



# **Stronsay Dementia Friendly Project Steering Group**



## **What is a steering group?**

**The role of this group is to steer work being undertaken by others.  
Members of steering groups use their experiences, skills and  
knowledge of specific topics and sectors to help make strategic  
decisions.**

**Everyone and anyone is welcome!!**

**Your contribution and ideas would be greatly  
appreciated.**

**Meetings will be held quarterly.**

**For further questions and information contact Teri at  
[dementiafriendlystronsay@gmail.com](mailto:dementiafriendlystronsay@gmail.com) or on 01857 616410**



## **Stronsay Dementia Friendly digital drop-in sessions**

Starting December 16<sup>th</sup> from 11am-2pm



These drop-in sessions will be held every third Wednesday of each month from 11am-2pm

Please do not hesitate to call or email about anything regarding the project.

**Email:** [dementiafriendlystronsay@gmail.com](mailto:dementiafriendlystronsay@gmail.com)

**Tel:** 01857 616410

## **STRONSAY COMMUNITY WELLBEING**

Christmas isn't a holly-jolly time for everyone. And, it doesn't have to be.

Looking after yourself this Christmas is more important than a spotless and perfectly decorated house, homemade mince pies or 100 present under the tree. Remember, you can't pour from an empty cup.

The following are a variety of resources available if you are struggling this holiday season:

### **Beat**

[0808 801 0677](tel:08088010677) (adult helpline). [0808 801 0711](tel:08088010711) (youthline). [0808 801 0811](tel:08088010811) (studentline) [beateatingdisorders.org.uk](https://beateatingdisorders.org.uk) Offers information and advice on eating disorders, and runs a supportive online community.

### **Campaign Against Living Miserably (CALM)**

[0800 58 58 58](tel:0800585858) [thecalmzone.net](https://thecalmzone.net)

Provides listening services, information and support for anyone who needs to talk, including a web chat.

### **The Compassionate Friends**

[0345 123 2304](tel:03451232304) [tcf.org.uk](https://tcf.org.uk)

Provides support to bereaved families after the death of a child.

### **Cruse Bereavement Care**

[0808 808 1677](tel:08088081677) [cruse.org.uk](https://cruse.org.uk)

Information and support after a bereavement.

### **LGBT Foundation**

[0345 3 30 30 30](tel:03453303030) [lgbt.foundation](https://lgbt.foundation)

Advice, support and information for people identifying as LGBTQ+.

### **Men's Advice Line**

[0808 801 0327](tel:08088010327) [mensadviceline.org.uk](https://mensadviceline.org.uk)

Confidential advice and support for men experiencing domestic violence and abuse by a current or ex-partner or family member.

### **Money Advice Service**

[0800 138 7777](tel:08001387777) [moneyadviceservice.org.uk](https://moneyadviceservice.org.uk)

Provides free and impartial money advice.

### **The National Association for People Abused in Childhood (NAPAC)**

[0808 801 0331](tel:08088010331) [napac.org.uk](https://napac.org.uk)

A charity supporting adult survivors of any form of childhood abuse. Provides a support line and local support services.

### **National Domestic Abuse Helpline**

[0808 2000 247](tel:08082000247) [www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk](https://www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk)

Free 24-hour helpline for women who have experienced domestic abuse, run by domestic violence charity Refuge. It is run by female advisors.

*(more on next page)*

**Relate**

[0300 003 0396](tel:03000030396) [relate.org.uk](http://relate.org.uk)

Provides help and support with relationships, including counselling, telephone counselling and anonymous live chat.

**Samaritans**

[116 123](tel:116123) (freephone) [jo@samaritans.org](mailto:jo@samaritans.org)

Chris, Freepost RSRB-KKBY-CYJK, PO Box 90 90, Stirling FK8 2SA

[samaritans.org](http://samaritans.org)

Samaritans are open 24/7 for anyone who needs to talk. You can [visit some Samaritans branches in person](#).

**Shout**

[85258](tel:85258) (text SHOUT) [giveusashout.org](http://giveusashout.org)

Confidential 24/7 text service offering support if you are in crisis and need immediate help.

**The Silver Line**

[0800 4 70 80 90](tel:08004708090) [thesilverline.org.uk](http://thesilverline.org.uk)

Provides support, information, friendship and advice for older people (over 55) who may feel lonely or isolated.

**Stand Alone**

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

Charity supporting adults who are estranged (not in contact) from their family.

**Survivors of Bereavement by Suicide (SOBS)**

[0300 111 5065](tel:03001115065) [uk-sobs.org.uk](http://uk-sobs.org.uk)

Emotional and practical support and local groups for anyone bereaved or affected by suicide.

**Switchboard**

[0300 330 0630](tel:03003300630) [switchboard.lgbt](http://switchboard.lgbt)

Listening services, information and support for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities.

**The Trussell Trust**

[trusselltrust.org](http://trusselltrust.org)

Emergency food and support for people in need. Includes a searchable list of local food-banks.

[Sarah Powers](#) Stronsay Community Wellbeing Coordinator  
[sdtwellbeing@gmail.com](mailto:sdtwellbeing@gmail.com) 01857 616495

## **DR ROGER NEVILLE-SMITH'S RETIREMENT**

As you know, our G.P. Dr Roger Neville-Smith retired from our local medical team in March this year and, around that time, an opportunity was given in the local shops for islanders to make a donation to mark Roger's retirement. This, unfortunately, got completely overtaken by events as we went into lockdown due to COVID 19.

There has now been an opportunity to bring this forward and Ian Cooper, on behalf of the community of Stronsay, recently presented Roger with a gift voucher for £220. Roger is hoping to spend more of his time pursuing his market gardening and photographic interests and, as he has recently set up and opened a new photographic studio, is hoping to use the voucher to purchase some additional equipment for this.

We would like to take this rather belated opportunity to thank Roger for the years he has spent as our doctor and wish him a long and happy retirement.

Ian Cooper



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## **STRONSAY BIRD RESERVE.**

No unusual sightings recently so will use this space to wish all our friends on Stronsay:

A MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR.

We are sending no cards this year but in memory of our dear friend Joyce Maples who died in February, there will be no charge for the 2020 Stronsay Bird Report which will be posted in early January – print machine permitting!

John & Sue



OPEN  
NOW

# STRONSAY POP UP HERITAGE CENTRE

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

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



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

#### Contact us

01857 616410

Email

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

#### For further information

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



# CROSSROADS ORKNEY

and



We would like to help ease the loneliness and difficulty of lockdown for Dementia sufferers and their carers at home. We have a variety of puzzles, crafts and activities which we can post or deliver. All free of charge. If you know someone who could benefit from this or wish more information please call Crossroads 870500 or Lorna Reid 781329

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## **SCOTTISH BROADBAND VOUCHER SCHEME (SBVS).**

The SBVS will ensure that every address in Scotland has the ability to access a superfast broadband connection by the end of 2021, regardless of whether or not it will ultimately receive a superfast connection through the other two strands of activity.

This webpage has details of the scheme:

<https://scotlandsuperfast.com/how-can-i-get-it/voucher-scheme>

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## **SPECIAL COLLECTIONS**

Orkney Islands Council is advising that special collections for the non-linked Islands of Orkney will begin again after being suspended due to the pandemic. The next collection date for Stronsay is week commencing 15 February 2021.

Special collections include items such as furniture, household electrical appliances such as white goods, rugs, garden furniture, bicycles and other portable household items.

By using My Orkney, island residents can book and pay for a collection online, or alternatively special collections can be made by contacting customer services on 01856 873535 ext 2903.

Payment for collection is required prior to uplift and only items that are on the request form will be collected by the contractor.

The council would like to thank the public for their patience as we continue to seek ways to re-establish services due to the challenges faced during these unprecedented times. For more information go to:

<https://www.orkney.gov.uk/Service-Directory/S/Special-Refuse-Collections.htm>

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

*Reporting on what your councillor is doing on your behalf as hopefully the Corona crisis draws to a close*

## **Useful sources of information and contact details during this Covid-19 crisis**

Orkney Islands Council website: <https://www.orkney.gov.uk/> Orkney Islands

Council central telephone number: 01856-873535

Orkney Ferries: <http://www.orkneyferries.co.uk/> or ring 01856-872044

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

Business support: telephone 01856-886666 or e-mail [business.gateway@orkney.gov.uk](mailto:business.gateway@orkney.gov.uk)

NHS Orkney Covid-19 information: <https://www.ohb.scot.nhs.uk/coronavirus-covid-19-latest-information>

Covid-19 testing: telephone 01856-888211 British Red Cross Coronavirus Support Line: 0808-196-3651

Scottish Government Covid-19 guidance: <https://www.gov.scot/coronavirus-covid-19/>

OIC's Homelessness Service: ring 01856-873535 or 07921-582962 (out of hours)

A Covid-19 vaccination has now been approved for use in the United Kingdom, and the first in Orkney was administered on 9<sup>th</sup> December. There will be a lot of misinformation floating around about the vaccination and how safe it is. Unhappily, “fake news” is something we’ve all had to become used to dealing with. Even my printer lies to me, telling me “toner end of life” when there’s still plenty of this exceptionally expensive powder remaining. (Solution – sticking something opaque over the “windows” at the sides of the cartridge will keep it going for weeks longer.) By mass, printer ink is even more expensive than the ambergris produced in the digestive system of sperm whales! (Or is this piece of information itself “fake news”?)



© MMXX Ælfleda Clackson, student at the Münster School of Design  
( [www.aelfleda.com](http://www.aelfleda.com) )

*(continued on next page)*



Our Policy & Resources Committee meeting ran over two full days! On the first day, I seconded an amendment not to charge for telecare services. Lamentably, it lost 5 votes to 12, but, reassuringly, at the subsequent General Meeting, the matter was put on hold and referred back for further consideration in April. On the second day, during discussion about our Corporate Risk Register, I highlighted the difficulty we would face in the North Isles should a cruise liner get into trouble here and have to be evacuated. This is not a hypothetical risk; such an event happened on 26<sup>th</sup> May 1861, when *Johannes*, a ship carrying emigrants from Bremerhaven to Baltimore, ran aground between Newark and Tresness, temporarily swelling Sanday's population by 143, at a time when Sanday's population was four times what it is today. How would the current population of around 500 folk cope with housing a cruise liner's passengers and crew numbering over 4000?

I do not regard it as reasonable to make financial promises on behalf of a future council, especially given the uncertain economic situation we are descending into and our current monetary needs. I hope Orkney doesn't come to regret the defeat of my amendment to postpone any decision on allocating £1 million of our strategic reserves to the 2025 *Island Games* until after the next council elections in 2022. On a more prudently altruistic note, at that same meeting we agreed to make a top-up payment of £100 to each child eligible for free school meals on the grounds of low family income. If not currently claiming, check with your school to see if your family is eligible or has become eligible on account of the difficult times we are living in.

Other meetings I have participated in "virtually" this month include a Members' & Senior Management briefing, a North Isles ward meeting, and community council meetings "in" Westray and Eday. Interestingly, community council meetings have become much shorter since they went "virtual", but sadly the same cannot be said of OIC meetings! Although the public is not admitted to OIC "virtual" meetings, the press now is, and a recording is made that can be accessed from the OIC website.

Wishing everyone a Covid-free 2021,



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



You can download *Letter from School Place* from [lfsp.pbworks.com](http://lfsp.pbworks.com)

## Records of a Bygone Age 100 years of the Stronsay Agricultural Society – Part 1

Following on from a recent article about Harvest Homes in Stronsay, I've been having another look back through the old minute books of the Stronsay Agricultural Society.

As noted in the earlier article, the Society in its present form held its inaugural meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> June 1920 so we should have actually been celebrating its Centenary this year but these celebrations have had to be postponed to a future date.

Looking back further, Stronsay could justifiably lay claim to a much longer association with Agricultural Societies than this as, in the latter part of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, with an ever growing national awareness of the importance of agriculture and agricultural science in rural Scotland, an 'Agricultural Association' was formed in Stronsay in 1783, a full year before the 'Highland Society of Scotland' (the forerunner of the 'Royal Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland') was established in Edinburgh in 1784!

This 'Association' seems to have been quite short lived and no more is heard until, almost 100 years later, an Agricultural Society was established in Stronsay once again in 1877. This Society's early activities seem to have been originally restricted to arranging and holding ploughing matches locally although it was affiliated with Scotland's main agricultural body, the 'Royal Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland' whose prestigious RHASS medal for ploughing was competed for and awarded each year. The first ploughing match organised by the Society was in 1877, when 28 competitors showed their ploughing skills in a field at Cleat.



James W Cooper of Odiness halter training his black poll heifer in preparation for the Agricultural Show

In 1888, the Society branched out to hold their first cattle show as reported in the Orkney Herald of the time:

### ***Stronsay Cattle Show 1888***

*"The first annual cattle show under the auspices of the Stronsay Agricultural Society was held on Thursday at Samson's Lane. The weather was most propitious, the day being one of the finest of the season, and the turnout of spectators consequently very large, somewhere about 500 being present. There were nearly two hundred head of stock exhibited, probably the largest, and pronounced by competent judges, to be the finest show of stock ever seen in the county. Messrs O Laughton, Soulisquoy and A Marshall, Berstane, who acted as judges, and whose decision seemed to give very general satisfaction, awarded the prizes as follows:- "*

There then followed a long list of almost 90 prize winning animals from the farms of Holland, Rothiesholm (now the Bu), Housebay, Sunnybank, Lodge, Boondatoon, Bay, Whitehall, Huip, Midgarth, Samson's Lane, Myres and Airy among others, with the champion in the cattle section being 'a splendid black polled cow' shown by Wm Stevenson, Holland and the champion in the horse section going to 'a fine Clydesdale mare' being shown by DH Learmonth of Housebay.

*(continued on next page)*

There were also prizes for sweet butter, salt butter, duck eggs and hen eggs (all these prizes were won by men but I suspect the women may have done the work and the men stolen the glory!) and even a prize for horse shoeing which was won by blacksmith W Slater.

The report then went on to give a few words of encouragement and chastisement that could possibly be seen to be as relevant in our community now as they were 130 years ago!

*“The show throughout proved a complete success and it is hoped that it may be the means of awakening the farming community of Stronsay out of its present lethargic state regarding Agricultural Society matters. A society composed of only a few members struggling against adverse circumstances can never be of much real benefit, and if we want a successful and useful society in our midst, we can only have it by lending a hand, not standing outside criticising others who are striving to do their best, not even by becoming members in a half-hearted way, but by laying aside self and banding ourselves together, each one determined to work for the good of the whole community.”*

Although written up as Stronsay’s first annual cattle show, it appears that the “present lethargic state regarding Agricultural Society matters” may well have been too much to overcome as no reports can be found of subsequent shows until 1920.

Ploughing matches too seem to have died out soon after, with the last match apparently held in the early 1890s and the Agricultural Society subsequently falling into abeyance.



**A convoy of gigs transporting judges and guests from the ‘steamer’ to the Show Park in 1920. The first two gigs are stopped outside the old Stronsay Hotel which was burnt down on 1939.**

*(continued on next page)*

The Society as it still exists today had its inaugural meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> June 1920, when Henry Maxwell of Housebay was elected as president and David Pottinger of Whitehall as secretary and treasurer, with Colonel WEL Balfour of Balfour and Trenabie being appointed as Honorary President. It was agreed that the name of the organisation would be the Stronsay Agricultural and Industrial Society and that an agricultural show and industrial show would be held later that year, with the ladies, who were very supportive of holding the industrial show, being asked to arrange this themselves. Some things never change!

Membership subscriptions were set at 5/- and 3/- per farm, depending on the rental value of the holding. As enthusiasm for the show gathered momentum, wood and rope was purchased to make stock pens, donations of cups for prize-winners were sought and judges found, with arrangements put in place for the 'steamer' to call along Stronsay with invited guests and visitors on 'Show Day'.

This first show went ahead on 21st August that year and, with the show judges, invited guests and a large turnout of visitors making the boat journey out from the Orkney Mainland and a great number of competitors taking part, the show was declared a great success. In addition to the cups for prize-winners, prizes were awarded in the various classes, with 5/- for 1st place, 3/- for 2nd and 2/- for 3rd. This first show was held in a field at Samson's Lane and use of this field, still known as the 'Show Park', was to continue to be granted for any Society events as long as these events took place.

Shows continued successfully for a number of years, with generous offers of cups and prizes coming in thick and fast and, by 1922, the prize money had been raised to 10/- for a 1st place, 5/- for 2nd and 3/- for 3rd place but this was found to be unsustainable and soon dropped to 3/-, 2/- and 1/- for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places respectively. In a rather innovative fund raising drive in 1924, members of the Society agreed to write to a number of 'worthy individuals' to inform them that they had been appointed as Honorary Members of the Society and to politely ask for a donation to funds! Sadly, there is no record of how successful this approach was.

Moving into the 1930s, enthusiasm for the show seemed to be waning, particularly among the larger farms, due in great part to many of the farmers and crofters being heavily involved directly or indirectly with the herring fishing and simply not having the time to think about shows and preparing animals for exhibiting. The herring fishing season in Stronsay usually lasted from the end of May until early August, during which time a fleet of up to four hundred drifters would be based in the island, along with all the gutters, packers, coopers and myriad other support staff needed to serve the needs of the herring fishing industry and the wider island community, whose population could swell by up to four thousand souls during this period. This coincided with some of the busiest times on the farm, with large acreages of neeps to be singled and the winter's supply of hay to be made. Many farmers were involved in carting the herring to the curing stations every morning as the drifters came in with their catch. The fish offal then had to be carted away and these carters were also involved in transporting salt, barrels and provisions as needed, all to keep the fleet at sea and the gutters at work.

*(continued on next page)*



Cargo ships carrying salt, empty barrels, loose staves and hoops were common visitors, as were ships carrying off the barrels of salt herring, much of which went to Baltic ports, and these cargos too had to be moved locally by horse and cart. Employment was also available in the coal hulks coaling the drifters and, with a huge demand for locally produced butter, eggs, milk, meal, chicken and beef, the farming community locally was stretched to near breaking point. By 1936, this seemed to come to a head, with the Society being forced to cancel that year's show due to lack of entries. Enough support was drummed up to host a show once again in 1937 but, sadly, that was to be the last Agricultural Show to be held in Stronsay.

Part 2 of this article will appear in next month's edition of the 'Limpet'

Ian Cooper  
December 2020



**Robbie Miller of Hunton and his horse lorry loaded with wooden tubs. These tubs may have been full of fish offal heading off to the 'Gut Factory' to be turned into fishmeal.**

## **THE THREE SHIPS (TO AN OLD TUNE)**

*Submitted by Brian Crowe*

As I went up the mountain-side,  
The sea below me glittered wide,  
And, Eastward, far away, I spied  
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day,  
The three great ships that take the tide  
On Christmas Day in the morning.

Ye have heard the song, how these must ply  
From the harbours of home to the ports o' the sky!  
Do ye dream none knoweth the whither and why  
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day,  
The three great ships go sailing by  
On Christmas Day in the morning?

Yet, as I live, I never knew  
That ever a song could ring so true,  
Till I saw them break thro' a haze of blue  
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day;  
And the marvellous ancient flags they flew  
On Christmas Day in the morning!

From the heights above the belfried town  
I saw that the sails were patched and brown,  
But the flags were a-flame with a great renown  
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day,  
And on every mast was a golden crown  
On Christmas Day in the morning.

Most marvellous ancient ships were these!  
Were their prows a-plunged to the Chersonese?  
For the pomp of Rome or the glory of Greece,  
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day,  
Were they out on a quest for the Golden Fleece  
On Christmas Day in the morning?

And the sun and the wind they told me there  
How goodly a load the three ships bear,  
For the first is gold and the second is myrrh  
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day;  
And the third is frankincense most rare  
On Christmas Day in the morning.

They have mixed their shrouds with the golden sky,  
They have faded away where the last dreams die.  
Ah yet, will ye watch, when the mist lifts high  
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day?  
Will ye see three ships come sailing by  
On Christmas Day in the morning?

Alfred Noyes (1880 - 1958)

## CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

The Limpet's editor (and his cat) send Christmas greetings to readers of the Limpet wherever they may be with the hope that that the New Year will bring better times for all.

---

Bill and myself would like to thank everyone for the warm welcome to the island, it's truly a wonderful place. We hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and a very happy new year

Margaret McAnally

---

David and Ruth send warm Christmas and New Year greetings to all our friends in Stronsay. Look forward to seeing you in 2021

---

Going to be cruel to be kind and not send cards this year so this is to thank all the people who have helped us during this strange year and wishing all relations, friends and all who know us and helped us a happy, peaceful Christmas and a better time to come for all in 2021.

Kate & Myra

---

Flora and Butch, wish all their friends and neighbours in Stronsay a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

---

Our fondest love to Doris and Ingram Shearer at Airy and also to Catherine Work and to everyone we met when we came to visit for a couple of days in the summer of 2019 whilst chasing my Shearer ancestry. The warmth we received and the hospitality laid on for use was truly amazing (and devoured with gusto!)

We send all Stronsay folk the warmest Christmas Greetings and a very Happy New Year! We will be back!

Very best wishes, Judy and John Shephard, Northamptonshire

---

A merry Christmas and a happy New Year from Paul, Charlie and Harry (Fernside)

---

Chris & Debbie would like to thank all family, friends and customers for all their support during the past year.

We would also like to wish everybody A Very Merry Christmas and hopefully a better New Year and 2021.

---

From all at Olivebank, we would like to wish our customers a very merry Christmas & a great 2021. We wholeheartedly thank you all for your continued support throughout this year & hope the new year brings peace, happiness & plenty to look forward to

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## CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

The management and staff at Olivebank wish all their customers a very happy Christmas and a peaceful, healthy New Year.

---

Orkney Star Island Soap & Textiles would like to thank all customers for their continuing support this year and to wish you all the best for 2021.  
Happy Solstice and Yule celebrations, Simone.

---

Wishing everyone a very happy Christmas and a brighter new year.  
Pam & Andy @Hillside

---

Wishing all our dear friends on Stronsay a very happy and enjoyable Christmas time. We truly miss all of you and wish we could be with you, hopefully we will be able to travel back and see you this coming Spring as we again return to Scotland.

Every blessing to you from the Daily family: Scott, Karen, Liam, Colin, Declan, Ewan, Mackenzie, and new baby Hannah. Rejoice for unto us a Saviour is born!

---

Bill and Brenda, still in lock down in Wales, send greetings for a Blessed Christmas and Happy New Year to all our friends in Stronsay

---

Leonora wishes everyone on Stronsay a very Merry and Safe Christmas and a Happy New Year with the vaccines!

---

Leslie and Louise would like to wish everyone a merry Christmas and a happy new year

---

Happy Christmas from all at Millfield

---

Christmas wishes to our friends and family far and wide. Merry Christmas everyone and a happy, healthy, less Covid New Year.  
From all at The Old Manse. X.

---

Pam and Ken would like to send all our friends in Stronsay best wishes for as merry a Christmas as possible (under the current circumstances) and a Happy New Year full of vaccines and fun!

---

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## FOR SALE, WANTED, THANK YOU, etc

### LEO MARTINI-BROWN UPDATES

Phone changes:

To; 01857 616421 (day & night) sometimes on 616332 during day.

(? When will a general phone list update be produced and sold)

Preliminary notice:

I intend that Waterhall KW17 2AS should be ready for sale early in 2021 - which will be nearly 15 years since purchase.

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

---

### WANTED

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

Feel free to contact me directly for further information.

[mike.hannam@rediffmail.com](mailto:mike.hannam@rediffmail.com)

---

### WANTED

Hi there, I just wondered if rental property with land is available on the island at all? Looking for a place on the islands for myself my five year old daughter and our animals. We are looking at properties to buy too but should we be able to rent that would speed up our progress. I work from home so can live anywhere but a rural place with plenty of space and some land around it is what we are looking for. I am registered with agents but there seems very little available.

Many thanks.

Anna Holland ([annacholland@icloud.com](mailto:annacholland@icloud.com), Scottish Borders)

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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 877866 or
- Dianne & Paul on 07785111126 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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## ***LOCAL BUSINESSES***



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

FREE Catalogue available for pick-up or drop off.

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

---

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## ***LOCAL BUSINESSES***



**We are a brand new local company, we decided to take the plunge after many years of working for others, to set up our own business. Craig has many years experience in general building work, labouring, ground work ect. I am a time served joiner. We have all our own equipment so no need for the extra cost of hiring from elsewhere.**

**We can do all types of ground work, pipe laying, guttering and roofing. Replacement windows and doors, finishings, concrete and general work. All types of work considered, no job too small, all work finished to a high standard. Full public liability insurance, safe, reliable and trustworthy.  
Reasonable prices.**

**Contact Craig or Christine for more information.**

---

## **BELLIE M DESIGNS**

Tieve Studios, Berryhill Road, St Ola, Orkney KW15 1SF.

Online shop [www.belliemdesigns.com](http://www.belliemdesigns.com)

Orders also taken via Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or phone 07736838489 with email invoices that can be easily paid by card or PayPal.

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## ***LOCAL BUSINESSES***

### **REDHOUSE PLANTS MARKET GARDEN**



Seasonal vegetables available daily. Bedding, perennial and vegetable plants.

Local honey in season according to availability.

Open 09.00-17.00 Mon-Sat.

Redhouse, Lower Whitehall, Stronsay. Tel: (01857) 616 377

**STRONSAY  
RANGER**

**GUIDED TOURS  
AND NATURE  
WALKS**

**CONTACT 07922711525**

FIND US ON FACEBOOK AND  
INSTAGRAM  
SEARCH FOR STRONSAY  
RANGER

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## LOCAL BUSINESSES

handmade with love

# Airy Fairy





- ★ Handmade Quilts, cushions & clothes ★
- ★ Beautiful, bespoke & personalised gifts ★
- ★ Handmade especially for you ★
- ★ Makower fabrics in stock £10 per metre ★
- ★ Studio visits welcome by appointment ★



Hazel Shearer, Airy, Stronsay, Orkney, KW172AG • Phone 01857 616231  
[hazel.airyfairy@gmail.com](mailto:hazel.airyfairy@gmail.com) • [www.airyfairyonline.co.uk](http://www.airyfairyonline.co.uk)

# The Wyrð Weaver

Handcrafted Textiles and Primitive Folk Art









Come and visit Eunice's studio at...  
 Newbigging, Stronsay, Orkney KW17 2AN

**Open Daily**  
 Phone - 01857 616230

Find and buy on Facebook @orkneywyrðweaver  
 Email - thewyrðweaver@btinternet.com



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## LOCAL BUSINESSES



*New business, a mini market garden, set up in late 2015 at  
Sunnybank, Stronsay*

*Currently supplying mixed salad leaves, some winter vegetables and  
bedding plants. There will be more as the season progresses.*

*I will supply a list each week with availability*

*Please look at my Face book page "Stronsay Markets" or  
send me an email "[stronsaymarkets@gmail.com](mailto:stronsaymarkets@gmail.com) and I will put you  
on my mailing list*

**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)

**PM**  
PLUMBING  
& HEATING



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## **LOCAL BUSINESSES**

### **STRONSAY HOTEL**

Phone 01857 616213, email [cjdbuk@gmail.com](mailto:cjdbuk@gmail.com)

### **STRONSAY HOTEL AND THE VIRUS**

In these challenging times we have changed the hours that we are open. We will still provide a Takeaway service and we can deliver if required. Ordering can be done via phone or email.

- Mon, Bar closed
- Tues, Bar closed
- Wed, Bar closed
- Thurs, Bar closed Takeaway available from 5pm.to 7pm
- Fri, Bar closed, Takeaway available from 5pm to 7pm
- Sat, Bar closed Takeaway available 5pm to 7pm
- Sun, Bar closed Takeaway available 5pm to 7pm

We know this is very drastic but it is a drastic time, hopefully it will not last too long.

### **TAKE AWAY MENU**

Homemade lasagne + chips . . . . .	£5.95
Homemade chicken curry + rice or chips . .	£5.95
Homemade chicken & bacon pie + chips . .	£6.50
Breaded haddock + chips. . . . .	£5.50
Battered haddock +chips . . . . .	£6.50
Breaded wholetail scampi + chips . . . . .	£6.50
2 sausages + chips . . . . .	£3.00
2 fish fingers + chips . . . . .	£2.80
“Stronsay beast burger” + fries . . . . .	£4.50
“Stronsay cheese beast burger + fries . . . .	£5.00
Portion of chips . . . . .	£1.30
Half portion of chips . . . . .	£0.80
Portion of cheesey chips . . . . .	£2.10
Half portion of cheesey chips . . . . .	£1.10
Portion of onion rings . . . . .	£1.20
Half cheesey chips = minus 20p	
Cheesey chips = add 80p	
Half chips = minus 60p	
Half rice = minus 60p	

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## LOCAL BUSINESSES

### “NEIL’S ON WHEELS”



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

MOBILE: 07723 304 260

HOME: 01857 616454

### STRONSAY PHOTOGRAPHIC

Introductory offer for portraits

Individual or groups

Warm well equipped studio available but can also do home visits

Respecting Covid precautions

Only £30 for the session with up to 6 photos to choose from to print at your convenience

Offer closes on 15 Jan 2021 so book now by

Facebook Messenger,

e-mail: [stronsaymarkets@gmail.com](mailto:stronsaymarkets@gmail.com)

or tel 228

Roger Neville-Smith

### Ebenezer Oil Heating Services

Oftec trained engineer



**Oil Tank Installation**



**Boiler Servicing**

Oil boiler servicing,  
repair and replacement



**Boiler Installation**

A serviced boiler  
is an efficient boiler  
and will save you money

**& Commissioning**

**Tel 01857 616339**  
**ebenezer@stronsay.org**



**Anthony Potts**  
Foot Health Professional

---

**Qualified Foot Health Professional**  
**MCFHP MAFHP**

*About Me*

I qualified as a foot health professional (FHP) in 2017 studying at the SMAE Institute in Maidenhead. I am a Member of The British Association of Foot Health Professionals.

*Treatments offered*

Nail cutting and filing  
Callus (hard skin) removed  
Corns treated  
Nail conditions treated  
Verrucas treated  
General assessment and advice on foot health  
Home visits  
Please telephone for an appointment

**Tel: 07570531618**

antpottsguitar@btinternet.com  
Gesty Dishes, Stronsay, Orkney, KW17 2AJ



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## ***LOCAL BUSINESSES***



Traditionally hand-crafted soaps, solid shampoo bars, conditioners and balms.  
Hand-spun yarns, woven throws, rugs, 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>



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



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# Christmas Card Delivery

**In light of the Corona Virus, Stronsay Junior High School staff would like to continue this popular tradition to raise funds for 'Outdoor Learning'**

**Christmas cards will be sorted and delivered by Gaynor, Sheena, Steve,  
Andy & Sarah**

**Postboxes are in the shops and school now**

**Last post 16<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

**Donate as you post: 25p per card**

***Local post only!***

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

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

### **HANDY EMAIL ADDRESSES:**

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

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

Stronsay Hotel [cjdbuk@gmail.com](mailto:cjdbuk@gmail.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** **NOW OPEN FOR PUBLIC MASSES**

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

Mass times are as follows:-

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

---

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

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

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

### **STRONSAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Chair: Ian Cooper    Vice Chair: Shirley Whiteman

### **BLACK BIN BAGS AND RUBBISH COLLECTION**

In order to deter incidents of vermin damage to black bin bags containing household domestic rubbish, residents are asked not to put these out until just before 9am on a Tuesday.

Open and damaged bags make it difficult for waste to be collected efficiently and create additional work for our refuse collector.

Your co-operation will help keep our environment a pleasant place to enjoy and live. Thank you,

Colin McAlpine  
Island Link Officer/Clerk  
6 December 2020

---

### **STRONSAY COMMUNITY WELLBEING**

*“I will honour Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year.”* – Charles Dickens

As the festive season draws near, I find myself reflecting on 2020. It was, as I am sure everyone knows, filled with many ups and downs; the downs often feeling like they outweighed the ups. But we also showed how we as a community adapt and respond in the face of adversity. I am enormously proud of the fact that we had the best response to the call for volunteers in the North Isles. We were able to assist in picking up prescriptions, deliver food, supply each household with sanitizer spray, alleviate boredom and expand minds with the Wellbeing Family Boxes, as well as so much more. And the inspiration and creativity that is being shown through the Advent Window displays is a wonderful example of how this community adjusts expectations and pulls together to spread cheer for the Christmas season.

As we head into 2021 I know that there will be more challenges, but I hope we can remember that together we can come up with creative ideas to do good and keep Christmas in our hearts, all the year.

With wishes for a healthy and happy holiday season,  
Sarah Powers Richings  
Stronsay Community Wellbeing Coordinator

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## **GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS**

### **Stronsay's Advent Window Calendar 2020**

- 1st December - Cleat Cottage, after 3.30pm  
2nd December - Linksness  
3rd December - Stronsay Hotel  
4th December - Police House  
5th December - Thorfinn  
6th December - Bayview  
7th December - Orcadia  
8th December - Stronsay Fishmart  
9th December - Heritage Centre  
10th December - Stronsay School  
11th December - Tullimentan  
12th December - Airy Cottage  
13th December - Midgarth  
14th December - Grindalea  
15th December - Sandybank  
16th December - Holland Farm  
17th December - Storehouse B&B  
18th December - Holmsgarth  
19th December - Santa Float, weather permitting  
20th December - Rose Cottage  
21st December - Blinkbonny  
22nd December - Sunnybank  
23rd December - Hescombe Cottage  
24th December - Airy Farm  
25<sup>th</sup> December - *Maybe a wee extra surprise ...tbc*

**Announcements by charities, local groups, clubs and organisations are FREE!**  
The cutoff date for items 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

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

### **STRONSAY LIVING ADVENT CALENDAR**

Thank you so much to everyone who's taking part in Stronsay's first 'living' advent calendar. The plan is to cheer up a covid Christmas by having a new festive or winter-themed 'window' display revealed every day during December. The windows or displays will be at various locations around the island, see the list on the previous page. You will be able to drive around to see them all and hopefully enjoy a few extra surprises along the way! Some of these displays may have a wee extra feature - take your iPhone or iPad just in case!

Thanks again everyone, Hazel

P.S. Please note a slight change in the advent calendar. Sadly there won't be a Santa float this year. I have it on good authority that Santa is isolating before going around everyone's houses at Christmas. Saturday 19th will now be kindly hosted by Richard and Evelyn at Verdun, thank you both for stepping in for Santa.

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### **HEALTH WALK**

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

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

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### **HESCOMBE COTTAGE ADVENT WINDOW DEC 23<sup>rd</sup>**

As my cottage is away from the track and there are lots of trees and bushes in my garden, please feel free to come around the far side of the cottage and go into my wild-life garden if you can't see the window properly from the track.

Leonora

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

### **STRONSAY CRAFTS CHRISTMAS 2020**

We are sorry to announce that we will not be holding our Stronsay Christmas Craft Fair this year.

Instead, we would like to invite you to keep a watch out for regular posts on the Facebook pages listed below where we will be displaying and selling our products for the festive season.

We do hope you'll enjoy our best efforts to provide a local gift shopping opportunity. With all best wishes from the Stronsay Crafters.

Airy Fairy - <https://www.facebook.com/HazelAiryFairy>

All Things Heathen - <https://www.facebook.com/allthingsheathen>

Selkie Glass - <https://www.facebook.com/Selkie-Glass-1880517338873851>

The Wyrd Weaver - <https://www.facebook.com/orkneywyrdweaver>

Marion Miller Jewellery - <https://www.facebook.com/marionmillerjewellery>

Aurora Waves - <https://www.facebook.com/AuroraWavesOrkney/>

Star Island Soap & Textiles - <https://www.facebook.com/orkney.star.island.soap>

Stronsay Craft Trail - <https://www.facebook.com/Stronsay.Craft.Trail>

Craftship Enterprise - <https://www.facebook.com/craftshipenterprise>



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# **MOBILE LIBRARY VAN VISITS TO STRONSAY IN 2021**

*BookyMcBookFace* will be visiting Stronsay on the following dates in 2021:

Monday	18 January
Monday	15 March
Tuesday	11 May
Tuesday	6 July
Tuesday	31 August
Monday	25 October
Monday	20 December

## **STOPS AND TIMES**

### **WINTER**

Council Houses	8.45—9.45
School	10—12
Kirk	12.30—3
Fish Mart	3.15—4.45

### **SUMMER/REFIT**

Council Houses	9—10
School	10.15—12
Kirk	12.30—3
Fish Mart	3.15—5.30

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## **DO YOU WANT TO SUBSCRIBE TO THE LIMPET'S EMAIL LIST?**

The emails sent to this list will be used to disseminate occasional time-sensitive information which is really only relevant to the current residents of Stronsay but may give potential visitors an idea of the island's community life.

To receive these emails you must first "sign up" by going to the Limpet website [www.stronsaylimpet.co.uk](http://www.stronsaylimpet.co.uk) and using the option at the foot of the page. You must also respond to the email asking for confirmation which you will receive very soon afterwards. There are quite a few folk who have signed up but have failed to respond to the confirmatory email - please check your "junk" or "spam" email folder if you have not received a reply within an hour or so. You can also unsubscribe from the list by using the same link

The Limpet website also provides a handy link to a list of all downloadable editions of the Limpet

## POST OFFICE OPENING TIMES etc

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

SDT office . . . . . 616410  
 Stronsay Band . . . . . 616335  
 Stronsay Hotel . . . . . 616213  
 Taxi . . . . . 616335  
 Stranded seals, etc . . . . . 616339/206/498  
 Balfour hospital (24/7) . . . 01856 888000  
 Electricity  
     general enquiries      0800 048 3516  
         *lines open Mon-Fri 8am-5pm*  
     problems (24/7) . . . 0800 300 999  
     power cut (24/7) . . . 105  
 Water problems (24/7) . . 0800 0778 778  
 Highland Fuels . . . . . 0800 224 224  
 Kirkwall Library . . . . . 01856 873166  
 Kirkwall Police (24/7) . . 101  
 Vets:  
     Flett & Carmichael . 01856 872859  
     Northvet . . . . . 01856 873403  
 Dentists:  
     Orkney Dental . . . . 01856 872030  
     King Street . . . . . 01856 888258  
     Deyanov Dental . . . 01856 877118  
 Golgotha monastery . . . 616210  
     *(Email [contact@the-sons.org](mailto:contact@the-sons.org))*

## 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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