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## **THE CLOCKS GO BACK AT 2am ON SUNDAY 31 OCTOBER**

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### **LIMPET—PRINTED COPIES**

Every month 57 copies of the Limpet are printed by the Orcadian printshop and distributed through Olivebank & Ebenezer. The printing is quite an expensive process yet each month quite a few copies of the Limpet lie in the shops, unloved & uncollected—such a waste of paper (and money). Therefore, the existing list of folk who receive printed copies of the Limpet will cease to exist from Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022.

If you **really** want a printed copy you are encouraged to either print it using your own computer & printer or ask a friend to print it on your behalf; you don't have to print every page, you can just print a particular page or pages. If you are unable to arrange this and have no other way to obtain a printed copy, please contact the Limpet's editor before Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022 giving your address and the shop (Ebenezer or Olivebank) from which you wish to collect your printed copy.

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

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### **GP & COMMUNITY NURSE ROSTER**

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

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### **THE STRONSAY EXTREME ADVENTURE CLUB**

Turn to page 19 to find out what Andy, Iain and Bill have been up to this month.

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### **“VISIT STRONSAY” WEBSITE**

The Visit Stronsay website [visitstronsay.com](https://visitstronsay.com) is back in action.

Contact details for groups & clubs listed on the website (<https://visitstronsay.com/useful-local-information/groups-clubs>) have not been updated since the onset of Covid-19. Please check club/group details and send any changes that need to be made either to [info@visitstronsay.com](mailto:info@visitstronsay.com) or to [editor@stronsaylimpet.co.uk](mailto:editor@stronsaylimpet.co.uk).

The website's calendar <https://visitstronsay.com/events> is back in action. Check it to see forthcoming events on Stronsay. If you want to add your own event(s) to the calendar just send the information (what, where, when, etc) either to [info@visitstronsay.com](mailto:info@visitstronsay.com) or to [editor@stronsaylimpet.co.uk](mailto:editor@stronsaylimpet.co.uk).

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The next edition of the *Limpet* will be published on **Thu 25 November**. Items for inclusion in that edition should be submitted by 7pm on **Sun 21 November**, contact details are on the back page. The Limpet's website address is <http://www.stronsaylimpet.co.uk>

# **ORCADES PRACTICE—STRONSAY BRANCH**

In an emergency phone 01856 888000

## **LATEST NEWS**

We are delighted to announce that a new doctor, Johnathan Cobb, will be joining the team on 25th October.

The doctor's morning surgery has returned to being by appointment, while the afternoon will still be open for 'on the day' calls for urgent needs. Both will initially be phone calls, with an invitation to attend the surgery if an examination is needed. In an emergency you will of course be fitted in straight away.

If you require an appointment please phone 616321 as usual or email [ORK.stronsay@nhs.scot](mailto:ORK.stronsay@nhs.scot). When you book your appointment Katrina will give you a time for your initial call; the doctor will call as close to that time as possible, and hopefully within about 30 minutes. This will hopefully make your day easier to plan. Please help us by bringing just one problem, so that we can help you by sticking as close as possible to time.

If you are travelling abroad and need evidence of your vaccination status, you can now use the link below to obtain it. Please be patient as records are updated, and please don't request your record if you don't need it! Thank you

<https://www.nhsinform.scot/covid19status>.

## **REQUESTING REPEAT PRESCRIPTIONS**

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

## **UP-TO-DATE CONTACT DETAILS**

Please can we ask you to contact the surgery (phone 616321 or email [ORK.stronsay@nhs.scot](mailto:ORK.stronsay@nhs.scot)) if you have any changes to make to the information we hold. It really helps us if we have your up to date information should we need to contact you.

For example

- *Name*
- *Address*
- *Telephone number (landline)*
- *Mobile number*
- *Email address*

Thank you, Dr Rosalind Fisher and Dr Alison Lievesley

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## **ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND**

No Royal Bank of Scotland visits until further notice. There are 2 dedicated tel numbers:  
0800 051 4177 for anybody in isolation and 0800 046 6734 for all NHS staff  
Both lines are open 8-8

## **COVID VACCINATIONS**

We are nearing the end of vaccinating our over 18's population. If you have previously declined but would now like to have the vaccine, or have been giving the matter further consideration and decided you would now like to be vaccinated, can you please contact the surgery to let us know, so we can order vaccines in as appropriate. We are trying to achieve a high percentage of vaccinated residents so we can have a good level of immunity within our island community.

Stronsay Surgery

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## **STRONSAY SURGERY—USE OF 616321**

This is a reminder that the surgery telephone number is only manned Monday to Friday between the hours of 9-12 and 1.30-4.30pm. Between 12.00 and 1.30pm, when Katrina is at lunch, there is an answerphone service and calls won't be put through to Balfour so please avoid phoning at lunchtime. If it is an urgent matter, please dial 01856 888000 and ask them to page the Stronsay GP (or nurse if more appropriate). Outside these hours the calls are automatically transferred through to Balfour Hospital switchboard.

Thank you,  
Stronsay Surgery

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## **NHS ORKNEY** **FUTURE OF GP, COMMUNITY AND HOSPITAL SERVICE** **IN ORKNEY**

Let NHS Orkney know what you want for the future of the GP, community and hospital service in Orkney. Your responses will be used to inform a new clinical strategy for NHS Orkney.

The survey will be open until Monday 11 October 2021. It takes about 5 minutes to complete, thank you for taking the time.

Link to the survey <https://forms.office.com/r/WN188TQ7tS>.

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## **ADVERTISE YOUR EVENT!**

If you are arranging an event on Stronsay then why not use the free publicity available from the Limpet and from the Visit Stronsay website [visitstronsay.com](https://visitstronsay.com)? Just contact the Limpet's editor (contact details are on the back page)

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## **JOB VACANCY ON STRONSAY**

### **CLOSING DATE 31 OCTOBER.**

The ability to service the isles' needs is dependant on isles applicants, especially with winter season on the horizon.

If anyone has any questions then the recruiting manager is John Wrigley, OIC's Roads and Environmental Services Manager. His contact number is 01856 872311 ext 243.



#### **DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

#### **Roads and Environmental Services – Operations**

#### **Eday and Stronsay**

#### **Relief Isles Operative 1 (Ref: ORK05118)**

**Hours are offered on an as and when required basis**  
**£11.08 per hour (including Distant Islands Allowance)**

We are looking for Isles Operatives on a number of our Isles, to assist the Team Leader Operations in the delivery of safe, compliant, effective and efficient Planned, Cyclical, Reactive and Emergency works undertaken by the Roads and Environmental Services workforce.

You will assist in the delivery of a range of activities relating to the maintenance of the islands roads including pot hole repairs, drainage, verge works, signing, lining etc. You will also assist with the delivery of gritting and, where required, reactive repairs associated with flooding and storm damage.

You would be required to hold a current driver's licence which allows the operation of vehicles from a minimum of 8.25 tonnes gross weight.

Interested parties for each position must be resident on the isle to which their applications relate.

Prospective applicants are invited to discuss this post by contacting John Wrigley, Roads and Environmental Services Manager by e-mail [john.wrigley@orkney.gov.uk](mailto:john.wrigley@orkney.gov.uk) or telephone (01856) 872311 ext. 243, or Alistair Holmes on (01856) 872311 ext. 226.

**Closing Date: Sunday 31 October 2021**

*Please note that interview and relocation expenses are not payable for these positions.*

Further information is available from, and online applications can be made through: <https://www.myjobscotland.gov.uk/orkney>

If you are unable to apply online, and need to apply using an alternative format, please contact Customer Services at Orkney Islands Council, School Place, Kirkwall, Orkney, KW15 1NY, Tel: (01856) 873535 or email: [customer-service@orkney.gov.uk](mailto:customer-service@orkney.gov.uk)

## **Ziggy's Big Day Out Guide**



This is a peedie story about one of Lower Primary's weekly trips to the beach. Last week we went for a mini bag the bruck to help protect the birds, fish, seals and whales! We have sent this to Ziggy (a character from Road Safety Scotland) to share how we stay safe along the road whenever we visit the beach.



When we left the school we made sure everybody was holding hands.



We walk along the road with the eldest buddy on the outside.



We don't have a kerb to stand behind on the roads by our school but we do stand still on the grass verge to allow cars to pass us as safely as possible.

**Part 2 is on the next page**

## PART 2 OF A STORY FROM STRONSAY SCHOOL'S LOWER PRIMARY



We walk on the right-hand side of the road so we can look out and stop for any oncoming traffic.



We use our eyes and ears to look out and listen for traffic.



After that we walked down the track to the beach and bagged two bags full of bruck!



We were having so much fun on our weekly trip to the beach!



After all that walking, we went back to Stronsay Junior High School and learned about staying safe by being seen with our Junior Road Safety Officers.



Thanks for helping us with our story, Ziggy. We had a Zab-a-Ding-a-Doo time!

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## **HARVEST THANKSGIVING SUNDAY 10 OCTOBER**

Some photographs from Roger Neville-Smith of the display in the kirk. After the service the items on display were distributed to the over-80s on the island.



## **BOOK LAUNCH ON STRONSAY**

On Saturday 16th October, 30 people gathered in The Fishmart to witness the launch of “Santa’s Stronsay Spree” by Gaynor Smith. This lovely book is illustrated by Jennifer Graham and is selling at only £5, with profit going to the Defibrillator Fund. The poem is about Santa’s adventure on arriving on Stronsay. Eilidh and Arya, who star in the book, cut the ribbon to open the book signing and unveil the display of the paintings. All the Stronsay bairns had their house names in the story, and many local landmarks got a mention. Wendy read the book at the launch in her Orcadian teacher voice. Almost all the books were sold, and a second run is planned. The book is simply charming and a must for anyone with Stronsay connections or who loves a warm Christmas tale.

Last year a Stronsay man’s life was saved by the swift action of his family and a public defibrillator. We hope to have three more defibrillators located on the island.

For any further information, including purchasing the book, please contact

Gaynor Smith  
t: 01857 616412  
e: [gaynor70@icloud.com](mailto:gaynor70@icloud.com)



*Gaynor & Jennifer*

*(more photographs on next page)*



*Book signing*



*Jessi*

*(more photographs on next page)*



*Eilidh & Arya*



*Wendy*

## RECENT BIRD SIGHTINGS

There was a big influx of birds from across the North Sea on 18th October. when hundreds of Redwings arrived and a couple of dozen Bramblings and Chaffinches, and due to the wet weather most birds were found feeding along the roads, the majority on the tarmac. There were a few Goldcrests feeding frantically in the fuchsia hedges by the roadside but very few other species. 2 Ring Ousels were seen during the next couple of days but all the migrants had soon moved off southwards. A Goldfinch was found by David in his garden at Osen but it too had soon moved on.

Birds of prey have been seen regularly – the most common being Hen Harrier (daily – at least 3 birds present) , with Merlin, Sparrowhawk, and Peregrine ‘occasionals’ and as ever - unpredictable!

Once again the weather forecast indicates some winds from an easterly quarter during the coming week. Late October/early November is the time of year most Waxwings arrive in the UK and It is worth checking the rose-hips – their usual diet when here, but they are readily attracted to apples if placed in an open position. They are very tame, (photo taken at Castle during a previous ‘eruption’ of the species).

Thanks for all the calls. John & Sue



*Yet another Short-eared Owl on a roadside fence-post! October.*



*A rather ‘dull’ Brambling by the roadside at Bomasty late October.*

*(Continued on next page)*



A good sign – Whooper Swans by the Holland ‘branch’ late October.



9 waxwings—feeding on apples outside the kitchen window at Castle.

**Stephen Clackson's Letter from School Place ("blended" from West Manse)  
*Keeping the folk of the North Isles ward informed — with Orkney's only councillor  
newsletter***



At our last Monitoring & Audit Committee meeting, we scrutinised the latest Council internal audit report. It contained the illuminating paragraph: “Data published by the Scottish Parliament Information Centre (SPICe), within its document entitled “Local Government Finance: Budget 2021-22 and provisional allocations to local authorities”, showed the provisional Revenue allocation for Orkney to be £3,712 per head. This being £532 less than Shetland’s settlement and £91 less than Eilean Siar (Western Isles) per head. Adjusting for differences in how ferry funding is carried out, the Council estimates that it receives around £673 per head lower than the Western Isles. Stated in another way, if Orkney was funded in the same way as the Western Isles, it would receive around £14.9 million more each year to deliver Council Services.” Definite discrimination!

The Scottish Funding Council has said the UHI cannot continue to exist in its current form, comprising 13 distinct entities. At the Orkney College Management Council briefing meeting, we were presented with a thought-provoking options appraisal for the UHI and a strategic review for the College. (My thoughts on the UHI’s future appeared in *The Orcadian Postbag*, 7<sup>th</sup> Oct.)

The Scottish Government’s “Islands Team” gave us a seminar on the Scottish Government’s “Island Bond” (about which I made comment in my August *Letter*), and I did not hesitate to make my views known to the “Team”. There is an unfairness in their proposed scheme, and the potential to generate disharmony and cause division in communities came across strongly.

Our General Meeting was the first since March 2020 to be audiocast live—a step back to normality. We approved the appointment of the Rev Fraser Macnaughton (the Church of Scotland’s nomination) to our Education, Leisure & Housing Committee. Under statute, there are places for 2 further religious representatives on the ELH Committee. OIC advertises for these periodically, but for as long as I have served on ELH, through lack of applicants, these positions have never been filled.

*(Continued on next page)*

I had to attend the meeting of the Rousay, Egilsay, Wyre & Gairsay Community Council “virtually”, but I was able to go to the meeting of the Stronsay School Parent Council in person. Among the topics discussed was the desire for a 20mph zone around Stronsay School. Also, I asked about plans for the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee celebrations, which will take place from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> June next year. At our last Policy & Resources Committee meeting, we agreed to shift the 2022 May Day holiday to the 2<sup>nd</sup> June for the Jubilee. (I remarked that Orkney is stingy with only 10 annual public holidays compared to Glasgow’s 12.) The Platinum Jubilee will be a truly historic event, as no British monarch has ever had one before. I don’t know if the French King Louis XIV had one, or King Rama IX of Thailand, or Fürst Johann II of Liechtenstein, but they all reigned long enough.

In the wake of the fatal stabbing of MP Sir David Amess, councillors have been contacted by COSLA, Police Scotland, and directly by the Chief Constable about our personal security when in contact with the public, including a checklist from the Counter Terrorism Intelligence Unit. Fortunately, in my over 9 years of being your representative at School Place, I have (with one solitary exception) always been treated by every member of the North Isles’ public with the greatest courtesy and respect, and I have reciprocated by always doing my utmost to address their concerns. Long may this state of affairs continue.

I was honoured to be asked to represent OIC at two events commemorating the sinking of HMS Royal Oak 82 years ago, in which my Uncle Ronny was a casualty. The first was the dedication of a new clapper and tassel for the ship’s bell in Kirkwall Cathedral (photograph above). See the film at: <https://www.facebook.com/TheOrcadian/videos/579597216613418/?t=13>

The second was the laying of wreaths on 14<sup>th</sup> Oct at the memorial at Scapa and in the sea at the buoy marking the wreck in Scapa Flow. It was a very rough morning, making the handling of the wreaths devilishly difficult. On the way back from the buoy, I was allowed to take the helm of our new pilot vessel *Scapa Pathfinder*. (Photo credits: *The Orcadian* and James Budge.)

Stephen

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



Cllr Clackson at the helm of the pilot vessel *Scapa Pathfinder*

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

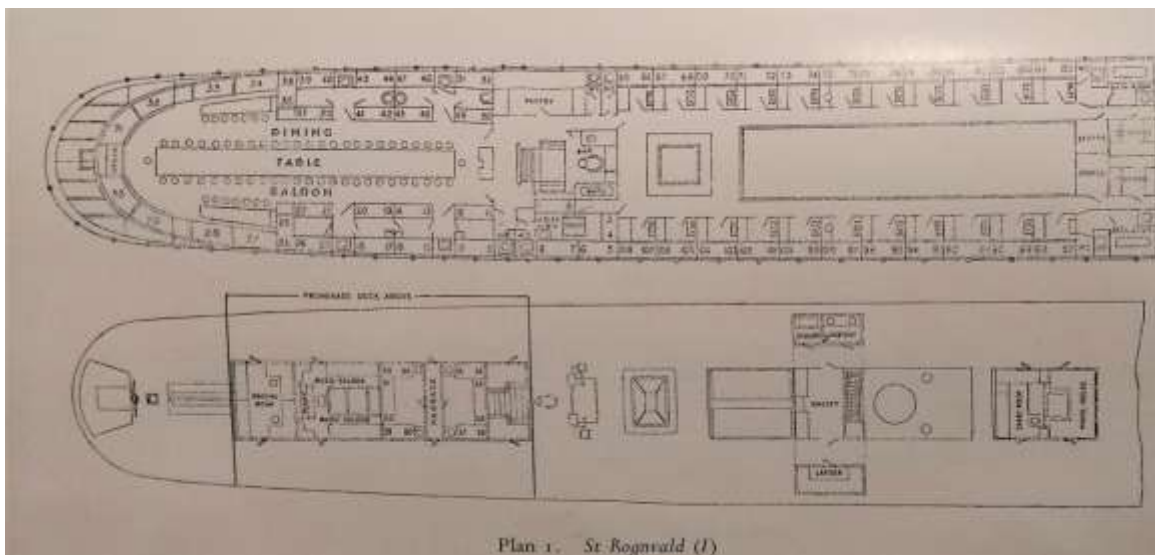
## **RECORDS OF A BYGONE AGE**

### **THE FIRST S.S. SAINT ROGNVALD – PART 1**

Built for the North of Scotland, Orkney and Shetland Steam Navigation Company (commonly and affectionately referred to as the ‘North Company’) in the famous Hall Russel yard in Aberdeen, the 73m, 980 ton screw steamship St Rognvald was named and launched in June 1883. She was the 6<sup>th</sup> ship in the North Company’s small fleet of cargo and passenger vessels and, as the largest and best in the fleet, was regarded as the flagship of the shipping line. She was built primarily for the ever-popular Leith, Aberdeen, Wick (until 1890), Kirkwall and Lerwick route which ran regularly between those ports and was designed as a dual purpose vessel, carrying both cargo and passengers, but could also, if the need arose and there was a gap in her timetable, be available for charter.

As time passed, the North Company began to investigate the possibility of sailing further afield and, on 8<sup>th</sup> June 1886, placed a notice in the Scotsman advertising that the *“fast and commodious steamship St Rognvald, is intended to make a special trip with a limited number of cabin passengers on Thursday, June 24 ex Leith [Edinburgh] and Aberdeen to Bergen and some of the principal fjords and places of interest on the west coast of Norway”*.

Despite the short notice and a ticket price of £10 (this in a time when an ordinary labourer would be earning less than £30 a year), this 9-day cruise was soon sold out. The trip proved a great success and the Rognvald went on to make four similar sell-out trips that same year, taking her place as the first British ‘cruise ship’ to sail to that area. By today’s standards the accommodation was fairly basic, with a total of 104 berths for both first and second class passengers. Cabins could sleep from 2 to 6 passengers and there was no electric lighting or plumbing in these cabins, with passengers’ personal needs being met by a grand total of four toilets and 11 washbasins!



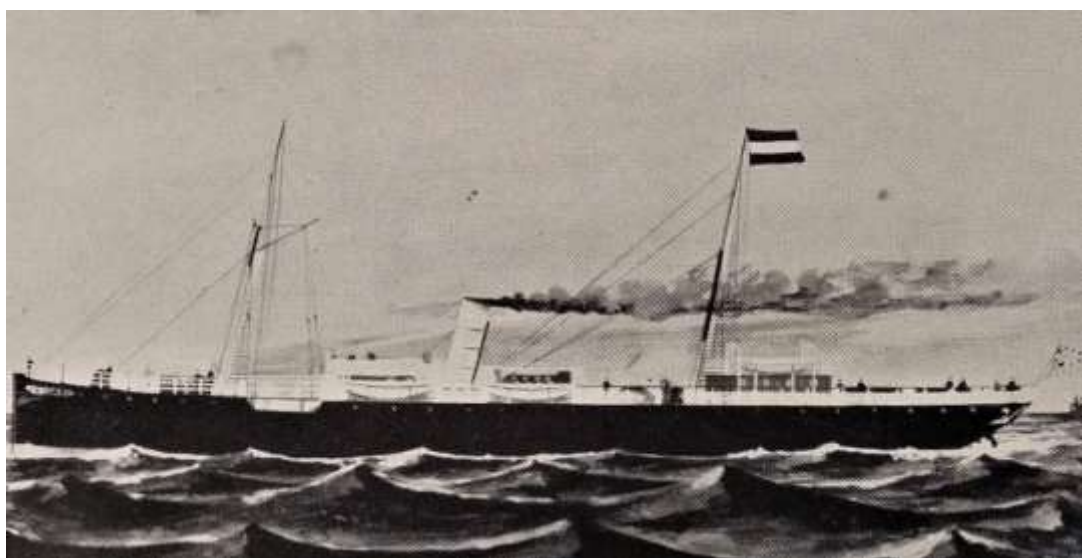
*A plan of the St Rognvald showing the passenger accommodation and the layout of the upper deck, including the aft deckhouse and the ‘Smoking Room, of which more later.*

*(continued on next page)*

This success led to the North Company quickly putting in place plans to have a new vessel built specifically with cruising in mind and, in May 1887, the St Sunniva, reputedly the first ever purpose-built cruise ship, was launched to join the St Rognvald in the cruise market. This new ship could carry up to 142 first-class only passengers in 2 or 4 berth cabins and these passengers were suitably well cared for by a number of stewards. The North Company, in advertising their new cruise ship, stated that in the construction of all parts of the Sunniva, strength, combined with gracefulness of outline, had been considered so as to give the necessary stability and seaworthiness, together with a yacht-like appearance.

The St Rognvald and the St Sunniva, like many of the ships bearing the name of a Saint that were to follow later on this route, often had the 'Saint' dropped from their name, being familiarly and affectionately known as the Rognvald, the Sunniva, the Magnus or whichever Saint the ship was named after.

In 1891, the Rognvald underwent a comprehensive refit to make her more suitable for cruise passengers. These alterations included the removal of the aft cargo hold to make more accommodation for first class passengers, a promenade deck being constructed on top of the aft deckhouse and the fitting of an additional two lifeboats to the four already carried. Following on from this she, along with the Sunniva, continued their summer cruise schedules to Norway successfully for a number of years, even venturing another 1,000 miles further north to the North Cape of Norway on occasion. By the late 1890s, competition from larger companies and possibly some lack of ambition from the North Company saw their cruises dwindle and then, in the early years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, stop altogether as they concentrated entirely on their 'bread and butter' services on the 'North run' to and from the ports at Leith, Aberdeen, Kirkwall and Lerwick.



*The Saint Rognvald in her glory days, showing her as she appeared after her refit to make her more suitable for cruising*

As the 1890s drew to a close, the St Rognvald was principally engaged in the routine trade of the Company conveying cargo and passengers between Leith, Aberdeen, Kirkwall and Lerwick every week for most of the year, although if out of season passenger numbers were low and there was little cargo to carry, she was sometimes laid up for a time in the depths of winter.

*(continued on next page)*

Her regular schedule saw her leaving Leith on a Friday morning, calling past Aberdeen that same day then reaching Kirkwall on Saturday morning and arriving in Lerwick that evening. On the return leg of the journey, she left Lerwick on Monday evening, arriving back in Leith on Wednesday.

With the dawn of the new century and spring in the air, the St Rognvald was once again engaged in her voyages carrying cargo and passengers on the North run. After completing her trip north and loading up her usual mix of cargo and passengers, the St Rognvald left Lerwick at 7.45 on the evening of 23<sup>rd</sup> April 1900 on her scheduled trip to Leith via Kirkwall and Aberdeen, only the third such trip she had made that year. Sea conditions were reasonable at the time, with little or no wind, but as she headed south a sea fog developed and this was to prove to be her undoing. At 2.30 in the morning of 24<sup>th</sup> April, the St Rognvald struck rocks on the north side of Burgh Head on Stronsay.

She was carrying 68 passengers, along with a crew of 36, and had a mixed cargo including Post Office mails and parcels and about 2 tons of fresh fish. She was also carrying a number of animals - 21 ponies, 34 sheep and four calves, all of which were drowned with the exception of one Shetland pony which managed to swim to a rock and was afterwards landed on Stronsay.

Also in the cargo were two cases of what was classed as "Comforts for the troops in South Africa", this being gifts for the soldiers fighting in the Boer War, which had been raised by public subscription in Shetland. These two cases were valued at around £120 and consisted of Shetland jerseys, helmets, cowls, gloves, socks, cravats and lambswool underclothes, along with a quantity of chocolate and dried meat. Some days later, these two cases were found washed ashore on Mainland Orkney, one badly broken and with nothing salvageable in it but the other, it is said, containing among other things a total of 171 woolen shawls. What could be salvaged was saved and sent on its way to South Africa, while the North Company also made a donation of £50 to the cause.

The St Rognvald was found to be lying in an exposed and dangerous position on the edge of a submerged ledge of rock, resting on her starboard side with her bow almost touching the sheer cliffs of Burgh Head. While the water on her port side was found to be only about 10 feet deep, the water on the starboard side was up to 40 feet deep. With a large hole in her hull and the water inside the ship and out at a similar level, there was a concern that she would slip off the ledge into deep water, putting the lives of all on board at great risk.

In one of the cabins, the cabin door had become jammed shut and a panel had to be smashed with an axe before the occupants could make their exit, while a number of the other passengers didn't even take time to change out of their night attire before they appeared on deck. As the ship was in a very precarious state, it was decided to abandon ship and orders were given to launch the lifeboats. Because of the list of the ship it was found impossible to launch the port side lifeboats at first but the starboard side boats were launched, the first one away within 10 minutes and all passengers safely off the wrecked ship within half an hour. One of the port side lifeboats was later launched with difficulty and it too played its part in getting passengers and crew safely to shore. With high cliffs along much of the coast where the Rognvald struck, those in the lifeboats rowed for close on a mile and a half looking for a spot to land. This they eventually found, landing safely on the shore below the farm of Odiness.

*(continued on next page)*

The survivors made their way up across the fields to the Odiness farmhouse where, after the occupants, James and Catherine Twatt, were roused from their bed, they were received and very kindly treated, with assistance from the Twatt family at Airy and the Dennisons at Fingeo among others in the area, who were also able to provide clothing and footwear for those who needed it.

My grandmother, Grace Croy, (later Grace Fotheringham of Hescombe) was a young lass at Kirbuster, a farm that lies close to Burgh Head, at the time of the shipwreck. She was up and about tending to a sow that was having piglets when she heard the sounds of the ship running aground and would almost certainly have been the first to be aware of the grounding.

More of the St Rognvald's last voyage in next month's Limpet.

Ian Cooper  
October 2021



*Sea urchin found by Sheila Burger at the Ayre of Myres on Sunday 17 October.  
Over 5" across and completely undamaged. It was green but after cleaning it has turned pink.*

## **VAT OF KIRBISTER SWIMMING ADVENTURE**

The Vat of Kirbister is one of the finest sea arches located on the southeast of Stronsay. This was originally a sea cave carved out of the sandstone rock and over time the roof of the cave collapsed creating a natural amphitheatre. The original entrance to the cave remains and now forms a natural arch which opens out into the sea. This natural formation is stunningly beautiful.

After their recent swim through the cave below Lamb Head, Stronsay, the newly formed Stronsay Crazy Gang (Andy, Iain and Bill) aka Stronsay Extreme Adventure club aka 3 mates looking for a new challenge plotted their next swimming adventure. Iain was keen to swim into the Vat of Kirbister, which Andy had undertaken twice and Bill once. Mid-September 2021 the trio headed out to a blustery morning to attempt the short swim. On reaching the Vat it was clearly obvious that the weather and sea conditions were not safe for open water swimming. Waves 10m high were crashing against the cliffs.

On Saturday 9 October 2021 the trio returned. The sea was much calmer though it was raining as they walked down to their starting point at the 'Swimming Pool', which is a natural inlet. The Vat of Kirbister could be seen about 300m from this vantage point. You could feel the excitement as the trio got into their wetsuits and prepared the camera equipment.

The water in this area is deep but very clear and ideal for snorkelling. It was high tide with a little swell but nothing the trio couldn't cope with. The swim over to the Vat entrance was spectacular. Forests of kelp were wafting in the swell. Steep underwater cliffs covered in sea anemones, moon jellyfish and shoals of little cod were some of the highlights.



*(continued on next page)*



The trio arrived at the entrance to the Vat of Kirbister. After a few photographs below the impressive arch they swam into the spectacular amphitheatre. Every sound echoed in this chamber. Looking for the perfect action photo the explorers decided to take turns jumping from the rocks below the stones arch. Andy went first followed by Iain. The whoops of delight rung around the natural chamber. Iain decided to go for another jump but to outdo Andy and Bill he did his best Tom Daley and went for a forward somersault. This went well until the point of entry which was a back flop. Marks out of ten were not good !!!



After the jumping nonsense the trio spent some time exploring the Vat. Two caves exist on the north side. On swimming into the largest cave, the echo of the water glooping was with the swell was eerie. On the south side a waterfall poured from above onto the rocks below. Shags watched in wonderment at these immature adults. While snorkelling in this area you could clearly see the large slabs of sandstone that once formed the cave roof.

*(continued on next page)*



After over an hour in the water it was time to head back. There was still time to play on the rocky ledges in the swell and looking back at this incredible natural rock formation.

*(continued on next page)*



On reaching dry land the feeling of achievement and enjoyment was such a buzz. Three mates just having fun. The Crazy Gang are already planning their next adventure exploring the beautiful coastline around Stronsay.

**On a word of caution this swim should only be undertaken by strong confident swimmers. Throughout we checked with each other re the cold and conditions. The water in this area is deep and, in the wrong weather conditions, very dangerous.**

The Stronsay Crazy Gang  
Andy Whiteman, Iain Johnston and Bill Hodgson

# Struggling to heat your home?

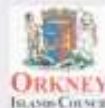
You may be eligible for an energy saving improvement grant to cut fuel bills and make your home warmer.



Warmworks is still accepting applications to the EES Area-Based Scheme in Orkney. Just give us a call on the number below and see how we can help you stay warm this winter.

Find out how we can help. Contact Warmworks on **01856 881513** or visit **The Store, 5 West Tankerness Lane, Kirkwall**

Grants funded by EES: ABS (Orkney)  
Scheme delivered by Warmworks Scotland and Orkney Islands Council



In Orkney, October is the month which bids farewell to summer, and leads us into autumn and the first touch of winter, sometimes gently, sometimes fiercely. Today, In our world of Covid 19, the threat of climate change, and the attempted imposition of the alien 'New World Order', you may be interested in the phenomenon known as the 'Miracle of the Sun', which occurred on 13 October, 1917, in the Cova da Iria, Fatima, Portugal.

### THE MIRACLE OF THE SUN

On 13 October, 1917, a crowd believed to number about 70,000 people, including newspaper reporters, photographers, politicians, and people of every class and age, of Christian belief and none, gathered at the Cova da Iria, Fatima, Portugal. They were there in uncertain expectation of a 'miracle' prophesied by three young local children, who on several occasions during the years 1915 and 1916, whilst tending sheep in the fields, had been visited by an Angel who had talked to them about God, and the need for prayer. In 1917 on six occasions, once every month from May to October, they experienced a vision of a beautiful lady, identified as Mary, the mother of Jesus, who warned them of her Son's displeasure at the sins of mankind, and the necessity for prayer and penance. To strengthen the resolve of the children, who had been subjected to insults, disbelief, and even threats when relating details of their experiences to others, the 'beautiful lady' promised that a great miracle would occur on 13 October, which would also be her last appearance.

“The day arrived, incessant rain had finally ceased, and *a thin layer of clouds cloaked the silver disc of the sun, which, witnesses said later, could be looked upon without hurting the eyes. They spoke of the sun appearing to change colours and rotate like a wheel. Not everyone saw the same things, and witnesses gave varying descriptions of the “sun’s dance”.*

The phenomenon was witnessed by most people there, as well as people many miles away.

#### Eye Witness Accounts

Columnist Avelino de Almeida of 'O Século' (Portugal's most influential newspaper, which was pro-government in policy and avowedly anti-clerical), reported the following:

*“Before the astonished eyes of the crowd, whose aspect was biblical as they stood bare-headed, eagerly searching the sky, the sun trembled, made sudden incredible movements outside all cosmic laws – the sun ‘danced’ according to the typical expression of the people.”*

Eye specialist Dr. Domingos Pinto Coelho, writing for the newspaper 'Ordem' reported:

*“The sun, at one moment surrounded with scarlet flame, at another aureoled in yellow and deep purple, seemed to be in an exceeding fast and whirling movement, at times appearing to be loosened from the sky and to be approaching the earth, strongly radiating heat”.*

The special reporter for the 17 October 1917 edition of the Lisbon daily, 'O Dia,' reported the following:

*(concluded on next page)*

*“...the silver sun, enveloped in the same gauzy purple light was seen to whirl and turn in the circle of broken clouds...The light turned a beautiful blue, as if it had come through the stained-glass windows of a cathedral, and spread itself over the people who knelt with outstretched hands...people wept and prayed with uncovered heads, in the presence of a miracle they had awaited. The seconds seemed like hours, so vivid were they.”*

No movement or other phenomenon of the sun was registered by scientists at the time. According to contemporary reports from poet Afonso Lopes Vieira and school-teacher Delfina Lopes with her students and other witnesses in the town of Alburita, the solar phenomenon was visible up to forty kilometres away.

Not all witnesses reported seeing the sun “dance”. Some people only saw the radiant colours, and others, including some believers, saw nothing at all.

One other remarkable aspect of this day was that it had been raining hard, and only stopped just prior to the 'sun dance'. Everybody was soaked to the skin, yet immediately after the sun returned to normal, they found their clothes completely dry.

\*\*\*\*\*

This phenomenon which many believers consider a miracle, and unbelievers cannot explain, has over the years received extensive scientific, psychological, and social study, the findings of which are available in public records, including the internet. Everyone will decide for themselves - natural phenomenon or Divine message? Perhaps it should be seen as a warning to today's powerful elites that God is Master of His Creation, not the scientists, politicians, and super wealthy of this world, who, like us all, 'are but dust, and unto dust we shall return'.

Brian Crowe

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## **“VISIT STRONSAY” WEBSITE**

**The Visit Stronsay website [visitstronsay.com](https://visitstronsay.com) is back in action!**

***Always check the calendar first to ensure that your event won't clash with an event already planned.***

The website's calendar <https://visitstronsay.com/events> is back in action and already there are quite a few events listed as the island's social life slowly returns to normal after the lockdowns. If you want to add your own event(s) to the calendar just send the information (what, where, when, who) to:

[editor@stronsaylimpet.co.uk](mailto:editor@stronsaylimpet.co.uk) or to [info@visitstronsay.com](mailto:info@visitstronsay.com).

Contact details for some groups & clubs listed on the website (<https://visitstronsay.com/useful-local-information/groups-clubs>) have not been updated since the onset of Covid-19. Please check your own club/group details and send any changes that need to be made either to [info@visitstronsay.com](mailto:info@visitstronsay.com) or to [editor@stronsaylimpet.co.uk](mailto:editor@stronsaylimpet.co.uk).

## FOR SALE, WANTED, THANK YOU, etc



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### **THANK YOU!**

Absolutely delighted to announce that the final total for the Cleat fundraising day was the amazing sum of £1,485.01. Many thanks to everyone near and far who supported it in any way!

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### **THANK YOU**

I would like to say a massive “Thank You” to members of the Stronsay Agricultural Society for the super gifts sent to me and to Doris following my retiral from the position of secretary. They were much appreciated.

Ingram Shearer

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Items on this page are free!

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

### **HELLO TO STRONSAY!**

I'm looking for the possibility to either buy a traditional stone built bungalow - with or without outbuildings

**OR**

To rent somewhere to live until a property becomes available. I'm not too picky a caravan, small house, room (with access to kitchen and bathroom) or may even consider a boot! Hey joke, unfortunately wouldn't fit into a boot! Maybe long or short term, would be grateful if someone on the great island of Stronsay could please possibly help!

Look forward to hearing from anyone, who may have any of the above - (or may know someone who might).

Contact Paul on mobile 07802 426992 or email [pauwat1@gmail.com](mailto:pauwat1@gmail.com).

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### **VAN AVAILABLE FOR CHARITY WORK**

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

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

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

Any questions and to book give me a call.

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

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### **WANTED**

Shorefront piece of land/barn/small house, must be secluded. For Ross-shire crofting couple looking to relocate. We need 2+ acres as we have livestock but would be very happy with just a field that we would look to get planning permission on. Any help would be greatly appreciated. Cash waiting.

Please contact Malcolm and June Purvis on 01445 731681 or email [purvis193@gmail.com](mailto:purvis193@gmail.com)

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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**

### **REDHOUSE PLANTS MARKET GARDEN**



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

Local honey in season according to availability.

Open 09.00-17.00 Mon-Sat.

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

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## **BUILDING WORK**

Building work carried out by time-served tradesman

No job too small!

Phone Paul Williams on 616443 or email [williams778@btinternet.com](mailto:williams778@btinternet.com)

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## **STRONSAY WASTE MATTERS**

**Saturday Special—Bulk Offer on Cardboard Briquettes**

**“Buy One, Get One ½ Price” on all cardboard briquettes will be running from now until the end of October!**

30kg boxes are £10, or two for £15! 10kg sacks are £3.50, or two for £5.25! Usual 50p discount for hessian sack return also applies

Also introducing our Halloween Spooktacular Deal.

Keep your eyes peeled for the 'Witch's Broomstick' hidden inside a box or sack of briquettes; if found, you can claim 1 free box or 3 free sacks of cardboard briquettes!

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## **LOCAL BUSINESSES**



# Marion Miller Jewellery

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

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

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



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## **LOCAL BUSINESSES**



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

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

Tel: (+44) 01857 616 281

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

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

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

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**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)

**PLUMBING  
& HEATING**

**gas safe**

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## **LOCAL BUSINESSES**

### Roger at Stronsay Photographic

Available for:

Portraits - groups and individuals

ID photographs - printing on site

Tuition

Special commissions

Cozy studio with professional lighting

Home visits



Contact via Stronsay Photographic Facebook page and Facebook or tel 616228

Special offers also on Stronsay Facebook page

### Roger at Stronsay Markets



Local seasonal soft fruit and vegetables

Grown naturally without artificial fertilisers, pesticides or weed killer

Cropped same day (usually)

Check out Facebook "Stronsay Markets"

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

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## LOCAL BUSINESSES

# The Book Nook

## Orcadia, Stronsay

It's a library! Borrow a book!

It's a book exchange! Swap a book!

It's a shop! Buy a book with a donation!



Over  
1000



fiction books!

### Opening Hours

Thursday to Tuesday 9am to 4pm

Wednesday 12 noon to 4pm

Open other times on request

Vicki 07873 982648

[facebook.com/TheBookNookatStronsay](https://facebook.com/TheBookNookatStronsay)



## EMERGENCY NUMBERS

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

Local business adverts are free!

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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 5pm.to 7pm
- Fri, **Bar open** 5pm to 11pm (last orders 10:30pm). Takeaway 5pm to 7pm
- Sat, **Bar open** 5pm to 11pm (last orders 10:30pm). Takeaway 5pm to 7pm
- Sun, Bar closed Takeaway 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***

### ***Holmsgarth Crafts***



***Book Pillows, Table Runners***

***Napkins, Face Masks,***

***Scrunchies,***

***Tote Bags,***

***Pencil Cases and More***

***Made To Order***



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

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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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## **EMERGENCY NUMBERS**

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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**

### **“NEIL’S ON WHEELS”**



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

MOBILE: 07723 304 260

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



Dating back to the 1780s set in a large woodland garden just off the A9 and six miles from Invergordon, the Old

Ensuite Double and twin rooms

Tel 01862 842357

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

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

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## **LOCAL BUSINESSES**



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

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

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

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## **RECYCLING GUIDE FOR OUTER ISLES**

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

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## GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS

Stronsay Community Association Presents;  
With thanks to the Community Council for Part Funding

# Guy Fawkes & Quiz



**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> November**  
**Stronsay Community Hall @ 7pm**  
Adults: £6 Children: £3

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**Announcements by charities, local groups, clubs and organisations are FREE!**  
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# Christmas Craft Fair



~ Crafts ~

~ Home-bakes ~

~ Tea/Coffee ~

~ Raffle ~



Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> November

1-4pm



Community Hall

Everyone Welcome!

Brought to you by the  
Stronsay Community Association

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## GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS

# UP-COMING EVENTS

Some dates for your diaries;

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> October: Darts & Euchre  
Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> November: Fireworks & Quiz  
Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> November: Christmas Craft Fair  
Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December: Tree Lighting



Please keep an eye out for more information nearer the time via our Facebook page, the *Limpet* or posters in our shops, the Fishmart and the Pub!

*-Stronsay Community Association*

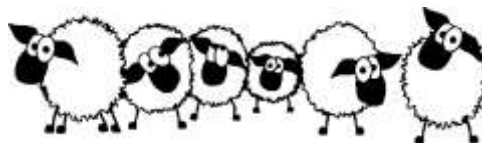
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## STRONSAY KIRK—DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 17th November - meeting of the Board and Session at 7.30 pm in the Church Hall.
- 12th December - Carols by Candlelight at 6pm in the Church Hall.
- 24th December - Watchnight Service at 11.30 pm in the Church.
- 25th December - Short Informal Service at 10 am in the Church Hall.

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## Stronsay Stitches



### October

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> October, 7.00pm-9.3-pm, Church Hall, £2/person, please bring your own refreshments

### November

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> November, 7.00pm-9.3-pm, Church Hall, £2/person, please bring your own refreshments

**(Please note that this will be our last meeting for 2021 until we resume again next year.)**

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## **GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS**

### **STRONSAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Chair Ian Cooper    Vice Chair: Shirley Whiteman

#### **AVIATION STRATEGY CONSULTATION – DROP IN SESSION**

Stronsay Community Council has received the following information and has been asked to stimulate local interest in attending a drop in session at Kirkwall airport on THURSDAY 28 OCTOBER 2021.

Please feel free to attend and give your views about aviation.

Colin McAlpine

Island Link Officer

23 October 2021

#### **Background**

*We will visit the airport (and other airports in the Highlands and Islands) to ask the public's views on a Transport Scotland aviation consultation document that is scheduled to be published on 18 October. The document asks a number of questions about aviation, including in the Highlands and Islands, and the answers we receive will help to inform the later preparation of the Scottish Government's aviation strategy.*

*It is very important that we speak to people in the Highlands and Islands with an interest in aviation, including local air services. At the airport, we will therefore invite people to complete the most relevant sections of the consultation document.*

#### **Community council involvement**

*As well as speaking to people travelling to the airport on the particular day, we want to ensure that other residents with an interest in aviation can have their say. **We would therefore be grateful if you could publicise this email to anyone, including via other community councils, who may be interested in coming to speak to us at the airport** (we will also be publicising the visits through Transport Scotland's, HIAL's and the airports' social media).*

*To be clear, we will not be hosting a public event with a dedicated question and answer session, or such like. Rather, we will be providing hard copies of the consultation document and will be on hand to answer any questions people may have, or to provide support in completing the form. Some people may, of course, prefer to complete the form electronically at home. If you are willing to do so, we could provide a hyperlink to the consultation document, once it is published, for you to circulate around interested parties. The more information we gather from local residents, the better informed the final aviation strategy will be.*

*I am happy to provide any further information on the consultation document or our visit, should that be useful. Thanks in anticipation of your assistance.*

*Regards, Terry*

**Terry Shevlin**, Aviation Strategy and Sustainable Aviation Team Leader,  
Transport Scotland. 07308 047547

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

### **STRONSAY HEALTHY LIVING CENTRE**

After the recent changes to the Scottish Government COVID-19 guidance Orkney Islands Council have reviewed the procedures for the Healthy Living Centre. The following procedures now apply:

- 5 people can use the gym at any one time.
- The previous buddy system has still to be reinstated as the gym needs to be fully cleaned after each use.
- The opening hours are as follows:
  - Monday 18.00 - 18.45
  - Tuesday 18.00 - 18.45
  - Wednesday 11.00 - 11.45 and 17.30 - 18.15
  - Thursday 17.30 - 18.15
  - Friday 11.00 - 11.45 and 17.30 - 18.15
  - Saturday 10.00 - 10.45
- Booking need to be made 24 hours in advance either through the council website or by emailing [stronsay.hlc@glow.orkneyschools.org.uk](mailto:stronsay.hlc@glow.orkneyschools.org.uk).
- Memberships can still be purchased or patrons can pay as they go.

There may be a little flexibility around opening times but these need to fit around the availability of Andy and Bill. Any further updates will be communicated through the Limpet and the Stronsay FaceBook page.

Thank you for all your support.  
Bill Hodgson

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### **STRONSAY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

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

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



For more information & bookings contact Anne-Maree Carter (Tel: 616263 or Email: [annemaree.carter@btinternet.com](mailto:annemaree.carter@btinternet.com))

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

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

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

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

### **ORKNEY LIBRARY & ARCHIVE IN THE 21st CENTURY**

If you live, work or study in Orkney then you can become a full member of Orkney Library while visitors to Orkney are welcome to join on a temporary visitor membership. See <https://orkneylibrary.org.uk/joining-the-library>.

Kirkwall library has an on-line database of all its books, eBooks and journals as well as other electronic and non-print materials. You can search by author, by title or by keyword. Just point your browser at <https://prism.librarymanagementcloud.co.uk/orkney>.

There is also an extensive archive of material <https://orkneylibrary.org.uk/orkney-archive> but please note that all visits to the archive must be booked in advance - phone 01856 873166 or email [archives@orkney.gov.uk](mailto:archives@orkney.gov.uk).

The opening hours of the library and the archive are available at <https://orkneylibrary.org.uk/opening-times>.

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### **Mobile Library Timetable 2021**

<u>Stromsay</u>	
<u>Dates</u>	<u>Stops and Times</u>
18 January	<u>Summer/Refit</u>
15 March	Council Houses 9.00—10.00
11 May	School 10.15—12.00
6 July	Kirk 12.30—3.00
31 August	Fish Mart 3.15—5.30
25 October	<u>Winter</u>
20 December	Council Houses 8.45—9.45
	School 10.00—12.00
	Kirk 12.30—3.00
	Fish Mart 3.15—4.45

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### **RECYCLING GUIDE FOR OUTER ISLES**

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

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## 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



**CORRA**  
FOUNDATION  
voice • power • change

Community Wellbeing Fund  
[info@corra.org.uk](mailto:info@corra.org.uk)  
T 01253 444 4007  
W [www.corra.org.uk](http://www.corra.org.uk) [Facebook](#)

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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 & holidays: 11am
- Tuesday: 8.00am
- All other days: 11.20am

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

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

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

The broadcast runs from 4pm – 7pm (the times shown are approximate):

- 4pm Short talk by one of the priests.
- 4:30pm Recitation of the Rosary.
- 5pm Mass.
- 6pm Further prayers and office of the day.

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### **STRONSAY KIRK**

Weekly service at 11am.

Minister—Rev David Locke, phone 616284.

Stronsay kirk's website:

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

Stronsay kirk's Facebook page:

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

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## GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS

### KIRK CORNER

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> October  
The Manse, Stronsay KW17 2AF  
[DLocke@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:DLocke@churchofscotland.org.uk)  
01857 616284



Hello to everyone again.

Stronsay community will hold a short rally on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October starting at 12 noon to mark the start of the COP26 Climate Change Conference. People will walk from Moncur Memorial Church to the Community Centre to express the community's support for real action now to restrain Climate Change and its disastrous effects around the world especially on the poorest. There will be some banners but feel free to bring your own. We hope to send photos of the rally to our MP, MSP and others.



We will also on the day collect ideas about what each of us intends to do practically in our lives about climate change and collate them as a source of ideas for others; cards with your idea can be handed in on the 31<sup>st</sup> at the church. For example *'I intend to start recycling cardboard and bottles'* People are asked to limit their car usage to and from the rally e.g. by sharing or walking. Stronsay Moncur

Memorial Parish church is organising this with the support of Stronsay Community Council. We need many to turn up and show support, and you could also come to the church service before it, starting at 11am it will be great to see you.

We focussed on these issues as a church at our harvest thanksgiving service, when we thought about the creation stories at the start of the Bible. Perhaps surprisingly to some, they do not disagree with the overall scientific understanding of the evolutionary creation of the universe, but also show valuable insights into human nature- our goodness but also our capacity to be selfish and do harm. Crucially they support an understanding of God involved in and caring for creation, giving humans responsibility likewise to care for creation as well as one another. They challenge us not to just sit back and do nothing.

There is also much in the bible about taking time to give thanks for creation and indeed harvest. As usual we distributed our harvest gifts to those more vulnerable in the community, and many of us are looking forward to celebrating again at the Harvest Home celebration on the 23<sup>rd</sup> - well done to the organisers for what looks like a great evening.  
(Continued on next page)

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

I listened in on a recent Community Council meeting and was very impressed about how much is going on and how much the Community Council and others are doing. No doubt there is more to be done, but I think it's great how much people here do to keep the community going with active businesses and caring events, whether it's books to raise funds for defibrillators, other charitable fundraising and social events, or award-winning local soap, arts and crafts. Folk in Stronsay should be proud. I have come in the past from communities, where there is a tendency to say "they will do it", or "why aren't they doing it [the council, government or others]". I remember well as young man going round people in my church asking leaders to do something to care for someone in need, and then it dawned on me; it was me who needed to do the something! So well done Stronsay for having an 'I can do it' attitude; if the CC or church can do something to help the community do let us know.

May God bless each one of you and this amazing island of Stronsay

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

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## **EMERGENCY NUMBERS**

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

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## **ADVERTISE YOUR EVENT!**

If you are arranging an event on Stronsay then why not use the free publicity available from the Limpet and from the Visit Stronsay website [visitstronsay.com](http://visitstronsay.com)? Just contact the Limpet's editor (contact details are on the back page)

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## **THE LIMPET'S EMAIL LIST**

The Limpet's email list is used to distribute timely information of interest to current residents of Stronsay. This list usually repeats information already available via Facebook and is for folk who do not have a Facebook account. To be added to this list or to have your name removed from this list please contact the editor of the Limpet, contact details are on the back page of this and every edition of the Limpet.

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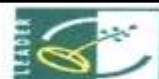
## POST OFFICE OPENING TIMES etc

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

Silver Darlings . . . . . 616412  
 Star Island Soap . . . . . 616281  
 SDT office . . . . . 616410  
 Stronsay Band . . . . . 616335  
 Stronsay Hotel . . . . . 616213  
 Taxi . . . . . 616335  
 Stranded seals, etc . . . . 616207/206/498  
 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 . . . . . 01856 873766  
 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 or  
     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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